

[Advertisers' Page: Get your supplies here](#)

[Advertising Information](#)

[Submission Guidelines](#)

[Mailing List](#)



[Adobe Acrobat version of this issue](#)

[Editorial](#)

[Letters to the Editor](#)

[Previous Issues](#)

[Reader's Gallery](#)

[Donations](#)

[Staff](#)

[Guilds](#)

[Swaps](#)

[Events](#)



Note: The National Polymer Clay Guild (npcg.org) website is currently unavailable.



December 2002

Volume 3,
Issue 12



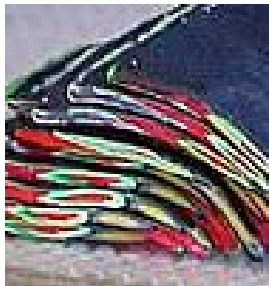
[The Storyteller Wreath Part Two](#)

Dar Beck



["Melt My Heart" Penguin](#)

Dawn Estep



[Old Cane Feather Cane](#)

Jean Sheppard



[The Gift of a Lifetime](#)

Jeanette Richmond and Donna Westfall

There is nothing wrong with your computer. Do not attempt to adjust the horizontal or the vertical.
Thank you



An Ornament for the White House

Barb Lewis



Face Cane Variations

Irish Red



Rosary Tutorial

Cindy "Sis" Perra



December Holiday Art

Various Artists

Polymer Clay Polyzine

Copyright 2000-2002

Towson, MD

ISSN# 1534-1038



43,000 women will die every year. Please click every day to help fund free mammograms.

[Home](#)

[White House](#)

[Gift of A Lifetime](#)

[Feather Cane](#)

[Penguin](#)

[Storyteller Wreath](#)

[Face Cane](#)

[Rosary](#)

[December Holiday](#)

[Art](#)

[Advertising](#)

[Information](#)

[Submission](#)

[Guidelines](#)

[Mailing List](#)

[Editorial](#)

[Previous Issues](#)

[Staff](#)

[Guilds](#)

[Swaps](#)

[Donations](#)



The Storyteller Wreath

Part 2

By [Dar Beck](#)

Dar won second place in a large competition with this gourd! Way to go Dar! This gourd includes paint, fabric and polymer clay.



Step Eleven:

Prepare the poncho for the 'storyteller'. Because she is quite large, I put a piece around her middle as a skirt, then another piece around her shoulders as a shawl. Finish her off with flowers in her hair and earrings. Again, when using Sobo glue covering the bare gourd, the glue gives the polymer clay enough 'tooth' to stick there until it can be baked. (I put her into the wreath while unbaked so the form would fit better and her poncho would bend where necessary before baking and becoming hard.)



Step Twelve:

With scissors cut fringe around bottom. Put little bit of beige clay at sleeve opening for a hand or fingers.



Step Thirteen:

The little feet will be sticking out from below. Edges do not have to be even. Put the 'little one' on the poncho piece to make sure it fits around the middle. Start it centered at the back of the head and roll the collar part so the face can be seen. Match or overlap the centers. Squeeze the poncho clay in the center to stick onto the body (red scrap) clay. Smooch it around to give some character.

These little ones are ready for the oven. I use a toaster oven for small items like these and use my kitchen oven for larger items. See how each 'little one' is very different. In this total group of 15, I made 2 of them sitting, couple with their feet crossed, and some have hands holding their ponchos closed.

When baking be sure to follow the manufacturers directions as listed on the package. These were all baked in my toaster oven at 275 deg. For 1 hour. I also put a piece of parchment paper over the top of the little ones. Just to guard against any close up heat that might change the color of the gourds.

Take out of the oven and cool completely down.



Click on thumbnail for larger image

Step Fourteen:

Here is the 'storyteller' coming out of the oven, just cooling down. I use aluminum pans (like a turkey roaster), one for the bottom pan that has a tile in the bottom (for constant heat). I rested her on top of polyfill stuffing material so her fringe wouldn't get messed up and the ruffles would stay in place. Then cover with a top pan and fasten together with clips like you see in the picture on the far right side. Into the kitchen oven she goes. Because of her size and following manufacturer's instructions, she was in the oven for 2 hours.

