



# The Dish

Issued March 2017

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

nspottersguild@gmail.com

Year 2016-17

## Co-Presidents' Message

We had a terrific year for the Guild with record participation! This year found our members forming alliances with each other ordering clay and supplies and sharing studios. Kudos to those who helped their fellow potters!

Thanks to all who attended the AGM on March 26th - With your participation we can move forward.

We've had some changes in the Guild Executive this year and would like to thank the outgoing Members for their service: Sincere thanks to **Janet Doble** who served for many years, first as President and then as Treasurer and best wishes for her new adventures! Thanks also to **Shauna MacLeod**, who has moved from Website Goddess to Workshop Coordinator. She's worked extremely hard for all of us, setting up the website and maintaining it and we are soooooo appreciative of this! **Gillian Murdoch** has added Treasurer to her responsibilities as Secretary and we are thrilled that she has taken this over. **Carol Morrow**, Membership, and **Carol Smeraldo**, Communications, continue to play crucial parts in the Guild .



**Erin Wells** (left) joins us as our new Website Coordinator and we are already seeing her fresh ideas. **Gerri Frager** (right) comes to us as a Member at Large and we appreciate her keen insight. Welcome Erin and Gerri!



**Welcome also to our new and returning Guild Members** - We hope you will partake and enjoy the benefits the Guild has to offer.

The **Supply Swap/Sale** at the AGM was a great success and we expect this to become an annual event.

Activity last year was brisk: We conducted three workshops and they are reported on separately in The Dish:

- ☞ Creative Solutions in the Studio, Online & In Business (It was only postponed three times, finally taking place on February 14th (As someone joked, we have no love life!))
- ☞ Vincent Massey's Artist Talk May 13th, followed by a two day Workshop May 14-15.
- ☞ Mayco workshop with Michelle Lynn October 30th.

The Guild also facilitated getting supplies shipped in from **Tuckers** and it looks like there is a demand for this - so we're on it! We expect to organize **two shipments a year**.

We're excited to see the extensive **Survey** Shauna is preparing - We are intending to use the results of this to gain a better understanding of what our members want.

We're expecting to hold two **Feedback Feasts** this year, the first one in **June at Carol Morrow's** house in Lunenburg. These should satisfy our need for critiques of our work, fellowship with other potters and, of course, food! Plan to attend.

Plans are being made for a 2<sup>nd</sup> tour of the **Shaw Brick factory**. See inspiring pictures below of the 1<sup>st</sup> tour and resulting art works.

As always, get in touch if there's anything on your mind.

That's it from us, have a great year!

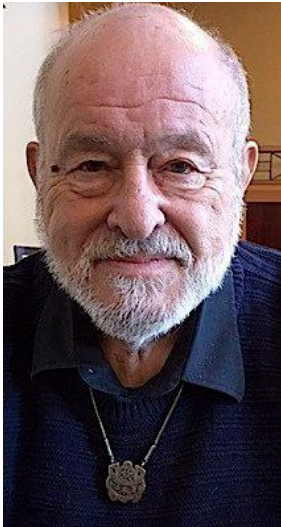
Sharon Fiske and Judy Gordon, Co-Pres. [sharonfiske@eastlink.ca](mailto:sharonfiske@eastlink.ca) [turnaroundpottery@gmail.com](mailto:turnaroundpottery@gmail.com)

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## [Robin Hopper \(1939-2017\), A Life Has Ended](#)

by [Barry Morrison](#)



Robin Hopper, January 2016. Photo: Times Colonist

Another great one has passed on. More than an artist, more than a teacher, he was also friend.

You'll be missed, Robin. Thanks for the journey.

