

THE GOLDEN GOURD

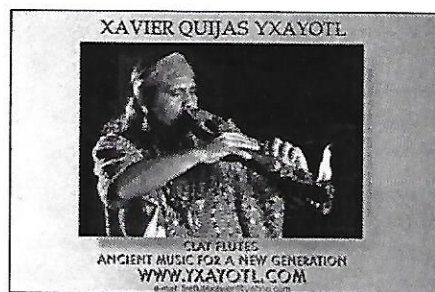
THE NEWSLETTER OF THE CALIFORNIA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN GOURD SOCIETY

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 1

SPRING 2002

MesoAmerican Music of Xavier Quijas Yxayotl

By Leigh Adams



Xavier Quijas Yxayotl.....The very name is mysterious and evocative. (Ha-vee-yeer Kee-hoss Itz-ai-oh!) Musician/-Magician, Descendent of Huichol dancers and musicians, creator and designer of new and

ancient instruments, experimenter, fine artist, mentor, storyteller, keeper of sacred traditions and consummate teacher. Xavier is all of these and more. A handsome and serene man whose depth of character shines forth from his classical features, Xavier loves to share information. "Gourds? I have been around gourds all of my life. From the very first I can remember with my grandparents in the fields, drinking cool, fresh water from a gourd. Gourds were everywhere, for water, for storage, for instruments. I don't ever remember a time when there were no gourds in my life." And now, as the award-winning leader of the group "America Indigena", Xavier uses gourds to create the magical and musical sounds of the traditional peoples of MesoAmerica.

If you've attended a Southern California gourd show, you've heard Xavier's group enchanting crowds of listeners and gourd lovers. A first time visitor to the Arboretum event was heard to ask during Xavier's performance, "Is this normal? Do these people usually play this well?" It was a delight to let the uninitiated visitor know that Xavier was just getting started. "Stick around, listen to what happens next!"

A few of the instruments that Xavier creates are: drums, flutes, horns, water drums, ocarinas, fire flutes, rattles, guiros, and some that can only be named for the sounds they create, thunder drums, jaguar drums and Mayan ocean drums. As Xavier explains the connections of his instruments to the earth and the cycle of life, one feels how earlier peoples must have celebrated the daily events of their lives through this vital and compelling music.

On one memorable occasion at the Ohio Gourd Show's

musical extravaganza, musicians from around the world gathered together to play their gourd instruments. A jam session followed the concert and absolute cacophony resulted. Koras, kalimbas, banjos and didgeridus, shekeres and balaphones, drums and rattles, every musician played, but no one could hear! And then, up to the microphone stepped Xavier, dressed in traditional Huichol clothing, and.....was that the sound of his leg rattles? Yes, and sure enough, the rhythm began to pull together behind the shush-shush sound of the rattles (chalchayotes, the seeds of the oyoyotl tree) and then the melody emerged, Xavier again, on a small clay flute; the musical behemoth on stage transformed into an extraordinary and utterly beautiful composition that captivated the audience. Xavier shrugs it off, "I don't remember that." The music comes to him as naturally and as fluidly as water flows downhill.

For those who haven't had the pleasure of hearing Xavier's hand made instruments, some stemming from ancient traditions, some evolving from Xavier's dreams and some he just happens upon, make every effort to create the opportunity. Xavier's exceptional and extraordinary music is available on CD and can be purchased from his website www.yxayotl.com. And if you get a chance to corner him and hear some of his stories, consider yourself very lucky indeed. This is a unique and remarkable man.

UPDATE!!! By the time this newsletter appears, Xavier will have played at this year's Grammy performances!

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President's Message

Leigh Adams

Greetings Fellow Gourd Lovers! The CGS Board Members met at Rookstool Ranch in January to begin the new year with great excitement. We were joined by a number of patch leaders whose enthusiasm and willingness to take on responsibilities were absolutely inspiring. Unbelievably well fed by our hosts, Carol, Jack and Amigo Rookstool, we planned for upcoming events, dreamed of bigger and better and (hopefully) streamlined processes and began planning for an online gift shop of CGS items. We played a few gourd games and even had a "hands-on" activity we hope to share with patch leaders at Asilomar. Budgetary concerns were discussed as were scheduling of events, newsletter concerns and a variety of topics (see synopsis of meeting on page 10).

As all activities of the California Gourd Society are dependent upon a volunteer labor force and as few among us are of independent means (don't you wish!), it is only through the efforts of those who are willing and able to donate their time that we can accomplish the various events we all love to attend. It is to all of you who have given time selflessly and continue to do so that I would like to express my deepest gratitude. Without a doubt, CGS could not exist without each and every one of you. I would also like to thank Carol Rookstool for the countless hours of effort and vision she has and continues to share with CGS. And to the board members, growers, suppliers, teachers, artists and gourd lovers who make our gourd society possible, THANK YOU!!! I look forward to meeting, knowing and gourding around with all of you!

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Pat Boyd Revisited

By Phoebe Welburn, reprinted from the Welburn Internet Newsletter, *The Gourdzette*

I had the immense pleasure of interviewing Patricia Boyd, or 'Pat' as she is known to many, for this week's newsletter! I already knew Pat was an incredible gourd artist. I myself have experienced firsthand the power her pieces have to captivate and intrigue (and possess you to the point where you find yourself saying, "I absolutely MUST HAVE that piece!!!")

What I learned was, one of the reasons Pat's art is so compelling is each piece is an intimate representation of how life has touched her heart. She is able to take the deepest of human emotions and immortalize them in her gourd art.

She is incredibly modest about her work, and I am convinced it is my destiny to help her realize her talent by being the one to buy up ALL of her gourd art! O.K., maybe that's not the way to go about it, but I can dream can't I?

WGF: Can you give our readers a little background on how you got started working with gourds?

Pat: My sister took a gourd class and wanted me to try working with gourds. I was creating jewelry at the time, and gourds just didn't seem to interest me that much. I went to gourd shows with my sister, helped her pick out gourds at the gourd farm, etc., and she kept pushing me to try it.

Then in 1997 I took a trip to Africa. I was moved by the scenes there, the people, their way of life. I wanted to reproduce that. It wasn't until after I started working with gourds that I realized how that was to happen.

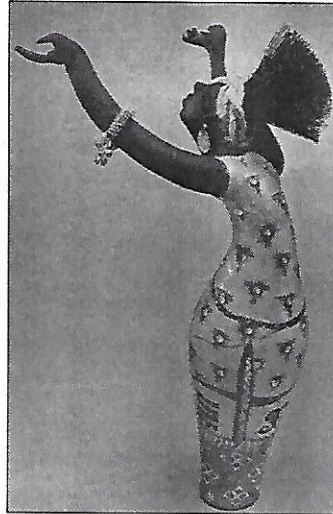
My sister persisted and finally I decided to try gourds. I did a few bowls at first. Then I started to become more interested in the different shapes of gourds. I started making whimsical things...fairy gourdmothers, small figurines, items that would hang on a Christmas tree. I got tired of doing the small pieces and moved into doing the larger ones. My desires to create from the scenes of Africa started to emerge in the pieces I was creating.

WGF: What appeals to you most about working with gourds?

Pat: With gourds, there is no limit to your creativity. You can paint them, stain them, pack anything on them. You can weave, etch, and carve them. There is no end to what you can do. You can incorporate any skills you have learned in the past into your gourd art. Before gourds I did a lot of jewelry, and in my gourds I use many of those same skills. They are also light and easy to move for transporting to shows.

WGF: What were some of the initial struggles you had in working with gourds?

Pat: Working with the tools — woodburner, saw — were skills I developed over time. Initially I modeled my projects after what I saw my sister doing. I think that's how everyone gets started with something new, modeling after what others are doing. The fun part comes when you are able to break away



from that and start making your own designs. This was the hardest part for me; learning to break away, stepping out there on my own.

Once I started to get into doing gourds, my other struggle became not having enough time to do them! I was working full time, which meant I was out of the house 12 hours a day.

WGF: And now? Is time still a struggle?

Pat: No. I just took early retirement two weeks ago! I left in order to be able to work on gourds full time.

WGF: Congratulations! That's wonderful! What advice would you give other artists trying to do the same thing (do gourds full time)?

Pat: For me it was about making the decision to do what I love to do, and it was also about timing. I had been wanting to do this for a long time. Then one day all the pieces seemed to fall into place to enable it to happen. It's important to do what you are passionate about and not let yourself be held back by fear, and the timing needs to be right. My daughter is always saying how she wants to go back to school. She

has three small children right now, and I tell her, "The timing just isn't right at the moment. But it will be. You will do it when the time is right."

WGF: What inspires you? What is the creative process behind your work?

Pat: What inspires me is just life experiences. I tend to use things that are going on with me personally and incorporate that into my work, or what I see other people going through.

One of the pieces I made, a woman with both hands held up, that was inspired by my sister. She was struggling with a decision to accept a new job. The new job would allow her to travel and do more speaking, which she really enjoyed. However, she would not have as much time to work on her gourds, which her old job had allowed for.

