

THE GOLDEN GOURD

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE CALIFORNIA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN GOURD SOCIETY

Volume 18, Issue 3

FALL 2016

Northern Competition
Best of Show
Lisa Baurmeister



Bottom: People's Choice
Lisa Baurmeister



Southern Competition
Best of Show
Reetsie Fuller



Bottom: People's Choice
Pam Watson



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President's Message

Greetings Fellow Gourders,

The two competition events in October were both a big success! There was great participation in the competition considering a new venue for both North and South. Both were well attended.

The Northern competition was hosted by the Calabash Club of Silicon Valley and held at the Uesugi Farms in San Martin which is a pumpkin farm. Thank you to Jody Dingivan and her hard working crew for organizing all the classes and vendor portion and to Sylvia Nelson and her fantastic team for organizing and implementing the competition part. Congratulations to all the competition winners and especially to Lisa Baurmeister who won both the Best of Show and People's Choice Awards!

The Southern competition was held in conjunction with the Orange County Woodcarvers. A big thanks to the woodcarvers for providing the housing at no charge. Debbie Zimmerman and Jack Thorp with their team of hard workers organized and orchestrated everything. Congratulations to all of the winners and especially to Reetsie Fuller for the Best of Show Award and to Pam Watson for the People's choice Award.

Winter will soon be here. Let's see all those Snowmen and Santa's on our Facebook page. If you haven't "Liked" CGS's Facebook page, take time to do it.

Your President,
Olive Moore
CGS President
pres@californiagourdsociety.com



**California Gourd Society
MISSION STATEMENT**

To promote the horticulture, art, 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.



An Invitation to Attend the Annual CGS Board Meeting

The California Gourd Society will hold its annual Board Meeting on Saturday, January 7, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. Any interested CGS member is invited and encourage to attend the meeting.



**30666 Pauma Heights Road
Valley Center, CA**

The agenda will cover such topics as:

- Election for changing officers
- Director of Programs Reports
- Director at Large Reports
- Future Retreats Planning
- Membership Report
- Website and Newsletter Report
- 2017 Budget
- Committee Assignments
- Bylaws Update
- And more...

If you have ideas or suggestions for the agenda, please feel free to contact CGS President Olive Moore at: olive@olivesgourds.com or call (909) 982-7790 by Dec. 15, 2016.

CGS member, Betty Finch's gourd art display at the September 2016 National Heirloom Expo in Santa Rosa, CA.

Photos by BKos



Top Winners of the CGS Northern Gourd Art Competition

* Received Judges Award

Youth Division – Any Technique



Left: **Junior** – Allison Nelson - 1st



Right: **Teen** – Dasia Vance - 1st

Novice Best of Division – Frank Sausedo (Painted)



Category 1: Pyrography

- 1st Frank DeSimone
- 2nd Bernie Epolite
- 3rd Christy Tsai

Category 2: Painted or Colored

- 1st – Frank Sausedo
- 2nd Margaret Partain
- 3rd Christy Tsai

Intermediate Division Best of Division - Marilyn Phelps (Combination of Techniques)



Category 5: Pyrography

- 1st Lori Conrow
- 2nd Lou Johnson
- 3rd Kim Nebel

Category 6: Painted

- 1st Chris Crady
- 2nd Kim Nebel

Category 7: Carved

- 1st Kim Nebel

(Continued from Page 4)

Intermediate Division continued**Category 8 Filigree or Fretwork**

- 1st Becky Manzo *
 2nd Lisa Baurmeister
 3rd Alice Caperton *

Category 11: Weaving /Coiled

- 1st Lori Conrow
 2nd Jodi Dingivan
 3rd Jan Linkenbach *

Category 12: Combination of Techniques

- 1st Marilyn Phelps
 2nd Frank Sausedo
 3rd Pamela Argo

Advanced Division

Best of Division: Lisa Baurmeister (Painted)
 pictured on front cover

Category 13: Pyrography

- 1st Lisa Baurmeister *
 2nd Cyndee Newick
 3rd Jo Cooley

Category 14: Painted or Colored

- 1st Lisa Baurmeister *
 2nd Jessica DiGiacomo
 3rd Virginia Knowles

Category 15: Carved

- 1st Marilyn Carrico
 2nd Aaron Bullock

Category 16: Filigree or Fretwork

- 1st Maryland Fallon
 2nd Camille King
 3rd Barbara Cody

Category 17: Jewelry

- 1st Barbara Cody
 2nd Leanne Kelly
 3rd Virginia Knowles

Category 18: Beading

- 1st Leanne Kelly

Category 19: Weaving/Coiled

- 1st Maryland Fallon

Advanced Division continued**Category 20: Combination of Techniques**

- 1st Marilyn Carrico *
 2nd Lisa Baurmeister
 3rd Cyndee Newick

Master Division

Best of Division: Joyce Campbell
 (Carved)

