

# THE GOLDEN GOURD

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE CALIFORNIA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN GOURD SOCIETY

Volume 10, Issue 2

Summer 2008

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## The Gourd Scene in California is Hot! Hot! Hot!

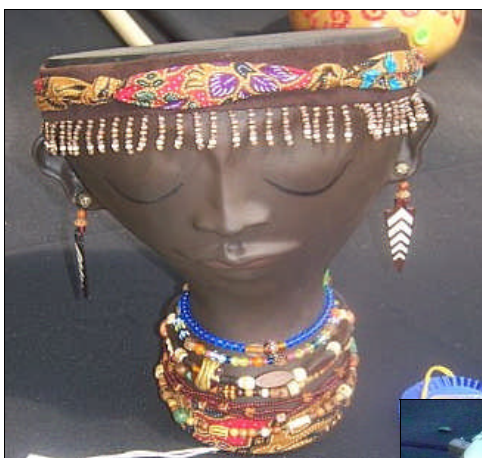
2008 California Gourd Art Competition

Once again the California Gourd Society and their artists wowed the public and members with another outstanding show at the International Gourd Festival.

Daniel Montano's life like rattlesnake sculpture not only impressed the judges, it stopped people in their track. It was fun to watch as some would take a step back as they entered the competition tent. I guess seeing the real rattle on the tail was too much.

Daniel was awarded several ribbons by our judges, including First Place in the Master Sculpture category, Best of Division Master and Best of Show but the awards didn't stop there for Daniel.

New this year C.G.S. added a People's Choice Award this award is decided by vote of the attendees, each is asked to cast their one vote for the piece they liked best of all the entries. Our Congratulations go to Daniel he was also awarded our First Peoples Choice award!



work of our Competition/Show chairman Larry McClelland who regrettably had to miss the show and Jill Walker our President. Thank you!

In the Novice Division (left) Christine Chrivia was not only awarded a First Place ribbon for her lovely drum in category 24 Inspired by Africa/Egypt she also received the Best of Division ribbon.

In the Open Division (below) Manolito Reyes took three ribbons for his entry in category 20 Musical instruments. Manolito received a First Place, Best of Division and Judges Ribbon.

Much thanks go to all of the artists for making the show and festival a success and also to all the volunteer judges and clerks. But none of this would be possible without the dedication and hard



## President's Message

Greetings Gourders,

Spring has offered a number of opportunities for our members to assuage their gourd passion. The Leiser Farm Gourd Festival in May was a great draw for those living in the northern part of our state. Extreme heat and high fuel costs kept some away but many hardy souls were there with us buying and selling gourds and gourd supplies. Greg and Mary Leiser were as gracious as ever and offered bins and bins of wonderful gourds in a wide array of shapes and sizes.

As spring turned to summer you could find many CGS members hard at work at the Welburn Gourd Festival. Wow, the patches really stepped up and sent us more gourd art entries for the competition! We saw an increase of about 50 entries over last year with a total of 243 pieces on display. The best part, however, was not the number of entries but the number of competitors. There were 116 individual CGS members who brought or sent their work to the competition. Now that is great participation! Thank you to all who took up the challenge. I hope you enjoyed the experience as much as all of the visitors enjoyed seeing the great variety of talent among you.

I have received a number of comments and questions about the competition and the judging. Despite our best efforts to keep competitors informed of the expectations for each category and points on which each piece will be judged there are always disappointments. Our nine judging teams did their best to fairly evaluate each piece in each category and then total points to determine how pieces would be ranked. The score cards competitors received for each piece may reflect some inconsistencies in the way the categories were judged, but within a category the scoring was relative as it was done by the same judging team. If you have any constructive suggestions for improving the process I would welcome your input and hope you would work with us to make improvements where needed.

Our thanks is given to all the volunteers who helped make this event a success not the least of which are Peggy Blessing, our volunteer recruiter/coordinator, Charlene Smith, the Craft Arena coordinator, the competition judges and clerks, as well as the volunteers who donated many, many hours. Overall we had fewer volunteers so we thank those who stepped up and did longer shifts and hung in to help where ever needed. By Peggy's estimate we had 60 volunteers, and put the total number of hours at somewhere around 400! We also had a lot of renewals and added 21 new or lapsed members to the ranks. Almost 50 children and over 45 adults created gourd art in the crafting arena pretty good considering that heat!. My personal thanks goes to Mary Bliss who arrived early to help set up and was helpful in every phase of making the event a success.

Have a great summer! Keep watch over those growing gourds and take time to create some beautiful new works of art.

