

## Dried Out Clay? Give It Some Love!

It's happened to all of us. Life gets busy, and by the time we get back into the studio, our clay is dry. All is not lost. There is no need to throw the clay away. Here are a couple of ways to put moisture back into your clay. If your whole block of clay is hard, there is a quick and easy way to make it pliable:

Add 1 cup of water to the bag of clay and tie it off with a rubber band. Then place the bag in a bucket of water. The pressure of the water will force the water that is in the bag into the clay. Check out this video on how to *Rehydrate a Block of Clay*. However, many of us have small balls of clay from leftover projects and we never get around to using them. Here's a video that shows another way to *Reconstitute Dry Clay*. Contact the Board for names of members who are willing to mentor you in this process.



### Soup's On!

This year **twenty-two members** created over **50 bowls** for VIA Health Partners' Soup on Sunday fundraiser for hospice care. Members came on January 4th and 8th to create the bowls, and the kiln committee worked diligently to get them all fired so VIA could pick them up on January 20. The organization will use our photos to promote this event throughout the year. Many thanks to everyone who gave of their time and love to support this cause.

### Club Fair

Our club was well represented at the SCCL club fair on January 22. Members engaged with our community and shared their excitement about creating pottery, which resulted in four people signing up for the next Pottery 101 class.



Thanks to Mary, Helene, Dawn, Lynne, Doug, Morry, Nancy and Julie for manning the table and braving the cold weather.

## PFP Club Meeting Highlights

On January 8, over thirty members attended the first club meeting of the New Year. Here are a few **highlights, reminders, and changes**:

- Club meetings will be held on a quarterly basis
- Date and initial greenware as you put it on the drying shelves
- More members are needed for the kiln and cleaning committees
- One board member is assigned to each committee to promote communication
- Pieces without a potter's mark will not be put in the kiln
- Wipe off the rim of the glaze container after using
- The pottery display window is getting rave reviews
- *Check the PFP website for the complete minutes of the meeting.*

## Clay and Candy Hearts



A dozen potters showed up for the Valentine's Open House on January 25. Creativity was fueled by candy and cookies, and one lucky potter went home with a box of candy. Ideas, heart-shaped molds and tools were freely shared. Look for their creations in the club's February window display case.

## Fresh Out of the Kiln



Mary Willingham created a Valentine's Day chocolate box which looked good enough to eat. The pattern came from a Dollar Tree plate. Mary glazed the box with Stroke and Coat Hot Tamale and trimmed the bow with Spectrum gold. The candy pieces are glazed with a

variety of stroke and coat glazes. Mary remarked, "My sixteen year old grandson has his first girlfriend, so I think I will give to him so he can give it to his girl." Mary is a real Cupid.

**Reminders from the Kiln Committee:** Think ahead when you are creating something. Best results are achieved when the kiln is full, so depending on the output of members, it can take a little time to fill it. Only one kiln is run at a time, and they are not run on Sundays. Check the white board in the kiln room for the weekly schedule.

## Dates to Remember

- **February 5 Wednesday 1-3 p.m.** Birdhouse Class with t yrff/Florence Holmes and Kathy Bacon. FULL. Email *Neysa* to be put on wait list
- **March 4 Tuesday and March 8 Saturday 12-2 p.m.** Ceramic Jewelry in 2 parts with Lynne Hesney. Eight participants. Email *Neysa* to sign-up.
- **April 5** SCCL Lifestyle Craft Fair.