



POTTERS
GUILD
of BRITISH
COLUMBIA

NEWSLETTER

bc potters

June 2004

Volume 40 No. 6

The BC Potters Guild turns 50 in 2005!!!

PLEASE READ! THIS IS FOR EVERY MEMBER IN THE GUILD!

There will be events from April to October 2005, all over the Province. Exhibitions, symposiums, studio tours, sales, articles, catalogues, and historical displays are all in the planning stages.

Keith Rice Jones, Heather Cairns, Suzy Birstein, Rona Hatherall, Maggi Kneer, Karen Opas, Debra Sloan, and Jinny Whitehead are the committee in the lower Mainland and invite anyone to join in and assist us.

These are some of the plans already afoot:

A large BC Potters Guild Exhibition, "Making History" is in the works. The date will be spring or summer 2005, and venue the is pending. This exhibition will include a variety of displays, and themes: historical, juried, and invitational. All guild members will be asked to send in a page, regarding their own work, with photos and statements or bios. These will be made into several book binders and called; "NOW, WE ARE FIFTY". They will be a part of the Exhibition, and will be kept as an archival snapshot of the BCPG at 50.

Arrowsmith Potters Guild are expanding their Bi-Annual Clay Symposium featuring BC potters' expertise, to be hosted on Vancouver Island. Planning is already underway including buses to and from the ferry, billets and of course our 50th Birthday Party! The AGM may also be held at this time.

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President's Report - June 04

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MANY, MANY THANKS TO KEITH for his leadership over the past year. Under your clear and enthusiastic guidance we have managed to overcome our financial crisis and the many changes of last year, to emerge as a strong and vibrant organisation. And many thanks to outgoing board members, Ron Feicht and Maggi Kneer for their years of support. I am appreciative of those board members and volunteers who will continue to contribute their energies to the guild and welcome new members Deb Dewar and Julie Johnston, who will bring fresh ideas and energy.

For those of you who were unable to attend the annual general meeting, I have enclosed a copy of our report for 2003. It will give you some idea of the remarkable amount of activity over the past year. We had a good turnout of people for the meeting and took advantage of the occasion to honour Tam Irving for his enduring contribution to the clay community. Tam joins a small select group of Life-Time Members, some of whom attended the meeting and provided personal anecdotes about Tam.

Next year we will celebrate 50 years as a guild. What an achievement! I feel especially honoured to assume the role of president at such a significant juncture in the Guild's evolution and I feel confident that the new team will continue to build upon the strong infrastructure already in place. Together, we hope to make next year a year to remember!

Jinny Whitehead

General Shipping Information from the Gallery

Some of you have asked me questions about shipping ceramics. Here are some general pointers that make it easy and worry free.

At the Gallery of BC Ceramics, we shipped over \$40,000.00 worth of ceramics worldwide in 2003, most of it to US customers. In the past 4 years (and perhaps beyond that) we have not had anything break!

The key to good shipping is suspension. The item needs to be snug, yet have room so that when it is bumped it can respond without hitting another object or the wall of the box. This is how we do it:

- Take the item and fill any concave areas (e.g. The inside of a bowl, mug or teapot) with foamchips, paper or bubble wrap.
- Wrap in bubble wrap tightly with no room for movement
- Bubble wrap handles, spouts, any-

thing that sticks up or out

- Build a custom cardboard box around the item and tape snugly
- Fill the bottom of a larger box with foam chips in the bottom
- Place the item in its custom or double box in the middle
- Fill to the brim with foam chips (don't use paper - it's too heavy)
- Tape top and ensure bottom is also securely fastened
- Place fragile stickers on every side of the box
- If you have a computer, reuse a piece of paper and type the person's name and address in very large font, print it off and cover the surface of it with tape. My theory is that delivery people shouldn't have to struggle to read the address, and rain should not harm the information.
- Always include your return address with phone number

We have found that Canada Post is the most reasonable and fairly fast way to send parcels. If shipping outside Canada, customers save GST and PST. If shipping within Canada, customers save PST. Sometimes this is enough to pay for the shipping costs, and will close a sale. If you label your contents "handmade artwork made in Canada" your ceramic creation is exempt from duty. Do not write 'gift' and do not write the name of the item (eg. 'teapot') or your customer may incur extra costs. For more information about this, look on the website and I will post more detailed information, or you can call me at the gallery and I will be happy to provide you with more information. If you need packing materials like bubble wrap, I can order it for you at cost (in large quantities only).

Tamara Ruge

HER AND HISTORIES ABOUT THE GUILD

Before it is too late, and any more data gets lost, the Guild needs to collect stories, photos, videos, papers, letters, and any other archival materials, or copies of such material that pertain to our history. I have been in touch with several senior members of the Guild, in a very casual way, and am beginning to realize that there is a wealth of information that needs to be gathered and saved. So far I have talked to Gisela Kaempffer, (who has already given us some information of the UBC Huts and Olea Davis), Jean Fahrni, Barbara Lambert, daughter of the Schwenks who had a pottery in the Penticton area in the 50's and 60's, Santo Mignosa, Michael Huyghe, and Georgina Hughes. They are all looking through their attics as we speak. Rachele Chinnery has recently done a lot of research about pottery in the lower mainland in the 40's to 60's. The Guild has some archival material, but some boxes are missing. Does anyone have some mysterious boxes in their attic?

