



SECONDS

The Newsletter of the Sacramento Potters Group - Northern California Art By Fire
Visit our website at www.sacramentopottersgroup.com, like us on Facebook!

Volume 12, Number 5

September/October 2011

❖ ❖ ❖ A Message from the President ❖ ❖ ❖

Here we are at that time of year. You ask what time of year? As potters, we all know it's that time of year to complete the last of the wares for the holiday season, then get out there and sell them all.

So many of us are still trying to work with wet clay, while there is still enough heat to get things to dry. For me, because I have a full time job, I don't expect to make any more forms to be fired this year. I have also completed my last bisque firing for the year. The only things left for me to do are make glazes, glaze pottery, promote my open house and fire to cone 10. For many of our members there will be several craft fairs on top of all that.

So I want to wish all of the members of this group the best of luck with finishing up this year of 2011. I also wish all of us great sales for this year. None of us know just when we will come out the economic slump this world has fallen into but we are all determined to push on through. Perhaps this is the year that starts the recovery that we all seek.

There is at least one more thing I would like to mention and that is safety. During all this rushing around and trying to make ends meet we may want to take short cuts. We will be feeling the pressures to hurry. Hurry to and from places and all around the studio. So please keep safety in mind during this stressful time. Take time to think about things when you drive, lift that heavy box or make that quick cut!

Mark Pratton
President

Your 2011 SPG Officers

- ❖ **President**
Mark Pratton
mng52@comcast.net
- ❖ **Vice President**
Connie Chadwick
(530) 268-8209
- ❖ **Secretary**
Christine Templeton
chi.ma.era@hotmail.com
- ❖ **Treasurer**
Christine Schultz
cschultz00@yahoo.com
- ❖ **Web Liaison**
Genelle Dwyer
gwindwyer@juno.com
- ❖ **Show Coordinator/
Membership Chair**
Russell Frank
russell.frank@frontiernet.net
- ❖ **Field Trip Coordinator**
Connie Chadwick
- ❖ **Newsletter Editor**
Laurie Kneppl
6 El Morro Ct
Sacto, CA 95831
- ❖ **SGAC Representative**
Laurie Lee
lisme@sbcglobal.net
- ❖ **Publicity Coordinator**
Genelle Dwyer
gwindwyer@juno.com

Next Meeting

Weds, October 12, 2011
Shepard Garden and Art
Center 3330 McKinley
Blvd. Sacto, CA 95816
at 7:00 PM

From the East take Capitol City Freeway and exit at E St. Turn left onto E St. which becomes McKinley Blvd. on the other side of the freeway. Turn right at 33rd St. SGAC is on the corner across from the tennis courts. From the South, exit Capitol City Freeway toward Reno. Exit at H St. Turn right on H St. Turn left on 33rd St. Turn Right on Park Way. Please be sure to park in the designated parking areas in the lot or park on the street. No pizza will be available at this meeting.

Paul Quyle - 1926 - 2011

It is with great sadness that we report that Paul Quyle has passed away. He died on his 86th birthday, September 11, 2011 after a brief battle with pancreatic cancer. The folks that visited Quyle Kilns during SPG's April field trip will remember Paul as the man who had so many interests and knew so much about so many things, plus he was just plain nice folks. Most potters know his company's clays and there is probably not a potter out there who has not used Sandstone Buff at some time in their careers or education. Having worked in the printing industry for several decades I was interested in his antique printing press that was on display in the Quyle Kilns gallery/store. Quyle Kilns is operated by Paul's daughter Pamela and there was a nice article in the Calaveras Enterprise about Paul's life. You can read it at: http://www.calaverasenterprise.com/articles/2011/09/13/news/news01_quyle.txt

SPG Calendar

- **Weds., October 5, 2011**
SPG Board Meeting 7:00 PM
@ Stellar Studios
202 23rd St
Sacto, CA. 95816
- **Weds., October 12, 2011**
SPG General Meeting 7:00 PM
Shepard Garden & Arts Center
Speaker: Kanika Marshall
- **Saturday, Nov. 5, 2011**
Berkeley Field Trip
- **Weds. Dec.14, 2011**
General Meeting and Holiday
Potluck 6:30 PM
- **Saturday, January 14, 2012**
Annual Seconds Sale
Shepard Garden & Art Center
10AM - 4PM
- **Weds., February 8, 2012**
SPG General Meeting 7:00 PM
Shepard Garden & Art Center
- **Weds., April 11, 2012**
SPG General Meeting 7:00 PM
Location TBD
- **Weds., June 13, 2012**
SPG General Meeting 7:00 PM
Location TBD
- **Sat., June 16, 2012**
SPG Annual Show and Sale
Shepard Garden & Art Center

Deadline for submission of news, articles or classifieds is the 20th of January, March, May, July, September and November.
All members are encouraged to submit articles and photos for consideration.

