

Candidate Resumes

President Elect

Victoria Shaw

"The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams" -*Eleanor Roosevelt*

OPA Family member since 1988, member of Portland's oldest cooperative studio (Stark St.) since 1988, Post history of collective problem solving (collective owner of "Starflow", Oregon's first Nat'l foods distributor serving 5 western states), Education: MFA Ceramics U of O 1984. Collections: USA, Japan....Full time educator, Sculptor since 1984. Past service in OPA & Showcase, Board Member at Large. Committed to the ideals of the Oregon Potters Co-operative of service, support, education and the encouragement of growth and excellence in our craft.

Secretary

Brenda Scott

Member since 2005, enthusiastic volunteer, Board Member at Large and Secretary 2007. I did it last year; I may as well do it again.

Newsletter Editor

Janet Buskirk - we all know her, we all love her...so vote for her.

Finance Committee

Jen Tonneson

I have been a member of OPA for several years. I would like to offer my experience as a business owner in goal planning and team building as we move the OPA toward new achievements. This is an exciting time to be involved with such a great group of people.

Board Member @ Large

Jeanne Henry

I am past president, special events chair, publicity committee, Board Member at Large.

My goals are: 1. Help promote OPA and increase our profile in the state

2. Increase involvement of new, cutting edge clay artists

3. Go back to OPA roots – more networking, support between individual potters, help groups, etc.

-Thanks for considering me for this position

Linda Klaus

A cooperative team oriented member at large in 2006 and 2007. Past jobs in this capacity include research and reporting (listed on OPA website) of vendor visa opportunities; Organizing an OPA demonstration booth at MOCC opening; organizing and conducting the revised voting procedure for 2007/2008. I will continue to work hard for our organization and members. Thank you.

Diantha Knott

(See Videographer Candidate Qualifications)

Karl Knudson

Hello, my name is Karl Knudson and I am seeking re-election to the position of Board Member at Large. During the last year, my accomplishments at this position include participating in the creation, layout, editing, and printing of the OPA Tri-fold informational brochure and being an active participant of OPA board meetings and discussions. I hope to continue in this position in 2008. Thank you for your time and vote

Victoria Shaw

Member of OPA since 1988 Ceramics teacher at Multnomah Arts Center, PCC, Glen and Viola Cultural Arts Ctr. Past Board Member at Large, Strong cooperative group work ethic, Stark St. Studio member.

Margaret Synan-Russell

Art teacher and working artist. I have a Master's in Creative Arts education, BFA double major in Ceramic and Sculpture, Graduate Certificate in Non-profit Business administration and an Associates in Graphic Arts technology. AS per life and work experience other than being an art teacher; Current Justice center Windows coordinator; Founding President of the Montavilla/East Tabor Business Association; Volunteer Coordinator of the Children's Art program of Volunteers of America's Portland Safe house; Artist-in-Residence at Contemporary Crafts Gallery; Board member of Alumni and Friends Organization- Portland Art Museum and Pacific Northwest College of Art; Gallery preparator for Wentz Gallery at PNCA and the Jamison-Thomas gallery (no longer around); layout artist for the Oregonian's A&E, Director of the Anchorage International Youth Hostel in Alaska.

I love art, I love business, I love the business of art. On a more personal note: I sing in stairwells, I howl at the full moon, I am really bad at telling and getting jokes, I make great bread and I am a very nice person that can have a bad temper!

Jim Wydler

BFA, Master of Science in Teaching, a booth at Portland's very first Art Quake, Art teacher for 34 years with my last five years at Lakeridge High School, Lake Oswego, retired from teaching and devoting much of my time to the ceramics studio. It is time to give back to the ceramics community that has so richly contributed to my career.

- Supervisor for Intern Art Teachers, Lewis & Clark Graduate School of Education, 2004 – Present
- Published in Ceramics Monthly magazine, Nov. 2005 – Tip of the Month, p32
- Published in Ceramics Monthly magazine, Feb. 2007 - Suggestions, Accuracy in Planning p18
- Published in Ceramics Monthly magazine, Aug/Sep. 2007 – comment...Chef or Cook?

Kristin Yount

I have been an OPA member for 9 years this coming year. I have sat on the board for many of those years as the picnic chair, and then the empty bowls chair. I am aware of board procedures and protocols and would be honored to serve as a member at large. (*also see Workshop Chair*)

Sarah Chenoweth

I have just joined the OPA, but I am very excited to see how I can contribute to this vibrant ceramics community. For the past two years, I have been a co-president of the Mt. Hood Community College Ceramics Club. We put together an annual sale of student work, bring in artists from around the country for workshops, and host one-day workshops with Big Brothers Big Sisters. Last spring we raised \$1300 for Potters for Peace. As a Board Member at Large, I hope to use my experience and ideas to enhance our ceramics community and spread the love of clay.