**Category 21: Pyrography**

- 1st Heather Hopman

Category 22: Carved

- 1st Joyce Campbell *

Category 23: Filigree or Fretwork

- 2nd Bill Wilson

Category 24: Beading

- 1st Robert Swendsen *

Category 26: Combination of Techniques

- 1st Heather Hopman *
 2nd Joyce Campbell

Category 27: Distinctively Different

- 1st Joyce Campbell *

Call for Teachers

Baskets and Gourds - Containers of Our Culture VII April 27 – 29, 2018

This conference will be hosted by the Tulare/Sequoia Gourd Patch and endorsed by the California Gourd Society. It is the seventh Basket and Gourd Conference to be held in the city of Visalia, California. Visalia is located in the center of California, close to Sequoia, Kings Canyon, and Yosemite National Parks.

Our keynote speaker, JoAnn Kelly, is an award-winning black ash splint basketmaker and teacher from Western Massachusetts. Her designs are influenced by Shaker and New England splint basketry.

Proposals must be received by March 31, 2017. Class decisions will be mailed by May 10, 2017. **The proposed class needs to be unique and taught for the first time in California at our 2018 conference.**

Fees: Class Fee for Participants: \$65
Teachers will receive \$45 per student, and may also charge a materials fee.

Please send the **teaching application (found on page 20), biography, PROFESSIONAL QUALITY PHOTOS with a high resolution image on a CD, flash drive, or as an attachment to an email (300 - 400 dpi or higher, no compression: JPG, Tiff, or EPS format)** to the address below.

We ask that all of our instructors participate in the Arts Visalia Show by sending a minimum of three pieces by the middle of March. The show will be broken down on Sunday, the last day of the conference.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,
Toni Best tonibestbaskets@gmail.com
P.O. Box 6846 (559) 627-5430
Visalia, CA 93290

Complete details will be at our website the application is on page 20.



CGS Membership News

CGS membership dues are \$20 a year based on a calendar year.

January 1- December 31

Some of the Benefits of Membership:

- **The Golden Gourd Newsletter** (electronic only) highlights artists, festival classes, tells where CGS is participating in festivals, competitions and related events, tutorials, advertisements for gourd-related services and products.
- Eligibility to serve on CGS Board.
- Opportunity to be trained and certified as an American Gourd Society judge.
- Participate in occasional members-only State-wide events (retreats or conferences)

You will receive a Welcome Letter and CGS Membership Card

CGS Website <http://www.californiagourdsociety.com> click Join Us.

Family/Household Membership is available and can consist of a: husband/wife, mother/daughter, father/daughter, roommates, etc. residing at the same address. This package includes only one membership card, and one email address that is shared by all at the address. Youth - 15 are always free.

Tip: Take and keep a photo of your CGS Membership Card with your phone.

Membership VP JoAnn Clark by email at: b4gourds@yahoo.com or phone (760) 749-9410.

GourdFest at Uesugi Farms Northern California Gourd Competition

What a wonderful venue for a gourd festival! The Calabash Club of Silicon Valley sponsored their 5th Annual “GourdFest” in conjunction with the Uesugi Farms Pumpkin Festival. There was everything from corn on the cob to pumpkin ice cream.

You could shoot a pumpkin loaded cannon, find your way through the corn maze or ride the train through the pumpkin patch. Thousands of pumpkins to choose from for purchase made it even more fun.



One of the featured events was a “BIG” pumpkin weigh-in. And I’m not just talking about fifty pound pumpkins. These pumpkins arrived in the back of pickup trucks or trailers. There were two categories – locally grown within 50 miles of the festival and all others. The 1st place winner of the locally grown pumpkins weighed in at 1,058 pounds and the prize was \$500.00 – not bad! However, the grand prize winner of all the pumpkins weighed 1,937 pounds and the prize was \$7.00/lb. – you do the math! That should pay for all the water he used in growing it!