*Jill Walker*

## OUR MISSION STATEMENT

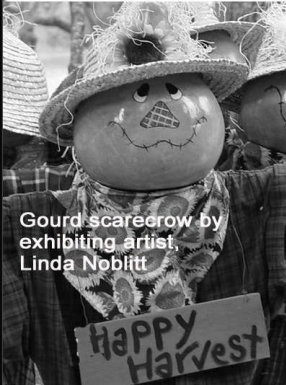
**To promote the horticulture, crafting and appreciation of the hard-shelled gourds (*Lagenaria Siceraria*) by providing charitable and educational activities to members of the society, growers, artists, crafters, business people and the public through community support and education.**



**Join Us for the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual October Gourd & Pumpkin Festival at the Welburn Gourd Farm!**

Saturday, October 4th, 2008, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

FREE Admission! Over 20 incredible Gourd Art Classes offered both Friday before the event and Saturday!



Gourd scarecrow by exhibiting artist, Linda Noblitt

Classes include "Indian Corn Bowl," with Carrie Dearing, (pictured above) "Carving and InLace Inlay," with Gloria Crane, "Metal Inlay," with Kristi Dial, and more!

**Sign up now before they fill up!** See the complete list of gourd art classes with photos online at [www.WelburnGourdFarm.com](http://www.WelburnGourdFarm.com).

Fabulous gourd art and supplies, great food, organic pumpkins, and more! Come out and enjoy the day! For complete show details visit [www.GourdFestival.com](http://www.GourdFestival.com) or call 760-728-4588.

**Festival Ramblings**

by Darlene Propp

*A tale of the 6th Annual Spring Gourd Art Festival at Leiser Gourd Farms*

Well, another wonderful festival has come and gone, but what a blast the Leiser Festival was! Barbara McDermott and I went up on Friday – the day before the festival – and had dinner at Fat City in Old Sacramento. I had never been to Old Sac before and you wouldn't even know it was there from the freeway. It's below the city street levels and has some original buildings and streets. It was fun to shop through the stores there, too. We stayed in Woodland during the festival at the Quality Inn. The drive was only one free-way exit to the road to the farm.

As always, Greg and Mary Leiser were perfect hosts for the festival. What friendly, warm and helpful people they are! Barbara had a booth and sold quite a few of her lovely painted pieces and rainsticks. The weather was HOT, but didn't seem to keep the visitors from coming out and sure didn't dampen our spirits. We had a ball visiting with other vendors, as well.

Classes were held on Saturday, and I took the gourd bowl with pine needle rim and lid topped with a pinecone, taught by Linda Pietz. She's a wonderful instructor and the class was so much fun. I learned a lot and made what I think is an adorable bowl. I'm sure I'll use the technique again. From what I could hear in other classes, everyone had a good time and was pleased with their finished gourds. After the class, I had lunch at the vendor setup – long lines because there was only one food stand, but the food was really great. As a matter of fact, I had lunch there both days, even though we had brought some stuff to eat in our ice chest. Had a delish chicken burrito the first day and a wonderful chili dog the next.

It was fun visiting all the vending booths – so much gorgeous gourd art and an amazing assortment of supplies. One of my co-workers had given me a gift certificate for Leiser's for my retirement, so, of course, I got some gourds and a beautiful little dipper gourd with knotted handle. I must have visited every booth several times, and always saw something I had missed the first time.

Since I wasn't selling anything during the festival, I had brought along some projects to work on, and completed all but one of them! I made a knotless netted bowl, then bought some wonderful jasper to do the rim treatment from Kathy Riker – who had a huge booth this year – 5 spaces worth of wonderful stuff. Also bought some more supplies from Betsy Roberts and a switch stand for my PowerCrafter from Nancy Brown. I got a beautiful little gourd ornament from Judy Burge – exquisite!

*(Continued on page 12)*

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**Tired** of lugging your gourds to festivals ??

**Imagine** an art gallery just for gourds, now

**Imagine** your gourds in that gallery

**The Gourd Gallery**

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707-274-2346 or 707-275-3469

## "Awards Listing - 2008 California Gourd Art Competition"

### Master Division

*Best of Division Daniel Montano*

*Best of Show Daniel Montano*

*Peoples Choice Daniel Montano*

**1 - Vases, bowls or containers** - 1ST Duane Dahluang, 2ND Maylan Sundealand, 3RD Pat Schalbrack, Judges Jack Thorp OC

**2 - Sculptural gourds** - 1ST Daniel Montano, 2ND Betty Finch, 2ND Duane Dahluang, Judges Valen Fia Rue

\*\*\*

### Children 12 1/2 under

1ST Jake Dearing, 2ND Mitchell Cunningham, 3RD Rachell Cunningham, Judges Jake Dearing

### Youth 13-17

**1- Anything Goes**— 1ST Gregory Moesary, 2ND Cody Lee, Judges Sofia Amigon

**2 - "Critters"** - 1ST Kendra Sagua, 3RD Caleb Holte, Judges Kendra Sagua



#### Patch Affiliations

- FB = Fallbrook Gourd Patch
- OC = Orange County Gourd Society Patch
- T/Seq = Tulare Sequoia Patch
- CI = Ventura County – Channel Islands Gourd Society
- GALA = Los Angeles – Gourd Artisans of Los Angeles
- SB = San Bernardino Patch

