



# January 2024 Potluck Newsletter

**Our next potluck gathering is Sunday, January 21, 2024**

(Snow date Sunday, January 28)

Where: League of New Hampshire Craftsman Headquarters 49 S Main St. #100  
Concord, 03301

1:00 board Meeting

2:00 General Meeting and Potluck

Kiln Committee will meet 1:00- 2:00

Board Meeting from 1:00-2:00

General meeting 2:00

Followed by a potluck gathering.

## Chairman's Message

Hello Potters and happy winter! I hope you all enjoyed a peaceful holiday season. This year, we are looking ahead to many exciting community events. The League of NH Craftsmen has invited us back for another pottery education tent at their annual Craft Fair on Mount Sunapee in August. We are hosting our 2024 Biennial Show at Kimball Jenkins Art and Community Center in the fall, and of course another Empty Bowls fundraiser. In case you missed it, we raised \$1,500 for Project Story in October, a non-profit group that supports refugee and New American students in New Hampshire. Thank you again to all who participated and made it a fun and memorable event!

Currently, we are working on selecting a theme for the 2024 Biennial. [Click here to vote for the theme!](#)

Keep checking your email for more updates about our upcoming events. Thanks for being a part of our clay community! If you have any questions, suggestions, or want to be more involved with these events, reach out to me at [lauren.morrocco@gmail.com](mailto:lauren.morrocco@gmail.com). We are always looking for more volunteers.

I hope to see you at the next meeting at the League of NH Craftsmen headquarters (on Main St in Concord) on January 21st at 2pm. (Snow date 28th)

Thank you and stay warm!

Wren Morrocco

## Community News

### **Your 2024 membership dues is due! [Here is the form to do it!](#)**

Reminder- you must be a current member to participate in the wood kiln!

#### **Members:**

If you have signed up for a Professional Profiles Page on our website, please take the next step to get you there. [Professional Profiles setup](#)

#### **Show:**

#### **Al Jaeger and friends**

#### **The world of wood fired clay:**

Al Jaeger is invited to participate in a show that exemplifies wood fire ceramics. He has also invited 13 woodfire artists to participate in the show!

Al Jaeger, Chris Archer, Belinda Bodnar, Sarah Burns, David Ernster, Lydia Grey, Andy Hampton, Wendy Jackson, Eric Maglio, Frank McGinn, Maureen Mills, Hiromi Satoh, Barbara Sorce, Don Williams.

The show is at St Anselm College and has four affiliated dates:

\*Thursday 2/15/24 opening reception 4-6 PM at the LLC (Living Learning Commons), 100 St Anselm Drive, Manchester, NH 03102

\* Thursday 2/22/24 Al Jaeger, power point presentation: My life as an artist, 4-5 PM, at The Chapel Arts Center, Alumni Hall, 100 St Anselm Drive, Manchester, NH 03102

\*Thursday 4/11/24 Panel discussion: Ongoing, and future possibilities for the pursuit of ceramic arts. 4-6 PM, at The Chapel Arts Center, Alumni Hall, 100 St Anselm Drive, Manchester, NH 03102

\*Thursday 4/25/24 Closing reception for the show 4-6PM, at the LLC (Living Learning Commons)

Please refer to the St Anselm campus map for the specific locations. The campus roadways move in one direction.

## NHPG Community Wood Kiln

#### **From the Kiln Committee**

#### **Dreams Do Come True**

We are getting closer to building a new wood-fired kiln on Al Jaeger's property!

A kiln shed addition stands behind the old kiln shed. New bricks from Larkin Refractories and cement blocks are tucked under its roof ready for building to begin.

#### **What's Next? Join us for kiln building in 2024!**

All levels of experience welcomed. Every time we meet to work on this project, there is a joyful feeling of working together for a common purpose.



The roof is on! August 26, 2023

**Save the dates, mark your calendar.** Google signup forms will be posted by January 15 for the last firing in old kiln and for kiln building sessions. All dates dependent on weather and ground/road

conditions. We'll send an email with links to the signups and post links on [nhpottersguild.org](http://nhpottersguild.org) and on [NH Potters Guild Facebook Page](#) and Instagram [NHPGKiln](#)

### **Kiln build dates.**

May 31-June 2 (3 days)

June 7-9 (3 days)

June 14-16 (3 days)

June 21-24(3 days)

June 28-30 rain date/extra 3 days

### **The plan**

We continue the NHPG tradition of working together! Camping and a camp kitchen will be available. People can sign up for all days or a selection of days. This flexibility allows for those who want to celebrate Father's Day (June 16), family birthdays, etc. to come for the other days of the weekend or a different weekend.

