

As the new Guild President I want to thank **Genie Thomsen** for being the beacon that kept us focused during the last 4 years as we moved from a context of chaos and uncertainty to one of stability and trust. Our current Board of Directors is a strong group that plays well together while challenging each other to increase our effectiveness. We have improved and stabilized our systems, processes, and reporting. The gallery is doing better than ever. The Ojai show is successful and strong. Our marketing group is exposing us to new people and bringing new customers to our events. We have built a really strong foundation from which we can continue to expand.

On January 4th, 20 members of the Guild met to envision our next 4 years. The need for this was proposed by **Brenda Burgess** early last year and the board agreed. This visioning event was a very powerful day. We wrote a new mission statement, core values statement, and four primary foci for 2020. The details of this will be shared at our Members' Meeting on the 27th and emailed to the whole membership after that date. As you read through and digest what your Guild is up to this year, I hope that you'll feel an urge to come and play with us as we create a larger sandbox for us ceramists. If so, please contact me to share how you're called to contribute.

Wyn Matthews

805-207-3122

[wyn@wynmatthews.com](mailto:wyn@wynmatthews.com)