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For Immediate Release

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### **A Romance of Two Potters**

Seagrove, NC - Wyndham and Melanie Dennison, of Wyndham and Brookhaven Pottery, located in Seagrove, North Carolina, did not start out in life to become potters, but eventually did so through different journeys. Wyndham at one time was managing five computer stores in San Antonio and Austin, Texas when he saw an ad for someone that was teaching classes in pottery. "I fell in love with pottery, and six weeks later, I became a potter. I quit my day job, jumped off the cliff, and found out that there was a lot more to it, and that it was a life-long learning experience", explained Wyndham. His personal life went through a major change, so he decided to return to Pawley's Island in South Carolina, where he grew up, and there he set up his first pottery studio. At that time, the closest place to get supplies was in Raleigh. He found Seagrove by way of getting his supplies in the capital city. It was also where he met fellow potter, David Garner, who eventually became his Best Man, at his wedding to his lovely wife Melanie. He then moved his studio from Pawley's Island to a location that was an old service station, in Seagrove.

Wyndham is known for his glazes. "I enjoy Impressionism; it is one of the parts of painting that I enjoy the greatest. I enjoy Impressionism, and Realism and the colors that go along with them. I was influenced by Harding Blackwell. He was able to find glazes that had been lost for years that the Chinese had. He was a very generous man. He allowed people to share in whatever he had", he explained. Wyndham is known for his lavender color glazes, but he also enjoys the tans and browns. The colors that he uses are reminiscent of the rock formations in Arizona and New Mexico. Another signature look is his 'Monet Effect' glaze. "The glaze forms into little 'floweret's'. It reminds us of a flower garden that Monet would have painted", explained Melanie.

Melanie Dennison grew up 8 miles outside of town, and her neighbors were potters. She didn't start off in life as a potter either, but due to circumstances in her life, she needed to bring in an income to support her children. She started off making ceramic jewelry which she sold at various festivals and events, up and down the East Coast. Soon she realized that she had to spend too much time away from home and her family, so she decided to set up a shop in Seagrove. She knew that by doing this she was going to have to make a commitment to it, and jump in with both feet. Then one day Wyndham walked into her shop and her life was changed forever. They soon married, and combined their artistic talents.

Melanie is known for her formed shapes, which she makes into serving trays, plates, and numerous other pieces of functional pottery. She also makes a beautiful collection of earrings and necklaces all made from pottery. In the winter months, Melanie makes neck scarves out of a rainbow of colors, which she sells in their studios. Wyndham's oil paintings, featuring beautiful landscapes are also available to purchase.

"We are really proud to be a part of the diversity available here in Seagrove. It is an amazing place really. It is one of the only affordable art forms left, that is still functional", said Melanie. "I don't think that there is another place like it outside of a few communities in Japan, where there are so potters that are well known. This is a valuable place to come to", Wyndham added.

Please stop in and visit Wyndham and Melanie Dennison at Village Pottery, and their two studios, Wyndham Pottery and Brookhaven Pottery, located in downtown Seagrove, North Carolina. For more information please call them at (336) 873-7254, or (336) 873-7966.

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](http://www.discoverseagrove.com). Explore America's largest community of working potters. Discover Seagrove.

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