When cool, remove earrings and reattach with instant glue.



Click on thumbnail for larger image

Step Fifteen:

Using 3 coats of Future floor wax (it is compatible with polymer clay) all the 'little ones' and the 'storyteller' have been covered and dried.

Alternative: Also compatible is Varathane Diamond Wood Finish.

Other types may become sticky or tacky over time.



Click on thumbnail for larger image

Step Sixteen:

Nellie is trying to help me check on the wreath. And this is one reason I do most of my layout directly on the wall. This was done just for the photo and I just couldn't keep him away.



Click on thumbnail for larger image

The 'storyteller' was glued into the wreath first using Weldbond glue and left overnight – at least 12 hours. She was very firmly in place prior to setting up the 'little ones' Armed with the hot glue gun and glue sticks together with the Weldbond glue, the little ones were placed accordingly. The hot glue was used just to place the 'little one's' into a fixed spot, so they would stay while the Weldbond dried. Feathers were added to soften the twig wreath

All Done At Last

© 2002 Dar Beck

[Home](#)

[White House](#)

[Gift of A Lifetime](#)

[Feather Cane](#)

[Penguin](#)

[Storyteller Wreath](#)

[Face Cane](#)

[Rosary](#)

[December Holiday](#)

[Art](#)

[Advertisements](#)

[Advertising
Information](#)

[Submission
Guidelines](#)

[Mailing List](#)

[Editorial](#)

[Previous Issues](#)

[Staff](#)

[Guilds](#)

[Swaps](#)

[Donations](#)



"Melt My Heart" Penguin

Part One

By Laure Estep

[Dawndove](#)

Note: Be sure to use foil or wads of paper towel to prop up the sign and wings before putting them in the oven so they won't sag or break off. Tent a sheet of aluminum foil shiny side out (very important) over the figure before putting it in the oven. This helps reduce the risk of the white discoloring. Bake according to recommended temperature for 45 minutes and let it cool in the oven.

Supplies:

- Polymer clay (Premo was used in this project):
 - Cobalt Blue
 - White
 - Pearl
 - Raw Sienna
 - Cadmium Red
 - Mixed colors: (note: mix lighter colors first and clean hands between colors to minimize accidental color bleeding)
 - Face and belly: 1/3 of a quarter bar of a 2 oz. package white + 1/3 of a quarter bar pearl
 - Feet and beak: 1/8 bar of cobalt blue + 1/4 bar white + 1/4 bar pearl
 - Main body: 1 bar cobalt blue + 1 bar pearl
- 2 black seed beads
- 2 toothpicks
- ball-point, sharpie or gel pen
- needle or other pointed tool
- blush or colored chalk
- pasta machine or rolling pin



Step One:

Take about a 1/4 of a bar of raw sienna, roll into a log 1 3/4" long and 3/8" in diameter. Slowly thread a toothpick into the log by swiveling it into one end leaving 3/4" remaining out of the top. Don't worry if it's not perfectly straight, a bit smashed or lumpy. It just adds to the character of the log.



Step Two:

Flatten a 3/4" diameter ball of white on a #2 setting on your pasta machine (second thickest) or 1/16" thick. Using the protruding end of the toothpick to measure the white, cut the signboard square just a hair above the tip of the toothpick and 1 1/2 as wide. Cut a matching square in white.



Step Three:

On one side of one piece use a pen to write "You Melt My" on one side, leaving room for the heart. Take a pinch of red clay, form into a flattened teardrop. Use a needle point or toothpick press a cleft in the fat end to form a heart. Press it to the sign.



