

THE GOLDEN GOURD

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE CALIFORNIA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN GOURD SOCIETY

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 12

WINTER 1999

FEATURED ARTIST – SUE ERB

I majored in art in college, got married, unmarried, received a degree in Practical Nursing, remarried, and then became a commercial beekeeper 28 years ago. Whew, my life in a nutshell, bg (before gourds)!!

I moved to Lindsay in 1993 and began to pray for several things to manifest in my life: (1) good friends; (2) source of art supplies and classes; (3) and something in my life that could consume me, like bee-keeping consumes my husband! And then July 4, 1996 happened.

On a rare day off, I set off in search of a craft fair in Visalia. After stubbornly searching for 2 hours, I found it. As I approached the gourd booth, I realized my prayers had been answered. There was an instant

connection with Carol and Diana Rookstool, Noi, and those amazing gourds! My life is now full. Besides having gourds in my life, I have my daughter living next door and my wonderful hubby knows that when I'm not in the bee yard with him, I'm in my studio wrapped around a gourd. I love weaving on gourds, and am blessed to have Toni Best (basketmaker extraordinaire) as my gourd patch co-rep. I'm quite sure I won't be ready to leave this world 'till I've tried every medium, technique, and idea there is on a gourd.

This fall I have been very busy with my Visalia gourd friends participating in the juried Top of the Line Craft Show in Visalia. What a great success as I just about sold out of my inventory. Plus, what a great way to spend a weekend, hanging out with gourd buddies!

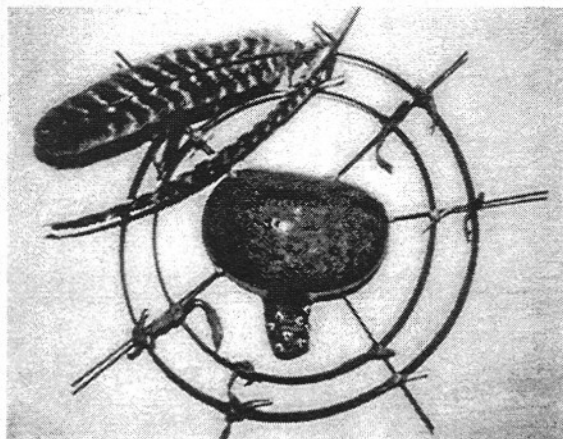
I think gourds are sacred, and that gourd people are very special. To everyone connected with gourds, that I have met...THANK YOU, you have touched my life profoundly!! See you at Asilomar!



BLUE RIBBON AWARDED – CALIFORNIA STATE FAIR

Congratulations to Kay Mackelburg, Folsom California, for her first place at the 1999 California State Fair, California Living Division, Any Other Handicraft Class. Her winning entry, a gourd mask entitled "The Elder Tells", is pictured on the right. Kay believes this is the second year in a row that a piece of gourd art has taken a top prize in this category.

Kay was also busy this summer where she spent four days at Camp Ronald McDonald at Eagle Lake teaching deaf and hard of hearing youngsters at Camp SignShine to make gourd masks. Gourds for the masks were donated by the Zittels. This craft adventure was a hit of the camp. As one camper expressed, "I never thought a gourd could be so pretty"!



President's Message

Carol Rookstool

What a great year CGS has had! As we close out the century, we can look back at phenomenal growth in membership and the establishment of numerous local "gourd patches" throughout California. Just like a garden, some of the plants have produced bumper crops and other parts of CGS have grown a little more slowly. Overall, the total garden – has become well established and lovely to behold. Each of our efforts, large and small, has resulted in an energetic and exciting era for gourd enthusiasts!

Looking forward, the year 2000 holds great promise. Our year will begin with the annual membership meeting at the state conference ground at Asilomar on March 17 – 19. Since it is the first little year in a century, the planning committee has suggested that we look at the little mini-gourd as the "star" of the Gourd College (little classes on March 18). We hope you will find this idea amusing and that many of you will be able to attend. Meetings will be held on the 17th and the 19th to facilitate the business operations of CGS and the state requirements for a non-profit, public benefit corporation.

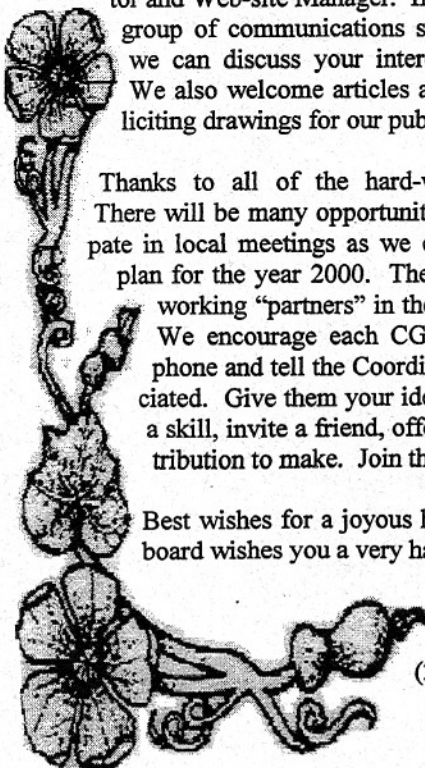
Many of the great state of California's gourd growers plan to repeat the tremendously successful festivals that have become a part of our gourd-passionate member's social calendar. Watch the Golden Gourd for the dates and locations of these fun-filled events. We also hope to keep the schedule of classes and other events as a well-read part of the Golden Gourd. Remember – this is your newsletter! The more information that the editor receives – the more information is available to the membership. We want your news!

CGS is still looking for candidates for the positions of Newsletter Editor and Web-site Manager. If you are interested in joining our group of communications specialists, please contact me so we can discuss your interests and possible contributions. We also welcome articles about gourds and are eagerly soliciting drawings for our publications.

