

Doc Holliday mold. She is also taking pre orders for Made In Fire molds.
(281) 585-8888

From Jones Publishing :
IT'S ALL ABOUT KILNS AND POTTERY!

Fired Arts & Crafts August Issue
Brings Fresh New Projects!
Projects Theme: Summer/Fall
Special Focus: Kilns
Bonus Feature: Pottery
Ad Space Closes: 6/8/04
Ad Materials Due: 6/14/04
Issue Mails: 7/8/04
*Send Us Your New Product Releases!

Our readers love articles about kilns and how easy it is to do Ceramics in their homes. The pottery Article will show the basics of throwing on a wheel with different clay bodies.
Our readers can't wait to see this issue.

Advertise in Fired Arts & Crafts and capture our audience's interest with your seasonal products and services!

Reserve your space in this attention-grabbing issue today!

Laura Krogwold
Fired Arts & Crafts
(800) 331-0038 ext. 131
laurak@jonespublishing.com

Interesting information from IADCCT website about slab building :

Submitted by Musette Young
What can you make with slabs?

Clay slabs are great to use to construct masks, serving dishes, and other functional and decorative pieces. Plus, kids can make clay slabs to press leaves, lace and stamps!! It's truly amazing what a little clay and a rolling pin can do.

Basic slab hints

To ensure an even thickness to the clay slab, use same-thickness shims on each

side of the clay, so the rolling pin will sit on top of the shims. Make sure the shims don't exceed 1/4 inch thickness (3/8 inch for larger forms).

Once the slab has been rolled to the desired thickness, flip the slab over, and rotate it 90 degrees from its origin. Re-roll the slab. This helps to relieve some of the stresses on the clay.

If using stamps or something else to impress into the clay, spray the face of the piece that will impress into the clay with WD-40. You'll get a cleaner press, and the WD-40 fires out of the clay.

Drying the slab piece

When the creation is completed, do two things. First of all, make sure the creation is placed on a surface where the piece won't stick--a wood board or a dry wall board work great!! As the piece dries, the clay shrinks. If the piece sticks, the shrinking clay will have nowhere to go!! Secondly, drape plastic over the piece. Dry the piece slowly. Check the piece daily, to ensure no condensation is building up on the inside between the creation and the plastic. Leave the plastic on for a couple of days, up to a week for larger pieces.

Firing slab pieces

When working with a full load of slab ware, bring the kiln up to temperature more slowly. Slab ware usually uses a thicker clay body and requires more time to get the extra water and volatile chemical molecules out of it.

For larger pieces, sprinkle 90 mesh sand under the piece. The sand acts as roller bearings as the clay shrinks.

Thanks so much Musette for the tips and techniques.

This latest news from Creative Paradise (Kimple Ceramics). If anyone is heading to Kansas this next month, stop by Goddard and check this out for us. (Goddard is located close to Wichita)

FACTORY OPEN HOUSE June 26, 2004

call or e-mail us with your questions
(316) 794-8621
kimplemold@earthlink.net

We would like to invite each of you to our open house on June 26th, 2004. We will have samples displayed, a quantity of 2nd's molds at reduced prices and 40% off of first molds and color. We will have make and takes on painting and hand building. If you plan to attend and would like to place a pre-order for molds that you know that you would like, please e-mail or call us by June 22nd

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New flyer from Creative Paradise TL Designs :



Lots of birds, lots of flower pots, wait its actually bird flower pots. Check with you local distributor for these new molds. Jerry Webb at E&H Ceramics should be getting these in soon. (713) 921-2045

Cactus Bend Ceramics already has some of the birds as well as this cute frog planter. Check with

Kelly Culver for Greenware or bisque. (281)



534-3325.



Get Well Quick wishes to Robert (Bob) Trevino.



The "in" thing now is house remodeling or redecoration. Check out all the shows on TV about home decorating (Trading Spaces, While You Were Out, Decorating Cents, Makeover Mamma, HGTV, DIY, Extreme Makeover – Home Edition).

With this in mind, have you every thought about incorporating ceramics into you home design by making furniture?

Some of our members are working on projects that involve large ceramic pieces for coffee table legs, supports for entertainment centers, etc. Of course, you can make almost any ceramic piece into a lamp.

Using ceramics in your furniture, however makes unique, one of a kind pieces and can add a lot to any home décor. But think how special because it's your design and your work.

If you are decorating in the safari, jungle theme check out Doc Holiday's Lion and Elephant table supports. The newest very large dragon from Doc Holiday can also be used as a table support.

Many other molded pieces can also work. TNT molds has some very large Art Deco type pieces that would work well.

Scioto columns are easy to use as table legs. Finding a piece of glass for the top isn't always easy. The top doesn't have to be glass. Let your imagination go wild.

