

Studio Newsletter

September 30, 2007

Volume 2, Issue 9

- Our next meeting is Thursday, October 4, at 7:00 p.m. in the Potter's Studio
- Studio clean-up on Sunday, Oct 7
- Pottery in The Park, Saturday & Sunday, Oct 13 & 14

October Big Event ~ Pottery in The Park



As of this date, 15 artists have signed up to sell at this year's Pottery in the Park (PIP).

There's still room for more, and it's not too late to sign up. The reservation form can be found on our website at

www.LMRAPotteryStudio.com

There will be a couple of new things at this year's sale. The studio will set up a wheel to demo throwing and maybe give visitors a feel for the clay (let them try their hands at throwing). Also, the Glass Club is setting up a booth to sell their awesome creations. They will also share a larger food area with the potters this year. We've heard that they really like popcorn.

September Meeting Minutes ~ Holly Thompson

Don Hudnall called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and turned it over to Cristi Allen for the Pottery in The Park update. Cristi had lots of new flyers and some large posters for folks to display in high-traffic areas. She has put a lot of time and work into helping to make this year's PIP a success! We have 10 artists signed up (so far). The fee to exhibit and sell your work is \$30 if paid prior to October 5 and \$40 if reserved and paid after October 5. Kendal Smith put out a PR

release, and Cristi will be posting the sale on various metroplex websites! Barb Throne put one of the posters on display at the Community Arts Center. Holly Thompson is displaying one in the window of the store she manages. Sharon Wetherby posted a notice on Clay Art and sent a notice to the Texas Clay Art Association for posting on their website at www.TCAA.com. Anyone else with a venue that would expose the show to a lot of people should contact Don and arrange to

get a poster.

Don will be doing the Raku firings again this year and Sharon will be his assistant. Gloria Sepp will be handling the Raku sales as she has so graciously done in the past! WE NEED VOLUNTEERS—for Raku assistance, concessions, cooking hot dogs and giving artists breaks from their booths from time to time. Please let Don or Cristi know if you are able to help out on either the 13th or the 14th of October.

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September Meeting Minutes

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We have many cylinders for the Raku firings at PIP, but we could certainly use more. If you would like to throw some bowls for the cause, they will be much appreciated. Pugged clay is available in the Studio Lockers that you are welcome to use for this purpose.

Studio clean-up is scheduled for the weekend prior to the show, soooooo please come out and lend a hand!

New Business. We welcomed four new members to the club: Beth Satz, Dave and Amy Leisure and Gene Cooper. We're always pleased to have new folks join the group!

It was decided to have a bisque purge on the weekend of October 5. There are tons of pieces on the bisque shelves that need to be glazed, fired and removed from the studio. If you are unable to get

around to glazing any pieces you may have on the shelves, please come and pick them up. Otherwise, you risk losing them to the purge. We have a lot of artists creating work right now, and we desperately need room to put the pieces as they come out of the firings.

Don (or another member of the glaze committee) will be giving glaze demos as a "bonus" 7th class after each hand building or throwing session. The first will be on Monday night, September 17, at 7:00 p.m. Now, nobody will have any excuses for not getting their pieces glazed!

Several members at the meeting pitched in labeling and stamping the PIP postcards while Barb Throne gave a wonder demonstration of "Chattering". Don provided leather-hard pieces for anyone who



wanted to try Barb's technique.

Old Business. Regarding Empty Bowls — It's never too early to start making pots for Empty Bowls. Last year, we started too late and consequently had many fewer bowls to contribute than we did in previous years. You may use clay pugged from recycled clay in the studio. You don't have to use your own! Please be certain to sign the pots "Empty Bowls". Trish Wise will be our new Empty Bowls Queen. Please contact her if you have pieces to contribute.

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- Molly has the PIP application form on the website
- We need bowls for the Raku booth at this year's PIP
- Kendal is preparing a press release for PIP
- Unclaimed pots will be purged Oct 5



REMINDER

Trish Wise is collecting bowls for next year's Tarrant Area Food Bank's Empty Bowls Event



Tarrant Area Food Bank (TAFB). The Tarrant Area Food Bank's mission is to end hunger in Tarrant County and the 13 surrounding counties by providing food to more than 300 partner agencies. By distributing more than 1 million pounds of food donated by individuals and corporations to their partner agencies, TAFB is able to serve 35,000 families per month. TAFB provides 500,000 meals and snacks monthly for the people of North Texas. Its partner agencies include, but are not limited to, food pantries, shelters, kitchens, after-school programs and senior citizens. Last year's Empty Bowls event raised \$70,000, which equates to over 315,000 meals for those in the Tarrant area. The silent auction items raised an additional \$5,300.

Kiln Notes ~ Carole Standridge

Just so you know: There is a log sheet for each kiln, and this is filled out by the person loading/firing the kiln. This sheet serves several purposes. It is a record of the firing and contains information for any member to consult; i.e.,

1. What kind of firing
2. When firing began
3. When it can be unloaded.

It is very important not to open the kiln lid until the time indicated on the firing log. We ask that you get into the habit of looking at the fire log before opening the kiln.

Anyone that wants to be helpful around the studio can unload the kilns. First, consult the log sheet to see if the time indi-

cated to unload has passed. The bisque pieces are placed on the bisque shelves in the main room after they have been pencil marked with the month/year. The glazed pieces are placed on shelves in the main room as well. The kiln shelves are placed in the appropriate racks on the floor, and the stilts are placed by the size on the shelf.

