

July 2023



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

from Julie Jacques



It's summer in the Studio! Things are slowing down and we are seeing faces we don't always see in the "high" season. Firings are now on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. The kiln techs have been working hard to keep our firings on schedule even though they are running with a smaller number of workers due to vacations.

Lynn Morgan took over chairing our bylaws committee and has done a great job of reviewing and proposing changes to our bylaws. They were reviewed by the Board and approved by GVR. They are now available for your review on our website and copies are available in the studio.

The major changes are:

- 1) Removing how elections are conducted; not at the annual meeting so all members can vote on Board of Directors
- 2) The standing committees have been removed from the bylaws since the Board can add to or remove them as needed.

These amendments will be voted on at a special membership meeting in September. This will allow us to get them in place before the next Board election.

Three of our sculpture teachers, Elenie Eliassen, Nancy Schultz and Val Downs have been giving free drop-in workshops on Wednesday mornings from 9 until 11:30. They have been well attended and will continue for July and August. No sign-up needed, just bring a sculpture project you are working on. Classes and workshops are listed on our web-site (www.claystudiogvaz.com) and on the Education bulletin board in the Studio.

At 100 plus degrees the Studio is a great place to hang out. Here's hoping my next report is done in the midst of a great monsoon!

Julie

Did you know?

If you have a library card you can view magazines on your computer. These magazines are available through Pima County Library in the Overdrive app: Clay Craft, Southwest Art, and Ceramics. The Studio will be receiving Ceramics Monthly and Ceramics Illustrated. Please do not remove magazines from the Studio or cut out of them.

Underglazes and Slips

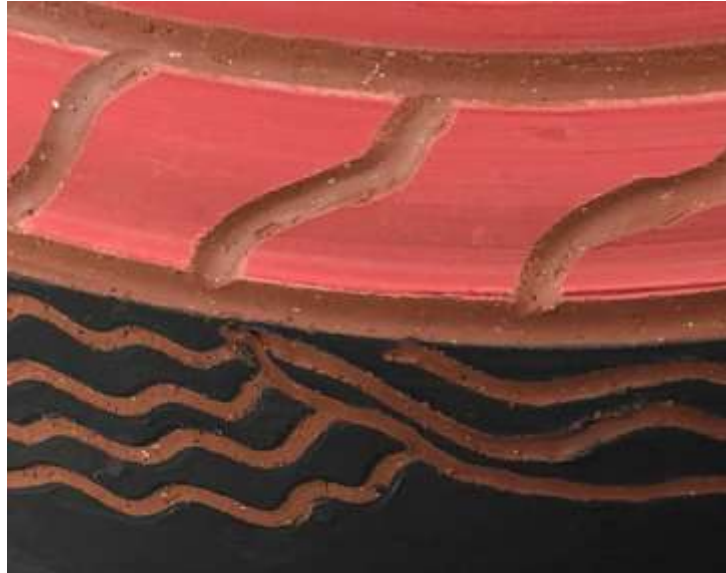
Some creative pointers

There are some very creative methods being used every day in the studio. Let's take a look.

Here is Scraffito. All sorts of cultures have used this method of decoration from Native Americans to Pennsylvania Dutch Redware.

Underglazes are applied to

leatherhard clay, and then the artists use small loop tools to carve through the underglazes to reveal the contrasting clay body.



Deb Goalby carves through underglazes to reveal the Redstone clay body on her leatherhard pot creating design and texture.



This piece by Becca Dunn incorporates both Scraffito and glazing. By using underglazes at the greenware stage, the piece is bisque fired, thus setting the color to the claybody. The piece is then glazed using clear or a very translucent glaze.



Carol Randall uses a squeeze bottle to pipe slip onto her Redstone clay body.



This technique creates a raised surface as well as a contrasting color.



Chris Shepardson used Rose v-318, Turquoise blue v-327 and Real Orange v-384 on her hand built planter.

Please remember to indicate on your Bisque firing slip that you have used underglazes. A few members are confused about the use of glaze as opposed to underglaze. The Kiln committee tries hard to catch mistakes. Glazes will stick to the kiln shelf.

