

Guild at a Glance

September 2016

www.victoriapotters.ca

Volume 18 Issue 1

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

**SEPTEMBER MEETING
WEDNESDAY – SEPTEMBER 7, 2016**

**THE COMMUNITY ARTS COUNCIL OF GREATER VICTORIA
(CACGV) OFFICE IS RELOCATING TO 636 FORT STREET AS
OF SEPTEMBER 1ST, 2016**

MISSA 2016 – BY ALL THE SMILES A GREAT MISSA



The 33rd running of MISSA summer workshops was once again declared a success by attendees. A total of fourteen workshops (eight weekend workshops, five week long workshops and one two week residency program open to clay artists as well as other artists) ran from July 2 through to July 8th. Here are a few pictures of Guild members enjoying the second week of classes

Meira Mathison with Steven Hill

*Derek Kasper -
Throwing:
Finding Your Voice with Steven
Hill*



*Libby Wray exploring
brushes with Al Scott of
Vernon*





Sally Manning –
Throwing: *Finding Your Voice with Steven Hill*

Linda Vigliotti- *Handbuilding for the Table with Jan Edwards*

Heather Vale – *Handles, Feet and Additions Loren Lukens*



Roger Champagne
Handbuilding for the Table with Jan Edwards



Belle Leon
Piloting the Registration Desk



Judith Hale – *Design and Surface Enrichment Alan Burgess*



Marlene Bauer – *Design and Surface Enrichment Alan Burgess*

Facebook Page Linked to John Britt's Book - The Complete Guide to Mid-Range Glazes:

In recent Guild meetings, members have discussed John Britt's recently published book "The Complete Guide for Mid-Range Glazes". Guild members can connect with potters beyond the Guild, who are working with the glaze recipes and firing ranges referenced in the book through a Facebook Group page. Anyone interested can submit a request via Facebook to join the group. Members of the group regularly post pictures of glaze samples and have ongoing discussions on the hundreds of glazes and variations found in the book. Members routinely help each other problem solve glaze faults. For anyone interested in more information on the page and how to join, contact Helen Pedneault at email address helen.pedneault@shaw.ca.

The National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts (NCECA) 2017 Conference – Portland Oregon

The 2017 NCECA conference (March 22 – March 25, 2017) is fast approaching. The best advice from those who have attended this highly recommended conference in past years is to organize your trip soon to avoid disappointment. Many are putting together carpooling groups and shared accommodation through such sites as Airbnb and VRBO, as rumour has it that hotel rooms near the conference are already in short supply. Details on the conference and the 50 year history of NCECA can be found at the following web address: <http://nceca.net/2017-nceca-conference-portland-oregon/>

ATTN: ALL CRAFTERS & ARTISTS



If you are interested in creating handmade tree ornaments to start precious collections for those who lost theirs in the FMM Wildfires, Please join us at

 **'Christmas Love for Fort McMurray'**
or contact Brenna for more info

 [**christmasloveFMM@outlook.com**](mailto:christmasloveFMM@outlook.com)

We are hoping to rally together hundreds of crafters who are able to commit to 10 handmade tree ornaments (or whatever quantity you are able to) to join us in spreading a little Christmas love, light & hope this holiday season.

Brenna Emes has sent the following poster to the attention of the SVIPG newsletter editor asking for anyone who is interested in creating handmade tree ornaments for those affected by the Fort McMurray wildfires to contact her at christmasloveFMM@outlook.com.

LIBRARY NEWS:

The following have been added to the Guild's collection and will be available at the September meeting:

DVD's:

1. **Simple Elegance: Slab Building & Glaze Color Exploration**
Birdie Boone

Content: Mastering hand-building; covers the mechanics of working with thin slabs to make lightweight forms; create soft curves, avoid cracking when joining clay, tips for finishing rims and seams. bonus – how to make bisque press-molds for handles/spouts.

2. **Precise Imprecision: Strengthening Throwing Skills To Create Dynamic Functional Pottery**
Mike Jabbur

Discover the details behind creating undulating loose forms that take on a life of their own. With ordinary throwing skills, Mike demonstrates how to create gravity-defying pots while sharing tips and tricks that are certain to improve the way you work.

3. **Flat To Functional: Handbuilding & Slip Decoration - Lisa Naples**

Lisa guides you through soft-slab building techniques, demonstrating how to add textures and cut darts to create custom shapes. In the decorating portion, Lisa explains her "dry" & "wet" slip brushing techniques, which add beautiful texture and color. Also includes the use of animal imagery to tell stories on functional objects.

