

March, 2026

*GVR Clay Studio of Green Valley*

A Green Valley Recreation Hobby Club



## Message from the President, Kerry Boll



Dear Members:

Clay Studio Members  
Lend Me Your Ears...

I'm excited to inform you that GVR will be replacing the sinks and tabletops throughout the studio beginning the week of **March 9-15, 2026**. We will be closing the studio during these dates but all classes scheduled will still be active. This is a project that is funded and project managed through and by GVR.

1. **Members taking Intro, Adobe House, Storyteller and Beyond Basics Classes.** You must have all your tools, clay, all projects, etc. in the classroom stored on a shelf for the classes no later than Sunday, March 8th. Please make sure to put your name and date on a card like anytime we use drying shelves for projects. NOTE: You will enter and exit through the classroom door we usually do not use. This will be unlocked until classes are

completed daily. PLEASE DO NOT ACCESS ANY OTHER AREAS FOR THE STUDIO DURING THIS TIME. All teachers already know this information for you and will remind you prior and during the class.

2. **SNOWBIRDS** — If you plan on leaving the week we are doing this project, please have all your clay and tools stored in cubbies out of the studio prior to Sunday, March 8th. All items left behind will become fair game to other members active in the studio.
3. **Monitors already signed up through Signup Genius** for these dates — March 9th through March 15th — will be counted as your monthly service even though we will be closed. **PAULA WORTHLEY will record your service in the book. Please do not mark anything in the service book for these dates.** Thank you.
4. **ALL MEMBERS** - if you have used a mold, you must return it cleaned to its spot in the studio no later than Sunday, March 8th. Anyone violating this will lose their work. Also, because we will be away from the studio for a week, please take care of your projects so they are successful and don't spend too much time drying, etc. If you make something new before you leave, it may be too hard to work on when you return after March 16th.
5. **Anyone who tries to enter the studio during the closing will be turned away by GVR and I will be notified.**
6. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Looking forward to seeing the new look of our studio as we update everything for the membership. We are fortunate that GVR has given us this opportunity to continue to make our studio facility the best it can be.

## *Meet Consuelo Udave*



In my 2nd year at university and after signing up for my first-ever drawing class, I fell in love with many artistic mediums...but especially with sculpture! My earliest sculpture opportunities involved hand-building with clay, wheel throwing & mold-making. However, working with clay on armatures was, more often than not, an interim step in the process to final cast plaster or resin pieces.

After graduating with secondary teacher certification, I chose, instead, to pursue work in the commercial art field...applying my creative interests and skills for client projects/purposes, accumulating on-the-job experience in graphic design, airbrush illustration, computer illustration & historic exhibit design.

Several semesters of post-grad sculpture classes added a unique hands-on experience: working with lost wax casting for creating bronze

art pieces. However, my own creative projects necessarily took a backseat to meeting client deadlines, while most personal projects remained on the back-burner, relatively dormant, until retirement.

Fast-forward, fifty years: When considering relocation from Washington state to Arizona, Bob & I toured the GVR Clay Studio, which became one of our key incentives for buying a Green Valley home in December of 2021. In 2023, my first six months as a clay studio member was devoted to designing the clay studio promotional rack cards you may have seen on the counter, near the monitor's desk area.

2024 was entirely devoted to creating "Armando", my near-life-



size armadillo. Starting in January, I spent about four months building him...then spent all of the summer months to repairing many deep cracks on his underside (while gaining indelible lessons in

mending persistent cracking due to variations in clay thickness and drying rates!) Thankfully, Armando survived his late-November bisque firing and I finished him with acrylic paints and detailing in January of 2025.



In the spring of 2025, my donkey duo (mama and foal), were created during a sculpture class taught by Janice Walker, our studio's animal sculpture expert and a treasured instructor! My donkeys were finished with acrylic paints, as well.



My quails wall plaque/bas relief...a slight departure from my preferred full, 3-dimensional work...is also finished with bright, colorful acrylic paints.

Last summer, I created two wall hangers to support two dried red chili ristras, which are currently mounted between our three kitchen arches.



The rista wall hangers are finished with the same wall and cabinet colors used in decorating our Southwestern-style kitchen.

## Clay Studio Spring Fling Pot Luck

Party time——March 19, 2026

From 12:00 pm to 3:00 pm

Please bring a White Elephant gift from your home, we are going to Play BINGO. The gift you bring will be the prize. PLEASE HAVE IT WRAPED.

### POT LUCK

Last names starting with A through I,  
Please bring main dish.

Last names starting with J though p  
Please bring salad or vegetable dish.

Last name starting with Q through Z  
Please bring desserts.

Looking forward to having fun.

Thank you,

Sheraldine

# Clay Studio Annual Show

images submitted by KittyBottemiller







# There's a Party going on













Thank your handworking  
organizers and helpers



So much for this month. What a beautifully mild winter we have had. Lucky me, I will be taking a long vacation soon, so there won't be newsletters for the months of April and May. The next newsletter will come out in June.

**Calling all amateur journalists: newsletter editor needed for six months a year.**

There is a need for a Newsletter editor in the snowbird months. I will be the editor from May through October and we need someone else from November through April. As many of you know, I am highly involved in the Photography Club in the snowbird months. I'm a field trips leader for the club. I am rarely in the clay studio to take pics and know what is going on.

So talk with Kerry please. I use Word to produce the newsletter and *my I Phone* to take and edit pictures. That is why I don't have border boxes and other *fancy* layouts. I don't use columns because I like large text written like a book. Just saying, "anyone can do this." But if you like borders and columns, go for it. Everything in the newsletter is proofed and Okayed by the club president.



Sincerely, Denise