



ClayFolk

NEWSLETTER

Nov.-Jan. 2017

CLAYFOLK
PO Box 1334
JACKSONVILLE, OR 97530

The Clayfolk Newsletter is published five times a year.

Deadlines for submissions are :

FEB 1 -----FOR-----FEB/MAR

APRIL 1 -----FOR-----APRIL/MAY/JUNE

JULY 1 -----FOR----- JULY/AUG

SEPT 1 -----FOR----- SEPT/OCT

NOV 1 -----FOR----- NOV/JAN

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President's Message

I send kudos to Shirley, our show chair, who found us a venue for the 2016 Clayfolk Show and Sale. I'm sure you will also. She and the committee chairs have worked hard at whipping the show into shape in its new venue.

I have some good news and some not so good news. The good news is that we have volunteers for the organizational chairs and we have volunteers to run for the board. The not so good news is that volunteers for the organizational chairs are mostly members who are on the board and they're the same members who were on the board this last year. We have a potential leadership problem. I know this newsletter is coming out a day or so before the show so many members will be too busy to read it. However, I believe this issue of leadership is important. We need to discuss it with each other in person and the best time would be during lulls in the show. I believe it deserves cooperation not divisiveness.

Let me digress to history. In the beginning, a group of potters formed Clayfolk. These potters were very invested in the group and passed the leadership roles back and forth between themselves to make it work. The group began to have very successful shows. More and more members signed up from distant locations. The number of original potters and the next generation of potters have slowly gotten smaller forming a block of high point participants who have contributed so much in the past. The members who joined after the show became successful have formed a block of lower point participants containing mostly of out of the area members. Thus, of the members who participate and gain from being in the show, very few are available to volunteer for board positions. Either they have put in their time or live too far away. Thus, the board reasons that if we provide an incentive for new members, who will have a very difficult time in the future breaking into the full and half booth size range of points, more will volunteer to join the board.

In other words, the board is looking for incentives. I could list the possible ways I can think of, all of them would cause some consternation in at least some members. One is proposed in this newsletter and will be voted on at the January meeting. I am asking the newer members to help

the board find incentives that would make you want to volunteer to take a leadership role in Clayfolk especially if this does not pass.

I hope everyone has their best show ever, that members celebrate each other and the miracle of cooperation, that they listen to each other and that they think about what they can do to make Clayfolk continue to be a success.

By the way, this is my last president's message. I have spent most of my energy during the last two years making the governing of Clayfolk smother and easier. I will continue doing so for a while as past president. Thank you for your patience, Carole

Clayfolk Organization Chairs for 2017.

At the request of the membership, we have changed the points awarded for being an organizational chair to a number of points for the basic job description, with extra points awarded for work performed beyond that. The member will need to report extra work at the end of the year. Examples of extra work: a throw-a-thon for empty bowls, converting the membership database to an excel spreadsheet, finding a temporary venue for the show, etc.

Workshop: Clara Lanyi; [8 points per workshop provided (4 each if co-organized)]
Some members have volunteered to help with local logistics.

Empty Bowls: Josephine Co. Roxanne Hunnicutt and Christine Wood [2 points each]
Jackson Co. Kami Carlson [4 points]

Membership: Gwen Childs [12 points]

Points: Carole Hayne [6 points]

Show: Shirley Huft [15 points] Trainee; Dan Minard and Mickael Mann [5 points]

Newsletter: Sally Pursell [15 points]

Program: No one stepped up for this position. There are only 2 programs a year. We will ask for volunteers to provide these 2 programs when we develop the calendar at the January general meeting. [2 points per program]

Scholarship: Betsy Moore [6 points] Committee member: Clara Lanyi [2 points]

Library: Marydee Bombick [3points] Trainee: Mellissa Parry [1 point]

Photo Booth: Christine Wood [1point]

Enews: Patricia Richey [6 points]

Webmaster: Vicki Chamberlain [12 points]

Education: Michael McKinney [3 points]

<p>Due to Library hours, our Jan. General Meeting is on Saturday Jan. 28 at the Medford Library. Please make a note of the change in date. The Show Chairs meeting is at noon.</p>
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Welcome to the 2016 Clayfolk Show

