

Guild *at a* Glance

South Vancouver Island Potters' Guild meets the 2nd Monday of the month at 4733 West Saanich Road, Victoria

December 9, 2013

www.victoriapotters.ca

Volume 15 Issue 4

Deb Clay is a patient woman. Patiently waited for the meeting to begin (a missing key), patient with us luddites and patiently listening to concerns and suggestions.

We have a website which Deb manages. At our last meeting Deb gave an overview of her role as web master and let us know that we could be using the website more effectively for personal promotion. All members acknowledge and appreciate the work Deb does for the guild.

Deb proposed improving the website by adding more graphics, as everyone knows pictures are worth 1000 words. The current site is Wordpress based and Deb isn't proposing changing this. Send Deb a head shot, some photos of your current work (they can be updated easily), a brief description and an artist statement. This would be an asset for selling and if you are teaching. Email any events to Deb to be included in the Guilds webpage.

Deb suggested that if you want to setup your own webpage there are many free sites, but before choosing check them out and read all the reviews.

Nancy A.



**The next Guild Meeting
will be
January 13, 2013**

**We meet at:
7:30 at St. Michael's
Anglican Church
4733 West Saanich Road**

***Don't forget the
Raffle !***

January at the Guild – Robin Hopper

Coming to the January 13 Guild meeting:

Master potter and life Guild member Robin Hopper speaks about his life in clay. Most Guild members know Robin and his work, and we are delighted to welcome him. He will have much to tell us about his journey, for, as he says in his blog, "I'm a man of clay and glaze, pushed mud around for seventy years, or twenty five thousand days."

Robin is the author of six books, many videos and countless articles. He is a renowned ceramics educator, garden designer and founder of Fired Up and the Metchosin Summer School of the Arts, as well as the first recipient of the Saidye Bronfman Award, Canada's foremost distinction for excellence in the fine crafts, and second Canadian recipient of honorary membership in the National Council for Education in the Ceramic Arts.

For more information about Robin, check out:

<http://www.rhrising.blogspot.ca/>

<http://www.chosinpottery.ca/pages/robinhopper.html>

Rosemary N.

Pacific Rim Potters – November 2nd

Members' Activities

On Nov. 2nd, Victoria and the south island experienced the first storm of the season with high winds and pelting rain. Ferries were cancelled, the one to Mayne island had an accident with the dock, and generally it wasn't a nice day.

However, Pacific Rim Potters Sale at Knox Presbyterian Church Hall on Richmond Road had a wonderful turnout. This was our 16th November Sale which has always been at this same venue. Many customers seemed loathe to leave as the atmosphere inside was warm and friendly and outside the storm continued. It has always been our experience that a wet day brings out more customers than a sunny one.

Ten potters, all from Vancouver Island and all members of Pacific Rim Potters (and many members of SVIPG) were kept busy until well into the afternoon talking to and helping customers, replenishing the coffee and tea urns and plates of goodies, as well as our own sale tables.

Those taking part were: Nora Lewin, Meira Mathison, Ester Galac, Nora Lewin, Cindy Gibson, Darrel Hancock, Peggy Elmes, Betty Burroughs, Harriet Heimstra and John Robertson. We are so grateful to our helpers who came to assist with the cashiering, wrapping and looking after the tea/coffee table: Mavis Mooney, Barb Lovick, Astrid Solbakken and Betty Patterson plus all the potters' partners who helped cart in the boxes and display furniture and then pack it all up again at the end of the day!

Betty B.

Souper Bowls of Hope – November 13th

They ... **ATE SOUP**
HAD FUN
KEPT THE BOWL

And supported the Youth Empowerment Society



Oh yes ... and
WE had fun too!



photos from Rachel C.

Clayworks – November 29th – December 1st

The Clayworks group had their first late fall show at the Fairfield Community Centre on Thurlow St. in Victoria November 29 - Dec. 1.

Usually located at Mary Winspear Centre in Sidney in April, this was a venture into a new territory and time! Although crowds may not have been as large as we hoped for, those that came were complimentary about the show and the quality of work shown. And it is always good to meet old friends and make new customers.



Those participating were members, Sandra Dolph, Debbie Elkins, Ester Galac, Beth McMillin, Meira Matheson, Tony Mochizuki and guest, Jaime Willms from Courtney (who some of you may remember when she was a Guild member).