The gourd piece I created has the woman with her hands open. They are open in such a way that she is able to receive the new, and at the same time release or hand over the old to another. (Editor's note - Pat gave this piece to her sister as a gift.)

Another piece I made shows a lady drinking water, again relating to my trip to Africa. The needs there are so basic, even

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Meet the CGS President

By Betty Finch

Have you ever attended a California Gourd Society function and wondered whom the very tall, silver and (Oh my God!) purple haired, outspoken woman at the center of the action was?

Allow me to fill you in. My first encounter was at Welburn's festival years ago when I overheard the interesting, purple-haired woman talking excitedly with Ginger Summit about etching on living gourds. I jumped in the conversation to lament I had experimented with scratching pictures on gourds but the images were difficult to see once the skin was removed. The tall woman encouraged me to experiment suggesting rubbing grit or dye into the scratches. She was such an inspiration I couldn't wait to get home to try it.



The following year I watched in amazement as the tall woman with the wild hair tactfully uninvited parents from the kid's gourd crafting booth. Like a mama bear protecting her cubs she brazenly protected the children from adult interference. She provided supplies, support, validation and encouragement to children allowing them to follow their own vision and goals. She did not try to compare, "improve", teach or lead but allowed each child pursue their own dream. The ensuing results were proof her method works. The variety of ideas the children came up with was surpassed only by the satisfied looks on their faces and the lasting enthusiasm she instilled in the new gourd artists. I found myself wishing I could be more like her.

Leigh Adams discovered gourds in 1986 by taking a class from Margo Farrin where she made a gourd basket, activating her basketry chromosome. "They filled a gap between ceramics and fabric/fibers for me creating an instant pathway to expression and suggesting things I'd never tried before", explains Leigh.

For 17 years Leigh has been teaching in a private alternative school in Pasadena. Her specialties in Spanish, folk arts and outdoor education come together in the classroom where she teaches k-8th graders primarily through folk arts. "The first time I taught gourd rattles I was hooked on the process of gourds in the classroom." Says Leigh. Each student was able to do something

anywhere that I am warm enough to move my hands and have sufficient light to see what I am doing. A flat tire in Mexico, a late plane in France or Germany, a taxi strike in Costa Rica, nothing phases me if I can work on a project."

Leigh loves kids, dogs, and gardening and landscape design. She used to make theater, stage and performance costumes.

Now she works in Behavioral Enrichment at the LA Zoo. Her first book, "Great Expectations" published by Houghton Mifflin is on designing maternity clothes and enjoying pregnancy. She has two sons and

"I could live on chocolate, grapes, carrots and tomatoes. I hate washing dishes but will scrub gourds night and day."

they were proud of. Fifteen years later a number of those kids can still show me the first gourd they worked on. One young lad put a hinge and fastener on his rattle so he didn't have to commit to only one sound! The kids learn the names of the tools and processes in Spanish. They name their work, ask for materials, describe colors and attributes and just generally have a good time. The gourds give them an opportunity to experiment and enjoy while learning skills that will last them all their lives. Each year she takes her students to Mexico and Costa Rica for extended visits.

The first purple hair came as a reaction to doing jury duty in criminal courts in downtown LA over her two-week winter break. (For those who don't teach, this brief respite from the classroom is generally all that separates teachers from shotgun toting maniacs).

Leigh's interesting life is filled with gourd stories, "People are interested in what I do with my hands be it world travelers or indigenous peoples, everyone likes to observe the processes of another culture. I find I can enjoy myself nearly

two dogs. Her son, Beau attends Pasadena College and son, Nick attends UC Santa Cruz.

Leigh is talented at forging win-win situations. An example is her Behavioral Enrichment work at the Zoo. Leigh creates a positive experience for the children that proudly transform gourds into useful piñatas, the zoo animals that so enjoy their piñatas, the zoo spectators who take many more photos, and Leigh who must feel very satisfied with herself for a job well done.

She has been a children's librarian, a day camp director, and a commercial property manager. Leigh constructed a cabin in the Mojave Desert between Big Bear and Joshua Tree wired with 12 volt solar built mostly out of recycled materials. What a woman.

"I could live on chocolate, grapes, carrots and tomatoes. I hate washing dishes but will scrub gourds night and day", says Leigh. Words spoken by a true gourd lover.

Get past the purple hair and get to know Leigh Adams. She will enrich your life!

The Sacred Gourds of Jaliyaa

By Storyteller & Kora Musician Asha's Baba

I love to take every opportunity that I can to introduce people to the wonderful Art of Jaliyaa. Jaliyaa is an ancient West African art form dating back to the 13th century Empire of Mali. Jaliyaa involves the interweaving of music, song and dance with the recounting of history, epic tales, genealogy and much more. Practitioners of Jaliyaa are popularly known throughout the world as griots. One of the most beautiful musical instruments involved in the craft of Jaliyaa is the Kora, a 21 string harp made out of a huge calabash. Griots are typically born into families from which they learn Jaliyaa. I'm somewhat of an anomaly in Jaliyaa, being one of but a handful of African-American practitioners and Kora players and, actually the only one on the West Coast of the United States.

Of times I find it difficult to answer questions about the kora because I am dealing with information straddling two very different worlds or forms of thinking; occidental and the traditionalist African. You see much of what I've learned concerning Jaliyaa and the Kora comes from a traditionalist philosophy or perspective. It is only recently that I've been able to translate what I've learned over the years for Western Audiences. In the West the kora is viewed as an instrument, much like a guitar or keyboard. The traditionalist views the kora as an extension of the griot and the materials combined to give it its' form and voice. Let me give you an example using the gourd of the Kora. The gourd, a living entity, consumes, possesses and expends energy that help it grow; take shape and hue. Traditionalist would call this growing, taking form and color the gourd's wisdom. All living things possess their own, particular, form of wisdom and "all" wisdom is interconnected.

Griots of knowledge meticulously search for gourds for their Koras with these ideas in mind. Throughout Africa gourds are a part of everyday life. Much like we use plastic bowls and cups here in the west, gourds have a parallel position in Africa. A griot would not want to make the mistake of using a gourd to create a kora whose use would be served better as a kitchen utensil, serving bowl or storage container. These gourds would not provide the same resonance as a gourd whose wisdom has shaped it for use as a Kora. We might call this a marriage of

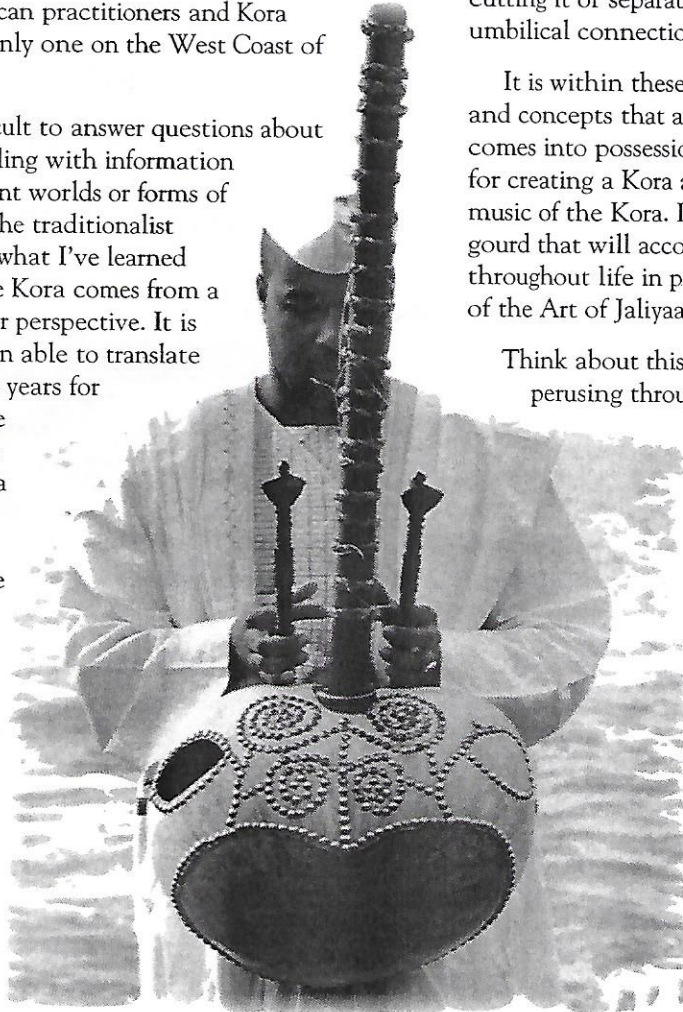
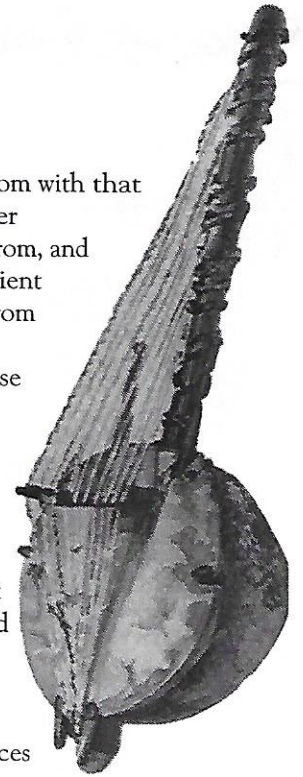
human wisdom with plant wisdom.

