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Pullen Pottery News

June 2016 Issue 127

A NOTE FROM...

We had an amazing and inspiring trip to Seagrove, reminding me that all these wonderful potters are less than 2 hours away so I need to visit more often! It was also a month of firsts – with some of our potters participating in shows for the first time and the addition of our newest handbuilding instructor, Gretchen Quinn. Congratulations and welcome!

Flowers were blossoming in our May Studio social and this summer Studio Socials will continue... as “Movie Nights!” There are so many great pottery DVDs and each month we will watch segments from amazing artists. First up – Glazing Techniques! Videos include Lorna Meaden and Sarah Jeager. Studio Socials are free and happen the Second Thursday of each month from 7:00-9:00!

-Lauren

GUESS WHO'S TOOLS?



In a twist on our “Guess Who’s Tools” segment, we thought we would feature the favorite tools of two Seagrove Artists. Can you “Guess Who’s Tools”?
Scroll down to see the answer!

#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!

BOND PROJECT UPDATE

We get a lot of questions about when the construction will begin and while we don't have an exact date yet, it will be *at least* a year from now. Keep enjoying the studio and as always, the second we have new information, we will let you know. You can check for updates online as well by clicking the link below. We are now at the end of Phase I. Draft layouts for the new center are available at the front desk & online.

Click here for more info: <https://www.raleighnc.gov/projects/content/ParksRec/Articles/Projects/PullenNorth.html>





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MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW! We are very lucky to have Charlie Tefft coming in September for a hands-on two day pottery workshop. Charlie will also have Gallery Opening at Pullen on Thursday, September 8th which will double as our September Studio Social!

"Thrown, Altered and Adorned"

join us for a "hands-on" workshop with

Charlie Tefft



Saturday, September 17th 9am - 4pm

Sunday, September 18th 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 preforms 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.

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





*** NEW IN THE STUDIO***

NEW CONE 6 GLAZE: VAL CUSHING YELLOW!

You many have noticed a new bucket of glaze mysteriously appear. Val Cushing Yellow is a beautiful buttery pale yellow that breaks brown. I look forward to seeing it on your pots!

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*

Why does my mug (or plate) get hot in the microwave?

Good Question! This happens because the clay body in question is not fired to maturity. Every clay has a Cone (temperature + time = heatwork or Cone) at which it matures. The glass or silica in the clay body “melts” and fills in the small spaces left by air, water and organic materials that were present in the clay body as the pot was being made. When fired to maturity, a pot will be strong, watertight, and non-porous. If the clay is not fired to its mature cone range, the silica will not fully melt (vitrify) leaving air pockets which will trap moisture and heat up as the microwave energy hits the pot. Food or drink will heat up slowly if at all because all the microwave energy is being absorbed by air and moisture trapped inside the clay. People often ask if they can fire Cone 10 clay in the Cone 6 kilns and the answer is yes – if the pot is decorative. In fact, the Cone 10 clay Phoenix is great for Raku – and Raku pots never fire beyond bisque (Cone 06-04.) If the pot is intended for functional use, Cone 10 Clay should be fired to Cone 10 and Cone 6 Clay should be fired to Cone 6. The MOST important thing to remember is NEVER fire a clay body to a Cone higher than its stated Cone range. Your pot will start to “bloat” and blister and ultimately melt into a puddle on the kiln shelf.

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
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GUESS WHO'S TOOLS?

Bruce Gholson and Samantha Henneke aka Bulldog Pottery!

Bruce says, “I made this tool out of ironwood and it is useful in many ways as I throw a pot!” Samantha says, “I love the brush for dusting trimming crumbs off my pots and I couldn’t live without my table top wheel which I use for joining multiple thrown parts together and many other things!”

