



## November 2021 Newsletter

[venturapottersguild.org](http://venturapottersguild.org)

**Members' Meeting:** VCPG Elections @ 7pm

A virtual tour of New Zealand National Ceramics Exhibition•

### For Your Calendar:

Nov 22.....**Members Meeting; 6:30pm; Gathering**

Board Elections @7pm, Program

Dec 7.....Board Meeting; 11:00am

Link to all members below

Dec 13.....**Members Meeting/Holiday party; 6:30pm**

Meeting Location: On Zoom

### • **Presidents message**

November. Autumn setting in. Chilly mornings have arrived in Ojai. Cool to comfy warm afternoons. And, it's getting dark very early in my biorhythm expectations.

I'm not very excited about making pots these days. Something new is trying to be born and all I can do is wait... I'm beginning to feel it, but can't quite see it.

So too with our Guild. We're in a gestation period. As a Guild we've accomplished so much this year. Our attention now is focused on our

upcoming Annual Meeting at the November Members' Meeting. We'll be voting on President, Secretary and updates to our ByLaws that reflect the required changes for implementing the Membership Tiers. The Board is still working on improving existing projects, but have put all non-Membership projects in a "parking lot" until after the Annual Meeting vote and we know which directions we're heading.

In thinking about the Team Service commitment of the Plus Membership Tier I'm reminded of the current Teams performing services for our Guild. The Board of Directors is a team of 12 plus Committee Chairs as needed. The Gallery Committee is a team of 8. The Gallery is run by the coordination of a team of around 30. Our quarterly bulk clay order is provided by a team of 12. The Membership Team was a team of 4. The Ojai Show was produced by a team of about 20.

I sit here imagining what's possible. Imagining the amazing services we can create for ourselves and the world with more of us creating and working together on more teams. It will increase our cohesion as Guild Members and increase the number and breadth of our circles of influence.

The Board hopes to increase the opportunities for dialog between the Managing Teams (Board and Gallery Committee) and Guild members at large. As President, I look forward to a Guild with a strong engaged membership—one where members committing to be active players in our Guild facilitate more voices shaping our future.

2021 has been a great year in moving our Guild "Forward From The Future." In 2022, we get to continue discovering our journey together. That, I am excited about...

Happy Potting,

Wyn Matthews, VCPG President

50+ year potter

[me@wynmatthews.com](mailto:me@wynmatthews.com) 805.207.3122

## • Annual Members Program • 11/22/21 @ 7pm

Our Guild's November meeting is our Annual Election's Meeting. This is your Guild and your voice matters. Your participation in this meeting is important. To sweeten the deal, there will be a drawing held at the end of the meeting. Three lucky members will be selected at random to each receive a \$25 Amazon gift card.

During the Annual meeting we will be electing individuals to serve as President and Secretary. The slate of Officers is: President, Wyn Matthews; Secretary, Stacy Rowe. Prior to the meeting, if anyone is interested in submitting a nominee for one of these positions, please contact Bill Evans, Vice-President [bill133@cox.net](mailto:bill133@cox.net). An opportunity to add additional nominees from the floor will be given prior to voting.

We, as members, will also be asked to vote on proposed revisions to our Guild's Bylaws. These revisions are necessary in order to implement the Membership Restructuring Proposal that has been shared with you at chats, in emailings and during a video presented at the September Members' meeting. For those of you unable to attend that meeting, the video is available for viewing at <https://youtu.be/jfGyLbFAzsc>. A copy of the proposed Bylaws and a summary of the revisions are attached to this newsletter and are provided for your review in advance of the meeting.

For those members unable to attend the November meeting you will be sent an email from Zoom with instruction on the process for casting your vote. You will have until November 29, 2021, at 11:59 to vote. The outcome of the election and Bylaws revision voting will be shared with members early in December. 2022 Membership renewal forms will be available soon after.

## • The Program

We will have an incredible opportunity to meet with the **Ceramic Association of New Zealand's** Board President, Louis Kittleson; Vice President, Nicole Gaston and the Chair of their 60th Diamond Jubilee Exhibition Chair, Nicole Kolig (<https://ceramicsnz.org/directory/nicole-kolig/>). They will be sharing with us a bit about their organization (founded in the same year as our Guild) and its history and the history of ceramics in New Zealand.

The focus of the program will be a virtual tour of their National Ceramics Exhibition. This special exhibition was held in Ōtepoti Dunedin to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the first exhibition of New Zealand Studio Potters, held at the Otago Museum in November 1957. The contemporary exhibition is complemented by a heritage exhibition with works from this early period and other materials showing the endeavours that led to the formation of New Zealand Society of Potters, which is now known as Ceramics Association of New Zealand (Ceramics NZ).

This is a unique opportunity.