Step Four:

Sandwich the toothpick between the two layers of signboard. Trim and smooth the edges. Lightly texture the pole part with long, slightly wavy strokes of the needle irregularly spaced around the pole

[Part Two](#)

[Part Three](#)

Copyright 2002 Laure Estep

[Home](#)

[White House](#)

[Gift of A Lifetime](#)

[Feather Cane](#)

[Penguin](#)

[Storyteller Wreath](#)

[Face Cane](#)

[Rosary](#)

[December Holiday](#)

[Art](#)

[Advertisements](#)

[Advertising](#)

[Information](#)

[Submission](#)

[Guidelines](#)

[Mailing List](#)

[Editorial](#)

[Previous Issues](#)

[Staff](#)

[Guilds](#)

[Swaps](#)

[Donations](#)



Old Cane" Feather Cane

By [Jean Sheppard](#)

Supplies

- several old canes (5 are used here)
- a thick sheet (#1 setting on my Atlas) of clay to line the rectangle log - your color choice. (the size of this sheet of clay will depend on the quantity and size of the "old canes")
- a thick sheet (#1 setting on my Atlas) of clay to create the "vein" of the feather in your color choice
- pasta machine
- tissue blade or similar cutting tool



Step One:

Begin by selecting several of your old canes. Line them up on top of a thick sheet of clay. Smash and moosh them together into a block, taking care to keep the thick sheet always on the bottom. Reduce to create a rectangular log



Step Two:

Pinch one end of the rectangle log and feed it into your pasta machine on the thickest setting to create a long sheet. Cut the long sheet into 2 or 3 inch pieces.



Step Three:

Lay a piece on your work surface, with the 'lining' color on top, then lay the next piece on end, butted up against the first sheet and push it over. Continue laying pieces on top.



Step Four:

Run a sheet of clay in your color choice for the feather "vein" through your pasta machine on the thickest setting. Line the bottom half of the cane (where the edge of all the pieces touched your work surface). Reduce the cane and cut it in half. Combine the two sections to create the 'Old Cane' Feather Cane.



Here is the finished 'Old Cane' Feather Cane that Susan Bradshaw created during her class. Pretty cool use for those 'old canes' you might have lying around... :)

[Home](#)

[White House](#)

[Gift of A Lifetime](#)

[Feather Cane](#)

[Penguin](#)

[Storyteller Wreath](#)

[Face Cane](#)

[Rosary](#)

[December Holiday](#)

[Art](#)

[Advertisements](#)

[Advertising](#)

[Information](#)

[Submission](#)

[Guidelines](#)

[Mailing List](#)

[Editorial](#)

[Previous Issues](#)

[Staff](#)

[Guilds](#)

[Swaps](#)

[Donations](#)

POLYMER CLAY
POLYZINE

December 2002
Volume 3, Issue 12

The Gift of a Lifetime By Donna Westfall and Jeanette Richardson



Editor's Note: 2002 has been a year of terrible fires across the western United States. One of our clay friends, Jeanette, was involved in an evacuation.

Here is the story of one person who was evacuated from the Show Low, Arizona, fire and survived and the Random Act of Kindness that has helped her heal. Here is the story of Jeanette's Gift of a Lifetime, a group of polymer clay artists who contributed beads and Donna Westfall, who turned the beads into this beautiful doll.

IR

Bead Contributors

Alan	DeJean	Jeanne	Shelley
Alice	Donna (Ga)	Melanie	Sunni
Barb (Elfie)	Donna W	Melnik	Susan
Barb Lewis	Faun	Nancy	Tania
Dar Beck	Janey	Peggy	Toniann
		Porro	

Jeanette's Story

Tuesday afternoon:

As we back out of the drive, Robert exclaims, "Oh my God!" and stops. I asked him what's up? He said, "Look," and as I looked, I screamed in horror. At this time the fire was maybe 2-3 hours old. We did not know at that time where it was, but



already knew it was not good.

Wednesday: The fire just exploded. I went out at noon to see what was going on, walked to the end of the drive, and my heart sank. The western sky was black as far as you could see. Evacuations had already begun near the fires' edge. From what we learned, these plumes were not just smoke, but actually contained fire within them and were their own weather source.



