



# **RISING SUN POTTERY**

Gallery & Studio

## **Studio Potter Peggy Lafferty**

My entrance into pottery was purely selfish on my part – in the mid 90's my younger daughter came home from college and to keep her medical insurance active, we signed up for a night-class in pottery at Gaston College. The instructor was Keith Lambert who now resides at the North Carolina coast where he runs Shipyard Earthworks. Someone told me at the time that it was either therapy or would put you in therapy; I guess that person had tried to center a lump of clay on the wheel. My daughter was not too thrilled with the class or the process, but I decided to keep it up after the class and found that a pottery studio had opened in Lincolnton.

For four or five years I worked at pottery when I could, my job seemed to interfere with the time needed for it. I took classes from Barbara Reilly Putnam, the first owner of Rising Sun Pottery in the late 90's. After Gary Lee bought Rising Sun Pottery, I took classes from him but as my job changed to a twelve month job I had to cut back on my pottery time. I finally had to give up on throwing and left the studio until a time when I could put forth the required effort that throwing takes.

As I approached retirement in 2008 I decided to go back to pottery so I talked to Gary Lee about coming back to the studio. I needed space for my wheel and to take classes again to get back into throwing. Lucky for me, there was room in a daytime class and I was back at throwing. I throw functionally pottery and bowls are my favorite thing to throw.

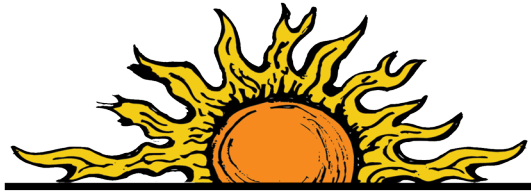
In 2010 I took a class from Corine Guseman on slab work which was the first time I had ever done slab work and found it interesting. I have added slab work to my repertoire and have to make sure to go back to throwing frequently so as to not lose that skill. I attended the fall 2010 and spring 2011 Artist Gathering at Wildacres where I worked on slab building in the fall and miniatures and small pieces in the spring.

During the year I have several sales, I set-up at my husband's office on Main Street during the Artist Crawl in the early spring, for the Apple Festival in September, and a Christmas sale in mid-November with fellow potter, Rosemary Leonard. I am still a novice potter but as a non-artistic person I have found it a great challenge to keep my mind active and alert. Outside of pottery, I play bridge with friends, both contract and duplicate; and work on improving my tennis game with clinics and league play.

*See the next page for photos of Peggy's work.*



209 South Academy Street • Lincolnton, North Carolina 28092  
Phone: 704-735-5820 • Fax: 704-736-1060  
Email: [rising\\_sun\\_pottery@bellsouth.net](mailto:rising_sun_pottery@bellsouth.net)



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