

New Hampshire Potters Guild Meeting Agenda

Date: Sunday, October 19th, 2025

Location: Kimball Jenkins, Concord NH

- Executive Board Meeting: Zoom meeting held on Sept 30
- Kiln Committee Meeting: Postponed, will be held via Zoom
 - Update coming
 - Talk about calendar for 2026 firings
 - 2 chamber vs 3 chamber firing
- General Membership Meeting: 2:00 PM
- Meeting Notes Taken by Hannah Bunnell

Introductions

Marcia O'Brien	Linda Fletcher	Patsy	Pam Nowell	Lil Bailey	Frank McGinn
Emily Warnick- Clay Culture Studio	Lydia Grey	Kathy Kriegle	Barbara Sorce	Jackie Ose	Diane Lane
Kate Crocker	Annie	Grace Kerr	Hannah Bunnell	Wren Morrocco	

Thank you all for coming to the October meeting! Hope you enjoyed the Empty Bowls event.

- Picked raffle winners. Congrats to everyone who won and participated!
- Dessert potluck
 - Thank you all who brought something to share!
- Amount raised for The Family Kitchen
- How much did we make?
 - 565 in cash
 - Waiting on credit cards and Venmo amounts

Approval of meeting minutes from March at Emilys House

- Barbara approved
- Marcia second the approval
- Noted there was another meeting in June at the woodkiln, but not many people came.

Correspondence Secretary Report? - Pam

- Nothing to add

Finance Reports - Kathy

- See Treasurers Report for full report
- 95 members- Nice!
- Donations came in through programs such as Al's teapot workshop

- 2 firings since last meeting- Nice work kiln teams!
- New Accident insurance policy acquired
- 1,500 League of NH Grant covered many of the expenses
 - Kate Saunders from the League- Frank talked to her about how excited about the grant being given and wants to do it every year
 - **ACTION ITEM:** Wren will email Kate Saunders to talk to Frank to encourage the grant to be given every year. 45 people came to Nozumos talk (our international artist). Potentially have an international artist every 2 years. And in coordination with NEWC.
- Due to some shelves needing replacement, an estimate was received for replacement and updating.
 - Shelf replacement will be ~\$2000 and will give us about 20 shelves
 - Timeline for this?

Barbara: We have a long gently used canopy tent and would like to sell for 50\$ if someone wants to take it-not a pop up/not strong, but not ripped.

- **ACTION ITEM:** Pam will put that information in the newsletter so guild members know-suggested donation added to the post to grab them- 50 for both tents.
- If anyone has photos, Hannah could post on socials to advertise. Please email her at hannah@kimballjenkins.com.

REQUESTED TO PURCHASE OR RECEIVE AS DONATION:

- We borrowed a tent 20x30- can be used for workshops and for wood fires and would like one of our own.
- Need storage for equipment as well. Solutions?

Kiln Committee Report- Lydia

Volume inside of new kiln 120 cubic Ft not including shelves

Last Firing

- Props to the kiln committees!
- 4th wood firing since the kiln was built
 - 33 people over 5 days
- Ways we can make firing more successful
 - Make sure people are part of the guild before being a part of the firing
 - Utilizing a platform like Google Meet to sign up
 - Create a Levels Chart and ensure enough levels are included in each firing group. Able to correspond by email and text to make this process streamline. 6 people per team
 - **Level 1:** no or /limited experience (1-2 people)
 - **Level 2:** have done 1-3 firings, has a basic understanding (1-2 people)
 - **Level 3:** Experienced but not expert. Helpful and able to anticipate next steps (2-3 People)
 - **Level 4:** Firing Leader (1-2 People)
 - Add a mandatory teaching day for newcomers. Safety, how to's, what to expect etc before participating in the firing. Set up firing buddy assignment then.

- Organizing the sign up and correspondence by email and text
 - The whiteboard is outdated and noninclusive- does not provide a welcoming feel for new and current members that want to be involved
- Delegate work between experienced firing members
 - Experienced wood firing people feel they are unable to prioritize their own work due to the demand of the wood kiln.
 - Create mentoring system/buddy system
 - 3 people working on “best practices” document that people get when they sign up
 - Put it on website
 - Who are the 3 people?
 - What is the deadline for this being done?
- Problems with filling night shift
 - Ways to encourage night shift?
 - Extra pieces in the kiln for a discount for nightshifters?
 - Discounted kiln space?
- Pam asked how sign up information is received
 - Kathy crosschecks with paypal
 - Double checks if the person who signs up is a guild member
- Signing up for shifts
 - Issues with people showing up but their submission did not go through
 - Change submit button but will get a confirmation email
 - No confirmation- no inclusion in firing
 - Issue with mobile website and submit button
 - Will return and improve website for wood firing future firings
 - **Who will be improving this? Can this be improved while also changing the signup format for any event we have?**
- Helpful to add to the kiln shed
 - **NEED MORE FUNDRAISING**
 - Kitchen area
 - Material storage area
 - Dry place to keep stuff
 - Money in fund-but not as much as we thought
- Coordinate calendar for the kiln firings for next year-
 - on the kiln committee agenda
- Put in newsletter if someone has a bisque kiln to advertise
 - Issues people have is finding a place to bisque their work for a woodfire
 - kilnshare.com

