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SECONDS

The Newsletter of Sacramento Potters Group: Art by Fire
Visit our website at <http://www.artbyfire.org> and Like us on Facebook!

Volume 18 Number 3

September/October 2017

*** A Message from the President ***

As I write this report I am just getting proofs for the last ad we will run to advertise our event in the Sacramento Bee Ticket Section for the Friday before Second Saturday. In addition the ad will appear in the News & Review and the Sacramento Magazine. I have heard from Sharon Bellomo, our Show Coordinator, that the show is filling up but we still have about 5 spaces left. The Sept 15th deadline will have passed, however if you know someone with quality work who you think would like to be in the show, have them send in their application, and as space is still available it will be considered. Also, one of the group's new goals is to reach out to young people who are in the clay/glass/hot metal field and encourage them to participate and apply to the show if they have a body of work.

I was a young up-and-comer when I started attending SPG meetings. My then-boyfriend (now husband), Bob, was an active member, then president. I felt like a lot of the membership was older, and I did not always agree, but I will say I learned things that were helpful. Most prominent were the networking opportunities on which art fairs had been successful for other members. I could then check it out and then look through the lens of what I was doing to see if it was a good opportunity for me. Many times it was.

So as for October Show, another chance to tell membership to get the word out. Send out those post cards in the mail! They work. See if you can write up a short feature on yourself and send it to your local newspaper to promote the show.

During this time, it has been a whirlwind of activity for Bob & I with our new studio gallery location in Galt near our home. We participated in the Sac Open Studios Tour through the Verge Center for the Arts, as I know other members have. We are adjusting to our new normal in our new location. It was great to see more of our local population come out as well as Sacto people. In this era, I believe, it is crucial to get the "hands on" art out there in the daily lives of the families and singles. It is the expression of our humanity that does not need a digital device.

See you at the Shepard Garden & Art Center October 28th, OR at the October board meeting!

Sonya Schumacher
President, Sacramento Potters Group:Art By Fire
scharccee@citlink.net

Next Board Meeting:

Wednesday, Oct. 11, 2017
7 PM

Shepard Garden & Arts Center
3330 McKinley Blvd., Sacramento

Calendar

• **Oct 11, 2017**
SPG:AbF Board Meeting
Shepard Garden & Arts
Center, 7pm

• **Oct 28, 2017**
Holiday Sale, 10-4pm
Shepard Garden & Arts
Center

• **Dec 13, 2017**
Christmas Party at Sandy
Feder's house, 6pm
8255 Bramhall Way, Fair
Oaks, Ca 95628
Pot luck. gift exchange

January 12, 2018
Annual Seconds Sale, 10-
2pm, Shepard Garden &
Arts Center

• **Feb 14, 2018**
SPG:AbF General Meeting
Shepard Garden & Arts
Center, 7pm

• **April 11, 2018**
SPG:AbF General Meeting
Shepard Garden & Arts
Center, 7pm

• **June 13, 2018**
SPG:AbF General Meeting
Sonya's house, 7pm
13536 Marengo Rd., Galt,
Ca 95632

Artist Profiles/Member News - Please send info and photos (jpegs) to: maridem55@gmail.com or mail them (with a self-addressed envelope) to: Marianne DeMartini, 225 Foresthill Ave., Auburn, CA 95603

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

MEMBER NEWS

SPG:ABF Open Volunteer Positions!

We are in need of a member to fill the secretary position.

We also need a member for the publicity chair.

Besides working with a fun group of people there is another perk - get a free space at our Fall Show or the Seconds Show!

Please contact Sonya Schumacher @ scharccer@citlink.net.

Sac Open Studio Tours

Preview Exhibit
Verge Center for the
Arts, 625 S St, Sacramento, CA 95811
Sept 7-30th, 2017
<http://www.vergeart.com/open-studios/preview-exhibition/>

Sacramento Potter's Group: ABF Board Member and General Membership Meeting for August 12, 2017.
Location: Mary Lou's house.

