

November, 2025

GVR Clay Studio of Green Valley

A Green Valley Recreation Hobby Club



Message from the President, Kerry Boll



Dear Members:

Happy Thankful
November to all!

This is a month to say
thanks.

I invite you to thank
someone who gives you
the knowledge how to
complete and make your
new clay masterpiece a
true work of art.

As your President, I
would like to personally

thank the Clay Board, committee chairs, committee members, teachers, monitors, stewards, kiln techs -- all our kind members -- all volunteers for making the studio what it is today! And **THANK YOU** to Dennis Weir, Ron Powell, Paula Worthley, Bonnie Luksha, Jane Ercolani, Mary Clark & Donna Morris for having a hand in helping on the new shelves in the hand building room.

POOF! WE ARE NOW 441 MEMBERS STRONG!

And we need to understand that we will be sharing rooms, spaces, drying areas together throughout the studio. Not everyone will be able to have their own cubby and storage for clay will be a premium. Remember only two bags permitted.

NEW – we will begin on November 1st to scan our GVR cards through two scanners located by the front desk. One for GVR and one for the studio. To work in the studio, you need your GVR card to enter – if you forget – go home and get it!

And now here's news that I'm truly thankful for – our dues will stay at \$35 again for 2026. New forms are available by the hand building room entrance. Get your dues in early so you don't forget or miss out on this totally awesome studio that has everything you need to succeed in clay!

We received three applications for three open board positions – Julie Jacques, Amy Helman and Barb Haymond. Thank you!

Happy Thanksgiving to all! And finally – thank YOU for everything you do!

Kerry

No glazing on the glaze counter. There are plenty of signs stating this. I've been asked to post this every month. The counter is only for preparing to glaze.



DO YOU KNOW?

Doug South joined us last spring.

He had a desire to try 3-D art. Coming from the Bay area only ten miles from Napa, I asked him “what brings you to Green Valley?” Originally from Tucson, he moved to the Bay area for forty years. Now he has returned to his

family.



He was a registered nurse spending most of his career (thirty five years) at the VA. He retired as Chief Nurse, starting his service during the AIDS epidemic and ending with Covid. The majority of his patients were WWII veterans when he began and then Desert Storm veterans.

Nice to have you Doug.



“ART IS A JOURNEY”

Ron Campbell came to us from California as well. Originally from Ohio, his family moved to California when he was a child. After service in the Army, and then college, he chose to become a Beautician. There, I’m sure, is where

he learned his gift of conversation. He has a wealth of stories to entertain us along with a depth of sculpture knowledge

Ron has a life-time of sculpture experience and it is quite motivating to see. Stop by the sculpture room sometime. While in college, he learned how to make molds. He recalls creating between 60 to 70 molds and some of them were



quite large---200 POUNDERS. His subject matter ranged from Hippies, Old Guys on the Beach, to cartoon figures. During that time he started a Garden Art business, where he created four different styles of pavers.



At Ocean Coast College, he worked in Bronze, where he created vestment molds in which metal were poured. To work with molten metal, he had to gear up in protective suits.

Ron also has experience in sculpting Alabaster stone.

Maybe you have been to Laguna Artifair and seen him selling Tribal Sticks. Ron said business was good selling his decorative walking sticks until Covid hit.

Welcome Ron.

Workshops are an Overwhelming Success!

Anita Rae-Davis and Val Priser are enthusiastically taking on teaching a variety of workshops. You can hear the fun and laughter coming from



Education Room. Here they are checking the roster: the quiet before the storm.



Lisa Mann shops around the many choices for her favorite transfer.

Carolyn Hupp gently places transfer tissue onto her plate (foreground) as Cat Frank, Linda Shreve and Kathy Morgan plan and fit.





Workshops Galore: Owls, lidded containers, and glaze workshops are keeping our volunteers super busy.



Be sure to check our GVR Clay Studio website calendar for the workshops scheduled through mid-December. Our volunteer instructors are busy donating their time. We are thankful for their generosity.



