

Ottawa Newcomers Club

Monthly Newsletter

September 2024



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<https://ottawanewcomersclub.ca/>

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE –

“September, a month of new beginnings and fresh starts, presents an opportunity to refocus our energy and set new goals. It serves as a reminder to embrace change and embark on new adventures.”

Since September is really the start of ONC's new year, I want to wish everyone a Happy New Year. I hope everyone had a great summer and you are ready to get back into a routine. We are heading into the fall, my favorite season, and I look forward to seeing everyone again. Board members will be working hard to make sure we offer a variety of activities for everyone.

You will find a message in this newsletter asking members who are working or unable to participate in weekday activities, to send me an email so that we can meet as a group to discuss what types of activities and times that would fit your schedule.

...See you in September...

VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This morning, I had an especially delightful bike ride on the amazing network of paths that Ottawa has created. It's come to my attention that the excursions I enjoy the most are when I'm charting new territory! On this particular ride, I suddenly found myself in a spot that I recognized from an outing with Ottawa Newcomers Club! Not only was the “oh, I know where I am” realization rather satisfying, but it also made me reflect on how much ONC has brought to my (still) new life here in Ottawa.

We have many new members who have joined us recently. Welcome to both those who are new to Ottawa, as well as those who find themselves in a different life. We have a terrific collection of activities run by equally impressive convenors. Jump in! I promise you'll meet a bunch of wonderful women. Before long, you too will be thinking, “Thank heavens I found ONC!”

Housekeeping Reminders

Photos at ONC

A gentle reminder to those of us that like photos being taken, please keep in mind others do not.

- Always **ASK** before taking that photo to create a comfort level for all.
- Check with your HOSTESS to see if they too are comfortable with a photo opportunity in their home and what the parameters may be.

We would like to continue to see photos taken at our wonderful events and outings and by no means are we asking you to stop taking photos, just asking all to be mindful as we do. Perhaps offer a photo opportunity by a tree or a sign etc. and those wanting to participate can be easily included.

If you plan to post on our **Facebook page - ask about that as well**. Some member might prefer not to have their photo placed there. ONC Facebook is a closed group that we oversee diligently. Each year as members leave ONC their names are removed so only current ONC members that have asked to join our Facebook group will be permitted to participate.

Thanks to each of you for doing your part to continue to make ONC a great place to be!

Feeling unwell?

Please only attend an outing or activity if **you** feel well. If you attend an activity and feel unwell afterwards please advise your convenor. Transparency is critical for everyone's well-being.

Respiratory illnesses continue to be present despite vaccines, boosters, hand sanitizers and masks. Learn about the latest information on public health measures, including masking and mask use.

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/protection-covid-19-and-other-respiratory-illnesses>

Restaurant Guidelines

As many of our activities are in restaurants either as the main outing or at the end of an activity, we would like to ensure that everyone understands ONC's guidelines. Here are some reservation tips to keep in mind:

1. A reservation made is a reservation paid.
2. If you are not well send an email to the convenor *as early as possible and well before the arranged time*.
3. Just in case you can't find the restaurant please take the convenor's cell phone number with you. We are happy to guide you to the right spot.
4. ONC does not have a credit card or money in our budget to cover shortfalls.
5. Please pay your bill before you stand up to leave. If you need to leave by a certain time inform the wait staff after you have placed your order.

Looking forward to many more tasty meals with our fun membership!!!

Carpooling

Carpooling is a great option to assist members without cars, to get to know each other, to address parking issues at the event and to help tackle climate change.

The event-confirming email will list all attendees. Feel free to reach out to offer a drive or ask for a drive!!

Tender Loving Care (TLC)



As we make new friends, conversation sometimes turns to sharing life's challenges.

If you know of any member who has lost someone near and dear to them, or who is seriously ill or has undergone surgery, please let me know so that a card may be sent & support offered. Or perhaps you or another member has something celebratory to share - an accomplishment, a new grandchild, a milestone birthday. Most of us are relatively new to Ottawa and if so, our circle of family or friends can be quite small in the beginning. ONC wants to be there for its members through all times of life.

