

THE GOLDEN GOURD

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE CALIFORNIA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN GOURD SOCIETY

Volume 9, Issue 3

Fall 2007

CGS Gourd Art Competition
by Jill Walker

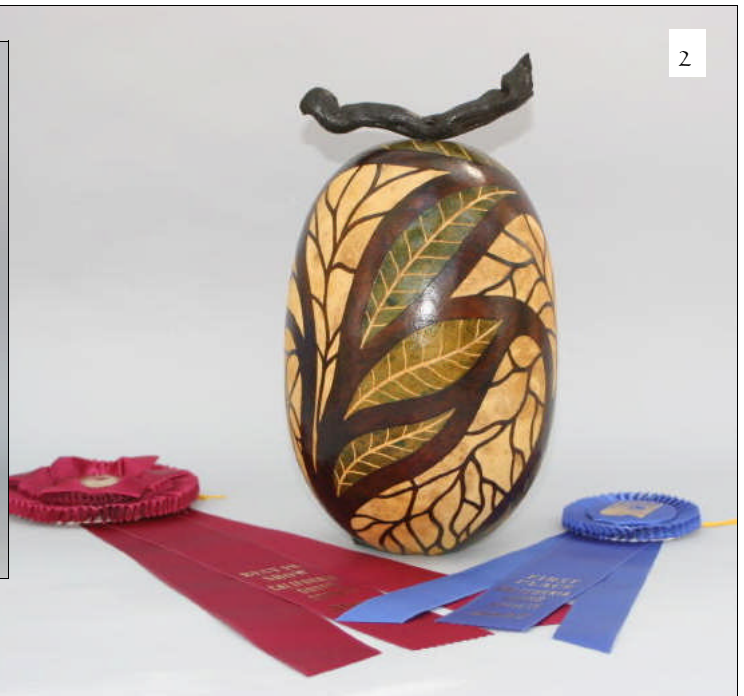
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Once again the main comment from visitors to the CGS Gourd Art Competition was **"Wow!"** The pictures here can only begin to illustrate the talent and creativity that resides within our members.



Picture 1 Above
Jack Thorp
Masters Sculptural Gourds—*First Place*



Picture 2 Top Right
Great excitement was created when people discovered that the **"Best of Show"** Award was given to a piece by a 'novice' exhibitor, **Valentín Ruesga** as well as the awards for **Novice - Mixed media - First Place** and **Novice -Best of Division.**
Congratulations Valentín!



Picture 3 Left—**Betty Finch** - Jim Story Gourd (hand trained gourds) *First Place*

(Continued on page 3)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings Gourd Enthusiasts!

I was gone for almost a month so you can imagine my relief when I arrived home and saw that my gourds were growing happy and healthily even without daily tending. My interest in my gourd crop has increased since I returned from the Hawaiian Gourd Festival in June. While at the festival I learned the Ni'ihau method of working on mature green gourds as seen on page 5. It was very interesting and I can hardly wait for my gourds to mature so I can do some more decorating by this technique. Hawaiian gourd gardeners have the advantage of having no real seasons, thus being able to plant and harvest all year long! If I had those growing conditions I would probably expire from planting crop after crop.

It was gratifying to see many of you at the Welburn Festival and have the chance to work with you as you pitched in , volunteering to set-up, take down, judge the competition, take photos, help in the CGS booth and assist in the craft arena. What a great bunch of individuals I am privileged to work with in CGS. Thank you one and all. Congratulations to Cookie Hansen for winning the lovely Volunteer's Basket.

Lest you think we're done for the year let me hasten to say that we will have a real presence at the Folsom pre-festival classes at Zittle Gourd Farm as well as have a booth at the Folsom Patrons of the Arts Gourd and Art Festival in the city park September 29th and 30th. This festival will be bigger and better this year and of course Zittle Farms will be selling GOURDS! See the back cover of this issue for more details.

In October C.G.S. will sponsor the Third Annual Iron Gourd Competition which will be held at Welburn Farm on October 27th. This year we have put out the challenge to TEAMS of competitors. We currently have 3 teams ready to enter but there is room for 7 more teams. Find a friend and sign up for our collaborative competition and e-mail me your names. You could win \$500 more details on page 4.

If CGS hasn't quenched your thirst for gourds this year why not attend the New Mexico Gourd Society's 3rd Annual Celebration of Gourds in Albuquerque, New Mexico, October 13th and 14th details at: www.newmexicogourdsociety.org

Jill Walker

MISSION STATEMENT

To promote the horticulture, crafting and appreciation of the hard-shelled gourds (*Lagenaria Siceraria*) by providing charitable and educational activities to members of the society, growers, artists, crafters, business people and the public through community support and education.

THE GOLDEN GOURD

The Golden Gourd is published quarterly by the California Gourd Society, NU Chapter of the American Gourd Society.

Editor/Graphic Design/Advertising

Mary Blisseditorgoldengourd@yahoo.com

Special Events

Carol Rookstoolcrookstool@aol.com

Regional Round-up

Barbara McDermott.... mcdeear@verizon.net

Article/Ad Deadlines plus Ad Rates

Winter November 20, 2007
 SpringFebruary 20, 2008
 SummerMay 20, 2008
 FallAugust 20, 2008

**NEW 1/3 page \$70 per issue
 3" X 3" - \$35 per issue
 Business Card Size/Classifieds \$15 per issue**

**Electronic submissions preferred: newsletter@calgourd.com
 For ads please make checks payable to: California Gourd Society,
 Mail : c/o Mary Bliss, 5765 Via Del Coyote, Yorba Linda, CA 92887
 Snail mail or questions by phone cheerfully accepted: Phone: (714)693-1840 (after 11:00 a.m. PST)**

The editors reserve the right to edit any submissions for content and consistency.

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(Continued from page 1)

Daniel Montano added to his notoriety as the winner of last year's Iron Gourd Competition by winning "**Best of Division**" in the Open class plus Judges Award with his second ever gourd! **Congratulations Daniel!** (Picture 4)



The aim of the gourd art competition is to encourage artists of all levels of experience to challenge themselves to create a piece of gourd art which fits the particular category described in show schedule.