Do you have: stories, photographs, pots, slides, videos, information of any pottery events, old studios, or potteries. Please contact me at sloanyip@shaw.ca , or 604-736-3039. thank you, Debra



**Architectural
Ceramics Workshop**
Peter King | Xinia Marin

During the intensive 5 day workshop participants will collaborate in the creation of a full scale architectural ceramic piece, in addition to informative slide shows, and sink, tile, and mold making demonstrations.

August 25th - 29th, 2004
Member cost: \$250;
non-member cost: \$275
Registration: SaskTerra
Box 145, Meacham, Sask S0K 2V0
(306) 376-2221
www.saskterra.sk.ca

Judy Tyrone Pottery Studio
#2-421 42nd Street East
SASKATOON, Sask

MoC spring show update

This year's show was again an amazing feast for the eyes. We had beautiful weather to go along with our beautiful pots and the presenter's attitudes were amazing. It was also a fantastic sharing of tips, tricks and ideas. Everything ran like clockwork so I would like to say thanks to a few people.

Thank you to all the presenters that made this weekend such an enjoyable experience. The level of quality you brought to the show will be the foundation for this show's future success. We would have no reason to do this show if it wasn't for you.

Thank you to the Pat Schendel and all the Fraser Valley Potters Guild presenters for organizing the demonstrations. They were a huge success and immensely popular with the visitors as well as the presenters.

Thank you to Jinny Whitehead and Pia Sillem for helping me with so much. This show is growing into an immense amount of tasks and I couldn't have done it without them. We are always looking for more help so if you would like to get involved with the Christmas show, please feel free to contact one of us.

Thank you to Shawn Hall of Apogee Public Relations for his dedication to promoting this event. For the first time in the history of Made of Clay, we had a huge amount of radio, TV and newspaper coverage. Some of you may have seen our spots on Breakfast Television on CityTV, or one of the continuously run segments on Shaw cable or maybe you heard the interviews on CBC radio's North By Northwest. A few of the presenters were even blessed with being the feature of full page articles in many of the local newspapers.

Thank you to the Gallery staff for all the promotion they did and taking care of many small tasks that added up to a huge help.

And finally I'd like to thank all you members who had a chance to come down and visit with us. We really enjoyed the time you spent with us.

Hope you all have a fantastic summer and keep an eye out for the applications for the Made of Clay at the Roundhouse show in the summer edition of the newsletter.

Jim Stamper
MoC organizer
madeofclay@bcpotters.com

continued from cover

BC in a Box is an exhibition also in the planning stages. It is similar to the Orton Cone Exhibition and designed to travel. This will be a non-juried exhibition, open to the membership. More information soon.

Made of Clay will be in June 2005, AGM as well (unless it is at Arrowsmith). Events are being planned around that.

In January letters were sent out to all associate guilds and groups in the province, urging them to start plans for exhibitions, demonstrations, open studios, and educational events in their own communities that connect with the Guild's anniversary. The idea is to include and involve as many BC potters as possible, and to encourage potters and their associations to create their own events around the 50 Years celebrations. Dates and locations for exhibitions, tours, sales and displays, should all be sent to the committee by October 2004 so that we can put together a BCPG Travel Map-Calendar of Events- 2005, for members, travelers, and tourists.

These galleries in the lower mainland are already booked to have a clay exhibition during the spring and summer months of 2005:

The Silk Purse, West Vancouver

The Ferry Building Gallery, West Vancouver

Cityscape Community Art Space, North Vancouver

Evergreen Gallery, Coquitlam (Fraser Valley Guild)

Seymour Gallery, North Vancouver

Blackberry Gallery, Port Moody (The BC in a Box exhibit will start here)

BC Art Teachers Association have committed to a focus on clay in their quarterly magazine (thanks to Keith), and at their annual conference in Burnaby they will celebrate our 50th with demonstrations, workshops, and speakers. Will need articles, workshop projects, demonstrations, etc. Their membership and attendance is around 400-500 art teachers.

Several people will be writing about the history of the Guild for the newsletter, and also writing articles for other publications.

There is a grant committee for seeking funding for the BCPG Travel Map/Calendar of Events-2005, and a catalogue for the main exhibit, and display costs for

the main exhibit.

What the committee is doing:

Keith Rice-Jones, keith@wildricestudio.com as chair is chief winder-upper with responsibility for the main exhibition, liaising with Arrowsmith, BCATA and Gallery Managers Show.

Heather Cairns, claythings@telus.net will help with marketing and promotion using the 50th Anniversary celebrations to further heighten the profile of BCPG and the Gallery Shop and to help create a promotional package for use by groups or individuals. She will also assist Debra and Suzy with searching out grant opportunities.

Rona Hatherall ronahatherall@hotmail.com will be assisting with various committees.

Karen Opas, volunteers@alovingspoonful.org is looking after the BC in a Box traveling show. The boxes are designed, shipping costs are small. We need places to send to. Would you like your community to host the show? Local shows and the BC in a Box could share space.