Sandy Segna

I'm running for Board Member-at-Large and bring some skills I think will be helpful for this position. I've served on non-profit and community boards in the past and I've been active in our local ceramics guild in Corvallis. I'm a technical editor. I've got computer skills and I'm well organized. In fact, most of what I do at work all day is organize things – large grant proposals, program reviews, student presentations and meetings, including a recent national scientific meeting at OSU. I'm interested in contributing to OPA and I look forward to getting more involved.

Rabun Thompson

(no candidate information submitted)

Brenda Scott

Enthusiastic volunteer, OPA Secretary and Board Member @ Large in 2007, co-president of MHCC Ceramics Club with Sarah Chenoweth, helped organize the OPA demonstrations for the MOCC opening with Linda Klaus.

Clay in Education**Anne Stecker**

As clay in Education chair for the past two years I have worked with the board to create positive changes. Two years ago we changed a policy to allow our artists to teach in the schools not just in after school programs. When our artists who teach residencies would not teach for OPA due to the hourly pay rate being half what other programs were offering we instituted a system whereby 50% is paid by OPA and 50% by the school. Last year I asked the board to consider providing a scholarship for Scholastic Art Awards and donate to their operating expenses. This year we have doubled the scholarships to 2 - \$1000 scholarships for outstanding Oregon High School ceramic artists and \$500 operating expenses which will help pay for the shipping and entry into the Scholastic national show which offers substantial national scholarships. I have enjoyed serving in this capacity and I would like to be reelected. Thank you

Data Coordinator**Nick Molatore**

I would like to serve again for data coordinator for 2008. I have established and maintained an automated system of delivering email announcements to the OPA membership that has been in place for 1.5 years. I have also managed the PCs owned by OPA and have consulted on technology for OPA. Qualifications: OPA member since 2002, BS in Computer Science from PSU, 1984. Full-time Computer Science instructor at Clackamas Community College since 1985. I teach programming and networking. Responsive and adaptable to the current and future needs of OPA.

Empty Bowls**Sandy Brown/Babette Harvey Co-Chair**

Sandy Brown's qualifications include organizing and successfully co-chairing the Empty Bowls 2007 booth. She has also been a Board Member at Large several years and has been a past OPA president. She is also a high school art teacher.

Babette Harvey has volunteered at Empty Bowls during the Blues Festival for six years. I've been a part of setting it up, tearing it down, cashiering, and many other aspects of the show. I am enthusiastic about what I perceive Empty Bowls to be; part of recognizing the humanity of everyone in our community and sharing the wealth! Empty Bowls might be a little bit like Robin Hood without the swords. Okay, get those pots ready to donate to a good cause...I'll "swing" by to pick'em up at any time and add them to the awesome booth Sandy and I will create this year!
Vote for Sandy and Me!

Bill Sanchez

I am excited about serving the OPA as the Empty Bowls Co-Chair. I see this as an opportunity to directly help feed the hungry and continue to pursue my passion of making functional and decorative pottery. I'll bring lots of energy, organization, communication, and computer skills to this role. I did a thorough review of the Empty Bowls National Program to help me prepare for a bowl making demonstration at the 2007 Albany Art and Air Festival and helped several participants make bowls for donating to next summer's OPA sponsored sale. My long term goal in this position will be to expand the OPA Empty Bowls Program increasing exposure for OPA members and the donations to the Oregon Food Bank.

Hospitality Chair**Tony Little**

Do you crave coffee? Do you crave tea? Pick me! Pick me!
What – you don't know who I am? You're leery – I understand!
I will tell you who I am. I'll earn your trust – on me you can depend!
I'm Tony Little. Behind the scenes is where I've been. Installations –
Do you comprehend? Fish wrangler, bird house hanger, now ball chaser I'll be.
I've implored you, I've emailed you, and I've thanked you.
But my tour as Installation Helper soon will end. A new mission is required.
Hospitality – I feel inspired! Vote for me and this promise I'll make
With coffee I'll even bake cheesecake!

Justice Center Windows

(no one running at this time)

Manual Editor

Julie Asbury - Held this position in 2007 and would like to continue the work she has been doing.

Membership Chair

Marilyn Wood

I think my computer experience, along with my organizational skills are a good fit for this organization. I have designed and programmed databases in the past. I converted our OPA database to Microsoft Access this year and have made many positive changes to it. Thank you.

Mentor Chair

Holly Dubrasich

OPA member for 5 years. 3 years Board Member at Large. One year Mentorship Chair 2007. Having a Mentorship committee has huge potential to enrich our organization with new ideas about life and work with clay. Encouraging new members to get involved in the organization and reaching out to make them feel comfortable doing that is the most important part of this position. If we want to keep OPA strong we have to welcome and encourage new members in every way that we can. I have really enjoyed communicating with new members this year and would like to continue to develop this position next year. Thank you for your vote!

