

WINTER 2010

Annual Elections Meeting

The Clay Connection’s Annual Elections Meeting was held on November 15th. Once again, Dana opened her lovely home to us. Sixteen members were in attendance and six members sent proxy votes making for a quorum. The slate of candidates was approved by a unanimous vote.

The slate of candidates:

- President — Marianne Cordyack
- VP Programs — Dana Lehrer Danze
- VP Membership — Cory Helms
- Secretary — Laurie Erdman
- Treasurer — Curtis Haymore

At large Board members: Dick White (database coordinator); Graciela Testa Lynt (newsletter editor); Twila Johnson (email coordinator) and Jim Dunning (webmaster).

Our heartfelt thanks to outgoing secretary Aileen Redding and to Barb Ok-sanen who is stepping down as VP for membership. Both Aileen and Barb served the Board for many years and will be missed! Thank you!

We had a wonderful supper of take-out Chinese from the Danze’s “favorite Chinese place” (many thanks to Dave Danze for picking up our meal!). To round out the evening, Curtis showed us photos of potters at work taken during his recent trip to Morocco and spoke about his unique experience.

Virginia Ainslie won the \$200 door prize to attend a clay workshop or conference of her preference. Gini will be taking private lessons with Tom Turner in Asheville.



Prelude to the 2011 Clay Conference in Front Royal

Better mark your calendars early to make sure you don’t make other plans for the weekend of September 29 to October 2 when the 2011 Clay Conference will be held at the 4-H Center in Front Royal, Virginia.

Contents

Annual Elections Meeting.....	1
Prelude to the 2011 Clay Conference in Front Royal.....	1
A Major Change in Clay Connection Sales Events.....	2
DVD Library.....	3
Empty Bowls.....	3
Calendar of Upcoming Events.....	3
More Tidbits from the John Britt Workshop.....	4
Color Trends for 2011.....	5
Volunteer Opportunities.....	6
Member News and Achievements.....	6
Did you know that.....	7
Studio Tips and Shortcuts.....	8
Workshop Reviews.....	9
Upcoming Workshops & Events.....	10
Classified Ads.....	11
From the President.....	12



Posey Bacopolus Pitcher

Main presenters will be Hayne Bayless (handbuilt, thrown and extruded forms), Posey Bacopolus (altered thrown forms and majolica decoration), and Susan Halls (clay animals). The Friday workshop presenters include Tracie Griffith Tso, Dana Lehrer Danze, Michael Hough, Joyce Michaud, Guy Zoller, Mike Swauger, Brett Thomas, Colleen O'Sullivan, Jayne Shatz, John Jensen, and Marianne Cordyack. Additional information will be forthcoming via a flyer, emails, and this newsletter.

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A Major Change in Clay Connection Sales Events

As in past years, the Clay Connection's 2010 Holiday Sale was held at the Vienna Community Center on the first Saturday in December. The sale was a success for most participating potters; however, the organization lost over \$500 because there weren't enough participants to cover all the costs involved (renting the venue, printing and mailing post-cards, and so on).

This outcome, coupled with the difficulties we have been having in getting members to volunteer to organize these sales events, led the Board to a lengthy discussion of the merits of organizing sales in general and this sale in particular. When the Clay Connection first started organizing this event there weren't as many sales that our members could participate in. Now, our members have many shows at which to sell their wares and, more importantly, our customers have many more options in the DC area to purchase hand-crafted items during the Holiday season. Another, and more important point made during the discussion, refers to the Clay Connection's mission as a nonprofit, educational organization rather than a sales-organizing group.

As a result, the Board has decided to cancel the Fall Holiday sale in the future. Instead, we are planning a series of workshops to teach members how to market their wares. In addition to Jayne Shatz's workshop held last October (see workshop descriptions below), we will be holding a workshop in March on how to sell pottery at shows, and are planning other workshops on similar topics

This decision notwithstanding, we will hold the Mother's Day Spring Sale at John Calvin Presbyterian Church in Annandale next spring. The date for this event is April 30, 2011. The Board thinks that given the relatively high level of member participation in this show last year, it is worthwhile to give it another try. If we can establish ourselves in this new venue; if members step up to volunteer to organize the event; and if the Clay Connection is able to cover its expenses, we will continue to hold this event in the future.