Another aspect of uniting our wisdom with that of plants involves ritual. While younger generations have begun shying away from, and in some instances even ridiculing, ancient rituals involved in extracting gourds from their vines or roots, many elders still perform these rites. It is viewed by these elders of paramount importance to communicate with the plant before cutting it or separating it from its' umbilical connection to the earth.

It is within these ancient practices and concepts that a traditionalist griot comes into possession of a sacred gourd for creating a Kora and the ethereal music of the Kora. It is this sacred gourd that will accompany the griot throughout life in pursuit of the practices of the Art of Jaliyaa.

Think about this for a moment. The next time you go perusing through a patch or window shopping in a store and come across one of those gourds which you "must" have, a gourd whose shape/form or color demands that you possess it or create something of it, ask yourself. "Did I choose this gourd or did it choose me?"

Storyteller & Kora Musician Asha's Baba will be performing at the 2002 LA Gourd Fair in September. Baba also has a show coming up at the John Anson Ford Amphitheatre in Hollywood, July 6th at 8:00 pm, where many types of gourd instruments will be featured, as well as his Kora with other musicians, dancers and entertainers. For more information go to www.wovenweb.org or call him directly at (562) 869-0892.



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One of California's Young Entrepreneurs

By Tyler Sample

Hi, my name is Tyler Sample, and I am twelve years old. I live in a little town called Lindsay, CA. It is in the Central Valley, right at the foot of the Sierra Nevada Mountains. I started growing and selling mini gourds two years ago.

I learned about gourds from my Nana (Sue Erb) when I was six years old. I thought she made very cool baskets, rain sticks and drums from what looked to me, like watermelons and dried up squashes. The first gourd project I ever did was making Christmas ornaments, using mini gourds. My next project was to make a gourd mask. It looks like a cross between an alien and a Hawaiian tribal mask. I was very proud of it and I entered it in the Tulare County Fair. I won a blue ribbon! Since then I have made two more gourd masks, both of them are bear masks. I am planning on making an eagle gourd next.

I got involved with growing gourds a couple of years ago. Sometimes, when my Nana would go out of town, I would take care of her gourd plants for her. I liked how the plants were so green and how the gourds grew off of the vines in all directions. Nana suggested to me that

I grow some gourds of my own. We decided on mini gourds because they were not available in our area. This led to joining the C.G.S. and I was able to find someone to buy the mini gourd seeds from.

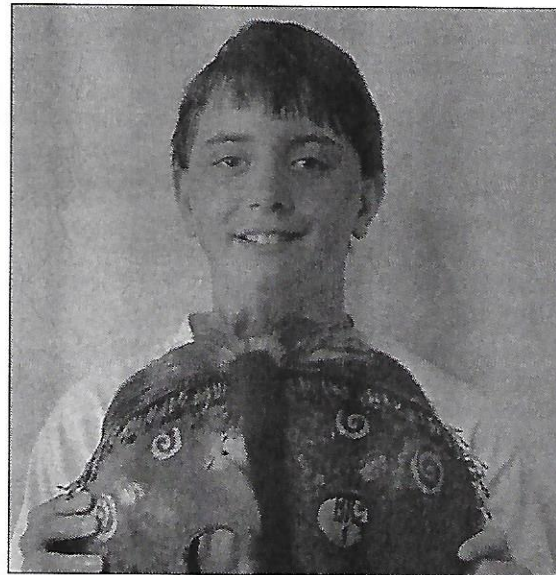
Growing the gourds was a lot of work! We had to sprout the seeds in little peat moss cups and keep them moist. Then we had to dig up the ground where we wanted to plant the gourds. We chose to plant along an already existing fence (actually, mom decided that). Out of the 36 gourds we planted, 20 survived. We had to trellis the plants as they grew, spray soap water to control the bugs, and water everyday! When we first started, I hoped to have 200 gourds, but I ended up with hundreds and hundreds!! I still have at least 200 left after a year and a half of selling.

My mom helped me a lot and I share the profits with her. This year, I am going to do more of the work so I don't have to share so much of the money with her. She says she is fine with that! Growing gourds has helped me buy sports

equipment and entertainment stuff. I have also been able to put about \$400.00 into my savings account.

This year I plan to grow jewelry gourds, apple gourds, and baby bottle gourds. Thank you to everyone who has bought and used some of my gourds!

If you are interested in mini gourds, you can call 559-562-2842 or e-mail my mom at to4samples@jps.net



More Pat Boyd

continued from page 3

just having clean water to drink can be a challenge. The lady here is scooping up water in her hand. I called the piece, "Thirsty Soul."

One piece, a woman holding, caressing a baby, was inspired by a friend of mine who had tried and tried to have a baby. She started considering and looking into adoption. She just wanted a child so badly. Then one day she finally got pregnant. She ended up starting an organization for women who have difficulty conceiving. Those kinds of stories just move me.

I get a lot of ideas just standing over the sink as I am washing the gourds. Also from TV, or things I hear on the radio that move me. I try to put that into my gourd work, and my hope is that it will move other people. I attach certain meaning to my pieces, but someone else may see it and attach a different meaning, something that relates to them. And that's great too.

WGF: Any words of advice for people just getting started with gourds?

Pat: When I began working with gourds, I realized I could do things I didn't know I could do. I sometimes speak at schools, and I always tell the kids, "You might think you don't have a gift. You might have brothers or sisters who are star athletes or get better grades than you. Even though you might not see your gift now, it could just be waiting to come out later in your life."

Don't be afraid to try almost anything with gourds. Look at what other people have done. Perhaps try something like others are doing, something familiar at first. Then when you start to get the hang of it, experiment with your own ideas. Go to gourd shows. Open your eyes to what can be done. Realize there's just no limit to what you can do with gourds!

WGF: You will be at the Welburn Gourd Farm for the June Festival this year. Where else can people see your work?

Pat: I'll be doing several shows this year. I'm still undecided which ones to apply to. I've been invited to speak at the California Gourd Society annual meeting at Asilomar this spring.

WGF: Where are you headed now?

Pat: I'm ready to see where this is all going to go. I don't know for sure right now. I'm open to whatever life brings.

Be sure to see Pat at the 6th Annual International Gourd Art Festival at the Welburn Gourd Farm, June 22nd & 23rd, 2002. We will also be posting Pat's upcoming shows in the Calendar section of the Gourdzette as the information becomes available. See Pat's work on-line at http://www.howeeduzzit.com/pat/pat_bio.htm

To purchase one of Pat's pieces, you may contact her via e-mail (patriciaboyd2@msn.com), or the following address:

Contemporary Cultural Designs
43711 Byron Dr. • Lancaster, CA 93535

Grower's Corner

This will be a regular feature in the Golden Gourd, to help artists and gourd enthusiasts get to know the growers, both in CA and other states.

Noi Thomas Gourd Grower/Artist/Teacher

Thomas Farms started out about 4 years ago, on my 2.5 acres in Lindsay, CA. I was a cook in a restaurant and an illness forced my quitting that type of work. A very good friend that was a commercial dried flower wholesaler is actually the person that got me into gourds. We planted some seed one summer and it started to grow. I wanted to grow gourds and sell them, but found out that no one really knew how to craft with them. I soon made a few examples, and by chance people wanted to start buying my work.

After taking a few gourd classes and finding out more about them, I have turned a hobby into a full-time business. I found so many new friends in them. My specialty is painting and woodburning on gourds, and I really like to put wildlife into my work. In the short time I've worked with gourds, I've created some very unusual gourd art. I have also seen some unique work, often very beautiful and detailed, by fellow gourd artists. I continue to improve my work with every project, and hope through my teaching to help others to do so also.

Many people have expressed an interest in my art and

Homely Homilies By Leigh Adams

Watch for sheets of paper with markers attached hanging around at Asilomar!

We're looking for Homely Homilies/Twisted Challenge/-Phracted Phrases. Write 'em down and sign your name. They'll be used to enliven meetings, tweak participants and generally raise good humor. And we'll use them in the Golden Gourd to inspire those whose can't attend.

Here's a few to get you started....