Each year a number of the categories are changed in order to encourage the use of new techniques, ideas or materials. I was disappointed to see so few entries in the children and youth categories. I'm sure there are



young gourders in many patches and gourd families. Remember, they are our next "crop" of gourd artists!

Please consider sponsoring their efforts to enter the free competition by assisting with entry forms, mailing or carry their gourd art to and from the show. It is understandable that some individuals are



5—BARBARA HALLMAN—Open Div Category # 17 Mask - First Place,
6- JOAN GRINNELL—Open Div Category # 12 Doll/Human figure - First Place and Judges Award
 Competition pictures by Ray Cogswell

somewhat intimidated by the prospect of being judged on the results of their efforts. However, this competition and the judging process is very much aimed at supporting the artists' attempts to successfully comply with the requirements of the category entered. It is essential that category descriptions be read carefully. Through competitions you can grow and improve your gourd crafting abilities and enhance your reputation as a gourd artist. Most of all entering a competition affords you the opportunity to challenge yourself and experience the personal satisfaction of winning an award or at least knowing that you have made an honest attempt to compete. I would like to challenge each member of the California Gourd Society to enter one or more pieces in next year's competition. I know each of you could use your talents to create at least one piece. I'll see you at the show!

\$250 Rate Deadline is Extended until October 1
Don't miss the FINAL CGS Gourd
College at Asilomar, California
April 11,(3:00 p.m.) - April 13 (12:00 p.m.), 2008

This event will mark the *seventh anniversary* of Gourd College. If you are a new CGS member or have not attended this event in the past you won't want to miss this opportunity. Friends and gourds together at the awesome and inspiring grounds of the Asilomar Conference Center.

What's included:

- Two nights in a shared room of up to three persons (you pick your room mate or we can assign)
- Six meals (great food starting with dinner on Friday & ending with lunch on Sunday)
- Evening programs Friday & Saturday night including raffle/auction
- Ability to attend classes on Saturday
- Sunday surprise event starting at 9:30 A.M
- A gift bag upon check-in at Asilomar

Cost: \$250 rates go up October 1 to \$275
 Class fees are separate

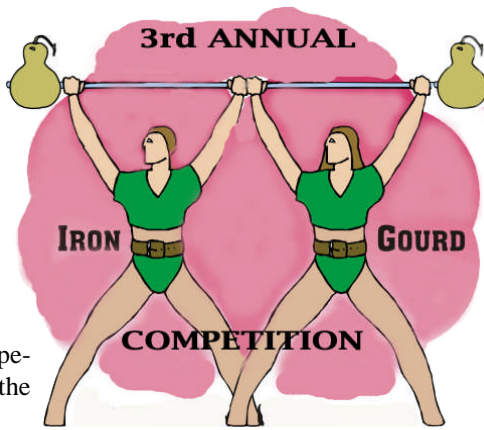
For complete Asilomar details, class descriptions and registration form visit our website at: **www.calgourd.com** or refer to: The Golden Gourd, Summer Issue 2007

Pick which works best for you snail mail, fax or email to:
 Lynne Bunt
 43669 Skyline Drive
 Three Rivers, CA 93271
 Email: lynnebunt@sbcglobal.net
 Fax: 559-561-1928

For raffle and auction donations please contact Betsy Roberts directly at: gourdprincessb@yahoo.com
See you there!

Grab your partner and your tool box and meet us at the Welburn Gourd Farm on Saturday, October 27, 2007.

The C.G.S. Iron Gourd Art Competition returns to the Welburn Gourd Farm in De Luz Canyon, CA for the 6th Annual Gourd and Pumpkin Festival.



A new year, a new challenge!

As you may already know, we did change the competition format this year. This was done for several reasons not only to **challenge the artist**, but also to give them more opportunity to interact with spectators and enjoy the festival without becoming *exhausted*.

SO... this year we will feature collaborative *TEAMS*. Two artists working together will create a winning gourd in just 6 hours. Starting at 9 a.m. participants will select one or more gourds from the pile generously donated by Welburn Gourd Farms and begin the creative process. Artists using more than one gourd must produce a single unified piece of art. Work will stop at 3 p.m.

All entries will be judged by a qualified artist.

The \$500 "Grand Prize" will be awarded to and shared by the winning creators of the creation which most closely fits the judging criteria. Here are the criteria:

Impact on the viewer 35%, Composition and arrangement of elements 35%, Technical Quality 20% and Workmanship 10%.

A winner for the "**People's Choice**" Award of merchandise and / or gift certificates will be determined by the number of "ballots" cast by visitors who have purchased tickets (\$1 per ticket) and dropped in the box at the artists' work stations as they are working.

Announcement of winners will take place following the judging which begins at 3 p.m. At that time the Grand Prize and People's Choice Awards will be presented. The grand finale will be the raffle of each finished gourd by drawing a ticket from the ballot box of each artist. The one exception is that the "Grand Prize" winning piece will be auctioned off to the highest bidder.

We already have several past participants forming teams. Angela Briggs and Betsy Roberts will team up as "The Sisters" as well as Darlene Propp teaming up with her patch mate Carol Brown. I've heard *rumors* of Paul and Kathy Klopfenstein teaming up, as well as a team from the OC Patch. Any other patches out there? We hope Daniel Montano will be back defending his title as well as all of our other past participants!

Take up the challenge! Form your team and send in your entry fee right away! Team members must be members of the California Gourd Society. There is a \$50.00 entry fee per team. The fee is payable to C.G.S. by October 10th and should be sent to Jill Walker (905 W. Linden Rd., Watsonville, CA 95076 Teams will be provided a covered work space as well as electricity for their power tools.