Your comments and suggestions are welcome. We will begin a discussion on this topic on the Clay Connection's Facebook page (go to www.facebook.com and type in "The Clay Connection" in the search bar). You can also send your comments to potters@theclayconnection.org or to graciela@glyntpottery.com (subject line: future sales events). We will share your comments with our community in an effort to start a fruitful discussion.

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DVD Library

The Clay Connection had an extensive library of pottery videos that have now been transferred to DVD. We are in the process of organizing the library and will soon post a list of available DVDs on the Clay Connection's website. Members will be able to borrow the DVDs through the mail (members will have to pay for postage to and from; the Clay Connection will provide appropriate envelopes). The DVDs will also be available for borrowing at Clay Connection events such as monthly programs and Board meetings.

Be on the lookout for an email announcing that the list of available DVDs has been posted on the website.

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Empty Bowls

Once again, we will be donating bowls made by our members to The Giving Circle Hope. This organization will hold an Empty Bowls supper and donate the funds raised to Food for Others, a group that works with the homeless in our area. This is a very worthy cause that we should all be very proud of supporting. However, this event is in trouble for lack of volunteers. In the past couple of years, 70-80% of the bowls donated came from Board members.

We need a volunteer to organize the collection of the bowls and we need you to pledge to donate bowls. Please send an email to potters@theclayconnection.org (subject line: empty bowls donation) and let us know how many bowls you will be donating.

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Calendar of Upcoming Events

❖ **Saturday, March 5, 2011 ~ ~ How to Sell Your Pottery at Shows ~ ~ 1:30-3:30pm**

Experienced Clay Connection artists will give tips on what to pack, how to set up your area, pricing, display, equipment, marketing, taking payments, creating a mailing list, and all the fine points of actually selling your pottery. Inexperienced sellers who may want to participate in the Clay Connection's Spring Sale (to be held on April 30th, 2011) will benefit most from this workshop. However, all members are welcome to attend and workshop attendance does not mean that you must participate in the spring sale.

Questions? Call Dana at 703-525-9692

Location: Packard Center. Annandale, Virginia.

Cost: Free to Clay Connection members.

❖ **Sunday April 10, 2011 ~ ~ Underglaze Workshop with Donna Downing ~ ~ 1:00 - 3:00**

Interested in surface decoration? Underglazes offer unlimited possibilities for high fire as well as low. Come with a few small bisque pieces, design ideas, brushes and under-

glazes if you have them, for this hands-on workshop. Space is limited to eight participants.

Location: Creative Clay Studios

RSVP: Dana Lehrer Danze at danaclay8@msn.com. Questions? Call Dana at 703-525-9692.

Cost: Free to Clay Connection members

❖ **Saturday, April 30, 2011 ~ ~ Mother's Day Spring Sale**

The Clay Connection will organize a spring sale on the weekend before Mother's Day. The event will be held at John Calvin Presbyterian Church in Annandale. If you've got great ideas for organizing this event, please contact our volunteer coordinator, Ann Granger, at AnnThePotter@gmail.com or 703-470-3038. More information will be forthcoming.

❖ **Saturday & Sunday, June 4 – 5, 2011 ~ ~ Salt Firing with Marianne Cordyack**

Learn all about the special firing technique and beautiful surfaces created by salt firing. Marianne will provide lots of glazes and slips for you to use. Participants can bring 15 - 18 bisqued pots (no large bowls or plates, please). Very tiny pots will not be counted in your total. Preferred clay selection will be shared after registration. Participants will glaze and decorate their bisque fired pots, then load the kiln on Saturday. Everyone will come back Sunday to fire the kiln and add salt. Unloading will be Tuesday, June 7 in the evening. This workshop is limited to 8 participants.