### Novice Division

*Best of Division Christine Chrivia #24*

**1- Weaving** - 2ND Debraj Khastagir

**3 - Color Purple** - 1ST Margie Jordan, 2ND Olive Moore OC, 3RD Arline Erickson CI

**4 - Inspired by the sea** - 1ST Jean Van Dierendonck, 2ND Chris Chan, 3RD Gail Wise

**5 - Painting** - 1ST Margie Jordan, 2ND Heather Steinman FB, 3RD Nancy Dolan FB

**6 - Staining** - 1ST Susan Phelps, 2ND Kathy Page, 3RD Anne Pratt FB, 2 Judges Awards Susan Phelps

**7 - Mixed Media** - 1ST Sharon Aparicio, 2ND Randy Storm, 3RD Camille King CI, 2 Judges Awards Sharon Aparicio

**9 - Clay embellishment** - 1ST Darlene English FB, 3RD Mari Barhum

**10 - Pyrography** - 1ST Vicky Hunga Moore FB, 2ND Christine Franke, 3RD Sherry Gorman CI

**11 - Carving** - 2ND Pat Bensten FB & OC

**12 - Doll/human figure** - 3RD Margie Jordan

**13 - Flowers** - 1ST Christine Chan, 2ND Bonnie Morine

**14 - Sculptural bird figure** - 2ND Debra Gutzman CI

**17 - Masks** - 1ST Charlene Smith CI, 2ND Margie Jordan

**19 - Beaded embellishments** - 1ST Elsie Cogswell CI, 2ND Purple Sheldon

**20 - Musical instruments** - 1ST Christine Chiva, 2ND Darlene English, 3RD Be Jones

**21 - Whimsy** - 1ST Francisco Amigon, 2ND Christine Chan, 3RD Olive Moore OC, Judges Francisco Amigon

**22 - Inspired by Native American** - 1ST Be Jones, 2ND Heather Steinman FB, 3RD Clint Appely

**23 - Inspired by Orient**— 1ST Kelly Delp FB, 2ND Christine Chan, 3RD Noi Thomas T/Seq

**24 - Inspired by Africa include Egypt** - 1ST Christine Chrivia, 2ND Darlene English FB, 3RD Deboran Gutzman CI, **Best of Division** Christine Chrivia

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## Open Division

*Best of Division Manolito Reyes #20*

- 1- Weaving** - 1ST Cookie Hanson GALA, 2ND Vaness Hughes, 3RD Linda Victory
- 2 - Coiling** -1ST Sue Welburn, 2ND Sam McKinney T/Seq, 3RD Vickie Echols FB
- 3-Color Purple** - 1ST Catherine Disney, 2ND Vickie Echols FB, 3RD Larry McClelland GALA, Judges Gail Wisk, Judges Gaye Berger OC
- 4-Inspired by the sea** - 1ST Vanessa Huges, 2ND Ray Cogswell CI, 3RD Gail Bishop
- 5 - Painting**-2ND Sherry Hunga-Moore FB, 3RD Gail Bishop
- 6 - Staining** - 1ST Lynne Bunt T/Seq, 2ND Dan Lester, 3RD Mark Goldberg
- 7 - Mixed Media** - 1ST Sylvia Marson OC, 2ND Linda Victory T/Seq, 3RD Manuel Cortez , Judges Sylvia Marson OC
- 8 - Hand trained gourds** - 1ST Jill Walker
- 9 - Clay embellishment** - 1ST Sherry Schwarzweller, 2ND Betsy Roberts
- 10 - Pyrography** - 1ST Venessa Huges, 2ND Carol Wolf Russell, 3RD Gail McGuire
- 11 - Carving** -1ST Manoilto Reyes , 2NDDiane Calderwood FB & OC, Judges Manoilto Reyes
- 12 - Doll/human figure** - 1ST Minndy Rrannon, 2ND James Hall, 3RD Lynne Bunt T/Seq
- 13 - Flowers** -1ST Carol Lang FB, 2ND Vanessa Hughes, 3RD Peggy Dahlvang T/Seq
- 14 - Sculptural bird figure** - 1ST Carolyn Wolf Russell
- 16 - Gourd seeds as embellishment** -1ST Manolito Reyes, 2ND Larry McClelland GALA
- 17 - Masks** -1ST Gail Wise, 2ND Jill Walker, 3RD Lynne Bunt T/Seq
- 18 - Jewelry** -2ND Norma Prickett FB & OC, 3RD Diane Calderwood FB & OC
- 19 - Beaded embellishments** -2ND Sam McKinney T/Seq, 3RD Gretchen Hemmerich T/Seq

**20 - Musical instruments** - 1ST Manolito Reyes, 2ND Manual Cortes , 3RD Darlene Propp SB, FB & OC, Best of Division Manolito Reyes, Judges Manolito Reyes

