

MILE HIGH POLYMER CLAY GUILD

July, August, September 2009

www.mhpcg.org

Laurie Mika Workshop Scheduled for October 3 & 4

Laurie Mika, internationally known multimedia artist, will present a workshop for MHPCG members on "Shadowbox Shrines."

Known for her work with unique polymer clay mosaics, Laurie will take the art one step further with this workshop.

Here's what she says about it: "Polymer clay is the perfect medium for creating these three dimensional mosaic shrines. In this technique-driven class, students will be making all of

the component parts of their shrines by stamping into clay and making expressive tiles that reflect their own personalities. The shrines have a small recessed area where a three-dimensional object of significance can be placed. This space also allows for another opportunity to explore additional mixed media techniques. We will cover rubber stamping, embedding, collage, transfers, embossing, shrink plastic, bead-

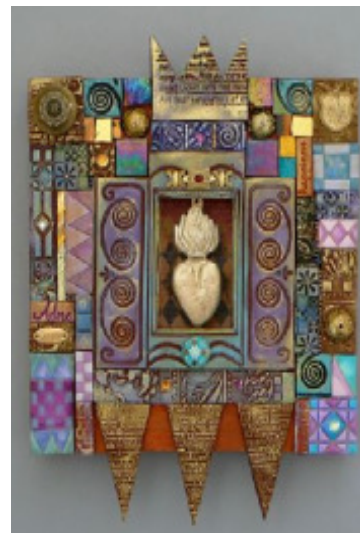
ing and mosaics. This is the class where you get to use all that stuff you've been collecting for years!"

Tuition is \$200* (includes supplies).

Send check made out to MHPCG to:

Sue Mueller
P.O. Box 4629
Breckenridge, CO
80424

**2009-10 dues must be paid with registration.*



Laura Timmins Workshop

Laura Timmins' Two-part Lecture Series

The Bean Lounge 520 Main Street Longmont, CO

Monday, August 31, 2009

"Creativity" 10:30 a.m.-noon 10:30-noon \$30

"Selling & Marketing Your Work" 1:30-4:00 p.m. \$60

To register, contact:

Peg Harper (peg@harpersound.com)

303 684 0550

Note: There are several places to eat close by or you may bring your lunch & dine in the classroom.

In this issue:

- President's Message p. 2
- Retreat in Review p. 3
- Exploring the Rainbow p. 4
- C. Simmons Workshop p. 6
- New Members p. 7
- New Guild p. 7



Peg Harper

Hello Everyone & Happy Summer! This is the first time since we moved to Colorado that I've seen so many lovely wildflowers blooming. The colors are truly inspiring along with all the luscious green, & you know me, it gives me the perfect excuse to blend more green clay. Oooh, and speaking of 'green', this will be our first green newsletter, broadcast in the members-only section of our website. You need to be paid up on your dues to get the news. (Did you notice that rhymes? Thanks to Karen S. & Janice Calm for their joint efforts in savings trees & postage.

Thank you for re-electing me as your guild president for this new year. That first year was a learning experience for me. I learned that: no matter how many times I type the board agenda I'll still leave something out; we don't have a board meeting from November through January which means one long February meeting; planning the

A Letter from our President

Guild Retreat should begin in January and, most importantly, we have a terrific group of people who step in and help with anything that needs to be done as long as they know there's a need.

The Donna Kato Bracelet Workshop in May was lots of fun for all who attended. Most of us went home with a good start on our first *fluid bracelet* which led to more bracelet making in the weeks following. I'm looking forward to having time to make a few more of my own.

Gerrie Wolf noticed at Donna's workshop that it was hard for everyone to see what was being demonstrated at the artist's table. She researched the problem and came to the board with a solution which was approved. She purchased a projector & donated a white screen. We borrowed Angela K's camera to try out with our new projector &, thanks to Angela's expert camera operation, we had a wonderful, relaxed, close-up view of Tejae's Retreat demonstration. We will now purchase a camera since we know Angela's model works well. I want to thank Gerrie for her foresight and perseverance in bringing this important feature to our

group. And thank you, Angela, for being there as our camera person. All we need to do now is learn how to clone Angela.

