

February 2019



The Kiln Post



Member Meeting



International Art

Su Washington is a Tucson “snow-bird” who splits her time between Tucson and the U.K. She is herself an internationally known clay artist with many exhibitions and shows throughout England, Scotland, Thailand, Wales and the United States. Her work is an adventurous amalgamation of ceramic, metals and found objects with sizes ranging from sophisticated jewelry to garden art to a 7’6” ceremonial arch for which she learned to weld.



Su Lupasco Washington also founded The Washington Foundation UK to maintain the legacy of her late husband, Robert J Washington and his father, William Washington. Bob Washington was sometimes described as an art explorer in his generation but during his lifetime craft galleries considered his clay work fine art while fine art galleries considered it craft. His work now resides at the Victoria & Albert Museum in London, the Tucson Museum of Art in Arizona and is featured in every major public collection in the U.K.

Su will present a short documentary about the life and art of Bob Washington followed by Q&A time. The film is a fascinating look at the artist, a discussion of his techniques and the progression of his works through time. Su will also give us a short tour through her own outstanding pieces featured on her [website](#).

This SACA member meeting is on Sunday, April 7, 1:30 to 3:30 pm but was originally shown as a different date on the website. Like all other member meetings, this event is free and open to the public, so bring your friends and neighbors. The location for the presentation is currently pending, and will be announced soon. Please put this meeting on your calendar, and RSVP so we can arrange appropriate seating. This will be a truly entertaining addition to our burgeoning calendar.

[RSVP](#)

Attention Members

Su needs your assistance. Please save your used cones, preferably singles, for her. When you get a stack of them, contact Su on her [website](#) and she will arrange to collect them from you.

February Karen's Korner

A message from the President

BITS & PIECES

An outdoor board meeting sounds lovely, until we are shivering in a stone cold park ramada, nipped by a bitter wind. We braved it for a bit then repaired to Culver's to finish. Cold fingers aside, we tackled the first order of business — the surprising and disappointing number of members who haven't renewed for 2019. Those of you who have — you're SACA heroes and your reward is that you won't miss a minute of the large and growing number of events on the schedule and in planning. Membership growth is a big goal for SACA this year so please talk to your friends who have forgotten to renew.

There are a lot of moving pieces to this SACA engine right now and the website is humming with new pages.

1. Shows pages boast downloadable Inventory Forms and a link to Avery for labels to help participants prepare for SACA Shows
2. About to burst on the scene is the first Minutes Summary, designed to keep members informed about the inner

2019 CALENDAR

FEBRUAR Y BOARD

Click on **UNDERLINED DATE** for more information.

February 22 & 23
Tohono Chul Show

MARCH

March 9
Curtis Hoard - Studio Tour
Green Valley

March 21
Clay Play Day with Carol Teal

March 30
Tucson Studio Tour

APRIL

April 7
Su Washington Presentation
International Art

April 13
Surface Decoration 1
Details TBA

workings of board meetings. Find them soon under Member Resources.

3. AND there are now ten years of Board Members Lists on the website in case you have a burning question about who did the newsletter in 2011. Look under About, Board of Directors.

I know — such heady stuff! All of these resources are there with more in the works to make SACA information easily accessible to members.

More bits of real joy:

1. Coming off the very successful John Britt glaze workshop, Kathy Dunning has just announced an April 13, surface decorating workshop.
2. Right now is the SACA Tohono Chul Show and Sale, February 22-23, on the grounds of the beautiful park with free park admission during the show. Attend with a friend!
3. Elaine Dow has arranged a local studio tour with the well known bronze and clay artist Curt Brill on April 27.
4. If you haven't signed up for Elaine's Curtis Hoard Studio Tour yet don't miss this Green Valley masterpiece on March 9.
5. There are still a couple of openings for the March 30, Tucson Studio Tour when Marilyn Cleavinger will usher around inquiring members who aspire to build their own home studios.
6. Su Washington brings us a double treat on April 7, when she will present her own impressive work plus a documentary of her late husband Robert Washington.
7. Another generous member, Carol Teal, just presented us a Clay Play Day invitation for March 21.

Find all the details in this edition of the Kiln Post.

These program events and opportunities just keep snowballing, gaining momentum and energy and it's an exciting time to be a SACA Member. If we are generous friends, we will share all this good news with our tardy, late renewing brothers and sisters. Let's bring them home.