**21 - Whimsy** - 1ST Catherine Disney , 2ND Sherry Schwarzweller

**22 - Inspired by Native American NCI** -1ST Manolito Reyes, 2ND Catherine Disney , 3RD Carol May, Judges Gail Bishop

**23 - Inspired by Orient** -1ST Stephen Browning, 2ND Elaine Linton FB, 3RD Lynne Bunt T/Seq

**24 - Inspired by Africa include Egypt** -1ST Carol Wolf Russell, 2ND Purple Sheldon, 3RD Lynne Bunt T/Seq, Judges Carol Wolf Russell

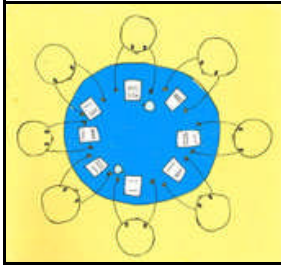








## C.G. S. at Work For You and By You



All the officers are working hard to keep our 'Gourd Galleon' afloat but some of the crew need a respite from service. Please consider offering your name as a person who can serve on the next leg of our voyage. Terms lengths are for two years.

### New Treasurer needed:

After many years of highly skilled and efficient service to C. G.S. Betty Bluekle has asked that she be replaced as treasurer. **Could you be the person to serve our organization in that capacity?** The main requirements for this position are listed below, some bookkeeping or accounting experience is needed.

- Record deposits made by membership chair.
- Deposit funds forwarded to treasurer from various events. Record in general ledger.
- Pay bills as presented by vendors and/or members for reimbursements.
- Prepare annual reports for the Board meeting.
- Prepare annual tax return.
- Order credit card supplies.
- Communicate returned checks

I know Betty would work with the new person to explain how our accounts have been maintained. This position does not require much travel. You could provide this valuable service to C.G.S. from the comfort of your home.

### New Secretary needed:

As mentioned in our last issue, Lynne Bunt is ready to pass on the job of CGS secretary to a new person. Lynne has also remained in this position for many years. A recent accident resulting in a broken hip has made it even more critical that we relieve Lynne of her secretarial duties. This position requires only occasional travel so it is another way you could make a contribution to CGS while staying home.

### Northern California Patch Coordinator Needed:

We are once again looking for a Northern California Patch Coordinator. Sandy Wilson is no longer serving in this capacity. In this capacity you would be supporting patches in the northern part of the state and providing a liaison to Betsy Roberts, VP Programs/Regional Groups. The job requirements are completely outlined in the Winter 2007 Golden Gourd.

If you or someone you know might be able to support us by taking one of the above positions please step forward or let us know who might be qualified.

Please contact me, Jill Walker, at the helm of C.G.S.  
We need you now!

A wonderful new mysterious member joined us at Welburns, *PegLani*.



Does anyone know her or anything about her? She is very talented gourd artist, does masks, dolls, beads, weaves with mylar cord. She is kind to all, always has a smile on her face, a great leader and overall wonderful. If anyone knows about her, please let me know. I would love to see her again.

Betsy

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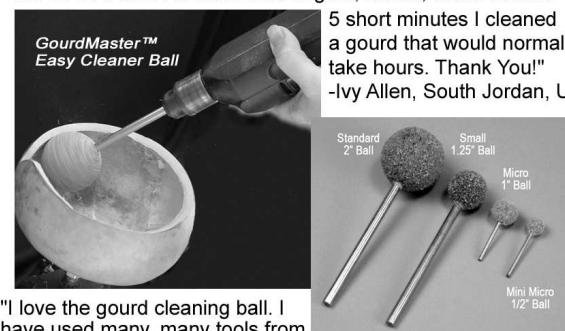
Thanks to all who volunteered at the Craft Arena, especially Carol Rookstool. Carol was wonderful walking me through all the steps needed to make this project work smoothly. Peggy Blessing taught me what it is like lining up volunteers and keeping on top of booth coverage. The children were especially fun to watch as they created their artwork. They got so excited and proud of their finished piece. The adults who participated produced some really nice gourds using all the products donated by our vendors. Thanks again to everyone who helped to make this project a success.

Charlene Smith  
Channel Islands

## FINALLY! A Gourd Cleaning Tool That Really Works!

"I used my new Easy Cleaner Balls...I am in Heaven! They are GREAT!!!!!! No more sore fingers, hands, wrists etc...In

5 short minutes I cleaned a gourd that would normally take hours. Thank You!"  
-Ivy Allen, South Jordan, UT



"I love the gourd cleaning ball. I have used many, many tools from hand sanding, paint strippers, sanders, gourd wands and genies. I have found the [Easy Cleaner Ball] to be my favorite and use it nearly all the time now." - Dianne Connelly, artist and Instructor

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[www.WelburnGourdFarm.com](http://www.WelburnGourdFarm.com) or call toll free 1-877-420-2613!

## Folsom Patrons of the Arts

### Folsom Gourd and Arts Festival

The Folsom Gourd and Arts Festival is now accepting applications for artists and vendors for the 14<sup>th</sup> annual festival to be held on September 27 & 28, 2008 in Folsom City Lions Park.

