

# Texas Gulf Coast Ceramics Society

## August 2004 Newsletter

### Top Priority News

Our local show this year is at the Pasadena Fairgrounds (Campbell Hall, 7600 Red Bluff) Friday Sept. 10 from 10am to 5pm and Saturday Sept. 11 from 10am to 4pm. Tell your friends and ask those friends to bring other friends to the show! Lots of booth pieces to bid on, "Make & Take" classes, plus lots of door prizes! Get your tickets early and save. Presale tickets are available at many area shops or by mail at 13807 Cedar, Santa Fe, TX 77517. Tickets at the door are \$4.50, presale tickets are only \$3.50.

Our theme this year is Swamps, Marshes and Bayous. Once again this year we look forward to all the beautiful pieces that will be entered in the competition. Entries will be taken Wed. Sept. 8<sup>th</sup> from 10am to 7pm at Pasadena Fairgrounds, Campbell Hall.

Please contact one of the show staff for more information. Please take note of the following due dates:

1. There are still a few booth spaces available. Contact a staff member to reserve yours today.
2. Ad applications for the show brochure are due before August 15 and must include camera ready copy
3. Those of you who are donating door prizes, please bring them to the next meeting OR bring them on Wednesday the 8<sup>th</sup> when you come to help with competition entries.
4. The Show Committee needs to know if you going to participate in the booth raffle and what your item will be.
5. We are also looking for a few more volunteers to help out with the setup, cleanup, etc.

### Editor's Letter (Ideas, opinions, and a brief introduction to this month's newsletter)

This is the time when all of us members shine with our ceramic pieces at the show. Let's show a lot of support and make this the best show for our visitors. I heard a lot of good things about the show last year from out of town people. I'd like to hear more this year.

Thanks to all the assistant writers: Julie Pourteau for the show section, Gene Thornton-Brennan for the Shop of the Month essay. Thanks to all who helped checked this newsletter. We had several errors in last month's newsletter, but all the contributors have helped this one get better.



owner/teacher since 1973. A history of the shop and Gene's history in ceramics can be seen on her web site [www.ceramicsetc.net](http://www.ceramicsetc.net) under the Biography section. All ceramics shown here are hand-painted pieces from previous classes.

### Shop of the Month

Brennan's Pride EnterpriZes, Ceramics, Etc. is located at 22430 West Highway 6, Suite 1, Alvin, Texas half way between Alvin and Highway 288. The storefront has been open since March, 2003. Gene has been a shop



Classes are taught by Gene on a daily basis and the schedule can be viewed on the website. Special teachers including David Hoff, Connie Bailes, Courtney Frantz, Susan Peschke and Elsa Riedel teach special classes frequently. There is usually a guest teacher once a month or more.



The shop is well stocked with many old molds and many are popular with the customers. The students particularly like the large selection of platters and utility ware. The new Doc Holiday dragon line is popular, as are their new utility charger plates and the charming bears they have come out with recently. The address plaques and “cutsie” molds that Made-In-Fire (Dona Molds) have are good sellers. TNT’s Egyptian Chess Set and all their Egyptian pieces are favorites right now. Crest Molds large Santa and the other really big molds CREST puts out are popular, as well.

Well known artist, David Hoff designs are popular and his brushstroke and airbrush classes remain popular with Brennan’s Pride & Katy Country clients. Susan Peschke was new to teaching at Brennan’s Pride this year. She also teaches at Katy Country and other places. She is very well liked and students loved learning the slip trailing technique. She was a fun teacher and Gene is hoping to have her again. Gene loves all the great guest teachers she has in her shop and hopes to continue to host them when they want to teach something new.



Brennan’s Pride EnterpriZes is a distributor for Doc Holiday Ceramic Products (Molds and Paint); Made-In-Fire Molds and Donahues; TNT Molds; CREST Molds; CSI Slip; Colorific Porcelain; REX Tools and Form-A-Leaf. New: Creative Living Network. Call for details.

Gene is happy to give wholesale prices to shops and dealers and to give discounts to seniors.

A message from Gene on Show orders: Preorders, with 50% deposit must be in to Gene by September 1<sup>st</sup> to have the show price and delivery.



**Upcoming Classes** (For more detailed information call shops listed in the Local Member Shop section)

**Brennan’s Pride** – Saturday, August 21<sup>st</sup> “Wolf Plate with Tooled Leather Frame”  
 Sunday, August 22<sup>nd</sup> “Nectarine Blossoms & Blue Bird taught by Elsa Riedel

**Brennan’s Pride** – Saturday, September 25<sup>th</sup> “Scarecrow Plate” taught by Courtney Frantz

**E & H Ceramics** – Sunday, October 17<sup>th</sup> ”Holly Jolly Santa” by Courtney Frantz

**“Like It or Spike It”** – There was not a “show and tell” piece at the meeting.

**Personal:** HAPPY BIRTHDAY to Jim Brennan - Aug 11; Gene Brennan – Aug 13; Blanca Bustamante - Aug 15; If we missed anyone, please let us know. WELCOME to our newest TGCCS member Rachel Capers.

### **Sell - Buy - Trade – Want**

Jim Brennan repairs kilns and sells used kilns and new Paragon Kilns. He is looking for parts from old kilns that are being thrown away. Call (281)585-8888

⇒ Joyce is selling all her 2000 molds, kiln & supplies for \$5000 or negotiable. She will sell individual molds. For more information call (713) 734-6143

### **Local Member Shops**

<b>Shop's Name</b>	<b>City</b>	<b>Phone</b>	<b>Email</b>	<b>Website</b>
Backyard Ceramics	Baytown	(281) 428-2651		
Bell's Little Treasures	Pearland	(281) 797-8757	jbell52451@houston.rr.com	
Brennan's Pride Enterprizes	Manvel	(281) 585-8888	whtrabbit@att.net	www.ceramicsetc.net
Cactus Bend Ceramics	Dickinson	(281) 534-3325	cactuskelly57@aol.com	
Dreamcatchers Ceramics	Alvin	(281) 756-8327		
E & H Ceramics	Houston	(713) 921-2045		
Garden Road Ceramics	Pearland	(281) 485-1570		
Playtime Ceramics	Santa Fe	(409) 316-1711	julie@playtimeceramics.com	
Mary Lou's Ceramics	Pasadena	(281) 998-9987	maryloucer@ev1.net	
Monica's House of Ceramics	Houston	(281) 564-4997	monicabatson@netzero.com	

### **Last Minutes Thoughts**

Help us make our newsletter inviting to our readers. Send us your “Success Story”, Like-it-or-Spike-it tips, birthday wishes, class information, Buy-Sell-Trade-Want ads. Our newsletter is created from contributions from ceramists, artists, hobbyists. If there's something you'd like to see in an upcoming newsletter, feel free to drop me a line.

Emails are nice! If you have decided you would like to join our society mailing list or be removed, please send an email to: [ceramicshouston@yahoo.com](mailto:ceramicshouston@yahoo.com) or call one of our member shops.

Membership dues are due for 2004 – 2005.

Our next meeting is August 30<sup>th</sup>, starting at 7 pm at Mt. Olive Lutheran Church on Scarsdale. Please come join us. Bring some of your pieces for show and tell. There will be no meeting for the month of September, because of the show. We will meet again on October 4<sup>th</sup>.

For more info check: [www.houstonceramics.org](http://www.houstonceramics.org)

Other websites of interest: [www.santatheresatileworks.com](http://www.santatheresatileworks.com)

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

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

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

Do you know of other websites you want to share with us?