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Pottery in motion

The act of making pottery is very personal and intuitive. The potter understands and learns to listen to the clay, focusing their intent but at the same time allowing the clay to guide their hands resulting in wondrous objects that reflect the potter's spirit.

Clay is a sensual, tactile and forgiving medium. The only limits to the forms one can create is the imagination which expands as one experiences the medium. Put your hands in the clay and let it guide you to a creative outlet which is satisfying and rewarding.

The Gualala Arts Clay Studio is available to anyone with the interest. It is located on the lower level of the Art Center in a spacious and well-lit area with inspiring views of the coastal redwood forest.

The studio provides plentiful work space, three throwing wheels, a slab roller, wedging tables, resource library and a large kiln. Tools, clay bodies and glazes are available for purchase.

There are several enthusiastic, volunteer, ceramic artists in residence at the studio to guide and assist participants whether one is a novice or an experienced ceramist.

Visitors and interested students are welcome to stop by and explore the facility and see artists in action, works in progress and works completed.

The studio is open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Monday and Wednesday evening by appointment.

Hiles...from Page 4

guy.

"Len is practical, he listens, he doesn't pretend to know it all, and he's easy to work with." Len has been made "Assistant in charge of maintenance," leaving some to believe that Ben secretly wants to escape!

Len, retired in 1999, and Sharon, retired in 2002, enjoy abalone diving, snow skiing and golf. Actually, Sharon is the golfer and Len is the reluctant golfer.

The Gualala Arts community would like to thank Len for the many hours he has given to our special place where so many wonderful events happen.

DiMaio and O'Neil...from Page 7

of putting on AIR became the responsibility of others.

The Top Hat dinner also had historical if less sophisticated origins in earlier AIR festivals. When the event was held in downtown Gualala, homemade baked goods were replaced by outdoor cafes under a canopy next to the Community Center. The 1982 event featured wine tasting in the "Redwood Garden." By 1984 it was called Le Café Foret and that year an Artists' Ball was held in the Gualala Hotel.

Later, on the ridge the Midsummer Faire offered authentic bangers and the Lions Club volunteered in both beverage booths and at the barbecue pits. For several years the evening meal and subsequent entertainment was called "Feast and Frolic" with dinner at the hotel followed by a musical performance or dancing at Ocean Song.

So this year's dinner is simply the latest manifestation of an AIR long tradition, another aspect of the idea first cooked up by Betty O'Neil and Kathy DiMaio 50 years ago.

Purchase advance tickets for Gualala Arts events at
www.BrownPaperTickets.com

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