April 27 - Curt Brill
Studio Tour

MAY

May 18
Critique
Details TBA

JUNE

TBA

JULY

TBA

AUGUST

August 10
Andy Iventosch- Presentation
Studio Ceramics Stars
Details TBA

SEPTEMBER

Annual Meeting - Pot Luck
Details TBA

OCTOBER

October 19 & 20
Tucson Botanical Gardens
Details TBA

Surface Decoration 2
Details TBA

NOVEMBER

TBA

DECEMBER

Annual Holiday Potluck
Details TBA

WORKSHOP
MEMBER MEETING
SHOW

**RESCHEDULED MARCH 16
FOCUS GROUP:
EXPANDING OUR REACH —
OUTREACH, THAT IS**



For years many SACA members have expressed great interest in supporting art education in the community.

Our members feel programs for young adults are especially relevant because 1) there are fewer scholarship opportunities available to this demographic, 2) we run great workshops that can teach them important clay skills, and 3) if young people know about SACA's many benefits it might encourage membership. We might provide a spark that ignites a young person's lifelong love of clay work.

Last month we talked about Outreach, but rescheduled the February meeting to March. On March 16, from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm we will hold a focus group concentrating on Community Outreach and what kind of total outreach program SACA could build. This endeavor is expected to expand from the successful 2014 Scholarship Program started by Jada Ahern. Our new scholarships and grants hopefully will benefit teens and young adults as well as art teachers in our community.

Focus groups are a fun way to explore a single topic and look at the many perspectives and ideas brought by attendees. Brainstorming possible programs and fund-raisers generates a lot of excitement as well.

The meeting will be at the home of Karen Phillips. If you have experience with grants or scholarships, if you have an interest in promoting this endeavor, or if you have ideas of any sort to share please RSVP and attend. If you can't attend please send me your comments. This program could elevate SACA's community outreach mission in a meaningful way, and we value your input.

Karen Phillips
SACA President 2019-2020

[RSVP Here](#)

WORKSHOPS

A CLAY PLAY DAY — YAY!

We talk a lot about playing in clay — but how long has it been since it really was just play? SACA Member Carol Teal is inviting us into a workshop world which may be a little outside our adult comfort zone but well inside our love of clay and camaraderie. The March 21, workshop is open to eight SACA members for a fun session of hand sculpting, clay talk and camaraderie from noon until 4:00

John Britt Spotted Glaze Workshop

by Kathy Dunning

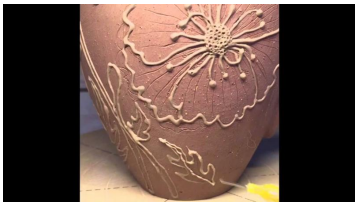
This adventure into glazing started on Friday with fresh squeezed grapefruit juice and doughnuts greeting the lucky 16 people who signed up for the workshop with guru, John Britt. After a discussion of the glazes

pm. This is a great chance to spend some time in the lovely Santa Rita foothills and be inspired by the quiet beauty of nature.

We will get acquainted over a potluck lunch at noon. Carol will provide a big pot of soup and others are invited to bring bread, salad or desserts. After admiring Carol's clay collections inside we can admire her large studio and talk clay while building our small sculptures — animal, vegetable, mineral or wherever imagination leads. Carol will provide clay, firing, and a large worktable. Participants should bring their texturizers, aprons, towels and typical tools. The small \$5 fee will cover costs of clay and firing. Click the link below to register for this fun afternoon.

This is another in our new exploration of small group events. The first was the very successful January Mug Meet at Bambi Anderson's in Green Valley. There are other small group meetings in the works so please stay tuned.

[Registration](#)



Surface Decoration Workshop with Sid Henderson Saturday, April 13

SACA Workshops announces a one day Surface Decoration Workshop so keep this day open. This is the first of two surface decorating workshops planned for this year.

Spend the day at Rillito Park, Ramada 3 trying several different ways to decorate your clay work. We will be

available and a look at the results to expect, we were able to glaze our pots. Each application had to dry before we could add another layer . . . it was a lengthy process. A new glaze had to be made and sieved to add to the other 5 base glazes that were ready and waiting. By 4 pm most of the pots were glazed and loaded into the kilns and we started the firing. The few pots that were not glazed were completed the next day and fired in the electric kiln.

On Saturday we added 5 more people to the crowd to hear about all things glaze related but first we took a "sneak peak" into a small electric kiln to get a preview of what was to come on Sunday. John's lively performance kept us laughing while discussing glaze and the complexities involved.

Sunday started off with a lesson on how to use glazy.com to formulate glazes for the effect you want plus how to tweak the glaze you have. The big kiln was now cool enough to unload. I do not know how many pots were in the kiln but it seemed to go on forever. John looked over the pots to pick out what went good and bad and told us how to improve the results. Then of course it was time to unload the big electric. All the pots that were glazed were fired and John passed out copies of the glaze recipes and firing instruction.