Thank you Barry Morrison for these words on [www.studioceramicscanada.com](http://www.studioceramicscanada.com)

We will all miss him. His contributions and inspiration to the clay community and to many of us individually were beyond words. This marks the passing of an era. Carol S

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## **REVIEWS OF THE YEARS WORKSHOPS AND SHOWS, ETC.**

### **VINCENT MASSEY WORKSHOP, May 14-15 2016 organized by NSPG**

Vincent Massey's May 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> workshop was fantastic from start to finish. He arrived from British Columbia late on the 11<sup>th</sup>, and Judy Gordon and I swept him off to Lunenburg, where we were graciously hosted by Carol Morrow for two full days of talk and food, capped off with a much deserved sleep for all us. Vincent had jet lag and the rest of us were spent from days of preparation for the workshop. Thursday was full, with a visit to Joan Bruneau's, the farmer's market, and lunch at the Salt Shaker Deli. (Check it out if you haven't been there.) Doug Bamford gave us a tour of the Lunenburg School of the Arts-a fabulous facility that hosts courses and many workshops of their own.

Then came a walk on Hirtle's Beach which is known for its heart shaped rocks - each excitingly different and impressionistic. It is wonderful when you find one. Vincent took a little break and walked to the farthest end of the beach. He said he thoroughly enjoyed this. (We thought he likely needed a quiet moment away from our usual excited energy!)

We picked up South Shore lobsters for our evening feast, but before supper we walked up the road to Walter Ostrum's. He and Elaine are the most gracious hosts. Their home is absolutely spectacular, filled with pots and art, including students' work and pieces from his travels around the world. Can you believe it? Every one of them has a story which Walter was prepared to share! We were enthralled with their new home which was designed by them. Simply magnificent.

After a lot of entertaining talk, drinks and appetizers we made our way back down the hill to Carol's for more captivating stories and camaraderie. We feasted on the lobsters and Carol's Frozen Lemon Meringue Torte which rivalled her famous ginger cake. Carol's home is also filled with beautiful pieces of art. She has amazing skill at incorporating them into her living space, and many are in daily use. Her home is inviting and comfortable -one of the most artistic homes I have ever been in.

We took the scenic coastal road back to Halifax on Friday to catch the views, stopping briefly in Chester to show him the Georgian style 1905 mansion where the Delores Clayborne movie was made. They don't have many houses like that out West.

Vincent presented a public talk and slide show Friday evening at the Finley Center. We were wowed by his breadth of work, his lifestyle, studio space, and his enthusiasm.

Saturday was the ultimate hands-on workshop . We had set the studio up with several heavy duty extruders, tables and a slab roller. Eighteen participants and three helpers were there when Vincent took the stage and set us on our journey. We explored a simple method of hand building using slabs draped over large styrofoam hump molds. When students discovered how easy it was to use simple woodworking tools to cut, shape and sand their own styrofoam molds, the clay studio looked like a pink snow storm had passed through.

Vincent went on to show us how to make a giant slab by hand. He wedged, pounded, pulled, sliced, and made it look so easy... We on the other hand used the slab roller! At the end of this intense day we left our slabs draped over our individually designed slump molds to stiffen up overnight. Those who could, gathered at Agricola Street Brasserie for an evening of food and conversation.

On Sunday, rims, handles, and feet were extruded through dies specially designed and made by Vincent. Then they were pulled, rolled, twisted or pushed to add remarkable embellishments to finish our platters. The simple slump molded slabs were transformed into innovative, intriguing pieces.

Design and making of extruder dies was explored in depth. The workshop supply list consisted of ware boards, texturizing materials (wood, stone, textile, etc.), dust masks, potato peeler, wood rasp, drywall sanding block, fine tooth wood saw, sharpie pen, dremel tool, fine natural sponge, tape measure or ruler, containers, brushes for slip and magic water (hint: the magic water is water with sodium silicate), spray bottles for misting, plastic, and towels. Vincent also brought materials for constructing special slab making tools which he showed us how to make. Some of us bought the parts to make our own.

You can only imagine how intense and complex this workshop was. We had two days of total enjoyment beyond the scope of any of the participants' expectations. Wow. Simply fantastic.

Sunday evening after the workshop closed, those of us who could, gathered at Celtic Corner to wind down. Fun and food came together again as it seems to do when potters congregate.