Artist Profiles/Member News - Tell your fellow members a little bit about yourself and your work. We'd love to get to know our members better! We'd also like to know where you will be showing and/or selling your work! Or where you have been; your fellow SPG-ers would love to hear what you thought about that last show you did. "Seconds" is your forum and an easy way to help you promote yourself and your work.

Please send info and photos (jpegs or TIFFs under 5 MB) to rockyraku@yahoo.com or mail them to:

Laurie Kneppel 6 El Morro Ct. Sacto. CA 95831

EDITOR'S NOTE: The next issue will be September/October with a deadline of September 20th for submissions. Keep in mind that we can get your information out in between newsletters!

MEMBER NEWS

Mary Classen will be having her 33rd Annual Holiday Show and Sale on Saturday, December 3rd from 10 AM until 4 PM. Mary's address is 3236 Panama Ave, Carmichael, CA. 95608. (916) 483-3155. Her email is classenmary@yahoo.com

Margo Scarpulla will be at the following shows:

Danville Fall Crafts Festival - Oct 22 and 23

Crocker Holiday Art and Craft Festival - Nov 25, 26, 27

San Joaquin Potters Guild Fine Arts Festival - Nov 18, 19

St Mary's Fine Art and Craft Show (Sacramento) - Nov 12

Yountville Winter Wonderland - Nov 5

Healdsburg Art Show - Sept 24

Valley of the Moon (Sonoma) - Sept 24, 25

Santa Cruz Seconds Sale - Oct 1

Richmond Art Center Holiday Art Sale - Dec 4 & 5

Laurie Kneppel will be at the following shows:

Delta Wine and Art Fair at the Old Sugar Mill, Clarksburg - Oct 2

Congregation Beth Shalom Jewish Food Faire - Oct 16

August 10, 2011 Meeting Minutes - Christine Templeton, Secretary

Meeting was called to order at 7:09 pm by president Mark Pratton. 12 members were present including 2 guests. This was a general meeting and was held at Mark and Gina Pratton's home in Elk Grove. We had pizza, salads and refreshments then the meeting was conducted. Since the weather was nice the meeting was held in the Pratton's spacious backyard under the trees. Everyone introduced themselves and talked for a short time about what type of art they were interested in. Christine Templeton, a member for 2 months, volunteered to take the notes for the meeting and had such a good time that she quickly agreed to be your new secretary.

Old Business

- 4th Annual June Sale: Mark said he thought it was a great show and there were good sales. Seemed like about 500 people came through; perhaps it was the cool weather that kept the foot traffic down. Eric from IMCO did a demo on throwing large pots, Mark currently has possession of them, has trimmed them and will fire them. Subject of looking into more advertising was brought up. Our last ad with The Sacramento Bee seemed to help this sale and perhaps we should commit to more advertising in general.

- Treasurer's report: Christine Schulz was not present but she sent the information to Mark. Our new account was opened to replace the old one, \$7,267 was the balance when the new account was opened, it currently stands at \$6,078.

- Web Liaison: Genelle Dwyer was present and announced our website is up and running. She talked about all the information available on the site and how the site worked. She mentioned her desire of showing some information on all members, at least a picture and a link for everyone if possible. If you have an event you are participating in, please get the information to her at least one month in ad-

vance. Your event will be posted for a total of two months then will drop off the site automatically. We also discussed our Facebook (FB) page and what was the difference between it and our Sacramento Potters Group web site and how they could each be used. If you do not have an individual FB page consider starting one so you can "like" our Sacramento Potters Group Facebook page and therefore link to it. You can then write individual comments and post updated pictures of your work.

