

London Clay Art Centre 664 Dundas Street,

The mission of The London Potters Guild is to be the leader in the education and promotion of the clay arts

in Southwestern Ontario. We provide high-quality programming, nurture the development of professional clay artists, collaborate with other community organizations and encourage fellowship in an inclusive and

NOTE FROM THE CHAIR

From Judy Sparkes

Usually summer is a quieter time at LCAC, but this summer was different.

Many hundreds of people in the community got involved in making tiles for our Canada Celebrate 150 Mosaic project and the kilns were going non-stop trying to keep up. Now, as the finished tiles go up on the east wall of the building, people will soon see the final vision being realized.

By now many of you coming through the red fire doors at the back of the building will have noticed that they been fitted with automatic door openers. This is the first of three elements in our Rick Hansen Foundation Barrier Buster project that moves us closer to our goal of being a completely accessible facility. The second element will be the installation of 14 large sound absorbing acoustic panels to dampen unwanted sounds, echoes and reverberation on the second floor. While everyone benefits from these infrastructure improvements, the point of this improvement is to make the facility more accessible to those who have hearing or visual impairments. The third element will be adding technology to allow real time captioning for those who are deaf so they can participate in our classes and augmented sound for persons who are hard of hearing or visually impaired. The panels will also serve to make the upstairs meeting area more useful as they will muffle the sound of classes going on simultaneously with meetings, workshops and parties.

The demand for our classes continues to be high. Most classes for the Fall session were completely full within hours and people were once again put on waiting lists. To help to meet the demand, The London Potters Guild has partnered with Hutton House Pottery Studio in west London to offer more classes to people in the community. An introductory class in wheel throwing is being offered as a pilot project for the fall session. Registration filled immediately and there is now a waiting list for this first class. If all goes well, we will be offering additional classes at Hutton House in January 2018.

We have accomplished a lot in this summer that has flown by and we will be looking to celebrate our accomplishments! Don't miss our September General Meeting (Tuesday, September 12th) for news of some exciting upcoming events.

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See you around the studio!

MOSAIC PROJECT UPDATE

The mosaic project is proceeding apace! Beth Turnbull Morrish and Susan Day, and Susan's wonderful husband have been really busy and the east wall is now populated with 17 figures. These figures were made and decorated by many community groups including: Lord Roberts Public School students, the Military Families group, CPRI, the native studies group at Beal High School, the Old East BIA, the Slave Chapel Restauration Group, Eagle Heights ESL class, My Sister's Place members, Life Spin members and of course the Guild members along with several other groups. The colours of the figures represent the colours of clay found in Canada.

The outer border of the mosaic consists of the names of all the indigenous groups in Canada and the inner 3-4 rows are the names of all the "independent" countries of the world according to the United Nations lists.

The turtle tiles look amazing and the decoration of them—done by Guild members, Fusion members and members of the public at the Studio Tour and at Home County really show the artistic talent of Londoners and fellow Ontarians.

A huge thankyou to all those who have helped with glazing, mirror cutting, assembling tiles for names, loading kilns and all the many jobs needed for this project.

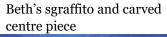
Some photos of the work in progress

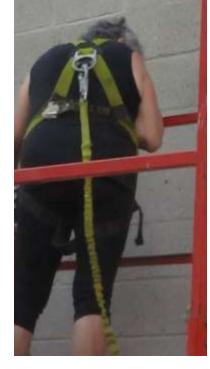
Susan Day up on the Skyjack



Chris Snedden's plate centre piece







The wall mosaic as of September 11, 2017



EXTERNAL WORKSHOP

From Marilyn Barbe

Save the Date:

Michelle Mendlowitz : Hands On Workshop, Saturday April 28 and Sunday, April 29. Workshop fee is \$135.00 for hands on participants and \$100.00 for observers. There will be a slide presentation of her work on Friday, April 27 at 7:00 pm, free admission to the slide presentation. To quote Michelle: "I am a Toronto based ceramic artist and instructor. My work consists of both functional and sculptural objects. I am drawn to clay for its expressive nature as well as its ability to create utility. As an artist I am intrigued by layers. As a maker, process plays an important role in my work. Each working stage in a piece brings a new layer and each action leaves its mark on the finished results. The forms I create are derived from landscapes and borrowed elements from nature, architecture and the human form."

