

# Guild at a Glance

November 2016

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

Volume 18 Issue 3

November Meeting  
Monday  
7:30 PM November 14, 2016

## NOVEMBER PROGRAM

### HOW TO MAKE HANDCRAFTED BRUSHES

Monika Burrell leads a hands-on evening workshop in making brushes.

- Glue, bamboo, string, paper and ink supplied
- Bring anything you think might make a brush, from feathers to squirrel tails to hair from you or someone else, fur from an animal, porcupine quills
- Bring your own handmade brushes as well, to show others what is possible.

“ON THE RIDGE” CRAFT FAIR SATURDAY,  
NOVEMBER 5TH 10:00 am – 4:00 pm  
Cordova Bay United Church Hall

Come to our juried craft fair! Variety of vendors, something for everyone. Jewelry, Pottery, Christmas & Wooden Items, Glassware, Gourmet Foods, Clothing & Accessories, Felting, Soaps and much more. Enjoy a Hot Soup lunch, coffee, tea, carrot cake and muffins.

Live music with Classical Guitarist Brad Prevedoros.

\$2 admission for charity. ATM on site. Wheelchair accessible. Everyone welcome.

## October Program in Review:

Three guild members –Louise Bouchard, Libby Wray and Monika Burrell – each gave an overview of how they have used alternative surfaces (oxide washes, burnishing, sodium silicate, burnished and unburnished raku) to showcase texture.



Louise described how she highlights the raw outside texture of her pots (with a combination of oxides and the remnants of a bit of glaze for sheen) and combines with the high contrast of a complex interior glaze which sometimes features melted glass for pools of eye popping colour.



Libby showed a variety of different treatments including naked raku, a hand built house (vet clinic) complete with flowers on high heat wire as well as the figure of a raku fired woman vessel finished with horsehair and ferrous oxide for colour.

Monika shared her fish heads done in a brilliant red iron terra sigillata.



## Norm Bauer

Meet Norm Bauer, one of the newest members of our guild, joining along with his wife Tina at the September meeting. Norm's clay journey started with his first exposure to clay through his mom's work –guild member Marlene Bauer. Norm and Tina regularly attended craft fairs along with Marlene first at her craft tables and then with their own table as Tina started her own craft business of catnip sales. Then, Mom gifted Norm and Tina a pottery course at Juan de Fuca and from there the journey continued. The pottery course led to Tina creating pots to sell with her catnip plants (check out Missy's Catnip on Facebook). Norm, as well as enjoying family time playing with clay, was finding clay to be the perfect medium for building small outbuildings to go with his miniature fantasy characters he paints for war games. He had become a dab hand at painting these characters and clay work allowed him to take his efforts to the next level. As well, Norm enjoyed hand building bowls, finding the wheel not the best for his back.



After meeting many potters through his Mom and the



world of craft fairs, Norm decided his next step was to join the guild as he loved the friendly potters he was meeting at the craft



fairs. Since joining, Norm has been 'blown away', by what he's learned from the meetings.

As time permits from his day job (he's a system's administrator managing computer networks with the Strathcona Hotel) and his busy life with craft sales, he wants to explore more about glazing and making marks on clay with found objects— such as the fellow he met that uses door knobs to make beautifully detailed impressions. Norm said that his eyes were opened by the October program to the science and language of glazing, something that he didn't know was part of the world of clay. Norm is particularly enjoying the non-competitive and sharing nature of potters and enjoying the encouragement he and Tina have received.

## Joy Finlay

Meet Joy Finlay - long-time potter, guild member and, in partnership with her husband Cam, an award winning naturalist and author as well.

One only has to see Joy's crinkle pots to know that her heart and soul are closely connected to this earth, but you might miss the extent of Joy's wide ranging knowledge and expertise of the natural world – it goes beyond the ferns and leafs that grace her pots.

Joy and Cam both hold the Order of Canada for their work as naturalists and numerous other awards from various provinces including the Order of Big Horn, the Pimlott Award, both Queen's medals and the BC Nature Award for outstanding naturalist (Ian McTaggart-Cowan Award) to list a few.



Joy's early working career was in social work, but it wasn't long before her leadership as an urban naturalist morphed into a new full time career developing environmental outdoor education programs for school boards and teaching at university. Her career grew exponentially with speaking engagements and nature walks around her then home province of Alberta and included publishing a number of articles and books. Joy has much to share in this area and I encourage you to ask her how she made nature accessible in the winter for her own children - snowsuits out of old suits and homemade snowshoes and little huts with wood burning stoves.

In the midst of this busy career combined with a busy family life, Joy's daughter suggested a course in pottery and from there Joy's journey in clay took off. Joy recalls that she knew once her hands touched the clay it would be a full on exploration of this new frontier. It did demand a fair bit of her time, but it also gave her respite – her 'day job' included extensive dialogue and working with people – rich but exhausting – clay on the other hand did not talk back. With the support of Cam and his numerous Christmas presents of wheels, kilns, extruders and slab rollers, Joy's clay journey jogged along apace her other work. A neighbour who was an electrician as well as an artist, both rewired the house to accommodate the kiln and took Joy's pots to shows when her time was otherwise committed.

