

Clay Studio of Green Valley



THE CLAY STUDIO BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR 2012 HELD ITS FIRST MEETING ON JANUARY 13

Membership Meeting February 10 at 10:00 am Anza Room

The Annual Membership Meeting will be held in the Anza Room on Friday, February 10th at 10:00 am. This is an important meeting for everyone. Here are NINE reasons you should attend:

1. Meet and support the Members of the Board of Directors for 2012.
2. Meet the Committee Chairs and their Committee members to learn more about what they do for all of us and what help they still need to support the Studio and meet their obligations.
3. Learn about the Budget for 2012, what is planned, and how our funds are utilized effectively to support our Studio.
4. Have fun with a group activity that will entertain us and also challenge us to expand our knowledge of the Studio and the clay arts.
5. Learn more about how each of us can learn and grow through service.
6. Get to know Studio members better.
7. Win a door prize.
8. Enjoy potluck “finger food” and other refreshments.
9. Offer your suggestions to the Board and the Committee Chairs.

Remember that the Studio will be closed that morning, so please attend and make your contribution to the success of the event!



“The Prez’s Perspective”

February is a very exciting month with so much happening! Thanks to all those who are working hard to organize these special events!

It is very gratifying to me as the new President to see so many individuals step forward to offer their services and ideas. Our outstanding facilities are matched by our stellar leaders and volunteers. What a great team we make!

As with most organizations large and small, a few energetic individuals sometimes carry the heaviest loads. We are very fortunate that the day to day operations we sometimes take for granted are sustained by humble and dedicated members. The same is true for the monitors. Even though we have an abundance of trained monitors, a relatively small percentage keeps the Studio open each month. To borrow a sports analogy, our bench is very weak in the sense that we are not training new people to take over vital functions in the future. Some Committees are small even though they may have huge responsibilities.

Consequently, the Board has decided to make volunteerism the focus of the February Board meeting and the Membership Meeting. Our goal is to increase the percentage of Studio members who support the Studio in some way beyond their membership dues.

Members may be reluctant to volunteer for a variety of reasons:

1. *I don't have time for a big commitment.* Committee Chairs are usually aware of the limitations of Committee members and will respect each members' other commitments.
2. *I can't attend all meetings.* Committee Chairs can fill you in on missed meetings and let you know what services are needed between meetings.
3. *I don't know enough to serve on a Committee.* There is no better way to expand your knowledge of the clay arts than to serve on a Committee. Everyone is welcome and will offer their services according to their comfort level and expertise.
4. *I'm not here all year.* Committee work usually slows down during the summer. Those here year round will sustain the Committee's work. Communications are maintained through email.
5. *I'm more of a "doer" than a "meeting person."* Committees often need help with routine tasks to maintain operations. If you would rather be doing something rather than sitting in meetings, the Chairperson will find needed work for you to do.

We are all very fortunate to be a part of world-class Studio that supports us with facilities, services, and training at minimal cost. Our individual and collective success depends on our willingness to support the enterprise in some way.

Please plan to attend the Membership Meeting on February 10 to show your support for the Board and the Committees and to help us find ways to expand and strengthen our human resources! Also, you can attend the Clay Studio Open House on February 11 to show your support and help attract new Studio members.



MISS THE JANUARY SOCIAL?

Then you missed finding out all about these faces!

→ **MONITOR TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES** ←

The only scheduled training session in February will on Friday, February 10 at 1:00PM. A sign-up sheet will be at the monitor station. Please bring you calendars, as you will need to sign-up to mentor with an experienced monitor

The studio gets so busy this time of year, it is very difficult to conduct a large group through training. If you still want to be trained at a different time, contact Donna Lou Hetler at 399-3550 for individual sessions.

Scheduled classes will resume in April.



NO FEBRUARY SOCIAL
ATTEND THE ANNUAL MEETING:
Friday, Feb. 10, Anza Rm. @ 10:00 am

CLAY STUDIO OPEN HOUSE & SALES
FOOD & DEMONSTRATIONS

Saturday, Feb. 11, - 10:00 to 3:00 in the Studio & Fiesta Room



CANOA HILLS EXHIBIT.....CANOA HILLS EXHIBIT.....CANOA HILLS EXHIBIT.....CANOA HILL

February 9 through February 28

Opening Artists' Reception: Thursday, February 9 - 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

View clay art creations, meet the artists, and enjoy refreshments.

Clay studio members and the general public are all invited.

If you are not able to attend the reception, please drop in while the exhibit is available to delight in the wonderful work being produced at the studio.



