

Guild at a Glance

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

June 13, 2011

www.victoriapotters.ca

Volume 12, Issue 10

May's Meeting - 'Paper Clay' with Betty Fulton

Betty Fulton was the presenter at the guild meeting (May 9, 2011). Betty had taken a class about working with paper clay at MISSA.

Paper clay is still a mystery for many of us. So we were happy to learn about its many properties and uses, which go from ornamental to functional.

Paper clay is a mix of clay and paper pulp. Making your own is possible, but time consuming. It can be bought ready made by the box. Victoria Clay Art carries it.

Betty showed us some of the work she had done in the MISSA course. Paper clay can be rolled out and imprinted with textured mats. Some of those were designed in class and cut into lino.

Those textured sheets can be used to construct all kinds of vessels.

The paper clay pieces were bisqued and ready for underglazing after two days.

They were decorated with Amico underglazes and oxides mixed with water and finished with a coat of clear glaze.

The second part of Betty's talk involved sculptural pieces done with paper clay such as heads and reliefs. There is a definite advantage when working with paper clay:

- Lighter weight as compared to clay (hanging pieces!),
- Less problematic when adding on pieces and repairing ... even in the bone dry stage.

**The next Guild Meeting is
Monday Sept 12th**

See you at the sale June 18th

and... Have a GREAT summer !



Dried out paper clay can easily be sprayed with water and more clay added on.

- Less risk of exploding, because the fibre provides air channels in the clay.
- Unfired paper clay absorbs glaze without breaking

The shrinkage is similar to clay. Fired pieces can be displayed indoors and outdoors. Paper clay is available as Vashon White and Brown for cone 6 to 10.

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Paper clay has been around for some time. I remember listening to a talk by Rosette Gault at MISSA about this "new" clay. The little booklet she published dates back to 1993 (*comment by Heidi*).

Thank you, Betty, for showing us some tricks and sharing some paper clay with the group to practice and explore!

Report by Heidi

Executive Changes in September

At our September meeting we'll be 'electing' new officers and asking for different folks to take on roles that support our Guild. If you are willing (and able) to help, please get ready to

Volunteer !

Your 2010 -2011 Executive

President	Roger C.	250-388-9642
Vice-Pres	Ann S.	250-478-2341
Secretary	Bell L.	250-382-1328
Treasurer	Linda V.	250-479-5966
Archivist	Fern W.	250-744-1096
Library	Helen P.	250-383-5808
	Cherlynn L.	250-727-8388
Membership	Betty B.	250-382-0974
Newsletter Committee:		
	Betty B.	250-382-0974
	Louise P.	250-655-3811
	Heidi R.	250-479-6470
	Nancy A.	250-479-8559
	Jocelyn S.	250-920-0196
Webmaster	Deb C.	dlclay@shaw.ca
Program Coordinators:		
	Louise P.	250-655-3811
	Helen P.	250-383-5808
Raffle	Ester G.	250-658-4523
	Tobias T.	250-383-3893
Coffee	Kris J.	250-384-5344
	Maria G.	250-474-1593

Directors: Meira Mathison, Betty Burroughs, Betty Fulton, Nancy Wall

AND MORE FOLLOW – UP on 'What Is My Work Worth?'

In April, Guild at a Glance published an article on pricing to help members prepare for the upcoming show / sale season, including the Guild's own 'Clay Connects'. Members were asked to think about how they price their work in light of the results of a survey conducted by the Oregon Potters Association and were invited to respond to the newsletter's editor.

Last month we ran photos and prices of some pieces available at the Contemporary Ceramics Centre in London, U.K. (sent by Tobias T.). The pieces in these photos were lovely, the prices higher than those found locally. It was suggested that our members could benefit from a wider view of pricing when pricing their own work.

This month Cindy G. provides us further 'food for thought' by suggesting that we read and consider a posting found on the Opus Framing web site that provides an opinion on 'The Cheaper Show'.

<http://www.opusframing.com/community/opinion/does-cheaper-show-work-for-artists>

'The Cheaper Show' is now in its tenth year and deemed very successful. Artists' work is presented at a single, modest, price. More information on the show can be found at: <http://thecheapershow.com>

The effect of reduced prices on artists – short and long term - has been hotly debated. From one perspective the benefits, particularly to an emerging artist of selling (both practically and in terms of becoming known) greatly outweigh the downside of a modest price for the work. From the other perspective, undervaluing work is a detriment – not only to the artist following this practice, but to all who wish to live from making art.

Our show is only a couple weeks away, we can't put off the dreaded pricing of the pots much longer. Read the posting and let the editor know (eartharts@me.com) what you think ... after all, there are going to be more sales next season!