IF AT FIRST YOU DON'T SUCCEED, TRY GOURDS

DON'T MAKE ALL YOUR GOURDS
INTO ONE BASKET

A GOURD IN TIME WON'T
NECESSARILY SAVE NINE

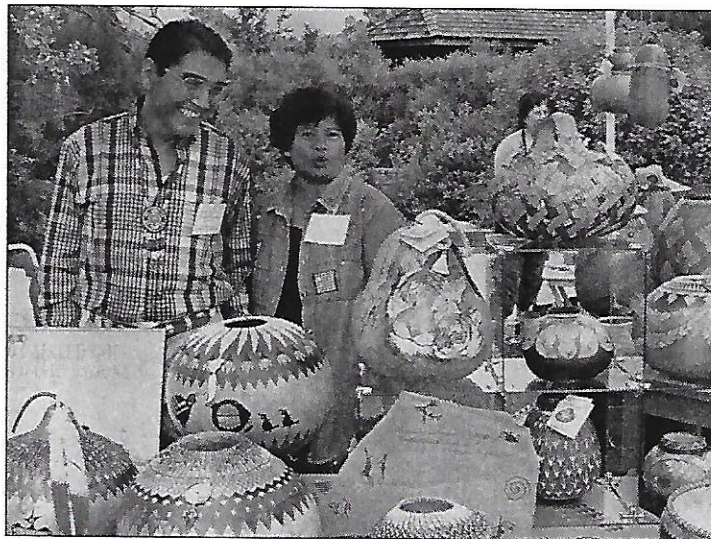
YOU CAN'T JUDGE A GOURD BY ITS EPIDERMIS

Mary, Mary, quite contrary,
how does your gourd'ing go?
With dyes and shells and even horse tails
on pretty gourds all in a row.

NEWS FLASH

The Golden Gourd team has just received notices from **Welburn** and **Tree Mover Gourd Farms** that the new gourds are coming and will be available soon.

We'd like to ask all growers to let us know when their crops are ready, and what specialties they might have.



Grower/artist Noi Thomas (right) with fellow artist David Snooks,
LA Arboretum, 2001

Photo courtesy Larry Cunningham

techniques. Because of this, I have started teaching and hosting classes in my studio at Thomas Farms. Some of my gourd art specialties are: woodburning, multiple color dyeing, weaving, painting and simple musical instruments. I try to work with natural materials. Some of my best natural materials come from my gardens.

For more information regarding Noi's art and classes at Thomas Farms, contact her at: Thomas Farms, 20947-B, Ave. 245, Lindsay, CA 93247, (559) 562-9640, thomasfarms@jps.net

CGS Members Gallery Online

Any member interested in featuring pictures of their best gourd pieces to the CGS web site should send pictures to Lisa Toth, team member in charge of the photo gallery to farfield@earthlink.net or mail with SASE for return to Lisa Toth 10571 Sunflower St. Ventura, CA 93004.

Updates to your gourd patch page on the calgourd website need to be sent to Peggy Blessing at giza@sprynet.com

SEEDS FOR SALE:

ISOLATION Raised: Extra long handled Dippers, Apache dippers, [flat bottoms], large bushels, cannon ball, maranka. Chinese Bottle, Penguin, Luffa, small ball luffa, African wine kettle, IPU, medium & large bushels, Apple, Japan siphon, Corsican flat, Canteen, Indonesian bottle, Zucca, Mini bottle, Long Gourds, Martin house, Banana, Basket, Snake, Mexican Bottle, Hawaii Mask, Large water jug, bird house mix, Nigerian Mini gourd [jewelry gourd], small Chinese bottle, Goose Gourds, small dipper, small kettle, Italian Edible gourd, Hard shell Warty, short handle dipper.

Ornamentals - Crown of Thorns-cream color, Striped Crown of Thorns, White egg, White ball, Orange Ball, Orange Warty, flat striped, spoon, Miniature pumpkin [new in 2001], Orange warty, ornamental mix, Germination is 70% or better.

All packs contain 15 seeds, except Africa Wine Kettle, Large water jug, & Mexican bottle contain 8. Price \$2.50 each, postpaid. Payment by Check or M.O. 10% discount for orders over \$10.00.

Commercial Growers - Field run Apple, Kettle/Martinhouse, bird-house mix, small bottle, and bushel gourds available in 1 # @ \$10.00, Ω # @ \$18.00, and 1 # @ \$35.00; shipping included in the price.

Sunrise Gourd Seeds

John Sturgeon • 1562 Ballard Lane • Greencastle, IN 46135
Phone 765-653-3893, Fax 765-653-3456, Email: msturgeo@tds.net.

Reaching a State of Zen with an Ikebana Gourd

By Jill Walker

If you are familiar with Japanese flower arranging you may remember that simplicity is one of the principles of the Ikebana style. You can make a very simple container from a gourd which will be appropriate for displaying a few blossoms and leaves or other natural materials in this simple yet pleasing manner.

To make an Ikebana container you will need a slightly curved top or bottom of a gourd. A scrap of gourd such as the discarded top of a canteen gourd will work great. Look through your scraps. The piece you cut off when you made a gourd drum may be just what you need. You will also need a small flat can such as a 6 oz. tuna can. (figure 1)

Cut a 6" square from paper, center and trace it on top or bottom of the gourd piece you've chosen. Cut the gourd so you have a square piece of gourd that curves up slightly at the corners. Now cut a hole which is about 2" in diameter in the center of the piece you cut. Sand the gourd as smooth as you can on both sides as well as the edges. (figure 2)

Cut 4 small pieces of gourd approximately 5/8" x 1/2". Laying the cut square with a hole in the center on the

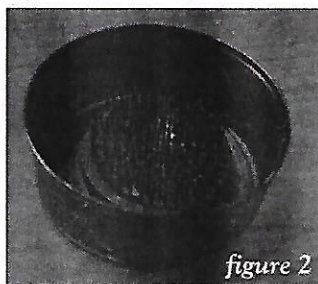


figure 2

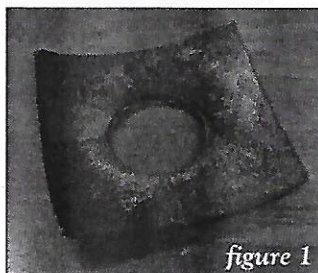


figure 1

table with the concave side down place the tuna can in the center of the gourd piece covering the hole and glue the small pieces you have cut onto the gourd square right at the edge of the can. Do not glue the can to the square. These pieces will allow you to keep the square centered on the can later.

When the glue is dry spray the gourd piece with flat black on all surfaces. Spray the tuna can inside and out as well.



figure 3

When the paint is dry place a pin frog inside the can and add water. Place the gourd piece, concave side up, over the can and arrange apple blossoms or other plant material by sticking it into the pin frog. (figure 3) (Pin frogs are available where flower arranging supplies are sold.)

If you enjoyed this project you may want to take a look at Donn Kelder's

book *Gourds From Vine to Design*. She offers many ideas for using gourds in arrangements and as containers for flower arranging. These same directions can be used to make a candle holder but you will want to cut the hole a bit larger so it can accommodate the size of your candle. I hope you'll make a gourd Ikebana container to give as a gift or to use when you are meditating about your next gourd project.

Masks Galore in Visalia

The Fifth Grade students at St. Paul's School in Visalia were given a mission: take what they had been reading in literature and studied in social studies and create a gourd mask. They had been reading about the Native Americans in the New World and had just completed "Indian Captive", the story of Molly Jemison, a young girl captured by the Iroquois. In that story, the "False Face Society" tried to cure a sick Molly.

Each child was told to use a natural theme, try to emulate Native American designs, and to be "creative". Carefully, each child took their gourd home, cleaned it, and brought it back to school.

By this time, almost all of the students had given their "babies" names, wrapped them carefully in towels, and checked on them everyday.

Their teacher, Toni Best and a friend, cut the gourds according to the designs the students drew on the gourds. Next came the cleaning of the inside and the sanding of the edges. The masks and tools added an incentive to each student to do his or her best.

After six weeks of caring for the gourds, talking to them and creating their art, each student finished their project. We are pleased with the results and feel that we have future gourders in this group.



ARTISTS GROWERS SUPPLY VENDORS! GOURD FAIR LA 2002

at the Arboretum of
Los Angeles Co.

Applications for exhibitors' booth spaces will soon be available.

Please contact me by e-mail at sjrgourds@yahoo.com to be put on the mailing list and I will get an application out to you as soon as they are ready.

All booths will be outside again, so canopies are a must! 10'x10' spaces are available for \$75.00. (Yes, the price has gone up, but now we know how expensive it is to mount an event of this magnitude!). Exhibitors will be responsible for providing their own canopies this year. We will provide one table and chair per booth.

Sally Rosenberg • (818) 893-7970
sjrgourds@yahoo.com

California Gourd Society Fifth Gourd Art Competition & Exhibit

Saturday and Sunday, June 22nd & 23rd, 2002

Display space donated by Welburn Gourd Farm • 40635 De Luz Murrieta Road, Fallbrook, CA 92028

E-mail: info@welburngourdfarm.com • Tel: (760) 728-3965

COMPETITION RULES:

- Any individual may enter, but must be a member of the California Gourd Society.
- Participants may enter only one entry per category and in only one division.
- There are two divisions: The Beginning Division for the novice. The Advanced Division for anyone that has won a ribbon in past CGS competitions.
- The entry fee is \$6 for each entry. There is no charge for children and youth.
- All work must be done by the exhibiting artist and not previously entered in CGS competition.
- Deadline: Mailed entries postmarked no later than Monday, June 17. Personal deliveries no later than Friday, June 21 at 5 pm so the show can be set-up prior to judging.
- Judging will be Saturday, June 22. The Exhibit will open to the public at 11:00 am.
- All participants agree to allow photographs to be taken of displayed items.
- Pick-up will be Sunday from 3:00 to 5:00 pm. Entries may not be removed early.
- Mailed entries will be returned in approximately two weeks after the show. Mailed entries must have return postage and self-addressed shipping container.
- All art work not picked up or arranged for pre-paid return will be donated to CGS.
- The California Gourd Society will officiate at all judging.

