

# Steven Hill Notes

## July 2018 Adamah

### **TO CANDLE WORK AND DRY IT OUT:**

Load kiln and fast fire to above the boiling point of 212...maybe set kiln at 240 degrees. Then soak at 240 for several hours. Leave the kiln lid up 1". You will know the wares are dry if you don't fog a mirror held up to the crack in the lid.

### **TO SLOW BISQUE FIRE WORK THAT IS NOT COMPLETELY DRY:**

. 1. Manually program for a soak for 60 degrees per hour to get above 212 degrees. Then do a slow bisque firing with a 3 hour preheat.

### **WHEN TO OPEN A BISQUE FIRING:**

1. Keep all peeps in
2. At 700 degrees remove 1 peep
3. At 600 degrees put a 1 inch stilt under door to prop it open a little
4. At 400 degrees you can open the lid.

### **To make an undulating mug rim:**

First, throw a cylinder that is a little hourglass shaped. Make the lip of the cylinder angle 45° in toward the bottom of the mug. Then trim the base and undercut it. Take slurry off of sides with metal rib Except The top inch! Sort pot and use corner of S4 rib. Next, using a metal rib, make an undulating edge near the bottom undercut. Then using a rib tool, undulate the bottom itself by using the undercut area to push up with a stiff rubber rib in an undulating motion. Then go to the top rim of the mug and using your fingers, pull up gently in three places. This begins the undulating edge for the drinking rim. Use a rib, metal or plastic, keep smoothing this drinking rim until the finger Marks Disappear. Then delineate the top 1" or so with an edge and smooth with metal rim. Use the metal rib to undulate the straight

line on that 1" edge. Next, use a long rib to make an S curve in the cylinder sides.

**To create a smooth marble-like finish on a foot ring**, use a diamond grit paper in 4 sizes. Ex. Is 200, 400, 600, 800.

**Throw open bowls and plates on a plaster bat!!!** Hydra bat 12.5" and work pops right off! Buy the One. You must wet the bottom off f the clay to make it stick to bat. It is harder to center on a plaster bat

-thin rims while bowl is still fairly upright before opening the bowl fully.

-3.5 lbs. of clay for a vase

-when shaping a pot, use a rounded rigid rib inside the pot and simultaneously use a flexible rib with it on the outside.

### **GLAZING:**

Enhance the form with glaze. Streaming caused by fake ash glazes with lots of calcium in them.

-there are less crystal formed on the warm palette than the cool palette of greens and blues.

-Steven uses the same glazes at cone 6 and cone 8. He has gone back to cone 8 because he likes the high fire clay better than cone 6 clays

-tall pots run more than short ones

-do not put the iron red liner glaze on too thick or it goes brown and bubbles

### **TO REFIRE A POT**

- Heat the pot for 1-2 minutes in microwave until you can barely touch it then spray lightly with glaze, let it dry, and then more glaze will adhere to that coat.

Recommends and shows at St. Croix Studio Tour