



January – February 2024

Issue 2024.1

Clayfolk

Clay Love!



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Meeting & Potluck

Sandie Alison has generously offered to host the Clayfolk general meeting in March at her beautiful place on the Rogue River. We will be having a pottery swap and potluck, so this is one you will want to attend in person, if at all possible. More details to follow as we get closer to the date. **Remember to mark March 24th on your calendar.** And yes, we will still zoom if you are one of the unfortunates that can't make it.



Location:

1335 Upper River Road
97525 Gold Hill, OR
Gone Rogue Treasures

Love to broaden your

clay horizons?

Please take a moment to fill out this survey so Rosie and Summer have the most information possible as they plan our future workshops. Thank you!

Complete this [Survey](#)

<https://clayfolk.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86c2acbc97a70af0455d951d3&id=74958b08f2&e=45a0a2e1c0>



The Workshop Team: Summer, Rosie, and Deacon!



2024 CLAYFOLK OFFICERS

President: Bill Thompson
president@clayfolk.org

Vice President: Janice Shenker
vicepresident@clayfolk.org

Secretary: Natalie Stolzheise
secretary@clayfolk.org

Co-Treasurers:
Debbie Thompson & Ray Foster
treasurer@clayfolk.org

Members at Large
Janice Shenker, Tim Elliott,
Summer Brendlinger

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Archivist: Lynita Zajack
birdsbowlsandthings@gmail.com

Empty Bowls
- Jackson County:
Summer Brendlinger & Cheryl Lashly
- Josephine County:
Ann O'Neil-Freauf
emptybowls@clayfolk.org

Enews: Dana Godley
enews@clayfolk.org

Library: Viviana Padilla
library@clayfolk.org

Membership: Sally Pursell
membership@clayfolk.org

Newsletter: Kathy Forester
Kathy@RogueEd.com
or newsletter@clayfolk.org

Points: Carole Hayne, Gwen Childs
points@clayfolk.org

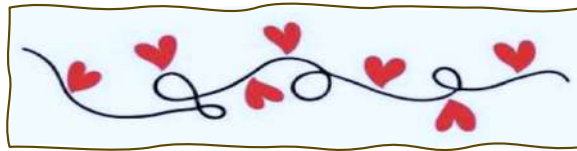
Scholarship: Betsy Moore
scholarship@clayfolk.org

Show Chair: Michael McKinney
showchair@clayfolk.org

Webmaster: Pat Richey
webmaster@clayfolk.org

Workshop Committee:
Rosie Russell & Summer Brendlinger
workshops@clayfolk.org

Social Media : Sandy Brown, Julie Furrer
socialmedia@clayfolk.org

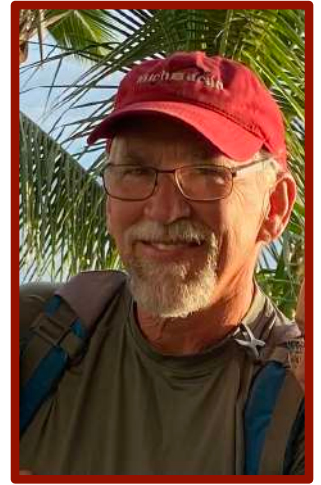


As the wheel turns...
Bill Thompson

Clay Love

What causes apparently rational people to spend their days crafting pots from clay with the meager satisfaction of earning something approaching minimum wage for all their work? Clay, as it turns out, is a beguiling seductress. Many of us are lured into its grasp at an early age when we discover the tactile pleasure of squeezing mud between our toes and shaping it into mud pies. As we grow older mud puddles become something to step around instead of stomp through and that sense of primal pleasure fades, but it is actually still there lying dormant. When somehow our lives intersect with a pottery class, we rediscover the raw satisfaction and childlike delight of shaping and molding clay. The sensory experience of working with clay gradually transcends into something more as our skill level increases and we discover that we can bring imagination to life using a malleable ball of clay. Now hopelessly hooked, we tell people we are prioritizing fulfillment and creativity over financial gain, but in truth we really are still hooked on the primal fulfillment that working with clay brings us. So, in the upcoming year if you struggle with the business end of pottery, I suggest you just take your shoes off, stick your feet in your slurry bucket, squeeze the clay between your toes and feel the clay love. Happy potting.