Our Guild Retreat was a whopping success. The new format was well received and we all had a great time. Karen Sexton's committee worked very hard to anticipate what we would need for our journals. Debbra and Angela K. solicited wonderful stuff for our goodie bags & door prizes. Deb Brooner fed us well with good fresh food. Lucille made cute name tags, tent cards & decorated paperclips to show who was willing to lend a hand. Milli wrote checks to cover costs as fast as her hand could write while trying to craft her journal cover. We had several demonstrations offered by Barb Harper., Tina Gugeler &, Dee Chalkey. Now, if we could just push out the walls to make room for more people! We had 35 attendees this year & more who would have liked to attend. That's a new record, I think.

We have several events to look forward to besides our regular meetings. In August, Janis Holler is hosting a one day lecture series feature Laura Timmins. (See

details on p. 1.) We have the Laurie Mika two-day workshop in October which is almost filled already. Our sister guild in Colorado Springs will be hosting Carol Simmons August 1 & 2.

Once again, if you've not thought about sharing a demonstration or a new tool or new elements that you've discovered, we want to hear from you. Our program chair, Debbra Woznick, is always ready to find a spot in our clay days for you to share something you enjoy. Remember, the best way to learn something is to sign up to demonstrate it. This goes for 'old' members as well as those who are new to our guild

Keep your clay cool!

Peg

Editor's note: Peg was far too modest to mention that the beautiful pendants she made each of us were high-points of the Retreat! Thank you, Peg, for sharing your time & talent in this way.

The Retreat in Review

Our recent Spring Retreat brought 34 enthusiastic clayers together for fun, friendship and a frenzy of fun working with polymer clay. Our theme, "Embellishing an Art Journal" proved to be an open door to creativity! We kicked off the project with Friday evening demos competently presented by artists Dee Chalkey, Barb Harper and Tina Guegler.

Tables laden with materials to share and a painting center offered participants a variety of ways to enhance the journals. Goodie bags contained an

amazing array of clay-related treasures, thanks to the contacts made by Angela Konikow and Deb Woznick. Perhaps the best surprises were the beautiful pendants created by our own very talented President, Peg Harper.

Deb Brooner organized delicious meals and we ate at round tables in the blue demo room. We found eating together provided opportunities to become better acquainted.

Saturday afternoon, multi-media artist Tejae

Floyde presented a colorful and informative demonstration. She showed us how to make a book marks using specially crafted polymer clay beads as well as steps in altering a book. The demo was enhanced by our guild's new projection equipment and we were able to sit comfortably at our clay stations & view Tejae's demonstration projected on a large screen. Thanks to Gerrie Wolf for researching the equipment purchase and to Angela K. for skillfully manning the camera.



Deb Woznick &
Angela Konikow
Goodie Bag Organizers



Deb Brooner
Our Food Guru

Response from participants overwhelmingly supported our new theme/project model so we need ideas for next year's retreat. Let Peg H. know your suggestions: peg@rpersound.com

Did You Know ...

Our 'Find Someone Who' get-acquainted activity unearthed many interesting things about us!

Here are just a few:

Did you know that *Bev Pressey* and *Marian Gurney* are avid knitters? Marian teaches knitting & crocheting.

Jerry Hunt and *Deb Brooner* are 'native-born & raised' Coloradoans.

Janice Calm lived in Japan. *Tina Holdman* is a late-night clayer. *Sue Mueller* is one of many who has a closet and room full of polymer clay tools.

Millie Barton & *Tina Holdman* have taken ballroom dancing lessons. Chocolate-holics include *Lucille-Frichetta*, & *Sue Mueller* and (from the looks of the retreat goodie table) many others!

Diane White, although new to this guild, actually worked with polymer clay in the late 1980's when she used it to create miniatures. *Patty Davis*, *Tina Gugeler* and *Dee Chalkey* pursue interests in other arts and crafts.