Thanks to all of the hard-working regional Coordinators. There will be many opportunities for CGS members to participate in local meetings as we complete this calendar year and plan for the year 2000. The Coordinators are eager to have working "partners" in the events and activities they plan. We encourage each CGS member to pick up the telephone and tell the Coordinators how much they are appreciated. Give them your ideas and offer to help out!! Share a skill, invite a friend, offer to bring food, you have a contribution to make. Join the fun!

Best wishes for a joyous holiday season! The entire CGS board wishes you a very happy New Year!

Carol Rookstool
crookstool@aol.com
 (213) 629-5689



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Regional Coordinators

(bold type denotes a new Gourd Patch of GP leader)

<u>Bakersfield – Kern County</u>	
Betty Finch	805-589-3368
<u>El Dorado County</u>	
Carol Cherry	530-622-6755
<u>Fallbrook</u>	
Jo Rosenberg	909-698-6106
<u>Folsom – Sacramento</u>	
Ann Mitchell	916-987-7027
<u>Hesperia</u>	
Lynn Trasko	760-956-2087
<u>Lake County – Mendocino</u>	
Joannis Mohrman	707-274-8874
<u>Marian County – East Bay</u>	
Lynne Bunt	415-459-3088
<u>Orange County</u>	
Susan Sullivan	714-997-4482
<u>Palm Dale/Antelope Valley</u>	
Marguerite & Paul Smith	805-722-0256
<u>Pasadena</u>	
Mary Jane Jones & Ed Jasaitis	213-224-8034
<u>Redding</u>	
Coleen Wogoman	530-357-3477
<u>San Bernardino County</u>	
Kathy Riker	909-797-4591
<u>Santa Cruz – Watsonville</u>	
Jill Walker	831-728-4427
<u>Santa Monica – West LA</u>	
Lillian Hopkins	310-396-3266
<u>Santa Rosa – Sonoma</u>	
Connie Mygatt	707-568-3010
<u>South Bay-Long Beach</u>	
Lorene & Jim Coleman	310-769-0271
<u>So. SF Bay Area – Palo Alto</u>	
Judy Monaco	650-941-4060
<u>Stockton</u>	
Karen Makal	209-887-3694
<u>Vallejo – Fairfield</u>	
Kemper Stone	707-557-0462
<u>Ventura County</u>	
Pearl Reece & Fern Wesley	805-482-3255
<u>Visalia</u>	
Sue Erb & Toni Best	559-562-4117
<u>Walnut/Diamond Bar</u>	
Mark Workman	909-598-1230



Gourd Patch Happenin's

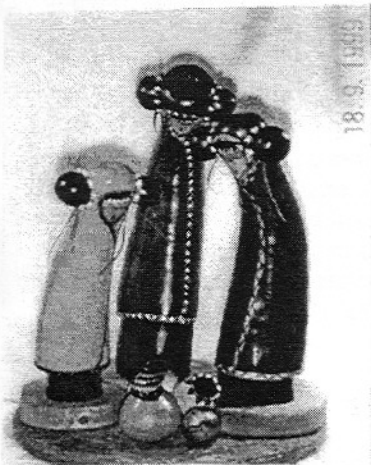
Antelope Valley

We are having our regional gourd meeting on December 4th from 10 to 3. Come visit, share and care. Anyone in the Antelope Valley – or wherever, are invited and welcome. It will be held at the Lasting Memories Gourd Art Gallery. Please call Margurite Smith at (805) 722-0236 for directions and information about our January meeting.

Bakersfield / Kern County

For the first time a gourd crafting competition took place at the 1999 Kern County Fair. The category was titled "Gourds As You Please". Twenty-nine creative gourds were entered. Not satisfied with one opportunity to win a blue ribbon, innovative Kernville crafter Joye Benson captured everyone's attention by winning 7 blue ribbons. Joye found creative ways to use gourds in unusual categories such as holiday decorations, dried arrangements, hobbies, holiday centerpiece, and sculpture. Barbara Campbell's fabulous southwestern flavored gourd was awarded a third place finish. Alex Villeva's spectacular display of Native American gourd art was awarded a trophy in the hobby section. Betty Finch's display of various crafted gourds won the sweepstakes award in the hobby section. Betty also gave gourd crafting demonstrations during the fair which resulted in the addition of many new names for the Kern Patch. The fair officials were quite impressed with the gourd show and promised an even nicer display area for next year.

A gourd crafting day was held during the November patch meeting at the home of Betty Finch. Future plans include a Christmas ornament crafting class, a seed exchange, field trips to gourd festivals, and participation in gourd show competitions. Call (661) 589-3368, or e-mail FINCHGOURD@aol.com for dates, times, and places of future meetings.



"My Ladies" won Honorable Mention for Joye Benson at the Kern County Fair.

Fallbrook

CGS would like to thank Mary Segretto for all the great work she did with her gourd patch in Temecula/Fallbrook and welcome Jo Rosenberg as the new Patch leader in the Area. Jo has been working with Mary for some time, and is looking forward to the input and help of all the patch members in Fallbrook-Temecula area to come to the next meeting and get the year off to a great start.

The Fallbrook Gourd Patch members meet in the peaceful and nurturing set-

ting of the Welburn Gourd Farm. Our Gourd Patch membership includes many people who have a limited time to devote to their gourds. We have asked our group how often they would like to meet and learned that every other month is best. Therefore, we will continue to meet bi-monthly except for the first quarter when we will add a February meeting to take advantage of choosing from the new gourd crop at Welburns Farm

At our January meeting, we will get creative with what gourds are available to us at this time. We will create masks using gourds of any size or shape, whatever is left in your personal stock. Having to use what we have on hand will be a challenge, yet we expect to discover and devise many clever ways to put our left-overs to good use.

With the arrival of February comes harvest time at the Welburn Gourd Farm. We plan to visit the Farm as a group and learn about the types of gourds available there, some history of these gourds, identification of various other types of gourds, and places where they are available. We will, of course, be stocking up on gourds.