Saturday: We seemed a bit less on edge. We even felt good enough to remove some items from the car, which we had already placed there on pre evacuation orders. We even felt good enough to go fishing. Boy, we couldn't have been more WRONG. Someone on the lake had a radio and he gathers his things and yells, "Out!" Our hearts leapt from our chests. We headed home. Two hours later, it was our turn to leave our house and home behind. Show Low is being evacuated.

Tent City:- I looked at the faces that were there and those yet arriving. Blank. They were blank. We borrowed a tent so we could keep our Furbies with us and there we all called home. Information seemed much harder to come by out on that field. Each morning we would turn on the radio in the car to hear as much as we could.

Sunday, Monday and Tuesday: Really hard. The temperatures reached near 100 degrees. **Wednesday:** We got a totally different weather picture, a bit of rain and cooling of the temps..



Thursday: Oh my! To me, it was the hardest of all. I had gone to the trunk of the car with a nice breeze in my face coming from the west, but this was not good. As I stood

there, ash began to fall. We were well over 70 miles from the fire. All I could do was cry. That night seemed the longest of them all.

Friday: THANK YOU, GOD! The winds changed. They went in the complete opposite direction than they had been. There was talk of possibly going home in the next 3-5 days. The major towns had been saved by the fire line drawn by the firefighters. This is the day little "Brimstone" entered our lives.

Saturday: Weird morning. 8:30 a.m. and people were scurrying everywhere. Not knowing what was up, I yelled across the field. People said we are going home. 9:00 a.m. and the official word came. We literally threw all in the car. On the main road home people from the town were lined up waving at us all as we left. Again I cried.

Driving up the main highway there were people that had already posted "welcome home" signs everywhere. We now turned into that most familiar street then into the drive. Robert and I bailed out of the car, grabbed each other, stood there, and now both of us in tears, gave thanks to God. Our home was spared, our city was spared, our lives intact. We sat quietly that afternoon. I am really not sure how to put it into words -- to sink into such despair and then to rise so high.

The Package: Donna told me to open the card first. Okay, well I thought (get caught thinking a lot) it was clay or other goodies she sends me periodically. As I read the card, Robert was busy unpacking. First the beads appeared then the rest of "her." We are both stunned. Robert says, "You have one heck of a bunch of friends." I sat her on the table outside and laid each string of beads out to read the names and see the unbelievable work before me. I sat there for over an hour just shaking my head.

As for the doll itself, Donna hand crocheted the dress and top. The doll top/body, hands and head are made with PC and I think the hair is mohair. She hand painted the eyes and lips. From the elbows to the top of the hands she has placed lace. Each bead is threaded through a thin ribbon and the ribbon is embedded into the top of the head to hang the doll. It appears that Donna placed wire in the underside of the body to loop the ribbon onto and tie to.

To all involved in this GIFT OF A LIFE TIME, Robert and I both thank you. This gift has been a source of pride and given me a sense of caring I have never felt before. I have never met a single one of you, yet I feel as if you are all the best and most caring friends anyone could have. How the PC world comes together for a friend and the complete generosity it has! Yup, (sniff-sniff-sniff) and most unexpectedly. I got the bestest friends. TRULY.

Love and peace,
Jeanette

From Donna

Polymer Clay Polyzine

©Copyright 2000-2002

Towson, MD

ISSN# 1534-1038

[Storyteller](#)
[Wreath](#)
["Melt My Heart"](#)
[Penguin](#)
[Old Cane](#)
[Feather Cane](#)
[Gift of a Lifetime](#)
[Face Cane](#)
[Rosary](#)
[Holiday Art](#)
[White House](#)

[Advertisers' Page](#)
[Advertising Information](#)
[Submission Guidelines](#)
[Mailing List](#)



[Adobe Acrobat version of this issue](#)
[Editorial](#)
[Letters to the Editor](#)
[Book Review](#)
[Previous Issues](#)
[Reader's Gallery](#)
[Donations](#)
[Staff](#)
[Guilds](#)
[Swaps](#)