Fundraiser idea

- Potters submitted recipes for cook book
- Calendar option as well
 - 12 photos or collages
- Wood fire member is a self publisher and author and helping to do that side of it
- General guild funds raised-not just kiln committee
- Lydia coordinate this
- Can the guild open a zoom account- **Wren will check the cost of it-check to see if it is a non-profit discount.** With treasurer discount
- **Grace:** Recommended fundraiser at the actual kiln itself from members
 - During loading and exhibition with **Kelly Stelling**
 - Limited by the amount they give to us
- Non-profits can get school discount program with Sheffield
 - Goal to have people pay for clay before it is ordered-need it delivered by kiln ordering
 - Paid 14c a lb for delivery
 - 2 deliveries a year. One time at the wood kiln and a volunteered spot
- **Lil Bailey-** another day for wood or clean up day?
 - Al is traveling so must clear dates with him
 - Bundles need cutting-need Eric to come chainsaw
 - Needs to be stacked
 - Al will have an order of pine coming in
- **Who wants to be in charge of delivery of clay from Sheffield?**

Elections for Office

- Two of the greats will be passing the torch in November
 - Pam - Correspondence Secretary
 - Kathy - Treasurer

Candidates for November Election

- **Hannah Bunnell for Correspondence Secretary and Frank McGinn for Treasurer**
- Anyone who is interested in these positions please message Marcia O'Brien, who is leading the nomination committee this year with Sam Deering. Marcia@kimballjenkins.com
- We will vote in the November meeting,so please try to attend to show your support!

Reports and Updates from recent events -

The League Fair Education Tent was successful!

- We had 16 volunteers from the guild participate, as well as various volunteers from the League and Eversource, Dover Pottery Studio, Kimball Jenkins, and other participating organizations.
- **Wren wants to make a map of different studios to display at the fair for patrons to look at and see where they can participate**
 - Should we focus on NH or all of New England?

- Contact information for makers spaces, centers willing to be advertised, brochures
- Send letter/email out
 - **Correspondence- Pam or Hannah**
- Jackie's husband (Black Olive Pottery Studio Owner) makes maps for a living and could make a print and online version
 - Studios and makerspaces in New England
 - Bisque kiln shares for those that need firing options for the wood firing (cone 06 is ideal for wood firing).
- Hundreds of patrons came through the tent to enjoy the clay activities. Next year, we will build a map to point people towards places to take classes in NH!
- Stephen Proctor has a great exhibition up at the League's gallery space in Concord

Next meeting is at Claire's home in Manchester on November 16th

- Also the Pot swap! Bring a wrapped pot to trade
 - Wrap and swap! Yankee Swap
 - Pot Luck- Yum
- Next elections for office will be at this meeting

Meeting Minutes add ons:

- Meeting one in June but no minutes- no one showed up
- Wren will dig up notes from it if available
- **Marcia:** Mentioned the League has been wonderful to work with and for. More collaboration will be great.
- Andy will be doing a workshop at Kimball Jenkins in December
 - Advertise with KJ and us
- Person named Erin lost some keys at KJ- Kate has information and will forward to KJ people

Biennial 2026 -and new galleries where we will have it hosted

- If you have any places you are interested or know people
- Non profit galleries in Portsmouth, Lakes Region, Upper Valley
- Let Marcia O'Brien
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Pam Newell

- Will be online for meetings so we can know whats going on with the kiln committee
- Things that happened at the last firing and the board wants to know what is going on with everyone. We want to work closer together. Pam wants to put the board on the list during kiln committee meetings
- Also, Kiln committee could be an honorary member of the board to be involved.
- One person can rotate through the meetings- delegate monthly person in advance so everyone knows who is involved
- New email that goes to everyone on the board

Frank

- Harvard goes to CT to woodfire
- Maureen is an adjunct there
- Advertise to them to fire at our kiln
- Barbara talked with someone but never heard back from them. Saw that it was on their bulletin board
- Frank got a grant for \$10,000 for a portable raku kiln for schools, and needs to promote it more.
 - **Put it in the newsletter that he is offering the service**
 - Unsure of the cost of this service so hold off on posting
 - Get update from Frank once he knows
 - Will go to UMass to start and determine cost

Lydia Grey

- Group interested in pit and smoke firing
- Potential space to do it at Al's
- Workshop style
- Lil Bailey did this type of firing last year and it was easy to do
- Maybe start a pit firing committee
- Can do a trial workshop with KJ students wit Lil Bailey
- Raku plans are in motion for this November
 - Wren will email Lil about this opportunity