Our March, beginning of spring meeting, seems to be a good time to learn about creating birdhouse gourds. We will have a guest artist to get us started on a birdhouse project.

For information on all of these activities, call Jo Rosenberg at (909) 698-6106, or e-mail her at: rosenbd1@te.net.

Folsom - Sacramento

"Z" Gourd Miners meets the second Saturday of every month at Zittel Farms, corner of Folsom - Auburn Road and Oak Avenue, Folsom, CA from 10 - 2 (or longer). The business portion of our meeting is held from 11:30 - 12:30. We put out a quarterly newsletter, and we love to have new members - if you are already a gourder, bring your gourd projects, supplies, etc., and enjoy with us four hours of uninterrupted gourdning. If you are new to gourdning, we offer classes and a mentoring program to get you started (our meetings are not designed for someone who has never worked with a gourd).

Our purpose is to have a set time each month to actually work on our gourd projects because we know it is often too easy to attend classes / business meetings and then never get anything done. So, if any of you need gourds, why not plan a trip to Zittel's on our meeting day and join us for some fun (yes, Zittel's has gourds to sell and have received many more in since virtually selling out at the Festival).

At our December meeting, we are having a gourdament exchange and refreshments (Grandma Zittel's Pumpkin Tort and hot cider). The cost is \$2.00 if you are not a Gourd Miner and an RSVP is required. During our January meeting, we will be having a crafty garage sale/swap meet. Our February meeting will feature a long time tole painting artist. Please call after January 8th for cost, supply list and to make a reser-

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Gourd Patch Happenin's continued...



(Continued from page 3)

vation as space is very limited.

We are recovering from the Fifth Annual West Coast Gourd Festival (which saw over 12,000 people in attendance) the last weekend in September. Our patch hosted the hospitality / information / demonstration booth with the awesome help and expertise of several CGS officers and regional reps. A BIG thank you to Carol Rookstool for two days of unending smiles and "it's OK" and to Sue Erb for the same as well as for her donation to the Festival Raffle of two Kwanza ornaments. It was also fun to get to meet other officers and reps. As a result of the Festival, our patch gained three new members, and several other people showing interest.

Marin County - San Francisco

By popular demand our patch has decided to have our next meeting at the entry of the new century, January 8 from 2:00 to 4:00pm, 47 Tamalpais Road, Fairfax, CA. For additional information or directions call Lynne Bunt at (415) 459-3088.

We are very interested in assuring that our meetings are satisfying all of our members while sharing responsibility for planning events. Let's use this meeting to plan the year's events as well as sharing our new work and where we need help and ideas. If anyone has made his or her gourd dish we would love to see it. This should be a really fun year with the addition of our new members and the upcoming conference at Asilomar. Get involved! Make it our best year yet!

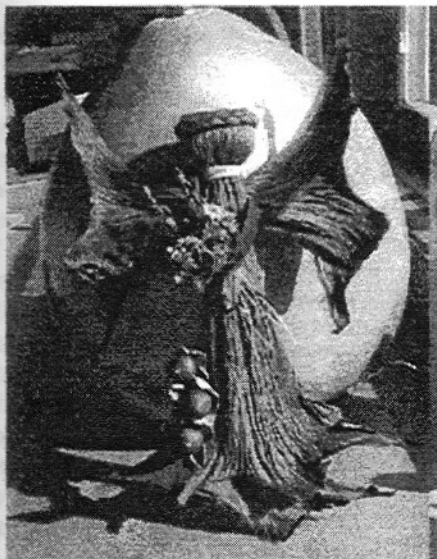
Some of the 1999 key events for us were visits to 2 gourd farms, attendance at shows where our members were displaying or selling their work, two combined meetings with the Sonoma County group, classes in design transfer, knotless netting, and drums. Our meetings are always open to all CGS members but we ask that you please let us know you plan to attend in advance. We request a donation of \$3 CGS members and \$6 non-members at each meeting to cover the cost of mailing and snacks.

Mendocino - Yolo County

The Lake/Mendocino/Yolo gourd patch has had a very active summer. Our participation in the Pear Festival and Steele Winery's Harvest Festival was an overall success. The Lake County Fair was also a success for three of our members who submitted gourds for judging. Arline Montgomery won 1st place and 3rd place ribbons in the Horticulture division, Nancy Frost won a 1st place ribbon in the Crafts division, and JoAnnis Mohman won a 1st place ribbon in the Professional Decorative Arts division.

Our October meeting at Al and Betty Silveira's was thoroughly enjoyed. Al demonstrated how to apply leather to a gourd rim and put us right to work on small gourds that he had cleaned and cut for us. The November meeting at Judy Wilwand's farm in Laytonville was very educational for gourders interested in setting up a greenhouse. Judy gave a walking tour and described the automated system she uses in her 24' X 40' greenhouse. Our Christmas party on December 12th will include a pot luck lunch and gourd ornament gift exchange.

The first meeting in the new year will be held at JoAnnis' home in Lucerne, on January 8, 2000 at 1:00 pm. JoAnnis will show gourd cleaning and cutting procedures and share safety tips. Examples of respirators will be displayed and information on ordering an inexpensive, very effective respirator. Bring a small uncut gourd and an Xacto knife. If you do not have one, some will be available. New members are always welcome. Contact JoAnnis Mohman, (707) 274-8874, for further information.



Angel made from a giant philadendron leaf, crafted by the Orange County Gourd Patch.

Orange County

The Orange County Gourd Society is growing and feeling real frisky following our first public exhibit and sale by group members at the San Clemente Art Fair this fall. We have some real talented artists in the group, and the sales proved it! We will be discussing additional sale/exhibit/demonstration opportunities at our next meeting and "brainstorming" ideas for our involvement in this year's OC Fair. Lucky members at the October meeting had a hands on "Angel making" lesson turning leaf sheaths from Giant Philadendrons into

lovely natural holiday angels. Curtis and Corrie Hayes (part of our Hawaiian connection!) brought all supplies and patiently demonstrated and assisted the angel makers!

