

April 2024

GVR Clay Studio of Green Valley

A Green Valley Recreation Hobby Club



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

from Julie Jacques

March has been a busy month here in Green Valley. Thanks to Sally Richards, Sally McDermot, Al Koss and Charlie Radebaugh for representing the Clay Studio at the GVR Club Day.

Thanks also, to everyone who helped with the Studio Open House on March 16th. We had greeters, tour guides, demonstrators, and refreshment servers. Over 150 visitors toured the Studio that day. It is always fun to show off our wonderful facility!

April will find the first of the Snowbirds leaving us. Be sure and remove all your things from the studio. Anyone leaving the studio for more than three months needs to take ALL of their things home. Clay, apron, unfinished art, things in the windows and everything from their storage space. You will need to find a new storage space when you return in the fall. Things left will be considered abandoned. With 400 members we need to make sure our shelves don't become cluttered with items that you have forgotten. We have placed Snowbird check out sheets by the monitor station for your use.

Kent Amerman will do free wheel tutoring. Kent was a wheel instructor for many years so this is a great opportunity if you'd like to try your hand at the wheel or just need a refresher. Give him a call or text at 602-463-3931 to arrange a date and time.

Kerry Boll is doing an Advanced Molds workshop this month on April 23rd and 24th from 9 until noon. His workshops are getting rave reviews.

Our three amazing sculptresses (Eleine, Nancy & Val) will be doing their drop-in Wednesday morning workshops starting April 10 from 9 to 12.

A big thanks to all our instructors and workshop leaders for giving back to the studio by sharing their knowledge with our membership. If you sign up for a workshop please show up. There are a limited number of spaces and when you are a no show it takes that space away from someone else.

Raku and Horsehair firings will occur in April and May and then stop for the summer. Raku is now at 8:30 am and Horsehair at 9 am. Thanks to Doug Davis and his crew for supervising this firing. If you haven't done either of these, summer is a good time to get your items made and ready for the fall startup of these firings.

Until next month,

Julie

Snowbird Checkout

Anyone leaving the studio for 3 months or more needs to do the following:

___ Remove all art from the windows and remove your name from the window book.

___ Remove any stored clay from the studio.

___ Remove your apron from the rack in the hall.

___ Remove all items from your storage space and cross your name out of the storage book.

___ Remove any unfinished art from the Studio.

Any items left in the studio will be considered abandoned and will be placed on the patio table or the free box.

These Pieces are Awesome.

Check out Rhonda Breamish's sgraffito bowl. She used a hump mold to create her slab built bowl. In leatherhard greenware, she painted the outside of the bowl using velvet underglaze. Then she waited until the velvet underglaze was dry to carved the design. (sgraffito) Once the bowl was fully dry, it was bisqued. After firing, she glazed both inside and out with Zinc Free Clear glaze. After high firing, the results were worth it.



Margie Champlin found a nice card on her pot. She thanked me and I get all the credit???. The idea of the THIS PIECE IS AWESOME card is all Julie Jacques's not mine. She made the cards and we pass them out. When you get a card, please take a photo of your work and send it to me, Denise at [denise's email](#) along with and a description of the process and a picture of you, if you'd like. Then PASS THE CARD TO ANOTHER PIECE OF ARTWORK that you like.

Margie Champlin writes, "I had fun making this layered vessel. I used speckled buff clay utilizing all three colors of oxide. I thought just a little glaze was the right finishing touch! Allowing the textures to make a statement. "



Margie with her finished piece.



On March 1, GVR held a Club Day at Canoa Hills Rec Center. Sally Richards and Sally McDermot did a great set up to show off the Clay Studio. Al Koss and Charlie Radebaugh also manned the table but they aren't nearly as photographic!



A coin purse was found in the studio a few weeks ago. If it is yours, contact Sue to identify?

Sue Peetoom
540-842-5140

MY MISTAKE



Well it happened. I warned you all about this early on in my newsletter duty, as I knew I was going to make a mistake in my reporting sometime. I made a huge mistake. Last month I featured Elenie Eliassen's sculpture work, but incorrectly attributed a piece of Elaine Spindler's as hers. Whoops, sorry ladies.