Debra Sloan, sloanyip@shaw.ca will be contacting longstanding members of the guild, seeking historical information, artifacts, stories, and photographs. (If you have any info please contact, or phone 604-736-3039. She will also be assisting with grant writing.

Suzy Birstein, rosebirst@telus.net will be acting as a coordinato, connecting with people from groups all over the province, for the BCPG Travel Map-Calendar of Events-2005. She will be encouraging associations to approach their local galleries, arts organizations, Chamber of Commerce or Arts Councils (Contact www.assemblybcartscouncils.ca , phone:1-888-315-2288). Suzy will advise with press release forms, and promotional ideas. Most importantly, she, and her committee, will collect the information provided about the events that celebrate pottery and the 50th Anniversary of the BCPG. These will be published in the BCPG Travel Map-Calendar of Events-2005. Remember the BC in a Box show can travel to your community if you find a venue. This will be included in the travel map.

Maggi Kneer, maggikneer@telus.net. will be helping with event and social planning.

Jinny Whitehead, vwhitehead@shaw.ca , our next president, will be keeping track of all plans and events.

Each member of the committee will have their own volunteers to assist them. All help is welcome.

We will set up a registry of province-wide potters' B+B's, to encourage visitors and visiting.

Time line:

By June 2004, a declaration of interest and a progress report. (Salt Spring Island potters have plans underway, as do the Arrowsmith Potters) Do you want the BC in a Box show in your town? Will you have an exhibit, tours? How can we help?

By the end of October 2004, we must have a final version of what you will be doing.

BCPG Travel Map/Calendar of Events 2005, will be published and available by March 2005.

We urge you to get together and plan as soon as possible. We look forward to hearing your plans, and will help in any way we can.

50th Anniversary Committee

Health and Safety Techno Tip for Potters

Working with clay, chemicals and powdery 'stuff' often requires a mask that is designed and rated for the appropriate hazard. A paper 'nuisance' dust mask is ineffective and gives you a false sense of security. There are some 4 point (2 rubber straps to hold it on) paper masks that are better, but the key is to find one that has a NIOSH rating of P100. A 4 point harness, fitted rubber face mask with P100 rated filter cartridges is what you need. A minimum rating of P100 is required for chemical dusts (silica, oxides, etc). They're available from 3M and North at any hardware or safety equipment store at a reasonable cost. The North P100 cartridges are purple and are designed to filter out over 99.9% of very small particles. You should also get the right size of mask for your face. It may be tough for some of you more rugged types, but a clean shaven face is also necessary to ensure an airtight fit and proper functioning. For the folks doing raku, cartridges are also available to eliminate the smoke, vapors and fumes from the post firing process. Just check the labels or ask for assistance. Practice safe potting and enjoy yourselves and your health.

Don Jung



Summer Programs at the Shadbolt

Register now by calling 604.291.6864

Using earthenware this summer, these courses have space available:

Summer Pottery Fee \$132.21, 8 sessions

Wednesdays, Mondays (**Darrel Hancock**), 10am-1pm, starts June 30. Barcode #52278.

Tuesdays, Thursdays (Sabrina Keskula), 7-10pm, starts June 29. Barcode #52279.

Throwing and Altering Fee \$132.21, 8 sessions

Wednesdays, Mondays (**Fredi Rahn**), 7-10pm, starts June 30. Barcode #52342.

Tile Decorating Workshop Fee \$48.15, 1 session

Sunday, June 27 (**Gillian McMillan**), 10am-4pm. Barcode #52789.

Wood/Soda Firing Workshop Fee \$159.43, 4 sessions

Saturday, Wednesday, Friday (**Linda Doherty/Jay MacLennan**), 10am-5pm, starts July 10. Barcode #52343.

Extraordinary Extrusions - Summer Workshop Fee \$90.95, 2 sessions

Friday, Sunday (**Linda Doherty**), 6-10pm Fri, 10am-4pm Sun, starts July 9. Barcode #52344.

Raku Workshop with John Cloutier Fee \$90.95, 2 sessions

Saturday, Sunday (**John Cloutier**), 10am-4pm, starts July 24. Barcode #52787.

Earthenware Decorating Techniques Fee \$64.20, 1 session

Sunday, July 25 (**D'Arcy Margesson**), 10am-4pm. Barcode #52812.

Pottery Open Workshop Fee \$6.62 (student), \$9.46 (non-student)

Mondays 5:30-9:30pm, Wednesdays 1:30-5:30pm, Sundays 1:30-5:30pm. Starts June 14, ends July 28.

Please note: no classes July 1, 4th.



City of Burnaby

Pottery Making Techniques: A Pottery Making Illustrated Handbook

Ed.: Anderson Turner, Pub.:The American Ceramic Society, 2004

140pgs, Soft Cover, ISBN: 1-57498-201-X

In the tradition of Ceramic Monthly Handbooks, editor Anderson Turner has taken selected articles from Pottery Making Illustrated and compiled them in a soft-cover book. Pottery Making Techniques is an easy-to-read, step-by-step collection of demonstrations covered in three sections: 'Throwing', 'Hand-building', 'Finishing and Firing'. Unlike the magazine, this book has no ads, no classifieds and no distractions from the demonstrations; it is cover-to-cover tips and techniques.

