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For Immediate Release

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Johnston & Gentithes Art Pottery

Seagrove, NC – Located within a lovely older home, right on the main street in Seagrove, North Carolina, is the studio and art gallery for Fred Johnston and Carol Gentithes of Johnston & Gentithes Art Pottery. They work together in their studio and are there for support and to also to “critique each others work”, said Fred with a smile. “We educate people, give them a little aspect of what we do, it includes elements of geology when we make glazes from existing minerals, or when we use wood and ashes and combine them to create a glaze. We also dig our own clay. We go and dig it out of the ground. It’s simple. It’s romantic. The customer wants to buy the ‘wild clay’. It’s like you can either go out and catch a fish, or go to the store and buy fish sticks”. Fred is also a wonderful philosopher....

Fred turns his pieces on the wheel. He enjoys making jugs and vessels, decorating them with figures and motifs reminiscent of many different cultural influences. Carol specializes in the hand building method. She is known for her whimsical sculptures that she then covers with beautiful decorative artwork. Many of her designs are based upon characters from old fables and nursery rhymes. “I am like a painter. My content takes me five times longer to make. Since I hand build, my work is not about the clay. My sculptures are like a 3-dimensional painting. If you are a good artist, you can make something out of anything. If you are limited with your materials, you can rely on your creativity”.

Fred and Carol both went to art school, and where Fred enjoyed throwing on the wheel, Carol did not. Fred took sculpture classes too, but did not enjoy it as much as the wheel. “I had throwing skills where I could make 200 plates all look the same. My instructor then said to me, ‘now that you can make 200 plates look the same, now take 200 plates and make them all different’. How can those ideas manifest in another way? How do you find your own voice? All the things that make your heart throb focus on those things, and then you are off and running”.

As you make your way down North Carolina Highway 705, ‘The Pottery Highway’, don’t miss out on seeing the incredible pottery and works of art on display at Johnston and Gentithes Art Pottery. Spend a few minutes taking in the beauty of their work, and enjoy a wonderful discussion with both Fred and Carol on life, humanity, and the truly valuable things in life.

For more information about Johnston and Gentithes Art Pottery, please call them at (336) 873-9176, or log onto their web site at www.johnstonandgentithes.com. They are located at 205 East Main Street, Seagrove, N.C. *Be sure to also look for their booth at the upcoming Celebration of Seagrove Potters at the Historic Luck’s Cannery in Seagrove, November 22nd and November 23rd, 2008!!*

For a listing of all of the members and the events presented by the Seagrove Area Potters Association (SAPA), please go to www.discoverseagrove.com. Explore America’s largest community of working potters. Discover Seagrove.

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