New CGS members in the Orange County area are encouraged to join us. Our next quarterly meeting will be January 20, at 6:30 pm at the Irvine Community Homeowners Association at 4530 Sandburg Way (in Irvine near Culver and Michelson.) Guests and prospective members are always welcome and encouraged to bring "show and tell" items and any embellishment treasures you wish to trade. The only requirement is a friendly smile and lots of enthusiasm! Persons needing more info can contact Susan Sullivan, Coordinator at (717) 997-4482 or SusanSPHN@aol.com

Palo Alto - Silicone Valley

Our patch has been very busy with a lot of art shows, classes, and meetings this past quarter. Our Annual Christmas Gourd Ornament Exchange will be held at the home of Becky

(Continued on page 5)



Gourd Patch Happenin's continued...

(Continued from page 4)

Black on December 5th. Please call Judy Monaco (650) 941-4060 or e-mail jmonaco@ix.netcom.com, for all the information

Pasadena

We seem to be very blessed with the like of Lillian Hopkins teaching us about doll making, Carolyn Potter, nationally known polymer clay artist, and Rasheed Ali, instructing us on how to make gourd drums. Our year has been full, our classes most successful, and a great time being had by all.

On December 15th our Patch will have its annual Holiday Party and Gourd Gift Exchange. Please bring a gourd ornament or the likes of it, and join the fun. Contact Mary Jane Jones and Ed Jasaitis at (213) 224-8034 and tell us how many are coming.

In the works is a series of either 2 or 3 Adelphi Cable Access 1/2 hour programs dealing with the history of gourds, contemporary gourd work and musical instruments. Sally Shismanian, who for 6 years has done up to 24 shows a year on antiques, collectibles and crafts in L.A., contacted us a couple weeks ago and the planning for this is well under way. Watch for us on Cable T.V.

Redding

First of all, yes Happy Valley did suffer a very devastating fire that burned most of our beautiful area. But to let you know, we are coming together to help one another rebuild and clean up our valley to make it happy once more. Also, our thoughts are with our member Dianna Ellison who lost her home in the fire that included her gourd craft room. We are so sorry Dianna.

Our patch has been quite busy this summer starting with a woodburning demo taught by Ardith Willner. She taught us all kinds of fun stuff with the Detailmaster and numerous other cutting tools that most of our members tried for the first time. As a matter of fact you probably heard us all screaming with delight over the fact we had cut our first gourds!

We had a car pool to the Zittle Festival that was of course fantastic as usual! We had fun buying, learning, and seeing all of the gourd creations at the farm. Thank you Zittle family for a fun day! The Salmon Festival was the next event held in Anderson, CA., in which our gourds were featured at.

Our October meeting was made fun by some fall creating done right at the meeting. We made everything from a gourd-pumpkin mini necklace, to candy dishes and trick or treat containers. We also shared tool and gourd book information. As usual, lots of beautiful gourd work was on a show and sell display from our members.

In December we will be having an end of the year potluck - get together. It will be held December 11 at the Happy Valley Fire Hall at 17441 Palm Ave in Happy Valley starting at 6:30 pm. Last names beginning with A - M brings a salad and a dessert, while N - Z brings a main dish. The highlight of the evening will be a swap and steal game. There will also be some great gift giveaways.

Our group meets every third Saturday of the month either

at the Double "W" Ranch, 16971 Palm Ave., Happy Valley, or at the Fire Hall, 17441 Palm Ave., Happy Valley. The meetings usually start at 10:00 am. Anyone who loves gourds is encouraged to attend. Kids are welcomed, and we try to make our meetings fun. If at all possible try to bring along a chair. If you have an interest in joining us, please feel free to call Coleen Wogoman, at (530) 357-3477 or e-mail to: doublewrench@juno.com or simply stop by the ranch anytime.

San Bernardino County

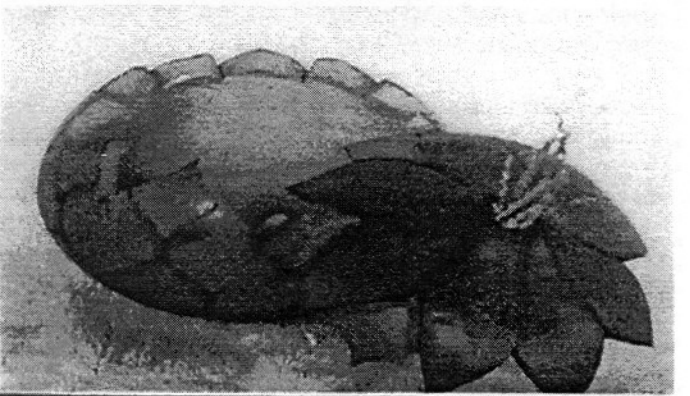
The San Bernardino Gourd Patch and its members have been very busy. The artwork that was shared at our last meeting was wonderful and so many new ideas. We discussed what we would like to do to keep the coming New Year busy. We have combined the first two meetings of the year with demonstration workshops. Our meeting is the second Monday of each month at 7:30 PM at Kathy Rikers home in Yucaipa.

January and February's meetings will be on Saturday's due to demonstrations. The time is 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM, and make sure to bring a lunch with you. We will start a gourd project that will last all year. Each of us will bring a large gourd cleaned and all the demonstrations will be added to it over the course of the year with a finished gourd next December. January 15th - Dremel & Electric tool demonstrations; February 12 - Terrific Lace demonstration with waxed linen; March 13 - monthly meeting; March 25 - Field trip to The Tree Mover Tree & Gourd Farm; April 10 - monthly meeting; April 15 - Field trip to Welburn Gourd Farm.

A busy year is planned with more demos and fun projects, like the "MYSTERY" gourd, embellishment exchanges, raffles, and field trips. Come on out and join us. Everyone is welcome to the meetings and demonstrations. For directions and more information, call (909) 797-4591 or (909) 797-5217.