The library had a record number of transactions in 2011. In all there were 198 books and DVDs checked in and out of our library. Missing from the library and not checked out are the following books. If you think that any of these might be in your possession would you please return them to the shelves as soon as possible? Also, if you know of any books or DVDs that we do not have that you think would interest you, please let Shiela McDonald know.

- DS27 Images on Clay II
- DS33 Resist and Masking Techniques
- EX04 Sculpture Exhibition
- HB09 Handbuilt Pottery Techniques
- IN53 Tapestries in Sand
- PT40 250 Tips, Techniques and Trade Secrets
- WH5 Complete Potter, the Throwing

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE JANUARY SOCIAL: Recipe and Glaze Show & Tell



Sweet Potato Salad

- 2 cups diced sweet potatoes
- ½ cup raisins
- 2/3 cup finely diced red onion
- 1/3 cup finely diced celery
- 2 teaspoon freshly grated ginger
- ½ cup mayonnaise
- 1 tablespoon finely chopped parsley



Cook potatoes until they are fork tender in boiling water. Drain and cool them completely. Soak the raisins in hot water for 15 minutes and then drain. Combine all the ingredients and mix them thoroughly but gently. Chill for 24 hours before serving.



What Does the Glaze Committee Do?

If you look around the clay studio you see various sizes of buckets and bottles of glaze. Green Valley Clay Studio is very fortunate to have so many glazes available for our use! We have bottles, pints, gallons, and 5 gallon buckets. There is high fire, low fire, oxide and raku glazes. Look around and count how many!

Where do they come from and who takes care of them? The Glaze Committee!

At least once a month the pots have to be stirred and be tested with a hydrometer. A **hydrometer** is an instrument used to measure the specific gravity of liquids; that is, the ratio of the density of the liquid to the density of water. The person doing the testing may have to adjust the amount of water in the pot in order to assure the optimal consistency for smooth covering glaze on your piece. Some glazes have to be mixed on site because the only way to get the color we want is in powder form.

All of the glazes have to be periodically inventoried so when you want a particular result, it is available for your use. This has to be done on a regular basis to anticipate need. Sometimes, if someone has a piece turn out exceptionally well, there may be a run on that particular glaze! There is a list to keep track of what is needed and an order is placed with Marjon to coordinate with clay ordering. This takes time to receive, and if they are out of a particular glaze, we have to wait for the next order or find someone to make a special run to Tucson to pick it up.

Everyone likes to find out how a beautiful piece got that way! What was used? How was it applied? What's the secret? The glaze committee organizes show and tell events to answer these questions.

We all know that the Clay Studio is a co-operative....in other words every member has the responsibility to keep it going. All activities are done by all members who are interested in being able to create successful pieces for their own enjoyment, to give as gifts, or to sell.

To continue to be successful and have everything available, we need helpers...many of these chores just need to be done by someone. No need to attend meetings...just learning what to do and do it! The more people involved makes the entire process that much easier.

We need people willing to contribute in these areas:

People to check the amount of glaze in buckets and number of extra pints and to help with ordering

A person to mix 5 gallon pails and move them

Someone to organize glaze show and tell workshops

A list of people who go to Tucson regularly to occasionally pick things up from Marjon

Talk to one of the committee members about what you can do to help. Ask questions and we will try to follow up in the newsletter because if you have a question you can be sure other people are wondering the same thing.

Committee members are Jeanne Johnson (Chair), Vicky Joy, Judy Cowlshaw, Diane Willcutt, Carol Randall, Mary Maier, Mary Tetting, Judith McIntyre, and Sherry Harsh.

Did you know there is a list near the hair dryer and gallon buckets that suggests what glazes look great with other glazes? Also, there is a notebook above the wax resistance shelf that contains a lot of information about glazes and how to solve some of the problems you may encounter. Very useful information! Check it out! The more you know the better the results will be on the piece you spent so much time to make.



EMPTY BOWLS CHARITY EVENT FOR VALLEY ASSISTED SERVICES and THE FOOD BANK

Advance tickets are now available for Empty Bowls event.

Be the first for a chance at the bowls; guaranteed first seating plus one free raffle ticket by being among the first 175 to purchase ticket and you can choose a bowl and enjoy a small lunch.

Call Mazie Hastings 398-5691 to purchase advance tickets. Empty Bowls will be held on March 10th at Valley Presbyterian Church 10:30 to 2 pm.

Buy raffle tickets for a chance to win a themed basket or make a silent auction bid at the artisan table.

Want to volunteer to help at the event? Call Ann Hirz to volunteer or with any other questions.

Thank you very much to those who have made bowls and art for the silent auction table!