~Bill



Clay Love...in the Neighborhood!

I hike every morning in my rural area and am fortunate to have the route to myself. I rarely see anyone, usually not even a car. I do raise the ire of some local dogs (harmless) and get to see the neighbor's horses in the pasture (also harmless). I happened upon the "neighbor with the horses" last week and she asked if I was the potter. Turns out that she has a wheel, takes classes in Phoenix and said that pottery is her Zen. It made my day knowing a clay kin is within walking distance. Truly a bonus with my love of clay.

~Bernie DeLallo

Reliable Research

Clay Love!



Research shows clay love observed in children as young as first graders can be a strong predictor of adult behavior.



Kathy McGrath

Love Stories ~

This is a love story - love of clay, love of partner, love of community and love a tool.

A lovely woman came to my booth at the show with a box of tools about 10 years ago. Her husband had been a potter and had succumbed to Alzheimer's. It was his wish that his tools be distributed to other potters. Because I hosted a glaze group, one of the Clayfolk members directed the woman to me. I took the box to the group's next meeting and each of us took something.

The tool pictured is wonderful for many things. When sculpting one can even out the walls with a few strokes with the serrated side. Scoring is a whole other task with this big, powerful tool.

The real connection for me, however, is that this tool came to me because the Clayfolk community shares with each other. I never knew that man's name. In the hubris of the show, the woman was just gone before I got that far in the conversation. When I use the tool, I think of this story.

~ Gwen



I recently made this piece, and it juried into a show. It is multimedia with a raku clay heart, wood, acrylic and sand. I took a sand & acrylic painting I had, drilled holes, and painted the bisqued raku clay heart with acrylics before wiring it to the painting. I think it turned out pretty good. We'll see if the "Art at the Cave" Gallery in Vancouver, WA sells it in February or not. Cheers!

~ Teri Fahrendorf, Rain Dragon Studio

Fine Line Between Love and Hate ~



Same mug,
different
lighting!

After 28
years, still
one of my
favorites!

~Ray Foster



A Thin Line Between Love & Hate

The Love: It's beautiful variegated glaze and subdued wood fired finish spoke to me. I loved it and John says: "Great! It's yours for free if you promise to take it back to America where I'll never have to see it again."

The Hate: I found the cup lying in mud & gravel under a downspout at the Leach studio in England. I approached John with it, who said he hated the cup, a glaze experiment gone wrong.

BEAUTY
is in the eye of the beholder

Pit Firing ~



Sandi Alison will be hosting a Spring pit fire sometime before May. Start your "Terra Siggings" now! All are welcome, but it will fit about 20 pots. If you are thinking about coming, we need seaweed, cow patties and anything else to throw in the pit! Start collecting pit fire materials now. Date will be chosen in April. See you soon!

~Sandi

Happenings ~

2024 Clayfolk Meetings Calendar: *changes are possible!*

Month 2024	Meeting type	Meeting location	Host	Activity	Time
March 14 (Thursday)	Board	Ray Foster – Zoom	Bill Thompson	NA	6:00-7:30
March 24 (Sunday)	General	1335 Upper River Road, Gold Hill	Sandie Allison	Potluck	2:30-4:00
June 13 (Thursday)	Board	Ray Foster / Zoom	Bill Thompson	NA	6:00-7:30
June 23 (Saturday)	General	TBA	TBA Swap meet / Potluck Picnic		2:30-4:00
August 15 (Thursday)	Board	Ray Foster / Zoom	TBA	NA	6:00-7:30
August 25 (Sunday)	General	TBA	TBA	TBA	2:30-4:00
October 10 (Thursday)	Board	Ray Foster / Zoom	TBA	NA	6:00-7:30
October 20 (Sunday)	Show Chairs	Grants Pass Museum of Art	Michael McKinney	Show Chairs' reports	12:30-2:00
October 20 (Sunday)	General	Grants Pass Museum of Art	Carole Hayne	Booth Pick	2:30-4:00
Nov. 22 – 24	Show and sale	Medford Armory	Show & Sale Fri: 10AM – 7PM, Sat: 10AM - 7PM, Sun: 10AM – 3PM		