Next meeting, see what untold talents & interests some of our other members share. You'll be pleasantly surprised!



Retreat pendant
Created by Peg Harper

Click the link below to see
the retreat pictures.

Exploring the Rainbow with Tina Holdman

Kato Recipe Collection —Soft Summer Flowers

This collection has recipes that are soft, lovely and would make a superb palette for spring or summer projects. These colors bring to mind flowered summer dresses, mint juleps and warm breezes. I have added a set of inclusion recipes that make granites in coordinating shades.

Interestingly enough, the #2 Day lily Orange Granite lightens to a yellow that is close in shade to the #3 Sunflower Yellow Granite. The rest of the granites are fairly close to the opaque colors, but all nice and grainy. So pull out those cutters, condition that clay and start color-booking!

Look at the back of the newsletter for these new recipes.

Etcetera ...

Coming Events

Clay Days:

July 25

August 22

September 26

Carol Simmons

Workshop

Colorado Springs

August 1 & 2

Laurie Timmins

August 31st

Workshop

Laura Mika Workshop

Hampton Inn

October 3-4

A SECOND LOOK

A committee has been appointed to review and suggest changes to our By-Laws. Please take a look at the By-Laws and let us know what changes you would like considered.

Contact:

Karen Sexton

(bobwire123@msn.com)

GO TO [www.mhpcg.org/
Members/bylaws.html](http://www.mhpcg.org/Members/bylaws.html)

TO VIEW THE BY-LAWS.

DIDJAKNOW?

The guild has equipment available for rent. Check our Website for details about Equipment Rental Policy.

[http://www.mhpcg.org/
equipment.html](http://www.mhpcg.org/equipment.html)

Don't Forget!

DUES are due NOW!

Send your check to

Sue Mueller

P.O. Box 4629

Breckenridge, Co 80424

Photographer Wanted!

Are you comfortable setting up and photographing your work? Would you like to share your talent with the Guild? We would like to have a Clay Day dedicated to photographing creations. Even if more than one person would like to volunteer, we will take any tips we can get. Please say YES! If you are interested please email *Lucille Fischetta*

lucki46@comcast.net

Whiling away time with YouTube. See Barbara McGuire make earrings using her rubber mold sheets. On YouTube at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uWYKc2fgmuk>

The related videos list will lead you to other tutorials including many on polymer clay, precious metal clay, paper and beading arts, etc. etc. etc. Beware: it's addictive!

TUTORIAL



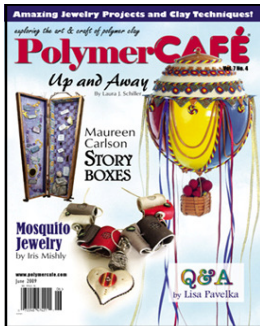
How to create backgroundless millefiori canes
6 amazing flower canes tutorial
By Iris Mishly

Israeli polymer clay artist **Iris Mishly** has just created a 27 page tutorial on building flower canes. It is available via e-mail and PayPal . Although I'm not much of a caner, I am very pleased with the colorful photos illustrating the clearly-written step-by-step directions and am eager to work my way through the six canes using Tina's new Kato summer flower recipes. E-books are growing in popularity and their direct-to-you-without-delay feature makes them especially appealing for those who demand instant gratification. I received my copy in *less* than 24 hours—clear from Israel! KS

Link: <http://polymerionline.blogspot.com>

Tip: Keeping Your Clay Cool: Working with too-soft clay is often a problem during these hot summer days. I keep a ceramic tile a-top a bowl filled with ice cubes near my work surface. The tile becomes chilled and serves as a cool resting place for clay works-in-progress.

Deb Brooner



The August **issue** of Polymer Café features an article by Laura J. Schiller entitled, "Miniatures: Play-on-Words Pots".

Laura's colorful hot air balloons were on the cover of the July issue, shown at left. Way to go, Laura! It's good to see your work and ideas shared in a national publication!