For both returning potters and potters new to the Show, this is a time when we come together as ambassadors to our customers, our community, and all the individuals who make up the wonderful Clayfolk organization. It is a time where our primary purpose is to sell pots, demonstrate how pots are made and give children of all ages an opportunity to play with clay. And it is a time for re-establishing friendships and meeting new members as we all work together in a congenial atmosphere. Let's be grateful that the folks here Brammo have welcomed us into this wonderful venue, and let's be excited about greeting new and old customers while joyfully working together selling our ware. I am so proud to be working with all of you as we once again make this the best Clayfolk Show ever.

By now you will have received the Move-in Information Packet sent out by Jenny Jones. Please read through it carefully. If you have a conflict with your work shift, please let Jenny know as soon as possible. There are changes below this year of which you need to be aware.

There is no electricity in your booth this year, although you are welcome to use as many battery operated strings of light as you wish. Walmart on line has 16' for \$6.99. Although there's lots of parking, please park around the side of the building or in the back or in a far corner. What a terrific treat for our customers who will not have to endlessly circle, searching for a place to park.

As usual, we ask everyone to bring two packages of "fancy" store-bought cookies for our customers attending the Friday night opening. Food for potters will be a bit more challenging as there is no refrigerator and cleanup will need to be done in a small bathroom sink. We will have soup during our mandatory meeting before the show. Contact Cheryl Kempner if you are able to bring soup and/or a crockpot. There is electricity to heat it up. Please bring yummy foods ready to serve and share, but perishables will have to be thrown away at the end of the day on Saturday and Sunday. We do like to eat, and yes, there will be coffee and hot beverages provided. The food area does allow for back stock against the wall on the left hand side as you come in. There will be a few tables and chairs set up, so please keep your back stock neat so that it doesn't overflow into the food area. There will be a lighted barrier between the food area and the rest of the Brammo Building that the owners would appreciate us not exploring.

Please be on time for all your work shifts as we hate to penalize people. Sign in and then check in with the shift supervisor. As usual, follow the instructions in the move-in packet for labeling your pottery. Avery **removable** 5418 and 5408 are recommended. Remove and replace old labels as they are either impossible to remove or just fall off...then you might not get paid.

We are so lucky to have Guy Wood again photographing pottery. Contact him for an appointment (his number is in the Info packet). He will be set up in back of the sales area in his own room.

The 2:00 pm meeting on Friday before the Show opening is mandatory as is the meeting after the show when everyone is packed up. It's a joy to work at a show where we all walk out together!

There are a number of new members in the Show so please take a moment to introduce yourself. We have a reputation for being friendly and helpful. Thanks to each and every one of you for all the extra work you have done this year. It takes a village to make a great Show! Don't forget to pay back and donate to Empty Bowl.

Shirley Huft, Clayfolk Show Chair

DO NEW BOARD MEMBERS DESERVE MORE?

Proposal: Clayfolk board members to be offered an opportunity to be in the Clayfolk Show.

Jane Anderson: I think yes. Clayfolk is a volunteer organization run by its members. We need people to step-up to board positions. Board members and others scramble to find folks to step forward when it is time to put together a ballot for the next year. When asked, many folks say “No” to being on the board and hardly anyone volunteers outright; therefore, it takes quite a lot of effort to find future board members. In addition, Clayfolk rarely has more than one person running for any board position.

What’s your reason for not being on the board? There are many reasons, I’m sure. I’ll write about just one. My understanding is that except this year, our board has been made up entirely of folks in the Rogue Valley, whereas the percentage of our members from up north continues to grow. My guess is the success of the show has encouraged their membership. The vast majority of our **customers** come from the Rogue Valley, not from up north. This past year two folks from the north have been on the board, Cheryl Weese and Clara Lanyl. Our most recent board meeting was in Winston. I thank these two members for their willingness. I would like to see more folks from up north volunteer to take positions on the board.