Ask at one of your local shops :
Cactus Bend Ceramics – Dickinson
Mary Lou's Ceramics – Pasadena
Garden Road Ceramics – Pearland
Brennan's Pride Enterprizes – Manvel
Katy Country Ceramics – Katy
Dreamcatchers Ceramics – Alvin
E&H Ceramics – Houston
Backyard Ceramics - Baytown

If you have a shop and would like to have it listed in the newsletter, please contact Kelly Culver at Cactus Bend Ceramics. (281) 534-3325.

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LOCAL CLASSES

Susie Peschke 281 395-4197 has committed to teach more classes this year. Check with her for a schedule of classes.

Brennan's Pride Enterprizes has several classes coming up. David Hoff June 17 three classes (3 hours each) – brushstrokes and airbrushes.

Elsa Riedel August 21 and 22 – Wolf in under glazes and bluebird with nectarine blossoms done in pen and ink on the Doc Holiday birdhouse gourd.



Gene's classes

Saturday June 5 and Wed June 9 evening– How to paint eyes.

Thursday June 10 – Clay Hand building

Saturday June 12 – Wet Brushing

Sunday June 13 – Porcelain Lace Drape (limited seating)

Friday June 18 – Airbrush

Wednesday June 23 Evening – Wet Brushing

Thursday June 24 and Saturday June 26 – Clay Hand Building

Remember Beginner classes every Tuesday.

Check with Gene Thornton Brennan at (281) 585-8888 for times and more information. You can also see the scheduled classes on the website www.ceramicsetc.net

Blanca Bustamonte of Garden Road Ceramics has a special teacher for primitive clay tiles. She has done some very impressive work. Call Blanca for more information. (281) 485-1510

A mold making class is being discussed at Cactus Bend Ceramics. Call Kelly if you might be interested in attending. (281) 534-3325

David Hoff will be doing classes at Katy Country in June also. Please check with Linda at Katy Country for a schedule.

If you know of any other classes coming up, please contact Kelly at Cactus Bend Ceramics so we can get the information in the next newsletter.

Don't forget the challenge piece for the show in September. Paint our little mascot on something ceramic and enter the competition.

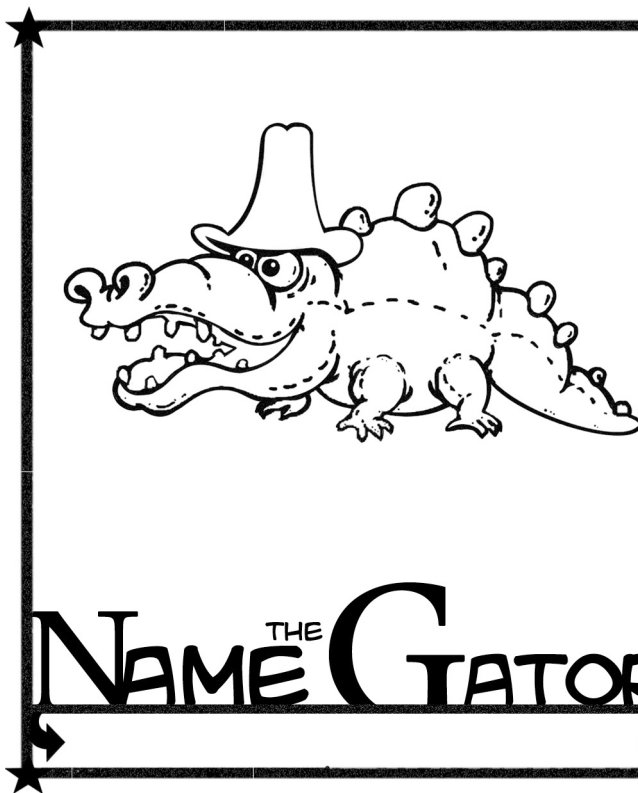
The regular judges will be choosing the winning piece. Prizes galore for entering, so put your thinking caps on and let us see your creative side. No real rules except the piece must be ceramic or porcelain. That means a cast piece decorated with the mascot or hand-built piece using clay.

Any technique or combination of techniques is acceptable. Please write up a little note about how you finished or built your entry piece to share with the show visitors. You never know, someone may want to copy your idea.

Our next meeting is June 7, 2004 at Mt. Olive Lutheran Church.

Please come join us. Bring some of your pieces for show and tell.

The meeting starts at 7pm with refreshments being served by one of the members.



We are still looking for people to rent booths and advertise in our local show book. Feel free to contact one of the show people for questions or concerns.

The show is shaping up nicely this year, but there is always room for more.

We are also looking for a few more volunteers to help out with the set up, etc. Please contact Julie Pourteau (409) 316-1711.

Texas Gulf Coast Ceramics Society
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