After a visit to NSCAD and the farmers market, I whisked Vincent from my house to be hosted on the Eastern Shore by Iris Patterson. There he viewed windsurfers on our famous Lawrencetown Beach, which was exciting for him since he is a windsurfer. They hiked to Wedge Island, named for its pie shape (nothing to do with potters' wedging, but worth a chuckle). It was covered in seagull nests and they were able to feel the eggs that were hot to the touch. It was a special experience. Paddle boarding and yet another lobster feed from East coast waters ended Vincent's week in Nova Scotia.

The Nova Scotia Potters Guild loved hosting him and gained copious amounts of information from him, from his teaching skills and his artistry. We thank you, Vincent. On behalf of the Nova Scotia Potters Guild,  
**Sharon Fiske** P.S. I am sorry we wore you out.

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**NSPG WEBSITE:** [www.novascotiapottersguild.com](http://www.novascotiapottersguild.com) your page is free with membership.

**GET ON IT NOW!**

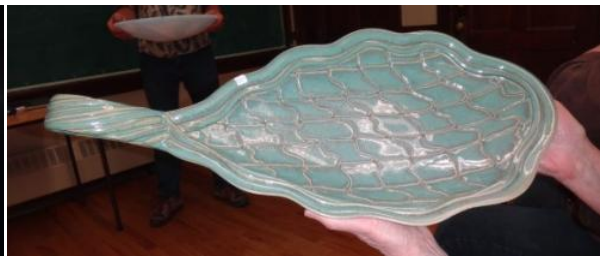
**Let NSPG help promote your work, career, business, classes.**

**Workshop pictures**



**Public Talk pictures**





Vincent's Work

## NEWS FROM WESTCOTE BELL POTTERY

The duo celebrated 30 years in business with their show at **The Mary E. Black gallery in March**. 48 handmade tea bowls by Vaughan Smith were donated to be used at the opening. For a voluntary donation to NSDCC took home a tea bowl.

Westcote Bell Pottery is a husband and wife team, **Vaughan L Smith** and **Jacqueline M Cohen**. The pottery was originally formed in Borden, Kent, in the UK, and from there we moved to Columbus, Ohio, then High Falls, New York and finally to LaHave, Nova Scotia. In 1985, after 5 years of teaching we formed the pottery and became full time artists. While teaching we developed a unique technique of layering clay using paper masking to define areas of colour. The detail is painted or carved in using under-glazes. Up to 4 layers of clay can be layered and after completing the piece it is allowed to dry to the leather hard stage. At that point the paper is removed carefully and further details are painted or carved into the surface. We have made the pottery this way for 30 years, from the first basement studio only 10 feet square to the current studio on the LaHave River.

The subject matter has always been a personal exploration of the places that we have lived, small villages and farm animals, pets and birds. We have always sought to merge our life experiences into our artwork. Our studio has moved from one beautiful setting to the next, always changing and bringing new life into our imagery.

We have always worked on pieces together and worked in similar techniques. The styles we use differ in a stylized approach by Jackie and a more literal figurative approach by Vaughan. Over the last 30 years we have exhibited our work in over a hundred galleries and craft fairs across North America. We have been given numerous awards and been published in books and magazines. Our most recent development since moving to LaHave, was to renovate and open a new studio in which we work and exhibit our pieces. Jackie has been working on a series of new works on both paper and clay. The clay works have been developing in two independent directions, the figurative and illustrative style and the hand built sculptural pieces in stoneware clays.

Vaughan has been working on the functional ware and producing a group of one-of-a-kind sculptural vessels. The newest direction has resulted in a series of large wall pieces in black and white carved tile, featuring local scenes.