To see more examples of her work check out her website: www.**michellemendlowitz**.com A few photos of some of her work, functional and sculptural.







MORE QUESTIONS

The Board and staff of the London Potters Guild is always ready to answer your questions. Their contact info is on page 12 along with contact info for the committee chairs.

There is also a suggestion/question/complaint box on the first floor by the notice board opposite the coat closet. If you do have an issue to raise, please be proactive and suggest a possible solution to the issue you have raised.

SOCIAL MEDIA

From Natalie Kearns

We've been getting great responses to some of our social media posts, especially on Instagram where there's an active community of potters from across North America who share their work. I'd love to feature more 'behind-the-scenes' stuff, both in photo and video form. If you have an Instagram account featuring your pottery, please tag us (@londonclayartcentre) in posts that you think may be of interest and we can repost them on our own account (crediting and directing back to you, of course!). Videos are especially interesting to others, so if you happen to be throwing a fun new form or want to make a time-lapse of some handbuilding, we'd love to feature those sorts of videos! You can send stuff that you'd like to share to:

Natalie.Kearns@gmail.com

You can find us on Facebook by searching "London Clay Art Centre",

on Instagram at *@londonclayartcentre* and on Twitter *@clayartcentre*.

Please like/follow and encourage your friends and customers to check us out! If you use any of these platforms, feel free to tag us in photos, etc. too!

Home County Arts and Music Festival

From Teresa Ainsworth

Eight members of the London Potters Guild, including Marilyn Barbe, Chris Snedden, Pauline Durham, Tammy Ward, Kelly Dugas, Teresa Ainsworth, Melody Green and Christine Torres set up a booth at Home County in July. We were fortunate with the weather—2 days of sunshine and only a bit of rain so that made for a record sale. As well as Chris demonstrating on the potters wheel, we had our summer student, Madison, staffing a table where members of the public could decorate a turtle tile (for the mosaic). Over 100 tiles were decorated with black underglaze.

CHARITABLE DONATIONS

from Carol Anne Van Boxtel

The London Potters Guild issues Official Receipts for Income Tax Purposes for all donations that are received. Donations can sent to our office, to the attention of the Treasurer.

You can also specify that your donation be applied to a designated use—such as towards the gas kiln or towards subsidizing a child for classes or clay camps or towards the mural for the east outside wall. The gas kiln fund is near \$13,000, about 1/4 of the total needed. A form you can use for your donation is attached to the end of this newsletter.





Shelf Space for Members:

London Clay Art Centre/London Potters Guild is growing and expanding. In order to be fair to all members, starting this year each member will have a maximum of 2 shelf spaces. Shelf Space: \$30.00 per shelf (remains the same, but there is a maximum of 2 shelves per member **NEW)

If there are extra shelves available, a draw will be made for a third shelf space. If you are interested in a third shelf, please let me know. If you get a third shelf space, please remember that you may be asked to give up that shelf space at any time to accommodate new members (again that would be a random draw). For the third shelf only, you will be billed for 6 months at a time (\$15 per 6 months plus hst) and this will be non-refundable.

NOTE: we may have to do some shelf shuffling in order to make this work for all involved, thank you in advance for your patience and understanding.

Parking Lot Upgrade:

Lot #2 (Between Adelaide and Elizabeth) - .

Construction on our parking lot (LOT 2 - between Adelaide and Elizabeth) will begin Wednesday, September 13 (tomorrow). The **good news** is LOT 1 between Elizabeth and English streets will have **FREE park-**

ing starting tomorrow and ending in mid-October when they finish our parking lot. Please park in that lot starting tomorrow.

Contact Andrew if you need access and can't get into our lot as he can make arrangements with the construction company.

Old East Village Tree Nursery:

From: Andrew Kellner and Lawrence Durham

BACKGROUND: Although many of you may be unaware of the existence of the city owned green space behind the LCAC, we have been loosely caretaking it for a number of years and have the key to the gate for access. Sadly, we have not had the manpower to do much more than minimal caretaking and cleanup and it has become overgrown. PROPOSAL: Western University has reached out to community non-profit organizations to propose projects for their first year students to do community based work and learn about the city they will be studying in for the next 4 years. We agree that this is a worthy program with noble goals and have proposed that they help us to refurbish this neglected plot of land and beautify it.