(Continued from Page 7)

But of course the best part of the festival was the area where all the gourds were. There were vendor booths, kids make & takes, gourd carving demonstrations as well as two days of gourd art classes and a CGS gourd competition booth.



There were over 70 entries in the competition and the quality of gourd art was awesome! Congratulations to all of the winners and especially to Lisa Baurmeister for winning Best of Show with her beautifully painted lily gourd and also winning the People's Choice Award with her owl gourd. Best of Division winners were Frank Sausedo, Marilyn Phelps, Lisa Baurmeister and Joyce Campbell. The CGS Special Award was presented to Jody Dingivan.

A big thanks goes to Jody Dingivan and her Calabash team for all the work of getting canopies, tables, chairs etc. and organizing the whole event. Also another big thanks to Sylvia Nelson and her team of judges and clerks and all those who tended the competition booth throughout the festival. It was a big success and that was due to so many helping out in every way needed.

Mark your calendar for next year's festival. It's always the second week-end of October.

See you there,
Olive Moore
CGS President



Best of Division Winners of the CGS Southern Gourd Art Competition

NOVICE DIVISION
Shannon Valenira - Best of Division
Pyrography - 1st



INTERMEDIATE DIVISION
Libbi Salvo - Best of Division
Carved - 1st



ADVANCED DIVISION
Robin Erickson - Best Division
Carved - 1st



MASTERS DIVISION
Reetsie Fuller - Best of Division
Pyrography - 1st



(Continued from Page 9)

Complete Winners Listing of the CGS Southern Gourd Art Competition

Best of Show - Reetsie Fuller
People's Choice - Pamela Watson
CGS Special Award - Cindy Werner

Division - Novice
Best of Division
Shannon Valencia

| | 1st Place | 2nd Place | 3rd Place |
|----------------------|------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Pyrography | Shannon Valencia | Frank De Simone | Cindy Werner # |
| Carved | | Frank De Simone | |
| Filigree/Fret | Tina Stoner | Martie O'Meara | |

CGS Special Merit Award

Division - Intermediate
Best of Division
Libbi Salvo

| | 1st Place | 2nd Place | 3rd Place |
|-----------------------|--------------|------------------|---------------|
| Pyrography | Tammy Burt | Debra Zimmerman | Cliff Schmidt |
| Carved | Libbi Salvo | Roberto Castro # | |
| Filigree/ Fret | Camille King | Anthony Hepton | Jan Schmidt |

Division - Advanced
Best of Division
Robin Erickson

| | 1st Place | 2nd Place | 3rd Place |
|----------------------|----------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Carved | Robin Erickson | Teresa Zanaboni | Olive Moore |
| Filigree/Fret | Pam Watson | Maggie Le Duc | |

Division - Masters
Best of Division
Reetsie Fuller

| | 1st Place | 2nd Place |
|----------------------|----------------|---------------|
| Pyrography | Reetsie Fuller | Grace Swanson |
| Carved | Grace Swanson | Jewell Nagel |
| Filigree/Fret | Jack Thorp | Grace Swanson |

Southern California Competition – A partnership

by Susan Sullivan

The Southern California Competition was held in conjunction with the Orange County Woodcarvers annual show in Santa Ana on Oct. 15 and 16.

A spacious exhibit area allowed us to beautifully display our 28 entries and awards which included the categories: Pyrography, Carving and Filigree. A great big thank you goes out to Olive Moore and Debbie Zimmerman, who graciously picked up entries from Ventura to San Diego. Our hope was to show support for our new wood carving friends and also to present a competition that revealed the truly awesome artistic expressions that can be achieved with gourds as the medium. This was a well attended event which enabled CGS to do wide public outreach and education, with several visitors expressing interest in joining both CGS and AGS. We had examples of other types of work on display in the patch booth as well as educational materials.

There were master woodcarvers in attendance and they were impressed with our display and the potential gourds offer them for new design ideas and opportunities.

The CGS Award of Special Merit ribbon was awarded for best newcomer work. Cindy Werner of Whittier entered her first gourd. It was a special gourd to acknowledge her nephew's achievement of becoming an Eagle Scout.

Best of Show went to Reetsie Fuller of Indio and Oregon. She does her pyrography with a single temperature burner. Her piece was part of a series on endangered species. This competition was the first time this gourd had been seen by the public.