Westcote Bell Pottery was featured in Studio Craft and Design Magazine in summer 2016



## NEWS FROM SECORD GALLERY-

### Fibre and Clay

New Works by  
 Kay Stanfield  
 Alexandra McCurdy  
 Mindy Moore  
 Sally Ravindra

May 6 to 27, 2016  
 Opening reception: Friday, May 6 at 7pm  
 Artists' talk: Saturday, May 14 at 2:30pm

**SECORD GALLERY**  
 6301 Quinpool Road  
 Halifax, N.S. B3L 1A4  
 www.secordgallery.com



**Fibre and Clay** are the primary raw materials that these four Nova Scotian artists have used to create the works in this exhibition. All four artists are well known for their decades-long pursuit of excellence in their respective fields, and we're delighted to be able to bring them together for this show.

**Kay Stanfield**, painter, papermaker, sculptor, curator, and teacher, returns to papermaking with beautifully earthy works that display her formidable

understanding of the subtleties of handmade paper. Form, texture, and tonal transition all coalesce with fascinating results.

**Alexandra McCurdy**, whose long and celebrated career as a ceramic artist was honoured by her election to the Royal Canadian Academy of



Artists in 2015, has created new and striking examples of her finely detailed porcelain pieces featuring decoration derived from traditional and contemporary textile patterning.





**Sally Ravindra**, one of Nova Scotia's long-standing revered potters, known both for her production pottery business (Purcell's Cove Pottery) and for her more challenging one-of-a-kind explorations in clay, shows vessels and urns that combine a contemporary elegance with the mystery of traditional African and Asian ornamentation.



**Mindy Moore's** long practise of ceramics has been focused on the Japanese concept of Wabi, which refers to quirks and anomalies arising from the process of construction which add uniqueness and elegance to the object. Her current works, which are designed to hang on a wall, feature beautifully textured and glazed slab constructions that reference both landscape and natural geological beauty.



Write up courtesy of Secord Gallery



**Alexandra McCurdy, Mindy Moore, Sally Ravindra, Kay Stanfield**

3 potters and 1 fibre artist came together at Secord Gallery this past May to exhibit new work. Kay Stanfield's "Lifelines" included 7 large panels of handmade paper, exuding texture and colour luscious to behold. A deep connection to material and process was evident in Alexandra McCurdy's polka dot bowls, ceramic quilt and porcelain boxes; Sally Ravindra's whirling dervish vases, smoke-fired vases and elegant containers; and Mindy Moore's new wall slabs. The gallery was beautifully arranged with all of the work. The various methods used by each artist complemented each other. An artists' talk was also held. **Mindy Moore**



**KEEP READING. THERE'S A REWARD FOR PERSISTANCE AT THE END.**

## 2 CLAY WORKSHOPS WERE HELD AT THE LUNENBURG SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

### Joan Bruneau Workshop, 4-8 July 2016

#### “Shape and Surface Inspired by Lunenburg”



#### Review by David Morison, participant

The description of the workshop was as follows:

Using earthenware, slip and glazes, this workshop will explore form and surface relationships inspired by Lunenburg’s unique architecture, material culture and marine environment.

Six students of varying experience were enrolled and we had an interesting week with an inspiring and challenging teacher. We used layered, coloured slips as decoration of our forms- both thrown on the wheel and hand built. Five consecutive days were a short time to complete our work including two firings, but we managed to do so, though some work was not fired until after the end of the class. I would recommend exploring their summer offerings of workshops.



Top 2 photos by Joan Bruneau, bottom 2 by David Morison

See more about Joan and the Lunenburg School of the Arts below

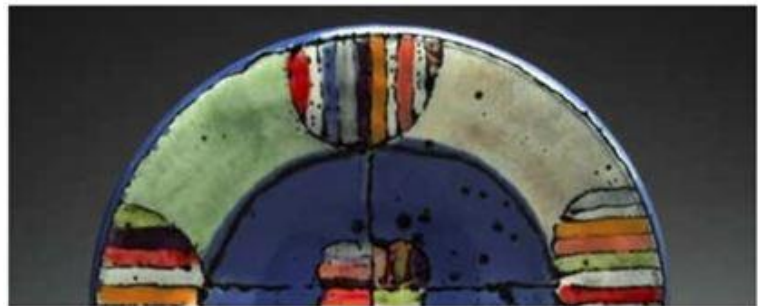
## WALTER OSTROM, CM

### Workshop, 8-12 August, 2016

#### Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Pots

#### Course Description

Pottery has always contained cultural, economic, technological, religious and aesthetic information. The goal of this training camp/workshop/clinic/class is to introduce the notion of historical context: contemporary practice. It is the basis of developing a strategy to make more personal and more informed work. Course format: slide presentations and group discussions each morning and meeting with individuals during the afternoon. This course is recommended for experienced potters.