Thank you for your help with this - we don't want to miss anyone! And remember, TLC continues throughout the year.

Join Me!!

"JOIN ME" is for special outings/activities that are not part of our regular monthly activities. If an ONC member would like company for hiking, biking, coffee, cards, a concert, a walk, or whatever, then email Marilyn, with details of date, time, place, etc., as well as your e-mail and phone number.

The convener will then send out the invitation to all ONC members, and any interested members will **RSVP to the person hosting the event.**

We look forward to hearing from you.

SEPTEMBER 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3 Nine & Dine Evening Book Club	4 Monthly Lunch	5 Mahjongg	6 Card Games Scrabble	7
8	9 Bridge	10 Nine & Dine Bridge Spanish Conversation	11 Grandmothering Group BYO Book Club	12 Walk & Talk	13	14
15	16 Bridge Monday at the Movies	17 Nine & Dine Bridge	18 Fun Lunch	19 Par 3 Golf Art Gallery Visits	20 Conversation en français	21 Let's Do Lunch Duplicate Bridge
22	23 Bridge	24 Nine & Dine Bridge Coffee & Chat	25 Afternoon Book Club	26 Plus 1 Potluck	27 Out and About	28
29	30 Bridge					

Bridge, Bridge and more Bridge...

You will find all information on the next 3 pages about **three bridge clubs** that are available to ONC members on Monday afternoons, Tuesdays and the third Saturday evening of the month.



[Image by Freepik](#)

Get your bridge fix here!

ONC/ONAC Monday Afternoon Bridge

Date: Monday September 9, 16, 23, 30
No bridge on Monday September 2nd (Labour Day)

Time: 11.45am - 3pm

Cost: \$4 for room rental etc.

We welcome new and returning bridge players. No partners are necessary. Four dollars for room rental , prizes, tea, coffee and other supplies.

Please bring your own coffee mug and it helps newcomers to our group if you wear a name tag.

ONC/ONAC Tuesday Bridge



If you play bridge, this is a fun and relaxed group with many different levels of players who are happy to learn from one another. You do not need a partner to play, however your spouse/ partner is most welcome to join us.

When: Tuesdays from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Cost: \$4.00 per person (Exact change appreciated)

* ☕ COFFEE and TEA will be provided. Please bring your own mug and snack.



ONC/ONAC Saturday Evening Duplicate Bridge

Cost: \$6 per team

Welcome to the first Saturday of the 2024-2025 Saturday Evening Duplicate

Bridge season. *Please note two significant changes.*

- The first change is the time. We will begin at 6:45 P.M. and end at 9:15 P.M.
- The second change is the result of a rental increase. To cover the difference, each team will be asked to pay \$6.00/team rather \$5.00/team.

We will continue to meet at the Graham Park Qualicum Community Centre, 48 Nanaimo Drive.

Our aim is to provide a fun night of duplicate bridge for all levels of expertise. Along with the challenge of making the most of your cards, teams take turns each month vying for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place prizes.

Coffee and tea are provided, and the treats are graciously supplied by a different team each month. **Please remember to bring a mug.**

Our new season begins on Saturday, September 21. Please arrive by 6:40 P.M. so we can start the play promptly at 6:45 P.M

And on a final note ... If you are looking for a duplicate partner, don't hesitate to contact me as there may be other members looking to do the same.

Hope to see you September 21!



Golf anyone?

There is something for everyone. This page outlines your choices for golf with the club. See you on the links!



ONAC/ONC Nine & Dine Ladies Golf

The ONAC/ONC Nine and Dine Ladies Golf group continues to play a regular 9-hole game on Tuesday mornings from now through the end of October. Tee times are typically booked around 10:00 a.m., and players often stay after their game to socialize and enjoy a bite to eat.

Please be aware that this is NOT a Par3 Golf Group; however, all levels of golfers are welcome to join our non-competitive group.

Each week, an email will be sent by one of our convenors to everyone on the mailing list to provide information about the selected course, green fees, and tee times for the upcoming Tuesday game. Responses are recorded on a first-come first-served basis, so send your reply quickly to get on the list of players for that game.