People's Choice went to Pam Watson for her Filigree Sea Turtle gourd-inside-a-gourd (Advanced). Enhancing this piece was the use of long-lasting mini-fiber optic lighting (remote activated) for special effects thus not requiring plug-in.

We would like to express thanks to all who helped with this project including the Orange County Woodcarvers, our judges, clerks, volunteers and artists. This competition was a rewarding collaboration with the woodcarvers. Several of our Orange County Gourd Artists are also members of the Orange County Woodcarvers. We have enjoyed learning from each other and sharing ideas.

(Continued from Page 11)



Jack Thorp Master Trainer for AGS judges found time to create another artistic Blue Ribbon winner



Shannon Valenira with gourd and ribbons



Woodcarver Roberto Castro new to gourd carving wins Second Place and a Judges Choice ribbon



Left: Debbie Zimmerman and Robin Erickson checking Southern Competition gourd entries at Woodcarver Show at Santa Ana Elks Club



Left: Susan Sullivan, CGS Director-at-Large, and Jack Thorp, AGS Head Judge, admire the novice entry of Cindy Werner, which was selected to receive the CGS Special Merit Award Ribbon.

Harvest Time is Here and Oh So Cool!

By Cecile Garrison



I have heard many good things about the Gourd Happenings in California this Fall. I really appreciate all the volunteers who spend countless hours making these events “happen!”

I hated missing the Calabash Festival! That was the opportunity to show off my manipulated gourds. After missing the Calabash I decided to send my Jim Story entry and five other manipulated gourds to the Idaho Festival for judging. I was thrilled to win the Jim Story Award and Blue Ribbons for two of the others. (Pictured top left)

I hope we can increase the growing categories in California next year. I plan to document my gardening exploits better on Facebook, the CGS Golden Gourd and the American Gourd Society Quarterly magazine! **I hope to encourage more California Gourders to try their hand at manipulating gourds and entering them into Competition.** We have a big climate advantage over our Eastern gourd friends yet they seem to win the JSA every year.

I have harvested most of my gourds in the arbor and patch. The stems were brown and dry from the gourd to the ground. My husband installed a pegboard system to hang the manipulated gourds for drying. I have always preached “don’t hang gourds by their stems” but the manipulated gourds are twisted and knotted so hang easily without damage.

By the time you read this I will have a clean arbor and patch. All the vines and leaves will be destroyed, the soil will be tilled and two to three inches of steer manure will be spread.

The soil will be replenished by earthworms and ready for planting next April.

Put June, 2017 on your calendar! Call me if you are passing through Visalia—maybe I can demonstrate knot tying for you! We shall see if Mother Nature cooperates!



First VCGA Retreat a Fun Venture

Submitted by Karen Hibdon

What happens at the retreat stays at the retreat!

No way – the Sept. 30-Oct. 2 inaugural Ventura County Gourd Artists' event at the Girl Scout Arnaz Program Center in Oak View was way too much fun not to share with everyone.

This first time effort drew 27 brave souls including two male members. Yes, it was a bit crowded as we tried to cram cots for everyone plus a massive dinner seating of tables and chairs into the room that supposedly sleeps 40, but there was “No whining” as the sign posted warned.

Five members of the retreat planning committee arrived the day before the actual retreat began and set up cots, canopies and stocked the kitchen with about \$800 of food, water, soft drinks and other supplies. They also laid out the provisions needed to work on gourd projects.

As they arrived, folks were given goodie bags chock full of everything from plastic water glasses to Tootsie Pops and another bag filled with 10 project kits.

Retreat participants paid \$150 each which covered the cost of renting the facility, six meals and the project kits and supplies. The weekend, in addition to lots of gourd time, included a raffle and campfires, along with some pretty great food. Folks attending were assigned to serve on a mealtime headed up by a captain – the menus were written up and the food provided, but the team had to prepare it, serve it and clean up. Worked well.

While gourdng was the retreat focus, sharing, laughing, getting to know folks you only see at the meetings or in classes, was a highlight of the event.

The weather was warm during the day and cool at night – two people opted for sleeping in tents and one brave soul set up a hammock between two oak trees.

It was fun juggling three toilets and checking to see if the “woman inside” or “man inside” paper plate was on the door. The single shower was challenging, but everyone made the best of it.

All in all, everyone had a great time and plans are under way for the next retreat.



Left: The corn maiden was one of 10 project kits the 28 retreat attendees received upon arriving on Sept. 30.

