

# Studio Newsletter

May 21, 2008

Volume 3, Issue 5

## Special points of interest:

- Our next meeting is Thursday, June 5, at 7:00 p.m. in the Studio
- Bring bisque ware to the meeting for the Horsehair Raku demo
- June 20—22 workshop in the Clubhouse featuring V Chin, Gary Huntoon, Bridget Hauser, and Jim Bob Salazar

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## June Meeting Event

The Studio is having a Horsehair Raku Party at the June meeting. This will be another "how to" conducted during the meeting, which will be held outside in the raku yard. You'll want to bring some bisque ware to the meeting.

## May Meeting Event

Don Hudnall demonstrated his method of applying chemicals to Tony Merino's vase in preparation for the sagger firing. Several members helped wrap the piece in foil and fire it in the raku kiln. Tony donated the piece to the studio for this year's Pottery in the Park event.



## May Meeting Minutes ~ Holly Thompson

Don Hudnall called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. as we began the sagger firing demo. The minutes from the April meeting were accepted as published. Don and a few of the attendees created some totally awesome pots throughout the meeting! If you missed this meeting, you missed a lot of great information and techniques!

**Newsletter Status.** Sharon would still love more articles if anyone has something they'd like to see published.

**Publicity.** Barbara Baker asks that members send her anything of interest you have to publish in the Lockheed Martin Recreation Area Newspaper. The

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Trimming Tips from Ceramic Arts Daily—  
[www.CeramicArtsDaily.org](http://www.CeramicArtsDaily.org)

## Multi-Purpose Chucks: Using Household Items When Trimming Difficult-to-Trim Pottery

by Don Goodrich

At some point or another many potters are faced with a conundrum: they artfully fashion a beautiful and delicate rim on a pot that they would like to flip over and trim on the potter's wheel. But flipping the piece to trim will ruin the carefully crafted piece. A common solution to this problem is to use a bisque-fired [chuck](#) to prop up the piece so the rim doesn't come in contact with the wheel head. Then the challenge becomes finding the correctly sized chuck for the job. And often, in community studio settings especially, there isn't a chuck that is just right.



A couple of months back we published a feature by Sam Hoffman on an easy way to create unfired clay chucks for platters with altered rims (see [Trimming Platters with Altered Rims](#)), a great solution indeed. In response to that article, reader Don Goodrich sent in this tip on his approach to the difficult-to-trim pot conundrum. If you keep both of these tips in mind, chances are you'll always be prepared with the right chuck. -Jennifer Harnetty, editor.

Don Goodrich is a studio potter and [Potters Council](#) board member who lives and works in Zion, Illinois. For more images and information, visit [Don's page](#) in the [Ceramic Arts Daily Galleries](#). Visit Don's web site at <http://dongoodrichpottery.com/>

This flower pot presented a challenge when it came time for me to trim it. Appropriately enough, I used another flowerpot to support it so the bottom could be trimmed. This technique can be used for platters as well. Suitably sized glass or ceramic pie plates and some foam will support a delicate platter when inverted. With an adequate collection of flowerpots and pie plates, one can save time by not making special chucks for pots with artful rims.



The leather-hard planter pictured above has decoration that extends well above the rim. It has been cut free of its bat, but can't simply be inverted to trim its bottom. A circle of soft foam rubber is cut to fit and placed inside the bottom of the pot for padding (figure 1). This will allow minor adjustments to center and level the pot, but will prevent shifting during trimming. A flowerpot of suitable size is centered on the foam pad (figure 2). Another bat was placed on top of the flowerpot, and the stack was inverted (figure 3). Now the flowerpot serves as the base, and it can be held on the wheelhead with clay lugs or a Giffin Grip.

## May Meeting Minutes (cont'd)

*(Continued from page 1)*

Pottery in the Park (PIP) poster needs to be submitted two months before the sale for publishing in the LMRA Newspaper.

**Web Site.** If you haven't checked our club website lately, you need to have a look! Molly has cleaned up the newsletter page of our website. All newsletters issued prior to the fourth quarter of 2007 have been archived. That page is much easier to navigate now. Thanks, Molly!

**Glaze Committee Report.** Carole was not in attendance, so we did not have a report.

**Old Business.** The schedule for learning events at the meetings has been set. This will be a new way of combining our meetings with education and practice. Tonight's meeting involved sagger firing. We will be holding the meetings and demos simultaneously because some demos require participation throughout the evening.

A reminder that at the April meeting, a motion was made and passed that classes must be paid in advance (two weeks before first class). The class dates will have to be rescheduled if there are not enough participants to hold a valid class. Interested parties can fill out their registration forms at the studio and place the form with payment into the lock-box. Class instructors will know to look in the lock-box two weeks prior to the scheduled start of the class to determine if the class minimum has been met. Also, we still need you to put your name on the class sign-up sheets on back of the front door.