Hopefully, Tuesday mornings will be filled with sunshine and birdies! Come out and join us!

Par 3 Golf Group

Date: Thursday, September 19th

Time: Late Morning (Time will be posted once tee times are booked)

RSVP: Friday, September 13th (We have to book tee times ahead of time)

Cost: \$21 or \$17 for people over 60. Green fees payable at the course.

If you are a less-confident golfer, then this is the game for you. Join us for a leisurely game at Thunderbird Golf Course which is a nine-hole golf course. We will head out for lunch after our game.

Evening Book Club

Date: Tuesday, September 3rd (*and the 1st Tuesday of every month*)
Time: 6:30 – 9:00 pm



Good Reads over Great Food coupled with lively conversation! What a perfect combination! For this book club, each person will choose a book and a restaurant, or you can host the evening's event at your home, whatever suits your fancy! There will be 13 women, 13 books and 13 restaurants/private homes! Are you ready?

How to participate: Send me an email telling me you'd like to join, and I will put you in the group. The book we will be reading for September 2024 is:

Hello Beautiful! by Ann Napolitano...

This is a captivating story of the lives of four sisters and their intertwining relationships told from different perspectives, including their husbands. Happy Reading Everyone!!

ONC American Mahjongg

Date: Thursday, September 5th
Time: 10:00 to 12 Noon
RSVP: Monday, September 2nd

Please note that this month our space is **limited to 12 players**.



Please come and join us for American Mahjongg. We are playing with the 2024 Mahjongg card. Please bring your card with you.

A follow up email will be sent after the RSVP date to players who did RSVP, confirming their spot and address where we're playing.

We do allow people to watch as we play, to see if they are interested in learning the game. Please contact the convenor if you would like to join us.

Card Games

Date: Friday, September 6, 2024
Time: 10:00 am - Noon
RSVP: Monday, September 2
Cost: \$2 (*to cover the cost of room rental*)



Calling all card players!

If you are interested in playing cards, or learning new card games, come on out. We are a small group of women; 5-8 players. Doesn't matter if you haven't played before. Very easy to learn. Come spend a lively morning playing and socializing. I have many card games for any number of people, from easy to challenging. COFFEE and TEA will be provided.

Scrabble

*****Joint ONC/ONAC activity*****

Date: Friday, September 6, 2024
Time: 10:00 am - Noon
RSVP: Tuesday, September 3rd
Cost: \$2 (*to cover the cost of room rental*)



Calling all wordies to play scrabble!

Welcome to a new year of Scrabble! Doesn't matter if you haven't played before. Very easy to learn. Come spend a lively morning playing and socializing. I have 4 board games so we can have up to 16 people. Coffee and tea provided, and we take turns bringing a snack to share. Plenty of visitor parking in the back of the building plus street parking.

Spanish Conversation

Date: Tuesday, September 10th
Time: 1:15 – 3:00 pm
RSVP: Friday, September 6th



Join us for tea or coffee and cookies and intermediate and more Spanish conversation the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 1:15 pm.. Hasta pronto!!

ONC Grandmothering Group

Date: Wednesday, September 11th



Come share the many joys and occasional challenges of being a grandmother. We will have a potluck at Joan's cottage at Sharbot Lake, about 80 minutes from Ottawa. Joan will be providing a charcuterie board. Please indicate what food you will be contributing when you RSVP.

Hopefully people will carpool to this event.

Address and detailed driving instructions will be sent out once all the RSVPs have been received.

NEW! - Bring Your Own Book Club

Date: Wednesday, September 11, 2024

Time: 7:00pm

Modeled after a new popular book club format, everyone in the group brings a book of their own that they enjoyed and gives a 5-minute synopsis of the book (any genre), and why they recommend it.

Meeting once a month, this would expose all of us to many more books in a year than the traditional book club format, with the benefit that no one ends up having to read books that don't interest them. This would have a very social element, as well, sharing beverages and appetizers.

We'd meet either in members' homes and/or restaurant/bar venues with a slightly separate space for us. This can all be discussed at the first meeting. No Zoom meetings.