The folks that load the kilns need to be trained in our procedure, and we surely could use some more help with that so it does not fall to one or two people doing all the work. If you want to be trained on the loading, see Don Hudnall, Carole Standridge, or Sharon Wetherby. It's not hard, just takes a little time and effort.



Barb Throne demos chattering at the September meeting



Studio Calendar

- **Oct 4—Studio meeting.**
- **Oct 7—Member workshop: Studio clean-up at noon.**
- **Oct 13-14—Pottery in the Park**
- **Nov 1—Studio meeting. Pug mill demo.**
- **Nov 17-18—Empty Bowls throwing weekend.**
- **Dec 6—Holiday Party @ Clubhouse Room #2**
- **Dec 8-9—Empty Bowls throwing-trimming weekend.**

Pottery in the Park (PIP)—Call for Artists.

October 13—14 at Lockheed Martin Recreation Area (LMRA). Deadline for reserving a space is October 5. Space rental is \$30 if received by deadline and \$40 if received after deadline.

Contact Sharon Wetherby (817) 762-3132 or visit the LMRA Pottery web site for details.

<http://lmrapotterystudio.com/>

Call for Entry: Nat'l Juried Cup Show.

Monticello, Arkansas; deadline Oct 18. Exhibit dates: Dec 7, 2007—Jan 25, 2008 at the University of Arkansas at Monticello, Taylor Library Gallery. Works will be jur-

ied by Conner Burns, owner of Burns Pottery, a gallery and teaching studio in Natchez, MS. For more information go to www.uamont.edu/arts_and_humanities/sahcalender.html

Texas Clay Festival. Saturday, Oct 27, 10am—6pm & Sunday, Oct 28, 10am—5pm. The festival is held in Historic Gruene, Texas (four miles north of New Braunfels) on the grounds of Buck Pottery. Admission to the festival is free. For more information visit www.texasclayfestival.com This year's show will feature over fifty fine craft people working in clay today. The work ranges from functional stoneware pottery to deco-

orative sculpture. Demonstrations in potter's wheel work, sculptural construction methods, as well as kiln firing demonstrations will be ongoing throughout both days. This is an excellent opportunity to ask the clay artists those question about just how a particular piece was made. In addition, each artist will be exhibiting their latest work. Come out early before they sell out!

Sam Chung Workshop.

"From Flat to Form: Hand-built Pouring Pots" Nov 3 & 4, Fee \$190. At Southwest School of Art & Craft, McAllister Ceramics Studio/ Ursuline, 300 Augusta, San Antonio, TX 78205, 210-224-1848, information @swschool.org



Sam Chung Pouring Pots

Editor's Ramblings ~ Sharon Wetherby

Someone recently asked me about recycling clay. I'm basically a really lazy potter who hates wedging clay. Can't honestly say that I even like pugging recycled clay. Most often I throw all my clay scraps into the studio's buckets to donate to anyone who wants to do this thankless task. During the last year or two, however, I have been recycling my clay scrapes when working with my porcelain clay. I spent half my budget for Prada shoes on Tom Coleman's porcelain, so I'm not about to throw any of it out.

My husband bought two plastic, used kitty litter pans at a garage sale for a dime so that I could use them to hold plaster for drying clay. Trust me. You don't ever want to try to save money by buying used kitty litter boxes.

Finally after scouring them with Bar Tenders Friend and Pine Sol and airing them out in the hot sun, I could use them to hold thick slabs of plaster. I mixed enough plaster to fill the kitty litter pans about half full.

I save all my trimmings in a plastic, two-gallon bucket. When it gets almost full, I pour in enough water to cover the scraps and let it sit till the water is absorbed and/or evaporated leaving very soft clay (about the consistency of thick cake batter). I scrape out the clay onto an old pillow case that I've placed over the plaster. This makes it easy to turn until the extra moisture is absorbed into the plaster and the clay is easy to wedge.



Organization

Potter's Studio Studio Phone: 817-570-9086

Organization Address
LMRA
3400 Bryant Irvin Road
Fort Worth, TX 76109
Phone: 817-732-7731
Ext 102 - e-mail: debbie@lmra.org
<http://www.lmra.org/>

Stay Centered

WE'RE ON THE WEB!

<http://lmrapotterystudio.com/>

The fully-equipped Potter's Studio is open seven days a week during LMRA hours. Meetings are held on the first Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. unless notified otherwise. Classes are held on Mondays and Tuesdays in the Pottery Studio. Membership Fee: \$60 Individual; \$120 Guest.

2007 Officers

President Don Hudnall, 817-676-4134 (dhudnall@tx.rr.com)
Vice President ... Carole Standridge (claylady1035@earthlink.net)
Secretary Holly Thompson, 817-367-7609 (hollyclay@sbcglobal.net)
Publicity Barbara Throne, 817-626-1186 (bthrone@sbcglobal.net)
Commissioner ... Mike Sawatzky, 817-935-4582 (mike.s.sawatzky@lmco.com)

Committees

Firing Committee: Various
Glaze Committee: Carole Standridge
Holiday Party: Mike Sawatzky
Pottery-in-the-Park: Cristi Allen
Empty Bowls: Trish Wise

Newsletter

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Web Site

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Yahoo Groups

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/LMRAPottery/>

To send an e-mail to the group: LMRAPottery@yahoogroups.com

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