
Wind Chime Demo, Remembering Marie and More!

From: Northwest Polymer Clay Guild Newsletter <newsletter@nwpcg.org>

To: Maria Jam <mariajambrown@yahoo.com>

NWPCG Volume 29 | Issue 07 | July 2022

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June Recap: Reminiscing

By Kim Day | polymerclay@gmail.com

June's monthly meeting was a clay social, where we reminisced on Clay Camp, made some things, and just spent time together. What more do we need to say? :)

Show & Tell



Work by Esther Schmidt



Work by Esther Schmidt



Veneer work by Esther Schmidt



Shells by Sandy Nigro



Pendant by Joy Coleman



Succulent planter by Maria Brown

July Program: Wind Chime Demo

By Sharon Mhyre



I will be demonstrating wind chimes that incorporate polymer clay as well as a variety of other materials. The possibilities for these creations are limited only by imagination. Learn about what materials can be used for each part of a wind chime. Because this is such an extensive subject, with multiple paths, I will be showing a specific wind chime and how to put it together, as well as displaying others.

Announcements: Classes & More

By Kim Day | polymerclay@gmail.com

Fall Online Clay Camp Volunteer Teachers Needed

We still want to proceed with an online Clay Camp this fall. People sound



interested, so I've put some thought into it (along with Maria's help). We decided we'd like to focus on beginner's techniques, to help spread the polymer clay joy and maybe get new members.

We have also decided on pre-recorded lessons, with the camp consisting of some live scheduled Q&As with the teachers, and some interactive bits (such as last year's popular "Share your favorite tool"), plus whatever ideas people have – let me know!

If you are interested in teaching, in the next month or so I will be setting up an area for recording in my clay room, and I will offer to have anyone that wants to teach in the online clay camp to come over and record here. Send me an [email](#) if you're interested, thanks!

Change of Zoom Dates Fall Online Clay



Typically, our summers are our least attended months in the year as people are busier than usual. We are not changing our monthly meetings, or our weekly crafting Wednesday night hangouts (6:30 to 9pm). However, we are temporarily dropping from the weekly Saturday 10am-noon, and scheduling them once a month instead. Here is our Saturday schedule for the next few months. Please note our all day clay days that occur every other month are not affected.

Updated schedule:

- July 16, 10am-noon
- August 6, 10am-5pm

- September 10, 10-noon
- October 8, 10am-5pm
- December 10, 10am-5pm

We'll announce in the newsletter when we're resuming the every week official schedule. As a reminder, the Zoom room is open and available even when it is not an officially recognized meeting/clay day. If there are people that want to continue showing up every Saturday, they are welcome, but those dates might lack board member moderation abilities. If there are people wanting to have more hangouts, I'm happy to compile a directory (google document) to share with those interested.

If you'd like to be included in this directory/document, please include the following info:

- Name
- Email
- Text number (optional)
- Want to be contacted for clay dates?

Email Kim

In Memoriam: Rest in Peace, Marie Segal

By Marie's daughter, Shasta McClain on Facebook

This never gets any easier... with tears in my eyes and pain in my heart... I leave you with this.

Marie was born on November 28th 1956... and on June 9th 2022 she passed to the other side of the craft room, with my dad by her side.

My mom has been an artistic and creative genius for almost her entire life. She started with oil painting followed by ceramics, bread dough and ending with Polymer Clay. She put her heart and soul in her work. She came up with some of the most eccentric ideas and processes from making naked people magnets to crocheting a polymer clay jacket that is displayed in a museum to decorating toilets with clay, just to name a few. She was a pioneer in the polymer clay world.... there isn't much that her hand hasn't touched (whether it was her idea, her encouraging another artist, helping develop a product, writing a book, etc.) and it brought her a ridiculous



amount of joy to help turn a "hobby craft" into a legitimate art form. And that even after 40 years, she still found joy in making and sharing her art.

My family and I are not ok and we know that you all have been affected by this as well. My mom knew so many people, and she called every one of them "Friend!" Sunnie and I can tell you that we know you. We know your stories, your art and how you made her laugh. She loved to tell us about all of you. My mom has touched so many lives it's truly amazing to know the impact she

has had on you all! I hope she sees that now.



For many years my mom struggled with mental illness. She was hurt in her earlier life, it took a toll on her little mind. Unfortunately it was the start to lifelong trauma... that fortunately sparked the creative genius you all knew and loved.

My mom had a lot of death in her life of people that were her best friends. Every time she lost someone special to her it tightened the belt of trauma on her precious mind and a tiny piece of her would lose its light.

When my parents moved to Apple Valley a chunk of her lost its light...

When COVID lockdown came another chunk dimmed and then eventually went black....

