

Guild at a Glance

February 2018

www.victoriapotters.ca

Volume 19 Issue 6

February Meeting

Monday 7:30 PM Feb. 12, 2018

Program: Bring in a favourite glaze to share- finished piece and a recipe

Reminders:

- **Bring your glazes**
- **Newsletter updates to helen.pedneault@shaw.ca by February 25, 2018**
- **Bring Donations for the Raffle Table**
- **Bring mugs to donate to Victoria Youth Clinic for their new facilities (Heather Vale)**

January Meeting In Review

In January we met Jane Murray Smith of Dragon Fly Pottery of Lanceville BC. Jane gave us an overview of her various forms of pottery: decorative work in a variety of forms including thrown naked raku and handbuilt creatures and gas fired thrown functional work. Jane demonstrated for the group the creation of a rabbit using an armature made of newspaper and tape.



Nancy Wall



If you have been to a Guild meeting anytime over the past 18 years, you will have met Nancy Wall, one of the founding members of the Guild. Nancy has held almost every post the Guild has to offer from president, to program organizer, membership, kitchen and June Sale coordinator, and is currently our all-star Librarian. Nancy's journey in clay started when she was a young mom in the early '90's. She had left her legal assistant job to be at home with her two little ones, and had the benefit of a sister living with her and husband Dale, who offered to free Nancy up one evening a week. That made it possible for Nancy to try her hand at a pottery class at Cedar Hill Recreation Centre.

Nancy's interest in pottery classes grew out of her enjoyment of handcrafts including Danish cutwork,

knitting, cross-stitch and sewing, and like many of us her delight in collecting and using pottery in her home.

Immediately bitten by the pottery bug, Nancy carried on with a number of classes, including lessons with our own Meira Mathison as well as Moira Stewart, until about 1996/97 when she helped coordinate a Pottery Club at Cedar Hill, so that she and many others might continue to pot without taking more classes.



From there she progressed to a wheel of her own, starting with a vintage Estrin kick-wheel. She continued to glaze/fire her work at Cedar Hill for another six months, but eventually tired of transporting ware and invested in her first kiln, a small used Duncan.



Having gained some experience by mixing glazes as a volunteer at Cedar Hill, Nancy set about turning her kids' playroom into her clay studio, acquiring glaze ingredients and upgrading her wheel and eventually a newer kiln. Around this time Nancy joined the Garden City Potters, a group of 15-20 women meeting monthly to work collaboratively on the development of their skills. A workshop sometime later - Understanding Glazes by D'arcy Margesson - provided a confidence boost and opened up a whole new area to pursue.

Nancy initially sold work through semi-annual sales at Cedar Hill, but with amped up production she and four friends from the Guild began marketing together with a sale

at the hall where the Guild holds its meetings. She participated in Gorge-on-Art and the Guild's sale each summer, shipped work to a gallery in Tofino, and joined Christmas craft shows at Prospect Lake or Cordova Bay, as well as being invited as a guest at other potters groups' shows now and then.

Nancy's focus in pottery was initially on thrown functional ware – she says it comes from her practical nature – but her interests have constantly grown and include a variety of styles including slab work and alternative firings such as saggar and horsehair. One of the inspirations for her interest in alternative firing came from her experience as a MISSA tech to Randy Brodnax on the topic. Although primarily a wheel thrower, a Vincent Massey workshop fueled her interest in slab work and a Sandra Dolph workshop drew her to texture and organic inspiration. A current interest is in playing with coloured clay, inspired by a MISSA course with Vince Pitelka on patterned loaf construction then slicing veneers of pattern to use with hand building work. In recent years, Nancy has dialed back her production and is focusing more on work that is of particular interest rather than preparing for sales. Her future plans include expanding on her desire to work with textured slab surfaces as well as specific interests (shellac resist, pierce work, and developing glazes that enhance a textured surface, to name a just a few). When asked at the close of my chat with Nancy what she would hope for a future growth for the Guild, she said that she would love to see the Guild rent a working space with classes and a small gallery for Guild members, where perhaps weekend workshops and meetings could also be held.