- VP/Field Trip Coordinator: Connie Chadwick was present and apologized that the trip to Panama Pottery fell through. She will try for another field trip date to the pottery in the future, it seems a miscommunication arose with the manager. She has scheduled a tour to the Berkeley Potter's Guild in November and we will be meeting at Leslie's Ceramic Supply in the same city. Connie has the tentative dates of either the 5th or 12th of November so watch for the updates of this tour. There will be places to have lunch in the area but consider packing a lunch to save yourself the wait to be served in a busy restaurant.

- Event Coordinator: Shoshanna Bilunos was not present. We talked about her upcoming event at N2 Pottery in Auburn on the 27th of August from 11 - 1PM. This event is mostly to educate the public on what is offered by N2.

- Newsletter Editor: Laura Kneppel was not present. We did talk about how important the newsletter was and how fantastic it was looking. It is currently being sent electronically and there are links to people and web sites. If anyone needs a hard copy then please contact Laura and she will mail one to you.

- SGAC Representative: Laurie Lee was present. Mark opened by thanking her for representing our group at the Shepard Garden and Arts Center. Laurie attends the membership meetings there as our representative and reports back any news. Her report mostly led into a general discussion on how these types of member meetings are conducted. One of our guests from the San Joaquin Potter's Guild commented on how our good organization and shared work load had attracted her to the group. I agree; "many hands makes a light load," more work gets done and everyone is fresher and willing to do the next job as a team. See next paragraph...

- Publicity Coordinator: Genelle Dwyer talked about a need for a publicity coordinator or at least someone to take over a portion of the work she was doing. She is our current Web Liaison and could use some help. Laurie Lee said she would be willing to be on a "committee" for publicity but could not be the person in charge, no one else volunteered at this time.

- Outstanding bill for SN & R: Seems to be an issue of documentation, it has not been paid and the official people in connection to it weren't present for the meeting. Since we could not solve it then, it was tabled again until more could be found out about it.

- Connie mentioned that our yearly membership bill to the SGAC has been paid. Genelle noted that SGAC needed a current slate of our officers for their records.

- Discussion of our policy toward having two people at one booth in our "Seconds Show." It was noted that our Bylaws do not address that question, they govern our club not our shows. It is also relevant that the two people in question produce one item and that only one person is a member of SPG. The group present talked about it, and considering the history of the member, the OK was given to allow them to participate together at the "Seconds Show."

New Business

- Scholarships: Russell did contact a number of academic institutions in our area and Sacramento State was especially enthusiastic. He talked a bit on the uniqueness of our scholarship - how we have taken the initiative to find schools, we will select the school that participates, the professor involved and we will juror the student work put forward for selection. This is a way to benefit an up and coming student who is committed to producing "art by fire." And, of course, another way to get our name out there into another section of our

community. This is still in the beginning stages so watch for more development on this down the road.

- SGAC Fall Plant Sale 2011, Oct 1 - 2 (Sat. and Sun.) 10AM - 4PM
We discussed the numbers and benefits to using the space. It was decided we would take a space and even though it wasn't decided how it would be used, we had to commit to it before the deadline and there was yet time to decide exactly how it would be used. Laurie Lee assured us it would be fine.

- Seconds Show, January 14 2012 (Sat.) 10AM - 4PM (new hours)
Discussion on the "Vote for Show Changes" and the results:
Our membership dues to SPG will go up for 2012 from \$20 to \$25/year.

The "Seconds Show" fee will go up by \$5 to \$70, which includes membership.

The "Seconds Show" will run from 10AM to 4PM, which is an increase of 2 hours.

There is a No Return of show payment after December, 1st, 2011. No memberships will be refunded.

Current 2011 members will have space priority until November 1st, 2011.

Russell commented that members must send in payment before he will send a floor plan in return to choose their space. Your space is not reserved from last year. So send in your payment ASAP so you will have the space you want. As of August 10th, 2011 we have 9 members signed up for the show. Mark wants to start advertising right away for the January sale - he mentioned that since SGAC was so close to midtown perhaps we could capitalize on that with the Second Saturday event of the same day. Laurie Lee thought that was possible but couldn't say yet for sure.

- 2012 Budget: Board is putting it together, and not only at the Board meeting; some it being done by electronic communication so it isn't necessary to meet for every little thing.

