



## **May 2021 Newsletter**

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

### **Members' Meeting: May 24, 2021**

**Breena Maggio**

**The Potter's Body - Alignment Considerations and Exercises**

6:30pm.....Meeting room opens for Social Time

7:00pm.....President's Report

7:30pm .....Program:

### **For Your Calendar:**

May 24.....**Members Meeting; 7pm**

June 12-13 .....Ojai Ceramics Sale

July.....Board Meeting

July.....**Members Meeting; 7pm**

August.....Board Meeting

August.....**Members Meeting; 7pm**

Sep.....Board Meeting

Sept.....**Members Meeting; 7pm**

Pre-Jury Workshop application is due

Oct.....Board Meeting

Oct.....**Members Meeting; 7pm**

Nov.....**Members Meeting; 7pm**

## Jury Workshop

Dec.....**Members Meeting/Holiday party; 7pm**

**Meeting Location:** Ventura Adult Center; 550 North Ventura Avenue., Ventura, Ca 93001

### • **Presidents message**

Pottery as a mirror of the mind...

And...

There's no "out there" out there...

Last week as I was throwing bowls the thought came, "You're 70. How many years are left where you can make pots? 2? 5? 10? 20? Maybe a bus crosses on your path next week... and with that the question "What do you want to work on that you haven't yet granted yourself the time to explore?"

I tend to be still think I'm a production potter, even though it's obvious I'm not. During production years I made 50+ pots a day. Now... more like 6-12. My first thoughts are what do I need to make that sells. That pays the bills. I constantly explore new things in this realm, but don't regularly grant myself the gift of time to deeply explore realms that are not currently on the income list.

The top four areas not on that list which came up are:

-Teapots: I've made over 200 teapots. But, I've never taken them on as an endless functional design challenge. Can I make lots of teapots and only keep the very best ones as they evolve?

-Large planters: I've made large planters in the past and really love making big beautiful pots for big beautiful plants.

-Garden Stools: I just started to explore here and am loving sitting on them around the studio.

-Large hand built forms: I've carried these mental images around for over 10 years. Can I give myself the space and time to spend a week on one piece?

None of these have to do with clay at all. It's all about navigating the peculiar resisting structures of my mind. These structures are everywhere I interact with life. Not just in the studio. And I see that this decades long term inquiry has loosened the bonds, expanded the space in which life happens. In fact, it is life happening...

Pottery Notes:

- If you haven't discovered and watched *The Great Pottery Throw Down* on HBO Max, find a friend with the service to watch with, or subscribe for a month and binge it, then cancel. Really good!

- I recently discovered *GoldMark Gallery* on YouTube. They have some fabulous potter profiles and show tours of international potters with a Japanese influence.

**Happy Potting,**

Wyn Matthews, VCPG President  
50+ year potter  
[me@wynmatthews.com](mailto:me@wynmatthews.com) 805.207.3122

**• May 24 Meeting • Awareness and Alignment •**  
**The Potter's Body • Alignment Considerations and Exercises •**

The health and well-being of our bodies today is a direct result of our lifelong posture and movement habits and what we do every day. This

affects every cell and every system in our bodies. You know how sometimes you spend hours doing something you love (like pottery), so engrossed in your work you don't realize you've hardly moved at all. And then when you're done- and you try to move-your body sometimes just doesn't want to cooperate? Maybe you feel stiff or sore or you've had to change up how you do certain tasks or sadly give up doing some things altogether.

During our May program you learn some things you can do during your work (or play :) ) time to prevent the stiffness and soreness, as well as some correctives you can do away from the studio to restore function and mobility. Don't worry, it's not rocket science. It's Awareness and Alignment!

Introduction to our presenter, **Breena Maggio**: I have been teaching people how to be healthier, have less pain, and age well for decades (since 1997!). With a BA in Biology from UCSB and an ACSM Personal Trainer Certification, I started as a personal trainer and group fitness instructor in a gym. I was always the "easy going" trainer, focused on safety and feeling good in our bodies.