The event is open to artists of all mediums, including, but not limited to, gourd art, painting, printmaking, sculpture, drawings, photography, fiber arts, glass, pottery, jewelry, and mixed media. During both days of the event, well-known artists will demonstrate gourd art techniques including cutting, dying, and embellishing gourds.

Leiser's Gourd Farm will be on hand with thousands of gourds for sale, and art suppliers will have the latest tools, books, and materials. Visitors will find everything from handmade brooms to wearable art, and from fine jewelry to rustic pottery.

Please visit the festival's website at: [www.folsomgourdfestival.com](http://www.folsomgourdfestival.com) for more information.

### Folsom Gourd & Arts Festival Pre-Festival Art Classes

**September 24 - 29**

Classes are held off site at the 48 Natoma, Fine Arts Room. Please check the webpage below for the most current and complete class information.

<http://www.folsomgourdfestival.com/gourd-art-classes.htm>

- Alcohol Inks & Kumihimo Cord on a Gourd with Kenzie Winter
- Autumn Gourd with Diane Calderwood
- Working with Resists with Diane Calderwood
- Dream Catcher on a Gourd with Kathy Riker
- Leather Backed Gourd Pouch with Kathy Riker
- Mandala Gourd Art with Maria Dellos

## *Out of the Box with Betsy Roberts*

Hello C.G.S. Gourders,

Well it has been quite a busy spring and summer so far.

You may remember at Asilomar I challenged each patch to commit to 10 pieces of art for the C.G.S. Gourd Art Competition held at the Welburn Festival each June. I knew we had great members, but WOW did some patches really take the challenge. The Tulare, Fallbrook and Channel Islands patches had 25+ entries. I know there are more patches out there which met or beat the challenge, but these are the ones that made SURE I KNEW they had met the challenge. We had wonderful entries this year and about 50 more than last year. Each of you did great work and make the judging very difficult..

I know if we all work together for a common goal we can do anything we set our minds out to do. I am so pleased to be part of the C.G.S. Board of Directors and am willing to listen/learn from each of your patches. Each one of your groups do wonderful unique things some patches are small and others quite large, they share their knowledge and encourage each other to expand the gourd community. Have your patch check out the Traveling Teachers Listing and get them to come teach a class, share their knowledge and take away a new technique which you can grow and develop into your own style. We have great teachers out there. Class listings are on-line at our website and usually listed at each venues site.

For the southern CA patches Susan Sullivan and I are working with the L.A. County Fair, we hope to partner in some way with them to judge and give a C.G.S. Award in the gourd art category in 2009. Of course lots of details remain to be worked out. So stay tuned!

We also have the 2010 conference in Visalia, C.G.S. and myself will be working with Toni Best on that but she has already let us know "Patch Booths" are allowed and encouraged!

We have two or three more festivals in California this year and many more local county fairs and events, let's get out and support each other to make them the best shows possible in these communities. I promise you, I am here for you to assist you in all your endeavors. As a community we can only grow stronger. Have a great rest of the summer, produce great art and be ready for the fall festivals. I look forward to seeing old friends again and meeting new members.

## HAVE YOU HEARD?

### The Best-Selling GourdMaster™ Ink Dyes Are Now Available In 30 Fabulous Colors!!



"Greetings Folks! Wanted to tell you just how happy I am with the amazing new colors offered in your new gourd dyes! The colors are bright & crisp, easy to use. Many Thanks!"  
-Cynthia B, [www.picturerocks.net](http://www.picturerocks.net)

*Pictured below, new Ink Dye colors are used in the wildly popular "Faux Turquoise Inlay" class, taught by Carrie Dearing.*

"Wow! I love the new Ink Dye colors! My favorites include Eggplant (so gorgeous) and also Blue Denim. The Rich Mahogany I use in almost every one of my gourd pieces." -Carrie Dearing, [www.CreativeGourdArt.com](http://www.CreativeGourdArt.com)



Gourd Art by Carrie Dearing

**SPECIAL OFFER:** Purchase an Ink Dye Value Pack of 10 colors (Basic, Cool, or Warm colors) and save \$10.00! Regularly \$63.00, *Just \$53.00!* Use coupon code ADGG. Order online at [www.WelburnGourdFarm.com](http://www.WelburnGourdFarm.com) or call toll free 1-877-420-2613 expires 7/1/08

The wonderful assortment and beautiful pictures you see throughout this issue were taken by our members: Darlene Propp, Charlie McIntuff, Susan Sullivan and myself. For their contributions the three of them were entered into the drawing for the *Golden Gourdy Award*.

Thank you ladies for your continued support!  
Mary



## Inspiration From the Tulare Sequoia Gourd Patch

The Tulare Sequoia Gourd Patch was asked “*What books inspire you in your gourd art?*”

**Linda:** National Geographic for the textiles, colors, cultures, especially the faces of old people and children. They have such stories to tell that encompasses the whole world. They're free at Linda's Used Bookstore in Visalia when you come for the conference in 2010.