- Our next general meeting is at the Shepard Garden and Art Center, October 17th, 2011 7PM. It was discussed whether we still need to be members of SGAC. The numbers and benefits were talked about and everyone agreed it was still beneficial and we would stay.

Surface Decoration with Vince Pitelka Workshop - Laurie K

In June, Linnell Barnhart and I attended a weeklong workshop on surface decoration techniques with Vince Pitelka. It was held at Studio 540 in Nevada City and was hosted by René Sprattling and Brad Carter. Vince covered a lot of ground in five short days. He is an excellent teacher and I highly recommend his workshops if you find that you have an opportunity to attend one. We did everything from making bisque stamps to slip trailing and feathering to making our own custom ribs using a bench grinder and files. Vince has a book out called Studio Techniques and I think it is a must-have for all potters and clay workers. He is currently working on a second edition that will be out in a year or so.

FIELD TRIP to Berkeley, CA - Saturday, Nov. 5, 2011

We will meet at Leslie Ceramics at 11 AM. After shopping and exploring we will head over to the Berkeley Potters Guild at noon when they open to check out their renovated space. After that we will break for lunch at. Bring your own lunch or you can buy sandwiches there. After lunch the plan is to head over to the TRAX Gallery to see the current ceramics show there. Please set up your own carpools and we will not need a head count so no need to RSVP
Addresses are: Leslie Ceramics 1212 San Pablo Ave Berkeley, CA 94706 for directions go to <http://leslieceramics.com>
The Berkeley Potters Guild 731 Jones St Berkeley, CA 94710
For directions go to <http://www.berkeleypotters.com>
TRAX Gallery 1812 Fifth Street Berkeley, CA 94710
For directions go to <http://traxgallery.com>

Arts Events

ONGOING - Valley Sculptor Artists 14th Annual Sculpture

Membership Show:

Hosted by Clare Bailey, at her fabulous "Gallery Twenty-One-Ten" Sacramento Art Complex 2110 K Street, Sacramento, CA 95816
Exhibition: September 6th - September 29th 2011

1st Annual Ruth Rippon Alumni Show

September 16 - October 29, 2011
Alpha Fired Arts Gallery
4675 Aldona Lane Sacramento, CA 95841
<http://www.alphafiredarts.com>

Leslie Ceramics Open House Ceramic Festival

Saturday, October 22, 2011
7:30 - 4:30 Free Admission
1212 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley, CA 94706
Hosted by Leslie Ceramics and Industrial Minerals Co.
Demonstrations, Exhibits, Displays and a RAFFLE! Sandy Simon, Arthur Gonzalez, Eric Struck, and much more! For more info <http://leslieceramics.com/>

CALL FOR ENTRIES

William Jessup University in Rocklin, CA, seeks entries to its first National Juried Exhibition. Nov. 11-Dec 16, 2011, in the university library. Juror: Natalie Nelson, director/curator of the Pence Gallery, Davis, CA. \$500 Best of Show; other awards vary by number of entries. Deadline for online entries, October 7, 2011. Open to all original fine art, all media. \$25 for up to 5 entries. Complete prospectus and online entry at www.jessup.edu/library/artshow. Direct questions to Beth Rohlfs at wjuartshow@gmail.com.

2011 Placer Arts 360 Juried Membership Show at Gallery 808 in The Arts Building.

All members of PlacerArts (not limited to Placer County residents) are invited to submit up to three pieces of 2-D or 3-D work. If you are not a member, you can join on the artwork delivery day or go to www.PlacerArts.org/membership beforehand. There will be a 36" x 36" x 36" size maximum - ALL ARTWORK MUST BE ORIGINAL. Entry fees are non-refundable: \$35/ 3 pcs., \$25/ 2 pcs., \$15/ 1 pc. Cash prizes will be awarded in several categories: Best of Show - \$300, Second Place - \$150, Third Place - \$75, Honorable Mention - \$50.

A team of two jurors, J. Randall Smith, Visual Artist, and Clare Bailey, owner of Gallery 2110 and the Sacramento Art Complex will jury the show.

All artwork will be due to the gallery on Friday, September 30 from 10 - 5 pm or Saturday, October 1 from 12 - 4 pm.

ENTRY FORM - Go to PlacerArts.org and click on Call to Artists-Juried Show posting. QUESTIONS - (530) 885-5670 or office@placerarts.org.

