



## Highlights: Clay Social Happenings

By Esther Schmidt



Hi everyone!

We had a lovely January meeting. Unfortunately Kim and Maria were not feeling well. We missed you! I had the pleasure to chat with Susan Locsin, Patty, Sharon Mhyre (who is BTW, doing well), Cathy Gilbert and Cheryl Flynn Dickson.

As a personal note, January is a hard month. It's kind of a let down after the holidays. But it is important for us to meet! I enjoy our zoom meetings every week and I look forward to them!

I hope this year will be easier for all of us, with hopes that this pandemic ends. On that note, I want to wish a speedy recovery to Gil and Sharon! And anyone else who needs healing!

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**Show & Tell**



Faux coral necklace by Maria Brown



By Cathy Gilbert



By Cathy Gilbert



Jewelry by Esther Schmidt



Jewelry by Esther Schmidt



Canes by Esther Schmidt



Dragon pendant by Kim Day



Dragon pendant by Kim Day



Polymer clay covered egg by Kim Day



Bracelet by Sharon Mhyre



Cane by Sharon Mhyre



Faux cinnabar vase by Sharon Mhyre





Work by Sharon Mhyre

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## February: **Round Robin**

By Kim Day | [polymerclay@gmail.com](mailto:polymerclay@gmail.com) | February 3, 2020 | 6:30 p.m.

**Crackle Surface with Kim Day**

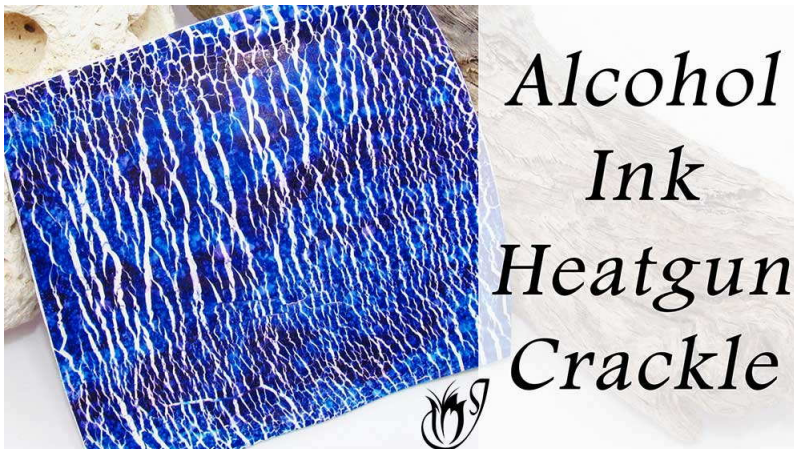


Photo from Jessama Tutorials

I'll be exploring a few techniques on how to get crackle designs on clay, including crackle inks, foils, heat gun, and 99% alcohol. We'll also be showing some methods of coloring them, including alcohol inks, paints, chalks, and backfilling. Some of this will be demo only, and some you can clay along with. If you choose to clay along, have the following supplies at hand:

- Clay – almost any colors will work. I recommend white and a darker background color
- Pasta machine or rollers
- Clay blade
- Paper or deli paper
- Burnishing tool (paper folders work well, fingers can do in a pinch)
- Heat or embossing gun
- 99% alcohol (you can do the heat gun techniques in it's place, so don't worry if you don't have this one).

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## Announcements: Events & More

By Kim Day | [polymerclay@gmail.com](mailto:polymerclay@gmail.com)



### Clay Camp Ideas Request

Heya! While it is incredibly good news that the vaccine is rolling out, it will not be in time for us to safely do an in person Clay Camp again this year. Last year, since it was so last minute, we simply set some Zoom times for people to hang out and called it our Virtual Retreat. This year we have more time to plan! Swaps can be done by mail if people are interested. There are some very well known clay artists doing Zoom classes. We could line up some demos. What do you want to happen?

Please let me know, we want it to be fun! Email me at [polymerclay@gmail.com](mailto:polymerclay@gmail.com).

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### **Zoom Program/Round Robin Volunteers Needed**

We've had some absolutely amazing Zoom programs in 2020 (Krithika and Dawn I'm looking at you!). We've also had too much of me teaching, I don't want people to get sick of me! As VP of Programs, I've been searching YouTube for techniques that could translate well into a Zoom classes. Programs are things that take a lot of effort to prepare, and the Guild pays a \$75 honorarium, while round robins are usually simpler techniques and pay \$50 if one teacher for the night, and \$25 each if there are two shorter sessions. These honorariums aren't a lot, but they should amply cover the cost of your supplies.

