



...a place to learn & grow in the arts  
503-365-3944  
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## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE WAC?

### Election Results

The WAC membership has elected Jim Ransom, Karen Hackney, and Pam Baldwin to the Board of Directors. They will officially begin serving a three-year term on the Board at the January 2017 meeting. Congratulations!

### Winter Class Offerings

It may be gray and cold outside, but it's bright, warm and inviting in our studio. The winter is a perfect time to take a class at the WAC. The class schedule is complete, and you can view it online @ [www.willametteartcenter.com](http://www.willametteartcenter.com) or pick up a schedule in the studio. Doug Dacar will be teaching a new eight-week "Pit Firing" class.

Greg Gregg is teaching a new six-week class called "Gestural Drawing and More", and a three session workshop, "Mask Making". The Greggs' Sculpture class will return in the spring. Also being offered for the first time in our Gallery is Open Painting Studio from 10AM to 6PM every Monday.



### WAC 10th Birthday

On October 22, the studio was buzzing with people meeting old friends, wheel demonstrations, hand building participants creating a group sculpture, and cake eaters. Thank you Cindy Nielsen and Wendy Steinberg for organizing this festive, community celebration of the WAC's 10th successful year.



### Empty Bowls Sponsors

Thank you so much for your continued yearly support. Your sponsorship helps to cover the expense of clay, glazes, and firing 1,200 bowls and allows us to fulfill our goal of helping the Marion Polk Food Share feed the hungry in Salem.



### Holiday Sale

**HOLIDAY POTTERY SALE**

December 3 & 4  
Saturday 10am - 5pm  
Sunday 12pm - 4pm

willamette art center  
Studio • Classes • Gallery • Events

[www.willametteartcenter.com](http://www.willametteartcenter.com)  
Oregon State Fairgrounds  
2330 17th Street NE • Salem OR 97301

### Marion-Polk Food Share Fast Facts

- Every dollar provides 3 meals to hungry families, individuals and children in Marion and Polk Counties.
- 60.5% of children in Marion and Polk counties qualify for Free or Reduced lunch.
- 537,000 meals are served annually at Community Meal Sites in Marion and Polk counties.
- An average of 15,000 children are served at meal sites per month.
- Purchasing a \$15 bowl at the Empty Bowls sale provides 45 meals for the hungry.
- Last year the WAC provided 60,000 meals for the hungry.
- The WAC contributed over \$140,000 and provided 420,000 meals in the last 8 years.

### WAC Wish List

If you wish you knew of some place that needs that pile of old newspapers, the WAC's the place. We need newspaper for Family Clay Sunday, Raku firings, and Empty Bowls. Just drop them by any time and your contribution will be greatly appreciated.

### Happenings in the Gallery Right Now! by Margrethe Gregg

The Gallery Committee has had to make some tough decisions in the last couple of months based on sales since 2014. Plain and simple: sales are down by 75%. On a positive note, it has made some other approaches to the space possible.

We all love our gallery, and we enjoy admiring the work of our fellow potters. That part hasn't changed. We are keeping a condensed version of the gallery and using the much needed space for

meetings and additional classes. Coming in January 2017 - the winter term - a hand building and drawing class will be held in the space. We are looking forward to adding different kinds of art classes as time goes on such as jewelry making, bead working, painting, etc. If you have some ideas for possible classes, please see Roger or anyone on the Board, and we will follow up on it.

In the meantime, the new gallery exists on shelves along the walls, and the space will host the Empty Bowls sale November 19 & 20, and the WAC Holiday Pottery Sale December 3-4.

Gallery exhibitors, please plan to bring in your bowls (removed during Empty Bowls) and any other pots you would like to sell during the week beginning November 28 for the Holiday Pottery Sale.

Another reminder to gallery participants: you must have an up to date membership with the WAC in order to be included in the gallery display. The committee has determined that for the 2017 year, the number of pieces in the gallery per individual will be between 5 and 10, depending on the size of the pots. The entire gallery will be changed out every three months so that we always have a fresh and interesting inventory.

Starting in January, we will choose a class to be Featured Artist for six weeks in place of individuals. Once all the classes have had their turn, we will go back to the individual displays.

With the advent of different classes going through the reworked space, the downsized gallery has the potential of being a much busier place with more patron traffic than ever before. Help us make it a success!

**WAC Glazes of the Month:**

Teapot glazed with Stoney Yellow and Celadon by Jim Ransom



Covered jar with Stoney Yellow and Smoky Green by Jim Ransom



Covered jar glazed with Amber Celadon and Don's Red by Fred Hamann



Covered jar glazed with Amber Celadon and Albany Bleach by Fred Hamann



**\*Empty Bowls All Stars\***

A huge **THANK YOU** to Jim Ransom, Ken Jacobsen, Fred Hamann, Margrethe and Greg Gregg, Rollie Smith, Jeannette Johnson, Jim Johnson, Hal Mathews and Cheri Posedel. These individuals threw an extraordinary number of bowls for the sale. In all, around 40 potters contributed bowls to reach our goal. Bravo and Thank You!