Another bit of 'good timing' was one of the recent Ceramic Art Daily postings, reporting a project by Mea Rhee in which she recorded and analyzed the time it took to prepare for a number of selling venues. The post can be found at:

<http://ceramicartsdaily.org/ceramic-art-and-artists/open-studios/the-hourly-earnings-project/>

Again, read the posting and let the editor know what you think (eartharts@me.com).

Fired – Up Another Wonderful Event!



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@me.com

GORGE on ART
SAT., JULY 2 11am - 4pm
GORGE WATERWAY PARK

GORGE ROAD WEST
 between Admirals Rd. & Parkview Dr.



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**Brent "C" Electric Pottery Wheel
with Splash Pan \$1350 obo**

**7 cu ft Olympic Kiln 2327 H
(electric) with Kiln Sitter timer,
\$1750 obo**

Contact: Sandra at slstolz@shaw.ca
or 250.532.9367

Shared studio space available *in Cedar Hill area*

July 1 to February 28

For a non-production potter

**Kiln and wheel included. Rent
\$140/month plus hydro.**

Please call Elaine @ 250-382-0317

Tips:

1) For waxing the "gallery" between a lid and the pot, mix 2 parts wax resist with one part water and add 1 tsp. alumina hydrate to 1/2 cup wax resist mixture.

2) Before giving up hope on a lid stuck to a pot -- if you cannot visually see a glaze application mishap and the lid does not release with a gentle tap -- try putting the bonded lid/pot into the freezer. Leave overnight, then take out and about 99% of the time the lid will tap loose.

An added note.....only use a rubber or wooden mallet when tapping, never a metal hammer.

Thanks Betty !

Looking for a Teacher

**James Berg is a student new to
Victoria who lives in Esquimalt.**

**He would like to continue taking
pottery classes and is looking for
a teacher.**

**Please Contact:
j.t.berg@hotmail.com**

Clay Connects



Annual Show & Sale

Saturday, June 18

10 a.m. to 3.30 p.m.

39 potters - great variety

free admission

South Vancouver Island Potters Guild

Greenglade Studio



Barbara Hirano

There's a new studio on the Peninsula, situated at the Greenglade Community Centre (in Sidney). This here-to-fore elementary school has been transformed by the Panorama Recreation Centre into a multi-generational facility that offers a variety of activities – including a dedicated pottery studio. The studio is bright and warm, equipped with an electric kiln (firing to $\Delta 6$), numerous brand new Shimo electric wheels and ingenious storage space (with even more planned). In addition to classes and workshops, pottery drop-in sessions are available at a cost of \$8 for 2 ½ hours. Classes are taught and the studio is run by Barbara Hirano.

Barbara Hirano began her fascination with Art as a child—encouraged by her parents and grandmother—all artists. In her youth, she studied painting under Jack Shadbolt and increased her involvement with various mediums, stone, bronze glass, as they were presented.

Upon entering SFU, she studied Archaeology and Anthropology. Within this cultural immersion, she focused on the Cultural signatures of Ancient peoples and the markers of a successful civilization. These markers were most evident in the Cave Paintings and Pictographs, Pottery and Sculpture associated with a cultural site.

Barbara's fascination with cultural design and style led her to study pottery and a passion emerged. She studied ceramic and sculptural technology and design at Capilano College—now Cap U. She apprenticed and worked at home and soon began teaching.

Thirty years later, she has taught and inspired hundreds of students across Canada and many international students. Barbara is now returning to her passion of creating Art and teaching Pottery and Sculpture.

Panorama Pottery studio will be celebrating its first anniversary this fall! Barb offers diverse pottery programs including, Beginner, Intermediate and Advanced Adult Hand building and wheel classes, Youth classes, Drop-in sessions, and workshops! The studio is located in Room #3 of the Greenglade Community Centre, 2151 Lannon Way, Sidney. For more information call 250.656.7271.





Victoria Clay Art

654 Burnside Road W.
Victoria BC V8Z 1M8
250 384-3831

As of June 1st, 2009
VICTORIA CLAY ART
Will be in its new location at:

654 Burnside Road West

Please visit our new store where we
Will continue to offer:

- A wide variety of Clay
- Glazes
- Pottery and sculpting tools
- Kiln and wheel sales/service
- Kiln firing
- Chemicals, and
- Other art supplies.

ADVERTIZING RATES

Business card size (2" X 3 1/2") :
\$10 per issue
or
\$75 for 10 issues

Quarter page ad (3 1/2" x 4 3/4") :
\$20 per issue
or
\$150 for 10 issues

**Sale announcements, events,
classified ads:**

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contact editor at:
eartharts@me.com

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www.pottersupply.com

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