



Studio Newsletter

November 23, 2008

Volume 3, Issue 11

Special points of interest:

- Celebrate the holidays at our next meeting on Thursday, December 4, at 7:00 p.m. in the Clubhouse
- Lets make lots of bowls

December Meeting ~ Christmas Party

Bring a piece of pottery or something that's pottery related for the gift exchange at our Christmas Party, and bring a potluck dish for the dinner. Mike Sawatzky will furnish the meat. We will also install the officers for 2009 at the party.

Molds for Empty Bowls



Barb Throne made some great bisque molds for us to use for making bowls for the Empty Bowl Event. Remember also that the studio has a supply of pugged clay that you may want to use when making the bowls.



Sample of a pressed bowl using one of Barb's molds

Inside this issue:

November Meeting Minutes	2
Tips for Drying Greenware	3
Event Notices	4
Organization Info	5

November Meeting Minutes ~ Holly Thompson

Volume 3, Issue 11

Don called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. We welcomed two new members, Blanche and Aidan Douglas. Last month's minutes were accepted as printed in the newsletter.

Publicity. There was no publicity report for this month.

Web Site. If you aren't getting your newsletters or updates and reminders every month by e-mail, please go to www.lmrapotterystudio.com and click on the link for Yahoo Groups to sign up. Send Molly photographs of your pottery to add to the web site.

Glaze Committee Report. After much testing, Carole introduced a new cone 6 white glaze, called Naragon White; and it was accepted as our new, true white. The ladies tested PMI Clear, but it didn't come out very well. They will try this recipe again. We will check into the possibility of using a commercial clear. A commercial glaze could allow for more consistent results and may not cost more than the cost of the chemicals alone.

Also, Carole called our attention to the aloe vera plant in the front window and asked that we all be aware of it and check it for needing water. Let's be careful not to over-water it, though. The aloe vera juice is great for burns or cuts that may occur in the studio environment.

Old Business. It was suggested that for next year's PIP we have all participants do demos. Also, we may consider having all artists set up in the central green-space rather than spread out under the various pavilions.

We may keep the large POTTERY banner up on the fence of the raku yard until we can create a replacement sign that will hold up to the weather better and not be so costly. The banner seems to be giving great exposure to our activity!

There was a motion made that Tony Moreno's large pot that Don Hudnall used in the sagger fire demo should be donated to Don as a "going away president" thank-you gift. That motion passed by a huge majority!

We still haven't heard from Jim Harley about the broken kiln lid.

Mike Sawatzky didn't have an official report about Pottery in the Park, but he reported that we probably broke even or possibly made a little money for the activity.

New Business. Christie from the Tarrant Area Food Bank will be our guest speaker at the Christmas Party on Thursday, December 4. Please remember to bring a pot luck dish — we always have the yummiest food!!! Also, if you want to participate in the Chinese Gift Exchange, bring a piece of your pottery or a pottery-related gift. Please wrap the gift, but do not put your name on it.

Empty Bowls. We need to get on the ball with throwing/hand building bowls! Customarily, we donate around 200 bowls per year. Folks will be gathering on Saturdays around lunchtime to throw or mold bowls for the cause. Clay under the table in the glaze room is available for your use. Barb Throne and Marsha Law committed to pug more in the coming weeks. Be sure to sign the bottoms "Empty Bowls" LMRA. We also have some cone 6 clay at the studio for making bowls for our donation. DO NOT PUT SCRAPS FROM THIS CLAY INTO THE SCRAP

Studio Calendar

- Dec—Christmas party

Studio Classes

- **Classes will not meet unless at least 6 students have registered/paid prior to first class**
- **Sign-up sheets are posted at the studio**
- **Attend the meeting just before start of class to register and pay class fee**

(Continued on page 3)

October Meeting Minutes (cont'd)

(Continued from page 2)

BUCKETS AT THE STUDIO!!! That clay is fired up to cone 10; we do not want to mix cone 6 clay into the cone 10 recycling. Please take your scraps home with you to dispose of them to avoid being accidentally combined with the cone 10. Thank you.

Workshops. Orbry Chamblee is working on getting together a workshop with Randy Broadnax in February. This one will be limited to club members and will cost around \$125. It will be a two-day workshop running approximately six hours per day. You're guaranteed to have a ball at this workshop!!!

Orbry is also planning for a workshop for next June with three or four artists who specialize in carving clay. The cost will probably be \$150 for the two-day weekend.

2009 Officers. Our 2009 Officer Nominations were made official, and these fine folks will be installed at our Christmas Party:

President	Barb Throne
Vice President(s)	Barbara Baker and Marsha Law
Secretary	Tammy Vermillion
Publicity	Carole Standridge

Holly Thompson suggested that we have co-VP's since the VP is in charge of the glaze committee, which is a lot of work. Holly made the motion, and Mike Sawatzky seconded.

