

**MILE HIGH POLYMER CLAY GUILD (MHPCG)
July-September 2022 NEWSLETTER**



MHPCG President Letter September 2022

Dear Members:

I hope you have had an enjoyable summer! While I know several members have been able to make up for lost vacations, this summer, I mostly have continued my never-ending task of sorting through 40 years of clutter, much of which are the results of numerous hobbies, since college. It is a mixed bag of emotions, going through it all.

I have been reminded of the many and varied groups I have joined over the years. It was enjoyable, spending so much time with fellow enthusiasts, sharing and learning, and volunteering. All of these organization relied not only on a sufficient number of members, but on a sufficient number of members willing to help out.

Our Guild was facing some changes, before the pandemic, which then seemed to accelerate those changes. How we address them will be tackled in our new year. One of these changes needs to be addressed soon, though. To keep any group going requires spreading the workload over more than just a few members. Several volunteer positions have opened up in the last few years, so please consider how much time and what skills you have, to contribute. We will be asking more members to share in helping keep our clay guild viable.

Thank you for your support of the Mile High Polymer Clay Guild!
Bertha

❖ **MHPCG OFFICERS**

- ❖ + President: Bertha
- ❖ + VP Membership: Sue
- ❖ + Treasurer: Sherilyn
- ❖ + Secretary: **Open position**
- ❖ + Library: Tina G
- ❖ + Newsletter: Caroline H.
- ❖ + Website: Bertha
- ❖ + Store: Rosanne

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- ❖ + Swaps: Julie A & Pam
- ❖ + Demos:
- ❖ + Group Orders/Goody Bags: Bertha

GUILD NEWS

We are planning the Fall Retreat for October 21-23, 2022; you have already received some emails about this 'member's only' event. The schedule is on the front page of our website MHPCG.org. Please let someone on the Board know if you plan to attend all, or some, of the retreat, which will be both in person at the church and also on Zoom. The church is in use on Sunday, so that day we will meet only on Zoom. The fee for the three day retreat is only \$20, which can be paid online through the web site, or by check. **Shelley Atwood** will give us a shorter version of the texture class she did at *Polymer Clay Summit*. There will also be other demos by members. In the past, some members have stayed over on Friday night during the retreat, so let Bertha know if you are going to do that.

POLYMER CLAY SUMMIT

The big Summer news in the PC community was *Polymer Clay Summit, Surface Explorations*, a two day Zoom event August 6-7, that was introduced in our last Newsletter. It was very interesting and explored numerous surface techniques that many had not ever heard of. There is also a Facebook group where we could see participants' explorations of the various class techniques. Teachers answered questions live and there was also a chat, which helped us all learn more. If you weren't able to attend, I would suggest you check it out next year. The fee was \$150 for 2 days, this year.

GUILD MEETINGS

The July Guild meeting was at the church (and on Zoom). It was our Destash, a chance to pick up items that other people were selling or giving away. There were big items such as a Cloud Dome and a buffer, and smaller items such as beads and findings. There were two FREE tables with numerous great scores!

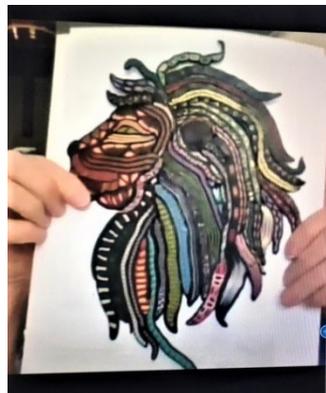
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Our Guild challenge for the August meeting was to 'get out your extruder and make something!' Here are a few of the 'Show & Tell" results:



Esther R. demoed this wonderful Bracelet



Pat E. created this incredible Lion



Marina R. extruded clay and made this lovely Pin

Syndee Holt joined us via Zoom, for our September meeting, with more of her TIPS and an introduction to some new Sculpey colors that are being tested out, including **Blackberry Pearl**, **Coral** and **Indigo Metallic**. If they are loved by those who test them, you may see these colors in the Sculpey line in the near future.

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Syndee in her Studio



Syndee uses cardboard tubes to make small trinket bowls (sorry – camera would not focus).



Some fun Syndee jewelry

FALL CLASSES TO CHECK OUT

1. **Val Wai: Beginner Polymer Clay Course** (September 1, 2022 - December 1, 2022)
<https://valeriewaihandmade.podia.com/>

This course features an introduction to polymer clay and guides you in developing skills and techniques to make clean, beautiful 3D polymer clay charms. The goal is 10 charms. You might contact Val to see if you can take this course at another time, since this one has begun already.

Course start date: **September 1st, 2022 (12:00AM EST)**

Course end date: **December 1st, 2022 (11:59PM EST)**

2. **Lisa Renner** continues to have video (and PDFs) workshops through **Create Along**. Go at your own pace. <https://www.createalong.com/workshops>
3. There continue to be new courses on **Youtube**, so if you haven't been there for a while, check it out!
4. **Tutorials by Eugena Topina** - New Techniques for Polymer. These tutorials can be purchased on Etsy.
5. **Curious Mondo** class coming up, **by Karen Baker**, who will teach how to sculpt a polymer clay dog. The Class is 11/14-11/16, 2022. Check out the class on <https://www.curiousmondo.com>

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I've researched Fall classes and didn't find as many on Zoom as before. It seems people are again giving classes in their own states, which makes them more expensive for Guild members; often they are also very short (2 hours); many Guilds are meeting in person again. Guilds often host online workshops by polymer clay artists; these can be available if you join the Guild, which is usually a fairly nominal fee, plus pay the workshop fee. Since we don't have a complete list of all the Guilds that survived Covid, if you have one you like, and can follow online, please let us know during a Clay Day, so our members can also enjoy these options.