Library Update (cont'd)

4. Precision Throwing & Intricate Carving - *Adam Fiield*

Learn Adam's secrets to mastering strong throwing techniques thru a series of demonstrations. Also, learn the process of carving beautiful surfaces to create elegant pots. Adam works in porcelain but techniques are suitable for any good throwing body.

Book:

1. Wall pieces by *D. Bivar Segurado*

Using clay for wall space has become a fashionable solution for decorators and makers. Pieces can vary enormously, from simple tiles to huge installations, and this book looks at all the problems, solutions & diverse approaches to designing, making and hanging. The book is filled with illustrations of finished work by international makers. It gives an insight into methods - showing how to plan, design, make, mount & safely hang pieces.

Glazing and Consistency – What the Heck is Specific Gravity

Many potters spend years unravelling the mysteries of glaze in pursuit of that every elusive gorgeous, melty, active glaze that stops just short of the kiln shelf and is repeatable (you can make a new plate for someone that looks just like the batch they bought last year). That last bit – repeatable – is the hard part. If you have ever created a 500 gram batch that looks perfect on the test tile and then a 3,000 gram batch that looks as interesting as mud on a grey day on the 20 bowls you just fired, you'll know the issue of 'repeatable' in spades. The challenges are endless – consistency of the ingredients from batch to batch, the performance of the kiln, the thickness of the glaze and so on and so on. One area that is getting more and more focus in the reading material is specific gravity. For those of us who have shied away from the science end of glaze making, this is an area that seems way too complicated. But, a recent Ceramic Monthly (<http://ceramicartsdaily.org/clay-tools/making-clay-tools/how-to-make-a-floating-stick-hydrometer-for-the-cost-of-a-milkshake/>) may be of some help to those willing to tackle a bit of DIY tool making. The article describes how to make a floating stick hydrometer as an alternative to the viscosity measure (I could never figure out when to start timing), the visual test (can I see my fingernails??? Am I supposed to see my fingernails with this glaze???) or the weighing of 100 ml of glaze on a scale that measures to a 1/10 of a gram. The floating hydrometer does appeal to me as the simplest of the tests I've read about, but an online search reveals that Zoro Canada sells hydrometers for specific gravity for \$49, plus another \$45 shipping and handling, so a cheaper alternative of making your own floating hydrometer is very attractive. Stay tuned -if I'm successful, I will bring one in for a demonstration at a guild meeting.

H. Pedneault

Interested in Exhibiting in Your Own Home Town?

Arts Centre at Cedar Hill

If you wish to apply to exhibit at the Arts Centre at Cedar Hill check out the Community Arts Council of Greater Victoria (who manages the space for Saanich) on how to apply. <http://cacgv.ca/> Saanich also indicates in its public information that every once in a while Saanich will partner with community groups, arts organizations and artists to host community exhibitions. To find out more about the Saanich Municipal Hall Exhibition Program email Brenda Weatherston or call 250-475-5557.

Saanich Municipal Hall Exhibition Program

Saanich provides free exhibition space to promote local artists. The municipality is accepting applications for remaining 2016 spaces and to apply, you can go to the Saanich website to download, complete and return the form: 2016 Municipal Hall Artists Application.

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

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 available at meetings and online 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

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE IS NOON
THE FIRST MONDAY**

Your Executive

President:	Muriel S.	250.652.5434
Vice-Pres:	Pam T-W	1.250.474.5434
Secretary:	Derek K.	250.995.2905
Treasurer:	Linda V.	250.479.5966
Archivist:	Dawn K.	250.896.4373

Coffee:

Monika B. 778.351.3988

Directors:

Penny J. 1.250.715.1403
Meira M. 1.250.597.7795

Library:

Nancy W. 250.479.3524
Kris J. 250.384.5344
Belle Leon 250.382.1326

Membership:	Roger C	250.388.9642
Newsletter	Helen P	250.383.5808

Program Coordinator:

Rosemary N. 250.477.7032

Raffle:

Ester G. 250.658.4523
Tobias T. 250.383.3893

Webmaster: to be decided



Victoria Clay Art

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

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**

VIPS 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
(new email address!!)

Web: 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



Prehistoric Pottery



Majolica Painter



Hand painted clay tile, Caltagirone Ceramics Museum



Roman mosaics, Piazza Armerina

UPCOMING EXCURSIONS :

MOROCCO 2016: October 17- November 7, 2016

We have a few spaces left. Register now.

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