At this point, I believe there should be an additional incentive for folks to be on the board. I believe offering all board members a spot in the annual Clayfolk show is a good option. This would encourage new members who do not have enough points to qualify for the show to volunteer to be on the board and learn more about our organization. It would also encourage new members to continue their memberships rather than drop them when they discover it takes years to acquire enough points to be in the annual show. Many of our new members have skills that would be useful to the board.

I recommend that the president, vice-president, treasurer, and secretary be offered full-booths in the show and that members-at-large be offered half-booths. Most of our board members already qualify for booths due to the number of points they have acquired. Looking at our current ballot only one person would be entitled to a booth purely based on board membership. As this coming year’s president, I ask that we try this out for two years.

If you care about this issue come to vote on it at January’s meeting or send in your vote to our P.O. Box by January 10th.

Argument Against: from Shirley Huft:

Please understand that I am writing this rebuttal to the proposed policy change, guaranteeing all Board members a booth in the Clayfolk Show, at the request of the Board and I do so under duress as it’s too close to the Show. There are some who feel that I am being reactionary, divisive and do not fully understand the seriousness of the issue at hand. From my perspective, after serving nine years on the Board, nothing could be further from the truth. Neither the Clayfolk Organization nor the Clayfolk Show can function without a full complement of filled Board and Show positions...it is just that important an issue. Because I did not want to speak for just myself, I asked for the Show Committee Chairs’ advice and a good number of them responded directly to me.

After careful thought, and taking into consideration responses sent to me by most of the responding committee chairs, I cannot support guaranteeing a booth for Board members, regardless of points, for the following reasons:

The point policy was designed to encourage members to attend general meetings, serve as a Board appointed chair, work as a show committee chair, actively participate, not only as a Board member,

but as an attendee at General meetings, and so much more. One respondent put it this way, “I saw a wide variety of volunteer options that could provide me with long-term service, enabling me to grow my abilities to serve this organization....to be given an opportunity to work towards a space in a highly regarded pottery show and sale - total bonus round!”

It is not uncommon for a show committee chair/trainees to have worked the Show for several years before earning enough points for a booth. The new proposed incentive to serve on the Board, as another respondent wrote, “would make the point structure both unequal and unfair....less disruptive changes are possible”. As it stands, the point system is not the problem.

A minimum of 8 points a year can be earned by sending in the membership application on time and attending 5 general meetings a year. Completing a work shift at the show, hosting a meeting or putting on a program at the meeting can put a member within booth range in 2 to 3 years.

2. The Board needs motivated members who care about Clayfolk, not just about whether or not they get a booth. As I have been reminded several times, Clayfolk is not just about the Show but about education and the other community services we provide.

3. Show participants take the order of their booth selection very seriously, and changing the current hierarchy of earning points for a booth would weaken the point system and cause dissention and anger. Would this change open the door for future show committee chairs or Board pointed chairs to insist that they, too, should be guaranteed a booth in the Show? Let’s not walk through that door.

Based on past experience, in my opinion and that of virtually every committee chair who responded, it is imperative that we come together as a group to brainstorm and investigate positive incentives for encouraging members to serve on the Board. Our solution must be fair to all Clayfolk members. One thought that resonated through the responses was voiced this way: “A solution is needed to encourage people to volunteer on the Board, however more time is needed to come out with a more creative solution.” The Board positions are full for the coming year so we have time after the Show for research and discussion. If the Board places the proposal on the ballot this month, I suggest that as a starting point, instead of agreeing or disagreeing, each member come up with an alternate solution!

More info at www.clayfolk.org Find us on Facebook at /Clay Artists

From Carole Hayne: **Michael McKinney** has volunteered to run for Vice President. I have plucked a few pieces of information from his resume: “My educational career is characterized by leadership, learning, and continuous effort to improve school systems- I’m best when creating. I’ve been a principal, facilitator, teacher, and student. I have strong experiences with program development, and change efforts.”

I have his full resume for members who are interested. He is scrambling to prepare for the show as he was just admitted to the show from the wait list.

Given Michael’s experience, I believe that he has the ability to serve as Clayfolk Vice President and step up to the Presidency after one year. I am sure that he can relay feed back and requests from members to the Board, build Board consensus about what actions to take, communicate via email or newsletter, set agendas and run both Board and general meetings.

