

## **Clay Studio Holiday Newsletter**

Now that all the Thanksgiving festivities, both American and Canadian, are behind us, it's time to turn our thoughts to not only the upcoming holiday season, but also items for the new year, 2023! Here's what you need to know ...

### **Holiday Studio Schedule**

As long as monitors are signed up, the Studio will be open on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year's Eve, and New Year's Day.

### **Holiday Ornament Distribution**

Our Studio has received a very generous donation from one of our previous members – a number of bisque fired ornaments, ready to be glazed. These ornaments have an approved high fire wire already embedded, are approved for firing in our Studio, and are just begging for a glaze that will show off their texture (think celadon maybe?). We plan to give away these ornaments to those members who may wish some, on an established schedule starting in December and then again in January. Watch the Homepage, as well as the “Board” Bulletin Board for that schedule. We will be limiting the amount a member can acquire to be sure all have an opportunity to obtain some.

### **Deadline for submission to Instruct a 2023 Spring/Summer GVR Class is December 6, 2022**

Do you have an urge to share your skills and talents with others? Do you have an idea for a project that you'd like to teach others? Why not sign up to be an instructor to teach a GVR Class? GVR Class Instructors receive payment for their time teaching. If you have a skill such as pot throwing, sculpture, hand building, molds or other ideas, now is the time to become an instructor and offer a GVR class for next spring and summer. The Education Committee is taking applications for GVR Classes. GVR classes are advertised in the GVR Course Catalog and registration is through GVR.

Applications are found on the Clay Studio Webpage under Contact—Education. Applications are due back to the Education Committee by December 6, 2022. GVR classes and instructors require approval by the Education Committee and the Clay Studio Board of Directors. Approved GVR classes will be submitted to GVR for inclusion in the Course Catalog by January 6, 2023.

If you have any further questions and ideas, contact Al Koss, Education Committee Chair, at [pioinfoal@gmail.com](mailto:pioinfoal@gmail.com)

### **Green Valley Recreation Foundation MAP Fundraiser**

The Green Valley Recreation Foundation is holding a fundraising drive during the months of November and December to help GVR members who can no longer afford the annual GVR dues (the Member Assistance Program – MAP). In October, your studio Board voted to support this fund drive. Look for the change jar on the monitor counter and add your donation. Checks are also accepted, made out to Green Valley Recreation Foundation *with MAP written in the memo line.*

The jar will be emptied often and given to the Foundation at the end of December. Watch for my reporting of our donation total. Contact Marcia Campbell, Studio Board member, if you have any questions. (360) 951-5875.

### **Conflict Resolution**

The Clay Studio Board will consider adopting a Conflict Resolution Policy and Procedure at the December Board Meeting. This Policy will replace the current 3 Strike Disciplinary Policy. Your feedback and input regarding this policy and procedure is highly encouraged before the Board takes any action.

The draft policy and procedure are posted on the ‘Board’ Bulletin Board, near the water fountain. They are also available to read or download on the clay studio website in the bright purple box called Conflict Resolution Draft. Click on that button and a message will explain how to download the documents and provide input to Pam Bybee, Board Secretary, using a feedback form.

### **Low Fire Glaze Food Safety**

After extensive research by our Glaze Committee Chair, the Glaze Committee has determined that as long as Studio low fire glazes are 1) labeled as food safe, 2) applied correctly, and 3) fired with our Studio firing programs, they may be considered food safe.

### **Monitor Cash Counting**

Your Board is composed of volunteers who work hard to enact changes for the good of the Studio – we don’t always get it right the first time, so after extensive member input, the Board has rescinded the requirement to count all monies each shift as well as the requirement to log into POS at the start of each shift. All other changes that were effective on December 1<sup>st</sup> remain in place.

## **Holding Room Items**

As our membership numbers are now at 371 and our winter friends are returning, the Holding Room is filling up with all sorts of lovely creations. Please stop in there frequently and remove your items so that kiln loaders have room to unload kilns.

## **Membership Renewal**

The 2023 Membership Renewal Document is now available on the website and at the Monitor's station. Dues remain the same, \$35. Please return the signed last page *only*, with your check.

## **Pricing Changes for 2023**

New clay costs, mostly increases, will go into effect on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023. Firing Slip changes will not change.

## **Annual Membership and Board Meeting**

This meeting will take place on Monday, January 23<sup>rd</sup> at 8:30 am in the DeAnza Room (upstairs). The Board moved the meeting to a Monday morning, so we did not have to close the Studio. The Studio has four applicants for the three open Board positions – those applications are available on the “Board” Bulletin Board for your review. As a reminder, you vote in those Board members who you feel will best represent the needs of the Studio – you must be present at the meeting to vote. So please do your homework and attend the January Board meeting.

## **Studio Position Vacancies**

Volunteers are still needed for both the Social Committee as well as someone to coordinate this Newsletter. Please let any Board member know if you wish to volunteer.

Phew ... I think this is enough to digest for now... and I hope everyone has an enjoyable Holiday season. Safe travels to our winter friends who are returning!

*Susan*