Above Left: VCGA member Sylvia Yoosephiance shows off the gourd and shell picture frame she created.

Above Right: VCGA Vice President Evy Eisele combined two retreat projects into display - a planter and a snake.

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Left: Retreat co-chair Camille King explains the techniques used to create the adobe wall-hanging project.

Below: While most folks slept on cots and mats in one huge room at Arnaz, several slept in tents and retreat co-chair Camille King slept under the stars in her hammock.



Above: FSR Outdoor work area at Arnaz Girl Scout Program Center.

Right: Mealtime brought everyone together. The food and menus were planned and purchased ahead of time and each retreat attendee was assigned to a team to prepare the meals.



California Gourd Society 2018 Fundraiser project "Totems"

WIN Fabulous Gourd Art



"Enter to win" one of 20+ gourd art projects made by members of CGS. Regional Gourd groups (Patches) and individual CGS members throughout California will be creating unique art in the form of **Totems**.

The Gourd Art Projects will be offered as opportunity drawing prizes at the Annual **"Gourds and Baskets: Containers of our Culture"** Event in Visalia, California Saturday
April 28, 2018



Tickets are sold by individual CGS Members and CGS Regional Patch members, (Patches). They are listed at:
www.californiagourdsociety.com

Proceeds benefit the statewide educational outreach of CGS and its members.

Winners need not be present to win!

Tickets \$1.00 Each
Thank you for your donation.

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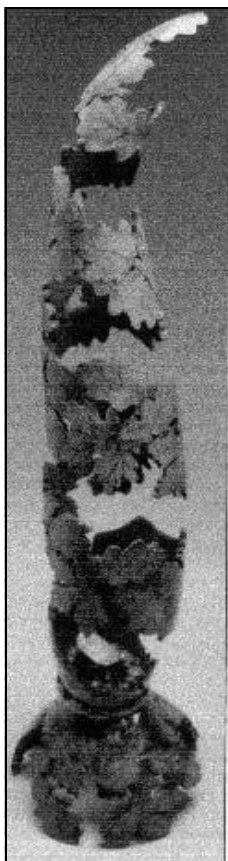
www.GourdSupplies.com

www.pyrography-gourd-art.blogspot.com

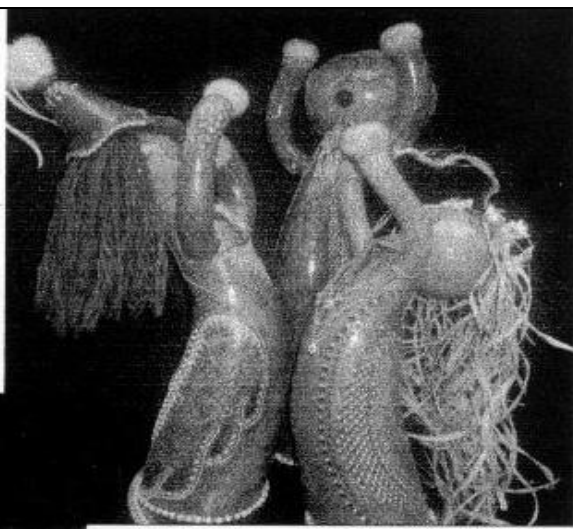
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Classes every week for all skill levels
 Contact me to arrange dates just for you ... my studio and time are yours



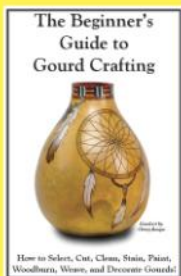
Joyce Campbell Workshops
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 Studio overlooks the vineyard and foothills
 google Joyce Campbell gourds for more info
 530-334-0964
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Classes include materials & personal instruction to work on a project that interests you ... carve, wood burn, dye, coil, paint, bead, embellish and more. Learn lay out, sawing & rotary work.
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"Your gourds are by far the best available, and your customer service is outstanding! I would not buy from anyone else. The high quality of your gourds makes them a joy to work with, and each of my customers has been thrilled! Thanks so much!!" - Cathy Whitehead, RI

For all of your gourd crafting needs, Welburn Gourd Farm has you covered! Visit our web site for organic thick-shelled gourds, FREE video tutorials, FREE Beginner's Guide to Gourd Crafting, DVD's, special offers, tools, supplies, and so much more!

