

July 2024

GVR Clay Studio of Green Valley

A Green Valley Recreation Hobby Club



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

from Julie Jacques

Monsoon season has officially begun here in Green Valley. The studio has become a wonderful retreat from the heat and humidity. No mosquitoes or black flies and a perfect 75 degrees. Doesn't get much better than this!

We were able to replace one of our older kilns with a gently "used" kiln last month. We have also ordered a new kiln to replace one of our older kilns and will have that installed in the next month.

We have purchased 9 more of the black padded stools. Larry Carter, our facilities chair, has assembled a crew of handymen and they are working hard to keep the studio in tip-top shape. Thanks to Larry, Dennis Weir and Stan Balka for all the work they do in the studio.

We have had a few vacancies occur in our Monitor calendar. Debbie Bougie, our Sign Up Genius "genius",

lets monitors know when these occur and monitors have signed up quickly to keep our doors open. Thanks to Debbie and the monitors for filling those vacancies. Because of our great Committee Chairpeople and their teams, I can report that all is quiet and running like clockwork!

Till next month,
Julie

Now a Word from our Monitor Committee

Ellen Wicai and Dee Dee Guizlo, co chairs of the Monitor Committee are offering some advice to all Clay Studio members in effect during the summer and early fall. We often have concerns that we will not be able to keep the studio open during our normal hours because we do not have as many trained Monitors available to fill all shifts. On occasion we may have to close the studio when we do not have enough monitors available. If you are concerned, you may call the GVR Clay Studio at 520-399-2755 before you come in to be sure it is open.

We also want to remind all monitors that if they decide to work a second shift in the same month in order to keep the studio open for all of us, they will need to contact the Monitor's Helpline at 520-260-8822 so Ellen or Dee Dee can add you to the calendar. The SUG system is set up to allow you to schedule yourself on the calendar only once in any given month.

All of our members appreciate the monitor's efforts to keep the studio open throughout the off season.

MESSAGE FROM THE GLAZE COMMITTEE

By Chris Shepardson

Amaco Satin Matte Glazes: All colors are approved for use in studio. We will be adding some colors but if you want an additional color you may purchase it, just like celadons.

Ancient Copper is being manufactured again. We placed an order the minute we got the news. So far, it is not available to us from Marjons. Once we get a pint we will test it and make a decision.

Glazes are now shelved first by brand and then alphabetically. We are currently working on an updated glaze info sheet.

We will continue to add new underglazes thru the summer. For best results, apply 3 good even coats to greenware, then bisque



fire the piece and finish by applying zinc free clear. We found that too light an application resulted in a diluted color.

To help members try the new underglazes, we will be providing some round pieces of greenware for you to use to check if your coverage is optimal. This will be for a limited time and we request you just take one.

Introducing Rhonda Calhoun.

Rhonda is a full-timer and joined our studio one year ago. She lives in the Springs and enjoys walking to the Recreation center. She jumped right in taking a sculpture class with Elenie, Val and Nancy. Then she took Theresa's class because she wanted to make luminaries for her garden. She sees many mold project possibilities in her future.



Rhonda also belongs to Santa Rita Art League where she works with Assemblage, painting and crocheting. She loves to keep her hands busy.

Originally from Galesburg, Illinois, she calls Green Valley a quality retirement community. Rhonda has a great attitude as she called herself a blessed woman. She says the studio members are kind, helpful, friendly and a great place to be.



Can you guess who this is?



“I am getting ready for a fashion show fundraiser. The Clay piece is of a head that is half tree, half human.

I dressed or tried to dress as a stump, of course. I live in the Pacific Northwest where there are lots of stumps

I’m calling this:

Heidi Klepper ode to a stump.”

Summer Reminders to all Monitors and all GVR Clay Studio Members by Ellen Wicai and Dee Dee Guizlo, Monitor CoChairs

Now that most of our part time members have left for the summer you will notice a change in the number of monitors assigned to work during each shift. In most cases it will be one person per shift. This makes it very important that you show up to work on the dates you have scheduled yourself to work. Otherwise, we will be closing the studio when we do not have a monitor to cover a shift. Note: We always appreciate volunteer monitors who will step in at the last minute just to keep the studio open for all of us.

Members who are not monitors should also be aware of the possibility of closure at any time. Feel free to call the Clay Studio telephone number (520-399-2755) before you come in to find out if it is or will be closed early that day.

Recently the money counters with the Finance Committee have been finding errors in the amount of money monitors left in the gray bag to be used for change for the person who opens the studio the next morning. You should always leave \$100.00, all in small bills. In all cases, the money has been there, it was just not placed correctly in the gray bag and the white deposit envelopes. On occasion, some of our monitors have not been running the Sales Report as part of the closing of the cash register procedure. Please use your tools of either the Monitor's

Guide, Page 8, paragraph 4 or see the next to the last page of the Monitor's Guide with a step by step flowchart describing how to generate the Daily Sales Report and what to do with it.

Thank you all for the work you do to keep the Clay Studio open for all of us to enjoy.

Sharon Blackwell is delighted with her Raven which she made in a Sit with Sam session.



”Using a ball as the base, hand sculpted pieces were added to form the raven. Redstone clay was used. It was high fired with 3 coats of Black Satin Matte glaze. I had bought a raven made by Sam in Patagonia several years ago before I even came to the Clay Studio. It was great to learn her method.”

Dennis Weir joined the studio in January with no clay experience but has become a regular in the studio. He works in glass and wood as well. Originally from Minnesota, he moved to Phoenix in 82. He has joined the Fix It group so you will see him and his cohorts, Stan and Larry, working around the studio.



Slab Rollers

Please help us keep the airborne dust down in the studio by treating the slab roller canvases like you do the wedging tables by:

- Remove visible clay with a plastic putty knife,
- Wipe the canvas with a well wrung out sponge,
- Clean the area around the height adjustment knob.

We have had more than a few canvases wrap around the rollers in the past few of months. If this happens, please get help to remove the canvas and clay from the rollers. The facilities team can loosen the tabletop to safely remove the canvas and clay without damaging the slab rollers or canvas.

To help prevent this from happening please:

- Place your clay at the fold of the canvas, don't leave a flap in front of the clay,
- Make sure the edges of the canvas align along the sides, and
- Take a quick look at the output side of the rollers as you start rolling to make sure it is not wrapping around the rollers.

Thank you for your help,

The Guys who fix things: Larry Carter, Dennis Weir, and Stan Balka

Grandchild in the Studio: Welcome Whitney

Carol Zychowski's granddaughter is visiting from Los Angeles. She is a freshman this year and fondly remembers middle school art, where she learned color theory. Whitney is going to have a great time visiting with plans to go to Karchner Carverns, the Pima



Mine, swimming, and visiting the Miniature Museum.



My My, Pearl Lentz has outdone herself building this giant flowerpot in the handbuilding room.

Way to go girl and I love the hat and the shirt she's wearing. Picture perfect indeed!

So much for June. It has gone by so fast. Time passes quickly when you get up in the morning looking forward to creating art. So send your images and articles to Denise at rurt2dede@gmail.com