If you're not up for the challenge this year there are other ways you can participate: Volunteers are needed to sell raffle tickets throughout the day. If you can help for an hour or more, please send your name to Jill Walker at prezwalker@hotmail.com

Come join the fun. You can watch these true competitors do their stuff and learn new tricks and techniques. There will be vendors to visit in the festival grounds, gourd classes and loads of wonderful Welburn gourds to buy.

Lead coach and concept creator of this event, Jill Walker, will be on hand during the competition to answer questions, give assistance and occasionally wipe your brow.

3rd Iron Gourd Graphic by Booker Preston

Carolina Gourds and Seeds

Visa, MasterCard, Checks, money orders accepted

Seeds: 30 varieties of gourd
Hand pollinated / protected and seeds grown in field isolation.
\$2.00 to \$3.00 per pack.

Gourds: Thick shelled martins, apples, cannonballs and more.

Books: Gourd craft and gourd art books. 46 titles in stock

Also check for sale items.

Fiebings Leather dye & bottle holder: 29 colors in stock
Gourd Supplies, Tools, Gourd Craft Videos, Kaleidoscopes and more.

Harry Hurley

259 Fletcher Ave, Fuquay Varina, NC 27526

Phone: 919-557-5946 Email: harryhurley@hotmail.com

<http://www.carolinagourdsandseeds.com>



Have you been traded ?

Not many rules :

Size: 3" x 5" card

Printed: Single or double sided

Examples include but not limited to:

Pictures, artist bio, awards, contact information or show dates.

Get ready to TRADE!

Our First Card & Concept Creator
Gourd & Fiber Artist: Patricia Wescott

Gourd Artist Trading Card

Series 1, 2007

(card front only not to scale)

Hawaii's First Festival By Betty Finch

The Hawaii Gourd Society hosted their first Gourd Festival the third weekend of June at the Kona Pavilion by the sea. Launched with grand style, the event was attended by gourd enthusiasts from Alabama, California, Indiana, Oregon, and South Carolina.

The festivities began with a potluck at the gourd farm where one could dine on butter avocados the size of melons while watching antics of colorful parrots against the backdrop of the ocean and a rainforest canopy tree house.

Vendors were greeted at the festival pavilion with a fresh flower lei. Pavilion activities included an interesting variety of musical entertainment, palm frond hat weavers, gourd vendors, classes, a tasty dinner, and much visiting.

Many of the Hawaiian artists displayed gourds decorated with the Ni'hau gourd decorating technique. Named after the island where the method was first used, the technique involves etching a design in the skin of a green gourd and filling the gourd with coffee to stain the wood from the inside.

A highlight of the festival was when American Gourd Society President, Bob James, presented Mary Amos with the Hawaii Gourd Society Charter.

Mary Amos and Evie Morby were the driving force behind the Hawaii festival. Their enthusiasm was contagious. Evie was carrying a state-of-the art laptop computer which she used to photograph and record everything as it happened. Mary and Evie are already working on the January 10-13, 2008 festival being held at the same location Kailua-Kona, HI Hale Halewai Pavilion . Interested in attending? Air fare to Hawaii can be very reasonable when booked several months in advance!

Contact Mary Amos at: outtayourgourd@gmail.com

Below Top: Michael Harburg (center) teaching the Ni'hau decorating method class. CGS President, Jill Walker (right) was one of the enthusiastic students.

Bottom: A more recent picture below shows the progress of Jill's gourd.





Above Left: At the gourd farm potluck Mary Amos and Betty Finch pose with Mary's adorable gourd hula girl.

Right: In her studio, Mary Amos shares the secrets to her stunning stained gourds.

WANTED: NONWORKING ELECTRIC GOURD TOOLS

We would like a wood burner (Detail Master or similar), used burning tips. A low cost wood burning tool, micro saw and a Dremel tool or equivalent.

Please contact the
Channel Island Gourd Society at:
hcogswell@verizon.net

Robert Rivera Interview by Carol Rookstool

Carol Rookstool, founding president of CGS interviewed Robert Rivera to learn about his latest work.

Raised in Fallbrook, California, Robert has been a frequent participant in CGS events over the past 12 years. Now we catch up on his news.

Carol: I understand that your new book is available.

Robert: Yes, the special edition is nearly sold out and the new paperback is available this week. I am very excited about the great pictures in this book.

Carol: What prompted you to take time from your busy schedule to prepare a new book?

Robert: I have so many friends throughout the US that this seemed the best way to share my new work. I could talk for hours and hours about the things that inspire me but there is nothing better than photographs to illustrate the creative spirit that drives me. I also like to sign each book because it makes this a very personal communication between me and those who love gourd art like I do.

Carol: Do you sketch your concepts in advance or do you work out your ideas directly on gourds?

Robert: I don't seem to need sketches because I can visualize the finished project in my mind. Usually I plan a series based on a theme or object. Then I get into the creative process directly on a gourd. The quality of the materials I am using is important to me and I like to work directly with the media. As you know, I have invented several compounds to create some of the surfaces for my art. But all this dabbling in new materials and taking photographs pulls me away from the studio.

Carol: As an artist, how much time do you spend in the studio each day?

Robert: Not enough! There are so many distractions and I love to spend time with my kids and my wife, Linda. Traveling to galleries and shows also pulls me away from the studio. We do set Sundays aside for re-energizing but even then I can't help thinking about gourds!!

To order Robert Rivera's new book:
\$80 per copy
\$15 ship/hand
\$10.00 for a personal message if desired
(please type and include your request)
Robert Rivera,
21 Sandina Lane,
Placitas, NM 87043



Big Time Trouble



This caught my eye while I was at our on-line Yahoo message board.

Artist **Barbara Prestridge** found her inspiration for this piece from the bears she has seen on her many trips to Yellowstone.

Description: The paw prints and the small sections at the bottom of the design are carved out, next the paw prints were painted. The rest of the design was first burned into the gourd then colored pencils were used for the shading. The rim is finished with fake fur.

You can see more of Barbara's and other members art in the photos at: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/calgourd/>



The Golden Gourd is always looking for gourd information and stories to share with our membership. Both in our newsletter and at our website. Please share with us what inspires you! New products and techniques you are using. Submit your gourd tutorials, tips, pictures, book reviews and more.