"I received both boxes of gourds I ordered right on time. I love getting the cleaned gourds. Your service is perfect and I love the specials! Thanks again." Carrie, Channel Islands, CA



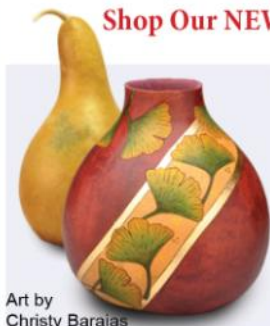
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Shown left, a 'standard quality' gourd was used to create this beautiful pot with ginkgo leaves. The minor shell blemishes are concealed with the use of **Cordovan GourdMaster™ Transparent Acrylic** (which is still transparent but has a heavier pigment load and thus gives better coverage than GourdMaster™ Ink Dyes).



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 Call 1-760-728-4271 Open Mon-Fri 10am-4pm PST



(Continued from Page

Teacher Application: Baskets and Gourds - Containers of Our Culture VII**(Please fill out an application for each different class proposal.)**

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail Address: _____

Name of Class: _____

Medium: _____

Day or days preferred: Saturday: _____ Sunday: _____ (6 hour classes only)

Class Level: All Levels _____ Beginner _____ Intermediate _____ Advanced _____

Can student expect to finish this project within class time? Yes _____ No _____

Number of students you will take: Minimum _____ Maximum _____

Approximate number of students per table: (tables are 8' x 3') _____

I am interested in participating in Teachers' Market Place: Yes _____ No _____

I am interested in vendor information: Yes _____ No _____

Approx. Dimensions of Project: Length _____ Width _____
Diameter _____ Height _____**Description:** (include special skills taught or emphasized, or techniques demonstrated). Please use 40 words or less. You may use back of this sheet or attach another page if you wish.

Total Materials and Preparation Fee per student: \$ _____

Material or supplies required of student: _____

(Teachers: Please bring cleaned, pre-cut gourds.)

Additional requirements:

Teaching Assistant ___ Water ___ Planned Electricity Usage: High ___ Medium ___ Low ___ None ___

Other: _____

Please check all that apply to your project:

_____ dyeing _____ carving _____ painting _____ wood burning _____ heat gun/dryer

Please include with your application:

Teacher's Biography (50 words or less)**PROFESSIONAL QUALITY PHOTOS** (300 - 400 dpi or higher, no compression: JPG, Tiff, or EPS format)**Proposal must be received by March 31, 2017. Class decisions will be mailed by May 10, 2017.****I give my permission to use my class project photos to promote this event in print and on the Internet. I agree to send at least three pieces of art for the show at Arts Visalia.**

Signed _____ Date _____

The Editor's Vine

Hello CGS Gourders,

I would like to thank everyone that helps with the copy, pictures and ad support of the Golden Gourd Newsletter. Without your support we could not have this newsletter. A very special thank you to Sylvia Nelson, Susan Sullivan, Debbie Zimmerman and Olive Moore for all your help with both the northern and southern competition pictures and recap.

Remember this is "YOUR" newsletter. If you have anything you would like to have in the next issue please forward to me. Maybe you attended a recent festival, made something new or tried a new product? The box on the right has the current ad rates per issue and the deadline dates. The newsletter is usually emailed a month later. CGS also sends "Shout Outs" on a fairly regular basis; they are a great resource for those surprise events that don't make it in time for the newsletter.

All members are encouraged to visit the "Members Only" section at our website, especially if you are a NEW member. There you will find all past issues of the Golden Gourd, tutorials and more. And for those of you that like a more INTERACTIVE social network you can LIKE us on our **Face Book page**.

Please note my email address and add to your address book:
 editorgoldengourd@californiagourdsociety.com

Thank you for your continuing support!
 Mary Bliss -Editor Golden Gourd

The editor reserves the right to edit any submissions for content and consistency.
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Golden Gourd Newsletter Annual Cost \$2,400.00
 111516

**Golden Gourd Electronic Newsletter
 Article/Ad Deadlines - 2017**

Winter 16/17.....January 31, 2017
 Spring.....April 15, 2017
 SummerJuly 15, 2017
 FallOctober 15, 2017

Ad Rates – 2017

**Half Page \$25
 3" X 3" \$15**

Business Card (members only) \$5

Craft Leather for Sale

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 Use on gourd art, dream catchers, purses,
 arts/crafts, and other fun projects.

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 b4gourds@yahoo.com
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- Comes in coarse and fine grit with long or short shafts
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- Shaft extenders are available



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