



**Somebody has got to
do it!**

**Inspired by the Vince
Pitelka workshop**

Our feature Clayfolk artwork this time is by Bob Johnson and collaborative guest artist Michelle Johnson. This large jar continues a long history of clay vessels designed and used for the storage and preservation of food. Bob explains it much better!

How to get your work on the cover? Send it to newsletter@clayfolk.org



CLAYFOLK
February 2022
Newsletter

SOUTHERN OREGON POTTERS ASSOCIATION

IN THIS ISSUE

As the Wheel Turns....

First a warm welcome to new and returning members. I hope you will feel at home in our inclusive clay community that embraces anyone with an interest in clay from beginners to professionals. Our community is filled with passionate, creative, and resourceful people; supporting each other as well as encouraging the next generation of ceramic artists. Thank you for joining with us to continue building community through clay. YOU are an essential part of Clayfolk and its mission.

Special thanks to board members Kat Hacker and Polly Beach for taking on the job of exploring the possibility of a Spring Show. It's a big job, if you can lend a hand get in contact with them. The survey results look very positive and it will be interesting to see how the research and plans progress.

Gosh it has been a couple of challenging years, with Covid and the devastating wildfires, I

am personally still in recovery mode with two commercial buildings to rebuild. I wish I had a crystal ball and knew what the future holds, but for Clayfolk I am thinking our next General Meeting on March 27th 2:30 – 4:00 p.m. will be on zoom and our June general meeting will be the picnic/swap meet in Grants Pass and Yes, in person. The swap meet is great fun. Clean your studio and bring items you would like to give away or sell. Last year I collected a box of items for one of my students who was setting up a studio.

Okay, "That's all Folks". I am off to trim some pots and meet with the building contractor. As always if you have questions, suggestions, or comments send me an email.

Best regards,

Bonnie Morgan, pres.

president@Clayfolk.org

2022 workshops include Tea Duong in March and Deb Schwarzkopf in September.

2022 CLAYFOLK OFFICERS

President: Bonnie Morgan
president@clayfolk.org

Vice President: Open
vicepresident@clayfolk.org

Secretary: Alice DeLisle
secretary@clayfolk.org

Treasurers: Debbie Thompson
 Ray Foster
treasurer@clayfolk.org

Members at Large

- Polly Beach
- Kat Hacker
- Janice Shenker

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Archivist: Ben Wood
archivist@clayfolk.org

Empty Bowls

- Jackson Co.: Polly Beach
 - Josephine Co.: Roxanne Hunnicutt
 - Douglas Co.: Peppi Melick
- emptybowls@clayfolk.org

Enews: Bob Causey
enews@clayfolk.org

Library: Viviana Padilla
library@clayfolk.org

Membership: Bob Causey
membership@clayfolk.org

Newsletter: Michael McKinney
newsletter@clayfolk.org

Points: Patt Causey
points@clayfolk.org

Scholarship: Betsy Moore
scholarship@clayfolk.org

Show Chair: Michael McKinney
showchair@clayfolk.org

Webmaster: Pat Richey
webmaster@clayfolk.org

Workshops: Peppi Melick and Jim Nordal
workshops@clayfolk.org

Volunteer positions available in Clayfolk

Vice President: “Attend Board meetings, general meetings, and run meetings when the President is unable to. Assist the President with updating the webpage annually.” *C’mon, this one is a piece of cake, a couple cookies and homemade jam...not intimidating at all!* Contact the president@clayfolk.org for more☺

Program Chair: Keep the Clayfolk education mission alive and thriving through learning experiences at our fabulous general meetings. Limits on where to go, who to invite, what to focus on...it’s really up to you. Inquiries go to president@clayfolk.org

Newsletter Chair: Keep the membership informed while sharing your creative skills. Published 5 times each year (this is the first for this year), the Clayfolk newsletter is shared via enews and print. Basic knowledge of Word, Google Docs or Publisher makes it easy! Interested? Contact our president@clayfolk.org

Note: The positions below are Clayfolk Show specific positions, not year round tasks.

Sales Chair trainee: current chair Debbie Thompson

- “Order supplies, oversee set-up and tear down sales area. Do a pre-show training of cashiers. Be team captain for a shift, train committee members.” This is an opportunity for an out-of-town member.