Santa Cruz

The October meeting was held at Jill Walker's house on a beautiful fall day perfect for strolling in the gourd garden. The seeds planted as part of our seed-growing project yielded some interesting gourds, such as a 36" snake gourd, hard shelled warties, and Apache dippers. Show and Tell examples were as beautiful and varied as ever. Mary Simmons and Ramona Peter shared many ideas for decorating gourds.



Pointsettia Bowl won 2nd place in the Holiday Décor category for Joye Benson at the Kern County Fair.



Gourd Patch Happenin's

The December 12 meeting will be hosted by Ardith Willner and will feature ornament exchange and mini gift bazaar. Festive food will also be on the agenda as we plan for a new millennium of gourd experiences. For more information contact Jill Walker at (831) 728-4427 or gourdwalkr@aol.com

Sonoma County

In September, five members of our gourd patch had a fun filled weekend sharing a table at the Zittel Gourd Festival. We shared ideas, made new friends, sold many of our gourds, and left with overflowing creative enthusiasm. October once more found us joining the Marin Gourd Patch for a knotless netting class, taught by the talented Stefan Schneider. At our November meeting we devoted ourselves to creating containers for the holidays. December we will get together for a potluck and "gourdament" exchange, and January will be a big planning meeting where we will discuss plans for the year 2000. Dates, times, and places have yet to be determined, so please call Connie Mygatt at (707) 568-3010 for more information.

South Bay - Long Beach

It is with a lot of activity that we are ending 1999 and looking forward to not only the Millennium, but our New Year as a Gourd Patch. Our first meeting of the New Year will be on Saturday, January 15th, at 11:00 AM. We will be talking all about dye techniques and coloration, so come on and join in. Please call Lorene Coleman (310) 769-0271 and tell her how many will be attending.

Stockton

Our next meeting will be Jan. 22, 2000, at 10am. We will

decide what we would like to learn or work on in the coming year. Please bring some of your gourd art to share with everyone. When you are in Stockton on a weekend (open on weekends only) please check out the shop of Out of Our Gourd (Bill and Carla Robertson) at Pollarville off Highway 99 between Morada Lane and Eight Mile road (look for the chicken in the sky). See everyone in Jan.

Ventura / Channel Islands

The patch has finally found a permanent meeting place. The Channel Islands Chapter meets at the California Indian Education Center at 96 MacMillan Avenue in Ventura. The chapter includes both Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties. We have a great group of people who are always willing to volunteer for the important jobs that need to be done. If you grow, decorate, teach, or are just interested in gourds please join us.

The meetings start at 6:30 PM. Please bring some of your work for sharing. Future meetings are scheduled as follows: January 20, 2000 - "Tips on Exhibiting Your Work"; April 20, 2000 - "Planning for the Ventura County Fair".

This past fall we attended the southwestern Indian Market, the Santa Monica Craft Market, and a number of boutiques where gourd art was displayed. Two of our members gave a number of demonstrations and displays. A presentation to the Ventura County 4Hers sparked a lot of enthusiasm and interest by both parents and kids to become gourders!

If you need more information, contact Fern Wesley at (805) 482-3255, or fax to (805) 482-9726, or e-mail to: tjwlesley@msn.com

Florida Gourd Show

All paths lead to Florida in late February, as Florida Gourd society invites you to participate in their second annual gourd show and make "gourdprints in the sand". And that's exactly what some folks did last year as the spring-like weather induced them to kick off their shoes and pad around barefoot on the grass floor of the circus tent where the show was staged.

More of the same this year - much more, in fact - as nearly everything is being doubled; twice as many workshops (16), twice as many categories for judged entries (60), and twice the floor space to accommodate more expected gourd exhibits and vendors.

The show will be held in Belleview, off I-75 near Ocala, on February 26th and 27th, with workshops beginning on the 25th. For a show information package, contact Kelly Lewis at 650 S.W. Bird Ave., Keystone Heights, FL 32656, phone (352) 473-0291, e-mail: KCLS@gnv.ufl.edu.

We Need You !!!

*We know you're out there!
Please give us a call if you
can work with our web site
or newsletter.*

*Contact Ardith Willner
(831) 457-0612*

A NEW MILLENNIUM...

A NEW TRADITION...

Y 2 G O U R D

FIRST ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING ASILOMAR, MONTEREY, CALIFORNIA MARCH 17, 18, & 19, 2000

Our first annual CGS membership conference will be held at Asilomar Conference Center in Pacific Grove. We are all very excited at the prospect of being together, learning and sharing our enthusiasm for gourds and each other at this beautiful facility.

Declaring myself amongst the few whom had no idea what or where Asilomar is, I decided to see first hand what the site is all about. Tuesday, November 2nd at 6:30 in the morning I piled in my car armed with layered clothing, a notebook and a thermos of coffee having only a vague idea of what awaited

me.

After a few brief stops along Highway One, I arrived at a wooded site, facing the ocean. From the moment I stepped out of my car, I was struck by the peaceful feeling of the surroundings and the light breeze brining the tangy ocean smell that I am particularly fond of.

During the next several hours I toured the facilities with our event coordinator Bonnie. I will attempt to share with you here the amazing story of this wonderful site with the goal of leaving you yearning to attend the conference and experience this very special piece of history for your self.

Asilomar contains the largest collection of Julia Morgan structures at a single location, (13 in all). As you are probably aware Ms. Morgan was a well-known architect who began her career in San Francisco in the early 1900s a time when women held very few such prestigious positions.