Elaine Spindler is a sculptor as well. Her Boy in the Park started out as a little girl and she was brave enough to experiment with glazing. She attributes its successful glaze to Marilynn

Serra's help.

Elaine is a full timer as of 2010 who painted in acrylic. Then Elaine joined the clay studio and found the sculpture room. She began working with instructors in her favorite subject; FUNKY ANIMALS.

Some more of Elaine's work.



OPEN HOUSE



Thanks to all the members who helped with the March 16th Open House.





We had over 175 visitors to the Studio and the concert upstairs had every seat filled.





Fun Party

In the De Anza room

April 19, 2024 at 1:30 pm

Dress up and have your picture taken with large cardboard cut outs of Roy Rogers and Dale Evans.

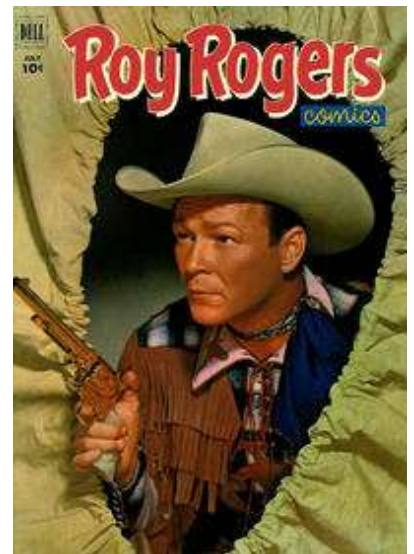
Members can bring their

partners and their favorite booze as well. We will have mixes, water, coffee, and desserts. Members can bring appetizers to make this even better.

There is a sign-up sheet at the Monitors station and cash register.



Don't forget, sign up now. Thanks Sheraldine and Julie for organizing this fun event.



REMINDER FROM THE GLAZE COMMITTEE

Submitted by Christine Shepardson

Using 2 years of data we have eliminated glazes that were low usage or no longer being manufactured. There is a list in the glaze area. We have pulled most of these from the shelves and are encouraging their use on the inside of vases, or pots. Our goal is not to waste a product that we bought at full price.

Glaze chips will be available by the end of the month for members to use. We will place instructions with them. We are no longer collecting left over glaze to make chips.

Please return your unused glazes back to the original container unless they are contaminated. Prices continue to increase every time we order.

Remember: glazes may not be taken home, they are to be used in the studio.

Mixing clear will be available as a gallon.

Please remember that we have a rule at the studio that states we are not to glaze from the container, please put glaze in the cups provided.

Becca's glaze class was a huge success; we are looking at scheduling another before she returns to CA...thanks so much Becca!

If any member out there has a glazing technique they would be willing to share, please let us know, workshops are informal and really quite fun to participate in for both instructor and learner!

Please use the suggestion box, several of the new glazes was suggested by members! It would be good if you signed your name so that we could give you feedback on your suggestion, we do read them all and give consideration to your ideas.

Artist's Spotlight.

June Rennick

Born in Detroit, first generation Chinese, June comes from a family of engineers. She retired in 2016 after 40 years of engineering work for the Aerospace Agency, on submarines, and aircraft carriers. Ask her about the Space Shuttle. She retired as a Mechanical Engineer Project Manager. You may know her husband Gary

(artist/teacher), her soul mate. After retirement they choose to explore their inner arts. She believes Gary is a much better sculptor than she.

When she joined, she worked mostly in the handbuilding room where she really learned clay principles of construction. She took the story-teller class and branched out into sculpture.

The next class she worked with Gary Ballew in the traditional solid block style which is then split and hollowed out.



Now she is working in the handbuilding paddle and anvil method she learned from Sam Sweetman. This method results in strong, compressed walls, because the clay molecules which are flat, are paddled together to flatten and compress the wall even more.





Since she dislikes glazes and glazing, she works with velvets and oxides to achieve her wash technique effect.

It is not hard to recognize this character on the right. Excellent bust of husband, Gary!



So much for this month. The studio is buzzing with activity as the winter guests are finishing up their projects before the long drive north.

And please forgive me for any mistakes with names and such that I make.

Please keep sending me images, names and captions to Denise at rurt2dede@gmail.com