[Storyteller](#)
[Wreath](#)
["Melt My Heart"](#)
[Penguin](#)
[Old Cane](#)
[Feather Cane](#)



An Ornament for The White House

[Barb Lewis](#)

Editor's Note: Barb Lewis is an artist in other mediums besides polymer clay. This ornament was made of various materials. To see her polymer clay work, [click here](#)

In June '01, I was asked by the Missouri Arts Council office if I would like to make an ornament for the 2001 Official White House Christmas Tree. The Missouri Arts Council was asking on behalf of the Governor's office. All of our Governors were asked by Mrs Bush to donate 4 ornaments from their state.

I said yes...of course :-)

Then I received the 'guidelines' from the White House for the ornaments. The theme would be Home For The Holidays. Make a miniature replica of any historic building in your state. Had to be all white. Had to weigh under 8ozs. Had to have a gold string or ribbon for hanging. Had to have the name prominently displayed on the front.

All of these little houses went on the Official White House Christmas Tree in the Blue Room. Then on all of the mantels and side tables throughout the White House, there were scale models of past presidents homes crafted by the White House staff.

It was very cool.



Photograph of original home and framework of ornament



Furnishings



Finished and furnished

[Gift of a Lifetime](#)

[Face Cane](#)

[Rosary](#)

[Holiday Art](#)

[White House](#)

[Advertisers'](#)

[Page](#)

[Advertising Information](#)

[Submission Guidelines](#)

[Mailing List](#)



[Adobe Acrobat](#)

[version](#)

[of this issue](#)

[Editorial](#)

[Letters to the Editor](#)

[Book Review](#)

[Previous Issues](#)

[Reader's](#)

[Gallery](#)

[Donations](#)

[Staff](#)

[Guilds](#)

[Swaps](#)

[Home](#)

[White House](#)

[Gift of A Lifetime](#)

[Feather Cane](#)

[Penguin](#)

[Storyteller Wreath](#)

[Face Cane](#)

[Rosary](#)

[December Holiday](#)

[Art](#)

[Advertising](#)

[Information](#)

[Submission](#)

[Guidelines](#)

[Mailing List](#)

[Editorial](#)

[Previous Issues](#)

[Staff](#)

[Guilds](#)

[Swaps](#)

[Donations](#)



Face Cane Variations

Irish Red



Here is Ellie, already put together, reduced and ready for use.



I shaved off some forehead, gave her a flip and some earrings.



Ellie admires Lucille Ball. Jelly rolls with brown and orange.



Ellie as Cleopatra. Shaved off forehead and made pageboy



Just for kicks. I scanned the reduced cane end.

© 2002 Irish Red

Polymer Clay Polyzine

©Copyright 2000-2002

Towson, MD

ISSN# 1534-1038

[Home](#)

[White House](#)

[Gift of A Lifetime](#)

[Feather Cane](#)

[Penguin](#)

[Storyteller Wreath](#)

[Face Cane](#)

[Rosary](#)

[December Holiday](#)

[Art](#)

[Advertising Information](#)

[Submission Guidelines](#)

[Mailing List](#)

[Editorial](#)

[Previous Issues](#)

[Staff](#)

[Guilds](#)

[Swaps](#)

[Donations](#)



Rosary Tutorial

[Cindy "Sis" Perra](#)



Making a rosary is very easy to do; and hopefully, my instructions will be just as easy for you to understand. You can use purchased beads for the rosary or make your own. Most rosary beads are 6 mm for women and 8 mm for men. I am using approximately 10 mm scrap polymer beads for this demonstration. Generally, the cross is a crucifix with the figure of Jesus on it. Okay, deep breath (that's for me), let's begin...