**How Do They Do It? Empty Bowls Behind the Scenes**

The big day arrives. The shiny empty bowls are artfully displayed on bright tablecloths, WAC volunteers are at their stations, the doors open, and the crowds fly through the doors to shop. But have you ever wondered how over a 1,200 bowls were prepared for sale? Well, it takes a whole WAC village to raise empty bowls.

Over forty potters begin to throw, trim, bisque fire, glaze and high fire the bowls starting in December and continue until a week before the sale in November in order to reach their goal of 1,200 bowls. But who are those tireless worker bees behind the scenes? The bowls don't just miraculously appear on the display tables. Throughout the year, Nikki Svarverud loads, fires, and unloads each bowl twice. Carol Jennings carefully wraps and boxes them up for storage, recording the number completed. They are carted to the shelves in the annex.



Sue Karnosh, Kathy Lord, Cindy Nielsen, Judy Hellman and Linda Kromer (Marion Polk Food Share Event Manager) spend hours behind the scenes preparing and dispersing advertising for the event.

A week before the sale, Kathy Lord, Sue Schroeder and other volunteers unwrap each bowl, determine prices, label them, and place them on rolling carts, ready for display set-up. More volunteers decorate and load the tables with bowls and Bingo! the studio and gallery are transformed into a bright colorful marketplace. These are all labors of love, and the WAC volunteers are driven by a dedicated desire to help feed the hungry in Salem.



**Family Clay Sunday ---What They Think**

"I like that you can form with your hands. I like that you can paint. It's lots of fun."  
---Brennan (Age 7)

"It's a fun thing to do as a family. It helps development of imagination. People are very friendly and nice. It's relaxing."  
---Brennan's Grandparents (Age Unknown)

"It's a nice way to spend time with family being creative."  
---Joseph (Age 7)

"It's fun to come create stuff and bring it home."  
---Alexander (Age 4)

"It's so nice to have a great place to come as a family and create together. The best activity for families in the area."  
---Genna



## Puzy

If you're 97 years old and still making pots, there must be a good reason. Willamette Arts Center member, "Puzy" Holland, credits a curious mind, a need to keep busy and genetics as reasons he is still working with clay more than 50 years after he began his craft in Hawaii.



"I like to keep busy," he explained recently, as the reason he was headed over to the 50+ Senior Center to do some lapidary work in their rock shop after a morning's work in the pottery studio. Puzy (real name Gordon - "nobody ever calls me that" -) began pottery work at the WAC 12 or so years ago in the Bush Barn after he and his second wife, Barb, moved to Salem from Alaska. Barb also does some clay work at the WAC

"I worked in machine shops most of my life," he said, "learning how to build things." It was in Hawaii that he built a kick wheel and two kilns, one of which was for Raku. He maintains an interest in Raku and in ash glazes. He recently fired a bowl with a local ash glaze and is hoping to get friends in Hawaii to send ashes of a particular hardwood that he says makes a beautiful high fire glaze.

Puzy had six kids with his first wife who died of heart trouble and got two more by marrying Barb. Now he has 23 grandchildren and "at least" 30 great grandchildren. His older sister died at age 100.

He still drives, even at night, and doesn't wear glasses. As for the future, Puzy said, "I have an old pottery wheel in a shed, and I'm gonna make a little pottery shop in my garage." His ultimate goal: "To live to be 100 and be shot by a jealous husband."

---by Hal Mathews

## WAC General Safety Tips

- ❖ Always use a mask and/or gloves when exposed to ceramic material in excess or over long periods of time. (liquid or dry clay, glaze or oxide).
- ❖ Sand greenware pottery outside. Another option is to use the spray booth which is ventilated. Clean-up is a lot easier.
- ❖ If you have a piece that needs extensive grinding, put it on the marked shelf and the staff will grind it. You may also ask Nikki or Roger

for training on the grinder so you can grind it yourself.

- ❖ When mixing glazes, use the whisk that is provided in each bucket. Using bare hands is hazardous to your health.
- ❖ When cleaning up your potter's wheel make sure it is turned off. Accidental pressing of the foot pedal can be dangerous while cleaning up.
- ❖ Make sure your wheel is turned off and the foot pedal is in the off position before you leave it. The next person to use the wheel may turn the wheel on and the bat or pot might tip or fly off.
- ❖ In the case of mopping or water spills, place the yellow safety sign in the wet area until cleaned up and dry.
- ❖ All pottery must be totally dry before being bisque fired.
- ❖ All pottery must be bisque fired before being glazed and glaze fired. An exception would be applying underglaze to green ware.

## WAC Talk

"I love the friendliness of the people at the WAC. Everyone becomes a friend and the atmosphere is upbeat."

--Sue Allen

"The WAC is one of the Gems of Salem. Besides making useful and beautiful items, it is fun, affordable, and a great source of inspiration. The location on the State Fairgrounds adds to the appeal."

---Karen Mohling

"I love taking classes with experienced teachers who encourage each student to reach their potential as potters. The teachers' thoughtful guidance help the students reach their goals."

"A great place to meet friends, be creative, relax and watch the world go by. Take time to smell the clay."

