

# Guild at a Glance

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

October 15, 2013

[www.victoriapotters.ca](http://www.victoriapotters.ca)

Volume 15 Issue 2

## September's Meeting: "What I did this summer"

MISSA:

**Kris** and **Daniel** expound the virtue of ferrous chloride . They spent a weekend at MISSA with Larry Aguilar (course: Raku and Beyond). Gas kilns, firebrick, garbage cans and tinfoil are on their wish list! Larry may wish for a new shirt.

Whoever thought 'what I did this summer' could be a boring topic has not spent time with potters. The topic opened discussion about MISSA and moved on to include collaboration, an amazing gift, experimentation and catching a grey squirrel.

**Derek** and **Kris** were pretty inspired with Josh DeWeese's handles and unique throwing technique. If Josh is pulling a mug handle, he pulls it, attaches it at the top, repulls, attaches the bottom at the halfway point and overlaps the remaining clay -doubling back and finally attaching at the top. Beautiful, strong and functional!

For wonderful texture, he throws a tall candlestick shape, scores the outside with deep lines , opens it using curled fingers (one hand) from the inside to throw the pot. **Derek** took this further using a much larger piece of clay and using two hands produced an impressive pot.

From MISSA... Collaboration

When **Angela Pistrocci** saw Josh DeWeese's enormous pot with elegant proportions, she knew she wanted to be involved with the surface decoration. Thus a collaboration begun with anxiety, demanding commitment, and lots of give and take and ending in mutual respect and a pot , as Angela describes "completely different from what I would do or Josh". Angela encourages others to be involved in a collaboration.

A gift

**Adrianna** brought an exquisite vase made by Akira, a master potter from Japan. The shape and amazing turquoise to blue glaze made this vase a treasure.

The next Guild Meeting  
will be

**November 11, 2013**

(yes, we know its a holiday)

We meet at:

7:30 at St. Michael's

Anglican Church

4733 West Saanich Road

*Don't forget the  
Raffle !*



Continued on page 2



### Experimentation

**Elaine** brought two lovely pots with glazes applied in the spray booth and fired in the gas kiln at Cedar Hill.

Cedar Hill is where **Kathy** began working with clay in April. She brought a beautifully made hand built pot intricately carved and decorated with slips and underglaze brushwork. The pot is a lidded jar in the shape of a cat.

**Susan** also discovered ferrous chloride. She did some raku and horsehair firing with Penny this summer. She described the trials of 'teflon' horsehair –somewhat frustrating but worth it as the resulting vase is beautiful. Her raku piece was distinctive with many found objects incorporated into the finished pot.



Now grey squirrels...

(Not to be confused with indigenous red squirrels ). The grey variety has no real value until now! Certainly a pest, granted clever, hard to catch but now worthy if only for it's tail. Those long hairs gathered into a tiny posie attached to a small bamboo handle make lovely brushes. **Joy, Ester** and select friends have a tidy supply of these specialty brushes. How they came by the squirrel's beautiful tail remains somewhat a mystery – maybe Cam will tell all one day

*text Nancy Alexander, photos: Jeremy*

## November at the Guild – Deb Clay

In November the presentation at the Guild meeting will be made by Deb Clay – our web weaver and local guru of all things electronic.

Deb will be telling us about two significant things: (1) the importance of a web site to the Guild and the process towards updating our SVIPG web site – and asking for our input as to what will be included and (2) how having a web site might enhance our individual profiles, characteristics of an effective web site and how to implement one.

This presentation will not only be interesting, it will likely be very useful to Guild members – whether they are highly experienced or newly on their muddy paths.

So ... REMEMBER to spend part of the holiday at the South Vancouver Island Potters Guild meeting November 11<sup>th</sup>!

## Poem of the Month – Alumina $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ : The Bonder

Alumina is  
an important one -  
found in kaolin and ball clay  
most glazes have some.

Alumina binds  
silica to clay  
"Very important"  
most potters would say.

It affects the stiffness  
of the molten glaze.  
if its too runny . . .  
alumina you might raise.

Most glazes will have  
5 to 15 percent  
which wilt melt in the glaze -  
you can be confident.

But with **excess** amounts,  
opaque it will be  
as well as turn matte -  
test it and see.

The silica : alumina  
ratio  
is a very important  
one to know.

When the ratio is high  
there's silica galore.  
The glaze will be glossy,  
which is fun to explore!

When the ratio is low  
more alumina is present,  
creating a matte . . .  
which sometimes is  
pleasant.

But too much silica  
makes a glaze unstable.  
Test to be sure  
it is fit for the table.

Alumina adds hardness  
and stability too,  
resistance to scratches  
and acidic food.

Found in clays,  
feldspars and frits  
alumina adds up  
to a great benefit!

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[www.PotteryPoet.com](http://www.PotteryPoet.com)  
[Chic@PotteryPoet.com](mailto:Chic@PotteryPoet.com)

## Member's Upcoming Activities



6th Annual

*Gifts & Wishes*

*Art & Crafts Show & Sale*

**Wed. Oct. 30 to Nov. 10, 2013**

3221 Heatherbell Rd., Colwood, BC

free  
admission



Open Wed. to Sun.  
12:00 to 5:00 p.m.

