



February 2006

HANDS IN CLAY

Newsletter of the Ottawa Guild of Potters

Guild Meeting Program

Monday Oct. 3 Years First Guild Meeting.
Tuesday Nov. 1
Thursday Dec. 1
Friday Jan. 6
Monday Feb. 6
Monday Mar. 6
Thursday April 6
Friday May 5 Annual General Meeting.

Meetings are from 7:30 to 9:30 pm at the Nepean Visual Arts Center. (NVAC) On Woodroffe Avenue, south of Hunt Club road.

Guild Executive Meetings. Start at 6:30pm, and are open to the public.

Library

Before each monthly meeting, the Library is open from 6:30 until 7:30.

If there is a book or video that you are looking for, let us know. It will be considered when we purchase new material. If an item is out on loan, we can reserve it for you. Your input is appreciated.

Linda Taylor
Librarian

Membership News

Membership renewals are due before the end of May, to maintain your membership and to ensure participation in the Guild sales etc. Renewal forms are sent out in April. Please notify Penny of any changes to your e-mail or postal address.
wpottery@igs.net 832-4903

Penny Donaldson
Membership Secretary

OGP Help Line

Chandler Swain
kidswain@sympatico.ca
(613) 256-6522

Victoria Jenkins
avjenkins@sympatico.ca
257-2588

Hanne Lawrence
brucehanne@rogers.com
825-1736

John Kobzey
829-2466

OGP Website

The Website address is:

www.ottawaguildofpotters.ca

A moderator for the websites interactive features is needed. Contact Bruce Jones at:

bruce.earle-jones@sympatico.ca

Bruce Jones
Web Master

Newsletter

The Newsletter is on line at:

<http://ottawaguildofpotters.ca/newsletter/>

Please send Newsletter comments and contributions to:

newsletter@ottawaguildofpotters.ca

David Wardell
Newsletter Editor

Message From the President

Julien Couture

Dear members,

At the Spring Guild Sale this year the juried exhibition theme is going to be the tulip flower. During the February Guild meeting information about the exhibition was handed out and an information session given to those in attendance. Everyone went home with a tulip in hand and design suggestions and ideas in their heads. For further information or questions about the exhibition, please contact Carolynne Pynn-Trudeau or Kirstin Davidson. Good luck to all!

MERCI!

Julien Couture and Kirstin Davidson

President

Who's Who

In the Ottawa Guild of Potters

President	Julien Couture	Website Manager	Bruce Jones
Vice President	Kirstin Davidson	Moderator	Vacant
Past President	Chandler Swain		
Treasurer	Sarah Hand	Standards and Education	Carolynne Pynn-Trudeau
Newsletter Editor	David Wardell		Vickie Salinas
Distribution	Marie Paquette		Anne Chambers
Librarian	Linda Taylor		Lynda Northey
Secretary	Doris McIlroy		Glen Dunning
Membership	Penny Donaldson		Saskia Praamsma
			Rita Redner
Outside Workshops	Allison Usher		
Member Workshops	Carol Badenoch		
Exhibition Convener	Carolynne Pynn-Trudeau		
Members Album	Cathy Payne		
Sales Committee	Lis Allison		
	Lynda Soper		
	Debbie Gilmer		
	Pat Jessop		
	Louise Simonson		
Refreshment Convener	Helen Stone		

Artist Nancy M. Green Presents her works at the March 6th Meeting



Artist Nancy M. Green celebrates the day to day activities of nature. Green uses natural media, such as clay, wood and copper to merge subject and presentation. Viewing her immediate rural environment with an artist's eye, Green developed an appreciation for nature's ability to re-exhibit itself. This fascination led her to explore the use of fresh plant life to create repetitive images in wet clay slabs. While others would consider small bugs in their studio merely a nuisance, Green transformed them into a work of art by immortalizing them in her piece, *Invaders*. The use of drawings and imprinting the clay with text engages the viewer and encourages a dialog about the fragility of the world.

Green's own respect for the environment is not only portrayed in her subject matter; it also comes through in her choice of materials. Her art has evolved from working mostly on paper to working with an abundance of recycled and reworked materials. Green reclaims clay discarded by other artists. Bits of copper and old wood are reborn as frames and display cases. Much of Green's work is exhibited under glass in deep frames to mimic museum conservation practices. This added dimension is intended to pull viewers closer and to challenge their complacency about their surroundings. Green feels it is important that her works have a very quiet quality to them and the sense of being untouched by human hands.

Growing up in the West Island of Montreal, Green's studies at CEGEP John Abbott inspired her to pursue an art career. In 1977 she settled in Ottawa, graduating with a Fine Arts Diploma from Algonquin College in 1979. Over the next ten years, Green worked with professional artists and studied part-time before deciding to enroll as a full-time student at the University of Ottawa. She graduated in 1992 with a B.F.A. (Hons). Green exhibits her artwork in galleries across Canada and works from her studio in Dunrobin, Ontario.

Her recent exhibition, *Surroundings*, is not only a collection of beautiful images of nature, but merges the medium and the message by whispering to us a challenge to respect the environment that sustains us.

by Laurie Gordon

OGP Annual Spring Sale Exhibition and Tulip Festival Information

What: Create a piece of work, functional or non functional related to the tulips theme. Pieces juried into the spring sale exhibit will also be used for an exhibit at the Ottawa Tulip Festival.

When: Spring Sale April 27 - 30th 2006
Ottawa Tulip Festival May 4 - 22nd 2006

Bonus: A photograph of the piece chosen as best in show may be used in our new promotional literature.

