

# Texas Gulf Coast Ceramics Society

## July Newsletter

This is my first newsletter for the society, so keep in mind that this work can only improve. Please feel free to discuss our society and activities with your friends and relatives. We need new members and ideas in our group. Speaking of new members, Robert Trevino was accepted as our newest member at the July meeting. Welcome Robert.

The following tips came from Trish Gill, published on the IADCCT website (<http://www.iadcct.com/Home.shtml>) :

### Transferring Patterns

Have you ever transferred a pattern only to discover you left out an important line?

You can eliminate this problem by placing your pattern on the surface, placing graphite under the pattern and then placing a piece of waxed paper over the pattern. As you trace the pattern, your stylus will leave an imprint in the waxed paper so you will always know exactly which lines you have traced. You could also use tracing paper and a pencil - this would then outline the pattern on to the tracing paper as well as on to your piece.

(Tissue paper and "Sharpie" pins work well also, if you are only using the pattern once.)

### Marble Effect

You can create a marble effect using translucent stains. Simply pour a bit of several contrasting colors in to a container of water large enough to immerse your bisque piece. Stir the water with the stain on top of it very slightly and immediately dip your bisque piece into it. The color will adhere to the bisque leaving a marble appearance. Be sure to hold the piece in a non-vital area and you must dip quickly. You can spray fix it with sealer after it is dry.

Anyone interested in entering a piece in an international competition? The following might be something. Let us know if you win with your candlestick!

### Prix de la Ville de Carouge

Every two years, the city of Carouge, Switzerland, holds an international ceramics competition with a unique theme. Year 2001 competition theme was 'The Candleholder'. The competition, with the main Prize of the Town of Carouge of SFR 10,000 (US\$6,000) is open to all. There are also two other prizes -- the Bruckner Foundation Prize of SFR 2,000 (US\$1,200) and the Association of Swiss Ceramic Artists Prize of SFR 1,000 (US\$600). The only stipulation is that the candleholder be made of ceramic materials and that it should have been made recently. It should have a maximum

dimension of 40 cm (15.75 inches).  
Entries close on the 1st of June!

OOPS looks like the competition is over for this year. But there is always year after next. You have plenty of time to get ready Pat.

The meeting in July was interesting, if a little unusual. The restaurant didn't have a meeting room reserved for us (Someone forgot to update their reservations book). The meeting was understandably short since we were in the general population of the restaurant. However, there was lots of discussion about the upcoming show. It's coming up quickly. Tickets are ready and waiting, please get your tickets to sell from Joan.

The challenge piece for the members should be a vase of medium size. The only requirement is that it's done in a technique that you will proud to display and claim as yours. This is not a competition piece, but should be done in a profession manner. Also please remember that the other members or attendees of the show will want to know what you did so they can copy. (Remember, imitation is the highest form of flattery.) The challenge vases should be brought for show and tell at the second meeting in August. We need to see how much space is needed for display of the pieces at the show.

Also we need door prizes for the show. Nothing is more fun than winning a prize, even a small one. All members are asked to contribute. Lets make this show memorable for some of our attendees. How about a hand made ceramics piece that reflects the show theme; or maybe a coupon for an oil change, meal at a local restaurant or grab bag of cleaning

tools????? We're all creative, so lets be creative in the prizes. Who knows you might be a winner.

If anyone needs some Gare White Bark or White Bead, please contact E&H Ceramics. You might get a special deal if you want a case, right Jeri?

Please take time to visit one of the member's shops during the next month and share your impressions at the next meeting. Check the web page, <http://www.houstonceramics.org> or call me, Margie Adams 713 545-6344, for contact information of the member shops.

If anyone doesn't have access to the web, please contact me and I'll be happy to print out any pictures, articles, etc from the web pages mentioned in the newsletter.

If you have access to the web, please visit our web page and sign up for website notification. Newsletters should be available online soon.

Members and guests and anyone interested in ceramics is welcome to join us at a meeting. You are always welcome to join us at our regular monthly meeting. We meet at 7pm on the 1st Monday of each month at the Golden Corral Restuarant at 12621 Interstate 10 East (East Freeway).

REMEMBER THE SHOW

**46th Annual Houston Ceramic and Fired Arts Show**

**September 6 & 7 at Campbell Hall, Pasadena Fairgrounds, 7600 Red Bluff, Gate 1, Pasadena Texas, 77507**