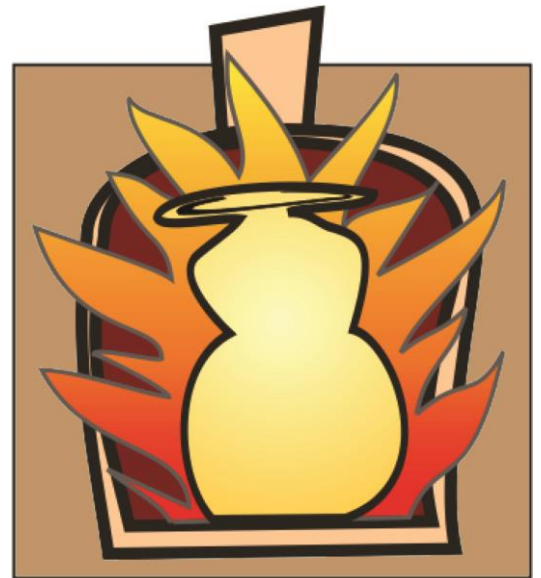




Pit Fire

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SOUTHERN OREGON POTTERS ASSOCIATION



CLAYFOLK
February 2020
Newsletter

IN THIS ISSUE

As the Wheel Turns:

Our launch of the Clayfolk 2020 year was hosted by Cheryl Weese and Peppi Melick at the posh Northwest Gallery in Roseburg. Thank you so much! What a wonderful venue nestled downtown, don't you think? Cozy might be code for smallish when talking real estate but for us on site I found it inviting. Having an art group meeting in an art gallery just made sense after all, right?

Like most years in our fabulous guild of clay artists, we are looking toward a year of continued transition. Improvements in how we use Square POS at the Clayfolk Show and Sale, officer and chair positions open or changing, and initiatives intended to improve Clayfolk processes are a sample of what's coming this year. My current favorite is exploring how to implement online booking for workshops and membership renewals. Remember, this is still an initiative and plenty of learning ahead for the Board and webmaster.

Many volunteer/member driven organizations are continuously changing

who does what. Clayfolk is no exception. Who's going where?

- I'll be working with Mickael Mann and Dan Minard as Show Chair trainee this year.
- Bonnie Morgan will be working with me on the president's duties (or what not to do!).
- Pat Richey is searching for a secretary trainee or someone wanting to make that transition next year.
- Two Board members at large are in their second year. Will you be next?
- Bob Johnson has let it be known a worthy Webmaster trainee is needed.
- Current Show Sales leader Debbie Thompson is looking for a trainee this year.
- Carole Hayne is waiting for that special Workshops Co-Chair to arrive.
- The Program/Activity chair position recently opened as well.

If you've already sent a letter of interest to president@clayfolk.org then you're name will be brought to the next Board meeting. If interested now, or you just want to know more, I'll take those questions, too. Clayfolk advertises positions mostly through enews (a great reason to use it!) and through general meetings and this newsletter. Early in the year is our best opportunity to use all three forums for posting volunteer positions. Check out more details on page 2.

A grateful potter,
Michael McKinney

New faces in new positions include:

Kat Hackett joining the Clayfolk Board as a member at large.

Dennis Milbradt, Clayfolk's new Membership Chair
(membership@clayfolk.org)

2020 CLAYFOLK OFFICERS

President: Michael McKinney

president@clayfolk.org

Vice President: Bonnie Morgan

vicepresident@clayfolk.org

Secretary: Patricia Richey

secretary@clayfolk.org

Treasurer: Debbie Thompson

treasurer@clayfolk.org

Members at Large

- Kat Hackett
- Sally Pursell
- Jim Nordal
- Bonnie Morgan

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Archivist: Ben Wood

archivist@clayfolk.org

Empty Bowls

- Jackson Co.: Carol Heisel
 - Josephine Co.: Bernie Delallo and Janice Shenker
 - Douglas Co.: Peppi Melick
- emptybowls@clayfolk.org

Enews: Patricia Richey

enews@clayfolk.org

Library: Sally Pursell

library@clayfolk.org

Membership: Dennis Milbradt

membership@clayfolk.org

Newsletter: Vicki Chamberlain

newsletter@clayfolk.org

Photo Booth: Penelope Dews

photobooth@clayfolk.org

Points: Patt Causey

points@clayfolk.org

Program Chair: TBD

program@clayfolk.org

Scholarship: Betsy Moore

scholarship@clayfolk.org

Show Chairs: Mickael Mann and Dan Minard

showchair@clayfolk.org

Webmaster: Bob Johnson

webmaster@clayfolk.org

Workshops: Carole Hayne

workshops@clayfolk.org

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Have you ever mused on the possibility of trying one of the many volunteer positions available in Clayfolk?