NZ Ceramicists we will see in the Exhibition include work by:

Kate Fitzharris: <https://sarjeant.org.nz/artists-in-lockdown-kate-fitzharris/> and <https://ceramicsnz.org/directory/kate-fitzharris/>

Renate Galetzka: <https://ceramicsnz.org/directory/renate-galetzka/>

Sung Hwan Bobby Park: <https://www.nzherald.co.nz/wanganui-chronicle/news/bobby-park-ceramic-works-address-the-need-for-individual-expression-within-institutional-boundaries/UWYMUZD5L5XNWIFYG2RZTPJSZ4/>

Teresa Peters: <https://www.mothermother.co.nz/work/teresa-peters> and <https://www.thebigidea.nz/stories/who-got-the-gig-teresa-peters>

November Guild Members' Annual Meeting and Program  
Time: Nov 22, 2021 06:30 PM -Informal Gathering Time,  
07:00PM Meeting Start PST

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85025047852?  
pwd=VTZKNjhER2dKQnRiV2dnNFpoZXkwZz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85025047852?pwd=VTZKNjhER2dKQnRiV2dnNFpoZXkwZz09)

Meeting ID: 850 2504 7852

Passcode: 1957

One tap mobile

+16699006833,,85025047852# US (San Jose)

+12532158782,,85025047852# US (Tacoma)

Dial by your location

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Meeting ID: 850 2504 7852

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kGZ7rXjcq>

• **December Board Meeting Link • 12/7/21 @11:00**

Please contact Stacy Rowe at [stacer2000@gmail.com](mailto:stacer2000@gmail.com) if you would like to receive the Agenda Packet in advance of the November Board of Directors Meeting.

Topic: December VCPG Board of Directors

Time: Dec 7, 2021 11:00 AM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

## Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84436025221?pwd=OUpaZ0V6eXBjVVdsNTJhUFZlIiCZz09>

Meeting ID: 844 3602 5221

Passcode: 605746

One tap mobile

+16699006833,,84436025221# US (San Jose)

Dial by your location

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

### • **Holiday Extravaganza and Clay Challenge at our December 13th Members meeting**

Get ready for some holiday fun! This year we will again hold our VCPG Holiday Extravaganza via Zoom. The party will be a few weeks earlier and in lieu of our regular 4th Monday Members' Meeting. It will be Monday, December 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm.

The meeting agenda will be:

6:30 Social Time

7:00 Clay Challenge Show and Tell, followed by Holiday Door Prize drawing! You will need to be present to win!

Festive attire and attitude are strongly encouraged.

The theme for this year's Clay Challenge is: **Underglaze Decoration**  
We're looking for surface decoration that involves some kind of color or stain instead of colored glazes.

This broad definition encompasses many different techniques and materials. Techniques could be painting, drawing, stenciling, slip trailing and staining. Materials could be underglazes (commercial or

homemade), underglaze pencils, colored slip, stains and raw ingredients (cobalt and copper carbonates, iron oxide, etc). Probably you would finish with a clear glaze to set and protect everything, but you needn't use glaze at all.

At our April meeting, Diana Faris from Amaco, presented a program on underglazes. If you missed the meeting, you can view it on our YouTube channel <https://youtu.be/4rmtna7kk0k> And at our October meeting, Julia Feld provided a fantastic program demonstrating how she uses underglazes in her work. This is also on our YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ujbz4baTHcY>

Remember, the idea behind these challenges is to give you an excuse to try something new and to share with your fellow Guild members. If you're already doing under-glaze techniques, we'd love to see your best work.

We found that the best way to show your work is if you email photos of your 1-3 best examples of the theme to either Terry Wilson at [terry@terryfic.com](mailto:terry@terryfic.com) or Stacy Rowe at [stacer2000@gmail.com](mailto:stacer2000@gmail.com) in advance of the meeting. We'll share the photos on-screen while you speak about your submission and answer any questions. Feel free to submit works-in-progress - we know how it goes! You also have the option of showing your work live on Zoom. Please email you photos by December 10<sup>th</sup>.

We did the Clay Challenge Show and Tell at last year's Holiday Extravaganza and it was a LOT of fun. And after the Show and Tell, we will have a drawing for door prizes!

VCPG is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: VCPG Holiday Extravaganza!

Time: Dec 13, 2021 06:30 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

### Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84286566318?pwd=LytDanJnQWpOdOUxRFBvKytib2ptUT09>

Meeting ID: 842 8656 6318

Passcode: 796936

One tap mobile

+16699006833,,84286566318# US (San Jose)

Dial by your location

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

Terry Wilson

Stacy Rowe

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- **The Ventura Gallery is holding its 2nd Annual Gift with Purchase promotion.**

If you are a juried VCPG juried member and you would like to donate any of your ceramics for this promotion, give me a call: Ellen Wohlstadter 818-321-8706

A shout out to Alix Johnson who designed our marketing material for this campaign!

x

We will have quantities of postcards and flyers at the gallery later this week. Katja will be distributing material in Ojai, Gayle will be distributing material in Ventura. Please contact me if you can help drop off postcards at the hotels around the Ventura area in the next few weeks. It would be greatly appreciated.

**Special Bonus:**



Andria's Seafood has agreed to help the gallery promote our event placing a specially designed bookmark on 2,000 customer trays starting Sept. 20th!!!