The project would include removing small shrubs, small trees, trash (including discarded syringes) and such, followed by laying down ground cover and laying down some cement pavers. No permanent structures would be put in place, but it could serve as a green space for outdoor events such as pit firing, raku firing, and outdoor picnics/BBQ's.

We are proposing that groups of students come to help us from 12 noon to 3 pm and 3 pm to 6 pm on the following dates:

Sept 17, 23, 30 and Oct 7 and 14.

HOW YOU CAN HELP:

While the students will provide manpower, we could use the help with the following:

- overseeing their youthful enthusiasm (and lack of experience),
- along with the loan of some garden tools (trimmers, shovels, yard waste bags, rakes, garden gloves) (Andrew will ensure that they are returned to you in good repair)
- to keep their energy up and encourage them and show our appreciation for their efforts, we would like to provide them with some food and drink for their breaks (home made goodies, lemonade, iced tea, etc.).

NEXT STEPS: Contact Andrew if you are interested in helping out and how you would like to participate in the project. <u>studiotech@londonpottersguild.org</u>

Studio Tech Report, continued

Garden Project-continued

Below are dates that snack and liquid refreshments would be nice to have for the western University students when they come to prepare the garden.

Sun Sept 17 Snacks: Brenda Duncan Helping in the garden: Lawrence Durham

Sat, Sept 23

Sat, Sept 30 Helping in the garden: Cathy Regan

Sat, Oct 7 Helping in the garden: Cathy Regan

Sat, Oct 14 Helping in the garden: Cathy Regan

I will personally take responsibility for your tools if you are able to lend them for this project. The tools will only be used on above workdays and when not in use will be locked up in the loading dock.

We still need a 4 or more long and short shovels, 3 to 4 hard rakes, a wheel barrow or two. Any help in this department would be greatly appreciated.

If you are able to help out with baked goods, drinks, with the lending of tools, or you just want to help out in the garden contact Andrew.

studiotech@londonpottersguild.org

General Questions: If you have any questions or concerns about the studio, the way it works or how you can help or if you need help, please ASK.

We don't bite (most of the time) and we would rather be asked than have things go wrong or equipment damaged or you injured. There is a question box by the notice board on the first floor so if you are shy, put your question/comments in there and we will respond.

LPG Membership Renewal Notes

Note: a great time to renew is at the General Meeting on Sept 12th and if you can't make it then, then anytime Cheryl or Laila is in the Guild, you can renew then.

Your current LPG membership is valid from September 1, 2016 to August 31, 2017.

Your new membership will be valid from September 1, 2017 to August 31, 2018.

I will be emailing the invoices at end of August or early September.

Membership Dues:

Guild Membership: \$80.00 (remains the same) Studio Membership: \$235.00 (increase of 7.5%)

Senior Guild Membership: \$65.00 (remains the same) Senior Studio Membership: \$188.00 (increase of

7.5%)

*Gold Membership: \$695.00 (increase of 7.5%)

*Remember, if fulfilling your monthly required hours is a problem, there is an alternative.... the Gold Membership for \$695.00 a year. This exempts you from providing the 24 hours of obligatory service to the Guild.

**Shelf Space: \$30.00 per shelf (remains the same, but there is a maximum of 2 shelves per member **NEW)

> **London Clay Art Centre/London Potters Guild is growing and expanding. In order to be fair to all members, starting this year each member will have a maximum of 2 shelf spaces.

PIT FIRING AT THE MUSEUM OF ONTARIO ARCHEOLOGY

Just a reminder to make a few pieces for the annual pit firing at **the Museum of Ontario Archeology's annual Harvest Festival and Pow Wow**! This week we held a short tutorial session on how to apply and use Terra Sigilatta to create a suitable surface for the pit firing, so if you have any questions about that there should almost always be someone around the studio to give you some pointers.

Michael Leavens has kindly offered to take the lead and shuttle materials out to the museum on Friday the 15th. He could use a hand doing that and digging the pit for the firing on the weekend.

Deborah Dewbury- Langley will be coordinating the children's participatory part of the weekend and could use some volunteers to help lead the kids through making and texturing pinch pots. We are using self-hardening clay so that the kids can just take the finished pieces home with them.