FOR SALE

From Donna Ward: I have a Shippo Master Potter's wheel that has been used most gently about three times. I also have some pretty glorious work surfaces, an electric kiln on castors that can be moved about the studio. A slab roller with masonite incrementals, I have many chemicals and minerals for glaze making in sturdy plastic containers. A working and wondrous studio for sale. I have bookshelves, I have tools and stamps and molds. I have four ware carts with castors. I have sturdy shelves. I have an impressive collection of Ceramics and Pottery Making magazine issues. I have a lovely gram scale. Raku kiln, a Ward burner.....gloves, tongs, etc. My phone number is: 530 878 7196. my email is: meandmrc@earthlink.net

Donna Ward
meandmrc@earthlink.net

From Margo Scarpulla: I have some kiln shelves: 18x18 and 12x24, one inch thick for sale. \$10 each.

Contact: stormymargo@yahoo.com or call 707-422-2681

A Visit With Robin Hopper - Laurie Kneppel

This past August I was fortunate to be able to visit with master potter Robin Hopper at his 'Chosin Pottery gallery about half an hour outside of Victoria, British Columbia. Robin and his wife, Judi Dyelle live and work in an historic farmhouse on Metchosin Rd. nestled amongst a stand of old growth fir trees. Their garden is almost as famous amongst gardening enthusiasts as the pottery is among potters. I was sorry to find that Robin has stopped making his line of functional pottery as I have been collecting it piece by piece each time I visit. He said that when they announced they were stopping production that the remaining pieces just flew out of the shop! Fortunately, I have a pretty good collection, but that's it, no more where that came from! The decision was made when their long-time studio assistant had to quit due to health reasons and they discovered that it was impossible to do both the production line as well as the one of a kind art pieces.

I have visited 'Chosin Pottery several times over the past ten years. Usually we see Judi Dyelle in the Gallery and my mom is a great admirer and collector of her delicate pierced porcelain pots, but this time she was out and I was able to spend my whole visit with Robin Hopper. The main topic of discussion was his current work where he is painting with glaze and underglaze on a paper-thin porcelain substrate. He wrote an article about it in the January 19, 2011 edition of Ceramic Arts Daily - <http://ceramicartsdaily.org/pottery-making-techniques/ceramic-decorating-techniques/ceramic-substrates-as-canvas-a-high-tech-ceramic-material-gets-artsy/> and this is definitely worth reading, and viewing the accompanying video. I have noticed over the years that a lot of potters come from a painting background. In fact, one of the first things I found when I took my first ceramics course at CSUS back in the 70's was that I was more interested in the painting of the surface than I was in throwing the forms. Probably why I was not a particularly good "thrower" back in those days. I couldn't wait to get to painting with slips on the surfaces. The porcelain substrates that Robin uses were something he found about twenty years ago. These paper thin sheets of porcelain have been fired to over cone 10 and they are used in manufacturing printed circuit boards where they will be used in high temperature applications and regular boards would warp. The ones we get to use are their "seconds" which have slight imperfections like maybe a tiny warp on an edge. Robin asked the manufacturer what they did with their "seconds" and he was told they were "landfill", so Robin said "Please send me some of your landfill!" He has been experimenting with this "landfill" ever since, with a lot of that being done in recent years. In fact, Robin is working on a revised edition of his book "Making Marks" that will include a chapter on this porcelain substrate that should be out next year sometime. I was particularly impressed with the paintings that were mounted in a three sided frame and backlit. The translucency is another aspect that can be exploited using light. He showed me one experiment that was done with just white glaze and you couldn't really see the image until it was lit from behind. Very cool! The porcelain sheets come in various sizes, but most seemed to be either 5" x 7" or 8" x 10". It literally is paper-thin, but very strong as demonstrated when Robin whacked one of the experiments on the tabletop and it didn't break. Naturally I forgot my iPhone the day we went to Victoria, so I have no photos of any of this. Hopefully, I will make it up to NCECA in Seattle next year and run into Robin again. This time I will have my camera! In the meantime you can see the work of Robin Hopper and Judi Dyelle on their very nice website: <http://www.chosinpottery.ca>

