

Guild at a Glance

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

November 1, 2009

www.victoriapotters.ca

Volume 11, Issue 3

Muriel Sibley

The October meeting of SVIPG featured a presentation by Muriel Sibley. Muriel is a longtime Victoria potter, who offers classes and studio space from her home in the Highlands. A trademark of her pots is the incorporation of animals, often in a humorous manner. Thus, her presentation of a glug-glug jug. These jugs are a traditional English handicraft from the 1800s, often in the form of a fish. When filled with liquid, air is trapped in the tail. On pouring, the escaping air causes the jug to make "glug-glug" noises.



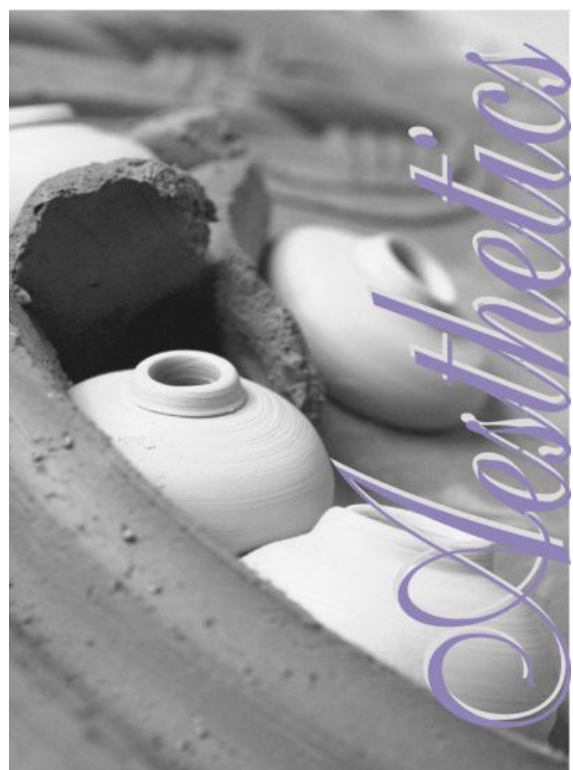
Muriel started with a wheel thrown doughnut which was cut apart, to which clay was added to form the head and tail. This is then mounted on a separately thrown base. Eyes and scales were impressed, fins added. It was amazing how quickly the jug came together under Muriel's skilled hands. We can't wait for Muriel to demonstrate her glug-glug jug at the December potluck.

Don't Forget The Raffle!

Next Guild Meeting is
Monday, Dec 14, 2009
7:30 p.m. at St. Michaels Hall



A finished glug-glug jug by Muriel Sibley.



The **Canadian Clay Symposium** will be held at the Shadbolt Centre in Burnaby, March 13th, 2010. Hours: 9:30am to 5:00pm

Presenters will be:

ROBERT BARRON....Australian wood-fire potter, will demonstrate small to large-scale thrown pots and will discuss wood firing.

KATHRYN FINNERTY.....from rural Oregon, will demo her slab-built earthenware, highly decorative forms.

AMY GOGARTY.....writer, educator, historian and ceramic artist, will moderate the aesthetics panel discussion.

DON HUTCHINSON.....45 years experience in clay, will focus on the basics such as centering, throwing, form and composition, glazing and decoration.

LES MANNING.....a distinguished mentor and teacher, has guided many potters to finding their own voice in clay.

D'ARCY MARGESSON.....'Dr. D'Arcy' will diagnose your glaze ailments and prescribe the cure.

GAILAN NGAN.....local studio potter will demo her strong graceful forms that incorporate a modernist sensibility.

ALWYN O'BRIEN.....a University of Washington MFA candidate, explores known functional forms with complex layered surfaces based on personal and historical references.

PETER POWNING.....Saidye Bronfman Award winning artist will show his work and discuss the process of creating his large-scale mixed media sculptures.

JACK TROY.....our keynote speaker is an internationally ac-

claimed wood-firing potter, poet, author and kiln builder.

KATHY VENTER.....Saltspring Island figurative sculptor, will demo the foundation process of building a head in clay.

Register by mail (cheque payable to the City of Burnaby), phone: 604-291-6864, or webreg at: www.burnaby.ca/webreg
Confirmation and other relevant info will come by e-mail.