Email to: editorgoldengourd@yahoo.com

Mary Bliss - Editor


 Come to the
October Gourd & Pumpkin Festival
October 27th, 2007
 at Welburn Gourd Farm, in Fallbrook

- Wonderful arts and craft exhibitors
- Iron Gourd Competition presented by the California Gourd Society
- Great Food
- Vendors selling all the gourd crafting supplies you need!
- Full line up of gourd art classes on Friday AND Saturday
- Beautiful organic pumpkins for fall decorating!
- And of course, thousands of GOURDS!

Admission and Parking Free!!

Open 9 am to 5 pm No dogs allowed

For more information and to sign up for classes
go to: www.GourdFestival.com



Gourd Classes for September, October, November & December 2007

SEPTEMBER

September 16

Diane Calderwood

The Glitzy Gourd

10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

\$35.00 & \$14.00 material fee
Piecemakers Country Store
Costa Mesa, CA
714-641-3112

*

September 22

Nadine Spier

Gourds for

Fall Decorations

9:00 a.m. - noon

12:30 - 3:30 p.m.

\$35.00 & \$15.00 material fee
Contact Grossmont Adult Ed
(619) 596-3658

Class # 229440

FOOTHILLS ADULT
CENTER in El Cajon, CA

*

September 29

Diane Calderwood

"Gourd Gear"

Gourds! Saws! & Drills!

Oh My!

OCGS in Costa Mesa
Cost \$30.00 half day class.
Contact Norrah Andersen at:
createitceramics@aol.com
or phone 714-641-8124.

*

September 30

Diane Calderwood

**The Pumpkin Patch Gourd
Projects**

("Three Projects in 1 Day")

10:00 am -4:00 pm

\$50.00 & Material fee:
\$25.00

Piecemakers Country Store
Costa Mesa, CA
714-641-3112

**Folsom Gourd and Art
Festival**

**Pre-fest CLASSES are
held at Zittel's Gourd**

Farm, Folsom

September 27 & 28

Complete details, dates and time
at: www.folsomgourdarts.com
or Cindy Lee at 916-983-5009.

Betty Finch

- BEADED GREENBACK
TURTLE NECKLACE
- DISCOVER YOUR OWN
DISTINCTIVE STYLE
- TERRA COTTA CHI-
NESE SOLDIER
NECKLACE

Charlotte Vincent

- BEGINNING WOOD-
BURNING
- EGG GOURD ORNA-
MENTS

Linda Pietz

- BIRD'S NEST PINE NEE-
DLE COILING
- COUCHING WITH PINE
NEEDLES
- GOURD BASKET WITH
SEMI-PRECIOUS
STONES
- UPSIDE DOWN GOURD
WITH PINE NEEDLES

Jill Walker

- BRILLIANT BASKET
WITH BEADS
- GOURD SHIELD

Gloria Crane

- DYE AND FINISHING
WITH INK
- GOLD LEAF ON
GOURDS
- GOURD PURSE
- POWER CARVING

Lynda Chipman

- HAND RUBBED GOURD
FINISH
- SILK DYE & CRACKLE
FINISH

Betsy Roberts

- KIMONO INLAY W PA-
PERS & METAL
- TRIBAL PEOPLE
- UNTAMED POTTERY
TEXTURE W CREATIVE
COILING

Kathy Riker

- LEATHER BACKED
GOURD POUCH
- SPONGE PAINTING
ROCK ART

Larry McClelland

- PAINTED GOURD
QUAIL

Tito Medina

- PERUVIAN CARVING
TECHNIQUES

OCTOBER

October 13

Nadine Spier

Gourds for

Fall Decorations

Noon—5:00 p.m.

\$35.00 & \$15.00 material fee
San Dieguito Adult Ed,
Encinitas, CA 92024
(760) 753-7073

www.sdadulted.com
class # 1493

*

October 20

Nadine Spier

Gourd Decorating

10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
\$20.00 & \$16.00 material fee
Valley Center Adult Ed/ROP
School, Valley Center, CA
<http://www.vcpusd.net/>
(760) 749-4218

October 26 & 27
Welburn Gourd Farm
6th Annual October
Gourd & Pumpkin
Festival

Check the website for
complete class details:
http://www.gourdfestival.com/october_festival.shtml

Whitney Walsh

- Beginning Gourd
Crafting

Maria Dellos

- Gourd Styling: Easy
Design Techniques For
Creating Fabulous
Looks With Gourds!

Betsy Roberts

- Freeform Coiling

Carrie Dearing

- Indian Corn Maiden

Pam Redhawk

- Woodburned Bear
Shield

Kathy Riker

- Spirit Doll
- Gourd Leather Pouch

Leigh Adams

- Kayum Drum
- Ocean Drum

Don Weeke

- Gourd Basketry

Kristy Dial

- Power Carving

NOVEMBER

November 18

Nadine Spier

Gourd Decorating

10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
\$40.00 & \$15.00 material
fee
Grossmont College
El Cajon, CA
(619) 660-4350 class #4218

DECEMBER

December 8

Toni Best

**Pine Needle Coiling on
Gourd**

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
\$55.00 includes all materi-
als and lunch.
Choose from 10 different
techniques.
Contact Toni at
(559) 627-5430 or
capineneedles@sbcglobal.net

REGIONAL ROUNDUP

Compiled and edited by Barbara McDermott

Please call or email the Regional Coordinators of each patch for the most current meeting information. New members and guests are always welcome. Or check at the CGS website: www.calgourd.com
Next Regional Roundup News due to Barbara mcdeeart@verizon.net by November 10, 2007.



Amador County

Regional Coordinator: Carol Cherry

(916)941-1551 or

Sylvia Nelson, (916)682-2437 or sylvianelson@citlink.net

We gather on the 2nd Thursday of each month from 9 a. m. - 11 or Noon at the Amador County Agriculture Building , 12200 Airport Rd. Jackson , CA 95624 , to share ideas and techniques.