Since 'retiring' to Saanich, Joy has continued her potting career as well as staying active as a naturalist and author. She spent a number of years volunteering with Cedar Hill Recreation Centre studio as the glaze mixer and for more than ten years, along with Heidi Roemer, set up an annual country studio tour. These tours were great fun as they always included an added attraction to coax visitors out to the 'country'. The attractions included Cam's hummingbird banding, ikebana demonstrations, book signings by our other author Rosemary Neering and a very popular artisan baker. Joy has been involved in the Guild from its early days, as a maker of bowls for Souper Bowls of Hope and for a long stint as the librarian after Rachel Coward. That job included her canvassing thrift stores for the right kind of trolleys to store the books and wheel them out at meetings. Joy is very gratified to see that the guild continues to be vital and loves the energy new members are bringing with them. She particularly likes the discussions that centre on the work of the members. Her advice is to never question whether you are 'good enough' to join the guild, participate in the discussions or participate at the annual sale or take a class at MISSA – that wherever you are in your clay journey, your contributions and participation are key to the success of us all.

## ***What's Up with Programs?***

*Submitted by Rosemary Neering*

### **December: Gallery and Potluck**

Our annual Christmas get-together: bring finger food, sweet or savory, to share. And bring along any ceramic creations you might like to talk about, as well as any marks you have made with last month's brushes.

### **January: On the Road Again**

Ceramics travel guru Denys James talks about his travels, his travel offerings and his own ceramics.

### **February: Tips and Tools**

Know something you wish you had learned earlier in your ceramics practice? Have a special tip that makes life easier for you? Have a favourite tool you use all the time or occasionally to improve your work? A sharing night.

**March: Jane Murray Smith** comes down from Coombs to talk about her pottery. Check out <http://www.dragonflypottery.ca/> to see her eclectic raku, horsehair & feather, saggar, and stoneware pottery, with a sample of her animal masks, large animal sculptures, animal ornaments, custom pet portraits, large wall pieces, tiles, lamps as well as assorted vases.





**April: Marlene Bowman** demonstrates her hand-building techniques. See <http://www.stinkingfishstudiotour.com/Marlene-Bowman/> for some examples of her colourful and unusual creations.

**May: tentative:** Photographing your work and other presentation tips. **June:** spring get-together and gallery.

## *Pacific Rim Potters*

**SATURDAY, Nov. 5, 2016**  
10 am - 4 pm

Annual Pottery Sale & Exhibition  
Knox Presbyterian Church Hall  
2964 Richmond St, Victoria, B.C.  
Wheelchair Accessible \* Refreshments  
\* Free Admission \* All Welcome\*



Peggy Elmes  
Ester Galac  
Cindy Gibson  
Darrel Hancock  
Nora Lewin  
Barb Lovick  
Meira Mathison  
Muriel Sibley  
Linda Vigliotti  
including pottery  
by the late Betty Burroughs

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Sales announcements, events, classified ads:

**FREE**

contact the *At a Glance* editor  
helen.pedneault@shaw.ca

## Guild at a Glance

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

It is published monthly, September through June, and is distributed by email to all members, some copies are available at meetings and the newsletter is posted online 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  
helen.pedneault@shaw.ca

**SUBMISSIONS REQUESTED BEFORE  
THE FIRST OF THE MONTH**

## Your Executive

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**Victoria  
Clay Art**

654 Burnside Road W.  
Victoria BC V8Z 1M8

*Here is a list of my favorite pottery tools, glazes and things. Dan*

**All available at Victoria Clay Art**

Mud Tool Ribs  
Amaco PC-20 Blue Rutile [cone 6]  
Alphabet Stamp Set  
2" Goat Hair Fan Brush  
Magic Water  
Stroke & Coat SC-74 Hot Tomale [cone 08-10]  
MKM Finger Rollers  
Xiem Telescoping Sponge on a Stick  
Mud Tool Blue Sponge  
Amaco Velvet Underglaze V-361 Jet Black  
Aardvark Cone 5 BEE-Mix  
Mud Tool Clay Cutting Wire [green handle]  
MKM Wood Stamps  
Paper Clay cone 06, 6, or 10

**Come in and look around, we're open  
10:00am to 5:00pm Mon-Sat**



## Vancouver Island Pottery Supply

### Has Moved

Hello to all our valued customers, This is notice that VIPS has moved.

Our new address is:

515 Stanford Avenue E.  
Parksville, BC  
V9T 6V6

We have the same phone number and website address. We have a new email address.

Cheers, Donna

Ph: 1-250-248-2314

E-Mail: [sales@vipottersupply.com](mailto:sales@vipottersupply.com)  
(new email address!!)

Web: [www.vipottersupply.com](http://www.vipottersupply.com)

**REMEMBER** – among others, 2 great benefits to being in the South Vancouver Island Potters Guild are:

- 1) the library
- 2) access to the BC Potter's Guild newsletter online. Roger C. sends us the username and password each month.

So ... check them out! They're worth using!

*... When you shop – please mention  
to our advertisers that you learned  
about them in the Guild Newsletter.*

## DISCOVERY ART TRAVEL



### OVERSEAS CERAMIC WORKSHOPS & TOURS WITH DISCOVERY ART TRAVEL DENYS JAMES

**Morocco 2016: October 17 – November 7, 2016**  
(one space left at beginning of October!)

**Sicily 2017: April 29 – May 18, 2017**  
(one space left at beginning of October!)

**MOROCCO 2018, April 9 - 30.** The Full Circle - Fez, Chefchaouen, Essaouira, Volubilis, Marrakech, Zagora, Meknes, Rabat, Casablanca. Studio visits, adobe architecture, tile art, Roman mosaics, traditional and contemporary ceramics, fabrics, a camel ride in the desert, and much more. [www.discoveryarttravel.com](http://www.discoveryarttravel.com)

**ANDALUCIA, SPAIN, 2018, November.** Moorish influence on Ceramics and tile art, Art, Architecture. Seville, Cordoba, Granada, Ronda, Ubeda. Optional add on trips in Spain. [www.discoveryarttravel.com](http://www.discoveryarttravel.com)

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