Registration begins Oct. 9th, 2009. Early Bird = \$109.20 After January 15th = \$124.95

Check out the website: www.canadianclaysymposium.ca

Fong Choo Workshop at MISSA

When Fong Choo moved to the United States in 1983 from his native Singapore to further his education, he enrolled as a business major. But he got side-tracked when he took some elective art courses and discovered clay. He has a BA in business, but is now a full-time potter/educator specializing in miniature teapots for which he has won numerous awards. He now lives in Louisville, Kentucky.

At the weekend workshop at MISSA, Fong demonstrated several of his teapot styles with attention to shape, proportion and design, always considering how he can "tweak" to improve them. They were, on average, about 4" by 5" and are meant to be sculptural rather than functional, although they can pour if you can get water into the 1/2" lidded opening! Some he makes are no bigger than an egg!

Fong seems to have boundless energy as he worked at a speedy pace, keeping us attentive and entertained for all of the two days. His hands are sure and steady as he attached tiny lugs, spouts and handles. He gave us information on marketing, pricing, pottery tips, glazing and firing advice, and showed how he makes cane handles. He works at Cone 6 electric and uses a combination of his own glazes and commercial ones. He sprays and layers glazes and dislikes the results from "dipping". "Too boring", he says.

He brought with him a line of pottery tools that he has designed and hopes to market soon. These were snapped up in a hurry!

He also brought about 8 of his finished teapots glazed in jewel tones. They are quite exquisite! (He dislikes it when people call them "cute".) Although they were all for sale, the prices were \$450.+ so there weren't too many takers, but they were well admired!

(To see his work and watch his videos, Google FONG CHOO potter.)



Article: Betty Burroughs

Photos: Meira Mathison





Belle, Ann, Roger, Linda, Nancy, Betty and Elaine.

Stinking Fish Studio Tour



Look for our signs
throughout
Metchosin &
East Sooke!

November 27-29 • 10am - 5pm
Free self-guided tour of artist studios

Maps on our website / studios
www.stinkingfishstudio.com • 250-474-2676



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	Tobias T.	250-383-3893
Coffee	Kris J.	250-384-5344
	Maria G	
Directors:	Meira Mathison, Betty Burroughs, Betty Fulton, Nancy Wall	

Workshop by Hank Murrow

A very experienced potter with 52 years in clay gave an interesting workshop in Parksville. Hank showed us his faceting techniques for his tea bowls, using his cutoff wire tool, that he developed. He also had these for sale to those interested. Adjusting the rims of low bowls and plates using a leather "tongue" was something we had not seen before. This method developed interesting shapes to the edges. Along with his sanded stick, sharp marks placed beside these alterations helped accentuate the design. Because of the altered rims of the bowls and plates, Hank has developed a batt with foam rings which support the piece for trimming. This prevents the rims from being distorted or damaged. Hank has also developed a small roller tool for trimming a foot. The roller rides on the side of the foot and rolls up enough clay to form an 1/8" ring of clay. This clay is then rolled over with the rim tool to form a flat foot. Four potters were able to try this method and it proved to not be as easy as Hank made it look. See his site: www.murrow.biz/hank/



Thanks, Penny Jones

	<p>Erwin Shulman Digital Creations</p> <p>1009 Richmond Ave., Victoria, BC V8S 3Z6 Tel: 250-388-4110 email: eshulman@telus.net</p>	<p>Joan Kagan Pottery</p> <p>Pots for food and flowers So many colours Serving pieces Custom orders Classes</p>
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Erwin Shulman & Joan Kagan would like announce our participation
in two 2009 pre-Christmas art and craft shows:

"First Chance" Pre-Christmas Art and Craft Show

Sat. Nov. 7, 10 am to 5 pm

Sun. Nov. 8, 10 am to 4 pm

and

"Last Chance" Pre-Christmas Art and Craft Show

Fri. Dec. 11, 12pm to 7 pm

Sat. Dec. 12, 10 am to 5 pm

Sun. Dec 13, 10 am to 4 pm

Mary Winspear Centre
2243 Beacon Ave., Sidney

\$3 admission for a weekend pass
children under 12 free
wheelchair accessible
door prizes

Report on Presentations and Demonstration Survey

In late September 2009, guild members were invited to participate in a survey, the goal of which was to collect input into the presentations and demonstrations at Guild meetings.