RSVP: Marianne Cordyack at marianne@cordyack.com. Questions? Call Marianne at 703-860-1476

Location: Shannondale, West Virginia (east of Charles Town, less than an hour from Reston)

Cost: \$185

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*More Tidbits from the John Britt Workshop*

Here are some random tidbits from the notes I took during John Britt's fantastic workshop last fall.



Most kilns go up at a rate of about 200 degrees per hour.

- ❖ Pots need to absorb the heat. This requires time. Slowing down the firing schedule helps. Also, pay attention to the mass of the work. Heat is absorbed differently depending on the thickness of the pieces.
- ❖ Water turns into steam at 212 degrees. This creates pressure and can cause pots to blow up. So, go up slowly between 70-428 degrees to make sure that all water is out.
- ❖ It's more difficult for water to get out of clays that don't have grog, so these need slower firing.
- ❖ Glazing adds water to the pot. Firing too quickly can cause crawling. Don't put glazed pots in the kiln wet.
- ❖ Gasses are driven off between 1292 and 1700 degrees. Go slowly through this stage to make sure that all gasses are driven off and avoid pinholes.

- ❖ When stacking the kiln, leave space for adequate airflow. Don't pack the shelves all the way to the walls of the kiln; leave 3 to 4 inches around the stack. Put large pieces on the bottom shelf.
- ❖ To improve glazes that dust off in the green state, add 2% bentonite.
- ❖ Don't allow the glaze to go bone dry before putting on a second coat.

Here is a Cone 6 Reduction Shino Recipe that we tried at the workshop.

Application should be thin to medium (does not work well when applied thickly). Shinos are temperamental. This one needs strong reduction and is more effective on a dark iron body. It is rather bland on white stoneware. It is capable of carbon trapping. It also crazes.

|                   |     |
|-------------------|-----|
| Nepheline Syenite | 40% |
| Spodumene         | 30% |
| Soda Ash          | 8%  |
| Ball Clay         | 17% |
| EPK               | 5%  |

~ ~by Graciela Testa Lynt

## ~~~~~ Color Trends for 2011

Potters don't change their palettes to fit the season, but it's useful to know what the trends are. It may be that you already have a glaze that fits current trends and then it's time to emphasize it, or you could tweak a glaze to get closer to what's in style, or even use underglazes in the popular colors. If nothing else, you can keep these trends in mind when setting up your displays and use them in your accessories.

So... according to one blog (<http://yourhomeonlybetter.com/color-trends-for-2011/>), inspiration for 2011 comes from...:



**The Farm:** Think cow prints, textured hay and burlap, tea-stained colors, the vibrant colors of fruits and vegetables (peas, corn, carrots...). Whites will become milkier, and you'll see more butter yellow and creams. And green will still be hot. Earthy soil will replace the cooler gray tones as the strong neutral.

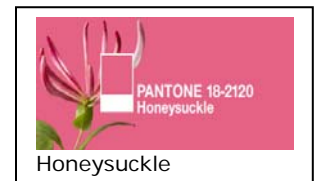
**Order:** Look for minimalistic, geometric, stacking, the use of outlining, bright stripes and polka dots. Primary colors are coming back, but look for the use of monochrome color schemes to continue. Black and white with pops of color will be in.

**Escape:** A translucent, soft feeling. Lots of frosted, pearl and satin finishes. Pink becomes the new red in this trend.

**Tribe:** Rich orange and berry hues paired with spicy browns and bronze metallic. Tribal accents will be key elements in this trend.

Another website (<http://www.squidoo.com/ColorTrends2011>) reports that:

- ❖ Pantone's Color of the Year for 2011 is Honeysuckle (Pantone 18-2120).
- ❖ ICI Dulux 2011 Color of the Year is Citrus Yellow.
- ❖ Benjamin Moore's Color of the Year for 2011 is Vintage Wine.



~ ~by Graciela Testa Lynt

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## Volunteer Opportunities

**PR/Marketing** ~ ~ The Clay Connection needs volunteers to assist with marketing and publicizing our events. This involves maintaining the media contacts mailing list, writing and sending out press releases, contacting media representatives to ensure that our events are properly publicized, making and posting signs, etc.