October our Patch will participate in a two day show at Amador Flower Farm. We will demonstrate many techniques like wood burning, chip carving, gourd engraving, and more as well as exhibit and sell our gourds. Also, we will do an educational component sharing the history of gourds, growing gourds and answering questions. It's a great weekend. The farm has lovely grounds and beautiful gardens so join us if you can.

November we will have a month long display of gourds at the Jackson County Library. This is our third year there and we always pick up some new members and generate interest in gourds and gourdng.

December we will have our annual Christmas Gourd Exchange and Party.

Member, Janice Johnson, won , "Best of Crafts & Hobby Division," at the Amador County Fair. She also won a First Place and Second Place Ribbon.

We have some great gourd artists in our group and we always welcome new members to come and share and learn with us.

Antelope Valley Gourd Patch

Regional Coordinator: Nancy Brown

(661) 944-5528 or Nancy_b93544@yahoo.com

Our meeting time is 2 p.m. on the 2nd Wednesday of each month. We invite anyone in the Palmdale, Lancaster, Rosamond, Littlerock, Pearblossom, Llano and Lake Los Angeles areas to join us. For information please call above.

Bachelor Valley Gourd Club of Lake County

Regional Coordinator: Marilyn Crayton

(707) 275-3469 or

Kennie Winter (707) 263-7980 or (650) 948-9189

kenniewinter@yahoo.com

We meet the 1st Saturday of the month from 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. at 11000 Bachelor Valley Road outside Lakeport. Call to confirm site.

Our club members have done several summer craft fairs and markets both as a club and as individuals. In July we hosted our first major workshop with a full weekend of 5 classes in 3 days with Kathy Riker. Kathy has agreed to come back the first weekend in November for another workshop

weekend. All gourders are welcome.

The School House Museum in Lower Lake has invited us to return to display and sell our gourds for November and half of December. The Opening Reception will be November 10th and is open to the public.

We continue to grow and have great meetings full of "Show and Tell" and demos of different techniques. We welcome guest teachers and demonstrators.

Bakersfield/Kern County Gourd Patch

Regional Co-Coordinators: Melanie Ansolabehere,

(661) 836-2501 or littlefeather3@aol.com

Alice Hengst, (559) 949-8651 or moondust@savy2K.net

Carol Walter, (661) 588-8398 or glwalter39@sbcglobal.net

We meet on the 3rd Wednesday of the month from 6:30 to 9 p.m. at Beverly 's Craft Shop, 2819 F. Street , Bakersfield .

At our August meeting, Betty Finch, did a demonstration of green gourd scraping.

September several members will be demonstrating at the Kern County Fair. We will have a Patch booth set up and the California Gourd Society will also have a booth.

October we will have our annual gourd display at the Beale Memorial Library in downtown Bakersfield . We will be educating others on gourds, how they grow and their uses.

December we will have our annual Christmas Pot Luck & Ornament Exchange Party. If you are in the area we would love to have you join us at any of our events.

El Dorado County Foothill Gourders

Regional Coordinator: Chuck York

(209)295-1355 or likacb@volcano.net

The Foothill Gourders meet on the 1st Thursday of each month at the El Dorado County Agricultural Commission's Cooperative Extension Building , 311 Fair Lane , Placerville . Our meetings are held from 9:30 a.m. until noon. We hold a gallery time at each meeting and allow plenty of time for show and tell. Contact Chuck for directions or more information.

Fallbrook Gourd Patch

Regional Coordinator: Barbara McDermott

(951)894-1817 or mcdeeart@verizon.net

We meet every other month, on the 2nd Saturday, at a member's home, library or gourd farm. On the alternate months we conduct gourd classes, participate in gourd shows, festivals or other gourd related activities.

Everyone is invited to attend our MINI GOURD FESTIVAL & SALE, September 22, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Clark 's Gourd Farm, 30666 Pauma Heights Rd , Valley Center , CA 92028 . We will have Gourd Demonstrations, a Gourd Supplies Booth, Gourds for Sale . A Lunch Food Booth and an Opportunity Drawing at 3 p.m. Bring a friend and enjoy the Fun.

Our next Patch Meeting will be held, October 13, at the home of Vickie Echols in Temecula. October 27 we will have a Patch Booth at the Welburn Gourd & Pumpkin Festival. November 10 - 12 the group will gather for a Gourd Getaway weekend retreat. We have many fun related gourd activities and would love to have you join us. If you would like to visit

(Continued on page 9)

(Continued from page 8)

or join our meetings please call above for directions or more information.

Folsom/Sacramento Patch – Z-Gourd Miners

*Regional Coordinator: Susan Gouig
(707)433-8223 day or (707) 433-9162 Eve.*

suegg51@yahoo.com

We meet the 2nd Saturday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. of each month at Zittle Farms, Corner of Oak Avenue and Folsom/Auburn Road in Folsom.

September is our Festival with pre-festival classes on September 27 & 28, and the Festival September 29 & 30. We hope to see you all there.

Our meeting in October will include a class for members. December will bring our annual Pot Luck Lunch and Gourd-ament Exchange. Come and join us for all of our festivities.

Galt Patch

*Regional Coordinator: Elizabeth Kummerle
(209)745-6618 or ekummerle@sbcglobal.net*

Come join this growing group of gourders, share your gourd in our gourd gallery, work on your latest gourd or try your hand at a mask, ornament or small gourd to learn new techniques. All levels are encouraged to bring a lunch and spend the day with enthusiastic gourd people. Remember, we always have brownies.

Our meetings are held monthly, alternating 3rd Tuesday, one month and 3rd Saturday the next, 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. September 18, October 20 and December 15.

Kings River Gourd Patch

*Regional Coordinator: Pat Wescott
(559) 897-7470 or Graybadgers@att.net*

We continue to meet on the 1st Saturday of each month. We share gourds, fiber arts, books, latest projects, pot luck lunch and great friendship.

