

Clay Chatter

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Clay Alliance

**Fantastic!
OMG!
Great!**

More about the
Bill van Gilder
workshop on
page 2.



Donna King



**It's
almost
here!**

Things that are still needed:

- A tent for the Clay Alliance booth. Contact Jeff Williams, jeffersonation@gmail.com, 513-560-6540.
- Wheel-throwing and hand-building demonstrators. Contact Nancy Chestnut, potterpoet@gmail.com, 513-860-4350, 513-520-7437
- Photos of participating artists' work for Facebook. Send images and info to lori@stgregory.com and david@design-mill.com, copying sackonthehill@gmail.com.

WHAT'S GOING ON

People want more after van Gilder workshop

BY DONNA KING

What can I say about the Bill van Gilder Workshop? Well, just to say a few words ... it was great. Fantastic! It was informative. He was funny. His tools are fantastic. So many tips. Wow! Super workshop. What beautiful pots. Learned so much. Great! I can't wait to try that. So many techniques. When can he come back? OMG!

A large crowd came for the reception with wonderful food. Bill showed a PowerPoint presentation giving us glimpses of his life and how he fell in love with clay. He shared his experiences and life learnings. Bill showed us some of his work and explained how he got the finished product.

It was two days jam-packed with information. Bill showed us so many things, from making our own decorative tools to decorating with slip. He covered hand-building techniques ranging from creating large bowls to making small feet for our pieces. Bill is a production



Donna King

potter and has developed many tricks to produce work quickly and efficiently. He generously shared these tips and tricks with us. His wheel-throwing techniques are amazing, and who knew you could do so many things with two boards.

Many items from his line of tools were for sale and they were quickly purchased. The two days went by way too fast and left everyone wanting more. Bill has been a potter for 45-plus years, so I'm sure there's a lot more he would like to share with us.



ACCOLADES

The Kennedy Heights Art Center has chosen "Fallen Glory" by **Thelma Shotten** to be permanently displayed in the entryway of its newly opened Annex Building on Montgomery Road. Unlike most of Thelma's sculpted Coral Vision series in porcelain, this large hand-built, Native American-inspired shield was done in stoneware with oxide and gold foil highlights.



The Baker Hunt Art & Cultural Center
620 Greenup Street
Covington, Kentucky 41011

Dear Clay Alliance Friends,

Thank you for your generous donation, of \$205, to the Baker Hunt Art & Cultural Center in memory of Trina Feldhake. Trina, as both an instructor and lab tech, held a special place in the hearts of our Baker Hunt family. Her dedication to Baker Hunt, her students and craft was unparalleled. We will miss her.

This year Baker Hunt is celebrating 93 years of providing "Art Education and the Building of Community." Gifts like these will allow us to provide the same quality instruction for the next 93 years.

Sincerely,
Raymond C. Kingsbury, Executive Director

Special THNX!
Ray

Donation to Baker Hunt recognized

Clay Alliance recently received a letter from Raymond Kingsbury, Executive Director of the Baker Hunt Art & Cultural Center, thanking Clay Alliance for its recent donation in the memory of Trina Feldhake. The letter reads:

"Dear Clay Alliance Friends,

"Thank you for your generous donation of \$205 to the Baker Hunt Art & Cultural Center in memory of Trina Feldhake. Trina, as both an instructor and lab tech, held a special place in the hearts of our Baker Hunt family. Her dedication to Baker Hunt, her students and craft was unparalleled. We miss her.

"This year Baker Hunt is celebrating 93 years of providing "Art Education and the Building of Community." Gifts like these will allow us to provide the same quality instruction for the next 93 years."

The letter was signed "Special THNX! Ray."

MEET THE MEMBERS

Amanda Joy Dennewitz

Amanda is originally from Grants Lick, Ky., about 45 minutes south of Cincinnati. She now lives in East Walnut Hills with her husband, Dave, and her two dogs, Apollo and Henry.

"I grew up in a log cabin made by my dad who is a carpenter" Amanda tells us. "I played in the forest and made a lot of things in the wood shop as a child."

Amanda has always loved art and has a knack for sculpture. She graduated from the Art Academy of Cincinnati in 2011 but didn't really touch clay until she graduated. She took her first class at Core Clay in 2012.

"I make chubby ladies and mermaids, pretty exclusively," Amanda says. "I am endlessly intrigued by the beauty, curves and awkwardness of chubby bodies and women's bodies in particular. I am compelled by the same thing that made artists create chubby goddess figurines like the Venus of Willendorf 35,000 years ago. I also think it's refreshing to see fat and chubby bodies admired and enjoyed in a modern culture that mostly enjoys only thin bodies. Plus, body acceptance is IN right now! How awesome! Most of my work is thrown on the wheel and hand-sculpted to create these voluptuous ladies."

She works out of Core Clay and her home studio.

Another passion for Amanda is working with artists with disabilities. Luckily, that's her day job at InsideOut Studio in Hamilton. She works with adults with developmental disabilities to create works in clay, fused glass, painting, drawing, mosaics and fabric.

Amanda also loves food and really enjoys cooking with lots of fresh local ingredients.



Amanda and one of her "voluptuous ladies."

When she was in school at the Art Academy, Amanda received a work-study scholarship to take a workshop with kinetic sculptor Arthur Ganson at Haystack Mountain School of Crafts, an amazing setting next to the sea in Deer Isle, Maine. "It was an experience that's really stayed with me and I would absolutely love to go back to focus on my ceramic work," Amanda says.

MEET THE MEMBERS QUESTIONNAIRE

Want to be part of "Meet the Members"? Just answer these questions, clip them and give them to Jane Lester at the next meeting, or mail them to Jane Lester, 996 Grays Lane, New Richmond, OH 45157.

Name _____

Residence _____

Family _____

Where you're from (Cincinnati or elsewhere) _____

Where you work in clay _____

How long you've been doing clay _____

What kind of pieces you make _____

Where you work (day job) _____

Any other hobbies you enjoy _____

Anything else of interest you wish to share _____

**The next general meeting will be
Tuesday, April 5, 2016, at**



Queen City Clay

**3130 Wasson Road,
Cincinnati, OH 45209**

Bring a snack to share. Mingling starts at **6:30 p.m.**
and the meeting starts at **7 p.m.** A presentation by
Ben Clark of Queen City Clay will follow.

**Next Clay Chatter
deadline:
Friday, June 10**

E-mail
submissions to
**jeffersonation@
gmail.com**

CLAY ALLIANCE
P.O. BOX 9363
CINCINNATI, OH 45209