Robin Hopper - A Short Biography

Robin Hopper is a man of many parts, mostly worn out, rusty or dysfunctional, due to a lifetime of excesses! He started working with clay at the age of three and is still doing it 66 years later. His lengthy, peripatetic career as a mudpusher has included side trips into work-

ing as a Professional Actor, Stage Designer, Property Maker, Stage Manager, Stage Carpenter, Grocer, Greengrocer, Musician, Teapot and Winebottle Player, Bugler, European Travel Guide, Founder of Several Clay/Art/Craft Organizations, Alchemist, Geologist, Ceramic Historian, Educator, Author, Garden Designer, Lecturer on Japanese Garden Design, Laborer and Star of Stage, Screen and Potter's Wheel! In the immortal words of his wife, partner and Potter par Excellence, Judi Dyelle, Robin is a legend in his own mind!

Robin Hopper is an internationally known potter, teacher, author, consultant, arts activist and garden designer. He has taught over 175 workshops throughout Canada, England, U.S.A., Australia, New Zealand, China, Korea, Japan and Israel. His ceramic work is in public, corporate and private collections throughout the world. He was born in England in 1939, and trained there at Croydon College of Art (1956-1961). He has developed studios in both England and Canada, where he immigrated in 1968. After two years teaching in Toronto at Central Technical School, he set up and headed the Ceramics and Glass Department at Georgian College, Barrie, Ontario. In 1972 he resigned from teaching to devote full energies to his work in ceramics. 1977 included relocation to Victoria, B.C., Canada, and becoming the first recipient of the Bronfman Award, Canada's most prestigious annual award in the crafts. He is the author of six books, "THE CERAMIC SPECTRUM" (1984), "FUNCTIONAL POTTERY" (1986), "STAYIN' ALIVE: Survival Tactics for the Visual Artist" (2003), and "MAKING MARKS; Discovering the Ceramic Surface", published in October 2004. His autobiographical journey, "ROBIN HOPPER CERAMICS: A Lifetime of Works, Ideas and Teachings", was published in December 2006. He edited and revised a new, updated edition of the late Daniel Rhodes' "CLAY AND GLAZES FOR THE POTTER", published in November 2000. He has written many articles in most major international ceramics publications and been featured in 13 educational videos produced by Tara Productions, Canada. He is the Founding President Emeritus of the Metchosin International Summer School of the Arts, Victoria, B.C. Canada and former Vice-Chair of the British Columbia Arts Council.

A creative clayworker since the age of three and a passionate gardener for nearly 50 years, his 2.5 acre ANGLOJAPANADIAN garden at 'Chosin Pottery, Metchosin has been featured in many books, magazines and television programs.

A Field trip to N2 Pottery by Mark Pratton

The field trip to N2 pottery was great for all that attended. As it turns out the place is just a little tricky to find if you have never been there. It was one of those situations that at the last minute I turned right into the last option for a parking lot and there it was. Once inside the place was very well stocked and a very nice shop indeed. Patty Bailey the store manager introduced herself almost as soon as we walked in. I thought to myself "do I look like a Sacramento Potters group member" or what? She offered us a place to sit down and some cold beverages. The atmosphere was great. The shop overlooks the town sort of. Auburn is defiantly in the foot hills and location of this shop is nice. While we were there, there was a steady stream of customers. Many of the patrons were teachers and as you could imagine artist. Also N2 pottery is the type of shop that you could purchase mold cast bisque ware, glaze it and have it fired there.

We had a long talk about planning an event for her shop. We discussed having an evening work shop there. That event would include having patrons work with clay slabs. They could forum or slump mold the slabs of clay. Then the patrons could come back once the wares were bisque fired and glazed them to be re-fired. She does not fire pottery at that shop. It's transported to a different location for that process.

After socializing for about an hour or so Patty was nice enough to provide us all BBQ lunch. The food was great and the event was fantastic. N2 pottery had tools I had not seen at other shops so I took advantage of that and pick up a few. Also N2 pottery has a very large selection of factory glazes. As it turns out I formulate all my own glazes so the special tools caught my attention.

If you are ever in that area, please, stop in and tell Patty you are a member of the Sacramento Potters Group: Northern California Art by Fire and you'll be well received.