The articles in the book have all appeared in early publications of Pottery Making Illustrated, but there are supplementary photos, both colour and black and white images, of finished work. In 'Throwing', for example, Dannon Rhudy documents assembly of a combination slab-and-thrown pot over five pages. She lays out her process in nineteen black and white photos and shows the finished pots made with this technique in seven colour shots. Her explanations, which accompany the numbered photos, are clear, concise and succinct. This is just one of fifteen equally interesting articles in the 'Throwing' chapter.

'Pulling Handles' by Steven Hill, 'Combining Found Objects

with Clay' by Todd Shanafelt, and 'Carved Teapot' by Jim Connell are other techniques presented in lesson format.

The 'Hand-Building' chapter presents such varied topics as 'Homemade Two-part Extruder Dies', by David Hendley, and how to build a wall-mounted extruder from a bumper-jack. In the final chapter, 'Finishing and Firing', Douglas Kenney presents 'Airbrushing an Abstract Expression', which is a twelve-part photo documentation of his painted and airbrushed twenty-seven inch platters. In this article he includes a list of tools and materials as well as recipes for airbrush underglazes.

'Glazing and Finishing' is full of surprises too. One author, Lili Krakowski, writes about kitchen-style glaze testing where she advocates measuring by volume with cups and tablespoons. Her clear glaze recipe reads: "Frit 3124 (Ferro)...4 1/2 cups, Clay....1 cup, Flint...1 cup (scant, do not pack)". 'Building a Domed Cylinder Kiln' and 'Firing with Paper Saggars' are other units in this chapter well worth reading through. It's difficult to imagine anyone not finding something new, informative or even work-transforming from this book. It is a series of workshops packed between two covers and worth carefully reading every one.

Aberthau Potters Celebrate

Aberthau Potters, formerly West Point Grey Pottery Club, celebrated their 30th birthday as a pottery club in April, 2004. The history of Aberthau Potters is intertwined with Aberthau Mansion and the WPG community centre. Together they have forged a relationship to offer studio and teaching space to individuals to explore clay. One of the original founding members, Maria Tomsich, is still active in the club.

Today, the many different languages spoken by members attest to the diversity of members' backgrounds, as well as the unifying power of art. Members have appreciated the unique ambiance of an old coach house, annexed to a stately mansion, surrounded by a verdant park at the shore of the sea. Nowadays some of the Aberthau potters even have their own studio at home, but they still belong to the club for exchange of ideas, access to workshops and demonstrations by professional potters, and, of course, the camaraderie.

As part of several planned events to recognize the 30th birthday of the club itself, a raku day was held on April 10 for the 100 plus WPG studio users, which included both the students registered in classes through the community centre and club members. All the studio users were invited to a free raku workshop given by Cheryl Stapleton, our intrepid studio manager, and to have a piece ready for the raku day. It turned out to be a beautiful sunny day for Cheryl and experienced raku member Billy Whittman, who were the lead persons in the actual raku firing. A lunch organized by member Rona Hatherall, a truly beautiful feast, accompanied the raku, making for a perfect day.

The 30th birthday celebration continues in June when the Aberthau Potters hold their semi-annual pot luck dinner. The West Point Grey Association board members and staff of the community centre have been invited as special guests to this year's potluck dinner. The club's pot-luck dinners are legendary for the amount of food that magically appears at 6:00 PM., not to mention the astonishing variety! This June's pot-luck is shaping up to be the best ever as the Aberthau Potters plan to be "puttin' on the Ritz" for the community centre's board members and staff.

As well, the club is looking into starting a scholarship fund for the community centre's studio users and there is a committee exploring the possibility of creating a ceramic piece for nearby Trimble Park. Our 30th birthday has spurred some very positive energy!

Suzanne Starr, president

Aberthau Potters





**POTTERS
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POTTERS GUILD of BRITISH COLUMBIA ANNUAL REPORT 2003

Potters Guild of B.C.

Annual General Meeting April 30, 2004

President's Report

It has been a remarkable year for the Guild after a breathless interim board stumbled through the 2003 AGM. The initial positive response by membership to the dilemma of our Guild has continued and this stellar board has coped with further ongoing crises and provided strong and sound leadership. I would like to thank them all for their time and dedication to the well-being of the organization. On the executive, Ron Feicht, after an enormous amount of work, has guided the finances of the Guild towards a more accountable, secure future.

Sheila Morrissette is a brilliant secretary, keeping everyone on track, and information in order.

Jinny Whitehead has been a dynamic support to me this year, seeming to be everywhere and on every issue; I will pass the baton to her with supreme confidence.

There have been significant changes; transitions and events accomplished by the rest of the board supported by other dedicated, often hidden volunteers. Thank you all.

Membership

After an enormous amount of time and effort on the part of Joan Conklin and Ronna Ander with non-guild volunteer help, the first membership directory was produced, providing members with a compact source of information for contact with other guild members, concise details of the Guild's essential suppliers, services, and a database to help link and aid communication of various groupings of memberships. This will be updated annually.

The definitions for the categories of membership have been more clearly defined and details will appear in the next directory.

While this has been the major thrust, issues of services and communication with members beyond the lower mainland remains an ongoing consideration and there was a meeting with representatives from smaller guilds and groups. Work will continue on these issues to encourage increased dialogue.