**Toni:** Native American books, and Navajo Book of Basket Making. I love the patterns, but even more try to incorporate the philosophies into my work.

**Kathryn:** Native American images and rock art. I also browse the Internet for pictures.

**Pat and Don:** Techniques of Basketry by Virginia Harvey – it has lots of samples and illustrations. We also use Contemporary Wicker Basketry with its samples, demonstrations and clear directions.

**Peggy and Dwayne:** Bonnie Gibson's book for tips and ideas. When we started we used the bible – Ginger Summit's Gourd Art. We also use Gourd Pyrography by Jim Widess.

**Dianne:** Bonnie Gibson's book, and Jim Widess's Gourd Carving book. I use two magazines – Southwest Art, and Art of the West. And anything with horses, of course!

**Sam:** At first I used various books, but now I like pictures of birds and critters in magazines, and get a lot of inspiration when we get together with various projects. I like to see work done by other people.

**Sue:** I tear pictures out of catalogs and magazines – like the Metropolitan Museum of Art and Archaeology Magazine.

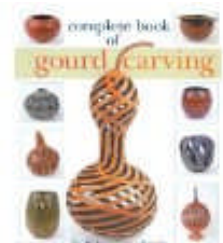
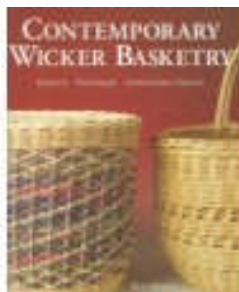
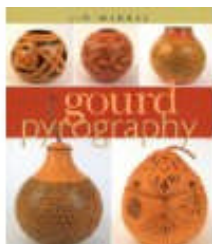
**Gretchen:** American Indian Basketry by Otis Mason, The Goddesses and Gods of Old Europe by Marija Gimbutas, Field Guide to Birds of North America by the National Geographic Society, and Field Guide to Reptiles and Amphibians by the Audubon Society. I like to see real details before personalizing it on my gourds.

**Carol:** (Oh dear – her phone has been busy all evening – I'll get her books for next time!)

**Lynn:** I make inspiration boards – I cut out pictures from various magazines – for the art, colors, shapes. I put them on tag board in categories (masks, waterfalls, dolls, etc.) and have the stacked in the corner. Then I put one on my work table for inspiration.

**Noi:** Bonnie Gibson's book, and work by Toni or Carrie Dearing. I try to bring in my Thai culture. I also use nature books for flowers and birds. I like to look at the real picture first. The woodburning has to become so real that it can almost look back at you. Then I know I'm done.

**Ann:** I use nature books, and also just looking around outside. I can see so many different kinds of leaves outside my window.



## REGIONAL PATCHES

**Amador County**

Patch Coordinator: Carol Cherry  
(916)941-1551 or  
Sylvia Nelson, (916)682-2437 or [sylvianelson@citlink.net](mailto:sylvianelson@citlink.net)

**Bachelor Valley Gourd Club of Lake County**

Patch Coordinator: Marilyn Crayton  
(707) 275-3469, [Doodahlandgourds@hotmail.com](mailto:Doodahlandgourds@hotmail.com) or  
Kennie Winter (707) 263-7980 or (650) 948-918 9  
[kenniewinter@yahoo.com](mailto:kenniewinter@yahoo.com)

**Folsom/Sacramento Patch "Gourd Miners"**

Patch Coordinator: Susan Gouig  
(707)433-8223 day or (707) 433-9162 Eve.  
[suegg51@yahoo.com](mailto:suegg51@yahoo.com)

**Foothill Gourders**

Patch Coordinator: Sandy Wilson  
530-644-1550 [artsydogs@comcast.net](mailto:artsydogs@comcast.net)

**Galt Patch**

Patch Coordinator: Elizabeth Kummerle  
(209)745-6618 or [ekummerle@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ekummerle@sbcglobal.net)

**Petaluma/Sonoma Patch**

Patch Coordinator: Georgette Maffei  
707-996-8667 or [georgettem@vom.com](mailto:georgettem@vom.com)

**San Francisco East Bay – East Bay Gourd Patch**

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Our website [www.channelislandsgourdsociety.com](http://www.channelislandsgourdsociety.com)

\*\*\*



PATCH NEWS

Happy Summer Patch Leaders,

We have all enjoyed the spring and early summer festivals and are now in the midst of summer vacations and fun. It gives us a respite and a time to plan for a busy fall.

Though some Patches may not have as many activities during the summer please do not let your group grow dormant. Some groups use the time to have picnic meetings, luau weekends, gourd play days, library and zoo activities and of course plan for those fall festivals and local fairs.

Plans and options are being discussed now with the patches. For the October 4th festival at the Welburn Gourd Farm. I hope you will consider volunteering in the CGS booth for an hour or two it is a fun way to spread the "Gourd Glow". Please let me or your patch leader know if you are available to help. It's always fun and rewarding, you will be glad you did!

