



# News From Ephraim



Ephraim  
Pottery

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## First-time entrants make strong showing in photo contest

The entries in this year's photo contest were the culmination of a lot of hard work and a good dose of creativity. Collectors from all over the country submitted photos that displayed their personal tastes and showed how Ephraim pottery fits into their lifestyles. The common thread running throughout was the obvious joy the entrants take in their collections, be they large or small.

It was exciting to receive entries from several collectors who have never entered the contest before. Some entries were accompanied by notes that read something like, "I know these photos aren't very good but I'm sending them anyway because I wanted you to see how much I love your pottery." The personal statements, both written and photographic, mean a lot to us, as they allow us to see how our work enhances the lives and homes of our collectors. It energizes and excites us, and we sincerely thank everyone who sent in their photos and notes.

Photos were judged on appropriateness to at least one of the four categories, overall quality, and adherence to the contest rules. The winners are listed at right. First-time entrants are designated with an asterisk.

### Best catalog cover photo

- *Grand Prize:* Robert Harper & Craig Mills of Visalia, CA\* →
- *First Prize:* Christine Bjanes of Woolwich, NJ\*
- *Runner-Up:* Janet Akcakal of Davenport, IA



### Best photo of non-catalogued piece(s)

- *Grand Prize:* Linda Clerkin of Milwaukee, WI →
- *First Prize:* Judy Stouffer of Wilton, IA\*
- *Runner-Up:* Nancy Devaney of Sheboygan, WI



### Best photo of a large collection

- *Grand Prize:* Renee Eberhard of Carbondale, IL\* →
- *First Prize:* Janet Akcakal of Davenport, IA
- *Runner-Up:* Mike Sherfinski of Schofield, WI\*



### Best photo of early (1996-1998) Ephraim pottery

- *Grand Prize:* Craig Grunemeyer of Sparta, NJ\* →
- *First Prize:* Lisa Tallarico of Whitehall, MI\*
- *Runner-Up:* Nancy Devaney of Sheboygan, WI



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You can view all of the winning photos in color on our web site. Click on the link in the "What's New?" section of the home page, or go to [http://www.ephraimpottery.com/contest\\_2005.htm](http://www.ephraimpottery.com/contest_2005.htm).

# Arts & Crafts exhibit comes to Milwaukee

**The Arts and Crafts  
Movement in Europe and  
America, 1880-1920:  
Design for the Modern  
World**

May 19-September 5  
Milwaukee Art Museum  
mam.org

The Arts and Crafts Movement was a response to a century of unprecedented social and economic upheaval. This groundbreaking exhibition places a crucial phase of decorative arts

history into an international context for the first time. On view May 19-September 5, the exhibition showcases more than 300 Arts and Crafts objects from the United States and throughout Europe - including furniture, ceramics, metalwork, textiles, and works on paper - borrowed from 75 institutions and private collections.

This exhibition will provide a rare opportunity to view a huge range of Arts and Crafts work under one roof. People interested in the Arts and

Crafts movement, and in art and fine craft in general, will not want to miss this exhibit.

Ephraim Faience Pottery is pleased to announce that MAM's museum store will be carrying a selection of EFP's work during the course of the exhibit. There are also tentative plans for a "trunk show" featuring craftspeople of the Arts & Crafts revival, including EFP, to be held at MAM the last weekend of July. Check [ephraimpottery.com](http://ephraimpottery.com) this summer for more information.

## Plan ahead for higher prices

EFP will be raising prices on August 1, 2005. This will be only the second price increase in the history of the company. We will continue to try hard to keep our prices affordable for all of our collectors, but our prices need to keep pace with increases in the costs of living, raw materials, and overhead. Our web site will be updated on August 1 to reflect the new prices.


We wanted to let you know about the price increase in advance, in case you've had your eye on a particular piece and have been waiting to order. Pieces ordered by 5:00 p.m. CDT on July 29th will be available at the prices currently in effect.

Maintaining high standards of quality, and creating work that exhibits character and integrity of design, are of primary

importance to us. We always want you to be able to feel good about buying our pottery. As John Ruskin reminds us,

*There is scarcely anything in the world that some man cannot make a little worse, and sell a little more cheaply. The person who buys on price alone is this man's lawful prey.*

When it comes to value for your pottery dollar, Ephraim pottery is second to none.



Catalog #10 will be released in print and on the web in August. If you received this newsletter in the mail, you will automatically be sent a new catalog as soon as it is available.