It is difficult to start a show in a new location. Most of our cards were sent to our Sidney customers where Clayworks show started and has been running in spring for the past 12 years. We wanted to try a different location and different time of year.

The Fairfield Community Centre and this time of year seemed promising. Although we haven't had large crowds, we had many new customers who were genuinely interested in our work and felt very positive about the quality of the show.

Several of our Guild members came and it was great visiting with them.

Tell us about your upcoming events. Report on your activities. Send information to the editor before the first Monday of each month eartharts@shaw.ca

Your 2013-2014 Executive

President: Muriel S. 250-652-5434
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Katia C. 250-472-8225

Hillary G. 778-425-4228

Comments? Errors found? Questions? email the editor eartharts@shaw.ca

Do you ship your pots?

Mel Jacobson, moderator of Clayart circulated the message below. Betty B. (*and the editor*) thought it might be of interest to those members who ship work.

(When sending pots by mail) my packages always get there, but usually the last few holiday seasons...broken.

I have a new system and it is the only way I ship now:

Drop your pot into a plastic bag.

Load the box with lots of news paper around the pots then take one of the those cheap cans of expanding foam and fill the all voids around the pots. Fill it full of foam. Then slam the cover on and tape it shut. You have to send a note to your customer: Cut the box open with a box cutter all around...peel off the box, then cut the foam away.

Perfect pots. And those cans of foam are always on sale at the big box stores... buy the small can, as you cannot re-use it very well. Just throw out the left overs. It sure is cheaper than re/sending all the pots. Getting a call that all my pots are broken makes me spit up.

mel

from: minnetonka, mn

website: <http://www.visi.com/~melpots/>

clayart link: <http://www.visi.com/~melpots/clayart.html>

new book: <http://www.21stcenturykilns.com>

clayart: <http://www.ceramicist.org>

*What's been your experience? Do you have a shipping tip to share?
... or a tip on anything else about ceramics / pottery?
email the editor eartharts@shaw.ca*

Upcoming – Our Annual Sale

The SVIPG sale will be on Saturday June 7th 2014 at the Fairfield Community Centre, including the grassy area outside, next to the Moss Street market.

All guild members are eligible to have a table or to share a table at the show.

Application forms will be emailed shortly after the January guild meeting. Once you have received the form, you are encouraged to get your application in. As the applications are received, they will be numbered and the table assignments will be done by lottery starting with the first application received.

At this time someone is needed to do the publicity for the sale. Anyone interested please contact me.

I want to thank those who offered to help with various aspects of the sale. You will be contacted in the New Year.

Let's all work towards another successful sale.

Libby Wray

eswray@shaw.ca

250-881-4461

Val Cushing 1931 - 2013



Hearts filled with sadness and gratitude, NCECA mourns the loss of our dear friend, founding member, Past President and Fellow of the Council, Val Cushing who passed away on November 17, 2013. Born in Rochester, New York on January 28th, 1931, Val Cushing entered college on a football scholarship and received his BFA in 1952 from the School of Art & Design in the New York State College of Ceramics at Alfred University. After serving two years in the Army during the Korean War, he returned to Alfred and received his MFA in 1956. Although his full-time teaching career began that year at the University of Illinois in Champaign-Urbana, his professor at Alfred, Charles Harder, recognized Val's natural gifts as a teacher and encouraged him to return to Alfred in 1957. Val continued to teach pottery and technical courses focused on clays, glazes and related subjects until his retirement in 1997.

excerpted from email

Guild at a Glance

... is the newsletter for the South Vancouver Island Potters Guild.

It is published monthly, September through June, and is available on line at: www.victoriapotters.ca

Articles and items of interest to members are welcome and will be included as space permits.

Items for inclusion are best emailed to the editor, Louise P, at: eartharts@shaw.ca

SUBMISSION DEADLINE

The earlier submissions are received, the more likely there will be room to include them. Our meetings are held the second Monday of each month. Be kind to the editor, please send items for inclusion *before* the

FIRST MONDAY OF EACH MONTH

Newsletter Staff

program writer: Nancy A. 250-479-8559

editor: Louise P. 250-655-3811

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We have tea pot handles from England, finest quality cane sized from 3" to 8". Great selection, priced from \$5.75 to \$12.95 each.

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