In 1912 Mrs. Phoebe Hearst (mother of William Randolph Hearst) having convinced the YWCA that they needed a permanent conference site, dedicated to the education and recreation of women, persuaded the Pacific Improvement Company of Monterey to donate land and build the facility. Mrs. Hearst then brought Julia Morgan, to design a facility that would reflect the women and their needs. Ms. Morgan, being strongly influenced by the Arts & Crafts movement of architectural design, chose this style for the Asilomar structures. The Arts & Crafts movement in America was a direct response to the toll industrialism was taking on the quality of life of the time. Its aim was to restore craftsmanship and artistic form to all structures. The goal was to bring people back to nature, restoring balance, health, harmony, and happiness.

Asilomar (meaning refuge by the sea) has changed hands many times over its long history and on *July 1, 1956*, became a State Park facility with the proviso that no public funds would be used to support the park. In 1987 the Julia Morgan structures were designated historic landmarks.

As you wander this site during your time at the conference, you will see that Ms. Morgan designed the buildings from the inside out, each combining form with function. Merrill Hall, the most impressive of the structures, with its flagstone wall, gothic arch trusses, and arched windows, is reserved for our

Y 2 GOURD AGENDA MARCH 17 - 19, 2000

Friday, March 17, 2000

Conference Check In	3:00 to 5:00
Dinner	6:00 to 7:00
Business Meeting	8:00 to 9:00
Social	9:00 to 11:00

Saturday, March 18, 2000

Breakfast	7:30 to 9:00
A.M. Class	9:00 to 12:00
Lunch	12:00 to 1:00
P.M. Class	1:00 to 4:00
FREE TIME	4:00 to 6:00
Dinner	6:00 to 7:00
Entertainment	7:00 to 12:00

Sunday, March 19, 2000

Breakfast	7:30 to 9:00
Regional Rep. Mtg.	9:00 to 12:00
Lunch	12:00 to 1:00

For all members that are not expected to attend the regional meeting, please enjoy this wonderful facility. Guided tours will be available via the Park Rangers of both the dunes and the historic architecture.

gourd college as well as the Saturday night entertainment program.

I hope you will be moved as I was by the appropriateness of a group of mostly women art & crafters attending their first annual conference of the new millennium at a site of peace

and beauty conceived by a woman, and designed by a woman for the use of women at the turn of the last century.

COME JOIN US IN MAKING HISTORY!!!!

Y 2 GOURDS – CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

BY CAROL ROOKSTOOL, PRESIDENT

The annual membership meeting and gourd college at Asilomar is designed for YOU to (1) participate in planning new directions for CGS, (2) attend mini-gourd classes with some of the world's best teachers, and (3) have some great gourd fun! Please join us!

California may be 1000 miles from north to south – but distance will be overcome when gourd artists and crafters get together to celebrate our enjoyment of gourds. The “business” of CGS will be the theme of the Friday night events. You will meet the officers who keep the organization running. A social hour will top off the evening.

Saturday will be dedicated to creativity! Morning and afternoon class sessions are offered at wonderful “Merrill Hall” a magnificent building located in the middle of the beautiful conference grounds. The teachers are excited about the special projects planned for the day of fun. A silent auction (with items donated by the regional gourd patches) will give

collectors an opportunity to add beautiful items to their collections. There will be a special presentation from some of CGS's most accomplished doll makers on Saturday night. More details will be announced soon! Gourdo and the Gourdetts are the featured entertainers for the Saturday night live show. **DO NOT MISS THIS EVENT!!**

Since the founding of CGS, the annual meeting has been dedicated to the support and training of the volunteers who make CGS such a great organization. On Sunday, the entire morning is devoted to bringing the Regional Coordinators together. Sharing ideas for the success of the local “gourd patches” is the theme. While the Regional Coordinators attend their meeting, other conference attendees may join park rangers for walking tours or for free time to enjoy the charming beach location. Sunday lunch will be the closing event of the weekend.

Make your plans to join us!!! Registration is first-come, first-served. Space is limited. Send in your registration form today!!!

Gourd College

Saturday, March 18, 2000

Asilomar, Monterey California

Morning Session 9:00 to 12:00 and Afternoon Session 1:30 to 4:30

Leigh Adams - Flat sided wall hangings & 3-D pieces

Jill Walker - Knotless netting - drum necklaces

Mary Simmons - Small gourd masks

Connie Mygatt - Painted jewelry chard necklaces

Dianna Rookstool - Gourd ornaments

Stefan Schnider - Small gourd drums

Mary Pryor - Fine needles & redwood cones on gourds

Lynn Everett - Stone chard's and knotless netting

Sue Erb & Toni Best - Gourd Angle doll

Rebecca Cileo - Polymer clay sculpture on gourds

Lynne Bunt - Color coil and dye techniques

Ardith Willner - Woodburning on gourds

Carol Rookstool - Unusual embellishments for gourds

Kathy Riker - Dream catchers from gourds

Conference / Class registration form enclosed with this newsletter. All classes will be offered both morning and afternoon sessions. No class reservations can be accepted without the completed registration and payment in full. List choice of class by instructor's name.

Y2 GOURD REGISTRATION

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL: _____ PHONE: _____

ON-SITE REGISTRATION (Includes dormitory style room, 6 meals and conference registration)

SHARED BED / Friday & Saturday night, \$130 per person

Please indicate preferred bed mate: _____

NOTE: There are very few double beds in private rooms. Most rooms have at least two doubles. We will do our very best to accommodate couples attending the full conference on a first come, first serve basis.