The survey asked for thoughts on the current plans covering the October, November and December meeting as well as thoughts on future topics for 2010. Respondents were asked to check off areas of specific interest and whether there was a preference for presentations or demonstrations. Each was invited to suggest topics not listed, whether they would consider volunteering themselves or if they had suggestions on who might be invited to make a presentation or conduct a demonstration.

The response to the survey was very good – in all 22 surveys were received as ‘at press time’. The detailed results of the survey will be handed over to Louise Parsons, who has kindly volunteered to lead the organizing of the schedule with help from Penny and Helen.

Several of the surveys suggested topics such as extruder creations, barrel/pit firing, stains as alternatives to glazes and combining thrown forms. There was a general balance amongst those interested in a throwing/

glazing combo with those more interested in hand building and sculpting. Most thought either a presentation or demonstration was fine, but six expressed a preference for demonstrations where ever possible. Several put up their hands to volunteer and eight respondents named several potters or other artists to invite – and a couple of surveys had lovely long lists of names.

In short – the survey has been very helpful and may well become an annual fixture – assuming we have willing volunteers of course!

In closing – don’t forget the presentation planned for our November meeting is a glaze discussion – please bring your samples (the good, the bad and the ugly) and any recipes you would like to share along with your stories and experiences to share.

Helen P.



Sagger firing at Penny's.



The Prospect Lake & District Community Association presents

Christmas at the Lake Craft Fair



Saturday, November 14
10 am – 4 pm 5358 Sparton Road
(just off West Saanich Road)



Quality Vancouver Island Crafts
Wonderful Gourmet Food, Art,
Door Prizes, Buskers, Tea Room

Meet your Friends at the Fair



Come visit Joy Findlay at the Prospect Lake & District Community Association Christmas at the Lake Craft Fair.

PGBC Monthly “Featured Artist” at the Gallery of BC Ceramics.

Here is an opportunity to sell work in the BC Potters Gallery in Vancouver for just a month-long period, without being juried in. Consider sending in an application for the 2010 Featured Artist slots. “Featured Artist” months are from February to November and submissions will be drawn at random. You need to be an ‘individual’ member of the BCPG (\$55 p/yr. or \$35 for senior/student).

Who is eligible to become a PGBC Gallery Featured Artist?

- You must be an individual PGBC member (\$55 / \$35 students/seniors) and your dues must be paid or the gallery cannot accept your submission.
- A featured artist can be a recent graduate, an emerging artist or an established potter. This is an opportunity for a PGBC member to be represented in the gallery by displaying non-juried ceramic work that meets our quality standards and is suitable for this venue. It’s also an opportunity to introduce your work to our gallery patrons, develop a new market and/or display a new line of your work.

The deadline for submissions is December 15th. Submissions will be drawn at random.

This completed application can be mailed to the gallery or e-mailed to galleryofbcceramics@bcpotters.com

Name: _____ Ph: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

I have read and comply with the Gallery of BC Ceramics Policy www.bcpotters.com/Gallery/forms/2008_Gallery_Policy.pdf

(Signature): _____ Date: _____

I’ve been a PGBC Member since: _____

Ceramic style: (Circle one) Functional Sculptural Jewellery Other: _____

For your inventory: Ceramics must constitute a cohesive body of work, with no individual ceramic piece valued more than \$ 250.

Functional – maximum of 4 dozen pieces; Jewellery – maximum of 4 dozen pieces;

Sculptural - maximum of 1 dozen pieces– size restrictions may apply.

“Featured Artist” months are from February to November.

First choice: _____ Second: _____ Third: _____

(Months selected cannot be guaranteed)

The Mad Potter Discounted Inventory Sale

I cannot believe it has almost been a year since The Mad Potter closed its doors, how time flies. The Mad Potter still has inventory remaining and can sell it to you at amazing discounted prices. All inventory items are 50% off regular retail price.

Take advantage of some additional savings:

If you purchase 50 lbs or more of Raw Materials, Casting Slip or 1 lb or more of Mason Stains you can receive 75% off regular retail price.

Purchase all remaining Gare Low-Fire glazes for \$ 767.80. Regular retail price would be \$3,071.22 (612 Bottles)

Purchase all remaining Gare Underglazes for \$ 430.50. Regular retail price would be \$1,722.20 (325 Bottles)

Product still available: Raw materials (I am able to break down raw materials into whatever size you require), Mason stains, Glazes/Underglazes (Gare, Georgies, Duncan, Speedball, Amaco), Tools (Kemper, Georgies Clay Gun Dies, Doo Woo), Brushes (Royal), Finishing items (pate knives, mini lamps, burners and chimney's), Stoppers, Books, Orton Cones, Kiln Equipment and Parts plus much more.