NOTICE!!

Applying glaze (Stroke and Coats) or any high fire glaze to greenware is **NOT** allowed in our Studio. If you own your own kiln it might be possible but it is **FORBIDDEN** in our club. Items put in for bisque firing that have been covered with glaze will **NOT** be fired. You will need to remove all glaze, which is not possible on greenware as it will probably fall apart. Please do **NOT** glaze greenware!!



Lynn Morgan is experimenting again. She loves to try unique underglazing techniques. She uses a watered down underglaze to achieve a watercolor effect. Here is an example of a bisque piece with the raised slip areas being covered with glaze.



This lovely totem piece is an example of a finished glazed fired piece. She said that she used a white porcelain slip for her slip trailing. She used celadon glazes on her pieces because they add to the watercolor look and they are translucent.

Another nifty scraffito piece by Lynn. It will be the base for a totem.

Lynn has had a bit of trouble with the glaze bubbling/pulling apart on her large flat piece. This could be due to the fact that the porcelain slip was brushed over the entire piece. She suspects that the



clay body had a different shrinking rate than the porcelain slip. The porcelain separated/lifted off the B mix clay body. She will continue experimenting.

See the bubble in the glaze?



What a shame as it is such a lovely piece! Trial and error and Lynn won't give up.

Lynn has some great tools for scraffito work. They can be purchased on- line at Diamond Core [Tools](#) (click on this blue link to go to the Website) Here is a picture of some of her Diamond Core tools.



David Karakatsoulis decorates his pot with fine detail.



Problems: Note the breakage.

These little flat birds were mistakenly glazed with Stroke and Coat before they were bisque fired. Bisque firing removes all the moisture in the clay body preparing it for glazing. This is called out gassing. In this case, the glaze sealed the surface which does not let the clay body fire out as it should in the bisque process. This can cause numerous problems such as breakage. When the kiln is loaded for bisque, the crew fires unglazed pieces only. When a

greenware pot shatters (some people say explodes), it is usually caused by the piece not being bone dry or it has an air pocket. The kiln becomes full of dust and tiny pieces can adhere to a beautiful glaze pot next to it. What a shame!

Slip and underglaze are both made of a mixture of clay and water.

However, slip contains more clay and can add texture to pottery.

Underglazes contains some glass forming ingredients and behaves more like a glaze. Also, unlike slip, underglaze keeps its color when fired. Slip tend to change color.

Just remember: No Stroke and Coat in Bisque.

A Murder of Crows/Ravens has taken the studio by storm.



They're just crazy for Ravens

Sit with Sam session in the Sculpture room.

Six people were busy making hollow form baby ravens out of B3 brown claybody which will turn black after firing. Here Annette Ashburn is having fun in the class.

Check the bulletin board for upcoming classes and informal workshops like this. Don't miss out.





Sandy is dreaming of Ravens.





Four and twenty
blackbirds baked in
the *desert*.

Suzzy McCafferty is well known in the handbuilding room. She works on large molds with intricate designs. Suzzy and Kathy moved here in 2016 and took the intro class in 2018.

She taught preschool for 40 years, so she says she has a background in play dough.



She used velvets on the bird of paradise and high fired glazes on the rest. Nice work Suzzy!



This is a great glaze combo! Sue Goggin's experiment turned out so nice Marilyn Serra made a sample for the Combo board. She used a base coat of PC Oatmeal and top coated it with two coats of Tiger's Eye.

Marilyn was impressed because it is stable, with no running. A sample can be found labeled #15 on the Combo Board



Check this out! Member, Liza Roocroft created our very own Facebook Group and it is full of fun images, information and videos from our members. There is another similar group called GVR Clay so be sure to look for our page. Thanks Liza, for this great idea.



Green Valley, Az. Potters >

Public group · 74 members

Joined ▾ Invite

About Featured Photos Events File

Featured ⓘ



Liza Roocroft updated the description.
Nov 1, 2022 · 🌐

Green Valley has many wonderful potters!
This group is where GV mud slingers can share their pieces with each other and the public. Newer potters can ask questions and all can share their new discoveries.