## Disney show to feature new pieces

Collectors attending the Arts & Crafts Grand Californian show in Anaheim on June 11-12 will get a sneak peek at some of the new pieces slated for Catalog #10. We will have new and experimental pieces available on both Saturday and Sunday. This will be your only opportunity to purchase items that will be in the 2005 line before the launch of the new catalog in August. If you're in the area, you won't want to miss this show!

Those of you who attended last year's show know that the line was crazy on Saturday. We know that the long wait was an inconvenience for our customers. This year, we have taken some steps that will hopefully alleviate this problem. First of all, we will have an extra person in the booth to help answer questions and streamline the checkout process. Secondly, we have a new receipt form that makes the checkout process quicker. And lastly, we have

asked the show promoter to move our booth to a different location, one that would make forming a line easier. We don't know yet if our booth will be moved, so please check the program when you get to the show. See you there!

**A & C Grand Californian  
June 10-12, 2005  
Disney's Grand Californian  
Anaheim, California  
Info: 949-494-9499  
[artsandcrafts-grand.com](http://artsandcrafts-grand.com)**

# Collectors' Corner: Out with the old, in with the new

In preparation for the launch of Catalog #10 in August, we are retiring some "oldies but goodies" in order to make room in the our line for the new designs. Don't miss your last chance to order these great pots. These editions will be closed when they reach 500 pieces or at 5:00 p.m. CDT on Friday, July 29th, whichever comes first. They'll be gone before you know it, so place your order now!



**#360 Promise of Spring Cabinet Vase**  
3.50"h x 3.25"w  
Colors: LG (shown), SY, CN, CP, SB, IN, PK  
\$78



**#243 Nostalgia**  
5.25"h x 4.75"w  
Color: LG w/SY detail  
\$110



**#110 Curious Geckos**  
7.00"h x 8.00"w  
Color: LG w/CP geckos  
\$198



**#244 Falling Ginkgo**  
5.00"h x 4.50"w  
Colors: SY (shown), LG, CN, CP, SB, IN, PK  
\$128



**#303 Three Graces Bowl**  
5.00"h x 4.50"w  
Colors: LG (shown), SY, CN, CP, SB, IN, PK  
\$88



**#107 Lily Pond**  
2.00"h x 7.00" w  
Color: LG w/IN & SY detail  
\$78





**#313 Meditating Frogs**  
9.25" h x 5.75" w  
Color: SB/LG w/accents  
\$198























**#111 Dark Secrets Bowl**  
5.00" h x 9.75" w  
Color: CN w/CP bats  
\$268



**#223 Coleus**  
6.50"h x 5.00"w  
Color: CP/CN  
\$98





  

**To order, call Marilynn at**
  
**888-704-POTS or 608-764-1302**
  

**before 5:00 p.m. CDT on**
  

**Friday, July 29th, 2005.**
  











*It's more than pottery.  
It's a lifestyle.*

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## Down on the farm

by Kristin Zanetti

Surprisingly, spring came early this year. This April has been warmer than usual, and the grass is already greening. Flowers are coming up, and daffodils and hyacinths planted along protected southern exposures are already blooming. A pale green veil of tiny leaves graces the hedgerows, and the maples have begun to blossom. And of course, the robins are back.

The robin—ubiquitous harbinger of spring, state bird of Wisconsin, glorious red-breasted specimen of the avian race—has a brain about the size of a pea. Birds have proportionately smaller brains than mammals, hence the derogatory term “bird brain.”

There has been a robin hanging around outside the barn for about a week now, attacking the windows. He goes from window to window, flying up at them, pecking and scratching at his reflection. He thinks that the robin in the window is a rival male who is challenging him for his territory. He keeps at it, flying up at the window every few seconds until he exhausts himself. He takes a break for a minute or so, then gets right back at it. I wonder what he thinks about that “other” robin. Just when he thinks that he's defeated him, he pops up at another window. It must seem like he'll never be able to drive his rival away, but yet he keeps at it, fluttering and pecking.

Of course, we humans, with our big brains, would never engage in such ridiculous behavior. After all, with our superior intelligence, we would recognize that we're really fighting ourselves. Or would we? How many times have we fought tooth and nail against a perceived foe only to discover that we were our own real worst enemy? In such instances we discover that the true source of our suffering comes from within. We have met our enemy, and he is us.

I don't know about you, but I can relate to that delusional robin. I empathize with him. The next time I feel like I'm banging my head against a brick wall, I'll be thinking of him.