And Sharon Rizzatto added:

A small gathering of Sac Potters attended the N2 Pottery field trip. We were served freshly grilled hamburgers with all the fixin's. We toured the shop, it is nicely supplied with a variety of tools, clays and glazes. Also special orders can be obtained. Our hostess Patty Bailey was excited with the opportunity to link and share resources. We brain stormed a future event to engage the local community. One of the ideas was a series of demonstrations on a Saturday. The idea of linking N2 pottery with Allied Ceramic Art Institute as a potential beginning class location for those non clay savvy recruits.

In addition many ideas floated on linking N2 Pottery with Sac Potters group. Web sites could be linked, Sac Potter's group posters and business cards could be displayed at both N2 pottery and potentially ACAI. This might serve to boost membership and provide a forum isolated clients to connect with local fire artisans.

Greedy - by Don Yost

A small cup which had various thickness of clay on the base, and when held up to the light pictured a geisha triggered a lifelong fascination with unusual ceramics. In college I constructed an impossible mug, which challenges the user to drink, though riddled with holes and later worked with different musical ceramics including udus, horns and ocarinas.



istence. I promised the guide to make one for his daughter, not fully understanding the technical difficulties involved. However, after many attempts, I was able to construct a reasonable version which emptied in a satisfying manner.

After completing this project, I wondered if a greedy cup could be made without the ugly dome or statue in the middle. I made many prototypes, some with double handles, some with strange bulges, some with hollow walls, or hidden bases.



Eventually I developed a version which looks very much like an ordinary cup with the siphon hidden within the handle. I was able to hide the drain hole by making a hollow foot, but this slowed the drain, and I finally settled on just a straight forward hole in the base. What I now have is a normal looking cup which can be used as a normal cup, as long as it is not filled to the rim. If it is filled, the entire contents are emptied out the hole in the bottom. As far as I can tell, no other cup like this exists, though I later learned the Jolly Jug from England bears some similarities. Unfortunately, in a country where spilling hot coffee in your lap can result in a major lawsuit, the commercial value of my invention is questionable. Nevertheless, the challenge and satisfaction of solving a difficult design problem made the project well worth the effort.

Editor's Note: If you have an article that might be of interest to your fellow clay-workers, please send it to rockyraku@yahoo.com or snail mail it to: Laurie Kneppel 6 El Morro Ct. Sacramento, CA 95831. Deadline for the November/December newsletter will be November 20th. I have a Mac and about the only type of file I cannot open is a Microsoft Publisher (.pub) file. Photos can be TIFF, JPEG or EPS. I use Adobe Photoshop to edit photos and the newsletter itself is produced using Adobe InDesign.



While on a trip to Greece, I was introduced to the Pythagoras cup, a small cup with a narrow dome in the middle. When the cup is filled moderately, it acts like any normal cup, but fill it to the brim, and it empties the entire contents into your lap. Basically, as the liquid gets closer to the lip it fills the dome through a small hole in the base of the dome, and then drains into a straw built into the dome. This forms a siphon and the entire contents drain out the straw which opens to the base of the cup. I built one, but found it clumsy looking.

Later, on a trip to Viet Nam, I was shown a small cup with a statue in the middle, called the Hoi An Confucius cup. I asked if it was similar to the Pythagoras cup, and the owner's eyes brightened insisting on taking it from the case and demonstrating its action. According to web comments on this cup, it is very old and the only one in ex-

Sacramento Potters Group

P.O. Box 580395

Elk Grove, CA 95758

S
E
C
O
N
D
S



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Membership in the Sacramento Potters Group is from January through December 31. Dues are not pro-rated for a partial year membership. It is open to all clay, metal and hot-glass workers, no commercial slip-cast made ceramics. To be included on the printed roster please send in your membership form and money by March 15th. To become a member and to be listed on the SPG Web site, please complete, make your \$25.00 check payable to SPG and mail to:

SACRAMENTO POTTERS GROUP - Northern California Art by Fire, P.O. Box 580395 Elk Grove, CA 95758

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

TELEPHONE _____ E-MAIL _____

WEB SITE ADDRESS _____ MEDIUM _____

RESALE # (if you are going to do an SPG show) _____

DO YOU WANT TO BE LISTED ON THE SPG WEB SITE (IT IS FREE) ___(YES) ___(NO)

If you want a picture added, please send it in jpeg format to Genelle Dwyer, gwindwyer@juno.com

I WOULD PREFER THE NEWSLETTER TO BE DELIVERED BY: _____MAIL, or _____EMAIL, or _____BOTH

About the Sacramento Potters Group

The SPG was founded in 1976 by a group of like-minded potters and clay artists as a means to get together and share ideas, stories and techniques and just plain socialize with other "clay people".