Green Valley, Az. Potters

About

Green Valley has many wonderful potters! This group is where GV mud slingers can share their pieces with each othe... **See More**



Public

Anyone can see who's in the group and what they post.

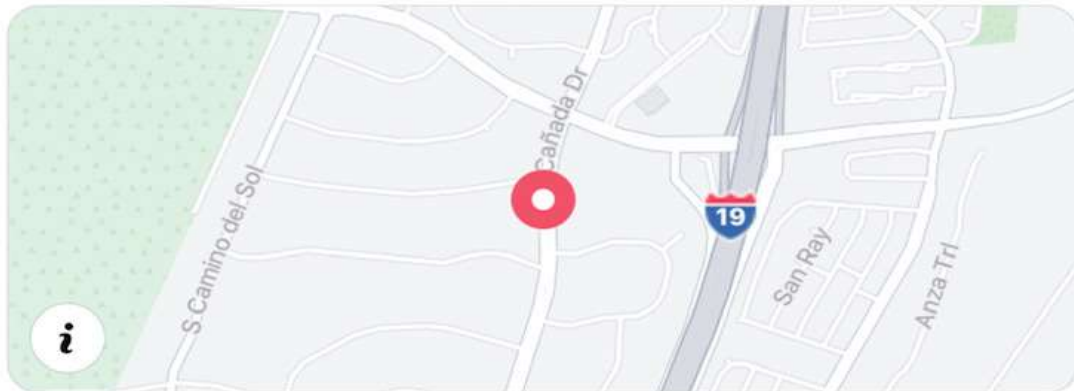


Visible

Anyone can find this group.



This group is located in [Green Valley, Arizona](#)



History

Group created on November 1, 2022

Rules from the admins

1 Be kind and courteous



Happy 90th Birthday to John Munger



John Munger will turn 90 on July 17th! John is one amazing fellow!

You will find him working on sculpture in the studio, but that is just the tip of his talent.

John taught music at Greendale Public Schools in Wisconsin. He directed the Greenville Community Band for more than 40 years.

In 1974 he started a German Band, "Big John and His Little German Band" that has performed for four decades. John has directed 91 musical performances. He is currently a member of the GV Concert Band.

John also does oil painting, acrylic painting, pastels, and charcoal drawings. One of his paintings was selected for display at the Tucson Airport!

Happy Birthday, John!

Windows

If you have art displayed in a window, it's time to give your window shelf a dusting. Also, many storage spaces could use some cleaning...try not to spread into the adjoining space

POP UP CLASSES

Southwest Storyteller Class~Donna Herrera

Come play in the clay and make a Southwest Storyteller with kids climbing all over it! Supply list will be posted in the Studio and on our web-site.

Wednesdays and Fridays from 8 am to 12:30 pm~August 2 & 4, 9 & 11, 16 & 18 Cost:\$60

Register by calling GVR~520-625-3440 or stopping in a center with a sales office. Class #7205
You must be a Clay Studio member to take this class.



Introduction to Wheel Throwing-Deb Goalby

Fundamental skills and techniques to become a wheel thrower.

- 1) Japanese Spiral Wedging and Centering
- 2) Opening the Clay
- 3) Pulling up the wall
- 4) Trimming

Mondays, 12:30 to 3:30: July 24 and 31 and August 7 and 14

4 Sessions~\$90. Register by calling GVR at 520-625-3440 or visit a GVR sales office.

Class # 8094

Must be a Clay Studio member to take this class



If you have images and articles, please email them to me, Denise at rurt2dede@gmail.com. Plus, thank you for all the praise over the newsletter; nevertheless, when I mess up, forget something, or misspell a name, please forgive me.

Please send me jpeg images as I have a hard time with heic files. I've noticed that the heic files are most commonly sent via text. Also if you can, send me the name of the person in the image and a sentence or two about the work.