## Party Party!

Why would a group of nurses from Providence Medical Center spend an afternoon at the WAC handbuilding and throwing pots? They were having a party, teambuilding, getting to know each other outside of the workplace, laughing and sharing a new creative experience. Birthdays, special family events, Girl Scouts, you name it. The WAC is a great place to gather in a relaxed atmosphere

to celebrate with friends, create, and play with clay.

The Willamette Art Center studio space is available for rental for your special event. Studio rental is \$50 per hour and includes the first eight guests. There is a \$5 charge for each addition guest. Request a special theme and we will design a project. We have many choices for your party such as painting bisque ware, firing ready-made pieces in the Raku kiln or making something cool out of clay. There is a small charge for bisque ware but the glaze and firing is included in the price.

We recently had an adult birthday party to celebrate the year of the Monkey. Twenty-five guests painted mugs with swinging monkeys aided by the use of templates. Our talented staff and artists will design a project to suit your event. Whether it is a birthday party for a child or adult, teambuilding or a girls' night out, gather a group, learn a new skill and have fun making art.

To schedule your special event please contact Kathy Lord, WAC Community Outreach Coordinator, at 503-365-3911.



## Don't Forget to Become a 2016-17 WAC Member

willametteartcenter.com  
(Support and Donate)  
503-365-3911

**Membership - \$25**

### Benefits:

- ❖ A numbered membership card for the year
- ❖ One free WAC T-shirt per membership
- ❖ Discount on clay (\$12 instead of \$15 per bag)
- ❖ Receive early email schedules of upcoming classes
- ❖ Be considered for a monitor position
- ❖ Vote in Elections and on Bylaw changes
- ❖ Be eligible to participate in bulk clay purchases
- ❖ Attend at least one membership meeting per year

- ❖ Run for a Board of Directors position
- ❖ Have work considered for sale in the Oaks Gallery
- ❖ Invitations to special events

Thank you for your support!

Meet Madison Nigro, a new WAC member, super-talented potter, and first year Willamette University student from Fort Collins, Colorado. Welcome Madi!



### Donate

[www.willametteartcenter.com](http://www.willametteartcenter.com)

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(503) 365-3911

Please make an end of the year, tax deductible donation to support the WAC's ongoing operations--rent, utility bills, facility and equipment repairs, salaries, clay, glazes, insurance---the necessities to keep the doors open and our programs going strong. Every donation, big or small, is greatly appreciated!



### Community Programs

Do you shop at Fred Meyer? Do you have a Fred Meyer Rewards Card? All you have to do to participate is...

- Visit the Community Rewards website at [fredmeyer.com/communityrewards](http://fredmeyer.com/communityrewards), enter your rewards card number, and search for us by our name (Friends of the Visual Arts) or by our non-profit number (NPO# 81552).
- Then, every time you shop and use your Fred Meyer Rewards Card, you are helping us earn a donation!
- If you do not have a Rewards Card, they are available at the Customer Service desk of any Fred Meyer store.
- Since the program began in mid-2014, Fred Meyer shoppers have raised over \$200 for the Willamette Art Center!

### Empty Bowls ~ Weekend of November 19 & 20

### Family Clay Sunday

Kids of all ages are invited to spend Sundays this winter creating clay art together at Willamette Art Center's "Family Clay Sunday." Hal and Joseph design projects for all age levels in our community studio on the Oregon State Fair grounds and help everyone complete their work. Drop in anytime between 1 and 4 through the yellow gate on Silverton Road. \$10 for a family of 4, and \$3 for each extra.

January 8	<b>Snow People</b> — Create snow creatures like the "Abominable Snowman" and "The Thing," out of clay, or whatever represents winter to you.
January 15	<b>Mascots</b> — Make a facsimile of the Oregon university mascot you most favor – either a duck or a beaver. You'll combine pinch bowls and clay slabs to make these iconic figures.
January 22	<b>Bobble Heads</b> — Make bobbing monster or alien heads on a coil-made base for your room that will detect such things as earthquakes and invading parents.
January 29	<b>Valentine Boxes or Dishes</b> — Get a jump on Valentine's Day with lidded boxes or heart shaped dishes to keep or fill and give as presents.
February 5	<b>Flower Vase or Hand Bowl</b> — Make water tight coil vases to fill with flowers or make an outline of your hand to form a handy bowl.
February 12	<b>Tiny Bird Houses or Nests</b> — Song birds will soon be returning. Welcome them with a tiny bird house or nest with birds, eggs, or chicks.
February 19	<b>Jewelry Holder or Animal Bowl</b> — Create a cool jewelry and earring holder or a 4-legged animal bowl for ice cream. Pinch pots and coils make up these projects.
February 26	<b>Leprechaun or Rainbow &amp; Pot O'Gold</b> — Make a sculpture of a magic Leprechaun, or a rainbow with customary pot of gold.
March 5	<b>Pottery Painting Party</b> — Finish painting and glazing all your projects this weekend. You can also purchase one of our mold-made pieces to decorate and glaze for yourself or as a gift.

Our storage space is limited! **Please pick up your work by the first of May.** Items made this season will be kept for 30 days after each session and will then be discarded.

[...We'll see you again after Spring Break....]