Editor's note: the following is 100% out of my scope of understanding. I have left the article as received.

From Bill Francis: You can find this info at pro panel 12 volt lighting system.

All you need is a battery charger to recharge your battery at night. A deep cycle battery (uggh heavy like a box of clay) and a 200-300 watt rated 12 volt DC to 110-120 volt a/c inverter with battery clips. Use your regular light system with proper wattage and simply plug into the inverter. I plan on using (8-10)9w led spot bulbs with the regular Edison style screw in bulb end (home depot). I'll be using a 300w inverter.

Hours of power or run time equation is: 10 multiplied by battery amp hours (located on battery label). Mine is rated 75 ah then divide by total watts and this equals run time.

With ten 9w bulbs

$10 * 75 \text{ah} / 90 \text{w} = 8.3 \text{ hrs of power}$

The inverter also draws power from the battery to create ac power from DC power. You don't need an inverter larger than 300w because the inverter power consumption will increase and drain more of your battery, wasting more of your run time. I'll way overestimate and say 10watts for a 300w inverter.

So $10 * 75 / 100 = 7.5 \text{ hours of light from 10 led spot lights}$

What you need for power:

Battery charger \$20-30 priced on Amazon

200-300 watt inverter \$20-30 priced on Amazon

Deep cycle battery marine or wheelchair/scooter batteries. Deep cycle batteries are designed to get drained and recharged frequently car batteries are not. Whatever you get make sure you know how many amp hours your battery puts out.

This will be the expensive part. \$80-120 you may even want a second as a backup. Remember you can always decrease lights to get more hours out of your system. If I just use six 9w bulbs add 10w for inverter draw then the hours change.... $10 * 75 \text{ah} / 64 \text{w} = 11.7 \text{ hrs}$

Eight bulbs 9w bulbs plus 10w inverter draw $10 * 75 \text{ah} / 82 \text{w} = 9.14 \text{ hours}$

Being thrifty you should be able to create your off-grid battery power system for about \$120-\$130

You can also buy battery power packs with built in inverters on Amazon and many other sources.

You'll have to do your own research to find out what will work for you. Best of luck! If you find faults with my research or have better suggestions then by all means bring forward the corrections. I just want the correct information to get shared.

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To change your contact information, please email the membership chair at membership@clayfolk.org. The chair will change your contact information in the membership directory and forward the change to enews and show chair.

FOR SALE: Brent C wheel \$485, Banding wheel \$65, OHaus scale \$65 Airbrush \$20 All in excellent condition. Call 541-482-3784

Laguna Raku Kiln for sale, Grants Pass, see on Craigs list <http://eugene.craigslist.org/art/5836929143.html>

Large Earring Display Rack, see on Craigs List <http://medford.craigslist.org/art/5839899188.html> under <http://eugene.craigslist.org/art/5836929143.html>. or look under **Arts & Crafts for Laguna Raku Kiln in Eugene craigslist** Or contact Irene at onehoneybun2003@gmail.com

To get information to the Clayfolk membership, send an email containing the information to enews@clayfolk.org . Include your contact information so members can contact you directly.

CALL FOR ARTISTS

Josephine Community Libraries, Inc. seeks fine artwork for its children's library in Grants Pass that communicates a love of reading and appreciation for books through artistic multi-media materials and concept content.

Qualifications, based on examples of previous work, are sought from artists interested in the commission of artwork for the children's library signature art project.

For more information and to apply, visit josephinelibrary.org, email info@josephinelibrary.org or call 541-476-0571 ext. 110

Artist application materials will be accepted until **5 pm on Thursday, December 1, 2016**. Artists and artist teams are encouraged to apply early. The artist or artist team will be selected by December 15, 2016, and the artwork is expected to be completed and installed in January.

Up-Coming Events

CLAYFOLK SHOW & SALE – November 18, 19,20

December 31st

ANNUAL DUES AND MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORMS ARE DUE

January 21st Board Meeting

2:00 Sat.

28th

SATURDAY Show Chairs meeting NOON Medford Library

General Meeting

2:30 Potluck and Gift Exchange