

# New Hampshire Potters Guild

## Minutes of the Meeting

### January 30, 2003

President Jeff Brown called the meeting to order at 7:10pm, immediately following the opening reception for the Guild's Show, "Over/Under/Inside-Out" at the New Hampshire Institute of Art. Members present were enthusiastic in their comments on the show's content and presentation. Also cited was the "beautiful" new, full-color format of POTLUCK. Jeff publicly thanked Deb Tessier for her newsletter design efforts and for donating her time to publish and print each issue. He urged Members to take advantage of the opportunity to publish their articles with or without photos.

Guild elections are approaching and those interested in serving should step forward. Jeff indicated a willingness to serve as President for two more years. Chris Archer, Deb Tessier, and Jeff Brown agreed to serve as a Nominating Committee. The next meeting, scheduled for March 23 or 30, is the annual meeting at which elections will be held. Sibylle Tornow has offered her home for the meeting.

Jeff announced that he will be going to NCECA representing NH potters when it meets in San Diego March 12-15, 2003. Jean Silverman urged Members to consider participating in the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of *Studio Potter Magazine* by submitting work for exhibit and sale at the Studio Potter's 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Show at NCECA.

Members discussed the desirability of increased publicity for the current show at the NHIA and the work of NH potters in general. A suggestion was made to decide (in advance) which events should be covered and to what extent. Al Jaeger said that Linda Seabury (from the Institute) is covering "Over/Under/Inside-Out" for *Ceramics Monthly Magazine*. The Union Leader Newspaper was present for the opening. Jeff agreed to write an article for POTLUCK. Al Jaeger moved that a Publicity Committee be established consisting of Chris Archer, John Baymore and Susan Babine. Jeff Brown seconded the motion.

Jeff stated that "by laws" which govern the NHPG would be printed in an up-coming edition of POTLUCK. He asked Al Jaeger to join a board of advisors consisting of Guild Officers and several Guild Members who will consider future events and the direction the Guild should take to benefit its Members the most.

Jeff shared a brochure used by the Guild in the past as a handout at Sunapee and other appropriate occasions. Members spent time discussing its merits for use in the future. The consensus was that some tangible handout (possibly a postcard) is desirable, but it should not have time specific information (like names). Chris Archer volunteered to "play around" with brochure ideas for the March meeting. Jeff offered to help.

Jeff noted that we have the beginnings of a Potters Guild Website for Membership approval. The Guild's site will remain attached to <http://www.jeffbrownpottery.com> until the Membership decides to register a domain name and have the Website hosted. Cost for domain hosting will be approximately \$240.00/year plus a yearly domain registration fee of \$35.00. Jeff will set everything up, if/when the Guild decides to move forward. Chris Archer offered to help with maintenance of the site. Links can be developed to Member's websites. POTLUCK will be available online. While this is certainly of value, many agreed that it should not replace the 'POTLUCK' publication.

Several Members noted the excellence of a current exhibit at the Lammont Gallery of Phillips Exeter Academy entitled "Shapes with a Passion". Susan Babine recommended that POTLUCK adopt a predictable format highlighting events and workshops, citing that it is an important function of the newsletter that should be restored. There was general agreement and the best way to keep up with this information was discussed.

Al motioned that the Guild rent a Post Office Box; seconded by Rich McGregor. Material should be forwarded to the editor of POTLUCK who will distribute it appropriately. The P.O. Box will be in Manchester. The vote was unanimously in favor.

Andy Hampton suggested that members who have Potters Guild archival material bring it to the March meeting so that all information can be stored in a central location. Karen Orsillo said that the Guild does have a safe deposit box to store important documents. Andy also suggested that meeting dates and locations be announced well in advance. Many Members agreed. Jeff offered a few dates for our calendars; the deadline for material to be included in the May 30<sup>th</sup> edition of POTLUCK is Friday, May 16, 2003. The June meeting will be held at Jeff Brown's Studio in Northwood on June 8, 2003. The annual Sunapee meeting will be August 6, 2003. We are looking for someone to host the October meeting.

Karen Orsillo asked for suggestions about a suitable way to honor the memory of Kira Fournier. Extended discussion followed. Considered ideas include a memorial scholarship or an award at the next show, purchasing a piece of her work as a permanent student study piece at the Institute, and mounting a special exhibit of Kira's work. Corrine Null agreed to work with Karen in developing possible memorial ideas. They will report back to the Membership at the next meeting.

It was recommended that the Show Committee Members (Janet Tamulevich and Tamsin Whitehead) write a letter of acknowledgment to the New Hampshire Art Institute for sponsoring "Over/ Under/Inside-Out". Jeff as President should sign the letter. It was suggested that there be a checklist of responsibilities for future Show Committee's reference.

John Baymore advised members that fair valuation for art works donated to charitable causes is coming up before Congress. He urged speaking up for its passage as being in the best interest of donors and recommended contacting State Representatives.

Jeff said that John Baymore is going to conduct a kiln building activity in the spring. Details will be discussed at the next meeting. Jeff also noted the on-going need for donations to the "Empty Bowls" project. The next event will be held in the early fall.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.

*Meeting Minutes Recorded by: Kathy Feltz*