CATEGORIES: GOURD MUST PREDOMINATE

1. **Pyrography:** Whole or cut gourd. Wood burned only – natural or clear finish allowed.
2. **Carving/Cutting:** Whole or cut gourd. Cutting and or carving should be featured. Gourd may be colored in any medium.
3. **Painting:** Whole or cut gourd. Please indicate type of paint used.
4. **Staining:** Whole or cut gourd. Woodburning allowed. Staining should be featured.
5. **Mixed Media:** Whole or cut gourd. On entry form, please indicate materials used.
6. **Pen and Ink:** Whole or cut gourd. Only pen and ink may be used. Clear finish allowed.
7. **Weaving:** Whole or cut gourd. Natural or man-made materials. Gourd may be colored.
8. **Dolls/Human Figures:** Single or multiple gourds may be used. Gourds must predominate.
9. **Animal Figures:** Single or multiple gourds may be used. Gourds must predominate.
10. **Masks:** Whole or cut gourd(s). May use any media. Embellishments are allowed. Must have hanger or attachment to allow the mask to be displayed on the wall.
11. **Jewelry:** Whole or cut gourds and/or pieces. Any technique. May use additional materials.
12. **Bird Habitat:** Whole or cut gourds. Must include a sturdy hanger as this category will be hung and displayed from the ceiling.
13. **Patriotic U.S.:** No restrictions.
14. **Useful Object:** No restrictions. Gourds must predominate.
15. **Whimsey:** No restrictions.
16. **This Year's Art Challenge - "Opposites Attract":** This category is a challenge to interpret the design principle of "balance" in a piece of gourd art. No restrictions. Use your imagination.
17. **Heritage (7 categories this year):** Gourds must predominate. Gourd art that recognizes the distinctive art and culture of an ethnic population. Be creative! Entrants will be invited to display their work at Gourd Fair LA 2002, a CGS sponsored event at the Arboretum of Los Angeles County on September 20-22, 2002.
A: African, B. Australian, C. Polynesian, D. Asian, E. Mexican, F. Native American, G. Egyptian

Children: 12 and under (No restrictions; Minimum adult assistance, please

Category 1: Toy; **Category 2:** Animal; **Category 3:** Insect; **Category 4:** Reptile; **Category 5:** Mobile (include hanger)

Youth 13 - 18: (No restrictions; Work of entrant only)

Category 1: Game; **Category 2:** Animal; **Category 3:** Insect; **Category 4:** Reptile; **Category 5:** Mobile (include hanger)

The purpose of the Gourd Art Competition is to challenge CGS members to create new art and develop new ideas for themselves within a category. Thousands of visitors attend the exhibit each year and enjoy the creativity and skill of CGS members. If requested, individual artist's telephone number may be released by CGS so that visitors may call the artist after the show. For more information, contact Carol Rookstool at crookstool@aol.com.

California Gourd Society Gourd Competition 2002

Entry Application - one form per entry, please!

Name: _____
Mailing Address: Street: _____ City: _____
State _____ Zip _____
Telephone Number: _____ Category Entered: _____
Division Entered: Beginning _____ Advanced _____ (If you have won a ribbon in CGS competition in past years you will enter in the Advanced Division.)
Signature that you have read all information to enter competition 2002: _____

MAIL OR DELIVER YOUR ENTRY WITH CHECK TO: **California Gourd Society • Welburn Gourd Farm • 40635 De Luz Murrieta Road • Fallbrook, CA 92028**

Summary of January Board Meeting

Membership is over 1,000.

Publication of Golden Gourd

Editor: Dawn Schiller
Designer: Su Wickersham
Advertising: Lorraine Valenzuela
Publishing & Mailing: Lynne Bunt
Patch Reports/ Class Listings: Carol Rookstool
Reporter: Leigh Adams

Website: www.calgourd.com
Manager: Peggy Blessing

Costs of publishing the Golden Gourd and maintaining the website exceeds the membership income. Beginning in June of 2002 the CGS membership will therefore be raised to \$15 per year.

CGS will sponsor the following events:

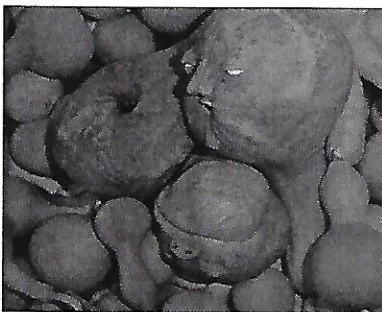
Asilomar Gourd College (alternating years) April 2002

Gourd Art Competition (Space provided by Welburn Gourd Farm) June

Gourd Fair LA (Arboretum of LA County) September 2002

Fundraising for 2002 will include:

Art auction at Asilomar, raffle at the 2002 Gourd Art Competition, raffle at Gourd Fair LA. Donations have been received from CGS members for the Asilomar conference and from Robert Rivera for the raffles. Funds will be used for operating expenses and for youth scholarships.



January CGS Board Meeting at Rookstool Ranch Breaks Out into Random and Foolish Enterprises!

Book Review

By Dawn Schiller

The Absolute Basics: A Written Class for the Aspiring Gourd Crafter

by Ann Mitchell and Kay Mackelburg

This is a book I wish had been written before I started gourd! Based on the beginners' classes they teach, Mitchell and Mackelburg (who also authored Making Gourd Faces) take one through "the logical, sequential and necessary steps to gourding".

Absolute Basics is written in a friendly, easy-to-read manner. Arranged in fifteen chapters, the first fourteen answer common questions beginners have, starting with gourd identification, and covers finding and selecting gourds, cleaning, safety issues, and decoration, working through to sealers and finishes. The text also includes an exhaustive list of things that can be made with gourds.

The last chapter is (has) five "To Die For" gourd bowl projects. These are a simple painted bowl, a fretwork bowl, a petroglyph bowl (my favorite), an embellished bowl with couching, and a textured and fabric lined bowl. All directions are easy to understand and follow.

"Handy Hints" boxes scattered throughout the book are especially helpful, and there is an appendix listing gourd books, resources online, and suppliers.

An unusual aspect of the book (compared to many how-to books I've seen) is that the authors keep the list of necessary equipment (with a few exceptions) limited to things one already has around the house. This thoughtful approach, rather than recommending the reader rush out and buy expensive equipment, could save excessive expenditures in the event that the beginner decides they don't like to gourd (does that really happen?!).

Any criticism? I wish the photos were in color!

50 pages; \$9.95

Available through The Caning Shop

Investigative Reports

By Toni Best

One of our gourd group, M.E. Hue Graham, had an unexpected visit the other night; the family was alerted that someone was at the gate by their barking dogs. When they went to the gate, there was a policeman. He seemed a little chagrined, and asked her if he could come in and look around. Surprised herself, she let him into her yard. As he was looking around he explained they had gotten a call that she had HEADS hanging in her back yard!!!!

The investigating policemen were met by all of M.E.'s gourds, which she has hanging from an overhead patio trellis for storage. (M. E. can hardly resist a "gourd purchase", so to save on storage room she hangs her gourds from her patio trellis and her back yard trees) M.E. said that her huge Rubbermaid trunks in the back which also contain gourds looked suspicious, since they are large enough to hold bodies.

Oh, dear....the things we gourd people have to put up with.

Happy gourdng.

Gourd Sale

\$30.00 a Bag 33gal. size
50,000+ Gourds to Choose from

Sale Price good NOW until September
Call for an appointment 909-795-8733



32335 Live Oak Cyn. Rd.
Redlands CA 92373
Corner of I-10 and Live Oak
909-795-8733
www.liveoakcanyon.com

ATTENTION TEACHERS

The California Gourd Society will hold its 2nd Annual Gourd Fair at the Arboretum of Los Angeles County on September 20 - 22, 2002.

CGS is soliciting proposals from teachers for:

- 3-hour beginner classes to be taught on Saturday and Sunday (9-12 and 1-4)
- 6-hour (9-4) advanced classes to be taught on Friday only.

The instructors will be paid \$20 per student for a three hour class and \$40 per student for a 6 hour class. Maximum of 12 students per class. If necessary, you may charge a small materials fee. No travel or lodging expenses will be paid.

Dye and cutting stations will be provided by CGS volunteers. These stations will confine these processes to a single area. Folding tables and chairs will be provided.

If possible, prepare a handout and make copies to distribute to your students. Please include a sample of your handout and a picture of the project with your proposal. Remember, emphasis is on projects of a modest scope that can be completed within the class period by students with a variety of skill levels.

Proposal **deadline** is April 20. Classes will be advertised in the Golden Gourd and the website beginning approximately June 1, 2002.