Communications

There have been major changes in this committee area. Rachelle Chinnery resigned after a long spell as Chair and Don Jung took over. He has used his remarkable skills to transform the website and provide invaluable service in all areas of our computer welfare. In addition, we had to find, after 5 years of dedicated expertise from Letia Richardson, a new newsletter Editor. Dennis Vance has taken the position and he uses lay-up help from Martin Hunt. While there have been a few teething problems for the new team, the Newsletter will develop its own flavor and continue to be our main vehicle of communication. As well as coordination and proofreading by Gillian McMillan and Carole Matecha, an essential part of the newsletter team is the quietly dedicated group that comes in every month to stuff the envelopes. Without people like this the Guild would not function.

Ongoing telephone and email enquiries have been ably fielded by Jay MacLennan- it's an unglamorous but essential job and typical of "stuff just getting done".

Events and Fundraising

The star event was the "Too Good For the Shard Pile" sale of donated seconds held at the Lougheed Mall. Thanks to all those who donated pots to, Linda Doherty, who organized it, and to all those who helped at the sale. It's a brilliant fundraiser. We hope it will be a regular feature.

Markian Kyba ran four raku-u events. These will continue; they generate money and promote both the Guild and pottery awareness.

An Oktoberfest Stein Sale unfortunately ran up against the unexpected competition of a major beer festival. Future efforts in this direction would be limited to a simple booth space selling steins and promoting potters. Our major fall workshop had to be cancelled due to lack of numbers but we did manage a smaller, stimulating evening event with visiting Maori potters. As well as being the main publicity arm, through the newsletter, of the bi-annual Clay Symposium which is organized by the Canadian Clay Symposium Committee, the Guild this year did the lunch; thank you John Cloutier. Assefa Kebede, helped by Maggi Kneer, ran an "after Symposium" get-together so that participants could wind down and discuss the day over food and drinks.

Gallery

In a difficult retail climate the Gallery has had its best year ever and it speaks volumes of both Tamara Ruge in her first year as Gallery Manager and the outstanding hard working Gallery Committee- Jinny Whitehead, Sheila Morrisette, Maggi Kneer, Pia Sillem and Celia Rice-Jones. The gallery has been revitalized with repainting, new shelving and a move of the exhibition space to increase regular sales space. The rear wall changes colour several times a year, which underlines the constant rotation of displays by the excellent support staff. Long-term staff Kristen Chursinoff, Sheryl Wilson and Dale Delanson have moved on to other ventures but we continue to be blessed

with ongoing excellence. Currently Samantha MacDonald, Megan Carroll, Sarah Belley, and Dawn Haryett keep things humming. The donated 'Z' mug program generated an astounding \$ 4000.00+ towards the lighting fund. Thank you to all those who donated mugs and to those who made other separate donations.

The actual installation costs are higher than expected but, aiming to continue the forward momentum, the new lighting will be installed and the cost amortized across a year.

50th Anniversary

After a slow start, activities are moving forward on several fronts. The main exhibition at will be Making History at Burnaby Art Gallery Aug 8th - Sept 11th. We hope we can also have it travel to the Interior and Vancouver Island, even if that is in 2006. In addition there will be a "BC in a Box" traveling show of small pieces and a host of related activities and publications.

Treasurer's Report

It is a pleasure to report upon our stellar performance in 2003. Not only did we achieve an outstanding profit for the year of \$28,914, but we also finalized the financial statements for 2001 and 2002. We are now in good standing with the Ministry of Finance under the Society Act. Further, we ended 2003 with \$39,319 in our bank account, versus a loan of \$18,896 at the end of 2002. Of course, bank balances fluctuate significantly from one month to another but cash flow has remained very favourable.

As our President has stated, Gallery sales were at the highest level in its history. Gallery revenue in 2003 was \$308,000 versus \$268,000 (rounded) in 2002, an increase of 14.9%. Gallery expenses (exclusive of Cost of Goods Sold) remained virtually unchanged from last year if we eliminate the \$7,526 in amortization in 2003 which represented three year's write-down. Gallery Income for the year was \$16,757 versus a loss of \$11,531 in 2002.

Member Services Net Income for 2003 was \$12,000 (rounded) versus a loss of \$3,000 in 2002. Membership revenue increased by nearly \$3,000.

Plan for 2004 anticipates Net Income of \$17,000. This is a decline from 2003, but, nonetheless, a very healthy situation. In 2003 the Northwest Ceramic Foundation sponsored Gallery exhibitions by \$6,229; this will not be repeated in the current year. 2003 saw the revival of shard sales and generated over \$4,000 in net income – this event has been repeated this year.

It is gratifying to work with such a committed and knowledgeable board. It is also reassuring to hand over the reins of Treasurer knowing that our financial situation is in great health!