Picnic Chair

Debi Nelson

"As picnic chair my first task will be to change the name to "Party Czar". I am endorsed by Steven Cobert.*

This message was approved by Debi Nelson

*Not really, but I'm sure he would if asked."

Programs Chair

Deb Shapiro

For 18 years I have been happy to volunteer my time to this organization, and I believe that the five annual General Membership meetings are the most valuable time we OPA members share. This is our chance to welcome new members, reconnect, discuss information and news as a group, and create a common history that ties us together as friends.

Informative, interesting, educational, and exciting presentations are the magnets that draw members to the meetings. This is vitally important to the relevancy of OPA. Time is precious, and our Programs need to be exceptional to be worth our members time. Please give me the opportunity to work on making this happen. Thank You.

Video Librarian

Mark Timmerman

For the past 11 years, I have worked in Training and Communications. My roles have allowed me to design, implement, and facilitate training face to face, virtually and via video. I understand the importance of having the right tools and knowledge available to be able to expand one's skills. I look forward to transferring my experience in training and communicating information to the OPA. I'm proficient in Word and Excel. I am currently managing our internet content and design at my place of employment – Netflix. Being the Video Librarian would be a great opportunity to find out what a new techniques and videos are available and to be able to share them with the Association to help expand our knowledge and take our skills to the next level.

Sandy Segna

Hello! I'd like to get more involved in OPA, so I'm running for Video Librarian, a job I can do from my "outpost" in Corvallis. I work full-time at OSU, where I oversee large research grant proposals and edit scientific papers, so I have the computer and organizational skills for this job – and I'm not afraid to use 'em! I work two blocks from a post office, giving me a chance to get out for a nice walk while getting videos mailed out to all of you quickly. I would enjoy doing this job and would appreciate your vote.

Colleen Little

For the last three years I have been the Installation Chair and have had the pleasure of working with many of you. I now have Salmon and Bird Houses under my belt and soon Garden Speeres will end my Installation term. I am looking to stay involved and learn more about OPA and how it works. Over the past year I have enjoyed watching many of the videos and DVD's OPA offers and am familiar with how the check out system works. I am very organized and dependable I am knowledgeable with Word and Excel for keeping track of the video check outs, and have no problem contacting members if need be for video returns. I think that the video library is a wonderful resource for all members and hope that you make me your next Video Librarian.

Videographer Chair

Diantha Knott

As Videographer for 2007 , with the assistance of her Husband Jan Knott, documented and edited to DVD nine Showcase 2007 Demonstrations and one (taped by T. Knight) OPA workshop. The quality of these projects demonstrates her ability and continued interest to be the 2008 Videographer for OPA.

Voice Mailbox

Linda Klaus

A member of OPA since 1998, I have successfully held various jobs on the Board including Hospitality Chair and Board Member at Large. The Voice Mailbox Chair would be called upon to answer a myriad variety of questions about our organization and about our members. My work with OPA has given me an extensive knowledge of the various skills and expertise that our membership is so rich in. With this information in mind, I would quickly ascertain to which member to direct the particular inquiry. I would perform these functions in a professional manner, keeping our members confidentially in mind. A good record keeper, I strive for perfection. Thanks for considering me for Voice Mailbox Chair.

Webmaster Chair

Jim Johnstone

I have held the position of OPA webmaster for the past year. My goal has been to redesign the functionality and keep the content fresh and current. The addition of a Google Calendar will allow the board and Chairperson to keep their events current and information available to all members.

Workshop Chair

Deborah Moen

I have been a member in OPA for 13 years. My clay background has included total responsibility of 4 years chairing and coordinating the kids play booth at the Portland Arts Festival. My non-clay background was 15 years as a Production Scheduler in the High Tech world. I believe my qualifications are strong for this position. Please consider giving me your vote.

Thank you,

Kristin Yount

I worked in a public studio for 6 and half years. In that time I often had to facilitate workshops by signing people up, seeing to the needs of the guest teacher, and taking payment. I have organized many of site workshops not associated with my job for my friend and mentor PK Hoffman.

Recently I have held the title "program director" for a non-profit at center. There I facilitated many one time workshop events and long term curriculum. I am happy to say that while I am no longer there the programs I instated are still up and running including an adult clay program and a twice weekly workshop for student at the Mt. Scott Learning Center; an alternative high school for at risk youth. Currently i do a lot of event planning with my group PDX Etsy. I am now in the process of curating a show with over 70 vendors, single handedly.

I would like to use my skill as a planner, a communicator and a facilitator in the realm of planning and coordinating OPA sponsored workshops. I would like to see workshops offered by OPA members, national artists, and international artists. I understand that this position is a two-year position. The process as I understand it from my own experience is three fold : finding talent, arranging for a venue and then advertising and enrolling students. Thank You,