Join the Private
Facebook Page ~

It can only be viewed and
accessed by approved
Clayfolk members.

If interested, contact

Julie Furrer

julie.a.furrer@gmail.com



Welcome Johannes!

We don't hold or "kiss" too many objects on a daily basis. Perhaps that's what made me decide to focus on the "tactile" aspects of functional ceramics at a time when so much of our world has become virtual and completely devoid of physical connection.



I hand sculpt my designs and make molds, which I cast with porcelain slip and painstakingly finish. I often leave areas that are touched by hands "unglazed" in order to emphasize the beauty of raw fired clay, something we rarely experience with commercially made ceramics.

I started as a metalsmith, spent most of my life as a product designer and retired as a ceramic artist. I look forward to learning from the amazing and prolific Clayfolk community!





Earthspun Pottery

I found clay during a time in my life when I was struggling to balance being a mother of two active boys, running my preschool business and finding time for myself. Centering clay on the wheel helped me to center myself and discover a new passion.

I work mostly with cone 6 porcelain and stoneware. I'm fascinated with finding translucency in porcelain and have been making luminaries, and lamps. I also love to make other functional work with a variety of styles and methods.



earthspunpottery.com

facebook.com/earthspunpottery/

instagram.com/earthspunpottery/

My greatest love for ceramics is deeply rooted in the process of creating. I am happiest when my hands are in the clay, and I feel a deep connection to our earth. My mind and spirit become centered when I center clay on the wheel. As I create and modify my pots, I seek new techniques, new forms, and I welcome the learning that comes from failure. I view this process as a continual exploration of self, and a deep dive into self-improvement and balance.



♡ Welcome, Allie Parkin!

I call my little pottery business, that I officially launched a few years ago, Squirrel Medicine Pottery. I started my journey in 2015 at RCC under the instruction of Phil Fishwick (hi Phil!) and have been hooked ever since. I live off-grid with my fiancé, 16-year-old son, 3 blue heelers, a cat, lots of chickens and a pig. Being surrounded by the beautiful nature of the Pacific Northwest greatly inspires my work. If I'm not in my home studio, you'll probably find me in the garden or wandering in the forest. I am so excited to be a member of Clayfolk and really look forward to my ceramics future with you all!

Squirrel Medicine Pottery



Welcome Ashley!

Ashley Ambrosio is a multidisciplinary artist and teacher, originally from BC, Canada and the creative hands + heart behind Spring + Vine. Offering functional handmade pottery, luxurious natural soap and beginner workshops since the summer of 2010. Her distinct artistic style when it comes to ceramics is characterized by the harmonious balance she aims to achieve between form and function, with each creation being one-of-a-kind and designed to



elevate the rituals of our everyday experiences. Most drawn to clay in its raw state, Ashley's work evokes an earthy emotion and highlights the techniques of hand-building, marbling, texture application, sgraffito engraving and a special wood firing from time-to-time. Spring + Vine was founded in 2018 and has since evolved into a loyal group of customers, students, and friends! With an emphasis on supporting youth-based programs, self-observation, and honoring the beginner mindset with meditative play, Ashley's so grateful to share the beauty of clay with our community and beyond. A brand-new Talent resident, just fresh from Tucson, AZ.. when she's not teaching PE p/t at Ashland Middle School, you



can find Ashley with her pup and husband playing outside and enjoying exploring their new surroundings. ❤️

January 28th Meeting ~

Meeting Pics

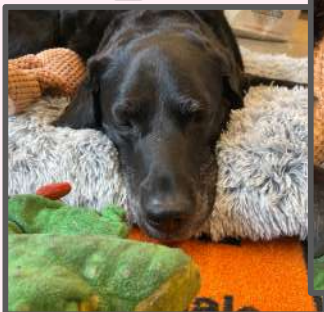


Thanks for
hosting, Rosie!