**Hospitality** ~ ~ Volunteers purchase and set up refreshments for events and act as hosts.

**Sales** ~ ~ Volunteers are needed to help organize the Mother's Day Spring Sale in Annandale. One PR/Marketing volunteer and one hospitality volunteer would also participate in the Sales Committee.

**High School Competition** ~ ~ We have a chairperson for this committee. We need a couple of volunteers to assist her.

**Empty Bowls Liaison** ~ ~ Volunteers are needed to serve as liaison with the Giving Circle of Hope. Responsibilities include organizing bowl-a-thons, obtaining commitments from members willing to donate bowls, establishing drop-off points for the bowls, etc.

\*\*\*\*NOTE\*\*\*\* We have easy-to-use guidelines for all of these volunteer jobs so you will not have to spend a lot of time figuring out how to carry out your duties. We are hoping to have 2 or 3 volunteers for each position so that the work does not all fall on one person.

If you can help in any of these areas, please contact Ann Granger, Clay Connection Volunteer Coordinator, at [AnnThePotter@gmail.com](mailto:AnnThePotter@gmail.com) or 703-470-3038.

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## Member News and Achievements

Send your news and other information to Grace Lynt at [graciela@glyntpottery.com](mailto:graciela@glyntpottery.com). Information must be submitted by the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month that the newsletter is published; that is, March, June, September, and December.

- ❖ **Laurie Erdman** will have an article appearing in the winter 2011 issue of *Studio Potter* magazine. The issue is about Sustenance and Laurie's article is titled "Throw, Pray, Heal." You can order Studio Potter at [www.studiopotter.org](http://www.studiopotter.org)
- ❖ **Grace and Chris Lynt** welcomed 2 granddaughters this year: Isabel Josefina Gabor was born in February to daughter Andrea and husband Erin Gabor; and Cassandra Joy Bevil was born in October to daughter Greta and husband Jason Bevil.

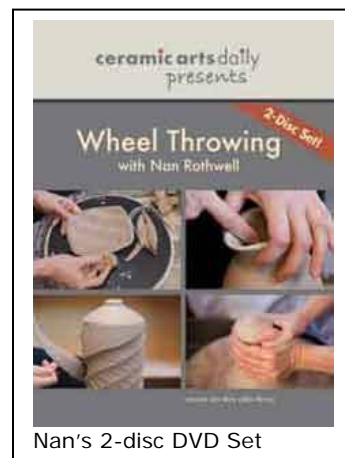
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Did you know that...

- ❖ **Nan Rothwell** has a new teaching DVD that is being published by Ceramic Arts Daily (<http://ceramicartsdaily.org/bookstore/wheel-throwing-with-nan-rothwell/>). It is also available through Nan's website at www.NanRothwellPottery.com. No matter what your skill level, you're sure to pick up many techniques as she demonstrates everything from basic cylinder and bowl making to a series of unique projects. This is a 2-disc set.
- ❖ **Jayne Shatz** has a new video on YouTube that offers instructions on large scale vessel making "Traditional Japanese Throwing Technique Using a Contemporary Blowtorch." The link to the video is <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1SF4qicALKw>. This is a short version of her DVD which is ready for sale. Contact Jayne for more information at jesclay@aol.com.
- ❖ **The Lee Art Center** provides a slide service to all area artists interested in having photographic images made of their work. Greg Staley, a professional photographer, is available once a month, usually the third Wednesday of each month, to take slides of your work. Two- and three-dimensional works are eligible.

The cost is \$15 per shot for 3 digital files one (1) tiff file, a 72 dpi jpeg (suitable for e-mail or web) and a 300 dpi jpeg (suitable for print) file on a CD. For an additional fee, three (3) slides will be provided upon request. Work must be dropped off between 9:30 and 10 am on the day of the shoot and picked up between 4 and 5 pm on the same day. Artists must fill out the sign up form and provide a check made out to Greg Staley for the full amount.

Please contact Steve Munoz at 703-228-0560 or smunoz@arlingtonva.us for more information. Or visit <http://www.arlingtonarts.org/venues/lee-arts-center.aspx> and fill out the Slide Services Form.