Glaze Committee Newsletter info by Chris Shepardson.

All test tiles have been remade by Lynn Morgan so they are identical. Please look at the back of the tile to see her info on how many coats of glaze she used. Keep in mind that 2 of Lynn coats may be 3 of yours. The thickness of the glaze should be about the thickness of a credit card.

We have some new glazes. Two Mayco glazes, Orange Gloss and Green Jasper, plus 4 new Stroke and Coats, Cashew Later, Moody Blue, Fruit of the Vine and Spruce it Up. Green Jasper is a crystal glaze and the crystals can really move so we consider it an extreme runner. Keep those crystals on the top 1/3 of your piece to minimize the chance of a problem. We are also now stocking the base coats of most of the crystal glazes. The new additions are Turquoise, Coral and White Opal. Check the label on the glaze to determine what the base coat is. If the base coat is Alabaster by Mayco we are substituting Alabaster Satin by Coyote. We have had some delightful results mixing these crystals with Alabaster, White Gloss and many of the celadons. Buy a 2 dollar test tile and give it a try!

We reviewed our data on glaze purchases and have made the decision to stop buying 5 high fire glazes, they are

Unicorn Horn, Ironwood, Blackberry Wine, Toshi Brown and Ochre. They will remain on the shelf until we need room, then they will be moved to the D/C area. We also identified a number of Stroke and Coats that have not been purchased for over 2 years; they will gradually make their way to the D/C area. We are currently testing 5 more new Stroke and Coats and will consider adding them based on results. We are currently testing Yellow Gloss by Mayco, it is brighter than Sunflower and high gloss, you may see it soon. Remember when using darker clays you may want to add white enrobe before using the yellow to get better result. Sunflower will not be going away.

We have added a new engobe called Terra Cotta. The Glaze Committee is devoting a 4 hour work meeting to further test the engobes and determine the best way to get info to members, you may see an informative session or workshop coming up.

Turquoise Lake was not successful as a dipping glaze despite all Dave's expertise. It is now in a gallon. We will be test trialing Obsidian as a dipping glaze in the near future. We continue to try and find a fuchsia/hot pink/magenta type glaze, so far no good candidates. We have received several suggestions to add Zinc Free Clear as a dipping glaze, since people generally use 2 coats of

clears, and over application can ruin your piece we will not be doing this.



Strolling through the studio, you discover all sorts of fabulous work.

Check out the Handbuilding room

Surprise, Paula Worthley broke from her on-going theme of Dia De Los Muertos to create her tile masterpiece, without skulls.







Pumpkin Patch Time



Tohono Chul
GARDENS • GALLERIES • BISTRO

CERAMICS

SHOW & SALE

FRI & SAT • NOV. 14-15 • 10AM-4PM • THE PAVILION



SOUTHERN ARIZONA
CLAY ARTISTS
SACA





Christmas Party Planned,
so mark your calendars.

The Clay Studio Christmas party will be held in the De Anza room on **December 18 from 1 o'clock to 4 o'clock.**

The first part of November, we will have a sheet at the front desk at the Clay Studio to sign up for the party with instructions on what to bring. Thank you,

Sheraldine Gardner

So much for this month. I wanted to point out that some of you may be surprised to see your work in the newsletters. We have a rule here that we are not supposed to touch anyone's work. So when you see your work photographed, you think, "She touched my work to photograph it." When I see an interesting work in the holding room I always have a monitor with me to supervise the handling of the piece. So many times, the fired glaze pieces come out of the kiln, leave the building the same day, and they are gone!



We recently had a piece of greenware broken as it was drying. When they are bone dry they are extremely fragile. It was obvious that someone had picked it up as it was completely broken in several pieces. So please remember, only kiln people, monitors, and the owner of the piece are to pick up work.

Got some pictures for the newsletter, an article, favorite tool or helpful hint, please send it to Denise at rurt2dede@gmail.com