For the first meeting, attendance will NOT be limited, though **response is still required**. This will enable us to gauge the interest in the new Book Club and determine whether there is a need for a second convenor/location.

I can comfortably accommodate 10 members in my home. If necessary, two groups would run concurrently in different locations (East and West) in the same time slot: the second Wednesday of the month, at 7p.m.

The location of the first gathering on September 11 will be identified when we see how many registrants we have. The deadline for registering your interest in this new ONC club is August 30, 2024.

Location: Rockeries and McKay Lake

Our approximately 90-minute walk will take us through a beautiful park in the neighbourhood of Rockcliffe. We will start off walking along trails in the Rockery and make our way through pathways and neighborhoods surrounding McKay Lake and Sand Pits Lakes. We will also have a view of many stately homes in Rockcliffe.

****Please note that the walk will have elevated climbs and some uneven pathways around the lakes. ****

We plan on ending our morning at either Dhruvees Café or Red Door Café depending on the size of our group. Hope you can join us.

Monday at the Movies

Date: Monday, September 16th

We go to either the late afternoon or early evening film at the ByTowne Cinema on the third Monday of each month.

The ByTowne Cinema is a one-screen repertory movie theatre located on Rideau Street several blocks east of the Rideau Centre. It is one of Ottawa's main venues for independent and foreign films. I won't know the films in advance of the ONC monthly newsletter deadline as the film schedule is out only a few weeks ahead of time.

If you are interested in going to monthly films, please send me an email and I will add you to the list. I will send out an email about 1 week before we meet giving the name of the movie and the time. You can decide whether or not the film for the month interests you.

There is no assigned seating at the ByTowne so you can purchase your ticket at the box office on arrival or, with a service charge, on-line in advance. Tickets are \$14. You may want to consider an annual membership (\$13.26/year or \$8.85/year for 65+). With membership, you save \$4 on the price of the ticket (\$10 instead of \$14).

The ByTowne is easily accessible by several bus routes and parking is available at the nearby Loblaws (entry from Nelson Street) for a reasonable rate.

Woodsy Rambles

Unfortunately, due to scheduling conflicts, there will be no Woodsy Rambles activity in September. We'll be rambling on again in October!

Fun Lunch

Date: Wednesday, September 18th
Time: 11:30 a.m.



[Image by pikisuperstar on Freepik](#)

Fun Lunch is a great opportunity to meet ONC members and share a lovely meal and wine, while getting to know each other better. You may bring an appetizer, salad, entree, dessert, or white wine. The convener will monitor the menu to avoid having too much food from one category and not enough of another. Should that happen, you may be asked to bring something else.

Please have your food and serving utensils ready when you arrive. For those who supply the wine and appetizers, please be prompt. Regular attendees will bring a dish from each category at least once during the year.

A guest list is created on a first come basis once the newsletter has been published. A hostess can accommodate a limited number of guests, so it is best to sign-up early to avoid any disappointment. If you wish to attend, please complete rsvp -google form indicating what you would like to bring.

Closer to the date of the event, an email will be sent with the address and parking information.

The maximum number of attendees for this event is limited to 10 members.

****We are actively looking for members to host Fun Lunch. If you are interested in hosting a Fun Lunch, please let Donna know.****

Art Gallery Visit

Place: Koyman Galleries, [1771 St. Laurent Blvd, Ottawa, ON K1G 3V4](#)
Admission: free

Art gallery visits are back after a summer break!

Join us this month for a visit to the Koyman Galleries which is the largest gallery in this country featuring Canadian artists.

After our visit we will have lunch at a nearby restaurant.

Conversation en Français

Date: Vendredi 20 septembre
Heure: 12 heures



Rejoignez-nous pour un après-midi de conversation en français. Tout niveau de prise de parole est bienvenu. Apportez un repas léger et un breuvage si vous le voulez.

Let's Do Lunch

Location: Vittoria Trattoria
Address: [3625 Rivergate Way \(near Hunt Club Rd and Riverside\)](#)
Date: Saturday, September 21st

Check out their website <https://vittoriatrattoria.com> to view menu, map, and photos.