Come and join us. Don't forget to call Pat and let her know that you will be coming as we meet at her house. All are welcome. Happy Gourding.

Los Angeles – Gourd Artisans of Los Angeles (GALA)

*Regional Representative: Larry McClelland
(310)549-3294 or macgourd@aol.com*

The GALA Patch members are from the greater Los Angeles/Pasadena area and our meetings are held the 3rd Wednesday of the month (September – June), 7:30, at the San Gabriel Bead Company, 325 E. Live Oak, Arcadia, CA 91006, (626)447-7753.

Please note, due to Thanksgiving our November meeting will be held on the 2nd Wednesday, November 14. Guests are always welcome. We usually begin our meetings with a "show and tell" of gourd projects that our members have been working on, followed by a demonstration, workshop or presentation by a guest artist. Tentative projects for the fall meetings include gourd shard greeting cards, gourd purses, heart themed gourds and in December, our annual Holiday Pot Luck and gourd gift exchange. For more information contact Larry at above

L.A.W. (Los Angeles West) Gourd Patch

*Regional Coordinators: Dr. Judy Bin-Nun,
(310) 207-2998 or jbn12401@aol.com
Colleen Huff, colleenhuff@charter.net or
Sheila Goetz, shegoetz@earthlink.net*

The L.A.W. Group has had a summer hiatus and will resume their monthly gourd meetings on the 1st Wednesday of each month beginning in September, 7 to 9 p.m. We will have show and tell on what we did over the summer and will establish our calendar for our fall meetings. We would like to have you join us for creative fun. Please call or email one of us for more information

Los Angeles – Inner City Patch

*Regional Coordinator: Bea Jones
(323)291-8752 or beasyche@aol.com*

Northern Sierra Gourd Patch

*Regional Coordinator: Jackie Berg
(530)675-2577 or ljberg@cwnet.com*

Orange County Gourd Society Patch

*Regional Coordinator: Susan Sullivan
(714) 997-4482 eves or susansphn@aol.com*

For holiday changes or more info visit our Website at:
www.orangecountygourdsociety.org

Our Patch continues to gain new members and we continue to get them involved in volunteer roles to help with ideas and activities. Diane Calderwood has stepped up to be "Class Coordinator" she will help us set up several classes with guest instructors in 2008. If you are interested in teaching a class or want to be on our notification list send an email to Norrah at : (714)641-8124 or creatitceramics@aol.com for more information.

September 29, at our meeting place aka Norrah's in Costa Mesa Diane Calderwood will be teaching "Gourd Tools" .

October 20 we'll be walking with our member, Russ Conley, at the Walk to D'Feet ALS, at Mason Park in Irvine. Please join us!

Many members are looking forward to the Fall Fest at Welburn's and the Iron Gourd Competition... so look for a dynamic team from OC to be in the contest!!! Stop by our OCGS Booth and say hello.

December 8 is our Annual Holiday Potluck and Gourd Ornament Exchange hosted by Booker and Leslie Preston in Orange, CA.

We continue to meet in Costa Mesa the 4th Thursday and have Play Days on the 3rd Saturdays .

Pico Rivera/Whittier Patch

*Regional Coordinators: Tony and Paula Torres
(562)328-5124 or AyPTorres@msn.com*

San Bernardino Patch

*Regional Coordinator: Darlene Propp
(909) 862-9717 or dragongourd@dslexreme.com*

The San Bernardino Patch is always willing to try new things and we are open to all suggestions. At this time we

(Continued on page 10)

(Continued from page 9)

plan activities as we go along. The meetings are held on the fourth Saturday of the month, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Bring the current gourd project that you are working on or a show & tell piece. The last few meetings we have been going out to lunch after the meeting. Call Darlene or Valerie Martinell at (909) 883-3527 for current meeting location or information. We will be glad to add you to our e-mail list and notify you of our planned activities. We would love to have you come visit (and join) our Patch. Please RSVP.

San Diego – Misti Washington Gourd and Basket Guild

Regional Coordinator: Peggy Blessing

(858) 292-9219 or glassworks2005-gourdnews@yahoo.com

Regional Co-Rep: Vickie Echols

Vickie79@earthlink.net

Check our website: www.baskets-gourds.com

The San Diego Patch is a part of the Misti Washington Gourd and Basket Guild, which meets the 1st Sunday of each month at Quail Botanical Gardens in Encinitas, 12:00 to 3:30, beginning with a potluck.

Meetings are informal and we encourage members and visitors to bring something to work on, a completed project to show the group, and/or a problem piece that you would like input on. About six times a year, there will be optional mini-workshops, lectures or demonstrations at these meetings. Let the parking attendant know you are there for the "Misti Meeting," and they will waive the entrance fee.

September and October are regular meetings. October 6 & 7, some of our members will be demonstrating at the Wild Animal Park Garden Festival and at our November Meeting we will have our annual Member's Marketplace. Our December meeting will include our annual Handmade Gift Exchange and Pot Luck.

San Fernando Valley Gourd Patch

Regional Coordinators: Art and Nina Lowy

(818) 996-3606 or artlowy@mac.com

Dori Aberson (818) 702-8020 or daberson@aol.com

We meet the 2nd Tuesday of each month. We will be making gourds as seen at: www.gourdsfromthedarkside.com

During the month of September weekends only we will be doing gourd demos at the LA County Fair in Pomona.

San Francisco East Bay – East Bay Gourd Patch

Regional Coordinators: Kay Van Hoesen (925)254-0838 or kdvanh@sbcglobal.net

Kathleen MacIntyre kmac1958@hotmail.com

Kemper Stone gourdcamp@yahoo.com

Because it was so successful last year, September 15 we will again be at the Caning Shop Open House, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. "Bring A Friend Day," an introduction to gourds and gourd techniques.

September 29 & 30 our Patch will have a booth at the Folsom Gourd & Art Festival.