Reliquaries of Remembrance: Contemporary Altar Services

By Pamela Nagley Stevenson

I have been living a quiet life as a studio potter in the Slocan Valley for twenty-eight years, and have been teaching clay part-time at Kootenay School of the Arts for the last decade. Raised amidst the cultural crossroads of Honolulu, in my parent's world of the Philosophy Department at the University of Hawaii, I am profoundly influenced by world faiths and cultures. After dreaming one night of a shining fiery body of sacred vessels that stood together as an offering from many paths, this project began to manifest. In vision I saw a central form within each different altar service that func-



tioned as a Reliquary, not to contain dead relics but instead to embody the living spirit of an ennobling virtue. Each grouping of forms referenced a different religious culture, and exemplified a divine human quality or virtue that I believe must be lived if we are to save our planet and ourselves. Through remembrance of lives and cultures given in creative service to these qualities the Reliquary Urns function as sacred vessels. They are supported by a symbolic holy lamp, plate, cup and bowl for offerings. I choose seven qualities that most compellingly connected both visually and intuitively with specific cultural eras of artistic flowering and religious tolerance seen in my dream. Referencing chapter sixteen of the Bhagavad Gita, I focused upon the following traditions and decided to use the Sanskrit names of these universal cardinal virtues:

Sattva-samshuddi - purity of heart
SUFU ISLAM

Dana - charity
EARLY CHRISTIANITY

Ahimsa - non-injury
VEDIC HINDUISM

Daya - compassion
SOUTH EAST ASIAN BUDDHISM

Mardavam - gentleness-harmony
ANCIENT CHINESE ANIMISM-TAOISM

Tejas - radiance of character
MINOAN GODDESS CIVILIZATION

Kshama - forgiveness
TIBETAN BUDDHISM

The dream forms and their symbolic surface designs came into vivid focus to express an essence of each chosen culture in porcelain. A modest arts council grant enabled me to work with a wonderful apprentice, recent KSA Clay graduate Noam Ash, who assisted me both in studio with heavy work and with the three firings in my wood kiln KIBRIYA, (translated as "The Glory" from Rumi's Persian poetry).



The event of a wood firing for me is a consecrated act of will and devotion; it is also a form of Yajna - in Sanskrit a fire - rite offering and a practice of prayer. The wild torrent of flame leaps and roars, caressing

the pots in ecstatic swirls of glory leaving a searing narrative of the twenty-two hour journey to white heat through constant attentive stoking. The completed vessels stand vibrantly alive, flame patterns flashed forever on the carved skin of the porcelain that glows as if still warm. My intention is for this body of work to increase realization and practice of the powers of human virtues and to inspire hearts and minds to celebrate our creative and spiritual diversity and our potential for peace.

I am made of the substance of God,
I am a spark of the flame of spirit
I am an atom of the cosmic flame.

Paramahansa Yogananda

Action is a meaning within a person,
and when that meaning is one with Love,
The fire of Passion radiates all around,
and in every dimension,
And miracles abound.

Rumi



Photos by Jeremy Addington

Discovery Art Travel

FEATURING Denys James



UPCOMING CERAMICS EXCURSIONS

ITALY May 14 - 31, 2004

TURKEY September 16 - October 7, 2004

LAOS January 15, 2005 - February 2, 2005

ITALY May 13 - 30, 2005

TURKEY September 15 - October 6, 2005

THAILAND December 15, 2005 - January 3, 2006

For details, please visit www.denysjames.com/excursions

For more information on Discovery Art Travel or Denys James, please contact us at: Phone/Fax: (250) 537-4906
182 Welbury Drive, Salt Spring Island, British Columbia, Canada V8K 2L8

Aaron Nelson

The Itinerant Potter is showing at the BC Potters gallery. He has established himself working in studios around Chicago, Vancouver, and Victoria and teaching at the Art Institute of Chicago. He has used several clay bodies. Come and see his works. Aaron's bio will be available on-line at:

www.bcpotters.com

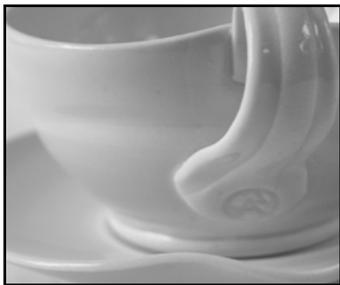


photo courtesy Aaron Nelson

Spring Sale continues...

**10 % off Skutt &
ConeArt Kilns**



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Surrey, B.C. V4N 3R9
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Clay Courses



PRESCHOOL Mud Buddies

Make animals, simple bowls, coil snakes, pots and other great stuff.
4 Sessions \$20. 4-5yrs
272927 Tu, Th Aug 3 10-11am

CHILDREN Clay Days Camp

Make several fun clay projects, using techniques like pinching pots, slab construction, and coil building. Make other fun arts and crafts too!
5 Sessions \$120.75. Gr 2-7
268815 M-F Jul 26 9am-3pm

YOUTH Pottery - Level 1

Learn handbuilding techniques and how to use the potter's wheel, as well as decorating and glazing.
4 Sessions \$52 13-17yrs
268919 Th Jul 8 4-6pm

ADULT Kiln Operations (Electric)

Topics include basic operations, troubleshooting, maintenance and safety. 1 Session \$20
246274 W Jun 9 7-9:30pm

Pottery - Level 1

5 Sessions \$68
268929 M, W Jul 5 7-9:30pm
268931 Tu, Th Jul 6 9:30am-Noon
268927 Th Jul 8 7-9:30pm
268930 Tu, Th Aug 10 7-9:30pm

Pottery - Level 2

5 Sessions \$68
269833 Tu Jun 29 7-9:30pm

Expressing in Clay

Creative expression through hand building and sculpting techniques.
6 Sessions \$66.75
270002 F Jul 9 12:30-2:30pm

Registration: 604-501-5100 or www.prc.surrey.ca

Surrey Art Gallery is located at 88 Avenue / King George Hwy.