Supplies

- 59 beads
- Eye Pins
- Jump Rings
- 1 Crucifix
- 1 Centerpiece
- Wire Cutters
- Jewelry Pliers



Step One:

Insert an eye pin into each bead and bend the excess wire back toward the bead at approximately a 90 degree angle. This will hold the bead on the eye pin until you are ready to use it. It seems to take less time to make the rosary if you prepare the beads in an assembly line fashion.



Step Two:

Using the wire cutters, trim the excess wire of the eye pin to approximately 1/4" on each bead. If using the long eye pins, save the cut off scrap from one eye pin for the next step.



Step Three:

We begin assembling the rosary by attaching 5 jump rings to the crucifix. The first jump ring should be larger than all the rest of the jump rings that you use. This is where the scrap piece from a long eye pin comes in. Wrap the scrap piece of wire around the thickest part of the jewelry pliers to form a circle. Cut off the excess.



Step Four:

Attach the large jump ring to the crucifix followed by 4 of the regular size jump rings and 1 "Our Father" bead. Note: If you would like to use end caps on your rosary, they are usually added to the "Our Father" beads. Also, "Our Father" beads can be larger than the rest of the beads ("Hail Mary") or they can be a different shape than those used for the "Hail Mary" beads. You can see samples of this at the end of the tutorial.

**Step Five:**

Attach 4 jump rings to the "Our Father" bead followed by 3 "Hail Mary" beads. There will be no jump rings between the "Hail Mary" beads now and throughout the rosary. After each bead is added, it is important that the top and bottom "eye" of the pin is facing the same direction so the rosary will not be twisted.

**Step Six:**

Next, attach 4 jump rings, 1 "Our Father" bead and 5 jump rings. Now attach the bottom of the centerpiece to the last jump ring you put on. Be sure that the front of the centerpiece faces the same direction as the front of the crucifix.

**Step Seven:**

Attach 5 jump rings to the right side of the centerpiece followed by a "Hail Mary" bead. This bead represents the first bead in a decade. There are 10 "Hail Mary" beads in each decade, and 5 decades to the rosary. So add on another 9 "Hail Mary" beads giving you a total of 10 beads. Now attach 4 jump rings, 1 "Our Father" bead and 4 jump rings.

**Step Eight:**

Assembly will now be 10 "Hail Mary" beads, 4 jump rings, 1 "Our Father" bead, 4 jump rings, 10 "Hail Mary" beads, etc. Continue around ending with 10 "Hail Mary" beads and 5 jump rings. Let your length of beads that you have already assembled hang down to remove any twisting, then attach the last jump ring to the left side of the centerpiece. You now have a beautiful rosary. See that wasn't so bad. The more rosaries that you make, the faster you will be



The rosary on the left is one I made using end caps on the "Our Father" beads. The rosary on the right was purchased in Mexico. The "Hail Mary" beads are rectangular pieces of wood with wood circles used as "Our Father" beads.

[Home](#)

[White House](#)

[Gift of A Lifetime](#)

[Feather Cane](#)

[Penguin](#)

[Storyteller Wreath](#)

[Face Cane](#)

[Rosary](#)

[December Holiday Art](#)

[Advertisements](#)

[Advertising Information](#)

[Submission Guidelines](#)

[Mailing List](#)

[Editorial](#)

[Previous Issues](#)

[Staff](#)

[Guilds](#)

[Swaps](#)

[Donations](#)

Click on thumbnails to see larger images



Dave Snyder
[Off the Beaten Path](#)



Dave Snyder
[Off the Beaten Path](#)



Dave Snyder
[Off the Beaten Path](#)



Dave Snyder
[Off the Beaten Path](#)



Bill GirarD
(adult)



Bill GirarD
(adult)



Bill GirarD
(adult)



Marie Segal
[The Clay Factory](#)



Marie Segal
[The Clay Factory](#)



Marie Segal
[The Clay Factory](#)



Marie Segal
[The Clay Factory](#)



Marie Segal
[The Clay Factory](#)



Howard & Marie Segal
(adult)
[The Clay Factory](#)



Dawndove



Helene Grove



Helene Grove