In 2006, I met Katy Bowman of Nutritious Movement / Restorative Exercise Institute and completed her first 200+ hour biomechanics-based personal training program, emerging as a certified Restorative Exercise Specialist. Understanding that the health and well-being of our bodies is a direct result of our lifelong posture and movement habits and what we do every day transformed what and how I teach.

Instead of just repeating outdated exercise ideas, I finally learned how the human body works. With this new approach, I am able to teach people not just how to get "fitter", but really get people to **move more, move better, feel great, and Age dynamically and continuing to do what they love!**

I am a certified teacher-trainer for Nutritious Movement. I offer classes and individual program plans locally through my (now, since 2020) online studio, The B.E.A.C.H.

**Zoom meeting info:**

**Quick Tip:** You must use the Zoom meeting link below to access the Guild meeting. Put this info in your calendar or flag this email so it is easily available to you for the meeting.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82870356263?pwd=V2xUcUVsL3BUeW5pN1VenBzcnNLQT09>

If you choose to login without this link you will need this information:

**Meeting ID: 828 7035 6263**

**Passcode: 482065**

Topic: May Guild Meeting

Time: May 24, 2021 06:30 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82870356263?pwd=V2xUcUVsL3BUeW5pN1VenBzcnNLQT09>

Meeting ID: 828 7035 6263

Passcode: 482065

One tap mobile

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+13462487799,,82870356263# US (Houston)

Dial by your location

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+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

Meeting ID: 828 7035 6263

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

**• Clay Challenge at our December Members meeting**

Held a few weeks earlier than our normal 4th Monday.

The theme will be: **Under Glaze 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 home made), 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.

Throughout the "making time", I'll post periodic photos of pieces decorated in this manner to spark interest and generate discussion. At our April meeting, Diana Faris from Amaco, presented a program on Amaco underglaze products and showed up lots of examples and some demos. If you missed the meeting, you can view it on our YouTube channel, <https://youtu.be/4rmtna7kkOk>

Remember, the idea behind these challenges is to give you an excuse to try something new. If you're already doing under-glaze techniques, we'd love to see your best work. But don't let that stop you from experimenting with something new!

Terry Wilson

• **Beatrice Wood Show • "Put A Lid On It".**

**5/25 to 6/27, 2021**

**Closing reception Sunday June 27**

Our annual show at the **Beatrice Wood Center** will be May 25 to June 27, 2021 in the main gallery.

The Center is open. If the gate is shut dial #6 on the phone near the gate and Kevin will let you in. This is due to the private school still in

session and on lock down due to the COVID concerns. Because of this our reception will be a Closing Reception on Sunday June 27.

### • **The VCPG Annual Ceramic Sale in Ojai • 6/12-13**

Our 63rd Annual Sale in Libbey Park and Fundraiser is currently open for registration. The dates are June 12 and 13.

You must be a current member of the Guild and have completed your 2021 membership renewal by February 28, 2021.

If you are a juried member and would like to be a part of the sale, please complete attached application and send it to Diane Hedding along with a check for \$40.00 asap.

**Diane Hedding**

[x](#)

### • **Members meeting online**

The Amaco Underglaze Products presentation by Diana Faris, Account Manager, AMACO Brent, is now available on our VCPG Videos YouTube Channel. Please subscribe to the channel so it is easier to find these publications on YouTube.

Many of the channel's videos are available to the public.

VCPG members may catch up Guild Meeting activities by logging in to the Guild's Website, navigating to the Membership page and scrolling down to the Members' Area, and clicking on the Guild Meeting Business Videos link.

Here are some of the playlists available for public viewing:

- Artist Profiles
- Guild Meetings - Programs
- Instructional - Clay & Glazes
- Instructional - Other
- Studio Tours



Members may submit their instructional, studio tour, or other ceramics related video creations to be considered for publication on the VCPG Videos YouTube channel.

Please use the website Contact Form, select Video Inquiry to request more information. Please use the same form to provide feedback on VCPG Videos.

- **New Members to our Guild • Welcome!**

**Jon R. May**

- **FOR SALE - Craftsman Air Compressor**

Works great. Must pick up in Ventura. \$50.