President's Report:

This meeting should focus mainly on the Fall Show. We can revisit new business next meeting.

Old Business:

E Street Show was a success. Thanks to all for their participation.

New Business:

1. Fee for show, \$65 for members, \$75 non-members, Students one-time fee of \$50.
2. Sharon will work up a juried call to artists.

Treasurer's Report: Balance \$5,168.80

Membership: 54 members belong to Art by Fire

SGAC Report:

Webmaster Report:

Sandy will post images on our web page for the Oct sale. Send her jpegs of your work: sandy_feder@hotmail.com

Fall Show Concerns:

Dania has sent a jpeg of Fall Show postcard to members.

Sep 15 is deadline for October Show applications.

An 11X17 poster advertising Fall Show will be made.

Second Show Concerns:

Other new business:

- More news coming about Ruth Rippon event. Perhaps we can solicit her to do a talk?
- It was suggested we create a Facebook SPG:ABF page for the group. Sonya suggested we post a video to help promote Fall Show.
- Sacramento Open Studio participants so far: Sonya and Bob Schumacher and Dania Lukey.
- Insurance questions: Do potters have liability insurance for their studios? The members in attendance gave input on the insurance they have. This can be put on agenda for October, as well as work to upgrade website.

Liability Insurance for your studio?

We would like to provide some information about this topic for our members. Please send your answers to the followings questions to Marianne DeMartini at maridem55@gmail.com. They will be tallied and published anonymously in the next newsletter. Thank you!

1. Do you carry insurance for your studio – at home or where else you work?
2. If you do, which company do you use?
3. What is your yearly policy cost?
4. What is your coverage?

If you open a kiln and nothing is wrong, then something is wrong.

Gustavo Perez
Mexican potter

CALLS TO ARTISTS

By Hand

Blue Line Arts and Creative Arts League Sacramento

By Hand is an international biennial fine craft competition. Handcrafted items include everything from furniture, elegant vases, and jewelry boxes to wall hangings, pottery and sculpture made by hand from glass, clay, wood, metal, and fiber.

Awards: First Place: \$1000., Second Place: \$500., Third Place: \$250.,

Juror: Brigitte Martin is the creator and editor of crafthaus, a social network and online community for professional craft artists worldwide.

Deadline December 1, 2017 - Roseville, CA

Prospectus for more detailed

information: <http://www.bluelinearts.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/Blue-Line-Call-For-Artist-By-Hand.pdf>

Website: <http://www.bluelinearts.org/>



'Mellow Bird', art glass by Sandy Feder

SHOWS

SACRAMENTO

Ruth Rippon exhibition @ the Crocker

The Crocker Art Museum is pleased to announce an October 29 opening of **Exuberant Earth: Ceramics by Ruth Rippon**, a wide-ranging exhibition celebrating the influential artist and educator's life's work. While many Northern Californians know Rippon for her Lollies statues, which can be seen in many regional public spaces, this exhibition of 90 works affords an opportunity to connect with the innovative artist's diversity of styles, forms, and subject matter.

SAN FRANCISCO AIRPORT

At Home with Arts and Crafts

The Arts and Crafts movement emerged in England in the 1880s. In response to the Industrial Revolution and mass-produced, machine-made



Saturday Night Girls

objects, the movement emphasized **a return to hand craftsmanship**. Inspired by the writings of John Ruskin (1819-1900), who exalted the medieval craft guild system, artist and designer William Morris (1834-96) served as the movement's spearhead. Arts and Crafts advocates rejected the ornate designs and compositions of Victorian-era interiors. Instead, they encouraged quality materials and construction with simple forms and motifs derived from nature. Social reform was integral to the movement. In contrast to the dreary factory conditions of the day, **proponents believed that artisans should work in pleasant environments with fair pay.**

