

# Guild at a Glance

December 2017

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

Volume 19 Issue 4

## December Meeting

Monday 7:30 PM December 11, 2017

Bring your shareable finger food and your 'show and tell' pot

Submissions for the Calendar and January Newsletter to [helen.pedneault@shaw.ca](mailto:helen.pedneault@shaw.ca) by December 29, 2017

***Don't forget to bring a donation for the Raffle Table  
Raffle Ticket sales help pay the rent for the Church Hall***

### November Meeting In Review

*The November meeting was a lively presentation of an eclectic array of pots collected by members on their travels, including some rare and much sought pieces stumbled across in used goods stores and auctions – a lesson to keep our eyes open for treasures.*



***Shared by Joy Finlay***

### ***Ever Wonder Why Coin Banks are Shaped Like Pigs?***

The pig's role as a child's first savings account is a visual pun, even though the animal is known more for being muddy than thrifty.

A dense orange clay called 'pygg' was once used extensively in Europe for pottery. The clay was cheap, abundant, and useful for household goods such as dishes and jars. The earthenware made from this clay also came to be known as pygg ware/

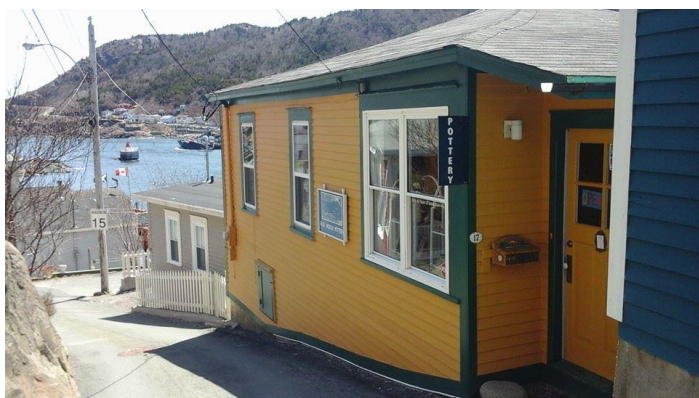
Before the days of banking for common folk, spare cash was hidden in pygg jars. By the 18<sup>th</sup> century, the jars in which money was stored were made of a number of substances but the jars continued to be called pygg jars, often spelled p-i-g.

Potters with an eye for a pun made pygg jars by casting them in the form of pigs.



## Faro Sullivan

Let me introduce you to guild member Faro Sullivan and tell you a little bit about her journey in clay. Faro started her formal education in the arts taking creative writing at the University of Victoria for two years, followed by writing residencies and then a major move to Newfoundland to complete an honours BA in Folklore and Archeology at St John's Memorial University. While in St. John's, Faro was looking for interests outside of her academic world and happened upon the Craft Council of Newfoundland Labrador and their pottery classes (she also gave a go at glass blowing, but that story will have to wait for another newsletter). Through the Craft Council, Faro discovered potter Isabella St. John, who became her teacher and mentor and from whom she was able to rent studio space – a beautiful studio located on the Narrows that lead into St. John's harbour.



Xchanges when it was located on William Street in Esquimalt. Faro marketed her work at various craft shows around Victoria, including the Moss Street Market.

As her work in clay was evolving, so was Faro's need for greater control over her work space and tools, so she developed a plan to become self-employed and build her own studio. With space on her parents' property and income from a self-employment program through Employment Insurance, Faro was able to build an 11' x 15' studio with found or cheaply sourced materials (including pallets) and the help of friends and ingenuity. During this time, Faro was marketing her work through a variety of sales outlets, including wholesale/consignment sales through shops and galleries, direct sales through craft shows and online sales through sites such as Etsy. But after the arrival of her daughter in 2007, Faro needed to make her sales more efficient. She found online sites such as Etsy required a lot of time and attention as her one of a kind pots each needed a separate photo and description and craft shows didn't fit her family time, so since 2007, wholesaling has been her primary mode.

In addition to sales, Faro's career has expanded to include teaching and technical support. This coming summer, she will be presenting her slip decorating course at Red Deer College's Summer Art School for the second time (previously presented in 2015) and teaches classes and provides technical support at the Cedar Hill Recreation Centre two days a week and is the ceramics technician for Camosun College's Visual Arts program one day a week.



After completing her degree, Faro moved back to Victoria, and after some searching landed a job at the Observatory Library funded by the National Research Council. While working full time, she was continuing to hone her pottery on the side and found a variety of methods for securing studio space. This included work trade for studio space with Dianna Searle (member of Fired Up 1984-94) in Fan Tan Alley and working at







Faro developed her interest and focus on slip work for a variety of practical and artistic reasons: because her various work space arrangements didn't allow for a wide array of glazes and glaze application options, because carving through slip was compatible with her love of language which she could incorporate in the design and because she prefers completing the design work at the greenware stage.

But after almost two decades working with functional pottery and slip design, Faro is getting ready to explore new options for her focus in clay. The now four days of work in the new year with Cedar Hill and Camosun will allow her to plan for a year away from the regime of maintaining her wholesale business. She's just in the process of filling final orders as she thinks about how she will spend the coming year. Plans include sketching, musing and exploring in her studio a variety of shapes and ideas that she feels she hasn't been able to give enough time to, while producing functional work.

Recent efforts preparing a body of work for a show in Vancouver in June of this year emphasized how much she enjoyed a more open conceptual focus. This experience coupled with her work in a visual arts setting at Camosun makes the new year bright with possibilities.



Faro tells me that after more than twenty years potting and thirteen years as a self-employed potter she is still excited about and loving her work with clay. She has a great sense of accomplishment from having developed a style of work that is recognizable as hers and is very much looking forward to the challenge of moving from functional work with a particular type of clay to more abstract work that might lead her to a variety of new clays and glazes and their own technical and intellectual challenges.