If you wish to help with either of these parts of the weekend event please contact me and I will pass your contact information on to the appropriate person. I can be reached at <u>clayguy4u@gmail.com</u>

DOORS OPEN

By Genet Hodder

Potters Alert!! This coming Saturday and Sunday, from noon to 3 pm, the Potters Guild will welcome guests to our clay art centre to tell them about what we do as potters, as owners of a beautiful teaching facility, and as proud Canadians with the Mosaic Project in progress. We will also have a children's activity at the tables in the wheel throwing area on the second floor.

But we need more volunteers, as follows:

Guides for the second floor (two for each day)

Volunteers for the children's table (need two more for Sunday)

Guide to talk about the Mosaic Project, outside where wall is in progress (need one each day)

A Lift operator—someone to be on hand to help whenever someone wants to use the lift. This person could potentially be working at other things at the back of the building, but needs to be available to help at any time during the shift.

If you can volunteer for either day, please let Genet Hodder (*genethodder@rogers.com*) know by e-mail or by phone (519-433-9550).

She will also be at the Tuesday meeting to answer any questions and write down the names of volunteers.

EMPTY BOWLS

September is here and it seems everything just gets busy!

We will be having our first "Super Bowl Sunday" on October 22nd. It will be from 10am-4pm and we will look forward to the usual (amazing) pot luck luncheon to share as we work. This date is a full month from the Fall Sale and should give us some breathing room to move a couple hundred bowls through the facility without interfering greatly with classes or the busy Sale and Christmas season.

We are grateful that so many of you are just as excited about our Empty Bowls Fundraiser as we are and we look forward to working with you all again.

Your Empty Bowls Committee:

Judy Sparkes, Eva Koh, Danielle Moynihan, Christina Tischler, Jennifer Jack, Lynn Heinitz

WHAT'S HAPPENING

A Listing of clay-related events around the Region:



An exhibition of work by noted ceramic artist - Keith Campbell and our very own Julian Miholics—a recent Beal Arts graduate and LPG member. Opening reception Thursday Sept. 14 at 7pm . Show runs until October 7th.



The Art Gallery of Burlington and Craft Ontario cordially invite you to the opening of the inaugural Canadian Craft Biennial, September 15, from 6 to 9PM.

The Honourable Elizabeth Dowdeswell, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario will preside over the opening ceremony, commencing at 7PM.



"Feats of Clay": The First 50 Years of the Kingston Potters'Guild

A Special Exhibit Celebrating 50 years of the Kingston Potters Guild

Featuring over 8o selected

pieces of current and former members of the Kingston Guild.

WHEN: Opening Saturday, September 23, 4:30pm, followed by reception

Sept 24-29: Sunday 10am-4pm; Mon-Fri 10am-3pm; Thurs-Fri 6:30pm-8pm

WHERE: Tett Centre for Creativity & Learning, 370 King St W, Kingston, Community Exhibition Gallery

Donn Zver slab building workshop Oct 14 & 15 at Brantford Clayworks studio

SLAB BUILDING WORKSHOP



WHAT'S HAPPENING, continued

Global Days of Clay-check it out at at:

https://www.92y.org/globaldayofclay

GlobalDayofClay Partners of which we are one is a website based information resource that lists classes, workshops, logos etc. of members.

LONDON COOKBOOK

Local London photographers are putting together a cookbook in conjunction with area chefs and will be using some of the LPG's pottery plates to showcase the food. It will be sold only as a pre-sale and only 1000 will be printed. Check it out at:

https://forestcitycookbook.com/

Clay Camp Report by Karen Bailey

This session we were able to offer 5 half day camps and one full day camp, introducing more than 60 young potters between the ages of 6 and 16 to the wonders of "playing in the mud". The half day camps met the needs of over 50 beginning, intermediate and experienced young potters, reinforcing all-important hand-building skills through a variety of clay games and projects, while also giving them a chance to play on the wheel. In addition, the full day camp explored additional art techniques, and the students even had the chance to experience a pit fire. All in all, it was a great summer experience for a whole bunch of developing potters! Thanks to both our summer instructors and our Beal summer student. Madison Powers, for providing such a great experience!