### **Many thanks!**

There are too many people, both potters and supporters, to thank everyone individually. Special thanks to: Al Jaeger for the vision and the land. Eric Maglio and Belinda Bodnar for the design and kiln building leadership. Barbara Sorce, "clerk of the works", for keeping us all on track. The New Hampshire Potters Guild kiln committee, board, and members for all their work and support. Karina Kelley and Bill Stelling of Kelley Stelling Contemporary for organizing and hosting fundraising shows for the kiln. All the potters who contributed works to the fundraisers and art patrons and friends who purchased work and made donations. All the work crews who moved bricks, cut, and debarked hemlock posts, built and raised trusses, raised the roof, built the first woodshed, cut and moved firewood and all the cooks who brought delicious food.



Al and Eric - foundation excavation and yet another brick moving day, July 2, 2022

## **Biennial 2024 Show**

Here is a survey for the Biennial show theme. At our November meeting, we discussed what our title for the show could be. I wrote down the suggestions and added them to the survey. You can select one of those or write in your own idea. We can review the results at our next meeting.

[Click here to fill out the survey](#)

## **New Hampshire Potters Guild Hosted Empty Bowls at Kimball Jenkins**

It was a bit intimidating to try and host an Empty Bowls event without our previous partnership with New Horizons of NH, an organization that had all the personnel and experience for doing fundraising events. All the NH Potters Guild needed to do was supply the bowls. New Horizons did all the advertising, promotion and soliciting of soup donations. I was so grateful when Wren Morocco and the folks at Kimball Jenkins fearlessly took on the challenge!

I was hopeful and enthusiastic about this new event, but never expected the very first Empty Bowls at a new venue would be such a wonderful success!

There was a steady stream of “customers” who chose bowls and enjoyed the soup made by Friendly Kitchen and members of the NHPG. It was truly a NH Potters Guild event as many of the people setting up, welcoming customers, and serving soup were Guild members. That did not happen when New Horizons was the organizer. I hope even more of you will join us for future Empty Bowls. It is a great way to build a sense of community within and beyond the Potters Guild.

We also had a fantastic response to our request for bowls and raffle items.

Thank you, thank you, thank you!

Linda Fletcher  
Empty Bowls committee  
Co-chairperson NH Potters Guild.  
We made \$1565 for this event.

## The History of **EMPTY BOWLS**



For those who may be unfamiliar with where **EMPTY BOWLS** originated here is the bio from their original website:

**EMPTY BOWLS** is an international project to fight hunger, personalized on a community

level. The concept for **EMPTY BOWLS** is simple. Participating artists create and donate ceramic bowls, then serve a simple meal. Guests chose a bowl to use that day and keep it as a reminder of all the empty bowls in the world. In exchange for the meal and the bowl, guests give a suggested minimum donation. The meal's proceeds are given to a local hunger-fighting organization, such as a food bank or soup kitchen, or to a national or international charitable group.

The project was initiated by Michigan art teacher John Harton. During the 1990-91 school year, the high school teacher joined a drive to raise charitable funds in his community. Harton's idea was to give artists and students a way to make a personal difference. In his art classes, Harton's students made ceramic bowls. The finished products were then used as serving pieces for a fund-raising meal of soup and bread, and the guests kept the empty bowls.

By the following year, Harton and other participants developed this concept into **EMPTY BOWLS**.

Although the Imagine/RENDER Group, a 501©3 organization, was created to promote the project, each community's events are self-developed and independent. This project expands one group of concerned artists and students at a time, and events are held in many areas of the United States and Canada, often in conjunction with the United Nations sponsored World Food Day. **EMPTY BOWLS** now supports food related charities around the world and has raised millions of dollars to aid in the fight against hunger.



## Social Media and Website

### Website:

Pam Nowell has started the new professional Page on our website. [Professional Profile Page](#). Make sure you are a member so you can participate in this exciting development. If you have already paid your dues and signed up for a free page, be sure to take the next step by sending Pam your information. Here is what she needs to help you get onto our website. [Professional Profiles setup](#)  
We now have a Google for nonprofits account which will streamline our media presence and help coordinate our email addresses for better communication.  
Next will be our members only page. Stay tuned!

### Social Media:

We would love to have. All members can post! We can help. Email your questions to [Rebecca Hillman our Social Media Coordinator](#).