The Arts and Crafts movement soon spread to the **United States**. Boston founded the first Society of Arts and Crafts in 1897. Unlike their British counterparts, many entrepreneurial American makers considered machines timesaving tools, which aided in producing well-made goods at affordable prices. Leading proponent of the Arts and Crafts movement in the United States, Gustav Stickley (1858-1942) batch-produced unadorned, carefully constructed, oak furniture in Syracuse, New York. His company also offered textiles and metalwork. In 1901, Stickley launched *The Craftsman* periodical, which promoted Arts and Crafts nationwide. Another pivotal American figure, Elbert Hubbard (1856-1915), founded Roycroft in East Aurora, New York. The Roycroft community produced some of the finest furnishings and metalwork of the era. *Craftsman* bungalows, which appeared across the nation

in the first decade of the twentieth century, were the perfect abodes to encompass the style.

For the first time, many women took leading roles as designers and decorators in workshops created specifically to train and employ females. Newcomb Pottery was formed in 1895 in New Orleans as part of the H. Sophie Newcomb Memorial College, an educational institution for women. Female artisans in the pottery department decorated ceramics with natural imagery drawn from the South. In Boston, the Saturday Evening Girls Club, founded in 1899 as a reading group for immigrant girls, led to the establishment of Paul Revere Pottery in 1908.

California quickly embraced and created its own regional variations of Arts and Crafts. A number of leading artisans called the state home; many of them lived and worked in San Francisco. Dirk van Erp (1862-1933), considered the finest coppersmith of the Arts and Crafts era, crafted table lamps with hand-hammered copper bases accented by mica shades, which produced a warm, amber glow when lit. Harry St. John Dixon (1890-1967) trained under van Erp and later worked for Lillian Palmer (1871-1961), who lent a considerably feminine air to Bay Area copper.

Arts and Crafts reached its apex from the 1890s to the outbreak of World War I, though the style continued to appear into the 1920s and '30s. This exhibition features a rich assortment of Arts and Crafts furnishings, from Gustav Stickley textiles to Dirk van Erp copper, and art pottery by makers such as Rookwood and Paul Revere Pottery.

- See more at:

<https://www.flysfo.com/museum/exhibitions/home-arts-and-crafts#sthash.syYNUiHz.dpuf>

SAN FRANCISCO

Asian Art Museum

The Sculptural Turn

Contemporary Japanese Ceramics from the Kempner and Stein Collection

Nov 9, 2016 - Nov 26, 2017

Contemporary Japanese artists are taking a number of turns-from functional forms, from apprenticeships, from traditional materials, and from exclusively male production-to shape sculptural ceramics.

Asian Art Museum, 200 Larkin St 415.581.3500
Tues-Sun 10 AM-5 PM,
Thurs and Fri Eve 5-9 PM,
Monday Closed

Throw Money at It

By John C. Reiger

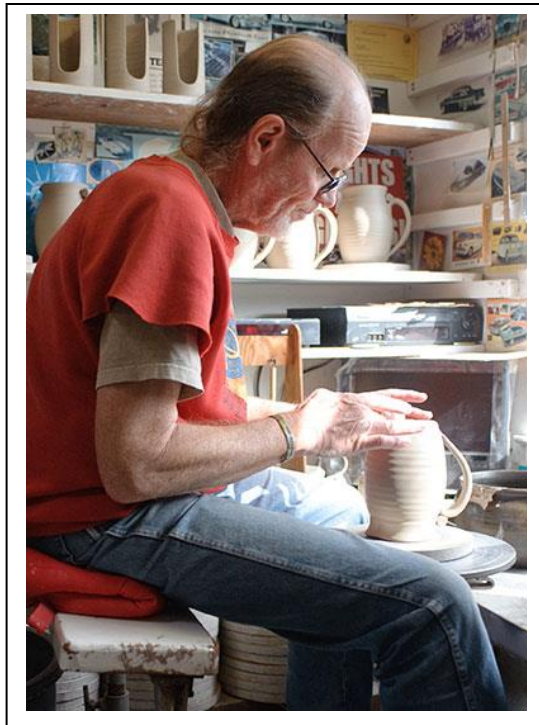
Do you bargain over the price of your pottery with potential customers? Many artists and crafters I know will put a bit extra into their asking price to give themselves some wiggle room for negotiating. Even artists who prefer not to dicker over prices will do so if they really need the sale. Bargaining is even enjoyable for some folks. I'm not one.