October 20, Judy Burge will conduct a workshop on gourd dolls after our regular meeting at the Caning Shop, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. November has no regular meeting, however, many members will attend Judy Burge's November 17,

Caning Shop Class on Hand Painted Southwestern Egg Gourds.

Our annual Holiday Party and Gourdamment Exchange will be held December 8, at the home of Sheri Novac in Albany.

Santa Cruz Gourd Patch

Regional Coordinator: Barbara Johnson

(831) 440-1540 or greggjohnson@earthlink.net

Kris Mangliers (831) 338-3449 or kmangliers@msn.com

Our Patch meets every other month at various member's homes and most often exchange new product information and share techniques. We will be planning for the Santa Cruz County Fair in September. This is the first year the Fair is recognizing fine gourd art and will feature a new category in the Fine Arts Division specifically for gourds.

Silicon Valley – Calabash Club of Silicon Valley

Regional Coordinator: Jayne Xavier

(408)779-9550 or nimbleneedle@aol.com

We meet every other month (Feb, April, June, Aug, Oct, Dec), the 2nd Sunday of the month. Our October meeting is going to be held at Uesugi Farms in San Martin on Sunday, October 14, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. We will be making mini masks from gourds provided by Jill Walker so bring your embellishments and join us for fun at the Pumpkin Farm..

Our December meeting will be an ornament exchange with the location to be determined later.

In August we were pleased to be entertained by Ginger Summit, showing videos of Minnie Black.

Sonoma Gourd Patch

Regional Coordinator: Donna von Edelkrantz

(707) 778-0580 or donnaone@comcast.net

Our meetings are held the last Wednesday of every month from 7:00 until 9:30 p.m. For location information, contact Donna (see above). We invite any gourd, art or craft enthusiast to join our group to share, learn and explore. We decide on topics or workshops month to month.

Tulare Sequoia Patch

Regional Coordinators: Toni Best

(559) 627-5430 or capineneedles@sbcglobal.net

Sue Winters-Brown ((559) 561-0608 or suewb@tcoe.org

Regular Meetings are not held, but impromptu get togethers work best for our group. Please contact above.

Ventura County – Channel Islands Gourd Society

Regional Coordinator: Charlene Smith

ojairedhead@hotmail.com

Our website www.channelislandsgourdsociety.com

Our Patch meets the 3rd Wednesday of the month, 7 – 9 p.m. at the Santa Rosa Valley Clubhouse, 11701 E. Las Posas Road, Santa Rosa Valley, CA 93012.

We have been very busy entering 139 gourds in the Ventura Co. Fair, with 74 ribbons earned. In September, Arline Erickson will be teaching a class on Jack-O-Lanterns and in October, Elsie Cogswell will teach a class on knotless netting. December brings our Annual Christmas Party where each member brings a gourd exchange gift. When you come to our area, give us a call and join in the fun..

End

Call for Commitment to Service by Jill Walker

As you read each issue of the Golden Gourd I'm sure you have noticed that a list of the C.G.S. Board of Directors is always included. The ten individuals you see listed there are charged with keeping our society smoothly running and implementing our mission statement. The members of this organization are brought together through their love of gourds but it is the behind-the-scenes planning and cooperation that makes being a member enjoyable for us all.

CGS received its non-profit status through its Articles of Incorporation in June of 1999 but there are many directors and members who have been promoting the organization for much longer. One of those key individuals is Carol Rookstool, a "founding mother" who served as our first chapter president from 1998 until spring of 2002 when Leigh Adams took over the office. Since then Carol has filled the very important role of VP of Programs and Regional Groups. Carol is now ready to pass this position on to another member but she is recommending that her single job/position be filled by three individuals! Does this give you an idea of what a valuable person she has been in our society?

I'm sure you recognize that California is a very large state and communication throughout the state is not always easy. At Carol's recommendation in addition to recruiting a new member as VP Programs and Regional Groups we are adding the positions of Northern California Patch Coordinator and Southern California Patch Coordinator.

I am also preparing to pass the gavel ("crown") to a new C. G.S. president. I have been an active member of C.G.S. since 1999. In January of 2006 I was asked to take over the presidency from Leigh Adams. My term of service ends in June of 2008.

At this time we would like to invite members to send in a letter of interest if you are interested in serving in any of these four positions. You can write or e-mail your letter of interest to me. Even if you aren't quite sure you are ready to serve but are interested in taking a more active role in our organization I encourage you let us know. We would like to train/ groom some willing members to take on leadership roles during the coming year. All positions are for a term of two years with the possibility of extending that time for additional years. Here are the job descriptions for the four positions:

Job Description Regional VP Programs

- Serve as a member of the board of directors of CGS
- Maintain a roster of patch leaders
- Provide each patch with a red book of CGS policies & procedures
- As well as other written materials to assist them in conducting meetings
- Conduct annual meetings of patch leaders
- Attend annual board meeting and present a status report of the past years activities
- Select and appoint a northern and southern California patch coordinator

Job Description for President

- Provide leadership for and act as a spokesperson for CGS in order to carry out the CGS mission statement
- Serve as a member of the Board of Directors and conduct the annual meeting
- Maintain communication with Board Members and call for annual reports from each director
- Monitor society financial status with the treasurer, promote fund raisers, and sign-off on the annual IRS non-profit reports
- Prepare a quarterly "President's Message" for the Golden Gourd
- Coordinate with the N. and S. CA patch coordinators to maintain a CGS presence at major gourd festivals and other events as appropriate
- Respond to members' concerns and make referrals as needed
- Serve as a member of the annual Gourd Art Competition Committee
- Maintain communication with the American Gourd Society and other gourd societies as needed

Job Description for N. and S. CA Patch Coordinators

- Identify & coordinate new patch leadership.
- Provide training to patch leaders based on materials provided by Regional VP Programs
- Contact each patch within your territory a minimum of quarterly. (*Contact may be made in person or via internet or telephone*)
- Encourage each patch to participate in fundraisers and other activities of CGS including fairs, festivals and competitions
- Inform Regional VP Programs of issues presented to you by patches
- Support Regional VP Programs in planning and execution and attend the annual patch leader meeting

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FRIENDS DISCOVERED AMONG THE GOURDS

I can't really say which came first, the gourds or the friends. But when I initially discovered gourds, I learned friends – really good friends – came right along with them.

