

**MILE HIGH POLYMER CLAY GUILD (MHPCG)
APRIL – JUNE 2022 NEWSLETTER**



LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT:

Hello fellow members!

Writing one's first letter as Guild President is hard. I have a lot I want to say, yet I'm not sure what to say!

I'll start off by thanking Kari Crist for her many years as President! In addition to dozens of meetings she has coordinated, there were Retreats, annual parties, and early on, the move to our new location at Green Mountain Presbyterian Church. I hope I can fill her shoes as well.

The past couple of years have brought other changes and adaptations for the Guild. Holding virtual meetings using Zoom has enabled us to keep active and in touch with each other, particularly members who have moved away or find it challenging getting to meetings at the church. It has also enabled us to expand our borders beyond Colorado, with members in other states and other countries.

But there is also great value in meeting in person. Learning to take advantage of the benefits of both in-person and online meetings, is the main challenge I foresee tackling. Future plans that provide an opportunity to do so, include the De-stash Event in July, and a 2-day Retreat in October. Watch for emails about those, plus other plans.

I welcome feedback on your experiences with MHPCG or other groups.

Happy Summer Holidays!
Bertha Adamson

❖ **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

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- ❖ + Demos:
- ❖ + Group Orders/Goody Bags: Bertha

BOARD NEWS

Bertha was elected MHPCG president at the June 25th meeting, as Kari had earlier resigned. To reduce Bertha's work load, the Board is looking for a candidate for Secretary. This job does not take much time, so if anyone reading this would like to consider this position, please let Bertha or Sue know.

JULY 23rd De-Stash Event:

If you are interested in a table, at the **July 23rd De-stash** at the church, please let Sue know. If not selling, come as a buyer, to discover what treasures are available (at good prices!), and to interact with fellow artists and crafters! Bring your friends too!

Green Mountain Presbyterian Church 12900 W Alameda Parkway Lakewood CO 80228.

- * Email Bertha or Sue with questions (boa_vol@comcast.net or suemuellersmail@aol.com)
- Doors Open for **Set Up: 8:00 to 9:30** (for members & non-members setting up their tables)
- Members Only Purchasing: **9:30 to 10:30.**
- Doors open for the public. **10:30 to 2:00**

WORKSHOPS

The Guild arranged for a one-day workshop with Jana Roberts Benzon, in May called "Creature Features".



Jana is a great teacher! The "Creature Feature" workshop taught us to make "Creatures" with raised and formed layers and how to keep the layers apart. These "Creatures" take several curings, which some of us forget we can do with polymer clay. The techniques Jana taught, are great embellishments for pins, pendants and earrings. She also shared many useful hints from her extensive background as a polymer clay artist and teacher.

DEMOS

In April, Bertha's Demo taught us how to make pinch pots:

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Different clays have different textures, resulting in ease, or difficulty, which can affect the final form. Adding embellishments can make them more interesting.

Bertha also showed how to make image transfers by using color laser copies on regular paper. The trick is getting all the paper off with water or alcohol. Guild members also suggested LaserTran Silk and Magic Transfer Paper as options. Check out The Blue Bottle Tree, for very good information on making transfers.

In May, our first 'member challenge' was to make polymer clay items from cookie cutters.

Cumba made horses and fish—bejeweled and bedazzled!



Martina's dachshund necklace, with an aluminum chain, was a big hit. Tammi completed a set of flamingos that made us all smile.

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The June member challenge was to find a tool, technique or other items that members had purchased but had never used, and make something with it. Members showed an extruder, translucent clay, a tassel maker, and Walnut hollow texture wheels. After the meeting, Syndee Holt had invited Guild members to tune into her Zoom class on Photography. She shared tips and tricks, including, that at this point in her career, she uses her phone for almost all of her photos. You can see some of these at <https://bit.ly.synsphototips>.

WORKSHOPS & CLASSES IN OUR POLYMER CLAY COMMUNITY:

Register NOW for Polymer Art Summit (PAS) ---- <https://www.polymerartsummit.com>

\$150 for two days, August 6-7, 2022 via Zoom.

PAS Instructors:

- Shelley Atwood: Texture**
- Debbie Crothers: Resist this!**
- Helene Jeanclaude: Lithographic effect**
- Claire Maunsell: Acrylics, paints and inks**
- Laura Tabakman: Image Transfer**
- Lynn Yuhr: Liquid clay smeared, stenciled, stamped**

Polymer Week Society. <https://www.polymerweeksociety.com/online-classes>

Online courses are available once a month for members and non-members. Classes are free to members; non-members need to donate 10 EUR to for each class directly to the Samunnat Nepal Paypal Account: Malnepal@hotmail.com Classes are 1-2 hours long and are held at 9:00 EST.

LUCY ŠTRUNCOVÁ - JULY 16

JAN MONTARSI - SEPTEMBER 10

ANA BELCHÍ - NOVEMBER 5

MELISSA TERLIZZI - AUGUST 6

OLGA CHERNYSHOVA - OCTOBER 8

JANA HONNEROVÁ - DECEMBER 10

Alice Stroppel has many online courses to choose from. Check her out at alice-stroppel.teachable.com Some examples are Pen and Inks on Polymer Clay, Weed Pots-Silly Birds, and Cane Mapping.

Teachers are beginning to hold workshops in person again. If you are interested in a specific teacher, check out their website to see what is available.