Coffee and Chat

Place: IKEA, Pinecrest Shopping Centre, [2685 Iris St](#)
Location: Restaurant, Top Floor
(towards the back corner of the restaurant)



[Image by vectorjuice on Freepik](#)

Join us for Coffee and Chat and meet members old and new to chat about and exchange notes on our wonderful new lives in Ottawa! We get together for an hour or so at 10:00 am at IKEA.

Afternoon Book Club

Place: TBD based on RSVP's.
Date: Wednesday, September 25th
Time: 1:00pm to 3:00pm



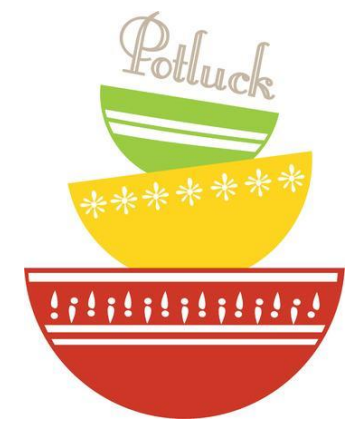
****Important:** RSVP by no later than September 13th. Confirmed participants will be notified of location by email after the RSVP date. **

Book: Year of Wonders **Author:** Geraldine Brooks

Based on the true story of residents of a small 17th century English village, who quarantined themselves to protect others from the plague.

Plus 1 Potluck

Location: Carp **Date:** Thursday, September 26th
Time: 5:30 pm



Let's get together with our "Plus 1" for food, fun and laughter! We will decide about food at a later date. If you have specialty, let me know.

You will be notified of the address closer to the date of the potluck.

RSVP early to reserve your spot. If necessary, a waitlist will be created.

Would you like to host a Plus 1 potluck? Please let us know.

Out and About

Place: Bonnechere Caves
Location: [1247 Fourth Chute Road, Eganville](#)
Cost: \$20 (tax and parking included) payable on site

The Bonnechere Caves, formed over 450 million years ago, have been welcoming people for over 55 years. Enjoy the handiwork of Mother Nature along the beautiful Bonnechere River. Come early if you want to walk the trail along the Fourth Chute Falls before the tour starts at 11 AM.

Low heeled shoes are required, and photography is permitted. Although not necessary, if you have a flashlight, bring it along to get an extra close look at the fossils that are everywhere underground.

Following the tour, we will make our way to lunch at Rio Tap & Grill, [76 Bonnechere St. East, Eganville](#). For those who prefer to picnic on site, there is a picnic area on site adjacent to the Fourth Chute Falls.

Hope you can join us!

<https://ottawanewcomersclub.ca/>

The colorful interactive homepage is open to the public and contains information about the club, its activities and how to join.

Once one becomes an **ONC** member, access is provided to the private Members-Only area through a special Username and Password. The Password is changed in September every year for security reasons.

What can you find on the ONC Website? In the members-Only area you will find the following:

- A Message from the Club President
- Activities information and a Photo Gallery
- An Interactive Calendar of Activities
- The latest Newsletter and an Archive of past issues, Membership Renewal Information and Waiver Forms
- The current Board of Directors, their contact information and their Job Descriptions
- The Club's By-Laws and the Annual Financial Statements
- Links to Government Services, Utility Companies and Social Organizations

ONC Website Calendars and Some emails from the Newsletter ARE INTERACTIVE!

When preparing to reserve or indicate your participation at an ONC event, Convenors' email addresses are now hot links on the **Website** Calendar. Click on the email address and your default email program will open with the Convenor's email address already filled in.



When we are unable to meet in person for ONC activities, the Members' private Facebook page is a good place to go. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ottawanewcomersclub/>

Members of the page can post listings for free online about events like concerts, plays, film festivals, tours of museums, ride sharing and all sorts of other events.

Members are welcome to post information, in accordance with the Page Guidelines, that would be of interest to other ONC members or to ask questions and seek advice about Ottawa resources like; health care, home renovation specialists, etc.

In order to join the **ONC Facebook page**, one has to join Facebook.

Note that the ONC Facebook page is a Closed Group and can only be viewed by ONC members.