Anthea Walsh, The Mad Potter, Richmond, BC 604-828-3319 Fax 604-241-1577, email: madpotter@themadpotter.ca

For all of you who feel stressed about having enough pots for your sales, here's a solution for you:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_h4Vw7JMgf0

Enjoy!

Cedar Hill Rec. Centre is having its annual holiday pottery sale November 28 at CHRC seniors' wing between 11 and 3. If any of the members are interested in selling their work we have some space available. CHRC takes 15% of all sales and no other costs attached. Just bring your table decor and your work. we take care of the rest. Please let me know of interest by November 10.

Also, Saanich has given the green light to start planning and construction of the new arts wing including a new clay studio 3 times its current size with new equipment and if the gods are with us a gas kiln. proposed completion by 2011. Will keep you posted.

Tom Severson, CHRC Pottery Technician
475 7121

Studio Schedule: go to www.saanich.ca and follow the links to Cedar Hill Pottery

Hi, My name is Bonnie Reszel and I am the owner of Diggin' Dogs. We have an exciting new business showcasing Vancouver Island artists and artisans. Please check out my website for details:
www.diggingdogs.ca

Bonnie Reszel - Diggin' Dogs
250.590.2141, diggingdogs@shaw.ca

Ann Semple of Clayfoot Crockery
invites you to her
Annual Pottery Sale and Open House

in conjunction with the
Stinking Fish Studio Tour

on Friday, Saturday and Sunday
November 27 – 29, 2009,

from 10 A.M. to 5 P.M.

at

4531 Lindholm Road
Victoria B.C.
(250) 478-2341



Oak Bay Studio Tour

Nov. 14 and 15, 12:00 noon to 4:30 p.m.

A wide variety of artists - painters, potters, quilters, and one sculptor.

Please visit Heidi in her garden at 2490 Cadboro Bay Rd. across from Willows School

Hello,

My husband and I found an old pottery wheel beside the metal recycling bin at the dump last summer. We brought it home thinking we would fix it so that I have a second wheel. I have attached a photo.

I have since decided that someone else might be able to use this wheel. It needs a seat and a water basin. The motor works and the base wheel and clay wheel seem fine. However, it looks like the base wheel has dropped out of alignment and a few bolts need replacing. With a little love I think this wheel could be put back to working order. I have posted this wheel on Used Victoria for free but the challenge of fixing it seems to scare people off. I am wondering if your guild might be able to use it or someone in your guild might be able to fix it and give it to a youth group or needy artist. Any ideas?

Rosemary Henry



Where does the name Celadon come from?

In 9th and 10th century China there was a very secret porcelain that only Royalty could own called "mi se" meaning "mysterious colour". People knew it was a shade of green, but that was about it for a long time. But it continued to be made, and the name Celadon was given to it by some foreign devil. There was a rumour that it was named after Saladin who gave 40 pieces of onion-green-ware to Sultan Nureddin in 1117. But a more interesting story comes from a French love story and popular play which came out in 1607. In this story shepherds and shepherdesses frolick in the pastures of the Auvergne with the main man, a peasant called Celadon who wore a pale green suit with trailing ribbons. The play was immensely popular and all of Paris was dressing a la Celadon. These are two theories I read of recently. Does anyone know any others?

Jocelyn

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in the Guild newsletter.**

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**Business card size (2" x 3 1/2"): \$10. per issue,
\$75. for 10 issues.**

1/4 page ad: \$20. per issue, \$150. for 10 issues.

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South Vancouver Island Potters Guild's newsletter

Guild at a Glance

is ONLINE!

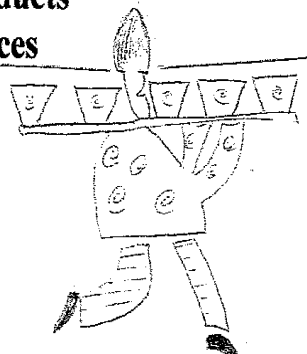
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and : www.gobc.ca/SVIPG

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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.