

CERAMIC DESIGNERS ASSOCIATION

Newsletter

April 2013

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www.cda.com

Officers

President

Susan Yager

595-3185

soozigus@cox.net

Vice President

Chuck Wolfe

436-4261

wolfenvir@cox.net

Treasurer

Robyn Bailey

464-6335

heronshope@cox.net

Secretary

Ginger Jenkot

408-6636

Vjenkot@cox.net

At Large

Buzzy Hamberg

nadamar@verizon.net

Sue Tigner

Committee Chairs

Workshops

Lynne Bailey

376-3174

Lynnebells@gmail.com

Membership

Ronda Shulenburg

clayrt@cox.net

Newsletter

Fred Freeman

496-4320

Ffreeman61@cox.net

Exhibitions

Suzanne Cowan

499-6053

Suzcowan1@juno.com

Shows

Bob Hitt

495-0052

hittrja@cps.k12.va.us

Website

Volunteer needed

Librarian

Marion Adams

340-3160

Empty Bowls

Judith and Don Hurwitz

547-4234

Judith.Hurwitz@cox.net

Message from the President

Cheers to CDA for another successful Empty Bowls Dinner, and many thanks to Judith Hurwitz for chairing this worthy project for two years in a row.

April Meeting Change! Due to the date conflict with the April 20 & 21 workshop at Lynnhaven Studio, the **April CDA meeting** has been rescheduled to **Sunday, April 28**, in our usual meeting room at Virginia Wesleyan College. The demo topic for the April meeting will be "Ways To Reduce Dust in the Studio and Why It Matters".

Since no one has stepped up to take over as Workshop Chair, the April 20 & 21 workshop is the last one scheduled for this calendar year. Find more info on this final workshop elsewhere in this newsletter.

Have you attended an interesting workshop or do you know of an upcoming workshop that other CDA members might be interested in? Do you have information about an exhibit or a show that CDA members might want to enter? Have you received an award, or do you know of another CDA member who has? Do you have studio, display, or show equipment that you'd like to sell? All these are items we'd like to publish in our monthly CDA newsletter. Please send your write-ups to our newsletter chair Fred Freeman (ffreeman61@cox.net) by the 25th of the month for publication in the following month's newsletter. (We do not put out a newsletter for July or August.)

Upcoming shows, exhibits and workshops can be shared with the CDA membership by publishing on the website as well. Send write-ups for the website to our webmaster Trish Glaab (trish.glaab@gmail.com). Happy Spring! --Sooz

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UP COMING EVENTS

April 28 CDA Meeting

April Demo: Sooz and Chuck will discuss the dangers of clay dust

April 20-21: Workshop with Lynne and Lesley

June 23: CDA picnic

Demos:

The March demo started with Chuck Wolfe giving a physics lesson describing the concept of vector addition and what the heck it had to do with clay. It ended with a finished bowl, approximately 14 inches in diameter, and about 7 inches tall. In between, Chuck showed members how easy it was to add three balls of clay, each ball weighing three pounds, to form the bowl. The neat thing about his throwing method is that the potter only has to be able to center 3 pounds of clay, which opens up large bowl throwing to almost everyone.

April's demo will be presented by our president and vice-president. Sooz and Chuck will educate us on the dangers of clay dust and how to minimize dust in your studio. As potters, we are exposed to many dangers. Believe it or not, clay dust is one of the worst. The particles making up most of the fine dust that drifts around in our studios are sharp-edged shards of silica. When these particles enter our lungs, they act as tiny knives cutting away at our lung tissue every time we breath in and out. Do I have your attention yet? As responsible leaders of our association, we believe that you need to know about this and how to protect yourselves. Don't miss the April meeting.

Hands-On WORKSHOP: SELF-FOOTED PLATTERS & SURFACE DECORATION Lynnhaven Studio • Saturday 9 - 4pm, Sunday 10 - 4pm • \$80

Lesley Hildreth & Lynne Bailey will be conducting a hands-on workshop that will start off making self-footed platters and will move on to mishima decoration, cotton-block print/sgraffito and linoleum prints. Participants will receive the slab, rolled out and ready to go to make their platter, a selection of underglazes, materials to make the template for their platter and for the block prints.