SINGLE BED / Friday & Saturday night, \$160 per person

OFF SITE (Minimum amount is conference registration)

Conference registration – \$30.00 (includes Friday social, access to grounds on Saturday including evening program and access to grounds on Sunday)

Meal Tickets (*there is a small gift shop at Asilomar that has minimal snack food. No out side food is allowed. We recommend a minimum of lunch on Saturday be ordered.*)

Dinner – \$16.00 each Friday _____ Saturday _____

Lunch – \$9.00 each Saturday _____ Sunday _____

Breakfast – \$7.00 each Saturday _____ Sunday _____

TOTAL # of meal tickets: _____ *I require vegetarian meals*

CLASS REGISTRATION (not included in the conference registration)

A.M. 1st choice _____ 2nd choice _____ 3rd choice _____

P.M. 1st choice _____ 2nd choice _____ 3rd choice _____

A.M. class – \$30.00

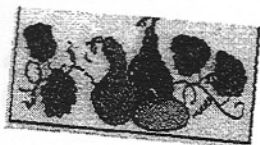
P.M. class – \$30.00

*Please mail check payable to CGS along with this form and the questionnaire completed to:
CGS c/o Lynne Bunt, 47 Tamalpias Road, Fairfax, CA 94930*

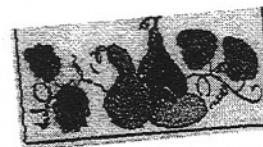
RESERVATIONS WILL BE TAKEN ON A FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE BASIS. NO RESERVATION CAN BE ACCEPTED WITHOUT THE COMPLETED FORMS AND PAYMENT IN FULL.

Y 2 GOURD QUESTIONNAIRE

- I will attend the business meeting Friday, 8:00 P.M. I will attend the Friday night social 9:00 to 11:00
- I will require check in later than Friday, 5:00 P.M. I will attend the Saturday night entertainment beginning at 7:00
- I am interested in volunteering to be a teacher aid at the class I am registered in.
- My preferred room mates are: _____



CGS: FYI News



A Word About Membership

by Rebecca Cileo, VP of Membership

When I volunteered for the position of Membership Chair, I had no idea how much fun this would be. Since starting in August, I have gotten to talk to so many members and learn so much. This has been one of the most fulfilling jobs of my life. I have been able to expand my computer skills and am working hard on getting over being bashful and nervous around new people. Everyone I have met or talked to has been so nice, it makes me really proud to be a part of CGS!

We have had a wonderful interest in CGS over the last couple of months with over 130 new members joining us in September and October. The response to the reminder letters has been great

with approximately 75% of the members renewing! As of October 31, we are 875 members strong!

CGS has a growing population in Arizona, Colorado, and Nevada. Any one out there interested in heading up a "Gourd Patch" Please let Ardith know if you are.

I really look forward to the coming months and only have one request...**PLEASE** look at the date provided on your mailing label. The date is your own expiration date and it sure would be nice to get your renewal before we have to go to the time and expense of sending out reminder letters. Besides that, it will leave me more time to play with my gourds!

May your holidays be Peaceful and Gourdgeous!

Rebecca Cileo (530) 357-4855 / email: luv2ridedi@aol.com



GREAT GOURD SILENT AUCTION SATURDAY AT ASILOMAR

ALERT, ALERT...all artists and great gourd patches. Support CGS by sending a donation to the Saturday Silent Auction to be held at the Asilomar conference. Our very talented Kathy Riker is putting together a tempting array of gourd art for our bidding pleasure. Each CGS "gourd patch" has been asked to create and submit a work of art. Also, each CGS member is invited to donate something they have created with gourds. Proceeds will be used to defray the costs of the annual meeting and to support the local gourd patches. Winners will be announced during the Saturday night entertainment. Call Kathy for more information at (909) 707-4591 or e-mail to monk-monk@cybertime.com

GOURDS ON DISPLAY

- October 1 - December 31
JoAnnis Mohmann
The Main Street Gallery, Lakeport
- November 13 - December 31
Gretchen Cateras
The Art Foundry Gallery
1021 R St., Sacramento
- December 11 - 12
Stefan Schneider & Lynne Bunt
KPFA Community Crafts Fair
8th & Brannan, San Francisco
- December 1 - 15
Lynne Bunt
Marin Arts Council Art Show
Town Center Corte Madera
- March 10 - 12
Marguerite Smith
San Diego Convention Center

Looking for the RIGHT person !!!!

Your Board of Directors is looking to fill the V.P. of Communications with a member of CGS who wants to get involved and see us grow.

Our candidate will have fun with communication skills and will be comfortable overseeing the contents of the Golden Gourd.

Our 'official' guidelines are:

1. Oversee publication of Golden Gourd on a quarterly basis.
2. Write and submit a "state-Report" for publication in The Gourd (AGS Newsletter) on a quarterly basis.
3. Oversee contents of web site, working with web manager.

If you are interested in this position, please contact Carol Rookstool at (213) 629-5689, or Ardith Willner at (831) 457-0612

GOURD CRAFTING TECHNIQUES

SUPPLIES

- Large clean gourd
- Jigsaw / scroll saw #15226 from Micro Mark (800-225-1006) or any other good cutting tool
- Fiebing's Leather Dye: British Tan, Buckskin
- Acrylic paints (*Ceramcoats* by Delta are good)
- Black Spray paint
- Brushes: round tip size 4, and a Liner brush
- Plastic or copper scrubber for cleaning
- Tool to scrape inside gourd clean (shells or clay tools work)
- Paper, pencil, scissors, water & dye containers, cloths, rubbing alcohol, 5 minute epoxy glue, paring knife, spackle, fine sandpaper

STEP 1 - CLEANING

- Choose a gourd that is not too thin or too thick-walled, about 1/4 inch is good.
- Clean gourd. Use warm soapy water and a scrubber, being careful not to scratch the gourd.
- Cut off neck. Make sure the neck area is large enough to get your hand into for cleaning. Scrape out clean. Be sure the inside of your gourd is really clean for a lot of it will show.

STEP 2 - PATTERNS

- Draw out a lizard pattern on paper and cut out four copies, making one of the tails different from the others. If the size is wrong, shrink or enlarge patterns on photocopier machine
- Tape the lizard patterns on the gourd, adjusting where needed. Patterns can be turned over for different directions. Pencil around each lizard pattern carefully and remove paper patterns.
- Draw an elongated oval in the middle of each lizard's body. This area will not be painted black when you paint the lizard.

