

**MILE HIGH POLYMER CLAY GUILD (MHPCG)  
October-December 4th Quarter 2022 NEWSLETTER**



**LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT:**

Happy New Year Everyone!

Although as I write, it is already more than 2 weeks past New Year's; I feel like I should start wishing everyone a Happy Valentine's Day! I also feel that I am already way behind in preparing the MHPCG 2023 calendar! The Board did get a start on the calendar before holiday distractions, but only so much can be planned until after some bigger decisions are made.

I'm sure it has not escaped member notice that our meeting experience has changed a great deal as a result of the restrictions necessitated by the COVID-19 pandemic. The majority of members meet virtually, with an occasional lightly attended in-person meeting (Retreat excepted). It is easy to place all the blame for this on the pandemic but I believe it merely sped up a change that was already happening.

Like many clubs in a variety of interests, the membership was reaching a fairly high median age and we were losing more members who attended meetings than were being replaced by younger members. My belief is younger generations are just not as interested in club meetings to support their hobbies and small businesses, while older members reduce participation as traveling to a meeting becomes more difficult for several reasons. And we still face the issues of finding and paying for suitable meeting space.

Virtual meetings using Zoom have proven to be very convenient for many members but lack the range of interaction possible with in-person meetings. We have tried combining the two in hybrid meetings with wildly varying degrees of success. We have reached a crossroads in how the Guild meets from now on. The Board has concluded that virtual meetings are the preferred option for the majority of members, and the most cost effective. We don't want to give up entirely on in-person meetings but they will be limited to special events or perhaps get-togethers at smaller locations.

I hope you can attend the January 28 general meeting to hear more details and provide your feedback.

**Bertha Adamson  
President**

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### ❖ MHPCG OFFICERS

- ❖ + President: Bertha
- ❖ + VP Membership: Sue
- ❖ + Treasurer: Sherilyn
- ❖ + Secretary: Open position
- ❖ + Library: Tina G
- ❖ + Newsletter: Caroline H.
- ❖ + Website: Bertha
- ❖ + Store: Rosanne
- ❖ + Swaps: Julie A & Pam
- ❖ + Demos:
- ❖ + Group Orders/Goody Bags: Bertha

### GUILD MEETINGS

This quarter we only had meetings in October and November; the meeting in December is traditionally cancelled due to the Holidays.

The highlight of this fall was our Retreat October 21-23. It was held both in person at the church and on Zoom.

Friday consisted of a late afternoon settle in at the church and discussions in person and on Zoom.

Saturday 9:30 - 11:30 am Featured Artist was Shelley Atwood, who is known for use of textures in her work. She showed us tools, such as linoleum cutters, ball tools, gravers and items from nature that can be used to make textures in baked and in raw clay. Shelley has used baked Premo squares, especially a light colored metallic (her favorite is gold), as a base for using various hard tools to cut out designs. Items can be pressed in raw clays and then baked for a different look. Recently, Shelley has begun using baked Kato, which is a little harder to carve, but gets slightly sharper textures. Check out Shelley's work on her website <https://shelleyatwood.wordpress.com>, Instagram, and Pinterest.



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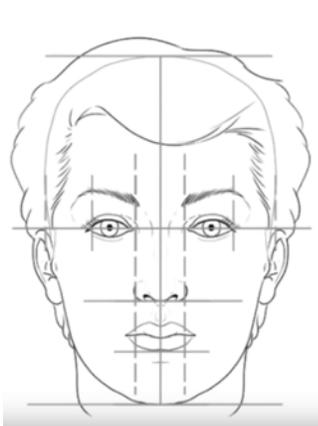


A pair of Shelley's earrings highlighting texture

Tammi W. a long-time member of MHPCG, gave a demonstration of how to make a Bat Ornament. Tammi makes terrific small wildlife sculptures and ornaments.



Sherilyn D, our Treasurer, gave a demonstration of how to make a face from polymer clay.



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Diane Honegger gave a workshop entitled Working with Color and the Color Wheel



Using the color wheel



Mixing colors using warm and cool color hues and adding white to get a tint and black to get a shade.



Making personal favorite colors and using in composition

We also had member sharing time during the retreat

**Workshops and Events**

The Board has finalized plans with Laura Tabakman, to present our Spring (Zoom) workshop, April 29 & 30. Watch for the flyer next week, with the details.

After much consideration, the organizers of Clayathon have decided to cancel the Clayathon 2023 retreat at the Seaview Dolce Hotel. This means that the online component will also be cancelled. Everyone's money will be refunded in full. It is unclear at this point if Clayathon will return in the years to come.

**Polymer Clay Symposium** will return this winter Fri, 17 Mar - Fri, 24 Mar, 2023. Register now <https://www.polymerclaysymp.com/> . **REGISTRATION AND ALL CLASSES ARE FREE!!** Each day there are several classes and you can choose the ones that appeal to you. Workshop tracks include Polymer Clay Jewelry, PC sculpting, PC New Trends, PC in Mixed Media, PC Canes, and Friends of PC.

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**Creative Journey Studios** in Milton, GA 30004 are hosting these polymer clay artists:

Lynn Yuhr — April 21-23, 2023 — 3 day workshop: Exploring Liquid Clay

Jeff Dever — June 22, 23 and 25th, 2023 — 3 day workshop: Thinking Outside the Box —  
*Imaginative Hollowware Vessels*

Check them out at <https://creativejourneystudios.com/studio/>

**DIGITAL CLASSES or TUTORIALS:**

**Dan Cormier's** "Building Better Beads" 4 week online workshop is back –

**Registration closes SUNDAY, JANUARY 22, 2023**

**The workshop runs from JANUARY 27 - FEBRUARY 26, 2023 and costs \$225.**

Checkout <https://www.dancormier.ca/building-better-beads-2023> for information and pictures.

**Lynn Yuhr** has several workshops listed on her website <https://theflyingsquirrelstudio.wordpress.com/workshops/>. They include metal as well as polymer clay work.

**Bettina Welker** has many tutorials (in English) in her Etsy store. Check them out!

**Polymer Week Society** has online classes each month that benefit the Samunnat women of Nepal <https://www.polymerweeksociety.com/online-classes> Classes are 10 euros each.

<https://digitaldefynd.com/best-polymer-clay-courses/#4> [Free Online Classes FeatherStone Center for the Arts](#) These classes are low cost basic polymer clay classes.

**PolymerClayTutorials** by Eugena Topina from Virginia can be found on Etsy. Some of these are interesting!

**Craftclass with Alison Lee** has lots of online tutorials. <https://www.craftcast.com/product-category/tutorials/> Price vary.

**\*\* Watch for Berdell's 'Gelli Plate' Demo at Clay Day, January 28th!!!!**

If you know of any classes or workshops you think Guild members would be interested in, contact Sue so she can send out an email to the group.