Saturday 20 April:

Roll out tiles to practice printing; on self-footed platter & template demo
Hands-on; Mishima; Hands-on

Sunday 21 April:

Block print demo; Hands-on ; Lino cut demo ; Hands-on

Material list:

Pink carve block - aprox 4" x 6" (Speedball Speedy Carve Stamp Making Kit available on Amazon for \$7.17 , carve block & carving tool set included)

Carving tool set

Brayer for spreading underglaze. Graphics to copy for design/prints - actual size that you will use

Sea sponge Paint brushes, Ruler, Ware board, Clay to use to make small sample tiles

To reserve your spot, send your check, made out to Lynne Bailey to:

140 E. Canvasback Drive. Currituck. NC 27929



FYI: Call for Entries

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We are seeking talented artists for the
5th Annual East Beach Art, Wine & Music Festival
April 27th & 28th, 2013 Show Hours 10:00 am to 5:00 pm
Location: Norfolk Virginia off Pretty Lake in the East Beach Neighborhood

If you or any associates of your would like to participate in this event, please contact
Maryanne Rudziensky by emailing EastCoastArtSource@gmail.com
Or phone 757-468-1193 for more details
New Artists Are Encouraged To Submit Samples (photographs of your current work, or website address)

* **Annamarie Sculpture Garden & Arts Center, Dowell (Solomons), MD** In Association with the
Smithsonian Institution 13480 Dowell Rd., P.O. Box 99, Dowell, MD 20629 www.annmariegarden.org 410-
326-4640 exhibits@annmariegarden.org **Call for Entries – Humor Me!, October 18,
2013 – January 12, 2014** If laughter is the best medicine, then this exhibit might just be what
the doctor ordered. This call seeks works that make people chuckle, snort, giggle, guffaw, and laugh out
loud! The jury seeks a diverse body of work that explores humor through materials, composition, style,
message, presentation, etc. Ultimately, the goal of **Humor Me!** is to produce giggles, chuckles, and
chortles in every guest and thus decrease stress and boost the immune system of everyone! All media
welcome; small to large-scale installations; new media encouraged; indoor and outdoor works accepted;
cash awards to be presented.

The Jurors: Andrew Wodzianski, *Professor of Art*, College of Southern Maryland

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Smithsonian Institution 13480 Dowell Rd., P.O. Box 99, Dowell, MD 20629 www.annmariegarden.org 410-
326-4640 exhibits@annmariegarden.org **CALL FOR ENTRIES – Small Works: exhibition
& sale August 16, 2013 – January 5, 2014, Mezzanine Gallery** The Small Works
exhibition and sale will feature pieces measuring 18 inches or less in all directions, including the frame (if
applicable). Artists may submit up to 6 works for inclusion in the exhibit. Wall hung art **only** will be
accepted for this exhibit; no non-hanging art. All media is acceptable with the exception of jewelry, film,
video/new media. All artwork must be original work, no reproductions or copies. All work is for sale; price
may not exceed \$450. The goal of this exhibit is to assemble small and affordable works that through
their sale will benefit the artist and the gallery. Small Works is timed to coincide with the high visitation of
Artsfest (September) and the holiday season at Annmarie (November-January).

The Jurors: 2 member panel to be named.

Claymate of the Month

Full Name: Christine Abbey Stevens

Nickname: Chris

Member of CDA since: 2000

What got you interested in clay: I started collecting pottery then got the idea to make my own

Wheel or Handbuilding? Why? You obviously have never seen one of my handbuilt pots. I love the symmetry of throwing on the wheel.

Favorite clay technique: Paper resist with colored slip; recently, Majolica painting

Artist who is my greatest influence: Jim Chalkley

Favorite tool: My smallest Mudtool rib for smoothing and shaping

Favorite trick: Altering the rims of wheel-thrown bowls using a chopstick

Hobbies other than clay: Gardening

One thing people don't know about me: I was a district spelling bee champion in high school; lived in London several times during my childhood; used to be an English teacher then a technical writer (that's 4 things, but who's counting)

One dumb thing I did with clay art: Rushed the drying of several handbuilt pieces by either leaving them in front of the fan or in the kiln room. Much to my dismay, they all cracked!

Achievements most proud of: Being married to the same man for 38 years, raising my son Billy, being a pottery teacher, and doing community service.

Advice for a beginner: Start with handbuilding, so that you can learn the characteristics of clay (shrinking, warping, etc.) before tackling the wheel. Wheel requires practice, practice, practice, but most of all, patience!

CDA Claymate of the Month Form

Please answer as many items as you feel comfortable with. If there's something you'd like to tell that doesn't fit any of these items, you can make up a new item. Send to ffreeman61@cox.net

Full Name: Nickname: Member of CDA Since:

What got you interested in clay?

Wheel or Handbuilding? Why?

What is your favorite clay technique?

Which artist(s) or person(s) is/are your greatest influence?

Favorite Tool: Favorite Trick:

Hobbies other than clay:

What is one thing people don't know about you?