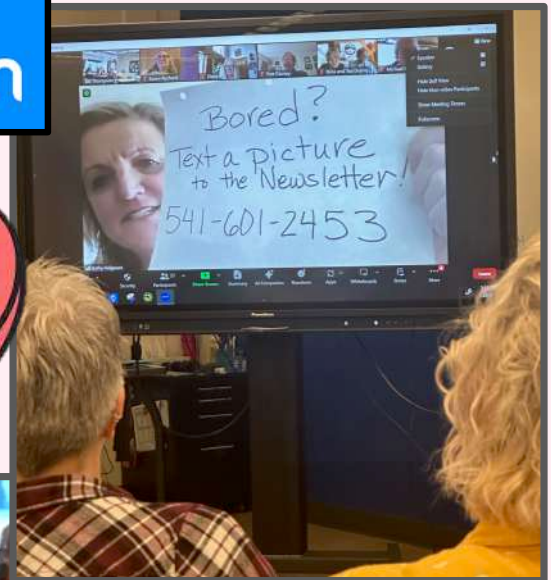
Team 'Z', The Zajacks



One of the Treasurers
(The cute one!)



View From the Other Side ~



CLAYFOLK SPRING SHOW + SALE

Over 30 ceramic artisans show a wide range of work throughout the gardens in our 3rd annual Spring Show. With live music, and wine and food available for purchase.

Saturday, May 18, 2024, 10 am - 5 pm
EdenVale Winery
2310 Voorhies Road, Medford, Oregon
Free Admission



Artwork shown is by: (from left)
Bernadette DeLallo, Hamish Jackson,
Dana Ivory Godley, Rosie Russell.

www.clayfolk.org

Registration: <https://www.clayfolk.org/membership/member-login/spring-show-sale-late-registration/>

The spring show & sale at EdenVale winery in Medford held on May 18th. Spaces are granted based on availability. Registering is easy, just go to the Clayfolk website, scroll down and look for the Clayfolk spring show and sale (highlighted in blue), click on it and you'll see the registration information with a REGISTER NOW button. Click on that and you are on your way. This is a wonderful opportunity for all Clayfolk members to participate. If you have any questions about the show, contact Bernie DeLallo berlela@hotmail.com or Janice Shenker tymtrvrl@yahoo.com

Hurry...
Some
booth
spaces
still
available!





FRANK & DENISE GOSAR



DESK & TABLE

JAN. 31- MAR 27, 2024

"Desk and Table," an exhibit of pottery, handmade paper and bookbinding by husband-and-wife artists Frank and Denise Gosar, will be on display in the Viterbo University Gallery Wednesday, Jan. 31 through March 27.

Frank Gosar earned bachelor's degrees in art and mathematics from Viterbo and a master's in fine arts in ceramics from the University of Oregon, where he would teach for 10 years at the UO Craft Center. Denise Gosar graduated from the UW-Oshkosh with bachelor's degrees in microbiology and public health. She worked as a microbiology lab technician with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in La Crosse for almost 12 years. The couple opened Off-Center Ceramics in 1993, and today their work is available online and at art fairs and shops in Oregon and Washington.



Breaking news: It's official. Dana Ivory Godley is the Show Chair Trainee for 2024!

Did we have another great Clayfolk Show last year? Yes, we did! Our collective displays creatively filled the Armory space. Our customers showed up for us...again. Sharing our individual and collective gratitude to them during checkout isn't just being friendly and kind, it's good business. Without them, we don't have the Show that people look forward to year after year.



