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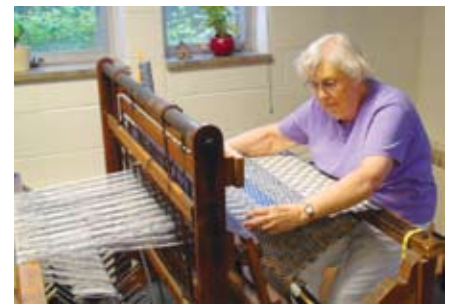
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Holiday Pottery Show Fiber Art Show & Sale

Two Great Shows in One Weekend

November 12, 13, 2010
Bloomington, Indiana



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In ancient times, craftsmen formed guilds to share the secrets of technology, a system that thrived into the 16th Century in Europe. Textile workers, masons, carpenters and glass workers were among the early guilds.

In 21st Century Bloomington, two active guilds gather one weekend in November to present annual exhibits and sale of the work of their members, events that are eagerly anticipated and attended.

This is the 13th year for the Holiday Pottery Show sponsored by the Local Clay Potters' Guild and is held at St. Mark's Methodist Church at 100 N. Hwy 46 Bypass in Bloomington.

Just a short distance away, the Bloomington Spinners and Weavers Guild will hold their 25th annual Fiber Art Show and Sale at First United Church, 2420 E. 3rd St. More than 35 members and guests will exhibit many fiber arts with ongoing demonstrations. Items offered for sale include woven clothing, shawls and scarves, rugs, runners, dishtowels, tapestries, knitted sweaters, socks, hats, mittens and scarves, dolls, baskets, beaded bags, yarn and fiber.

Twenty-two members of Local Clay Potters' Guild reveal a wide

variety of creativity while working with the same materials. Using stoneware and porcelain raw earth, low fire and high fire clay in wood, electric and gas reduction kilns, every piece is distinctive. The complexities of the glazes are the results of the heat, internal vapors and the chemical transformation caused by the composition of the various minerals used.

Adam Egenolf's crystalline glazes demand precision kiln temperatures to grow the crystals slowly as the kiln cools. The firing of Ruth Conway's wood kiln is a project that lasts 24 hours and the glaze results vary depending on how the ash settles within the inferno of 2350 degrees Fahrenheit. Susy O'Donnell reproduces early American pottery using red earthenware covered by a white slip and intricate carving. Allyson May focuses on alternative firing, especially Raku, a rapid and spontaneous method of glazing and firing pottery which was created in Japan in the 16th Century.

Hours for both shows are 5 to 9 pm. Friday and 9 am to 5 pm Saturday and both are free admission. More information is available on the guilds' websites at <www.bloomspinweave.org> and <www.localclay.net>. ■