Share one dumb thing you did with your clay art:

Achievement(s) you are most proud of:

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

St. Mary's Home for Children **WANTED: A FEW GOOD POTTERS.....**

A pottery wheel has been donated to St. Mary's Home for Children (located across from Sentara Leigh Hospital on Kempsville Road in Norfolk). Unfortunately, the benefactor didn't include a potter.

That's where we can help!

Volunteers are needed to center clay and make a "cookie" so that the children can experience new sensations: the feel of the clay, the motion of the turning wheel and the splashing of the water. It all adds up to a whirlwind of excitement and squeals of delight from all participants. The children who live at St. Mary's are severely mentally and physically challenged and only a few so far are able to work with the clay. Our hope is to grow this program so that as many children as possible can participate in the clay experience. If you have any questions and/or are interested in participating, please contact me (Nancy Wolfe) at 757-635-4967 or email: nanwolfe833@hotmail.com. I have been going to St. Mary's on Wednesday afternoons at 2:00 for about 2 hours; the first half hour or so working with staff and the balance of the time working with the children. I would love to share this heartening experience with you! Plus if we get several volunteers, we can each take a Wednesday of the month so that no one is committed to every week. Plus, I don't believe that Wednesdays are set in stone so the weekday and time may be flexible. **WARNING:** Clay is flying and you will not leave as you entered. You will be covered with clay and your heart will be smiling!

Pocosin Arts Cabin Fever workshop

In my mind this meant somewhere just north of Hampton...but no it is in North Carolina. I was very surprised by the short distance from our area to Columbia North Carolina. Although not far, about 90 miles or so but a different setting. This part of North Carolina is quiet and rural, a slower pace. This of course is its appeal for us city folks to slow down, relax before getting to work in our designated choice of activity.

Our (TJ Erdahl) workshop took place in the 4-H campground, with various accommodations; some had one to six people to a room, since earplugs were provided that let us to guess as to how well we would sleep. If you never went to summer or boot camp, this is sort of like that experience. Classes were held in various buildings across the wooded landscape right on the water the Albemarle Sound. (There were wheel classes, tin mounted on wooden backgrounds, music, but I only ventured across the courtyard to occasionally peek in on the noisy room where tin designs were being formed.

We had our meals in a dining hall, one baked chicken dish stands out, but the friends and conversations seemed the most memorable. I had long anticipated the TJ Erdahl workshop and looked forward to new ways to add color and surface interest to my work. As it turned out the class atmosphere was very friendly and conducive to student interaction since over half the class consisted of CDA Members. We made small clay heads for surface experimentation, and then went on to make larger ones using a form made from materials found any local hardware store. Since TJ was concentrating on making masthead forms he demonstrated various weathering techniques using wire brushes, and sanding the surface, to reveal a variety of layers of color he had applied. TJ's flowing hair sculpting technique was inspirational to me and I thought a valuable component to the workshop. We had a chance to spray engobes and terra sigulata as well and under glaze our pieces. From time to time we were introduced to new techniques and tools, easily found at Harbor Freight tool suppliers. Beau, his assistant demonstrated some printmaking techniques using gum Arabic; mason stains and Xeroxed copied images, a very inexpensive and low tech method.

The pieces we made were primarily meant to be wall hung, which adds to its attractiveness since sculpture has to have a place to be put. Wall hanging artwork opens up new venues for marketing sculpture. Also exploring how to attach them successfully is one of my current projects. CDA will be provided all the video I shot during the workshop, if you would like to get more information on techniques check them out.

This is probably the last time these workshops will take place at the 4-H Campground as a new facility is under construction in the small picturesque town of Columbia.

John Tobin

Pocosin Arts Cabin Fever workshop pictures



Spring Picnic

CDA June Picnic: Bill Pinkham has offered to host our June picnic at his home in Carrollton. It's a beautiful setting with an impressive studio, and we have enjoyed ourselves there in the past. The Pinkham's schedule was filling up fast, so we locked in **Sunday, June 23**, for the annual CDA picnic. Mark your calendars and watch for further details in the next newsletter.

Awards

John Tobin and Fred Freeman won an Award of Merit at the Hampton Art League members show at the Charles Taylor Art Center in February.

Fred Freeman won an Award of Merit at the Tidewater Art Alliance Miniature Show in February at the One – eleven Gallery.

Akiko Tanaka won an Award of Excellence at the Tidewater Art Alliance “Creative Diversions” show at the Portsmouth Courthouse Gallery in March.

Please send your newsletter submissions to:
ffreeman61@cox.net. If you send them to my regular email address, they could get lost or forgotten in the accumulated emails. Also, your submission will be put in the newsletter as submitted. I will not correct spelling, grammar, or confusing prose. Thanks.