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For Immediate Release

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### **Kovack Pottery – a marriage of artists**

Seagrove, NC - Craig and Michelle Kovack of Kovack Pottery located on Fort Creek Mill Road in Seagrove, North Carolina, are a husband and wife artistic team. Craig turns on the wheel, and Michelle does the glazing and customizing on each piece. They both have a background in art and pottery making. Craig is originally from Ohio, but in his words, "I moved all over, chasing the clay. In some parts of the country, it is difficult to be appreciated as potters". He took a job with the Old Cape Cod Stoneware Designs, located in Massachusetts, which is where he met his future wife, Michelle. He was hired to make lamps for the Spiegel Catalog. His contract required him to produce 500 lamps per week, and they weighed 12 pounds each! It was in this job, that he learned production work and how to be consistent when creating a piece of pottery. Each potter that was working there was allowed only a ¼" tolerance for each piece!

Michelle had always loved painting, growing up in New England. She enjoyed working in acrylics, water color, oils, charcoal, and many other media. She also answered an ad from the Old Cape Cod Stoneware Designs Company where she learned to work with pottery, "you have to be pretty right on with what you are painting. Once you place it you can't go back and work on it. The low moisture makes it get absorbed really fast into the clay. I was used to working with other media which you could go back and work with something if you didn't like it".

They married in 1991, and honeymooned in the Seagrove area. They fell in love with it. Eventually they made a bid on the building in which they have their pottery shop, and moved to Seagrove. They have been in that same location since that time. They are known for the marriage between a potter and a painter. They pride themselves on the fact that their production background has taught them how to be consistent with their own business so that they can keep their costs down and prices reasonable. They make bake ware and serving ware which is 100% lead-free, and dishwasher-safe. They can also personalize pieces such as ornaments for Christmas.

"There is no other place in the United States like Seagrove", explained Craig. "There are 100 potters within 10 square miles. If you go to a major city you wouldn't find as many artists, and even then their work would be in a gallery. You would never get to greet the artists and see them in their studio; actually see it being made". Please stop by and see them at 1298 Fork Creek Mill Road in Seagrove. They

are open Monday through Saturday, 9am to 5pm, and most Sundays from 12noon to 5pm. Please call ahead on Sundays, at (336) 873-8727.

For a listing of all the members and the events presented by the Seagrove Area Potters Association (SAPA), including the celebration of National Tourism Week, May 10<sup>th</sup> through May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2008, please go to [www.discoverseagrove.com](http://www.discoverseagrove.com). Explore America's Largest Community of Working Potters. Discover Seagrove.

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