Promotions Co-Chair/committee: A true shocker that this position is STILL open! Get your name in NOW!. This is for a southern Oregon member, or members, ready to reach out to local publications, organizations and others with a smile and share the love we all know as our Clayfolk Show.

Share your interest with our showchair@clayfolk.org and/or 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/

Happenings...

2022 Clayfolk Meetings Calendar: changes are possible!

Month	Meeting type	Meeting location	Host	Time	Activity, Agenda
March 17 (Thursday)	Board	Zoom	Bonnie	NA	Board biz
March 27 (Sunday)	General	Zoom	TBA	2:30-4:00	TBA
June 16 (Thursday)	Board	Zoom	TBA	NA	Board biz
June 25 (Saturday)	General	Reinhart Volunteer Park, Grants Pass	Michael McKinney	2:30-4:00	Swap Meet, Potluck Picnic
August 11 (Thursday)	Board	TBA	TBA	NA	Board biz
August 21 (Saturday)	General	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA
October 13 (Thursday)	Board	TBA	TBA	NA	Board biz
October 23 (Sunday)	Show Chairs	GP Museum of Arts	Michael McKinney	1:30-2:15 p.m.	Chair reports
October 23 (Sunday)	General	GP Museum of Arts	TBA	2:30-4:00 p.m.	Booth Pick
November 18-20	Show and Sale	Medford Armory	Show Chair	Fri: 10:00-7:00 p.m. Sat: 10:00-7:00 p.m. Sun: 10:00-4:00 p.m.	Show and Sale
				*set up/tear down TBA	

Southern Oregon Clay Distributors

Reach them at 541-535-1311 or order online at orders@socd.biz

IF I HAD MORE CLAY, I'D CLAY MORE.

□
There's a similarity between making things with clay and making music; you can do the same piece over, and over again yet each time it is a new experience.

Breadcrumbs Challenge: an online exploration of artistic motivation

By Michael McKinney

For every artist, maker and curious creative who's lost their mojo lately...

FREE CREATIVE BREADCRUMBS CHALLENGE

With Nicholas Wilton, Founder of Art2Life

5 days to set your creativity in motion, ignite your art-making mojo and find your way back to what you love

SEPTEMBER 13 - 17 2021



Last September, surrounded by the quagmire we all know as Covid, I stepped out of my comfort zone. Not my creative comfort zone, I tend to roll with experimentation and a lot of *what if* in the studio. I find exploration in the studio an energizing path. I'm referring to outside influences like this class, an online tease found perusing social media one day.

It could have been a moment of weakness, something like floating rudderless on a familiar sea. Regardless, I smiled noting that it started on my birthday and thought to myself, why not? The voices (uh, self-talk) told me to do it. Other self-talk included checking in on what I thought I knew, verifying the skills and training I've been relying on and the very personal challenge of trying something new.

Here's what we'll explore together:

- **BUILD YOUR CREATIVE COMPASS:** Learn how to tune out distractions and find your way when you feel creatively stuck, uninspired or overwhelmed.
- **STOP JUDGING, START TRUSTING:** Discover the difference between your harsh inner critic and the wise voice of discernment — so you can center your art practice around more of what's already working.
- **ART = LIFE:** Invigorate your creative process by connecting with what excites you — from colors, to memories, your favorite belongings and even your wildest dreams.

... All wrapped up in 5 days of fun + insightful art-making, experimentation and community!

**SIGN UP FOR THE FREE
CREATIVE BREADCRUMBS CHALLENGE**

involves money? Yes. Did I drink the Kool Aid and start spending money? No, I went to Mexico instead. Though the connection isn't immediately apparent, I did bring my new art experience with me to that vacation and am still working on some pieces built with found objects from Mexico.

The biggest takeaway from this experience is trying something different can be surprisingly rewarding. I smiled the whole five days. I tried new approaches each day, working without fear, without preconceptions of what the results should be and just played. It was amazing to give myself permission to just do; paint, carve, make messy things. I admit a couple of the pieces were less than impressive, and they weren't intended to be fully conceived and executed. They were exercises in abandoning pre-conception and moving towards what moved me.