Deb(Kuzyk) is thrilled to be one of 10 lucky students in a special one time class with the legendary Walter Ostrom at the Lunenburg School of the Arts (for a week). Tons of work and Fantastic. See her kitty and “doggie” vases, ready for group crit (right).

From her Facebook page with her permission





Walter Ostrom, CM was recently appointed Professor Emeritus of Ceramics at NSCAD University, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada, recognizing and honouring nearly 40 years of teaching ceramics. In receiving that designation, he said, "teaching has been my main focus and really what gave me my greatest challenge and reward." In 1997, he was awarded an Honorary Professorship at the Jingdezhen Ceramics Institute in Jingdezhen, Jianxi Province, People's Republic of China. An outstanding educator, he is committed to Craft practice and theory.

Walter is regarded internationally and in Canada as a technical and academic expert in low-fire maiolica, an ancient ceramic technique that he has personally tailored through innovations and decorative methods to reflect the geography of the places where he has lived, whether Nova Scotia or the Far East. His body of work has developed across many aspects of ceramics in the span of a nearly 50-year career, from experiments in high conceptualism in the 1970s to a contemporary focus on the exploration of the vast history, hybridization and social foundation of ceramics. In 2007 Walter was invested into the Order of Canada.

Once upon a time at a sea side village there was a magical event, actually it was a week in August of 2016 where my love for ceramics was reignited. Walter Ostrom came out of nowhere and held a week long event where he generously shared his knowledge and passion for this craft. Walter held a group of art teachers, recent grads, professional ceramicists and an enthusiast (me) completely captivated through his assignments, ceramics history, slide lectures and critiques. His high energy was motivating and contagious.

The Lunenburg School of the Arts is where this phenomenal craft vacation took place. The school is bright, wide open and in the center of a colorful fishing village. A place where life, food, delicious coffee, conversation, and art is celebrated.



Walter and his wife graciously welcomed the entire crew to their home where we wine, dined, "told tales out of school" and toured their home full of museum ceramic works. Doug Bamford, artist & Walter's sidekick, provided me an ocean view room at his inn. With all my heart I am grateful to have had this unforgettable experience that I initially and simply stumbled upon. The stars aligned perfectly and then actually performed their annual spectacular meteor shower.

If you are looking for an artsy adventure, please check out Lunenburg School of the Arts at [lunenburgarts.org](http://lunenburgarts.org). Walter Ostrom, CM and Jordan McDonald are holding a Ceramics: Alternative Strategies Workshop July 10-21, 2017. This class is currently full, however, there is a waiting listing and there are many other programs that may be of interest. From Cynthia Martin, participant

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## MAYCO CERAMICS WORKSHOP with Michelle Lynn At Sharon Fiske's

Michelle Lynn from Mayco Ceramics visited the Potters Guild to demonstrate some of their new products, various glaze applications and silk screen printing on ceramics. Sharon's dining room table was jam packed with enthusiastic participants checking out the snazzy products and having fun experimenting. The silk screens were of particular interest to many of us and offered a great way to create pattern and surface image. It was a fun, educational afternoon with lots of great food and company. Review by **Andrea Puszkur**



## XL/EXCEL- Master Artisan Curated Exhibition at the Mary E. Black Gallery, Halifax, 23Sept.-6 Nov. 2016



This year, 2016, mark(ed) the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Nova Scotia Designer Crafts Council. Throughout the organization's existence, the NSDCC has been recognized for promoting excellence in fine craft. The NSDCC's Standards process is only one of the many ways in which the organization seeks to foster the ongoing development of fine craft, and to nurture the development of the individual craftsperson. Master Artisan members are recognized for excellence and achievement in their chosen media. (Their) calibre of work is of the finest quality, exhibiting excellence in design competence, philosophical approach, use of materials, and

originality in the creative process. The NSDCC believes there is no better way to celebrate our 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary than through a curated exhibition of works by our Master Artisan members.