**New Business.** The workshop in June is almost full (at the time of the meeting). Each participant in the workshop should bring eight leather-hard pots to the workshop; this will ensure that each participant will be able to decorate two pots with each artist/instructor. The workshop will be held in the big clubhouse from June 20 thru June 22. Holly made a motion to suggest to Mike Sawatzky that the folks who are hosting the workshop instructors be allowed to take the workshop free of charge. Molly Hale seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Holly made another motion to purchase new raku cans (3 small and 2 medium) with the petty cash accumulated from the monthly pot draws and the locker fees. Tammy seconded, and the motion passed. Please be certain to put the lids back onto the cans after you've been using them for your raku reduction. This is not only important for fire safety reasons but also for keeping water out of the cans and lids, which causes the cans to rust through.

**Pot Draw.** Barb Throne brought an IOU for one of her "little old men" sculptures for the pot draw. Holly was the lucky winner!

### Studio Calendar

- Jun—Horsehair raku party
- Jun 20-22; Workshop with Four Artists. V.Chin, Jim Bob Salazar, Gary Huntoon, & Bridget Hauser
- Jul—Glaze raku party
- Aug—Chattering techniques
- Sept—Stamp/mail postcards for PIP
- Oct—Studio cleanup & PIP
- Nov—Texturing on tiles
- Dec—Christmas party

**Pay enrollment fees for classes two weeks before start of classes**

## Event Notices

**6/15, Call for Entry Deadline:** The 3rd Annual ClayHouston Festival.

This year's festival is devoted exclusively to ceramics will be held Dec 6 & 7 at the Houston Center for Contemporary Craft. Austin studio ceramist Lisa Orr is this year's juror. Download an application at [www.clayhouston.org/CHfestival.2008.v4.pdf](http://www.clayhouston.org/CHfestival.2008.v4.pdf)

**6/15, Call for Entry Deadline:** For the Table. Exhibit Dates: 8/2—8/30 at 18 Hands Gallery, 249 W. 19th Street, Suite B, Houston, TX 77008. Entry fee: \$10 For prospectus and details visit <http://www.18handsgallery.com/shows/tableware.call.html>

**6/20—6/22, Workshop:** V Chin, Gary Huntoon, Bridget Hauser, and Jim Bob Salazar at Lockheed Martin Recreation Association, 3400 Bryant Irvin Rd, Fort Worth, TX 76109. Fee, \$125. Contact Orbry Chamblee, (817) 223-6600, for more information.

**7/11—7/12, TPSG Christmas in July Sale:** The next Guild show, Christmas in July, will be held at the Fort Worth Community Arts Center.

### Coming Events

- **LMRA June Workshop with Chin, Huntoon, Hauser, and Salazar**
- **3rd Annual Clay-Houston Festival — Houston**
- **For the Table — Houston**
- **TPSG Show**

## Empty Bowls ~ Sharon Wetherby



We've almost reached the halfway point of this year, and it's time to start thinking about making bowls for the Tarrant Area Food Bank's Empty Bowl Event for next year. Here are some great videos of Simon Leach, one of David Leach's sons, making bowls that I found on YouTube. I hope you enjoy them as much as I did.

- Throwing Multiple Bowls:  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5IKrlaBbvj8&feature=related>
- Throwing A Large Curvy Bowl:  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xrwxmzGuDXY&feature=related>
- Trimming A Large Curvy Bowl:  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PWufwOiy4N4&feature=related>





## Organization

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

Organization Address  
LMRA  
3400 Bryant Irvin Road  
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Phone: 817-732-7731  
Ext 102 - e-mail: [debbie@lmra.org](mailto:debbie@lmra.org)  
<http://www.lmra.org/>

## Stay Centered

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### WE'RE ON THE WEB!

<http://lmrapotterystudio.com/>

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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](mailto:dhudnall@tx.rr.com))  
Vice President ... Carole Standridge, ([claylady1035@earthlink.net](mailto:claylady1035@earthlink.net))  
Secretary ..... Holly Thompson, 817-367-7609 ([hollyclay@sbcglobal.net](mailto:hollyclay@sbcglobal.net))  
Publicity ..... Barbara Baker, 817-570-0813 ([barb4264@hotmail.com](mailto:barb4264@hotmail.com))  
Commissioner ... Mike Sawatzky, 817-655-8644 ([mike.s.sawatzky@lmco.com](mailto:mike.s.sawatzky@lmco.com))

### **Committees**

Firing Committee: Various  
Glaze Committee: Carole Standridge  
Holiday Party: Mike Sawatzky  
Pottery-in-the-Park: Kay Bernier  
Workshops: Orbry Chamblee  
Empty Bowls: Trish Wise

### **Newsletter**

Editor: Sharon Wetherby, 817-926-9828 ([sharon\\_wetherby@hotmail.com](mailto:sharon_wetherby@hotmail.com))

### **Web Site**

Webmaster: Molly Hale, [webmaster@lmrapotterystudio.com](mailto:webmaster@lmrapotterystudio.com)

### **Yahoo Groups**

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

To send an e-mail to the group: [LMRAPottery@yahoogroups.com](mailto:LMRAPottery@yahoogroups.com)

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