News from Potters Guild of BC

A very important letter from Laura Carey, President and Board Chair of the Potters Guild of BC was recently circulated by email by Roger Champagne to all Guild members. It is a lengthy letter that most potters will be interested in reviewing. It includes information on:

- The plan to cease operation of the Gallery of BC Ceramics at Granville Island at the end of February,
- The plan to share with members a budget being created this weekend, the goal of which will be to avoid bankruptcy,
- A Special General Meeting on February 6th at the Gallery of BC Ceramics with RSVP information,
- Details of the reasons for the action taken,
- A list of requests to members to alleviate some of the cost pressures on board members, and,
- Details of all the public events and other activities hosted by the Potters Guild to try to stem the decline in sales at the Gallery and maintain the viability of the Guild.

Nine weeks and counting down to Souper Bowls of Hope

April 5, 2018 – 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. – Victoria Conference Centre

Souper Bowls of Hope is **Victoria Youth Empowerment Society's** (V YES) annual lunchtime event that brings the Citizens of Greater Victoria & the Downtown Business community together to help fund programs for youth at risk in the downtown core. Each year the event attracts approximately 400 supporters.

Of course, for potters, the best way we can contribute to this fundraiser is with our donation of bowls. The event is getting bigger each year with the biggest yet celebrated last year, so more bowls than ever are needed.

The "Pottery Sales Table will also once again be part of the Souper Bowls Event. This is a sales table of donated pottery, any piece that is not a bowl (the bowls will be on the free bowls table for the guest) will be very much appreciated. So please if you have any pottery to donate and can add to the sales it all goes to a very worthwhile charity. If you have pottery items and bowls to donate, they will be collected at the Feb and March Guild meetings. Thank you very much for helping, this will be the 19th year the Potters Guild has been involved with this very worthwhile charity. Rachel Coward will be in charge of the Sales Table and if you have any questions please give her a call at 250-721-2976 or email her at cowardr@telus.net.



One of the ways the VYES is able to say thank you to the potters for their donations is with a tax receipt for the value of pots that have been donated. For example, a potter, that donates ten bowls that they would normally sell for \$20 each, will receive a tax receipt for a contribution of \$200. Any donated pottery for the sales table can be added to the form for a Tax Receipt along with the bowls donated. Just a reminder when filling out the form to receive the tax receipt, each box of donated pots needs to include the completed YVES form detailing the pots being donated. It is very important that all donations are submitted with the **return form** filled out completely and "**Tax receipt**" **checked off** if required and that the **value be fair market value**. Michele and Carla from VYES will be hosting the Guild's February meeting and will bring a stack of **Donation Return forms and YES brochures** to the meeting. Rachel will also have a stock of forms and more will be available at the March meeting.

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Explorations in
Clay and Wax

100
meter
art



Metchosin Community House
4430 Happy Valley Road
March and April 2018
9am-1pm Monday -Friday



lifelines

Artist talk: Saturday
March 17 2-4pm
*Being touched by
art and why it
matters.*

Artwork by Diana Smith

FEBRUARY 2018						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12 <i>Guild Meeting</i>	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24 <i>1-5pm How Glazes Work Coast Collective with Sue McLeod</i>
25	26	27	28			
MARCH 2018						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10 <i>Juan de Fuca 55+ Spring Craft Sale</i>
11 <i>Juan de Fuca 55+ Spring Craft Sale</i>	12 <i>Guild Meeting</i>	13	14 <i>NCECA Pittsburgh</i>	15 <i>NCECA Pittsburgh</i>	16 <i>NCECA Pittsburgh</i>	17 <i>NCECA Pittsburgh</i>
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

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**

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 Tomlinson	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
(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!

DISCOVERY ART TRAVEL



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UPCOMING EXCURSIONS

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

**MOROCCO
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Specialty Small Group Art Travel
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