My first experience with gourds happened when I was invited by a co-worker to a craft event at her church. I was given the choice of several projects to try, and the ghost in a pumpkin gourd just leapt out at me. I not only enjoyed making it, but the laughter and camaraderie during the class was invigorating. Immediately after that, I found a local farm where I could buy more gourds and lo and behold, there was a patch of the California Gourd Society in a booth demonstrating all the wonderful things you could do with them. OF COURSE, I joined on the spot.

I made many friends at the patch meetings, friendships that have grown and prospered over the years. What a wonderful group of people, all with the common love of this delightful woody plant. I learned that the people are as diverse as the gourds themselves, and each has its own beauty and attraction.

These new cronies aren't just local, either. I've made and cherished relationships in other cities, states and countries. Some of my new friends have been introduced through other patches I've joined or visited, or classes I've taken. Some I have met at events and festivals, and we chose to continue our relationships via e-mail and phone calls. Many are the result of on-line groups I belong to and I have yet to meet some of these dear people. A few who live in other countries may only be internet friends, as there may not be the opportunity for us to travel to each other's location. But they are just as genuinely treasured as those I have met in person.

When I do have the opportunity to meet personally folks I have only known through the internet, it is such a joy. We are never strangers – more like long-lost family coming together. Furthermore, gourd artists are tremendously generous in sharing their ideas, talents and techniques. So I always learn something new, and that's exciting, too. We feed off each other and as we talk and share, the enthusiasm grows. Inspiration abounds.

Oh, yes, we share arty ideas, but we are more than just artists. We are individuals, and so we celebrate each other's joys and share their hopes, plans and dreams. We support each other during times of sorrow, trouble and fear. That, after all, is what friendship means.

I've enjoyed many years of wonderful, enriching associations with my gourd comrades, and the really thrilling thing is that as world-wide interest in gourd art grows, so will my circle of friends. I can count on it. And I am so thankful.

Darlene Propp
June 27, 2007



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Volunteer Craft Corral Causes People to Get Hooked on Gourds
by Diana Rookstool

Many enthusiastic volunteers helped make the California Gourd Society's Craft Corral booth at the Welburn Gourd Farm's Annual Gourd Fair a resounding success. Not only did master crafters donate their time, but also many vendors such as Welburn Gourd Farm, Galaxy Gourds, The Caning Shop, Seven Spirits, Candy Krueger, and Dianne Connelly donated supplies. In the Craft Corral, kids created gourd masterpieces for \$5 and adults explored their artistic skills for \$7.

Peggy Blessing organized volunteer teachers and crafters to share their knowledge and love of gourd crafting. Carol Rookstool set up the awesome "make and take" craft corral by running stations to clean, design, paint, wood burn, and embellish gourds and Leigh Adams ran the kids station. New gourd crafters proceeded through each station until a beautiful gourd unfolded. Some of the comments heard from these new gourd crafters were: "This was so much fun!" "I can't believe I made this beautiful gourd!" "Everyone was so helpful and nice!" and "This was the best bargain ever!" The generosity of established gourd crafters and vendors created a whole new crop of people who are hooked on gourds.

A rough tally counted 53 festival & competition volunteers (we are certain there were more of you) and something in excess of 350 hours.

7— Young artist Robbie while out for the day with his grandma Sandy caught the "Gourd Bug" in the Craft Corral. Picture by Susan Sullivan



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**Annual membership dues for our national organization, the American Gourd Society, are pro rated and paid directly to: AGS Membership Secretary,
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September 22— Fallbrook Patch MINI GOURD FESTIVAL & SALE- Clark's Gourd Farm- Valley Center, CA

September 29 & 30—The 13th Annual Folsom Gourd & Arts Festival - Folsom City Park -Folsom, CA

October 7—Calabash! A festival of Gourds, Art and the Garden— Forestville, CA—This is a fundraiser for Food for Thought- Sonoma County AIDS Food Bank - www.FFTfoodbank.org

October 27— The CGS 3rd Annual Iron Gourd Competition at the Welburn Gourd Farm's Gourd and Pumpkin Festival— Fallbrook, CA

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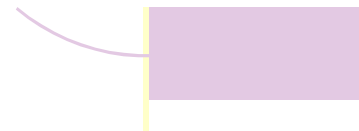
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Get Ready... for the 13th annual Folsom Gourd & Arts Festival held at Folsom City Park, Folsom, California 95630 (at Natoma & Stafford Streets) on **September 29-30, 2007**. Over 175 artists will sell their exquisite artwork during the 2-day event. Held under beautiful, mature trees, the festival includes demonstrations, entertainment, food... and of course, gourds!

During both days of the event, well-known artists will demonstrate gourd art techniques including cutting, dying, and embellishing gourds. Zittel's Gourd Farm will be on hand with thousands of gourds for sale, and art suppliers will have the latest tools, books, and materials. While the festival had once been exclusively gourd art, all forms of 2- and 3-dimensional arts are now included. Visitors will find everything from handmade brooms to wearable art, and from fine jewelry to rustic pottery.



For the most current festival information go to their website at:
<http://www.folsomgourdfestival.com/>

For pre festival classes (listed on page 7) September 27 & 28 held at the Zittel's Farm also in Folsom please contact Cindy Lee at 916-983-5009 or visit the website at: <http://www.folsomgourdarts.com>

The Folsom Gourd & Arts Festival is as a fundraising event for Folsom Patrons of the Arts. Proceeds from the festival fund arts events & activities and provide an annual arts scholarship.

Festival Hours:

Saturday, Sept 29 - 9am - 5pm
Sunday, Sept 30 - 9am - 4pm

Admission - \$5
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(Parking proceeds benefit The Cave teen center)