

### Third annual 'Cousins in Clay'

5/11/11

Come meet the "Clay Cousins" who are devoted to making pottery as a way of life. On May 28 and 29, Seagrove potters Bruce Gholson and Samantha Henneke of Bulldog Pottery hold their 3rd annual "Cousins in Clay" event. Once again Bruce and Samantha bring a line up of renowned potters to their rural pottery community of Seagrove in central North Carolina. Three nationally known studio art potters, Jack Troy, Michael Kline, and Peter Lenzo will bring their ceramic art to Bulldog Pottery for the special two day event. This will be a wonderful opportunity to meet with the artists and add to your pottery collection or begin one. Bulldog Pottery is located five miles south of Seagrove's single stop light on Alternate Highway 220. Creative energy is clearly unlimited for Pennsylvanian potter Jack Troy, who weaves his productive life around his passion for ceramics. He began teaching young artists in 1967 at Juniata College, has taught over 185 workshops, written 2 books about clay, a book of original poems titled Calling the Planet Home, published over 60 articles and book reviews, all while producing a constant stream of pottery at his Pennsylvania studio. Jack Troy gives homage to our state of North Carolina in his Wood-fired Stoneware and Porcelain book (1995), "If North America has a pottery state it must be North Carolina." Like a writer creating his autobiography, South Carolinian artist Peter Lenzo sculpts head vessels that are symbolic representations of his personal story. Intrigued by the 19th century southern pottery face jug tradition, Peter has created self-portrait face jugs that are clearly unique to his own personal interpretation of this long-standing southern folk art tradition. Michael Kline, a studio potter from the mountains of North Carolina, creates inspired traditional forms that are graced with his elegant floral brushwork giving a botanical theme to his wood-fired pottery jugs and jar forms. Sometimes his pots are covered with a honey amber color glaze that is as appetizing as maple syrup. Michael Kline will be presenting brushwork demonstrations on both Saturday (2:00pm) and Sunday (1:30pm) during the event. Bruce Gholson and Samantha Henneke have created a collaborative environment at their Bulldog Pottery studio that provides them the support to express their independent voices, more than they would be able to achieve individually. Their art pottery has become known for an eclectic mix of form, imagery, texture, pattern, and graceful design all integrated by their rich and distinctive glazes. Both Bulldog Pottery and Michael Kline share their personal journeys of the day-to-day life of being full time studio potters through their clay blogs. Join them to find out what is happening next in their studio at Micheal Kline's "Sawdust and Dirt" blog and Bruce and Samantha's blog, "Around and About with Bulldog Pottery". ([www.michaelklinepottery.blogspot.com](http://www.michaelklinepottery.blogspot.com)) and ([www.bulldogpottery.blogspot.com](http://www.bulldogpottery.blogspot.com)) Come out for the day or spend the weekend in the "Seagrove pottery community", where three North Carolina rural Piedmont counties come together: Randolph (known for the NC Zoo), Moore (known for Pinehurst Golf), and Montgomery (known for the beautiful Uwharrie Mountains). Bulldog Pottery's "Cousins in Clay" brings together a rich diversity of contemporary ceramics for this two day event. "Cousins in Clay" is a kinship based on shared appreciation for the pursuit of excellence within the diverse language of clay. Visit their Web site [www.cousinsinclay.com](http://www.cousinsinclay.com) for more details and information on accommodations in the area or call 336-302-3469. Where did the "Cousins in Clay" name come from? The event's name, 'Cousins in Clay', is attributed to fellow potter Michael Kline who referred euphemistically on his blog Sawdust and Dirt to a "visit to his clay cousins in Seagrove", Bruce and Samantha decided to invite Michael to participate in their first Bulldog Pottery Studio Art sale, and titled it "Cousins in Clay". This is now an annual event. Bulldog Pottery Bruce Gholson and Samantha Henneke 3306 US Hwy 220 Alt North Seagrove, NC 27341 910-428-9728 B's cell 336-302-3469 S's cell 336-302-4452 [www.bulldogpottery.com](http://www.bulldogpottery.com)