Linda Peterson's Art Buzz

MHPCG's February meeting is featured on Linda Peterson's blog. You'll see lots of familiar, smiling faces, some of our polymer clay creations, and special guest Donna Kato & Linda. It was a red-letter meeting, that's for sure! Check it out at <http://lindapetersonsdesigns.blogspot.com/2009/03/colorado-road-trip-day-5-visit-to-mile.html>. ! Visit Linda's blog for a wealth of information & inspiration. Link: <http://lindapetersonsdesigns.blogspot.com/>



Linda and Donna



Milli Barton's beautiful scarves are on display and sale at the **Museum Store**
2111 Willette Dr.
Laramie, Wyoming.



Pikes Peak Polymer Clay Guild presents:

Carol Simmons Workshop

August 1st and 2nd

First United Methodist Church

Colorado Springs, Colorado

Tuition: \$110 for both days

Contact: Peg Montieth (pegmontieth@aol.com)

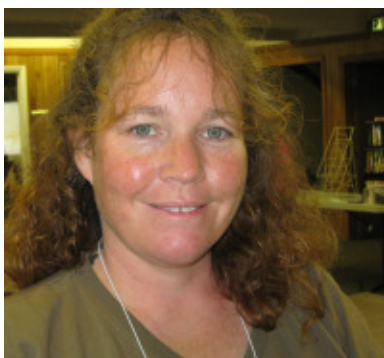
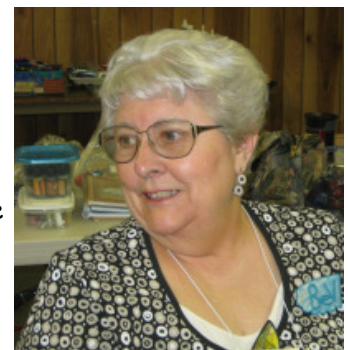
In this workshop you will learn to exploit the unique properties of metallic clay to produce patterned surfaces with extraordinary depth and luminosity. This entirely new technique will change the way you think about metallic clay & open doors to previously unimagined possibilities. You will mix a beautiful personal pallet in a range of metallic colors & use the extruder to produce a patterned block of clay. Slices will be rolled to produce thin sheets of clay 'fabrics' with a silk-like shimmer that will amaze you.

On day 2 you will use a portion of your fabric to cover a blown egg which will be baked, sanded & buffed. We will use the remaining fabric to explore the interplay of form and pattern and you will cover smaller clay forms to produce a series of beads.



At our Retreat, **Bev Pressey** shared a wonderful idea for making *Traveling Earring Boxes*. She first embellishes a regular size Altoid box with polymer clay adornments. After baking & cooling, she fits six plastic bottle caps from 1 quart soda bottles into the box. She warns that it takes some patience to get them wedged into place, but once in, they're there to stay! The result is an attractive little container to hold tiny earrings while traveling. Thanks, Bev.

(Don't forget – it isn't too early to begin crafting Christmas gifts!)



Angela Anderson (aka Moore) reports the new Adirondack Alcohol Ink colors (including the pitch black) are available at www.creativeplaystamps.com. The Precious Metal Color Paints she had at May Clay Day were purchased at www.polyclayplay.com

Angela's dragons are featured in the newest issue of Polymer Café! Congratulations, Angela!

Welcome, New Members!

Nan Auhll

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Castle Rock, CO 80104
303 621 8059
NanAuhll@yahoo.com

Merrie Harper

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Frederick, CO 80504
303 684 0550
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pmtartease@aol.com

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Nancy Lane

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720 201 5102
mtnstarcreations@gmail.com

Allen Schell

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720 201 5102
mtnstarcreations@gmail.com

Gwen Cavanaugh

1301 Windflower Lane
Woodland Park, CO 80863
gwencavanaugh@yahoo.com

New Guild Forming—you're invited!

The Eileen Loring Polymer Clay Guild

will hold its first meeting on:

Monday, September 21st

6:00 p.m.

