

# Wisconsin Pottery Association Monthly Meeting Minutes

## Tuesday, 11 October 2011

Business Meeting Attendees:

Dorothy Russ, President	Jim Tyne
Michael Waidelich, Vice Pres	Ellen Tyne
David Knutzen, Treasurer	Betty Knutzen
Heidi Hahlen, Secretary	Jamie Boone
Art Wendt	Christine Boone
Eileen Wendt	Tim Zinkgraf

**Treasurer's Report:** After a call to order by President Dorothy Russ, she announced that she has signed the contract for next year's Annual Show and Sale and Treasurer David Knutzen has already paid the first installment of next year's Exhibition Hall contract fee. David then reported that the WPA checking account balance was \$6531.95 and the savings account balance was \$4408.36 for a total of \$10940.31. David proposed that a \$50 gift card be given to Barb Budig for her dedicated assistance in the set-up and tear-down of this year's show. After a unanimous vote, it was agreed to send Barb a \$50 gift card.

**Secretary's Report:** Heidi Hahlen reported that there are currently 49 members with 2 lifetime members, with 14 members attending the September business meeting and a total of 18 members attending the program. Heidi reported that most of the meeting minutes taken since she assumed the position of Secretary in January 2010 have been placed on the WPA website by Tim Zinkgraf but the 2 road trips (March 2011 and May 2011) do not have minutes and 2 meetings (March 2010 and November 2010) have no minutes. Everyone was again reminded that articles are due to Ori-Anne Pagel by October 15<sup>th</sup>, and asked that everyone consider sending her articles or pictures for inclusion in this upcoming newsletter. The next three deadlines are January 15, 2012, April 15, 2012 and July 15, 2012.

Heidi reported that the Wisconsin Historical Society has made their recommendations for a few changes in the WPA Bylaws. She reviewed the 2 content changes and the other minor wording changes recommended by the Field Service Office of the WHS. After a short discussion, it was voted to accept the gist of the 2 content changes though we agreed to further alter the wording as we felt appropriate. Article 3, Section 3 titled "Types" will now be titled "Classes" and the explanation of 3 specific levels of membership (Regular, Dual and Honorary Lifetime) will be eliminated from the bylaws. It was acknowledged that removing the specific levels of membership from the bylaws allows the WPA to make whatever changes it wishes in the classes of membership without having to change the bylaws. Article 3, Section 4 titled "Privileges and Responsibilities" was also shortened when the explanation of the Honorary Lifetime Membership was deleted. The Field Service Office recommended that the Honorary Lifetime Membership be changed to Honorary Membership so that a specific and possibly limited period of time could be bestowed as the WPA membership sees fits. Everyone agreed that the Regular, Dual and Honorary Memberships will continue and that the 2 current Honorary Lifetime Members will be grandfathered. The newly revised bylaws will be voted on at the Annual Meeting on December 6, 2011. Please refer to the WPA website in January 2012 for the final version of the revised bylaws.

**Annual Show and Sale:** Jim Tyne agreed to lead next years Annual Show and Sale. While there were a few set up snafus on the part of Exhibition Center, he was quite pleased with how smoothly it went. Dorothy suggested that a group meet next spring to review all of the possible free advertising options in order to maximize the potential attendance. The Calendar/Clubs section of the Capitol Times 77 Square insert should be included as well as the calendar on the Wisconsin Historical Society website and in their Magazine of History and Columns. Michael confirmed that he saw the Capitol Times classified ads in the Garage Sale section that Roseann Lindner placed on behalf of the show and sale.

### Old Business:

Betty announced that the Program Committee has met and have several speakers already lined up for next years program calendar. As always, February will feature Member's Choice, Steve Drake will discuss Native American Arts and Crafts at the March 2012 meeting and Christine Boone will discuss Illinois Pottery at the in October meeting. It is hoped that Steve Schoneck will present again in June and at least one program is planned as a joint Tuesday evening meeting with the members of the Iowa Pottery Club. Heidi suggested that a

road trip to Illinois be considered for a Saturday or Sunday so those who are unable to attend the monthly Tuesday evening meetings can join us for a weekend day trip.

Betty Knutzen reported that Chris Swart and Ann Waidelich will have a more complete report on their progress made on Century House book project at the November meeting.

Don't forget that the Annual Business Meeting and Holiday Party with the White Elephant gift exchange is scheduled for the first Tuesday in December, 12/6/11 to begin at 6 pm. Again, Jim and Barb Riordan will again provide the meat and buns for hot sandwiches, so everyone else is asked to bring a dish to share. There always seems to be a nice range of dishes so a specific sign-up list will not be needed. Please bring your own silverware and drink and as well as that special white elephant gift to share. As always, there is always good food, good friends and good cheer.

### **Show & Tell:**

John Magon brought copies of the October 2011 Treasures – Antique to Modern Collecting magazine for everyone to see. The cover article features the 140 year old Haeger Potteries from our neighboring Illinois, John's choice of pottery. In collaboration with Donald-Brian Johnson's (everyone's friend from the Ceramic Arts Studio Collectors Society) writing skills, John provided his favorite pieces to show off their colorful and timeless designs. Please contact John if you would like to purchase a copy of this magazine (\$3).

There were many items on the Show & Tell table this month. One of the outstanding pieces was brought by President Dorothy. She found 2 Century House plates recently, one with an early date of Nov '48, purchased at one of her favorite thrift stores for less than \$2. Arthur & Eileen Wendt took pictures so the plate will be included in the book on Century House that is in the works. Christine also brought a Ceramic Arts Studio 'Madonna with Bible' in bisque but, instead of the bible, a bird is perched on her hand – thought to be lunch hour piece. Jim & Ellen brought a powder jar purchased at a Pillin auction held in St. Louis. There were 180 lots of Pillin pottery, with most going for higher than expected prices, confirming that there are many Pillin collectors out there.

### **Program:**

Jim Tyne brought examples of his collection of Catalina Island pottery. The story of the short-lived pottery factory that became the life-blood of the island's inhabitants is quite amazing. This small island was the source of red clay that used to make roofing tiles, pavers, hollow bricks and hand-glazed pictorial and decorative art tiles, decorative pottery, dinnerware, garden pots and tourist novelties. With the leadership and financial backing of William Wrigley, Jr. of Chicago and master builder D. M. Renton, Catalina Pottery became a booming enterprise that sadly, only lasted from 1927 – 1937.

We were pleased to have a couple join us for this month's program after they checked the WPA website for the topic of this month's presentation. Dennis and Patti Thayer are also collectors of Catalina Island pottery, having moved to Wisconsin from California about 8 years ago. They were excited to find another Catalina Island connoisseur and brought several examples from their collection. Patti is a dealer at the Odana Antique Mall and has mostly mid-century modern inventory. They were invited to join WPA so hopefully, we will see them again at future meetings.

### **Next Month:**

The November program will feature the Riordans and the Knutzens discussing Roseville's Middle Period patterns (A – L). This period of time, 1920 – 1938, has given us the most collectible patterns so the pottery examples should be very enjoyable.

***Please consider submitting a short article to Ori-Anne for the January newsletter – deadline January 15, 2012. This is your newsletter and is only as interesting as the information you submit. Your fellow members will enjoy learning about how you became interested in collecting pottery, your favorite piece of pottery and how you acquired it, your experience at an auction, buying on-line or highlight a buying trip or vacation.***

Please let me know if you have any questions. Hope everyone can join us for next month's meeting and presentation.

Respectfully submitted by  
Heidi Hahlen, WPA Secretary