I'm looking for people willing to teach in 2021 at our monthly meetings! I can supply the ideas (YouTube link), you can bring your own ideas, or you can teach a technique from a book. No teaching techniques from paid tutorials, that is against the copyright unless we purchase a copy for everyone that attends (like we did with the bowl tutorial a few years ago). Again, email me at [polymerclay@gmail.com](mailto:polymerclay@gmail.com).

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### **All Day Clay Days**

We are still doing Zoom meetings and informal get togethers. Every month our Guild meeting happens on the first Wednesday, from 6:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Every week, we usually have people on Wednesday evenings 6:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. and Saturday mornings 9:00 a.m. - noon. Every other month, on one Saturday, we also have an All Day Clay Day. When we meet in person, it is at Third Place Books, but for now it is only on Zoom. The dates for this year are on our [Guild website](#). Mark your calendar if you don't want to miss them!

When: February 6th | April 10th | June 5th | August 7th | October 9th | December 4th

Time: 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

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### **[Polymer Clay Symposium](#)**

With limited in person events happening, more and more clay online events and opportunities are arising. Here's one of note, please email if you come across others

the Guild might be interested in.

The 2021 Polymer Clay Symposium is FREE. It is seven days of three workshops released per day, in video format. What's the catch? Those workshops are only available that day, there would be a fee to purchase them to watch at a later time. So mark your calendars, and check out the website to see if there are any in particular you want to try and watch while they're available. Symposium runs from Friday, 5th February to Friday, 12th February.

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## Online Meetings: **Zoom with Us!**

By Kim Day | [polymerclay@gmail.com](mailto:polymerclay@gmail.com)



We have our monthly meeting over Zoom the first Wednesday of the month from 6:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m.

We also have small informal clay days every Wednesday 6:30-9:00 p.m. and every Saturday 9:00 a.m.-noon. All of these use the same Zoom link.

You are welcome to invite other people you know to these, there is no membership requirement for our informal get togethers. They can also craft with other mediums than clay.

If you'd like to be on an email list for people who want to schedule Zoom things outside these Wednesday and Saturday times, please let me know with very specific words "Add me to the Zoom e-mail list" at [polymerclay@gmail.com](mailto:polymerclay@gmail.com)

### [Zoom Link](#)

Meeting ID: 988 553 9980

Password: clayisfun

**Zoom with Us**

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## President's Message: Online Onwards

By Kim Day | [polymerclay@gmail.com](mailto:polymerclay@gmail.com)



For the past couple years I have done the 100 Day Challenge, where people in any artistic medium challenge themselves to do something dedicated to their art each day for 100 days. The first year I chose “make something with clay” as my theme, and I loved how it made getting into my craft room a routine event, instead of something where all the stars had to align.

The second year I did 100 days of polymer clay beads, and I challenged myself to do as many polymer clay techniques as I could. It definitely makes my inner dragon happy, as I run my hoard of beads through my hands over and over.

This year... I guess due to people wanting some extra happiness in response to world events, they’re starting early, January 31. I really really want to do it! I thought about it and came up with a theme. However, life doesn’t always let you do something, and I’ve been battling some nasty side effects then withdrawals of a new medicine that was supposed to make things better, not worse. I chose to use this as a chance to examine why I want to do it.

Do I even care about the Facebook group where hundreds of strangers are posting pictures and probably not even seeing mine? Not really. Instead, it’s an opportunity to get creativity and clay back into my normal everyday life. It’s knowing that I will be proud of myself at the end. It’s knowing I’ll have things I made that I wouldn’t have made without it.

So can’t I just tell myself “go craft more” and achieve the same thing? Maybe it works for some people, but for me I think even self imposed and artificial deadlines help. Very long rambly story short, I’ll be doing 100 days again, but I will start it later, probably in a month or two.

Why did I share this, besides knowing how interested you all are in my every action? (joke!) Challenge yourself too! It doesn’t have to be 100 days. Find a goal, examine what’s stopping you from doing it, then either eliminate the problem, or modify your goal into something you can achieve while maintaining self love. Try a thing a day for a month, or for a week, or a couple hours of clay each week (hey, come hang out with us on Zoom!).

I hope you all find something that makes you happy this year, something that excites you and inspires you. Just remember to keep looking for it. :)

*Kim*



## Update your Info

New members need to sign-up to our newsletter, the sign-up form is included in your NWPCG Welcome email from Membership.

Changing your email? You can [update your personal](#) information to ensure that you receive our newsletter. You can also add your website or social media links to your profile. This link is also available in every newsletter at the footer area.

If you haven't yet, please add "newsletter@nwpcg.org" to your address book so our newsletters do not go to spam.

Update

 Forward

[NWPCG website](#)



Newsletter Editor & Designer: Ria Mendoza Hoyt | [ria@orangejar.com](mailto:ria@orangejar.com) Photos taken during NWPCG events may be used for promotional materials

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