Ongoing Reminder. We need to be sure to fill in the number of people using the studio in the check-in book at the office. This is how the "powers that be" determine if there is enough activity in any given group to keep it going! When you return the key, be sure to fill in how many people were working at the studio while you were there.

Pot Draw. Tammi Vermillion will bring something for a Pot Draw at the Christmas Party since she forgot to bring a pot for the November Pot Draw.

Drying Greenware Tip

The drying time of ceramic greenware depends on the thickness of the clay, the method of drying, and the humidity in your area.

Touch the greenware to the inside of your wrist or to your cheek. If it feels warm, it is usually dry. Be sure to check the bottom of a piece, which retains moisture longer than the upper, thinner sections. Dry longer if the clay feels cool or if it has dark patches, which indicate moisture. Note, however, that in humid area, even damp greenware can feel warm. Greenware feels cool due to evaporation. Damp greenware can feel warm when the moisture in it stops evaporating.

An efficient way to dry greenware is to place it inside an enclosure such as a metal cabinet that contains a small electric heater. This is called a "hot box." The moisture in the clay raises the humidity inside the cabinet. The humidity keeps the clay surface moist, which prevents the surface from closing up and trapping moisture inside the ware. Thus, the high humidity allows the clay to dry evenly. As the clay continues to dry and moisture slowly leaves the cabinet, the humidity drops, which causes the clay to finish drying. —Arnold Howard, Paragon

Volume 3, Issue 11



- *2009 Officers will be installed at the Christmas Party*
- *The Studio has clay available for Empty Bowls*
- *Tips for drying greenware*

Event Notices

12/6—12/7, ClayHouston Festival,
Houston, TX.

This the third annual ClayHouston Festival. It is a juried exhibition and sale featuring 18 juried exhibiting artists and 4-6 invited artists. Local ceramics educators are invited to participate and showcase their programs. Many of the visiting artists give hour-long demonstrations of their working methods. For details:

www.clayhouston.org/festival.html
info@clayhouston.com

12/12—12/14, Annual Randy Broadnax Christmas Art Show & Sale.

Randy's show will be held at the historic Sons of Hermann Hall, 3414 Elm Street at Exposition, Dallas, TX. The hours are:

12/12, from 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm

12/13, from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm

12/14, from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm

1/10/09—1/11/09, WORKSHOP:

Linda Christianson at Lone Star Col-

lege—North Harris, Art Building, 2700 W. West Thorne Drive, Houston, TX 77073
Saturday and Sunday hours are from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.

FEE: \$100 members, \$135 nonmembers & \$75 students. Please post by January 5, 2009, (walk-ins welcome, but e-mail ahead to confirm space availability). For info, download flyer:

www.clayhouston.org/LCR.flyer.pdf

Through 1/11, EXHIBIT: Holly Hanessian, The Poetry of Space.

Southwest School of Art & Craft, Russell Hill Rogers Gallery/Navarro Campus, 1201 Navarro, San Antonio, TX 78205
www.swschool.org/location.php

Holly Hanessian, an artists from Florida, reflects upon the notions of fate, luck and chance through her ceramic installation.

Coming Events

- ClayHouston Festival in Houston
- Randy Broadnax Christmas Art Show/Sale in Dallas
- Linda Christianson Workshop in Houston
- Holly Hanessian exhibit in San Antonio





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.

2008 Officers

President Don Hudnall, 817-676-4134 (donhudnall@att.net)
Vice President ... Carole Standridge, (claylady1035@earthlink.net)
Secretary Holly Thompson, 817-367-7609 (hollyclay@sbcglobal.net)
Publicity Barbara Baker, 817-570-0813 (barb4264@hotmail.com)
Commissioner ... Mike Sawatzky, 817-655-8644 (mike.s.sawatzky@lmco.com)

Committees

Firing Committee: Various
Glaze Committee: Carole Standridge
Holiday Party: Mike Sawatzky
Pottery-in-the-Park: Kay Bernier
Workshops: Orby Chamblee
Empty Bowls: Barb Throne

Newsletter

Editor: Sharon Wetherby, 817-926-9828 (sharon_wetherby@hotmail.com)

Web Site

Webmaster: Molly Hale, webmaster@lmrapotterystudio.com

Yahoo Groups

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

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

- To Subscribe — LMRAPottery-subscribe@yahoogroups.com
- To Unsubscribe — LMRAPottery-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com

HOW TO GET YOUR NEWSLETTER

Sign up through our web site: <http://lmrapotterystudio.com/>

by entering your e-mail address in the box under **Subscribe to LMRA Pottery** then click on **Yahoo! Groups Join Now!** You will receive an e-mail from Yahoo Groups asking you to confirm your e-mail address. After you confirm your e-mail address, Yahoo will send a message to Sharon Wetherby so that she can approve adding your name/e-mail address to the mailing list.