2 pcs.  
above by  
Carol  
Smeraldo



2pcs, Tim Worthington



2 pieces above by Pam Birdsall

Written by **Jeffrey Cowling**, Former Chair, Standards Committee and Curator of XL/EXCEL

Most artists showed a piece from when they attained Master Artisan status and a current piece.

Clay Artists/Potters in the show were **Pam Birdsall, Tim Worthington, Debra Kuzyk, Ray Mackie, Alexandra McCurdy, Carol Smeraldo, Jim Smith**

### NEWS FROM JOAN BRUNEAU

#### Interview with Joan Bruneau on The Potter's Cast : Diversify To Thrive

Direct Download: [http://traffic.libsyn.com/thepotterscast/Episode\\_294\\_Joan\\_BrunEAU.mp3](http://traffic.libsyn.com/thepotterscast/Episode_294_Joan_BrunEAU.mp3)

Link to the page: <http://ThePottersCast.com/294>

Joan Bruneau's work was published in Ben Carter's book, Mastering The Potter's Wheel , 2016 as well the book: 100 Cups :The Clay Studio in conjunction with the exhibition , 100 Cups 100 Artists at NCECA 2016.

She also gave a workshop and lecture at The Northern Clay Center, Minneapolis in conjunction with the exhibition, Florilegium in which she participated.

### NEWS FROM LUNENBURG SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

#### Summer Workshops

The Lunenburg School of The Arts opened it doors in 2015 offering five day workshops in ceramics, and other media. In 2015 ceramics workshops were offered by Lunenburg potter, **Joan Bruneau**, LSA Artistic Director &

NSCAD ceramics Technician, **Doug Bamford** and US earthenware potter, **Adero Willard** and in 2016 **Joan Bruneau**, **Doug Bamford** and NSCAD Professor Emeritus, **Walter Ostrom** each taught workshops. 2017 summer, **Walter Ostrom** is teaming up with **Jordan MacDonald** to offer a two week workshop which is sold out.

The studio is large, sunny and well equipped with new wheels and large worktables. It is in the heart of Lunenburg "downtown" core, close to Lunenburg Harbour and has a gentle salt breeze when the large garage doors are open on the street. Class sizes are small (10 max) so students have excellent one on one contact with instructors. The intense 5 day workshop enables students to learn new skills while pushing boundaries of their perceived limitations. It's a great opportunity to take technical and artistic risks while learning new skills. The LSA is modeling its workshop on other craft centers in the US such as Haystack in Maine and offers the opportunity for local potters as well as potters from afar to do hands on learning with professional potters.

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## 1<sup>ST</sup> TOUR OF THE SHAW BRICK FACTORY

inspiration for a not-to-be-missed 2<sup>nd</sup> tour this year



4 vertical bricks by **Nancy Roberts**

2 horizontal bricks by **Mary Jane Lundy**



**BE SURE TO SIGN UP FOR THE 2<sup>ND</sup> TOUR.**

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**"FOCUS AND RIGHT ORDER ARE THE PARENTS OF SKILL AND EFFICIENCY" Unknown author**



### THE DAY I FELL IN LOVE WITH A JOHN REEVE JAR

Recently while visiting a friend I fell in love with a lidded jar displayed in her house. Made by John Reeve, it stands about 14" tall, feels way lighter than I expected it to be, and has two glorious loop handles. The dome lid has a wavy rim and fits like a glove.

My friend Lynda told me stories about John when he was here in Nova Scotia as head of the ceramics department at NSCAD from 1977-1979. Listening to her I could imagine him working at the wheel. I can picture him making the decorative slip marks on the jar with a vibrant and expressive manner.