Am I a better artist from this experience? Who knows? And, that really isn't the best question to ask. I'll skip to the answer: my confidence, perspective and connection to my creative forces are better, much better.

Among the myriad offerings online and elsewhere, all promising to elevate your art..." become a fabulous abstract artist like me", this is one among many. Personally, I prefer doing to watching others do any day of the week. This was a serendipitous accident, nothing more.

If you're curious, search Art2Life. The creator, Nicholas Wilton presents an approach that is more a focus on how YOU do things and not what TO do. This freedom to connect to the artist in me is still liberating. Yes, it is heavily weighted towards 2D people but can be easily adapted to sculpture and pottery. Online discussions/sharing included people from across the globe which was also exciting. The freshness of sharing and connecting with a diverse group of artists was a highlight. Though among the minority of non-painters in the group, I was a welcomed participant.

February 14 is day 1 for Art2Life Workshop Experience 2022. It's all recorded so starting a little late is okay. I hope you enjoy it.

The obvious: Is there a hook? Yes. Is this workshop a set up for something else that

Clayfolk welcomes these new members:

Gary Garrett

Ann O'neil-Freauf

Cindy Bottasso

Summer Brendlinger (hey, I know that name)

Rosie Russell

Mark Timmerman

A little bit about Ann O'neil-Freauf:

I Moved to Oregon 5 years ago, currently live in Rogue River, before that I was a southern California Native for 56 years (Ventura County) - Oops, just gave out my age – 61 – LOL.

I have had horses for the past 30 years, so that is a passion, and also the Beach, being a CA girl. I like to incorporate those items or themes in pottery. I currently teach riding lessons to children and also am a part time bookkeeper – sadly, this does not leave a lot of time for playing in the mud.

I started playing with clay about 18 years ago but only played for a couple of years, so I am just starting over and getting back into it after a 15-year pause. Basically, I'm self-teaching along the way. Currently, I am learning to hand build items, drop bowls, forms, bird houses, rattles, plaques, etc. Not sure where I'm going or what direction I will take. The journey is just starting. I used to throw on the wheel (amateur, little items) and played a little with raku as I'm drawn to more natural colors and processes. I tend to like "quick and easy". Definitely, I am more of a crafter than artist. My retirement dream, which I am working towards, is to be able to do pottery more seriously, sell some at shows too, online, and ride my horse along the trails.

Joining Clayfolk is a great start and I look forward to meeting you all in person. I look forward to and appreciate all help, suggestions, and support along my way.

Rosie Russell. I'm returning to my journey with clay after a 20-year gap when, (as it goes), life happened. I graduated from the University of Nebraska, Lincoln in 1999 with a BFA and emphasis in ceramics. Shortly after, I set up a small at-home studio but didn't get to use it much because the aforementioned life happened. In the meantime, I went back to school and attained a Masters in Education and I currently teach special education at Ashland Middle School.

In the last year, the layers of said life have begun to peel back and I'm finding myself returning to my art roots and igniting new flames. It feels incredibly good.

I'm working on adding an art endorsement to my teaching license with the dream of someday teaching ceramics in a school setting. In the meantime, I've set up the at-home studio equipment which was purchased 20 years ago and finding a new voice in clay. I'm spending any free time I can find remembering skills and finding new refinement for my work. Currently, I'm making a lot of cups and making peace with handles! I've also been focusing on some slab-build sculptural work, exploring texture and form. I'm re-learning glazes and firing (my brand-new 20-year-old kiln that has moved more than it has fired is working fantastically!). I joined Clayfolk because I'd love to have a community of like-minded clay family and because it will force me to be brave and honest around sharing my work. I'm looking forward to the opportunity to learn from this community as well as share myself with you! Thanks for the warm welcome!

A few pieces from new member Ann!