### • **New Sales Opportunities at the Ventura Pottery Gallery**

The Ventura Pottery Gallery is planning to start a new selling opportunity for VCPG juried members who are not currently selling at the Gallery and Gallery consignment artists. We are introducing these opportunities in conjunction with some of the Harbor's fun events planned for this coming holiday season. These events bring lots of customers to the Harbor.

**Shop Small: Nov. 27th**

**Winter Wonderland: Dec. 11th**

**Parade of Lights: (afternoon / evening event): Dec. 17th & 18th**

Special outdoor exhibits (shelves and tables) would be set up in front of the Gallery for the featured artist(s). All sales would go through the gallery (20% commission to the gallery).

The featured artist(s) and a gallery representative would help set up the display. The featured artist(s) would stay at the gallery throughout the exhibit and would be responsible for the end of day take down of the outdoor exhibit and removing any unsold items from the gallery.

We are very excited to add this new opportunity to all VCPG juried members. Let me know ASAP if you are interested in participating, more details will be provided:

Ellen Wohlstadter

(818)321-8706

[ellenwohlstadter@gmail.com](mailto:ellenwohlstadter@gmail.com)

## • **Ventura Pottery Online**

All juried members can post items for sale on the Online Store: [venturapotteryonline.com](http://venturapotteryonline.com). NOW is the time to post your work and holiday items for the holiday season. If you are interested in joining the 15 VCPG artists already selling online, please reach out to Stacy Rowe at [venturapotteryonline@gmail.com](mailto:venturapotteryonline@gmail.com) and she can fill you in on all the details and get you started. You can post from 1 to 20 items to sell for pickup at the Gallery, for shipping, or both.

## • **2021 Fall Clay Order - A Summary**

Our Fall Clay order is an anniversary of sorts for VCPG because our first clay order was 12 months ago - this was our 5<sup>th</sup> order. Our figures show that our members save 30-40% for clay and dry materials. Liquid glazes are discounted 20-30% off. Considering the huge savings in time, gas and vehicle wear, members make out no matter what. Our last order involved 40 members some ordering from both Aardvark and Laguna.

Bill Evans

## • **Celebrate with Christy • 50 years of making ceramic art**

See my artwork, view my studio, and examine my personal collection. With timely holiday shipments in question, buy handmade work that you can take home immediately.

Christy Johnson • 1634 Rodeo Road, Arcadia, CA 91006

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## • **WANTED: Ceramics Teaching Artists for the Artists in the Classroom Program**

If interested please contact Deby Tygell- [education@vcartscouncil.org](mailto:education@vcartscouncil.org).

- **Volunteers Needed;**

Membership Team - Assistant:

Internet Services Team - Video Editor:

Clay Order - Assistant 2:

Clay Order - Genie's Team

Brenda Burgess

[bburgessinventura@gmail.com](mailto:bburgessinventura@gmail.com) 805-290-4741

- **The VCPG Library**

The VCPG Library has 23 new items! You can check them out online!

The Library is currently active and all you need to do to check out an item is fill out the form on the website - click here and the form is at the bottom of the page: <http://venturapottersguild.org/membership/>

Amanda Mason

([amanda.rose.mason@gmail.com](mailto:amanda.rose.mason@gmail.com)).

- **Free Amaco Wheel**

With a long shift handle

805.320.3524

x

- **Glenn Schriver • Liquidating everything free**

Cone 10 kiln - top loader on wheels

45 inches from the top of the wheel to the top of the kiln ... 33'x34" deep

...not a brand name but in good shape ... also has boxes of cones and 30 gallon buckets of glazes

Glenn Schriver 805-253-0524

- **2021 Membership**

Membership for 2021 is still open and I continue to receive membership forms; all 2021 memberships will expire on 12/31/21.

Many members, out of habit, submit their membership in the Fall for the next year. Due to some proposed changes in the membership levels, I ask that you do not submit your 2022 membership early but wait until January. I will make the 2022 membership form available to all current members in late December. Thank you.

Brenda Burgess

- **VCPG Website;**

<http://venturapottersguild.org>

- **Check our YouTube Channel • Please subscribe •**

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC2IzebZHcq-j01UucykUVpg>

- **VCPG Board of Directors:**

President: **Wyn Matthews**

Vice President: **Bill Evans**

Secretary: **Stacy Rowe**

Treasurer: **Gloria Sills**

**VCPG Board Chairpersons:**

Programs: **Barbara Fosbrink/Foz**

Sales/ Shows: **Would you like to volunteer?**

Workshops: **Genie Thomsen**

Communications: **Ruty Levy**

Membership: **Brenda Burgess**

Gallery Chair: **Drew Lurie**

Finance Chair: **Wanda Ferrin**

Jury Chair: **Jenchi Wu**

Marketing: **Ellen Wohlstadter**

Outreach: **Would you like to volunteer?**

**If you wish to contact a Board or a Committee person, please look it up on the org chart in the members area of the website.**

### **Our Mission Statement:**

**The Ventura County Potters' Guild is a nonprofit organization committed to stimulating public interest in ceramic arts by providing networking, education and sales opportunities in an inclusive environment for all levels and interests.**