Gourd Fair 2002 Schedule

Friday, September 20 – vendor and artist booth setup and advanced classes only
Saturday and Sunday, September 21 and 22 – Full day events 9-5
Beginner classes, music, lectures, displays, fair activities, booths, demos

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Name of Proposed Class: _____

Description of Class (supplies, tools students need to bring, materials, etc.) _____

Materials fee (if any) for student _____

Please include a photograph of your teaching project and a sample handout with this form.

Deadline April 20!!

Mail to: Selection Committee c/o Charlene (Cookie) Hanson, 13250 Fairfield #173 F, Seal Beach, CA 90470.
Telephone: (562) 430-3265 and e-mail: basketcookie@aol.com



REGIONAL ROUNDUP

Bakersfield – It is time to plant those gourd seeds! Our coordinator is traveling to Indiana to judge the Indiana Gourd Show competition, to teach, and attend the American Gourd Society meeting. Great fun!

Several CGS members from Kern County will be attending the Asilomar Gourd Conference. Alex

Villalva will be leading a Woodburning Circle and Betty Finch will be teaching a GourdBaby necklace class. Carpooling and caravanning can be arranged. To donate items for the auction/raffle fundraiser please contact Betty at (661) 589-3368. This conference always receives rave reviews.

It isn't too early to start working on gourd projects for the CGS Art Competition June 20-23 at the Welburn Gourd Festival. Contact Betty if you want to attend group workshops to prepare your gourds for the show.

To inquire about other gourd activities in the Kern County area contact Betty Finch at finchgourd@aol.com. Be sure to mention "gourds" in the subject line.

El Dorado County – Need to cancel a meeting because of the weather? In our part of the state, Winter attendance at our patch meeting can be affected by the snow level. When Placerville is having a cold rain, there is a very good chance the surrounding areas at higher levels are experiencing snow – greatly affecting driving. As a result, we are going to implement a telephone tree that can be used to make quick contact.

Chuck York recently gave a very good demonstration on relief carving. He made the rest of us want to take a carving knife and start in on a gourd.

Our very own famous Judy Arrigotti recently gave an outstanding presentation on gourd art at the Placerville Art Council meeting. She really puts the ART in Gourd Art.

If you are within a 100 mile radius of our area and are interested in a basic gourd class or a class to create a beautiful gourd lamp, give us a call for information, (209) 296-6834. Any additional information on meetings please contact Carol Cherry, (209) 296-6834 or FAX (209) 296-6819.

Kingsburg "River Patch" – We are new! We started our patch in January 2002 when four friends took a class from Toni Best called "Introduction to Pine Needle Basket Weaving on Gourds". Although we are novice gourders, we are loving the whole exploration of the arts and of gourd crafting. We are full of enthusiasm and have great plans for "patch work".

On May 11 some of our members will attend the Red Bud Festival in Three Rivers and participate in the "Make and Take" classes taught by the Tulare-Sequoia Patch. It is wonderful to have exchanges with nearby patches.

We'll be hosting a class taught by Carol and Diana Rookstool on July 13. They will be teaching us Oriental and Native American mini masks. We are still working out the details.

For more information please contact our coordinator Pat Wescott at (559) 897-7470 or send e-mail to wagon4@lightspeed.net.

Northern Sierra – The Northern Sierra Gourd Patch has been growing with new members attending each meeting. We meet bi-monthly and share ideas, and we have great snacks.

Members of our group are heading for Asilomar in April. Last year was a first for us and we can hardly wait to go back to this lovely Monterey area location. What a wonderful experience!!

Our May meeting will be changed to May 4th because we have been invited to join the Shasta-Thama Gourd Patch for a field trip to a Northern California gourd farm.

For more information call Jackie Berg at 530-675-2577 or e-mail to ljberg@cwnet.com.

Orange County – Orange County members are busy getting ready for the Asilomar Gourd Conference and have planned additional Patch activities to include participation at the Orange County Fair in July and at the CGS/Los Angeles Arboretum event in September.

Individual members of the group are going to participate in the OC Register's Troublesooter Antique Swapmeet and Craft event at CSU Fullerton on May 5 and again in October. This will be a first and many

members are interested to evaluate that large event as a venue for selling gourd art. Of course, many members will be at the Welburn's Festival in June for the CGS Gourd Competition and all the fun!

Our Patch is once again searching for a meeting place, since our program coordinator, Donna Ault, who had been generously hosting our 4th Thursday evening meetings at her home, has taken a full time job. Meanwhile, some of our fantastic experienced "Instructor" members have agreed to offer some classes for patch members at their homes or other selected locations in the near future. Our meeting schedule, locations and dates are likely to change, so anyone interested in attending or needing more information about joining the Orange County Patch...the patch with A-peel" should call Susan Sullivan, OC Regional Coordinator at 714 997-4482 or email susansphn@aol.com

New CGS members in the OC area are encouraged to get in touch and meet us in the Orange Patch. Happy Gourdng!

Pasadena – Our group has now officially adopted its new moniker: Gourd Artisans of Los Angeles. We will continue to meet in Pasadena, but with new members coming from Lancaster to Redondo Beach, and from Santa Monica to Wrightwood, we felt it important to be more geographically inclusive.

Also, we are growing and so will be moving to a new meeting venue in Pasadena. Member Karen Trudnich has arranged for us to use a spacious (and free!!) meeting room at her company, Dilbeck Realtors. Thank you Karen for your creative thinking, and we thank your company for its generosity.

We will continue to meet on the third Wednesday of the month at 7:30pm. Our January and February meetings were a tour de force by rush weaving teacher Cookie Hanson. Thirty seven folks showed up and just about all of us "got it". The class was continued into the following month for the finishing process and the results were all individual and so handsome.

In March, Mary Lyon from the Santa Monica Patch will teach Polymer design on gourds.

In April, Lorraine Valenzuela will teach cedar weaving.

In May, Pat Boyd will demonstrate for us and describe her creative process.

Also, since shortly after the New Year, we have been in the process of planning for Gourd Fair LA 2002 in conjunction with the Los Angeles County Arboretum to be held September 20, 21st and 22nd. We learned a lot at last year's Gourd Fair and feel 2002 will be a bang-up celebration and more successful than ever.

On March 23rd, a dozen of our group will attend a class taught by Don Weeke at Lorraine Valenzuela's home. We are very proud that Lorraine has agreed to form a new gourd patch in Pico Rivera.

On May 3rd, 4th and 5th we've been invited to exhibit as a group at the Baldwin Bonanza, a botanical show and sale at the Arboretum of Los Angeles County.

Want information about the Gourd Artisans of LA? Call Mary Jane Jones or Ed Jasaitis at (323) 224-8034.

Pico Rivera - Whittier – This newly formed patch will be hosting classes! Don Weeke was our first fabulous teacher. Guillermo Martinez will teach a Drum Class on Saturday, April 6 (\$80) and Lynne Everett will teach a Free Form Basketry class on Saturday, May 18 (\$55). Come join us in the garden for a fun class and pot luck lunch (I provide the main dish) Call Lorraine Valenzuela at (562) 949-1944 for more details.

Sacramento River City – For more information about our meetings and activities, please call Anita Marshall at (916) 983-4645 or send e-mail to missanita@softcom.net.

San Bernardino County – The San Bernardino CGS Gourd Patch meets on the second Monday of each month at 6:30 pm. We meet at the home of Kathy Riker in Yucaipa. We share our artwork at each meeting so bring a piece of two to tell us what you are doing. Our calendar is established for the year but please call Kathy to see if any meeting dates will be changed.

March - Knotless Netting

April - No meeting - attend Asilomar

May - Play with paper clay and other clays. Learn to mold faces and hands

June - Bring dolls to the meeting to share. Attend Welburn Festival.

July - More dolls, bring doll project to share.

August - Embossing powders on gourds

Sept - Mystery gourd exchange. Attend CGS Gourd Fair LA and Zittel Festival

Oct - Bring back mystery gourd project. Attend Tree Movers Gourd Festival.

Nov - Business meeting to plan for 2003.

Dec - Christmas party. Please come and join the San Bernardino Gourd Patch. For more information on our meetings or directions, call Kathy Riker at (909) 797-5217 or e-mail at monkmonk@cybertime.net.

Please contact Kathy Riker at (909) 797-4591 or send e-mail to monkmonk@cybertime.net for more information about our group.

San Diego – The CGS San Diego Gourd Patch is part of the Misti Washington Gourd and Basket Guild which meets the first Sunday of each month at Quail Botanical Gardens in Encinitas from noon to 3:30 pm.

During even numbered months, we begin with a potluck lunch and door prize drawings followed by a business meeting. Members are encouraged to bring a project to work on and/or show-and-tell item to share. On the odd numbered months, the meeting is informal and everyone brings a sack lunch. Mini-workshops or demonstrations are often scheduled for these meetings.

April 10 - 30 members will exhibit gourd and basket art at the Vista Adobe Gallery in Valley Center. Artwork is to be delivered, in labeled boxes, at the April 7 business meeting. At the May 5th meeting the group will be making pins from a Beverly Seegert kit. Proceeds will go towards a scholarship fund.

