



*Discover your Raleigh Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources Department!*

# Pullen Pottery News

April 2016 Issue 125

## A NOTE FROM...

I love seeing all the wonderful glaze colors and combinations coming out of the kiln each month. We have dozens of glazes – 23 Cone 6 and 20 Cone 10 at present – and that doesn't include underglazes, oxides and slips! I am always interested in new and successful combinations so this month's Studio Social will be all about glaze combos. We will look at tried and true combinations, and everyone will get a test tile to try out their own new combinations. We will write what we did on the back and learn from our successes *and* failures. The greatest thing about pottery is that there is always something new to learn! See you in the studio,

*- Lauren*

## GUESS WHO'S TOOLS?



In a twist on our "Guess Who's Pots" segment, we thought we would feature the favorite tools from our instructors. Can you "Guess Who's Tool"?

**Scroll down to see the answer!**

## \*\*\* BOND PROJECT UPDATE \*\*\*

**We are now at the end of Phase I! Draft layouts for the new center are available at the front desk and on-line. We had great representation at the last public meeting so thank you to all who attended. Here is some info by the numbers: 56 more parking spots ~ 23 vs 13 spots near the entrance ~ 50% more space ~ elevator ~ better loading dock ~ 3<sup>rd</sup> floor and increased visibility from the street!**

The current status of the renovation can be found at:

<https://www.raleighnc.gov/projects/content/ParksRec/Articles/Projects/PullenNorth.html>





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## \*\*\* APRIL STUDIO SOCIAL \*\*\*

### GLAZE TESTING

**THURSDAY, APRIL 14TH 7-9PM**

With 23 Cone 6 Glazes available to choose from, there are 23! /21! (factorial) or 506 possible combinations using just two glazes at a time! Not all combos are great – some run off the pot and some are, well, just plain unattractive but many are gorgeous! We will have test tiles available and everyone can try their own “Test.” Once fired, we can look at the results and all learn from the process.

**As always, refreshments will be served and fun will be had by all!**

## PULLEN BY THE NUMBERS!

Here are some fun facts about Pullen! ...in 2015, we...

...Sold 1028 bags of clay. This equals 25,700 pounds or close to 12 metric tons!

...Fired 572 Electric Kiln loads – up 10% from 2014. Thank Anne when you see her as this is a huge number of firings. Every firing takes 2 days...one to fire and one to cool and only two kilns can be firing at a time. Kilns fire nearly every day Pullen is open.

...Had ~375 members and students use our studio.

...Made 84 buckets of glaze – some of which were double batches. Thank Trish when you see her for keeping our buckets refreshed!

**Want to know who bought the most clay? Come to the Studio Social and find out!**





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## GOOD QUESTION!

Welcome to our newest Newsletter Column. We often get questions about why things work the way they do in our studio, so if you have a question, just ask! As always, we love to hear your suggestions so if you have an idea, let me know! - *Lauren*

### How do I know which Glazes I can layer?

Good Question! Layering glazes can give spectacular results – and disastrous ones which is why it is so important to follow a few best practices as you experiment with glazing. First, check out the glaze board for some combo's we have successfully tested. Want to try a new combo? – go for it – but only on the inside of a pot! Some combinations will shear off the outside and land in a puddle on the kiln shelf. Others will just run off the pot, and some just don't look all that great. When you "double dip" never put the second glaze more than  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the way down the outside of your pot, and when in doubt, use a firing cookie which protects the kiln shelf from any accidents. Finally, if the glaze starts to peel away from the pot or crack before it is fired, the glaze is too thick and should be reapplied. There are 506 ways to layer our 23 Cone 6 glazes 2 at a time – that is a lot of options! And as always, if you have questions, just ask!

For up to date information, please see the calendar in the studio or visit the Pullen Arts Center Calendar on the City of Raleigh website found at the bottom of this page:

[Pullen Pottery Calendar](#)

**Pullen Arts Center**  
105 Pullen Road, Raleigh, NC 27607  
919-996-6126

## GUESS WHO'S TOOLS?

### Tim Cherry!

Tim says, "It's like picking a favorite grandchild, they're all your favorite but if I had pick one, this would be it."