If not, maybe scan the list below just to be sure. If so, the following chair or chair trainee positions are open to interested Clayfolk members.

Sales Chair trainee: current chair Debbie Thompson

- This is a Show specific position. Some prep work is involved but the position focuses on the Show and not year round; an opportunity for an out-of-town member

Web Support trainee: current chair Bob Johnson

- This is a year round position focusing on maintenance of our website. A high level of web design knowledge is not required. However, if your default file sharing strategy includes envelope stuffing, maybe no.

Program/Activity Chair: open

- A great entry into Clayfolk volunteering. We have up to a couple meetings each year that include an art related program or activity. Find topics of interest to members, solicit a presenter and inform the Board in a timely manner.

Workshops Co-Chair: current co-chair Carole Hayne

- This is really a two-person position in several regards. Finding a presenter, scheduling workshop space, and advertising the event is one aspect. Workshop co-chairs also coordinate hosting of the workshop and logistics. We usually look for two workshops each year.

For trainee positions and the co-chair position, you can contact these current members with any questions. To apply, send a note of interest to president@clayfolk.org. Include your "why", relevant skills that will help you be successful in that position and any other helpful details.

Complete job descriptions on the Clayfolk website at:

www.clayfolk.org/membership/position-descriptions/

WORKSHOP REPORT

By Carole Hayne, workshop chair

Clayfolk has contracted to present two hands-on workshops in 2020.

May 2020 Featured Artist:

Richard Roth



DATES: May 16 - 17

LOCATION: South Medford High School, ceramic studio

COST: Approx. \$140 (final price TBD before registration begins)

CLASS SIZE: 20

In the workshop, Richard will focus on developing designs for sgraffito pieces, how to translate designs onto clay, and tools needed. Additional instruction will focus on throwing off the hump.

Richard is busy developing cone 6 englobes and glazes for the Clayfolk sgraffito workshop. In the past, his work has been cone 10 gas but he is excited about his new work in cone 6.

This should be a very interesting workshop because Richard has severe arthritis. We should learn a great deal about how to deal with physical disabilities when we are working with clay. View Richard's work at grandprairiedesigns.com/gallery/

Participants will need to bring: hand built or thrown damp greenware for painting and carving. We expect to provide engobs for the participants (although you can bring your own if you wish). We will send out a list of tools you will need for the workshop. Time will be provided to work under Richard's supervision/help at the end of the day as well as after his demonstrations.

September 2020 Featured Artist:

Deborah Schwartzkopf



DATES: September 26 - 27

Venue, schedule and fee have yet to be decided.

Deborah does functional work mostly from altered wheel thrown pieces.

View Deborah's work at

ratcitystudios.com/deborah-schwartzkopf/

Ellice T. Johnston Scholarship

Offering \$2000 to students
studying ceramic arts

Application deadline
May 15, 2020

www.clayfolk.org/membership/scholarships/



Happenings...



March Pit Fire

The pit fire will be the program for meeting, so everyone who attends the meeting is invited to bring one or two or more pieces of pottery ready to fire. Wood is always welcome, but not required for your participation. If you have not participated in a pit fire before, here are some tips for preparing your pottery, there's still time to get some pieces made :

1. Use a cone 5 to cone 10 clay body. The color of your clay will affect the color of your pottery.
2. Because your piece will be fired in the ground; large, thick pieces have a tendency to crack. Pottery can be made using the wheel, slap, pinch or coil.
3. If you want your pottery to have a shine, when it is leather hard, burnish it with a smooth stone, rubber rib or other smooth object over your pottery. You can put it on the wheel also to burnish it. This pushes the grog into the surface of your piece.
4. When your pottery is bone dry, you can burnish it a second time. Smooth salad or olive oil onto a small section of your pottery before it dries burnish it again with your smooth stone or other object, your pottery should develop a high shine. You can also polish your piece with a piece of plastic bag or chamois.
5. You need to Bisque fire your pottery at cone 020-018, to reduce the risk of blowing up. If you bisque fire your pottery at too high a temperature, it will lose its shine when the grog resurfaces. Your pottery will still be fragile, so handle it carefully.
6. You can bring organic material to place over your pottery. Some people bring dried manure, dried banana peels, straw, seaweed or other interesting material to see how it colors your pottery. You may also place copper wire on your pottery. Wherever your pottery touches the sawdust on the bottom on the pit, it will turn black, so be sure to request how you want it placed.