Membership is open to artists who create their work by fire. We have clay, glass and metal artists as members. The only restriction is that we do not

allow "paint your own pottery" in the group. Sorry! But there are other groups for that! SPG started out as a group of potters but quickly grew to include clay sculptors as well as glass and metal artists. **Shows** - SPG currently sponsors two members' shows per year - the Seconds Sale which is every January on the second Saturday, and the June Pot Sale which takes place on the third Saturday in June.

The **SECOND SALE** is held on the 2nd **Saturday** of the New Year, **January 14, 2012**, from 10 AM – 4 PM. This will be our 28th year and the 4th year at the **Shepard Garden & Arts Center, 3330 McKinley Blvd., Sacramento**. Our customers know the Second Sale is the 2nd Saturday in January, but we must use our mailing lists to remind them. Brush the dust from those artistic goofs, less than perfect pieces and pots you are sick of dragging off to shows and start the New Year with an uncluttered studio and some money in your pocket.

THE SECONDS SALE THE SACRAMENTO POTTERS GROUP: NORTHERN CALIFORNIA ART by FIRE

DATE: January 14, 2012

HOURS: 10:00am – 3:00pm. This is one hour longer than in the past.

SET-UP TIMES Friday 3pm – 6pm and Saturday 7:00am – 9:30am

LOCATION: Shepard Garden and Art Center, 3330 McKinley Blvd., Sacramento, CA

COST: **\$70.00 and it includes membership dues.** Make check payable to:
Sacramento Potters Group: Northern California Art by Fire

BOOTHS: First Come, First Choice. Due to the growing popularity of this sale, one 3'x6' table and chair will be provided for each space. **2011 Current Members will have priority over non-members until November 1, 2012. After that date non-members and new members will be allowed to pick their booth space.**

ETC: Bring a lunch, no food is available. Please park away from the center so customers can park nearby. After December 1, 2011 no refunds will be allowed for the show – No memberships will be refunded.

APPLY: Fill out the bottom of this page, cut it off and send it with your check to: (If you are not a current member a web-site or photos of your work must accompany this application)

Sacramento Potters Group: Northern California Art by Fire
Seconds Sale
PO Box 580395
Elk Grove, CA 95758
916-801-8237

POSTCARDS WILL BRING CUSTOMERS!!!!!!!!!!!!!! **HOW MANY** _____
I WILL HELP WITH CLEAN UP _____

NAME _____ **PHONE** _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ **STATE** _____ **ZIP** _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

WEB-SITE ADDRESS _____

RESALE NUMBER REQUIRED _____

I, the undersigned, hereby agree and shall defend, indemnify and hold harmless The Shepard Garden and Arts Center, The City of Sacramento, and the Sacramento Potters Group, and/or their officers, agents, employees, or volunteers, from any liability for damage or claims of damage of property and/or personal injury, including death, which may arise from or be in any way connected with my participation in the Sacramento Potters Group Show.

SIGNED _____ **DATE** _____

Sacramento Potters Group Northern California Art by Fire

P. O. Box. 580395
Elk Grove, CA 95758

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Membership in the Sacramento Potters Group is from January 1st through December 31st; fees are not pro-rated for partial year membership. The club is open to all clay and hot-glass workers, no commercial slip cast made ceramics.

If you would like to become a member of the SPG, receive the bi-monthly "Seconds" newsletter, and have first priority at the Annual SPG Shows: Fill out this form and send the completed form along with a \$25 check made out to:

Sacramento Potters Group:
Northern California Art by Fire
P. O. Box 580395
Elk Grove, CA 95758

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ CELL PHONE _____

E-MAIL _____

WEB SITE ADDRESS _____

California State Tax #(if any) _____

Medium/style of work: _____

Receive "SECONDS" Newsletter: _____ email _____ USPS _____ both

Please contact Genelle Dwyer at gwindwyer@juno.com for inclusion on our web site with a short bio and photo of your work