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# Pullen Pottery News

July 2016 Issue 127

## A NOTE FROM...

I hope everyone is enjoying their summer! First off - a few important reminders. The Studio will be closed July 4<sup>th</sup>. Also the catalogs for fall are now available online and at the front desk. Check out the fun and informative classes, trips socials coming our way. Registration begins July 26<sup>th</sup>!

The first of the summer movie series was a big hit and for this month's social we will be focusing on ...Handles with a focus on Pitchers! We have a collection of videos from Robin Hopper, Lorna Meaden and Jennifer Allen. Come and enjoy some fun conversation, popcorn and treats with your fellow Pullen Potters!

*- Lauren*

## GUESS WHO'S TOOLS?



In a twist on our "Guess Who's Tools" segment, we thought we would feature the favorite tools of some of our favorite Seagrove Artists. Can you "Guess Who's Tools"?

**Scroll down to see the answer!**

## **BOND PROJECT UPDATE FROM CENTER DIRECTOR!**

**What's going on with our bond project?** City Council approved the conceptual plan for the renovation of the existing building with a 7500 square foot addition on June 7. You can see the conceptual plan that was approved on our project page at <https://www.raleighnc.gov/projects/content/ParksRec/Articles/Projects/PullenNorth.html>

During the late summer and fall, we will begin working with Clearscapes and DHM to further refine the plans for our building and surrounding area. There will be another public meeting at some point this fall, and we would love to hear ideas and thoughts from as many of you as possible. Please stay tuned for a date, and try to come out to this meeting, or, if you can't make it to the meeting, drop me a note or swing by my office.

From the fall, the timeline leads through final design, permitting, bidding, and more, with the goal being to begin construction in summer or fall of 2017, and to have the construction completed in late 2018.

### **What happens to operations in the existing building?**

You should not feel much, if any, impact to day to day operations in the building until April 2017. We are sensitive to the fact that many of you are also Sertoma users, and we are coordinating our closure date to make sure that it is after Sertoma has reopened from the work that will be done there in Winter - Spring 2017. Pullen Arts Center will not be accessible during construction. We have been working on planning for our closure for nearly a year now. We've been investigating ways to answer the question "how can we support the artists who use Pullen Arts Center?" We have been researching a number of different ways to answer that question, and coming up with the answer is quite a balancing act of logistics and timing. We are looking for options that create possibilities for you, our artists.

We also want to do everything we can to preserve and promote the wonderful sense of community that we all have built together here. We are in the final year of operations in this building as we know it. Let's use this time of transition to celebrate all that you all have accomplished here, the friendships that have formed and been nurtured at Pullen, and the mark this place has left on Raleigh. We have a few special celebrations up our sleeves, including a fantastic fall arts fair! We also welcome your ideas! If you have a great idea for how to celebrate, please share it! Thanks you for being a part of Pullen Arts Center.

- Eliza Kiser  
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## **"Thrown, Altered and Adorned"**

join us for a "hands-on" workshop with

## **Charlie Tefft**



**Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup> 9am - 4pm**

**Sunday, September 18<sup>th</sup> 9am - 4pm**

Charlie is an award winning potter and Ceramics Instructor at Guilford College. His pots and techniques have been featured in Ceramics Monthly and numerous publications.

In this workshop Charlie will show how he throws, cuts, hand-builds, paddles and paints his way to the finished pots. This will be an in-depth look at his process for producing pots adorned with painted animals & patterns. We will focus on producing work that performs it's particular task with skill and joy. Charlie's techniques include hand painting and spraying glaze on his pots. He fires cone 10 reduction but the techniques are applicable to all firing ranges! It is an honor to have Charlie with us.

**Workshop Fee: \$140 Barcode 193402**

Charlie will also be hosting a Gallery Opening and Slideshow Presentation Thursday, September 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm at the Pullen Arts Center. This event is free and open to the public.





## #PULLENARTS!

**Spread the word and show off the beautiful work you have created here at Pullen Arts!**

**When you feature your work on Facebook, Instagram or Twitter, include #PULLENARTS. It's the easy way keep up with your fellow artists, make new connections and promote your work and our wonderful community. This is not limited to pottery – tag the prints, glass, books and jewelry you make here too! #pullenarts #PullenArts #PULLENARTS – they all equal great Raleigh Art!**

## 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*

### What's a Cookie and when should I use one?

Good Question! Potters have some funny names for things and the term “cookie” is no exception! A cookie is nothing more than an unglazed disk of fired clay (bisque or fully fired) that is placed underneath the pot when it is fired. Most of the time you won't need a cookie but there are two times using a cookie is a good idea. The first is when you are firing a bunch of small pieces. Putting them all on one cookie saves loading time and reduces the potential for loss. The second is when you are using a glaze you are not sure about or that has a tendency to run (i.e. Arrowmont Blue/Green, Celadons and Louke's). It is much better to have a pot run onto a cookie than on to the kiln shelf and potentially other people's pots! While Pullen doesn't officially provide cookies, we have a bunch that have been donated by folks over the years that are free for everyone to use. We also have sections of broken kiln shelves that can serve the same purpose. These are located outside the kiln room on the bottom of the shelves that hold work ready to be fired. If you plan to use them often, it is easy to make your own cookies. Just roll out some slabs and pinch the sides up to create a shallow dish, making sure to mark the clay type or cone on the cookie. CAUTION: 1) never use a cookie that is smaller than the diameter of your pot. This can result in pyroplastic deformation or warping of your pot! 2) Make sure the clay body of your cookie matches or exceeds the firing temperature of the kiln (i.e. Cone 6 clay cookies cannot go in the Cone 10 kiln – in fact I make all my cookies out of cone 10 clay just to be safe!)

*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  
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## GUESS WHO'S TOOLS?

### Ben Owen!

Ben says, “I love this new Mud Tools sponge. It holds just the right amount of water. I also love this throwing stick for making narrow neck forms!”