Dates for 2011 are: January 21, February 18, March 18, April 15, May 20, June 17, and July 15.
- ❖ **Audrey Moore RECenter**, at Wakefield Park, is seeking dynamic individuals to teach pottery to youths. Current availability includes Mondays at 2:30 and 4:00, Tuesdays at 4:00 pm, and Fridays at 4:00 and 5:30 for 6-12 year olds. Most classes are 85 minutes long, and run for 10 weeks. FCPA instructors are paid on a sliding scale, though most new instructors will make ~\$18/hr. Instructors may also utilize Audrey Moore for free, which includes the gym membership and use of the pool/sauna during the time of employment. Interested persons should contact Shane Stager at shane.stager@fairfaxcounty.gov or 703-321-7081.
- ❖ **Clay Connection Board Meetings are open** to all members. Meetings are held the second Wednesday of every month at the Packard Center from 10am to noon. For more information, contact marianne@cordyack.com





Studio Tips and Shortcuts

Do you have a great time-saving tip, shortcut or interesting way of doing things? Please send your studio tip to the editor to share with the group. Have you tried any studio tips that have appeared in *The Cracked Pot*? Did it work for you? Are you using the new technique all the time? Or maybe you tried a studio tip and it didn't work out so well. Please let us know so we can share this feedback with other potters.

- ❖ A Damp Area for your pots: See video at http://www.ehow.co.uk/video_2376254_pottery-studio-damp-area-tips.html
- ❖ Magic Water and Magic Mud recipes from Lakeside Pottery ~ ~ www.lakesidepottery.com .

Magic Water:

- 1 gallon of water
- 3 table spoons of liquid sodium silicate
- 1 1/2 teaspoons of soda ash

Magic Mud (Paper Clay):

- Chop up 1/4 to 1/3 of a cup of either paper napkin, toilet paper, or paper towel
- Add 3/4 to 2/3 of a cup of bone dry clay hammered into small pieces, or powdered. It is better to use the same clay for both, magic mud and your actual project.
- Soak over night in Magic Water poured one inch above clay and paper mixture.
- Blend in electric blender
- Pour off excess water

When to use Magic Water: Magic water is used when the bond between two pieces of clay is a suspect for cracking during drying or bisque firing. Cracks can occur when one piece of clay dries faster than the other (e.g., a mug handle); or when one clay piece is applied to another piece that is already a dryer leather-hard (e.g., when waiting is required for a thrown pot to harden before applying hand-built piece).

When to use Magic Mud / Paper Clay: Same as above with more extreme cases. It enables the joining process to be less critical and therefore one can build more spontaneously as well as build wet clay on dryer clay. Stress cracks during drying reduce dramatically. It can also be used to connect broken bone-dry pots / sculptures. Sometimes it works fixing broken bisqued pots (needs to be re-bisqued after applying magic mud). When fixing broken bone-dry or bisqued pot, always apply more magic mud / magic slip than needed and build the layers slowly allowing the layers to dry in between applications. The excess slip can be filed down after the bisque firing.

How do Magic Water and Magic Mud work: Sodium in the soda ash and the sodium silicate is a very powerful flux. The silica in the sodium silicate adds some glass-former. The water is to dissolve the soda ash (which is soluble) and therefore travels a little way into the wet clay. The sodium silicate is sticky and dries really hard and faster than the clay does. The end result is that the Magic Water makes a sticky layer of almost-glaze that soaks into the surrounding clay and dries hard. Thus, cracks are prevented in the drying and the bond is stronger after firing. In addition to the reasons mention for Magic Water, the paper fiber in Magic Mud will bond the two pieces of clay better and resist stress more effectively during the clay drying / shrinking process (has no effect during firing).