She took a hit... in the last one and a half to two years my mom's light was dimming more rapidly. Some of you may have seen the effects of this via phone calls, emails, text messages.... and if you didn't, it might click now....



My mom has always been a spiritual being. So a lot of the time it seemed normal. Within the last year the pace picked up... and the last six months was coming to the finish... my mom stopped eating and taking care of herself. Her mind checked out, it had enough and her mental illness took over. Unfortunately. My mom couldn't get into her devices, she was mixing up memories and reality.... it was extremely hard to watch, we couldn't do anything to help... believe me we TRIED and TRIED. She didn't want to participate. She told me "what's the point if I can't create."

With Dad's permission, I wanted to share what happened with Mom. On May 28th 2022, after four days of fighting it, she asked my dad to take her to the ER for abdominal pain. She was quickly

diagnosed with a bowel obstruction and perforation, septic and hypovolemic shock requiring emergency surgery to repair it and a stay in the ICU. During her stay in the ICU, we also received diagnostic results that Mom had multiple malignant masses on her liver, a clot in her heart and that her heart was failing. We count ourselves lucky that Mom has always told us exactly what she wants, if she couldn't make decisions for herself. So while this was the hardest decision we have ever had to make, We know, for sure, that Mom is at peace and isn't in pain anymore. We know that she is pulled up to the end of a six foot folding table, with a pasta machine on her right, creating beautiful things on a piece of tile and laughing because she can't believe how cool the thing is that she just made.



In honor of our Mom, Marie, please take care of yourself, mentally, physically and emotionally. Keep creating and challenging the status quo of the art world.

And remember, when you think of her, look up, she's in the same sky.

Mom, we are missing you a shit ton!

With love, light and abundance hugging you!

Shasta, Sunnie and Howard

Please respect my family at this time...

If you would like to help you can donate directly to my dad to help with hospice, cremation and memorial costs. Via PayPal: howcgal@yahoo.com

If you would like to share a story you have about my mom, pictures you have of my mom, life lesson you learned, poems, encouragement etc for a book I am making... you can email them to Bookofmarie2022@gmail.com

Photos:

1. Marie with Kim Mitchell
2. Marie teaching at the NWPCG Clay Camp, Camp Huston, Gold Bar, WA
3. Marie taking a moment to strike a pose at the NWPCG Clay Camp
4. Marie at the NWPCG Clay Camp showing off an artwork

Tribute: Peace, Marie

By Meredith Arnold



Marie Segal may be gone but her everlasting legacy will always be a reminder of her generosity, talent and personality.

We have Premo Sculpey, a clay that mixes colors the way we mix paint: blue and yellow make green, red and blue make purple, etc. That was the first clay to mix colors this way. Marie began as a fine arts painter so was used to mixing colors this way. She felt that it was important to have this mixing system in our clay world. She made it happen with Polyform.

There are many other aspects to Marie's legacy: generous sharing of techniques, the use of pasta machines with polymer clay, even her brilliant way of making and applying polka dots onto beads, to name a few. Her life as an artist took many turns, was full of adventure along with a lot of the mountains and valleys of life. Marie was always navigating those ups and downs intensely.

Marie (and Howard!) were voted in as "Lifelong Members" of the NW Polymer Clay Guild because of their many years of support and contributions to the Guild. Marie, Howard and The Clay Factory connected a lot of people to our Guild over the years. They helped us promote Ravensdale conferences, ran the store at Ravensdale, attended Clay Camp and so much more.

One time, I was teaching a polymer class somewhere across the country, Atlanta, I think. Making canes came up and I got a question I didn't have an answer for – no surprise there. I'm not a caner! So I said, "Let's call Marie! She'll know exactly." So I called Marie and as usual, she had exactly the info that was needed and then more! It was hilarious and helpful to a whole room full of students.

The other things that should be mentioned include Marie's love for people and her sense of humor. Marie loved people and people loved Marie. She thought nothing of making something specially for someone and sending it to them. Whether it was a card, a necklace, or a mixed media piece or even a text message, Marie would send it out of pure delight. It was a tangible way of showing she was thinking of you. It was a hug from afar. It was her love coming at you.







Meetings: Zoom

By Kim Day | 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 10:00 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 email list" at polymerclay@gmail.com

[Zoom Link](#)

Meeting ID: 988 553 9980

Password: clayisfun

From the President: Clay On! Cat On!

By Kim Day | polymerclay@gmail.com



Hey Clay Peoples!

It is hot hot hot today. I hope everyone found a way to stay safely cool!

I don't have much to say. Have a happy July 4th, come join us on Zoom sometime even if just to say hi for a few minutes, send me show and tell pictures for the newsletter (clay or other hobbies are welcome).

And here's another picture of our cute cat Loki.



Clay on,

Kim



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 Forward

NWPCG website



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