The Bead Lounge

520 Main St., Longmont, Colorado

Cost: \$5



Sculpey Introduces a New Clay for Kids

Bake Shop clay is non-toxic, lead-free, and phthalate-free. Bake Shop is sold in individual 2-ounce packets, or in a multi-color sampler pack. Colors include: Red, Orange, Yellow, Green, Blue, Purple, White, Brown, Black, Beige, Hot Pink and Tan.

<http://sculpey.com/Products/>

The www.Sculpey.com website has a color-mixing section (*Sculpey 401—The Magic of Color*) and dozens of tutorials for beginners as well as experienced clayers.

Soft Summer Flowers

Kato Polyclay Recipes—July 2009 Newsletter

#1 Coral Bells

8 parts Kato White
6 parts Kato Orange
2 part Kato Brown
1 part Kato Magenta

#2 Light Daylily Orange

5 parts Kato Yellow
5 parts Kato White
1 part Kato Flesh
1 part Kato Orange

#3 Sunflower Yellow

7 parts Kato Yellow
4 parts Kato White
1 part Kato Brown

#4 Deep Teal Turquoise

8 parts Kato White
4 parts Kato Green
4 parts Kato Blue
3 parts Kato Yellow
2 parts Kato Brown
1/8 part Kato Orange

#5 Fern Green

8 parts Kato Green
6 parts Kato Brown
1 part Kato Yellow

#6 Deep Lavender

6 parts Kato Purple
5 parts Kato White
4 parts Kato Blue
1 part Kato Turquoise

Soft Summer Flowers Granites

July 2009 Newsletter

I will go ahead and give you the standard low down on inclusion mixing, just in case you are new to mixing these types of recipes or new to the guild. I use the $\frac{3}{4}$ inch Kemper square cutter for my "parts" measurement on everything. If you use a smaller measure, the colors will be more intense and if you use a larger measure, then the colors will be lighter. The translucent is rolled on the #1, or thickest setting of your pasta machine. The opaque recipe color will be rolled out on a #4 setting, or a middle setting on your pasta machine.

I put the Embossing Powder (EP) in the middle of the opaque/translucent clay mix, fold it over and seal the edges before putting it through the machine. You may want to mix the embossing powder in small amounts instead of one, huge pile. I put an index card or paper towel under the pasta machine feed to minimize the mess. Have fun!

#1 Coral Bells Granite

10 parts Kato Translucent (rolled on a #1)
3 parts #1 Coral Bells recipe (rolled on a #4)
1/8 tsp Tim Holtz Fired Brick EP
1/8 tsp Tim Holtz Tea Dye EP

#2 Light Daylily Orange Granite

10 parts Kato Translucent (rolled on a #1)
3 parts #2 Daylily Orange recipe (rolled on a #4)
1/8 tsp Tim Holtz Old Paper EP
1/8 tsp Tim Holtz Scattered Straw EP

#3 Sunflower Yellow Granite

10 parts Kato Translucent (rolled on a #1)
3 parts #3 Sunflower Yellow recipe (rolled on a #4)
1/8 tsp Tim Holtz Tattered Rose EP
1/8 tsp Tim Holtz Mustard Seed EP

#4 Deep Teal Turquoise Granites

10 parts Kato Translucent (rolled on a #1)
3 parts #4 Teal Turquoise recipe (rolled on a #4)
1/8 tsp Tim Holtz Broken China EP
1/8 tsp Tim Holtz Shabby Shutters EP
1/8 tsp Tim Holtz Pine Needles EP

#5 Fern Green Granites

10 parts Kato Translucent (rolled on a #1)
2 parts #5 Fern Green recipe (rolled on a #4)
1/8 tsp Tim Holtz Shabby Shutters EP
1/8 tsp Tim Holtz Antique Linen EP
1/8 tsp Tim Holtz Peeled Paint EP

#6 Deep Lavender Granites

10 parts Kato Translucent (rolled on a #1)
3 parts #6 Deep Lavender recipe (rolled on a #4)
1/8 tsp Tim Holtz Milled Lavender EP
1/8 tsp Tim Holtz Dusty Concord EP
1/8 tsp Tim Holtz Faded Jeans EP