PAT WEBBER WORKSHOP

**August 8 – 17th,
2004**

Join PAT WEBBER in her Salt Spring studio for ten days of pot making, decorating and firing.

Features:

Wheel Throwing
Hand built additions
One day slab building
with LOUISE CARD
Glaze Making and
Pot Decoration
Brush painting with
DOREEN JOHNSON
High Fire and Raku Firings
Lunch Provided
Total Cost: \$600
(materials included)

For more information contact
Pat:
425 Stewart Road
Salt Spring Island, BC
V8K 1Y6
250 537-8871
jwebber@saltspring.com

POTTERY WORKSHOP on SALT SPRING ISLAND

July 19-31, 2004

Taught by Judy Weeden,

studio potter with 32 years' experience with clay.

This course is designed to be a time for total immersion in the creative process for students seriously committed to working with clay. Students at any level of previous experience will find invaluable stimulation and new skills. Primary focus is on form, its aesthetics and its decoration using traditional techniques as stepping stones to personal expression.

Tuition: \$500 Cdn

Includes materials, and 4 yoga sessions

One studio assistantship available

For further information and application form see website at
www.judyweeden.com

Or write for course outline and application: Judy Weeden
125 Primrose Lane
Salt Spring Island, B.C.
V8K 1C1 Canada

LOGO FOR 50th

A call to any aspiring Graphic Artists to design a logo for the Guild's 50th Anniversary in 2005.

This would be printed as a sticky label that could go on Gallery bags and anywhere else we can promote ourselves. Fame and fortune are sure to follow!

Please submit your ideas asap to Tamara at the Gallery.

ALISON AT DELTA POTTERS GUILD

It was with great pleasure that the Delta Potters in Tsawwassen hosted a hands-on workshop with **Alison Feargrieve**, one of Vancouver's accomplished clay artists. Alison proved herself to be energetic, funny and extremely inventive as she demonstrated the construction of one of her fanciful teapots with cream and sugar attachments.



Everyone agreed that she had many original ideas to share and that we all came away excited to explore new territory. Thanks to Alison for a great weekend and best of luck to her in the future. The attached photograph illustrates the wonderful footed teapot "creature" she made during the workshop in Delta.

Marilyn (Molly) Magid

Laurie Rolland elected to the Royal Canadian Academy of Arts, May 2004

Laurie Rolland has recently been elected to the Royal Canadian Academy of Arts. The RCA recognizes Canadian visual artists who have demonstrated excellence, and honours their achievements. To become a member of the Academy one must be nominated by a current member. Slides of recent and mid-career work are juried by the 14-member Council. It was a unanimous decision to elect Rolland to the Academy.

Need a Website? Need help with graphic design for your next invitation? Let the Newsletter Production Crew help you with your project. Very reasonable rates and friendly service. Call 604 818 2325 or send email to production@bcpotters.com



Western Woodfire with John Chalke

Rocky Mtn foothills, Alberta
7-day intensive course. August 15 - 22.
Pack and fire a 3-chamber Japanese climbing kiln.
Wildlife, beauty, isolation, woodsmoke.

johnchalke@telus.net

Pottery Vacation Package

One-Of-A-Kind vacation opportunity in western Canada, at Rock Island Resort south of Nakusp, B.C. on Arrow Lake in the West Kootenays. Six nights accommodations in lake-front cottage. Five days personalized, instruction in wheel-throwing (beginner to intermediate).

Contact Susan Janzen

1-888-264-0040

info@rockisland.ca

www.rockisland.ca/workshops_&_packages.htm



The North West Ceramics Foundation presents a free lecture by noted British ceramist **Alison Britton**. September 10th, 2004 at Emily Carr College of Art & Design. In lieu of a fee, we ask you to bring a mug for the mug wall sale that supports our scholarship programs.



Hornby Island Workshop

Hand-building, burnishing, smoke firing with **Masoud Zadeh** on Hornby Island, June 16th - 20th, July 21st - 25th, August 18th - 22nd, Sept 5th - 19th; \$250 (including materials and firings. 250 335 0232, masoududu@hotmail.com. Please call me if any questions.



PAINTERS

IN A POTTER'S GARDEN

Hosted by Mission potter Jo Priestley with nine guest artists. Friday June 25 noon - 8 pm. Saturday & Sunday June 26 & 27 10 am - 5 pm. 33140 Richards Avenue, Mission. B.C. 604-826-3482

www.paintersinapottersgarden.com

Come and See What the talk is all about!



THE MAD POTTER

6 - 3071 No. 5 Road, Richmond (Located Near Ikea)

~ Tel: 604.244.3734 ~

Store Hours: Tuesday - Friday 10am to 7pm and Saturday 10am to 5pm

White Water Porcelain: New Work by Rachelle Chinnery

Sun Yat Sen Classical Chinese Garden has recently completed renovations and will be featuring the work of Rachelle Chinnery in the new Tea Room. Collaborating with Rachelle in the making of large carved vases for this exhibition is potter Darrel Hancock. The show will run for three weeks from the Gala opening of the Garden on June 17 at 7pm.