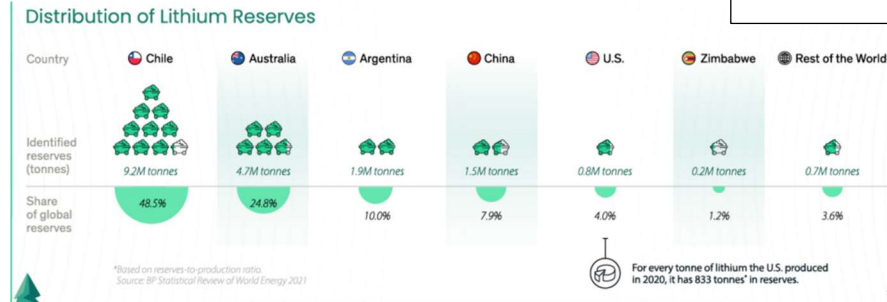
Where does your lithium come from?

Check out these two tables illustrating lithium production in the world today. It plays a role in some glazes but the future regarding EV vehicles is eye popping (editor's opinion).

The made in Southern Oregon event for local authentic handcrafted will be May 7 in beautiful Downtown Central Point.

Check this website for vendor space availability.

www.centralpointoregon.gov/madeinsouthernoregon



The Largest Lithium Producing Countries

Today, three countries—Australia, Chile, and China—mine roughly **86%** of the world's lithium.

Country	2020 Lithium Production* (tonnes)	% of World Total
Australia	40,000	46.3%
Chile	20,600	23.9%
China	14,000	16.2%
Argentina	6,200	7.2%
Brazil	1,900	2.2%
Zimbabwe	1,200	1.4%
U.S.	900	1.0%
Portugal	900	1.0%
Rest of the World	500	0.6%
Total	86,300	100%

*The above fun fact filled article graciously shared by Bob Johnson

(Reprinted from enews February 7, 2022)

Spring Show Survey Results:

We received 57 responses! About 60% of respondents would like to participate in this Spring Sale. We hope this pop-up sale would complement our large holiday show in November, if Covid safe.

The votes were pretty evenly split between all three dates with May 7th receiving a slight majority. There is some disappointment about conflicting dates with other shows. We apologize and hope you understand we are in the beginning stages of having new shows and there will be a learning curve. All your input is very helpful. At this point we will probably go with what dates we can get at whatever venue is available, still taking your feedback into consideration. We are later than others to schedule spring events and May is coming soon. We are at the "find a venue" stage. We got so many great responses we need some help making some calls to get rental info. Please contact:

Kat Hacker, 520-437-7889
kalubiaz@gmail.com or

Polly Beach, 541-488-1182,
ancestralmud@gmail.com

to get places to call...ASAP please.

Kat and I have begun making calls and we could use some help. Thank you to everyone who responded to the survey. It was very helpful.

Polly

Janet Marie Stackhouse

I was sad to learn of Jan's passing and grateful to have had the opportunity know her as a person of clay and sour dough bread baking. Jan was an active Clayfolk member for many years. She was an expert hand-builder and a master of surface design and color. She passed away last fall. Below is a photo of her pottery and obituary from the Medford paper.

Janet Marie Stackhouse passed away peacefully on October 5, 2021 with her loving family by her side. She was 64 years old. Jan was born in Levittown, PA where she spent her formative years. She moved to Northern California in the early 80's and settled in Ashland, Oregon, where she lived for 30 years.

Jan was incredibly free spirited and creative. She was a talented and dedicated artist who worked in multiple media including painting, pottery, and jewelry. Pieces of Jan's art pottery were displayed in local galleries and were also used on the set of the movie "Wild" which was partially filmed in Ashland.

She was a passionate cook and bread baker and created colorful gardens. Jan was a talented singer and musician and played guitar, ukulele, African Drums, and didgeridoo. Over the years she worked as a hospice volunteer and caregiver.

Jan was an avid animal lover. She rescued, loved and cared for cats and kittens over the years. Her constant feline companions were Billy Roo, Cupcake, and Milo.

Jan is survived by her loving partner Larry Frires, father Charles Henry Stackhouse (Anna), mother, Barbara Ann Stackhouse, sister Barbara Siwa (David), brothers Mark (Mary), Larry (Caryn), Matt (Kathy), six nieces and nephews and many dear friends and caregivers with whom she shared her love, friendship and compassion.



To Plant Memorial Trees in memory, please visit our [Sympathy Store](#).

