OTTAWA GUILD OF POTTERS

Fired Up!

2025 NOVEMBER
Monthly Newsletter

NEXT MEETING: NOVEMBER 11, 2025
TIME: 6:30 PM TO 9:00 PM
LOCATION: HINTONBURG COMMUNITY CENTRE
1064 WELLINGTON STREET WEST, OTTAWA

President's Message

Happy November, with it's darkness and dampness. Most people think of it only as a good month for the tedious chore of cleaning the garage, to put Autumn to bed and preparing for winter's snow and ice. But not if you are a Potter, because you are furiously making, glazing and firing! Then pricing and packing your wares for all the holiday sales.

Welcome new members.

A big thank you to Steph Bailey who spear headed the recording of the October General meeting and the Pot Talk with the help of her husband and Keitha Cowie. Steph published both recordings to our private YouTube channel.
Great Pot Talk Joanna! I listened to the video as I was working in the studio. I was able to incorporate the knowledge and best practices offered up by all in attendance and had the best handle attaching session ever. Not a single crack to be found.

Our Holiday Sale is our biggest yet: 66 potters are registered, with 12 potters sharing booth spaces.

I saw photos of some amazing and whimsical pieces that OGP members created at the workshop given by Chandler Swain.

I don't want to get ahead of myself, but put December's meeting in your calendar. Leta Cormier will be sharing details of the Mentorship program she will be offering to members of the OGP.

Carmen Gervais has organized another great hands-on activity at this month's General Meeting. We will be using a resist medium on bone dry clay to create beautiful texture in a technique called Water Etching. There will be some bone dry pots and tiles to use along with the resist medium. If you have an extra bone dry pot or tile, bring them along.

See you on Tuesday November 11th . The doors open at 6 pm. The meeting starts promptly at 6:30. Water Etching workshop starts after the meeting at 7:30.

by Liz Fournier

SALE COMMITTEE

The Ottawa Guild of Potters Holiday Sale is Friday December 12 to Sunday December 14, 2025 at the Horticulture Building Lansdowne Park.

Friday 3 – 9 pm
Saturday 10 am – 8 pm New Extended Hours
Sunday 10 am – 5 pm

We are at maximum capacity. 60 table spaces. 66 potters. 12 potters are sharing tables.

I thank all Sale participants for your patience in the first few hours of the registration going online. Your unbridled enthusiasm crashed our website. It was swiftly rectified and registration went off without a hitch. The online credit card payment made everything so easy.

All new Sale participants must contact Jocelyn Jenkins to schedule an in-person meeting with her and the Standards and Education Committee.

All Sale participants must read the Sale Handbook and Shift and Job Description. Please ensure you are familiar with all aspects of your Shift duties prior to your shift. You will be responsible for a minimum of 3 three-hour shifts. You will be responsible to cover your shifts or make arrangements to switch with someone and inform the Sale committee of the change.

The Sale Committee is working on the Floor Plan and the Shift Schedule. It will be emailed to you.

Members, please consider volunteering at the Holiday Sale. We are always grateful for the help and it is wonderful way to meet the public and your fellow potters.

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

by Liz Fournier

Activities & Programs

UPCOMING MEETING ACTIVITIES

November 11: Water etching your pottery – hands-on activity
Discover the textural depths that can be achieved with water etching techniques. All materials and tools are provided, and there is no need to be a guild member to participate, so bring a friend! It starts at 7:30 pm at the Hintonburg Community Centre.

I'm very interested in your ongoing feedback and ideas – you can reach me at activity@ottawaguildofpotters.ca.

by Carmen Gervais

Membership Committee Report

First, thank you to new members who have joined via our new website. It seems to be working well now, using Square for payment of dues. Christine Chesser, our treasurer, continues to work on getting our preferred program for payment and Bernadette Lapierre, our new webmaster, continues to streamline the process. Thank you to both!

Pease welcome seven new members who joined us in October.

Sarah Marsh
Shiva Nasiri
Pam Adams
Minna Glendinning
Tina Dussault-Barclays
Michael Hermann
Suzanne Gibson

by Carol Holmes-Kerr

Call Out to sculptural/handbuilding ceramists:

Would you like to teach some of your skills in a 6-week session over the winter at Céramique LaFab Ceramics in Chelsea?

If you are bilingual and interested by this offer, please reach out to me for more details. Thanks!

Martine Campeau (mcampeau@camyn.ca)

Follow us on social media: **Instagram @ottawapotters**
Facebook @ottawaguildofpotters

Snow?! Ugh. But that means the Holiday Sale is on the horizon, and that's what the Comms team is focusing on this month. There is a record-breaking number of sale participants this year: 66 potters to highlight in our social media posts. We will try our best to highlight everyone (if you've sent us pics).

Getting Ready for the Holiday Sale

If you still haven't sent us pictures, send them to us via email to communications@ottawaguildofpotters.ca. We've started preparing the social media work, but we will try our best to squeeze you in if you send your pics to us soon. This next part is really important → REMEMBER to add your first name and last name to your picture filenames, for example, lisa_butler_plate.png. Imagine trying to sort through and organize 66 potters x 5 files each with no telltale names.

The social media campaign for the Holiday Sale is as follows:

- Nov 12: start publishing FB/Insta sale posts, four potter highlights per post, three posts per week (+66 potters!) leading up to the sale weekend
- Nov 14: 1/8 page vertical ad appears in the November edition of the Glebe Report
- Nov 14: publish FB/Insta ad, includes 6 potter highlights, runs for one month
- Nov: send MailChimp newsletter to advertise the sale to subscribers
- Nov: send FB/Insta templates to sale participants
- Nov: a Meet the Artists link appears on the Sale page of the website

We are looking forward to seeing what everyone is making! See you at the sale.

Nancy Riggs, Lisa Butler, Dawn McLeod, and Kyla Tyson