Mathew
Freed of the West End
Potters Club was the winner
of the door prize, a pyramid
box donated by outgoing
President Keith Rice-Jones, at
the AGM on April 30th
2004.

DEVOTIONS FIRE:

Upcoming exhibit of new work: Pamela Nagley Stevenson and Velcrow Ripper, woodfired mythopoeic pottery, and sacred earth photography at the Mermaid Gallery, 410 Kootenay Street, Nelson, BC V1L 1K8. Opening reception, 7 pm on July 2, 2004, until July 30. mermaidgallery@shaw.com

Keith and Celia Rice-Jones "Hot Gods"

June 3rd to July 4th
at the Blackberry Gallery in Port Moody
Opening reception, June 3rd, 6-8pm

The show features individual Kiln Gods along with the best pots from the firings the Gods held sway over in the first 30 or so firings of the 60 cu ft car kiln. The Gods reflect things that were going on in Keith & Celia's lives at the time of the firings, including things like broken hips, starting yoga, a daughter's pregnancy, a studio break-in and all sorts of art references.

Call for Entry:

FROM HANDS TO LIPS

An Exhibition of Drinking
Vessels

3 August - 26 September, 2004

Canadian Clay and Glass
Museum, Ontario

To download an entry form and
further details visit the web site:

www.canadianclayandglass.ca

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50th Anniversary Committee

Keith Rice-Jones
604.522.8803 <keith@wildricestudio.com>

Membership

Renewals

• by Visa, cheque or cash in person at the Gallery of BC Ceramics
or
• by Visa, cheque and mail to the Guild office; mark the envelope and cheque with 'Membership Renewal'.

New Membership

Use the two methods above. If you submit by mail, mark the envelope 'New Membership.'

Questions?

Ronna Ander 604.921.7550 or
<membership@bcpotters.com>

Communications Committee

Don Jung, Chair 604.873.1836
<webmaster@bcpotters.com>

Gillian McMillan, 604.937.7696
<newsletter@bcpotters.com>

Dennis Vance, editor,
<editor@bcpotters.com>

Special thanks to **Rona Hatherall**, **Carole Matecha**, **Marie Smith**, **Lewis Kennett**, **Linda LeBrun** and **Billy Wittman** who make certain the newsletter is mailed.

Questions

Newsletter: <newsletter@bcpotters.com>
General: Jay MacLennan 604.669.5645
and leave a message or send email to
<generalinfo@bcpotters.com>

Gallery of BC Ceramics

Hours: 10:00AM-6:00PM
Tamara Ruge Gallery Manager
604.669.3606 or
<galleryofbcceramics@bcpotters.com>

Submissions Guidelines

We support a very wide range of file formats for text and graphics. We do not support Corel files directly, but we do support other file formats that Corel can produce. Contact Martin for help.

Text. The best text is unformatted text. We strip away the original formatting in any case, in order to apply our own. So don't worry about fonts, or bold type, etc;

Line endings. Use the enter key only at the end of paragraphs. Let your word-processor handle wrapping words at the edge of the screen

Tabs. Use the tab key for horizontal placement of text.

Graphics, Photographs. Pixel oriented graphics. Just about any format is OK. We support .tiff, .jpg, .psd, .bmp, etc. Continuous tone photos should be at least 200 dpi. Line art, including rasterized type, needs to be at least 300dpi.

Graphics, Vector graphics. Fancy text, logos, etc. We support .ai, and .eps vector graphics.

Fonts. If you submit ads using non-standard fonts, please include the fonts with your submission.

Zip files. If your submission has several components; like text, photographs, fonts, and graphics, please put them all in one folder and then compress that folder using Winzip (or similar). Then submit that compressed folder.

POTTERS GUILD OF BC NEWSLETTER

ISSN #: 6319 812X

The Newsletter is published 10 times yearly as an information link for members.

Submissions: send articles, reviews, images, members news, letters and information by the 8th of each month. Unclassified and articles may be edited for space.

Membership Fees for 12 months (incl GST)

Individual \$50 Student (full time) \$25 Senior (over 65) \$30

Family Studio (2 max.)\$70 Institution or Group \$100 Corporation \$100

Advertising Rates (not including GST) Please submit ads as .tiff, pdf, or eps files. Full Page \$170, 2/3 page \$115, 1/2 page \$85, 1/3 page \$55, 1/6 page \$30.

Ad rates are for files that need no further work by our staff. Ads that are not the correct size, or that need formatting or design work will cost \$10 extra.

Unclassified Rates: Members Free!

Insert Rates (not including GST)

Members: \$75. If overweight, pay additional postage costs. First come basis.

Outside groups: \$200 corporate/\$100 community

Guild committees: free if within postage; pay for overweight.

Advertising and insert rates subject to change.

Website:www.bcpotters.com Email:<bcpottersguild@bcpotters.com>



**POTTERS
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of BRITISH
COLUMBIA**
NEWSLETTER

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