Though we put together a great variety of artwork within a cheery, festive environment, our artist numbers were quite different from the 2022 Show. Two years ago we scrambled to gather enough participants to adequately fill the Armory space. Last year we received abundant applications only to have our numbers decline precipitously prior to the early November Show dates. In fact, our Show Map was being revised weekly, even days, before the October booth pick meeting. Did we have waitlists for all three booth sizes?

Yes. Did they all evaporate? Yes...with one exception. Consider this my public declaration that ONE person was left on the Group Booth waitlist at show time. This detail was missing from the January general meeting summary. Roxanne, 2024 is going to be a great year!

Changes coming to the 2024 Clayfolk Show include the move to an online only Show application and a need-based chair position. Expect an option for booth sharing to be available on the Show application.



The Clayfolk Show is known for the community atmosphere generated by us, the participating artists. Our sense of community comes from experience in the Show and how we help new participants (not necessarily new artists) navigate how "we" do Clayfolk. I consider this community effort essential to promoting the positive culture we are (or want to be) known for. Following the 2023 Show, we decided to add a mentor chair position to support first year participants. This decision is the result of two years of close to 10 new participants each year. It became clear that this many new participants weren't fully supported in our Show culture. We will activate this chair position with similar new participant numbers. If our new participant numbers are low, this chair won't be needed.

Questions/comments go to Michael McKinney, gratefuldadpottery@gmail.com



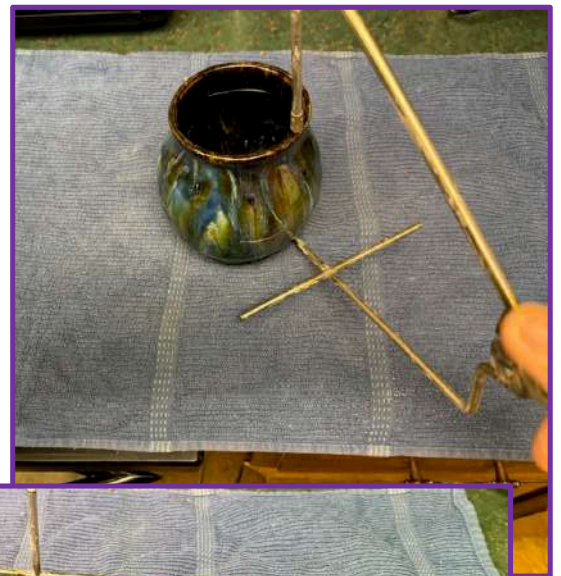
Workshop Success! ~

Thanks, Workshop Committee!





"Love my new dipping tool!
It's handmade:
you could do
this!"



This idea
comes from an
unknown potter
via
"mypixmessages"



CERAMIC ARTS
NETWORK
PRESENTS

HOW TO TRIM A CUP FROM TOP
TO BOTTOM ON A CHUM



<https://youtu.be/y62MAJnfBz8>

Check out the
Tips and Tricks
Department
of the Clayfolk
website. There are
LOTS of great ideas

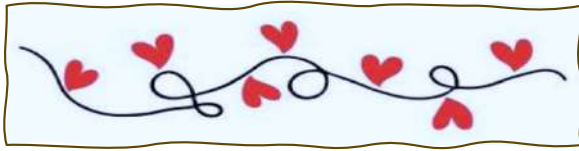
—
New to some and
great reminders for
others.

It is a treasure
trove of great ideas!

<https://bit.ly/clayfolktips>



Glaze Love ???



Potters L♥VE Glazy

If you're just hearing about Glazy for the first time, you should definitely go check it out. You can batch out a recipe

(convert % to grams), calculate recipe batch costs, track your glaze material inventory, chat with other potters about their recipes, and so much more. It's truly amazing.