If you would like to make a **TAX DEDUCTABLE DONATION to defray the cost of clay, glaze and firing for the Empty Bowl Project:** Donations may be made to *Valley Assisted Services (VAS)* and marked “Clay Studio/Empty Bowls”. The money will be earmarked for the Studio. Donations to VAS have a dollar for dollar tax deduction and may be a benefit to our members. Thank you for your support!

KILN NOTES

This is the busiest season of the year, Clay Studio members coming from their winter abodes or returning. New members just graduating from intro classes, and anxious to try out newly gained clay knowledge, along with seasoned members busily constructing art projects, add to a very busy kiln room. You can help speed the firing process along by accurately and completely filling out your firing slips, names and phone numbers are important as is the glaze used. Firing slips that are not completely filled out delays the firing of your objects. Kiln Technicians will highlight the missing data and not fire your item until your slip is properly completed.

When you are planning to return to your summer home, or perhaps enjoy a Vacation, allow enough time for your art work to be fired. Both Bisque and High Fire items require 2 to 3 days to fire at this time of the year. If you have left Green Valley and not picked up your art work, please call a friend and asked them to retrieve your items from the finished area. Remember, the Clay Studio is not responsible for lost or missing items. This year the Kiln Room Technicians are relying on you to promptly pick up your finished goods. We will no longer place the date stamp on the finished items as this may leave a glue deposit in the item. Remember if we cannot unload the kiln due to lack of storage space, then firing the next load will be delayed until there is sufficient shelf space for the finished product to be placed.

Last Year the Kiln Technicians a loaded a total of 11,648 items, and unloaded 11,648 items. These items were only items that went thru the POS System; there are always additional items that are fired such as samples for our glaze board, shards and other items that need to be fired. With all of this we continue to strive for perfection by improving our firing programs so that you the Clay Studio members receive the best possible results.

Facilities, Health & Safety

Diane Ernest, chair.

Isn't it fun to come into this fine facility and Play in Clay? Well, Mud heads, without you here enjoying everything the rest of us who work behind the scenes wouldn't have anything to do! But, sometimes those things are at the limit of what we can do without some help from you! Right now would be a good time to help us. So what could you do that would not interfere with all the other activities? The reward is a safe organized environment & valuable time.

Here is a short list of areas that need a little help:

1. Water bottles – rinse out, replace water to half, clean nozzle.
2. Stack newsprint and plastic bags to a neat pile. Take extras to recycle.
3. Fold dried canvas and place on shelf.
4. Clean drying racks and leave to dry so we can replace them in rooms.
5. Join the glaze committee. Help members understand great procedures to make art a success story.
6. Clean your space, chair & cubby and then clean space next to yours.
7. Join the Textures & Mold Committee to keep items ready for use.
8. Scrub decorating & banding wheels.
9. Scrub Open Studio sinks ...soap & brushes provided.

10. Let us know if something needs repair ... use work order book on bulletin board near Holding Room. If 'right now' is in order, let monitor know and a call is placed, too.

Room Coordinators & Kiln Committee have one joint meeting & brunch a year & you are welcome to come for fun, slide show, surprise & guest speakers. Meet or join group. Just make a reservation with Diane Ernest by February 16.

- February 21, 9-11:30 A. M. at Canoa Hills, Mesquite Room.

Health & Safety:

1. A E D: Course given by GVR is at no cost to you. Make reservation with them. If you have a group let them know. Do you know where they are located in each area? The life you save could be your own.
2. 9-1-1: do you know how to procedure with an emergency? Check bulletin board over Events Calendar & drinking fountain, AND address for Studio is on desk near phone. BE prepared.
3. The BUG: Yes, viruses & bacteria are enemies that transmission can be eliminated by you washing your hands. When monitors go from one person to another use the hand wipe on desk.

Studio shut down: A list is on web site of any planned shut down, but we must be ready for an emergency. There is no summer clean up. You are expected to have all cleaned every time you come in. At the end of every month an inspection is made. If your area is not clean, then you may have a surprise. If you leave for extended time, donate your clay to monitor. [If paper clay project finishes, donate to monitor or member as it severely molds and create spores if left in place.] June 10-15 Studio closed.

February 14 1912- 2012 HAPPY STATE HOOD DAY AND CENTENNIAL*

Please fill out your firing slips completely, incomplete slips mean your piece might not be fired!

If you need help completing your firing slips, complete directions are on the holding room door. We don't want you to come in to pick up your fired piece and be disappointed!

JANUARY AROUND THE STUDIO



Empty Bowl Project



Two-part Mold Workshop



Glaze Workshop