- ❖ **Studio Wiring Checks:** Studio wiring should be checked every 3-6 months to make sure that all's well. Look for the following problems: discoloration, burnt wiring or insulation, and heat. Discoloration of outlet housings or in your main electrical box is an indication that the wiring is overheating. Burn marks in outlets and around wiring and electrical boxes are even more indicative that you have a very serious problem. Even before discoloration and actual scorching occur, you may be able to detect wiring, plugs, outlets, and kiln cables overheating. All these should remain at room temperature even at their heaviest use. If there is any discernible warmth, then the wiring is not working correctly and has become a serious fire hazard. From:
http://pottery.about.com/od/safetyinceramics/tp/check_wiring.htm

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Workshop Reviews



We invite all readers to send in their reviews of workshops and/or classes that they have attended. You can also send the basic information about the workshop together with your impressions and recommendations, and let the newsletter editor develop the write-up for the newsletter. Please share your experiences with us!

- ❖ **Saturday, October 16, 2010 ~ ~ Using Technology to Promote Your Business in Art with Jayne Shatz**

This was a free workshop for Clay Connection members. Jayne gave us an abridged version of her popular workshop about creating online networks to market your work. Attendees had so many comments and

questions for Jayne that the workshop was extended an extra half hour! We learned how to promote our business using Facebook, YouTube, Etsy, Blogs, Websites, and Email Group Lists. Use technology to present your work on a global scale and not pay costly commissions to traditional galleries and shops.



Upcoming Workshops & Events

Also, please check our website for lists of classes and workshops in Maryland, Virginia, and the District of Columbia. We encourage members who attend these workshops to share their experiences with us.

❖ **Crystalline Glazes at Northern Virginia Community College (Alexandria, VA)**

Bill Schran will be teaching a crystalline glazes seminar on Saturdays during the Spring Semester. If interested, make sure to register at NoVA and keep an eye out for this class, which fills up very quickly.

❖ **Nan Rothwell Workshops (Faber, VA)**

For information, contact Nan Rothwell at 434-263-4023 or www.nanrothwellpottery.com

❖ **Lee Arts Center (Arlington, VA)**

For information, check: <http://www.arlingtonarts.org/venues/lee-arts-center.aspx>

❖ **Creative Clay Studios (Alexandria, VA)**

For information, please visit <http://www.creativeclaypottery.com/> or contact Ed Bull at 703.750.9480 or by email at oneibull@msn.com.

❖ **The Art League (Alexandria, VA)**

Lorna Meaden Workshop at the Art League: March 18 to 20, 2011 -- \$170
To register and for more information: <http://www.theartleague.org/>

❖ **Jayne Shatz Workshops (Arnold, MD)**

Jayne offers private sessions and workshops in her home studio year round. Check her website for information: <http://www.jayneshatzpottery.com/>

❖ **Manassas Clay (Manassas, VA)**

The next session of classes starts on January 2, 2011. For information, contact: 703-330-1040 or <http://www.manassasclay.com>



P.O. Box 3214
Merrifield, VA 22116-3214
<http://www.theclayconnection.org>
email: potter@theclayconnection.org

The Clay Connection is a nonprofit organization of potters mainly from the Washington D.C. metropolitan area. Members range from beginners to hobbyists to full time professionals who work in a broad range of styles. The organization offers programs designed to provide its members educational and networking opportunities.

Board Members

President

Marianne Cordyack

Vice President for Programs

Dana Lehrer Danze

Vice President for Membership

Cory Helms

Recording Secretary

Laurie Erdman

Treasurer

Curtis Haymore

Conference Planning Team Leader

Marianne Cordyack

Volunteer Coordinator

Ann Granger

Past President

Roberta Couver

Hospitality

Vacant

Internet Resources

Jim Dunning

Lending Library

Dana Lehrer Danze

Email Coordinator

Twila Johnson

Database Coordinator

Dick White

Newsletter Editor

Graciela Testa Lynt
(graciela@glyntpottery.com)

Raku and reduction firing opportunities available at Tin Barn Pottery in The Plains, Virginia. For information, call Fran Newquist at 703-330-1173.