And for those of you who are interested in looking at the chemistry of your glazes, Glazy has glaze calculation software built right in. [Glazy.org](https://glazy.org) is totally free to use. You can choose to pay a small monthly donation (\$2) to become a Glazy Patron member and unlock extra useful features if you desire. The Glazy site was generously created for the ceramics community by Derek Au. Glazy promotes the sharing of glaze information between potters. We grow as a community when information is shared in this way.



Watch a demo by Sue McLeod (click on the picture, or cut/paste this link: <https://suemcleodceramics.com/glazy-demo-adding-recipes-and-more>)



Interested in making your own glazes?

Find your people at one - or both - of the Clayfolk glaze groups! Lots of help and support, as well as glaze recipes and community...and sometimes snacks!



Contact these fine ladies:

Ashland: Marydee Bombick
mbombick@gmail.com

Gold Hill: Jenny Harkins
jennyharkins@yahoo.com

Dust off that Clayfolk memorabilia and
bring it to the next meeting.



This year is our 48th Clayfolk show. That means,
in 2025 we will have our Golden 50th.

As the archivist, I am searching for postcards and/or posters advertising our past shows to put on our website. If you have any past postcards/posters please send them to me at 202 Kings Way, Central Point, OR 97502; or bring them to the next meeting. Any Clayfolk related memorabilia would also be welcome. If sending or sharing pictures, please put the names of the people in the picture on the back of the photo and, if possible, add the date and any other pertinent information. I am looking forward to putting Clayfolk history and pictures on the website; as well as, providing information regarding our book donations to the libraries and some of our scholarship winners to give the general public and our wonderful customers a fuller understanding of our group and our mission. Contact Lynita: birdsbowlsandthings@gmail.com



A mug full of
love!
...had to include
them in them in
the "Clay Love"
issue!

~ Kathy F.



In Remembrance ~

Celebrating a Life



IN LOVING MEMORY
OF ROSS

Please join us to share tales & good times!

Friday March 1st 5:00 - 7:00pm

Appetizers & Cocktails will be served

catered by Mary's BBQ @ the Club

Grants Pass GC | 230 Espey Rd | Grants Pass, OR 97527

Hello Friends and Family,
Hope to see you on March 1st, dad (Ross) would love for us to gather and enjoy time together at his favorite home away from home GPGC.

This will be a small gathering in the banquet space adjacent the grill room in the Clubhouse, casual or golf attire is appropriate 🏌️

Please RSVP ~

To Roxanne Hunnicutt

541-944-1353 or reply to this email

*Much Love to all,
Julie & Rox*

Thank you, John ~



A few years back, as a new arrival in Southern Oregon, I was feeling a bit lost and unsure how I should set up my pottery studio. I found myself worrying (out loud) that I just didn't have the right space, the right clay or the right anything, etc., etc. I had no idea that John D was listening, when I heard a strong voice say, "Oh, for Pete's sake, just jump in and do it!" John introduced himself, invited me to his studio and gardens, and told me all about Clayfolk and his history. I was so captivated by his passion for clay and life. Thank you, John, for sharing, motivating and snapping me out of my procrastination – and nudging me to join Clayfolk and create in my ever-evolving studio that brings me great joy.

~ Sandi Alison

Train Kiln Love ~

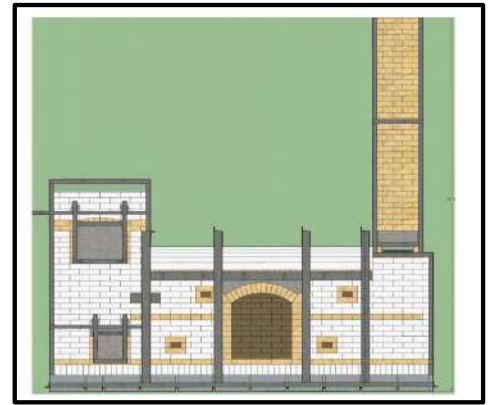
Contact: Jane Anderson

Jane@washdish.com



We've made great progress on our wood fired kiln! Our kiln shed is roofed, we have a couple of cords of wood split and stacked, and we just laid the first seven layers of the kiln itself: cinderblock, insulating firebrick floor, hard firebrick floor, and four courses of the walls! Once again, we want to thank folks for contributing materials

to this project. All the bricks we've used so far have been donated by folks who have been in Clayfolk. These contributions make this kiln possible.