You might also think of some new meeting sparklers to draw the regulars and some new members to your group. It is a proven fact that if you have a good fun activity combined with your meeting your members will gladly return and bring a friend along also. Some ideas are mini classes, demonstrations, guest speakers, mystery grab bag art (in which everyone gets a bag with a small gourd and lots of embellishments and spends the next hour creating). Or think of other fun things to do that will keep them coming back.

A reminder that the Regional Round Up is now posted on your patches page at our website so depending on your patches activities and planning we will try to update it monthly. Lets start with having them to me by the 20th of each month.

Please feel free to contact me at any time with any questions or concerns that you may have. See you in the fall,

Barbara

Fallbrook Gourd Patch "First Annual Gourd Frenzy"



"Peoples Choice Awards"

- First Place - Kellie Delp (right)
- Second Place - Carolyn Medlin (center)
- Third Place - Vickie Hunga-Murphy (left)

\*\*\*

Congratulations!!

We are very proud of Amador County member Heather Hopman, she was recently featured in the Sunset Magazine

\*\*\*

The Fallbrook Gourd Patch Invites you to our

**2nd Annual MINI GOURD FESTIVAL & SALE**

**Saturday ~ September 13, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.**

**Clark's Gourd Farm**  
**30666 Pauma Heights Rd.**  
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Featured will be: Gourd Demonstrations throughout the day • Make and Take Projects • Gourd Supplies Booth • Gourd Art for Sale • Gourd Sales Raw (discount prices) • Food Booth featuring Lunch specialties • Opportunity Drawings at 3 p.m. • Much, much more Gourd Fun throughout the day.

**Carpool and save on gas have a friend join you!**  
*There will be parking and shuttle service provided.*

For more information contact:  
 JoAnn Clark, (760) 749-9410 or email  
 b4gourds@yahoo.com  
 www.fallbrookgourdpatch.com



OCGS member Sylvia Marson shows off her very large home grown gourd at the OC Fair .

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Mary and Dick Segreto

(Continued from page 3) Festival Ramblings by Darlene Propp

I also brought along my magnifying glasses, welding goggles and a gourd to do some solar burning. What fun that was. On Saturday, I sat in the shade and just had my arms and the gourd out in the sun (which was plentiful, let me tell you). The burning was so easy and fun, and I was surprised that it didn't burn deeply into the gourd – you couldn't feel the burn lines at all, even though they were very dark. Nick Stone had told me about the technique a couple of years before, but this was the first time I'd tried it. Nick was there on Sunday and we spent some time sitting together and doing more solar burning. He was also burning walking sticks. It's great fun and I plan to take some projects with me next time I go to the beach, since I don't spend much time in the water.

Jill and Steve Walker hosted a wonderful barbeque at their motor home on Saturday evening – a great chance for Greg and Mary and the vendors to meet, visit and get to know each other better. Steve's brother is in the meat business, so the hors d'ouvres Steve passed around were some of his Hawaiian and cheese filled sausages. Steve barbequed tri tip and chicken – oh, how good – and Jill made some tasty beans. Everyone else brought side dishes and a chair, and just really enjoyed the time sitting under the trees and yakking. Oh, and I found some wonderful black walnut halves lying around on the ground and picked them up – you know.... for future embellishments on a gourd. LOL

Sunday was another hot day, but everyone enjoyed the festival, I think. Betty Finch must have been awfully hot in her mask and the amazing outfit she made from gourds which looked like she was sitting on a large horse. She moved through the area with grace, carrying her little gourd dachshund and her gourd bird marionette. What a talent she has!



Our car was packed pretty tightly for the trip up, but of course, we couldn't go home without a FEW more gourds from Greg's wonderful variety.

I'm already looking forward to next year's festival.

*Darlene*





**C.G.S.** would like to invite everyone to go on-line and check out the C.G.S. website at: [www.calgourd.com](http://www.calgourd.com)

Lisa Toth our web mistress has been very busy this year keeping the C.G.S. website up to date. I know this is not an easy task to do when you consider the fast pace of the C.G.S. and gourd community calendar now add in you participate in the activities yourself.

At our website you will find things like the most current information about what is happening in C.G.S. A complete listing of the twenty-three Regional Patches with links to their activities page or their website. Plus the who, what, when and where classes are being held throughout the state. Note: *We will print the details of the Regional Patches and classes in the newsletter only when space permits.*

**Upcoming events to be on the LOOKOUT for:**

- CGS and the Regional Patches participation at the 7th Annual Gourd & Pumpkin Festival October 4th at the Welburn Gourd Farm, Fallbrook, CA
- Baskets and Gourds: Containers of Our Culture, April 17 & 18, 2010, in Visalia, CA.

Lisa thank you for all your hard work! And thank you to everyone that has sent pictures to Lisa from the different venues. It is wonderful to see such a variety and the different perspectives. So if you haven't sent Lisa your pictures yet take a peek at what is already at the site and fill in the gaps with yours.