### Facebook:

You can post your photos and events by "liking" our Facebook, [NH Potters Guild Facebook Page](#)

### Instagram for our wood kiln lovers,

we have an Instagram page just for our wood kiln: [NHPGKiln](#)

### Instagram:

Our site is in the midst of a review. It will be changing to be connected to our FB page and hopefully get an update so that more of our membership can post directly to it!

Please be patient while we maneuver and streamline these separate parts to our social media format. It is currently in review by Pamela, Rebecca, and Lydia.

[https://www.instagram.com/new\\_hampshire\\_potters\\_guild](https://www.instagram.com/new_hampshire_potters_guild)

## Workshops and Classes:

### Colored Clay Workshop



with [Naomi Lindenfeld](#)

February 3rd & 4th, 2024 9am - Noon each day  
Snow dates: February 10th & 11th. Glazing session 1 week after workshop  
[Wheelhouse Clay Center](#), Brattleboro, Vermont

*Natural objects with patterned imagery surround us in the environment.*

*These will provide inspiration for making pieces from layered colored clay.*

*Two forming methods will be presented using a layered block:*

*Wrapped slab cups, vases and trays and pinched and carved bowls.*

*Prior experience with clay is helpful but not essential.*

*\$235.00 fee includes materials, use of the studio until 6pm on*

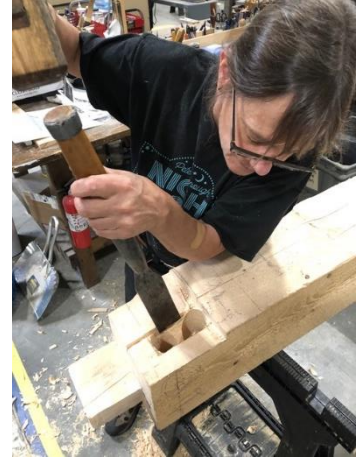
*both days of the workshop, glazing session and firing.*

*See [Naomi's website](#) for more info.*

## Opportunities



Check out the Sharing Arts Ceramics Center in Dublin NH for classes, workshops and membership opportunities. Spring and Summer offerings will be coming soon. This is part of the MAXT Makerspace in Peterborough, NH. <https://www.maxtmakerspace.org/ceramics>



*Important exhibit at MFA Boston March 4 —July 9, 2023.* <https://www.mfa.org/exhibition/hear-me-now-the-black-potters-of-old-edgefield-south-carolina>

### Mud City Clay

Classes are back!

Check out their website for more information!

[classes link](#)

### Center For the Arts

<https://centerfortheartsnh.org/visual-artists>

### NH State Council on the Arts

<https://www.nh.gov/nharts/newsandcalendar/e-news/e-opps.htm#Awards>



**WATERSHED**  
center for the ceramic arts

Check out current opportunities at Watershed!

<https://www.watershedceramics.org/>

### The Clay Studio

<https://www.theclaystudio.org/exhibition-call-for-entries>

### Rudy Houk Scholarship Fund

Application Form For more information please visit the website at [Rudy Houk Scholarship](#)

## Guild Contacts

### Board of Directors

Chair

[Lauren \(Wren\) Morrocco](#)

Vice Chair

[Linda Fletcher](#)

Recording Secretary

[Claire Provencher](#)

Treasurer

[Kathy Kriegel](#)

Correspondence Secretary

[Pam Nowell](#)

Co-correspondence Secretary

[Rebecca Hillman](#)

### Biennial 2024

Chair

**Empty Bowls**

Chair

[Linda Fletcher](#)**Community Kiln Committee**

Chair

[Lydia Grey](#)

Building Manager (Clerk of the Works)

[Barbara Sorce](#)

Al Jaeger  
 Belinda Bodnar  
 David Ernster  
 Don Williams  
 Lauren Dadmun  
 Hiromi Satoh  
 Eric Maglio

**Kiln Shed Addition** *Design, sourcing materials, budget, organizing work crews.*

Al Jaeger  
 Don Williams  
 Lil Bailey  
 Patsy Belt  
 Selinda Chiquione  
 Barbara Sorce

**Kiln Building Workshop** *Design, sourcing materials, budget, site preparation, instruction*

Eric Maglio  
 Belinda Bodnar  
 Barbara Sorce  
 Patsy Belt  
 Lil Bailey

**Kiln Building Workshop - PR and Registration** *Getting the word out, signing up participants (registration, collecting \$, lodging info, mid-day meal)*

Lydia Grey  
 Linda Fletcher  
 Wendy Jackson  
 Joanie Curry

**Fundraising**

Pamela Nowell  
 Rebecca Hillman