CLASSES NEWS

Class Report by Karen Bailey

Fall classes once again get underway in late September with most of them being offered over a 10 week timeline. This was the fastest registration ever, with many classes filling up within the first 24 hours. This session we have upped our offerings, with 14 onsite classes, plus a Home-Schooling session as well as scheduled visits from school groups. For the first time ever, we are offering classes at a satellite site—a wheel class offsite at Hutton House. Because we are able to split revenue, this is one additional way for us to offer the maximum number of classes at LCAC while taking advantage of additional community facilities. This is a trial and if this works, we may be able to hold more classes off-site and make our classes available to more students. Thanks to all of our quality instructors that make such a difference to future potters!

Note: all classes are full with waiting lists. Some people have been trying to get into classes for several sessions—so far unsuccessfully.







LIBRARY NEWS

From Alice Kirk and Teresa Ainsworth

We are slowly getting the library organized by subject. Eventually all books will have a coloured dot on the spine which will correspond to the subject of the book—e.g. throwing, history, biography, decorating, etc. This will make finding a book on a specific topic easier as well as making re-shelving of the books more efficient.

Please, please check your shelves and under your bed (where my books end up) for all the books you have borrowed from the library and return them ASAP.

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

This is your newsletter, and it is only as good as the information I have. Please send me any news that you come across—upcoming shows, sales, exhibitions, books you have read, videos (YouTube, DVDs, etc.).

GET INVOLVED

The Guild is always looking for new people to get involved in all aspects of the work.

Several Committees are looking for new members, so if you have been wanting to get more involved with the Guild here is your chance.

Exhibition Committee: has two functions

- Set up exhibitions in the space behind the store—find people, help with displays and signage and promotion
- Biennial exhibition— develop theme for exhibition, send out applications, accept applications, select juror(s) and venue, promote exhibition and award prizes

Sale Committee: needs more people to get involved with the sale, infrastructure and marketing are key roles needed.

Store Committee: oversees the displays of pottery in the store, dresses the window according to season/theme, juries all work submitted for sale in the store, makes sure the store is fully staffed at all times, answers questions from the public such as whether the Guild will accept commissions for specific items sells gift certificates etc.,

Empty Bowls Committee: makes sure there are enough bowls for the event, organizes soup from restaurants, promotes event and organizes volunteers and any other duties that may arise.

Health and Safety Committee: organizes and maintains the first aid kits, organizes training on WHMIS, MSDS, first aid training and other training as needed.

Don't have time to be on a committee, then consider volunteering time on one-time events like a shift at Doors Open, with the mosaic project, throw and decorate bowls for Empty Bowls and all the myriad other projects the Guild carries out.

ON-LINE RESOURCES

We are lucky to be living in a time when there are so many resources and information available to those with computers. Here are a few resources I have come across lately that you might find of interest. These are courtesy of Clay Times magazine.

www.glazy.org an free online database where you can find glaze recipes, glaze calculaters, material analyses etc.

Wiki.glazy.org a detailed listing of ceramic material substitutions and topics including glaze faults, application, firing schedules etc.

www.craftemergency.org an American site where you can donate to help artists affected by disasters like hurricanes

LPG Executive Board Members

Judy Sparkes President	jude@fullcirclepottery.com	
Carol Anne Van Boxtel Treasurer	cavanboxtel48@gmail.com	
Laila Brandt Secretary	lailart@live.ca	
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Andrew Kellner Studio Maintenance	lpgtechnician@execulink.com
Nancy Friedrich Sale	nfriedrich@hotmail.com
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Judy Sparkes, Fundraising/Empty Bowls	jude@fullcirclepottery.com
Margaret Nickle Store	raymondmarg@sympatico.ca
Laila Brandt, Membership	lailart@live.ca
Health and Safety	Vacant





















LPG Executive Board

Left to right:

Top Row: Judy Sparkes, Carol Anne Van Boxtel, Laila Brandt

Middle Row: Shari Arnold, Margaret Nickle, Cathy Herbert

Bottom Row: David Moynihan, Endri Poletti, Lawrence Durham, Karen Bailey



London Potters Guild c/o London Clay Art Centre 664 Dundas Street London ON *N5W* 2Y8 519-434 1664 www.londonclayartcentre.org

Yes, I want to support the fund-raising campaign of the London Potters Guild

Enclosed ple	ease find my gift in the amount of \$	Canadian
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This gift is in	honour of :	[if applicable]
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Signature:		
The London	Potters Guild is an incorporated Not for Profit Registered	Charity and a Charita-

ble tax receipt for the full amount of your donation will be sent to you.

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