Contact us if you are interested in volunteering for the CGS Art Competition and Information Booth at the Welburn Festival on June 22 and 23. Please look at the MWGBG web site at baskets-gourds.com or the California Gourd Society site at www.calgourd.com. For more information contact regional coordinator Peggy Blessing at (858) 292-9219 or send e-mail to giza@sprynet.com.

Santa Monica – The Santa Monica Gourd Patch meets on the first Wednesday of each month at Wild Fiber, 1453 14th Street, Santa Monica. Please join us from 7 to 9 pm. The meeting fee is \$3. We invite guest artists, special people to teach us the latest in techniques, and simply have a great time.

In addition to our regular meetings, the spring calendar includes attending the Asilomar Gourd Conference on April 12 - 14. Our patch plans to show their latest creations at Baldwin Bonanza at the Arboretum of Los Angeles County on May 4 and 5. Many of our group will be participating in the Welburn's 6th Annual International Gourd Festival on June 21 - 23. We welcome newcomers! For more information contact Lillian Hopkins at (310) 396-3266 or e-mail to Gourd Spirits@cs.com.

Shasta/Tehama Counties – Our gourd-group meets on the second Saturday of each month from 1 to 3 PM. We share ideas and do hands-on projects. In December we have an annual year end party and ornament exchange. Contact Rebecca Cileo at (530) 357-4853 or luv2ridedi@aol.com.

Sonoma - Santa Rosa – The Sonoma Gourd Patch is continuing to grow with three new members in February.

Ginny Matheson is the Regional Coordinator. She is looking forward to scheduling meetings and doing the "administrative" duties for another successful year in "wine country".

Long-time members, Janis Kobe and Thena Trygstad, are presenting workshops in the Sonoma area. They recently taught a workshop on three dimensional fabrication of gourds by using cutting, drilling, glue and air-drying clay. Several members are displaying their work in local galleries and selling their art at gift shops and galleries throughout Sonoma County.

March 30 - Meet at Shingle Tree Restaurant in Healdsburg for breakfast and workshop at Medicine Bead Shop to learn to make leather embellished rattles.

April - Attend Asilomar Conference.

May 11 - To Be Announced.

June 8 - Getting technical about gourds.

July 13 - A "Gourd-Out" working together on gourds

August 10 - General meeting.

September - Attend Zittel Gourd Festival

October 25 - To Be Announced.

November 9 - To Be Announced.

December 14 - Holiday Party and Gourdamment Exchange

Ginny Matheson, Regional Coordinator (707) 823-3266 or zermay@pacbell.net.

Tulare/Sequoia – Our patch is growing!! After several years of outstanding leadership by Toni Best, we have a new Regional Coordinator, Dianne Burke. Thank you Toni!

Our Christmas gourd ornament exchange party was a big success and enjoyed by all. We do parties well and it is a part of our tradition as one of the longest established regional groups in California.

To meet the demand for beginning gourd classes in the central San Joaquin Valley, Noi Thomas will be teaching a "gourd fundamentals" class on March 30 in Lindsay. For details call Noi at (559) 562-9640.

On Saturday, May 4th the Tulare/Squoia Gourd Patch will be hosting a workshop and BBQ - Pot luck at Woodridge Mountain Gifts in Camp Nelson. Gourd Artist Betty Finch of Bakersfield will be offering her expertise on "Finding Your Niche with Gourds." Bring your gourds, tools and materials and join us for this fun day! Please RSVP.

May 13th and 14th will be the 29th Annual Redbud Festival in Three Rivers. Many members will be exhibiting their gourds and a "Make & Take" class will be offered by Carol Rookstool and Noi Thomas with lots of enthusiastic assistance from CGS members.

May 18th will be another fun day for the Tulare/Sequoia Patch. Well-known gourd artist Judy Cunningham (Winter 2001 Golden Gourd) will demonstrate some of her latest discoveries about materials and techniques for use on gourds. This will be a potluck meeting in Camp Nelson. Please RSVP.

Many of our group attend the festivals and CGS events. Look for us at the Asilomar Gourd Conference, Welburn Gourd Festival, Gourd Fair LA at the Arboretum, Zittel Gourd Festival, and Tree Mover Tree & Gourd Farm Festival.

For more information call Dianne Burke at (559) 542-2281.

Tahoe - Truckee - Reno – The Tahoe Truckee Gourd Patch has had some challenges with weather during the winter months. We managed to have our Christmas get-together on January 22. We do have fun!

We had a "tools and tricks" meeting in February and will be making name tags on gourd shards in March. In April, we look forward to the Asilomar Conference in Pacific Grove and will be concluding our exhibit at the library. Our May meeting will be held in Auburn where we will be learning Teneriffe.

Our close neighbors, the Great Basin Basketmakers, are located in Reno, Nevada, so we are a two-state gourd patch.

On August 10, Gabrielle Bryant will be teaching a pine needle/gourd class at the North Tahoe Community Art Center. The class is sponsored by the Sierra Artist's Network for the community at large.

Our future plans include a field trip to the Caning Shop in Berkeley and visiting another nearby CGS gourd patch. For more information, contact Gabrielle Bryant at (530) 581-3772 or gbryant@ltol.com.

Ventura County – The Channel Islands Patch continues to serve the California coast from Woodland Hills to Santa Barbara. Please join us for the following events:

April 12 - 14 - CGS Asilomar Conference and Gourd College

April 17 - Regular Meeting: "Woodburning, Hinges and Latches"

May 15 - Regular Meeting: "African Rag Doll"

June 19 - Regular Meeting: "Drum Making"

June 22 - 23 - Welburn 6th International Gourd Festival

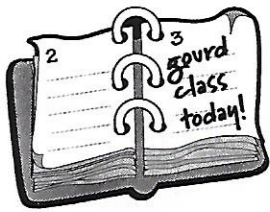
July 4 - Ventura Street Fair

July 17 - Regular Meeting: "Pine Needles"

For information about the Channel Islands Patch please call Pearl or Fern at (805) 482-3255 or e-mail to tjwesley@msn.com.

Vallejo-Carquinez Gourd Plot – We will meet on April 21 to discuss the "gourdization" of the West Contra Costa County. We will have a special report on Kemper's recent visit to the Gourd Society of Kensington, Scotland! Call Kemper Stone at (707) 557-0462 or e-mail Gourdscamp@yahoo.com for directions and further information.

NOTICE-Regional Coordinators: Please send your regional news to Carol Rookstool by the published article deadline date (see page 2), FIDM, 919 South Grand, Los Angeles, CA 90015, (213) 624-1200 x 3023, crookstool@fidm.edu.



Gourd Classes

Check the web site at www.calgourd.com for more classes.

~MARCH~

March 23
Enameling and Gourds
Judy Cunningham
9 am - 3 pm • \$40

Tree Mover Tree & Gourd Farm
March 23

Teneriffe Weaving • Mary Segretto
Welburn Gourd Farm

March 28
Pine Needle Gourd Basketry
Leigh Adams
7 - 10 pm • \$35
San Gabriel Bead Company

~APRIL~

April 6
Registration for Gourd Classes
begins today • Carolyn Potter
Barnsdall Art Center

April 16 - June 18, Tuesday Evenings 7 - 9:30
(323) 669-0234 or (213) 473-8433

April 7
Contemporary Gourd Drum
Leigh Adams
1 - 4 pm • San Gabriel Bead Company

April 13 - 14
Gourd Conference at Asilomar
Annual Weekend Retreat and
Gourd College Classes
Contact Lynne Bunt at (415) 459-3088 or
Via e-mail at: roy-sms@msn.com

April 13
Gourds and Collage • Diane Merrill
\$50 • The Caning Shop

April 20
Wood Burning & Gourd Design
Duane Teeter
10 am - 5 pm • \$45 • Zittel Farms

April 20
Gourd Decorating and Woodburning
Nadine Spier
9 am - 2 pm • Saddleback Adult Education
(949) 837-8830

April 20
Gourd Shekere Rattle
Orlando Hernandez
\$65 • The Caning Shop

April 21
Gourd Drums
Janis Kobe & Thena Trygstad
10 am - 5 pm • \$55
Sonoma • (707) 938-2091

April 25
Enameling on Gourds
Judy Cunningham
2 pm - 6 pm • \$35
Woodridge Mt. Gifts, Camp Nelson
(559) 542-2281 or (559) 542-2123

April 25
Stamping and Painting on Gourds
M.E. Graham • Visalia YMCA • (559) 636-9270

April 26
Enameling on Gourds • Judy Cunningham
9 am - 3 pm • Thomas Farms, Lindsay
(559) 542-2123 or (559) 562-9640

April 27-28
Workshop Intensive in Santa Cruz • Janis Kobe
(707) 938-2081

April 27

Fiber Weaving on a Gourd • Kathy Riker
\$40 • Tree Mover Tree & Gourd Farm

April 27

Woodburning Wildlife on Gourds
Susan Sweet
\$65 • The Caning Shop

April 27

Jicara-Huichol Gourd Art
Guillermo Martinez
\$85 • The Caning Shop

April 27

Pine Needle Sampler • Toni Best
Fresno/Madera Gourd Patch • (559) 438-9821

April 28

Embellished Tar and Bead Gourd Bowl
Carolyn Potter
Noon - 5 pm
San Gabriel Bead Company