**Opening Reception:**  
**Sat. Nov. 2**

**2:00 to 4:00 p.m.**

250-391-5522

[www.coastcollective.com](http://www.coastcollective.com)







*The Prospect Lake & District Community Association presents*

# **Christmas at the Lake Craft Fair**



**Saturday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>**

10 am – 4 pm Prospect Lake Community Hall  
5358 Sparton Road

Quality Vancouver Island Crafts

Wonderful Gourmet Food, Art, Door Prizes,

**Lunch and snacks available**

**Admission \$2 ...12 yrs. & under FREE**

*Meet your Friends at the Fair*

[www.pldca.ca](http://www.pldca.ca)



## **Fired Up! Contemporary Works In Clay will joyfully celebrate a 30th Anniversary in 2014!**

This annual show will be May 23, evening, and 24th and 25th 10 to 5 at the Metchosin Hall, in Greater Victoria. The Theme "Celebrating 30 Years; A Toast to Clay" will be expressed by work that represents our past, present and future.

In addition to our former members, work being shown in the centre gallery, there will be six young guest artists who will be invited to point us to the future. The core group will host the gala event and invite all to share the birthday cake and enjoy feasting your eyes on a symphony of Ceramics.

**EXCITEMENT OVER WHO OUR SIX YOUNG GUESTS WILL BE:** We are happy to announce that Cam Stewart of Nelson, BC and **Paige Coull** of Victoria, BC are the first two young potters of the six who will be guests in the Anniversary Show. Others will be announced throughout the Fall. Fired Up! Core Members: Alan Burgess, Kinichi Shigeno, Meira Mathison, Cathi Jefferson, Pat Webber, Gary Merkel, Meg Burgess, Gordon Hutchens, and new members Sandra Dolph, and Mary Fox.

For more information on this and other Fired Up! Shows in 2014, go to [www.firedup.ca](http://www.firedup.ca)



Cam Stewart



Paige Coull



## PACIFIC RIM POTTERS

20TH ANNUAL FALL SHOW & SALE

**Sat. NOV. 2,**  
**10am - 4pm**

at Knox Presbyterian Church Hall, 2964 Richmond Rd. Victoria.

Choose from a wide variety of functional and decorative ceramics handcrafted by experienced Vancouver Island potters.

FREE ADMISSION - Refreshments - Door Prizes.

VISA and Mastercard accepted.

For more info. call 250-382-0974.

*Present this invitation*

**FREE POTTERY GIFT**



at Eric and June's Roberts'

**SAT., OCT. 26th, 2013**

**POTTERY SALE**

**4125 Interurban Road Clubhouse**

**(Includes other Crafters)**

**10 a.m. — 'til 5 p.m.**

**Refreshments available and HANDICAP FRIENDLY**

INTERPRETATIONS  
BY  
ARTISTS  
AND  
WRITERS  
2013/5773

FRANCES AKNAI  
DAHLIA BECK  
LOUISE CROSSGROVE  
JUDITH FISCHER  
ANDREA LOVE  
GOLDA LEWIN  
BARBARA PELMAN  
DEVORAH STONE  
LOUIS SUTKER  
TOBIAS TOMLINSON



## THE AKEDAH PROJECT

and RETROSPECTIVE of selected works from the past eight Calling All Artists projects



### OPENING GALA

Sunday, October 27, 2013 | 2 p.m. To 4 p.m.

Congregation Emanu-el | 1461 Blanshard Street, Victoria, BC

Show continues through the autumn—please call 250-382-0615 for gallery opening times.

PAINTING ON THE MOUNTAIN BY DEVORAH STONE

## SOUPER BOWLS

The Souper Bowls of Hope will be held on Wednesday, November 13 at the Inn at Laurel Point. All contributions are gratefully accepted – so if you are clearing out your studio or have other extra pieces, you can bring them to the next meeting on Monday, November 11 or phone Helen at 250 – 361 – 1291 or email [hh456@shaw.ca](mailto:hh456@shaw.ca) for pickup. The reason for the fundraiser event is so that the Youth Empowerment Society can assist youth aged 12 – 18 to make better choices during these often difficult years. There are many programs such as mental health assistance, Alliance Club for drop-in from 3 – 9 PM downtown, Kiwanis Emergency Youth Shelter, Detox live in, help with life skills, housing etc. *Helen Hughes*

## Landmark Pottery Gallery For Sale

The Pottery Store, Vancouver Island's finest pottery gallery, is seeking new owners. This established Chemainus business, with a 17-year tradition of retail excellence & fine craftsmanship, is the ideal opportunity for any artist or group looking for instant market expansion in a top-tier tourist location. Attractively priced.

- ✓ Prestigious high-traffic location, only footsteps from the renowned Chemainus Theatre, on world famous mural walking tour
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- ✓ POS/inventory computer system
- ✓ Recognized and beloved brand

Please email inquiries to:  
Peggy@ThePotteryStore.ca



### 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:**

**FREE**

contact editor at:  
eartharts@me.com



### Victoria Clay Art

654 Burnside Road W.  
Victoria BC V8Z 1M8  
250 384-3831  
vcart@shaw.ca

We're now stocking heavy duty canvas from Pakistan. Great for making wareboards or wedging tables. \$8.95 per yard.

Custom wareboards are available as well, call for details.

Dirty Girl pottery tools available including foot fetish, wiggle wire and oak angle wood tools. These make great stocking stuffers.

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.

Great new items in stock for texture on clay such as: Amaco rollers, Mayco designer stamps, wooden rollers, star cutters, ribs, haxe tool, paddles, alphabet and number stamps, rasps, slip trailers, etc.



## 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](http://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](mailto: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: Heidi R. 250-479-6470

editor: Louise P. 250-655-3811

**Pottery @ Greenglade Community Centre**



Fall Courses & Workshops for all ages from tots to 60 years+.

Drop-in times also available.



250.656.7271 [www.panoramarecreation.ca](http://www.panoramarecreation.ca)

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