Contact: Stacy Rowe - [stacer2000@gmail.com](mailto:stacer2000@gmail.com); 310-429-2822

- **Ventura Pottery Online**

All juried members can post items for sale on the new Online Store: [venturapotteryonline.com](http://venturapotteryonline.com).

- **April Meeting recording online**

The April VCPG Members' Meeting Program "AMACO Underglaze Products" featuring Diana Faris, Account Manager, AMACO Brent, is available on the [VCPG Videos YouTube Channel](#). You may also access the April VCPG Members' Meeting Business recording using this [link](#) or by logging into the [VCPG Website](#), navigating to the Membership page, scrolling down to the Membership area, and clicking on "Guild Meeting Business Videos".

Have you made an instructional, studio tour, or other ceramics related video you would like to share on the VCPG YouTube Channel? Do you have feedback about the VCPG YouTube Channel? Please use the website [Contact Form](#), select Video Inquiry and submit your request.

Erika Posey



- **The VCPG Library has been reactivated!**

**Check out an item now.**

You can find information about how to check out items, including the list of items available, on the website:

<http://venturapottersguild.org/membership/> (left side and bottom).

- **Volunteers;**

### **Workshop Coordinator and Assistant Treasurer**

**Workshop Coordinator Wanted.** You scheduled one or two workshops a year starting in 2022. Contact the artist, arrange a location for the workshop, figure out cost per participant in order to break even on expenses, register participants, host the event and find accommodation for the artist if needed. You will get the information to the publicity/ newsletter/ website directors. You are a voting member of the Board of Directors and attend monthly board meetings. This is a great way to meet new people in a fun and educational environment.

**Assistant Treasurer Wanted.** You balance our Bank of America account once a month. Small job, but big help. Please call or email Brenda if you are interested or have questions about it.

**Brenda Burgess**

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

- **Please renew your VCPG Membership**

Please use 2021 membership form included

- **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** [wyn@wynmatthew.com](mailto:wyn@wynmatthew.com) 805.207.3122

Vice President: **Bill Evans** [bill133@cox.net](mailto:bill133@cox.net) 805-450-5863

Secretary: **Stacy Rowe** [stacer2000@gmail.com](mailto:stacer2000@gmail.com) 310.429.2822

Treasurer: **Roe Estep** [estep67@aol.com](mailto:estep67@aol.com) 805.320.3524

Programs: **Barbara Fosbrink/Foz** [bfosbrink@aol.com](mailto:bfosbrink@aol.com) 805 643 4635

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

Workshops: **Genie Thomsen** [geniethomsen@att.net](mailto:geniethomsen@att.net) 805.886.1957

Communications: **Ruty Levy** [levyruty4@gmail.com](mailto:levyruty4@gmail.com) 818.613.7256

Instagram/Pinterest: **Troy Schmidt** [RedDragonPottery@gmail.com](mailto:RedDragonPottery@gmail.com) 805.252.0923

Membership: **Brenda Burgess** [burgessinventura@gmail.com](mailto:burgessinventura@gmail.com) 805.290.4741

Publicity: **Rebecca Catterall** [rebeccacatter@yahoo.com](mailto:rebeccacatter@yahoo.com) 310.384.1840

Jury Chair: **Would you like to volunteer?**

Marketing: **Ellen Wohlstadter** [ellenwohlstadter@gmail.com](mailto:ellenwohlstadter@gmail.com) 818.321.8706

Hospitality: **Victoria Mullins** [vlmceramic@gmail.com](mailto:vlmceramic@gmail.com) 805.320.3524

Gallery Chair: **Drew Lurie** [drewlurie@gmail.com](mailto:drewlurie@gmail.com) 805.798.2240

Finance Chair: **Wanda Ferrin** [ferrinpottery@earthlink.net](mailto:ferrinpottery@earthlink.net) 805.462.7309

Librarian: **Amanda Mason** [Amanda.rose.mason@gmail.com](mailto:Amanda.rose.mason@gmail.com) 704-533-2574

**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.**