❖ **Baltimore Clayworks (Baltimore, MD)**

Contact: <http://www.baltimoreclayworks.org/index.html>

❖ **Workhouse Art Center (Lorton, VA)**

For information contact: Dale Marhanka 703-584-2982, dalemarhanka@lortonarts.org

❖ **Audrey Moore RECenter Pottery Program**

Contact: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/rec/wakefield/wake-pottery.htm>

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Classified Ads

This is a new item in our newsletter! If you have pottery equipment, tools or supplies that you wish to buy or sell, please send your information to the editor (graciela@glyntpottery.com) before print dates: March 21, June 21, September 23 and December 21.

❖ Meredith McEver has the following items for sale. She can be contacted at mmcever@verizon.net or 703-820-6732.

- Skutt 1027-240 (2 watts 240 volts, 1 Phase 48 amps): Original elements; definitely needs new ones. One new element included with kiln plus advice on how to install; bought in 1992; Served as back up kiln for newer kiln. Fired some beautiful pots. Sells new for around \$2500; selling for \$1200.
- Blue Bird De-Airing Pug Mill: Model #440; bought in 1999; sells new for around \$2800; Selling for \$1600. [SOLD]
- Display tent: 10'x 10' Craft Hut; screen ventilation in roof; sides, front and back zip out; structure can also be used for indoor sites; sturdy; doesn't blow away in wind; bought for around \$1000, selling for \$500.
- Oversized Splash pan: looks like a standard Brent splash pan, but larger. I used it for a kick wheel. Cost about \$45, selling for \$20.
- Old issues of Ceramics Monthly: Free.

❖ Cory Helms has the following items for sale. She can be contacted at illuminateme@earthlink.net or 703-953-3903



- Handmade Moroccan tile table: blue & yellow, 40" x 24" x 17-1/2" H. Tile set in cement top, separate black metal base. Asking \$175.00
- Brand New book: "The Complete Guide to High-Fire Glazes, Glazing & Firing at Cone 10" by John Britt. A Lark ceramics book - \$17.95 list price, asking \$15.00. Never used.

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From the President

Hello Everyone!

We had fun at the annual Membership Meeting held on November 15 at Dana Lehrer Danze's house in Arlington. Good food and good friends! The new slate of officers was approved and we welcomed Cory Helms as the new Vice President of Membership and Laurie Erdman as the new Secretary. Our returning Treasurer, Curtis Haymore talked about his recent trip to Morocco where he visited a pottery factory. He showed photos of potters at work, large "pools" where clay was prepared, and finished work. Very interesting!

Our Holiday Sale held on Saturday, December 4 at the Vienna Community Center was moderately successful for the participants with good sales. However, with only 11 people selling, the Clay Connection lost quite a bit of money after all expenses were paid. The Board talked at length about this issue and realized that our job as a non-profit, educationally based organization should be to help educate our members who wish to sell their work on methods for sales, but not necessarily to organize sales. In that vein, we will be offering a workshop in March on How to Sell Your Pottery at Shows, then we will organize our traditional Spring Sale as a means for members who wish to "practice" sales methods. We hope this will be very productive. Next Fall we will encourage our members to apply to the many, many other sales held in the area.

The Clay Connection's 9th Biennial Mid-Atlantic Clay Conference will be held September 29 - October 2, 2011. We are very excited about the 3 Main Presenters who have contracted to share their unique techniques during the Saturday/Sunday sessions, Hayne Bayless - Handbuilt, Thrown and Extruded forms; Posey Bacopolus, Altered Thrown Forms and Majolica Decoration; and Susan Halls, Hand-Made Clay Animals. We also have wonderful people lined up for the Friday workshops, including Tracie Tso, Brushpainting on Pottery; Dana Lehrer Danze, Making Teapots; Michael Hough, Mixed Media Sculpture using clay and metal; Joyce Michaud, Techniques for Better Throwing; Guy Zoller, Relief Sculpture; Mike Swauger, Kiln Maintenance; Brett Thomas, Raku Firing; Colleen O'Sullivan, Jayne Shatz, John Jensen, and Marianne Cordyack, "Primitive Sampler" - A Variety of Pit-Firing Techniques. We know this Conference will be one of the best yet! Mark your calendars now!

Happy Holidays and Happy New Year!

~ ~ Marianne Cordyack