

## Jersey Shore Clayathon

The Jersey Shore Polyaddicts [the South Jersey members of the PAPCG] are sponsoring the first [hopefully annual] 72 Hour Jersey Clayathon. Twenty Four people have signed up for this event, which will run from 4 pm Friday January 14th have a group dinner party Friday evening, and continue claying through 4 pm Monday the 16th.

The Jersey Clayathon is not an attempt to mimic Clay Quest , Ravensdale or other conference in which a sponsoring group invites the masters of this amazing medium to teach. At the Jersey Clayathon, we are all students and teachers. Those of us who express our creativity through this endlessly variable medium gather to clay and play together, Some of us are "hobbyists"; others are accomplished artists who have published books and articles, or produced videos; some try to earn their living as artists; most do not. It is not a competition of any sort. There will be no workshops or workshop leaders. Therefore there is no fee to participate. The only cost is an inexpensive hotel room and a \$20 contribution to the rental fee for the working rooms.

Although artists usually work alone, sometimes the creative juices find new direction by working around others. Those who wish to share an idea, technique, or new direction, are welcome to share it. Those who wish to use the entire time to explore their own ideas through the day and night can do just that. The Jersey Clayathon is an opportunity to do whatever we wish for 72 consecutive hours away from the demands and interruptions of normal life. There will be a large workroom for claying and another two rooms with sinks. We'll have a buffer, dremel/drill press and 4 convection ovens available. Participants only need bring only clay and tools.

I believe that the Philadelphia Area Polymer Clay Guild is the first in the country to hold an event like this. We are very lucky to live near enough to be part of such an innovative, ambitious guild.

**-Arlene Groch**