## ***Interested in exhibiting in Saanich Public Spaces?***

### ***The Arts Centre at Cedar Hill***

Exhibition space at The Arts Centre at Cedar Hill is provided on a rotating basis for the display of regional arts and culture. Two galleries are available: the Main Gallery and Café Gallery. There is a fee for rental and exhibitions are typically 4 weeks in duration. A call for submissions is done once annually. Applications are reviewed by committee and applicants are notified once selections are made.

Applications for 2018 exhibitions in the Café Gallery are still being accepted. Apply early as exhibits are being scheduled as approved and opportunities are limited.

To apply, please complete and return the Application form by the advertised deadline. Late applications may be considered on a waitlist basis if space is available.

#### Saanich Municipal Hall

Saanich provides free exhibition space to promote local artists at Saanich Municipal Hall. **Applications are now being accepted for 2018.** Apply early as exhibits are being scheduled as approved and opportunities are limited. To apply, please review the Saanich Municipal Hall Exhibition Information and Guidelines and complete and return the Application Form:

Application detail at:

<http://www.saanich.ca/EN/main/parks-recreation-culture/arts/arts-centre-at-cedar-hill/exhibitions.html>

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### **For Sale!!!**

Sonja Picard of West Vancouver is offering for sale for \$1500.00:

- a 30 inch Northstar slab roller and table (describes as excellent condition),
- with white clay and terracotta canvas, bats, and,
- an extruder

Purchaser will need to arrange to pick up in West Vancouver – Call Sonja at 604 307 0036 or email at [info@sonjapicard.com](mailto:info@sonjapicard.com).



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The **Salt Spring Potters Guild** is proud to host its second juried Exhibition and Prize competition in 2018 to showcase excellent ceramic art produced in the province of BC.



Details at: <https://www.ssicceramicawards.com/submit-your-work>

**Submissions start January 8, 2018**

Note from the Editor: Calendars are on next page - January is looking like a very quiet month – let me know of any exhibits, sales, classes or workshops or other events you think folks will be interested in.

December 2017						
					1 <i>Cortes Artists Pop Up Show (see Advert)</i>	2 <i>Wintercreek (see advert)</i>  <i>Cortes Artists Pop Up Show (see Advert)</i>
3 <i>Wintercreek (see advert)</i>  <i>Cortes Artists Pop Up Show (see Advert)</i>	4 <i>Little Gems Art &amp; Craft Fair 636 Fort Street Bay Centre</i>	5 <i>Little Gems Art &amp; Craft Fair 636 Fort Street Bay Centre</i>	6 <i>Little Gems Art &amp; Craft Fair 636 Fort Street Bay Centre</i>	7 <i>Little Gems Art &amp; Craft Fair 636 Fort Street Bay Centre</i>	8 <i>Little Gems Art &amp; Craft Fair 636 Fort Street Bay Centre</i>	9 <i>Little Gems Art &amp; Craft Fair 636 Fort Street Bay Centre</i>
10 <i>Little Gems Art &amp; Craft Fair 636 Fort Street Bay Centre</i>	11 <i>Guild Meeting Christmas Pot Luck</i>	12 <i>Little Gems Art &amp; Craft Fair 636 Fort Street Bay Centre</i>	13 <i>Little Gems Art &amp; Craft Fair 636 Fort Street Bay Centre</i>	14 <i>Little Gems Art &amp; Craft Fair 636 Fort Street Bay Centre</i>	15 <i>Little Gems Art &amp; Craft Fair 636 Fort Street Bay Centre</i>	16 <i>Little Gems Art &amp; Craft Fair 636 Fort Street Bay Centre</i>
17 <i>Little Gems Art &amp; Craft Fair 636 Fort Street Bay Centre</i>	18 <i>Little Gems Art &amp; Craft Fair 636 Fort Street Bay Centre</i>	19 <i>Little Gems Art &amp; Craft Fair 636 Fort Street Bay Centre</i>	20 <i>Little Gems Art &amp; Craft Fair 636 Fort Street Bay Centre</i>	21	22	23
24 	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	January 2018					
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8 <i>7:30 p.m. Guild Meeting</i>	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

## ADVERTISING 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. It's distributed by email to all members and some copies are available at Guild meetings. The newsletter is also 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](mailto:helen.pedneault@shaw.ca)

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

## The Executive

President:	Daniel Casey	250 418 0814
Vice-Pres:	Pam Truscott-White	250.474.5434
Secretary:	Derek Kasper.	250.995.2905
Treasurer:	Linda Vigliotti	250.479.5966
Archivist:		
Coffee:	Sharon Burley	250 818 7427
Library:	Nancy Wall	250.479.3524
	Kris Jeffrey	250.384.5344
	Belle Leon.	250.382.1326
Membership:	Roger Champagne	250.388.9642
Newsletter	Helen Pedneault	250 383 5808
Program Coordinator:	Monika Burrell	778 351 3988
Raffle:		
	Ester Galac.	250.658.4523
	Tobias T	250.383.3893
Webmaster:	Nancy Fraser	250 508-2053



**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**

**DISCOVER ENCHANTING ANDALUCIA  
November 5 - 22, 2018**

**Only 3 spaces left as of Sep 20, 2017**

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

### UPCOMING EXCURSIONS

**SICILY  
April 29 - May 17, 2019  
Registration now open**

**MOROCCO  
October 2019  
Specialty Small Group Art Travel  
[www.discoveryarttravel.com](http://www.discoveryarttravel.com)  
[denys@denysjames.com](mailto:denys@denysjames.com)  
1-250-537-4906**