Go online and check out Eduardo Lazo for comprehensive instructions on preparing your pit fired pottery : www.eduardolazo.com/pitfired.html.

If you still have any questions don't hesitate to call Debbie Thompson 541-826-5533. Fired pieces will be held at the Thompson's house either until you pick them up, or until they bring them to the June meeting.

Please join us for the next Clayfolk member meeting and Pit Fire.

Date: March 29th

Place: Debbie Raddatz-Thompson's Home

Time: 2:30-4ish

DIRECTIONS

From White city go east on Hwy 140 toward Klamath falls, in 3 1/2 miles turn right on E. Antelope Rd. Continue 2 miles to Dry Creek Rd. and turn right. In 1.1 miles go left on Kay Ct. Debbie's house is at the end: 5005 Kay Court. Please try to carpool, DO NOT pull off the driveway or pavement as you will sink in the mud.

Call Debbie at 541-826-5533 if you have any questions.

TIP:

How to get rid of old glazes

A technique used at Central Oregon Community College to dispose of glaze sludge accumulated over the school year; we threw (or extruded) cylinders about 9" tall, making sure they were sturdy and without any cracks. Any size would do. Once bisque fired we fill them about half way with the sludge and let it dry completely. The cylinders are then fired to cone 10. The glaze forms a solid amorphous mass and can be safely sent to the landfill.

The theory is any chemicals that may leach out are bound up in the glassy matrix and less prone to getting into the water table. One of the chemistry instructors at COCC who does extensive work with glass and inorganic chemistry tested the melt and said it seemed very stable, i.e. no leaching with strong acids.



John Dodero Raku Glaze Making and Slip Casting Workshops

June 10 - 11, 2020 | \$250/\$400

John's workshop is geared for potters who are interested in making molds and slip casting some of their better selling products for streamlined, consistent production with reasonable delivery times.

Two day workshop: first day will cover casting slip, glazing trouble shooting, raku kiln set up and firing, second day mold making.

Location: Dodero Studio – Jacksonville, Oregon

Fees: first day \$250, both days \$400. Mid to upper level experienced potters. 10 people max.

John is offering a 10% discount for Clayfolk members.
Use Coupon Code CF10 when registering online.

Details at: <https://raku-ceramic-pottery.com/slipcasting-workshops/>



Workshop with Alessandro Gallo

May 11–16, 2020 | \$825

"Narrative in Clay", a six-day, figurative ceramic sculpture workshop with Alessandro Gallo. Alessandro Gallo will share his sculpting process, from hand-building a figure using solid clay construction to painting the figure realistically after firing. Throughout the immersive, six-day workshop, every participant will be encouraged to develop one small to medium-size figure (15–20" in height). With the help of demonstrations and videos, the workshop will cover all stages of Alessandro's process.



Workshop with Michelle Gregor

June 9–12, 2020 | \$575

"An Improvisational Approach Through Form & Surface," a four-day, figurative ceramic sculpture workshop with Michelle Gregor.

Both workshops will be held at Karen Russo's Studio in Elmira, Oregon.

Details at: <https://www.karenrusso.studio/calendar>

Or contact Karen Russo at 541-728-6115
www.karenrusso.studio



Rogue Community College

RCC student studio sale

Saturday May 2

10am-3pm

Ceramics Studio EBEC Building Room 3

Located off 4th street between G and H streets in Grants Pass
(entrance down alley)

Spring - Summer Clayfolk Meetings:

| Month | Meeting type | Meeting location | Host | Time |
|-------------------------|--------------|---|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| March 19 (Thursday) | Board | Bill and Debbie Thompson's (Eagle Point) | Bill and Debbie Thompson | NA |
| March 29 (Sunday) | General | Bill and Debbie Thompson's (Eagle Point) | Bill and Debbie Thompson | Pot Luck & Pit Fire |
| June 11 (Thursday) | Board | Jim Nordal (Cave Junction) | Jim Nordal | NA |
| June 27 (Saturday) | General | Nancy Leever's (Medford) | Nancy Leever | Program/Activity TBA |
| August 13 (Thursday) | Board | TBA | TBA | NA |

Check Clayfolk calendar for updates.