Ideas To Get You Going:

- ◆ Look for shape, colour, texture, line, patterns used in the Tulip flower.
- ◆ Buy yourself a tulip and look at it microscopically as well as afar.
- ◆ Consider methods of decoration – glaze, sgraffito, raised accents with glaze or clay.
- ◆ Dissassemble the flower into its component parts – observe how is it put together and can you apply that

- knowledge to your piece.
- ◆ Be influenced by multi-tonal tulips (their colours and shapes) and apply it to your work. Such as handles and lids or the main body.
 - ◆ Art Nouveau is renowned for using flowers.
 - ◆ Treat yourself to a day or an hour of inspiration at a local book store, the library, an art gallery or a garden store.
 - ◆ See something you have created in the past in a new light – put a tulip stem as a handle, use the flower shape as the cup of a goblet.
 - ◆ Surf the web for ideas.

In Addition: The guild has also asked to be allocated space for an “Empty Bowls” sale in conjunction with our Tulip Festival Exhibition. Members are asked to donate bowls for the sale. We will be collecting bowls from now until April 30th which is the last day of the Spring Sale. You are encouraged to create something a little different this time, a little bit unique for this project.. Change the rim shape perhaps or experiment with glaze colour, strokes and carved lines. Your imagination is the only limit! All funds raised will go to the Ottawa Food Bank and to The Well/La Source. We have not placed a number on the quantity of bowls required, but considering the world wide interest in the Ottawa Tulip Festival we expect to need a lot of bowls!

Request For Volunteers: Anyone who would like to participate in volunteering for the Tulip Festival Exhibition please contact Kirstin or Carolynne. Any support you can give will be rewarding, to the Guild, the “Empty Bowls” beneficiaries and to you!

Kirstin Davidson, VP Ottawa Guild of Potters
kirstin@magma.ca
(613) 832-3934

Carolynne Pynn-Trudeau, Standards and Education
cpynntrudeau@gmail.com
(613) 233-9455

Library is Purchasing new Books and Videos

It is time to buy more books for the Guild's Library! Over the next 6 weeks I will be buying new books and videos for the library. If there is an item that you feel our library is missing, don't hesitate to speak up now!

If you are not sure if the library already has a specific item or not, just visit the Guild's website <http://www.ottawaguildofpotters.ca/library.php> for a current listing.

If you do not have Internet access, I can provide you with a paper listing. Just phone and let me know if you would prefer listing by author or by title. I will bring it to the next meeting.

I hope to hear from many of you soon!

Linda Taylor, Librarian
terraroosa@gmail.com
256-7764

Leaders Needed for Member Workshops

Are you an experienced member, prepared to share your knowledge and skill? Our members want to learn and have suggested the following for potential workshops:

- ◆ Throwing mugs - improving consistency and skill.
- ◆ Throwing plates that do not warp.
- ◆ Spraying as a method of glaze application.
- ◆ Sgraffito.

Workshop leaders often hold the workshop at a home studio, or some use a community center. Leaders are paid a minimum of \$50, and material expenses are covered.

Carol Badenoch, Member Workshops
carol.badenoch@compass-canada.com
225-6641

Introducing OttawaPottery.com

By Art Petch

OttawaPottery.com is an independent, community web site. Its goal is to provide every provide every serious, practicing potter in the Ottawa area with a free web page that will introduce the artist to the community.

Event Calendar and Lists

In support of this and the financial success of all potters, OttawaPottery.com also lists pottery related events such as exhibits/sales, meetings, courses/workshops etc. that anyone cares to post on the site.

Anyone can do this. It is very easy:

- ◆ Go to <http://OttawaPottery.com>
- ◆ Navigate to the "Events" page.
- ◆ Follow the instructions to complete and submit information about the event.

That's it! The event will be shown on the appropriate monthly calendar and other listings on the site immediately. Each month an email is sent to everyone on the OttawaPottery.com mailing list which currently about 400 names.

Artist Page

You are invited to send OttawaPottery.com your name, one photo of your work, a short artist statement, and contact information (web link, phone number, etc.) Go to the "Artists" section to see details and some examples. If you do this you will soon have your own artist page in short notice, free of charge.

By the way, every time someone visits OttawaPottery.com the contents of a randomly selected artist page is placed on the home page. This way everyone gets top billing.

Instructor page

Likewise, please send OttawaPottery.com information about pottery courses (consider sending a picture of yourself too) and have a page in the "Instructors" section, free of charge. Please go to the "Instructors" section to see examples.

Exhibits

Ditto for recurring exhibits like annual open houses, seasonal sales, etc. Please go to the “Exhibits” section to see examples.

Please send your information and any questions to:

Art Petch

webmaster@ottawapottery.com

Upcoming Workshops at the Almonte Potters Guild

95, Bridge St, Almonte. (613) 256-5556. www.almontepotters.ca.

Date	Time	Instructor	Subject	Cost
18 March 2006	9 - 12	Mavis Lewis	Handbuilt Birdhouses	\$30 + materials
18 March 2006	1 - 4	Joan Tierney	Handbuilt Cottages	\$30 + materials
1 April 2006	9.30 - 12.30	Rosemary Leach	Wall Sculptures	\$30 + materials
2 April 2006	1 - 4	Tim Thibeault	Handbuilt Fountains	\$30 + materials
13 April 2006	5 - 6.30	Rosemary Leach	Glazing Wall Sculptures (follow up from Apr 1st workshop)	\$15 + materials
6 May 2006	1 - 4	Christine Karton-Burns	Decorating techniques with paper resist using stains	\$30 + materials
13 May 2006	1 - 4	Kitty Clark	Tile making and decorating with slips	\$30 + materials

Please contact us at 256-5556 for information and registration.