I'm one of those who do not enjoy the give and take of haggling over price. I try to price my work fairly and then stick to that amount. Bargaining over my work seems demeaning (no offense to those who enjoy it). Since I make these pots myself, they are really asking me to devalue my labor and my work.

Some customers too seem to revel in the bantering involved in bargaining over the price of an item. Some even expect it at craft fairs. Perhaps they confuse arts and craft fairs with flea markets. Or maybe that's their whole approach to life; everything is negotiable. Actually, I don't really mind if they begin to try to bargain, but I stick to my guns. The price is the price, period. Most folks accept it, some walk away. Either way is OK with me. I'm not that desperate for a sale.

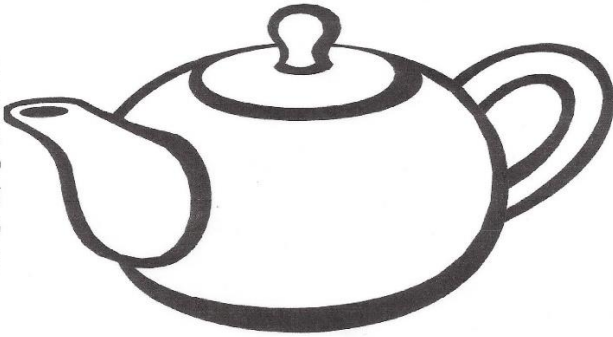
Sometimes things turn out differently. Many years ago (OK, it was decades ago, but I remember the incident vividly) I was doing a nice show on Maiden Lane in San Francisco when one of those must-bargain customers took a liking to a particularly nice big blue bowl on my stand. The price was a bit high but reasonable for such a wonderful bowl. Being of the bargaining persuasion he couldn't pay the asking price. We went through the usual bargaining tactics of, "Will you take X?" and, "How about no sales tax?" Apparently any reduction in price, no matter how small, was all he needed. The longer this went on the more stubborn I became. No, no, and no! When he eventually walked away, bowl-less, I breathed a sigh of relief. After all that unpleasantness, I really did not want him to have the bowl even at the marked price.

My relief was short lived. About a half hour later he came back. No words this time. He literally threw the money at me and stomped off with the bowl, unwrapped, unbagged. Too stunned to say or do much I just stuffed the money in my pocket without even counting it; I assumed it was the right amount considering his demeanor. I sure hope that bowl was a gift for someone else, someone who didn't know the whole story. I still didn't want him to have it.



SPG: Art by Fire
(formerly Sacramento Potters Group)
5033 Olive Oak Way
Carmichael CA 95608

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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Membership in SPG: Art by Fire is from January 1 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:Art by Fire Web site, please complete, make your \$25.00 check payable to SPG: Art by Fire and mail to: **SPG: Art by Fire, 5033 Olive Oak Way, Carmichael, CA 95608**

NAME _____

My information has NOT changed since last year (you do not need to fill out the rest of the form)

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

TELEPHONE _____ E-MAIL _____

(CHANGE OF ADDRESS?) _____ yes

WEB SITE ADDRESS _____ MEDIUM _____

RESALE # (if you are going to do a SPG:Art by Fire show) _____

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

If you want a picture added, please send it in jpeg format to Sandy Feder at sandy_feder@hotmail.com

I WOULD PREFER THE NEWSLETTER TO BE DELIVERED BY: ___ MAIL, or ___ EMAIL, or ___ BOTH

About SPG: Art by Fire/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 Show and Sale which takes place on the third Saturday in June. This year we are happy to announce the addition of a third members' show on October 31st.