I would expect to see a jar like this in a museum or gallery, and I was so grateful to have been able to see it in Lynda's house where I could pick it up, touch it, inspect it, and admire it and hearing the personal stories that go along with it was just an added bonus. continued below

There is a great write up about John in the Potters Guild of BC newsletter shortly after his death:

[http://www.bcpotters.com/newsletters/2012\\_6\\_julaugPGBCNewsletter.pdf](http://www.bcpotters.com/newsletters/2012_6_julaugPGBCNewsletter.pdf)

**Shauna MacLeod**

## **NEWS FROM THROWN TOGETHER POTTERY on their WORKSHOPS in Truro**

During the month of February, 2 workshops were held at Thrown Together Pottery: Goddess Goblets with **Carey Allen** and Miniature Throwing with **Jo-Ann Shaw**. Both workshops were full and enjoyed by all participants. It was Carey's first time doing a workshop in Truro and Jo-Ann has not offered one for about 4 years. We will be offering both workshops again as the interest and desire from the clay (and larger) community is there. There were many new participants who had never tried clay before as well as some seasoned potters. But from the results you would not be able to tell who was which!! We had people from the HRM, Truro Area and Pictou participate. Both Carey and Jo-Ann are excellent instructors taking the time to help each person regardless of experience. We did, however learn to put up a picture of not complicated work (in Jo-Ann's case) as there were participants who thought they would be making what was in the picture, rather than the picture being symbolic. Yes, people with no clay experience wanted to make teapots. They are hard enough in real size!!!! But they made them! The workshop just took a bit longer than we had planned! I can't wait to work with these potters again.

If anyone else in the guild would like to teach a workshop in Truro, I encourage them to contact Thrown Together Pottery and we will make it happen. We have a lot of talent in our Guild and I am happy to help spread the love for any way people like to work with clay.

Specifically people have expressed to me an interest in learning how to:

Create designs on pots like Denise Aspinall and Cornelius

Sgraffito like Vaughn Smith

Throw a squiggle in like Robert MacMillan's new mugs and I have seen some at Sharon's like that too.

But we are open to any ideas : I will organize it and pay you, you just have to show up and teach.

Happy Potting! Hooray for clay! From **Danielle Sawada**

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[LEARNING TO MAKE POTTERY](#)-quote by [Frans Wildenhain](#) in [Studio Potter Mag. 1980 Vol.2](#)

Learning to make pottery is like climbing a long flight of stairs.

If you have long legs you sometimes can take many steps at a time-

**BUT EVERY STEP KNOWS IF IT HAS BEEN MISSED.**

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## **CHECK THESE OUT:**

### **YUYO TEA HOUSE AND POTTERY SUPPLIES IN HALIFAX**

In 2016 Shauna reported that they had Cone 6 clay, stain and underglaze products ready for sale! Cone 04 products coming soon! <https://www.facebook.com/YuYoTeaHouse/>



### **Perfect Diversity**

[perfectdiversity.com](http://perfectdiversity.com)

Perfect Diversity Clay Art Studio Open: Monday-Friday 10am-5pm.  
Saturday-Sunday 11am-6pm.



Hi, we are The Pottery Divas, making your day brighter and dirtier. Talking about clay, creativity and friendship. Sharing our knowledge of the craft with you.

Find us on Facebook and Youtube and learn fun and easy studio tips and tricks. New episodes are under construction and we welcome show ideas. See you soon!