With luck and help from our friends we'll be finished in March and will be able to fire before fire season starts.

You can follow our progress at https://www.instagram.com/rogue_train_kiln/.

Email us at kiln@woodlandsun.com if you would like to participate.



Clayfolk Scholarship ~

Know a ceramic arts student who would

L♥VE

a Clayfolk scholarship?



The purpose of the scholarship is to further ceramic art students' education through:

- Upper division college or art school courses
- Workshops through accredited institutions
- Study abroad through accredited institutions

Share
the
Love



Share Poster

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1UJ6unRicuJTwWRfYk vfRj4Sz3ETSZgVhJfCmNxvcM4o/edit?usp=sharing>

For more information and qualifications:

<https://www.clayfolk.org/scholarships/>

Ellice T. Johnston Scholarship Offers \$2000 To Students of Ceramic Arts



Apply by
May 15, 2024
www.clayfolk.org

STANDING FIGURE, MESOAMERICAN COLLECTION, FRESNO ART MUSEUM



Caption This...

What she
should
have said...



[Click Here](#)

To enter your
own caption.

From last newsletter...



I need
gin!

"Still not centered? Seriously???"

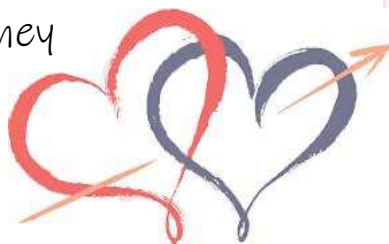
"You'll never make a living as an art major."

"Damn cats!"

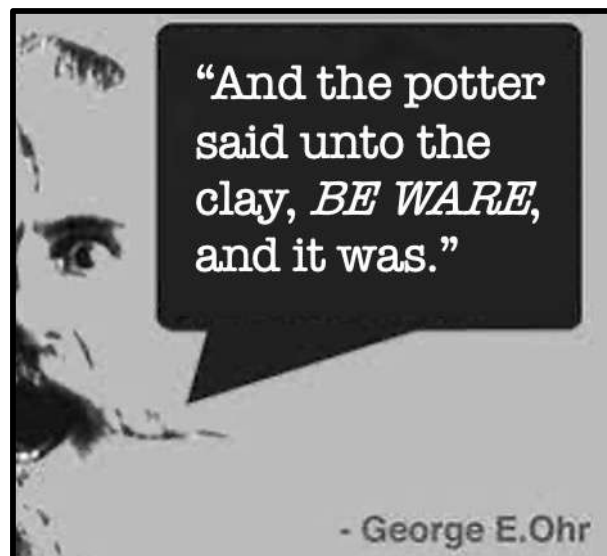
"Is that Michael McKinney
in a previous life?"



"Hairy Potter"



Southern Oregon
Clay Distributors
Reach them at
541-535-1311 or
order online at
orders@socd.biz



CLAYFOLK SPRING SHOW + SALE

Over 30 ceramic artisans show a wide range of work throughout the gardens in our 3rd annual Spring Show. With live music, and wine and food available for purchase.

Saturday, May 18, 2024, 10 am - 5 pm

EdenVale Winery

2310 Voorhies Road, Medford, Oregon

Free Admission



Artwork shown is by: (from left)
Bernadette DeLallo, Hamish Jackson,
Dana Ivory Godley, Rosie Russell.

www.clayfolk.org

CLAYFOLK
PO BOX 1334
JACKSONVILLE, OR 97530