~MAY~

Figures • Lillian Hopkins
\$65 • The Caning Shop
May 10

Beginning Gourds • Noi Thomas
9 am - 3 pm • \$40
Thomas Farms, Lindsay
(559) 562-9640

May 11

Make and Take Gourd Class
Carol Rookstool and Noi Thomas
Redbud Festival
Three Rivers • (559) 561-4087

May 11

Gourd Berimbau • Salih Qawi
\$75 • The Caning Shop

May 11

Sponge Painting Rock Art • Kathy Riker
\$40 • Tree Mover Tree & Gourd Farm

May 12

Make and Take Gourd Class
Carol Rookstool and Noi Thomas
Redbud Festival
Three Rivers • (559) 561-4087

May 18

Pine Needle Coiling on Gourds
Mary Prior
\$45 • Tree Mover Tree & Gourd Farm

May 25

Gourd Fountain • Lynne Bunt
\$85 • The Caning Shop

May 25

Transferring Designs on Gourds
Diane Merrill
\$50 • The Caning Shop

~JUNE~

June 1

Enameling and Textural Effects
Judy Cunningham
\$40 • Tree Mover Tree & Gourd Farm

June 1

Sponge Painting Rock Art • Kathy Riker
10 am - 4 pm • \$75
Thomas Farms, Lindsay
(559) 562-9640

June 2

Wax Resist on a Gourd • Kathy Riker
10 am - 3 pm • \$50
Thomas Farms

June 8

Gourd Drum • Darryl Devore
\$65 • The Caning Shop

June 8

Tribal Gourd Drum • Kathy Riker
\$65 • Tree Mover Tree & Gourd Farm

June 15

Crinkly Cactus with Hummingbird
Larry McClelland
\$40 • Tree Mover Tree & Gourd Farm

June 15

Gourd Decorating and Woodburning
Nadine Spier
10 am - 3 pm • Palomar College
(760) 744-1150 X 2702

June 16

Knotless Netting Necklace
Connie Mygatt
10 am - 5 pm • \$55
Sonoma area (707) 938-2081

June 16

Personal Altar
Thena Trygstad and Janis Kobe
10 am - 5 pm • \$55
Sonoma Area (707) 938-2081

June 29

Gourd Crafting • Duane Teeter
\$50 • The Caning Shop

June 29

Gourd Decorating and Woodburning
Nadine Spier
10 am 4 pm • Vista Adult Education
(760) 758-7122

June 29

Gourd Drum Necklace • Linda Noblett
\$25 • Tree Mover Tree & Gourd Farm

~JULY~

July 13

Mini Mask Making
Diana Rookstool and Carol Rookstool
New location - River Valley Patch, Kingsberg
(559) 897-7470

July 13

Wax Resist Dye on Gourds
Kathy Riker
\$75 • The Caning Shop

July 14

Woven Jewelry with Gourd Shards
Kathy Riker \$75
The Caning Shop

July 20

Tribal Knotting Pouch • Kathy Riker
9 am - 5 pm \$55
Willner home • Santa Cruz
(831) 457-0612 or (909) 797-5217

July 21

Wild & Wooly Weaving on a Gourd
Kathy Riker
10 am - 3 pm
Wilner home • Santa Cruz
(831) 457-0612 or (909) 797-5217

~AUGUST~

August 18

Spirit Doll • Janis Kobe and Thena Trygstad
10 am - 5 pm • \$60 • Sonoma area
(707) 938-2081

The Caning Shop
926 Gilman Street • Berkeley
(510) 527-5010

Tree Mover Tree & Gourd Farm
5014 E. Ave. N • Palmdale
(661) 947-7121

San Gabriel Bead Co.
8970 Huntington Drive • San Gabriel
(626) 614-0014

Zittel Farms
6781 Oak Avenue • Folsom
(916) 989-2633

In an effort to streamline the production of the newsletter, Carol Rookstool has agreed to coordinate class listings for the CGS website and newsletter. Please send all class listings to her a minimum of one week PRIOR to the quarterly deadlines at crookstool@fidm.edu. Thank you Carol!!!!

2002 GOURD SALE SCHEDULE

SPRING - Saturday, April 6th, 2002
SUMMER - Saturday, July 6th, 2002
WINTER - Saturday, December 7th, 2002

\$20 BAG - 33 GALLON BAG
9AM - 4PM • COLUSA RANCH ONLY



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HOT BURNING TOOL Detail Master

If you are looking for the best hot burning tool on the market, your search is over! I am currently stocking the Detail Master Sabre IV which is used by most of the gourd artists across America today. You will be able to do fine lines, shadowing, parallel borders and more. Your creativity will blossom, and it makes woodburning fun!

Catalogues available for \$1.00.

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 (831) 457-0612
ardithk@aol.com • www.woodburningpens.com

Get Your Name Known!

The best way to sell your gourd art is to get into the high profile shows!

The 6th Annual International Gourd Festival at the Welburn Gourd Farm in Fallbrook, CA is your chance!

June 22nd & 23rd, 2002

Over 10,000 people expected to attend! The show is juried and availability is extremely limited so submit your application now! Please contact our office at (760) 728-4271 or e-mail Patti@gourdfestival.com.



Welburn Gourd Farm, Inc.
 40635 De Luz Rd. • Fallbrook, CA 92028 • 760-728-4271

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- Gourds Supplies
- Gifts

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 (559) 562-9640 • thomasfarms@jps.net

Ads: Please recognize CGS welcomes advertisers but is not responsible for the quality of their products. Please send your advertisements to Lorraine C. Valenzuela • 9266 Sunglow St., Rear Pico Rivera, CA 90660 • 562-949-1844 by the published article deadline date (see page 2), or email at lorval430@aol.com. Cost of advertisements is \$25 per issue for 3" x 3" ads.

**California Gourd Society
Rebecca Cileo
P.O. Box 762
Anderson, CA 96007
Membership Application**



**The Golden Gourd
California Gourd Society
P.O. Box 762
Anderson, CA 96007**

FORWARDING SERVICE REQUESTED

To renew your membership: send the mailing label to the right along with any corrections and your \$10.00 annual dues to Rebecca Cileo at the address listed above.

For new membership: complete the following information and send your \$10.00 annual dues to Rebecca Cileo at the address listed above.

Name: _____
please print

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Zip: _____ Telephone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Annual dues for CGS are \$10.00. Membership in the American Gourd Society is \$15.00 annually and can be paid directly to:
AGS • c/o Dallas Lunsford • 317 Maple Court • Kokomo IN 46902

Slides Needed for Library

We are in the midst of creating a slide lending library. Our goal is to have presentation material for all CGS members to use when giving a talk or demonstration.

You can help by taking slide photos of your work, your garden with gourds, or progressive shots of a piece in progress. (Hint: It is cheaper to take 2 photos at a time rather than have more slides made from an original.) Please write the artists name and town on the slide, so we can give credit where credit is due.

Send all slides to Carol Rookstool, FIDM, 919 South Grand, Los Angeles, CA 90015. Thanks so much for helping to create our library!

Digital Photographers!

ATTENTION PLEASE

When taking digital photographs to use for publication, it is essential to set the DPI at a minimum of 360. While you get fewer photographs per disc or card, they will be of a quality we can use in the newsletter. Choose the higher resolution settings and see your photos in print!!!

We need them, and will use them whenever we can. Please send them to Dawn Schiller at rhaiven@aol.com.

Information Changed?

Has your address, email, or phone number changed? We are in the midst of updating our database and want to keep you informed of all CGS activities. To do that, we need your help.

Please send any new information to:

**California Gourd Society
Rebecca Cileo • VP Membership
P.O. Box 762 •
Anderson, CA 96007
E-mail: luv2ridedi@aol.com**

GOURD HAPPENINGS 2002

April 6 & 7
Indiana Gourd Festival at Kokomo

April 12 - 14
CGS Conference at Asilomar

June 22 and 23
The 6th Annual International
Gourd Art Festival Welburn Gourd Farm
www.welburngourdfarm.com

September 21 & 22
Gourd Fair LA
LA County Arboretum

September 28 - 29
Zittel Farms 8th Annual
West Coast Gourd Festival
Folsom, CA (916) 989-2633
www.zittelgourds.com

October • Ohio

Hot new website! Read all about the Welburn's 6th Annual International Gourd Festival at www.Gourdfestival.com!

The Fresno/Madera Gourd Patch is displaying their gourd art at Gardens 2000 on May 5th. Check out the website at www.gardens2000.com.

Two weekends in May (May 11 & 12, May 18 & 19) - Open Studios event featuring CGS members Janis Kobe, Thena Trygstad, Connie Mygatt, Trish Power and Georgette Maffei. For information call Janis Kobe at (707) 938-2081