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*Wildcraft Gourds*  
 By Charlene Smith  
 Channel Islands Gourd Patch

Gourds are one of the oldest cultivated crops that are believed to have spanned the entire globe in prehistoric times. They were known mostly by cultures in temperate and tropical zones because this is where gourds grow best.



Gourds were most commonly used for storing supplies, hauling water, making cooking and eating utensils, musical instruments, and bird houses, and rattles.

Today gourds are still considered one of nature's greatest gifts to mankind.

There are many surprising aspects to gourds. From their oddly shaped seeds they produce prolific growth. The plants will spread and climb on everything in their area: fences, trees, buildings, etc. They are a joy to watch growing, and require little care other than regular watering. They must be harvested before a killing frost, as even a mild frost will usually damage them, causing them to rot rather than to cure and dry normally.



Gourds are also surprising in their many and varied shapes and colors. When dried and cleaned, each one will have its own natural blemishes and scars, which serve to enhance their natural beauty. They are also surprisingly light and fragile. Dropping one from even a short distance will usually crack it. Gourds are truly "nature's pottery"

Top: Mini Lidded Bowl made by Vickie Echols

**Editor's Vine**



I hope you enjoy this issue of the Golden Gourd as always it is the collective effort of myself and our members.

For this reason I have come up with my own little reward not only as away to say thank you to those that already contribute, but also as

an incentive to get even more members involved as contributors of the Golden Gourd Newsletter.

I call it the "Golden Gourdy Award". The rules are few and simple. For your contribution you will have a chance to have your name drawn to win the Golden Gourdy. Still not sure what it is? Well each one will be a different that's because each Golden Gourdy will be a unique piece of art from one of our talented C.G.S. artist.

*The First Golden Gourdy pictured below is by Toni Best and is awarded to Darlene Propp for her contributions in the Spring 2008 issue.*



*The Second Golden Gourdy pictured below is by Garey Ford and is awarded to Susan Sullivan for her contributions in this issue.*



Thank you Darlene and Susan for your support!

Happy gourding, Mary Bliss

Help spread the "Gourd Glow" by sharing your copy of the Golden Gourd Newsletter when you are done with it.



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September 27 & 28—The 14th Annual Folsom Gourd & Arts Festival—Folsom City Park— Folsom, CA

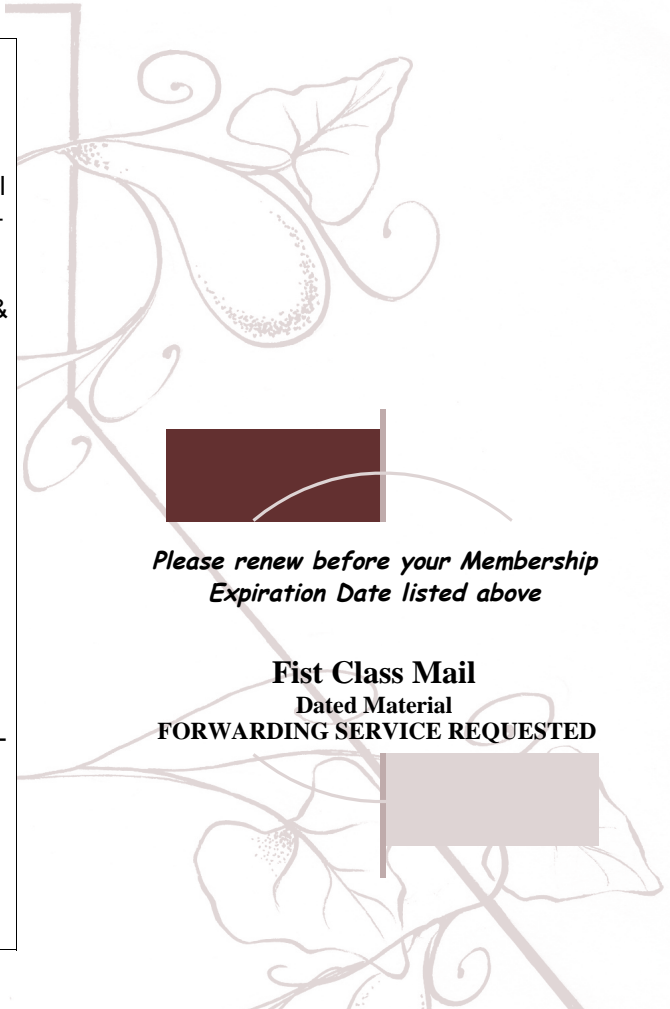
October 4— The 7th Annual Gourd & Pumpkin Festival— Welburn Gourd Farm, Fallbrook, CA

October 4—11 - Welburn Gourd Farm Half Price Sale - Welburn Gourd Farm, Fallbrook, CA

**2009**

May 2 & 3—Misti Washington Gourd & Basket Guild presents a Weekend in the Gardens - Quail Botanical Gardens, Encinitas, CA

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