[PotteryDivas@outlook.com](mailto:PotteryDivas@outlook.com)

France Arruda, Cyndi Yeatman, Karyn Hollasch

Facebook: <https://facebook.com/PotteryDivas>

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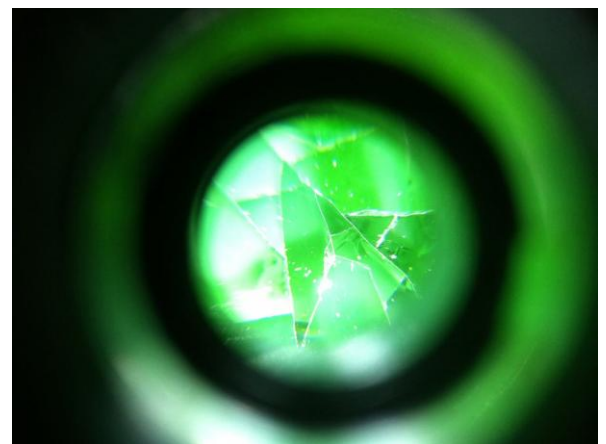
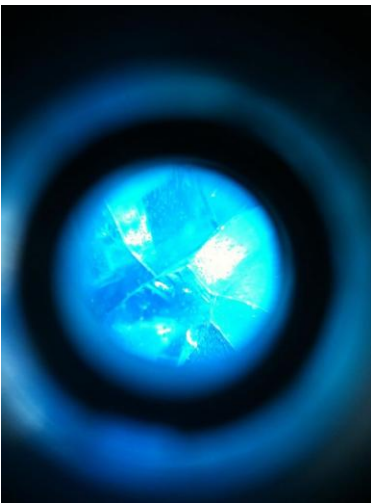
## **TECHNICAL TIPS-A MUST READ, DO NOT SKIP THIS! This is your reward!**

### **The Danger of Melting Glass Onto Your Pottery by Tim See**

I end up seeing pots with glass melted in them here on facebook on Etsy and in the studio. The pool of melted glass can be pretty but there are a few concerns. We do not know what is in the glass. Bottle glass could be safe but marbles, stain glass and all the other non food related glass may contain components that are not appropriate for eating vessels. The other issue is glass loss. Here are some photos with a simple 20 power microscope and my iphone. The first is melted glass with missing shards in a small ceramic dish I bought. I then rubbed a spoon in the dish over a clean sheet of paper and found this. It is a shard of glass about the size of a small splinter. This is what you would end up eating if you used this dish. Temp changes like hot food or cold food in prior tests of other pieces have yielded chunks large enough to cut your finger on. Glass or anything else melted into a pool in the bottom of functional work that has horizontal crazing or crazing that can be seen as anything but vertical can release glass shards. Every piece with a puddle of melted glass that I have put under the scope has had missing glass slivers and chunks.

For further discussion or any questions you can **contact Tim** at [www.timseeceramics.com](http://www.timseeceramics.com)

Thanks to **Shauna MacLeod** for finding this article and getting permission to reprint it here.



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DVDS AVAILABLE TO BORROW FROM NSPG, RAKU-CONTACT JUDY GORDON

[turnaroundpottery@gmail.com](mailto:turnaroundpottery@gmail.com)

Continue, only one more page to go!

## **AND FINALLY A FEW GEMS TO PONDER**

### **Mick Casson's Rating System:**

1. RACERS-far ahead of the crowd
2. GEMS-special and stand above but within the crowd
3. SO WHATS-The Crowd
4. SECONDS-physical defects
5. SUBS-aesthetic defects
6. LAND DRAINS-only good as landfill and French drains. HAMMER THESE.

"The intuitive mind is a sacred gift and the rational mind is a faithful servant.  
We have created a society that honors the servant and has forgotten the gift."  
Quote attributed to **Albert Einstein**

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### **CONTACT INFO**

**Please send your news, reviews and pictures for the next DISH as they happen, anytime.  
I'd love to hear from you and comments are also welcome at [csmeraldo@bellaliant.net](mailto:csmeraldo@bellaliant.net)**

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Please indicate clearly "TO THE MEMBERSHIP"

You can contact your NSPG Exec. the same way-please indicate clearly ATTENTION EXEC

**CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE [www.novascotiapottersguild.com](http://www.novascotiapottersguild.com)**

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**FOR YOUR POTTERY SUPPLY NEEDS SEE FACEBOOK Maritime Ceramic Supply Resource Group**

**Happy potting and much creativity, your NSPG Communicator, Carol Smeraldo**