I think everyone had a good time, especially the ones that traveled from Idaho, Minnesota and Santa Fe.

trying sgraffito, mishima (inlaying color) and slip trailing.

Cost for the workshop is \$25 and open to all SACA members.

Registration details will be available soon.



Member Meetings

Curt Brill Studio Tour Coming Soon



Curt Brill, ceramic and bronze artist, will host SACA guests at his home studio on April 27. This member meeting will allow us to see where and how Curt imagines, executes and displays his art.

Educated at Cornell University, his first love was drawing and that shows in his work on tea bowls as well as in

Studio Tour to Green Valley

The member meeting on Sunday, March 9, will be a tour of the studio of **Curtis Hoard**, master ceramic artist now living in Green Valley. Hoard was Professor of Ceramics at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis for more than 40 years and only recently moved to southern Arizona.

His studio comprises multiple rooms including a gallery for his finished work, a bisque (electric) kiln room, a room for making work and a room with two gas car kilns, one, a new kiln for soda. Check out his website to see examples of his work.

We'll meet in the Safeway parking lot in Green Valley at 9:30 AM and carpool to Hoard's house and studio. Please RSVP to Elaine Dow if you'd like to be part of this rare opportunity.

Click here to [RSVP](#)

his bronze sculptures. Since the 1970s his clay work has been highly collected around the country. In the 1980s and as an outgrowth of his clay work he gradually turned to bronze sculpture.

As has been said about Brill, "Being a people watcher with a keen eye by nature and having a potent sense of humor and an easy demeanor, it is easy to see how his personal style has evolved. His work has now been met with wide appeal by individual collectors within the United States, Europe and Japan." Visit his website at www.curtbrill.com

Take advantage of this opportunity to visit a world renowned artist living in our midst. Registration details coming soon



On January 20, we held SACA's second annual Buy, Sell, Swap event at the Lew Sorensen Community Center. There

were 12 people in attendance and those of you who were not able to come missed out on lots of good stuff! SACA President, Karen Phillips, shared the upcoming Members meetings and we have many fun things to look forward to. Kathy Dunning talked about the John Britt workshop and had great samples of the glazes.



EMPTY BOWLS

2019

ICS EMPTY BOWLS
MARCH 2, 2019

SOUP DAY IS JUST AROUND
THE CORNER

This important event has been a year in the making, and the last three months especially have been a whirlwind of activity. Now the DAY is almost here.

A HUGE THANK YOU to everyone who has revved up your bowl-making machines and turned in some beautifully made pieces for Empty Bowls. Those artists who are still doing bisque, glaze and sanding, please call Jada at (520) 870-0823 or [e-mail](mailto:jada@icsc.org) to arrange for pick-up from February 22-28. The final drop dead date to turn in finished bowls is March 1 at the Chinese Cultural Center from 3-4 pm only.

Also, thank you to those who volunteered to work at Soup Day, and help with the crowds searching for bowl

**SACA JURY
SESSION**

The next jury is set for April 2019. Details will be published soon.

Janet K. Burner
SACA Jury
Coordinator
[Jury Coordinator](#)

treasures. You will get a confirmation e-mail from Jada with details.

The Community Food Bank benefits enormously from this amazing event, and SACA is proud to be a vital part of the local cooperative of artists, restaurants, suppliers, sponsors and ICS, each fulfilling an important role in mitigating food insecurity in Southern Arizona. The Empty Bowls program is SACA's original community outreach endeavor, and perfectly demonstrates the generosity of the dedicated and talented artists we call members. We salute you.



MARVELOUS MUG MEET

A small but eager group of SACA members made its way to Green Valley at Bambi Anderson's invitation on January 19. The whole sunny day did not disappoint in any respect. Bambi supplied food and drink and let us amble through her compact studio and cactus garden. The grounds are filled with maybe 50-60 brightly colored totems of many shapes and sizes, some of which sway in the breeze. Bambi expects that in her upcoming studio tour many of the totems will find new homes.



The biggest draw was Bambi's collection of around 750 mugs, an overwhelming array to inspect in even one whole day. Bambi has a card inside each mug naming the artist who made it. Participants examined many mugs — beautiful and bizarre, clever and scary, smooth and rough, large and small — we could scarcely be prided away from the mug room. When we each presented and passed around our favorite mugs from home, thoughtful discussions centered on handles, rims, bottoms, design, decoration, and all that makes a mug successful — or not. Among the other successes of the day, attendees praised the concept of a single discussion topic among a small group, and asked for ways to repeat the experience.





A big thanks to Bambi Anderson for her generosity in opening her home and grounds to SACA folks. It was truly a lovely day, and may well be a good model for future get-togethers.