STEP 3 - CUTTING

- Using the jigsaw, gently and patiently cut out around the lizards. Never force the saw blade too hard or it will break.
- Use a paring knife to make slits in those difficult places for the saw to reach, then insert the saw blade into these slits. At this point sometimes the delicate lizard arms and legs will break. That's OK, just save all the pieces and when you are finished cutting every place out, you can glue these pieces back on with the epoxy glue.
- You may need to fill in the cracks with molding paste or spackle and sand down. Paint inside of the gourd black, either with spray paint or use your black paint mixed with a lot of water (pour in and pour out). Allow to dry well.

STEP 4 - DYE

- Dab on your dye quickly (I use British Tan) and wipe off



with an old cloth. The longer you leave on the dye, the darker the color will be. I like to dye the bottom of the gourd more red, leaving the top more tan. To do this, I just put more coats of dyes on from the bottom lizard on down and softly blend the color. You may lose your pencil lines now, but they can be re-penciled on before you paint the lizards. If your color gets too dark, try lightening by going over the dye with the other dye color - Buckskin or with rubbing alcohol. Allow to dry to prevent the dye from coming off, or coat with a finish before continuing.

STEP 5 - PAINTING

- Now re-pencil your lizard patterns on and paint in with black paint. Do not paint in the oval section inside each lizard.
- Use the liner brush to paint a brown line around each oval.
- For the eyes, first dip the end of your paint brush into white paint and dot onto each lizard. Wait until dry and then do the same with a smaller black dot inside each white dot.
- Finish the gourd with any brand of satin or mellow luster finish.

HELPFUL, WORRY-FREE HINT

If you get paint on the gourd where you don't want any paint, just get a sharp scraper, like a paring knife or metal clay tool, and get the spot wet and scrape the paint off gently. This works really well and you need never fear about keeping inside your lines perfectly. Another way to cover blemished or cracks is to just paint over with paint that is the same color as the gourd such as: gold, brown, mocha, raw sienna, or antique gold. ☺

QUOTES, QUIPS, & QUERIES

Have You Tried This??

Cut a hole and weave a dream catcher in the hole.

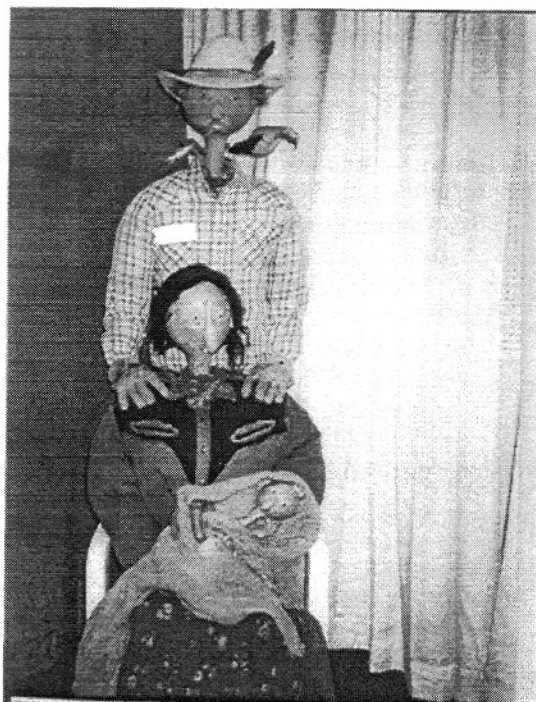
Try knotless netting around a pretty polished stone.

Use a leather punch to punch holes around the lip of your gourd and then lace leather or some other fiber around the edge.

Try Loctite, Quick-Tite super glue in the Gel-Matic dispenser - with this little gadget you really can dispense just 1 drop of glue at a time so you don't have glue running all over and ruining your gourd.

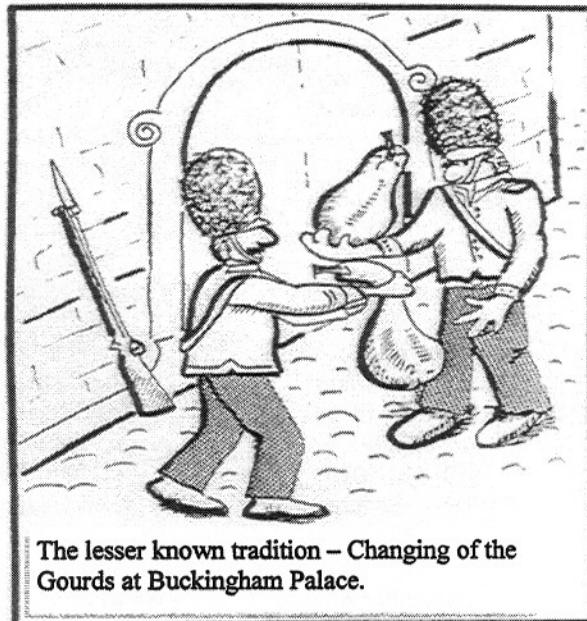


Use Zap and super Jet super glues to fix cracks in a gourd.



Gourd Scarecrow Family entered in the Kern county Fair by Betty Finch, Leslie Moe, and Winnell Spence, won 4th place.

OUT OF MY MIND



The lesser known tradition - Changing of the Gourds at Buckingham Palace.

SLIDE LIBRARY BEING FORMED

We are in the midst of creating a slide library for all CGS members to be able to use if they are giving a talk or demonstration.

You can help by taking slide photographs of your work, your garden with gourds, or progressive shots of a piece in progress. It is much cheaper to take 2 photos at a time rather than have more slides made from an original.

Our goal is to have a CGS slide lending library for presentation material.

Please write the artist name, and town on the slide so that we can give credit where credit is due.

Thanks so much for helping to create our Library. Send all slides to Ardith Willner, 24 Clubhouse Road, Santa Cruz, CA 95060.

Looking For New Members ??

Try...

For those of you zealots dying to get the gourd word out, a great way to do this is to work at a pumpkin patch in October! Selling pumpkins is a natural lead in to gourding. My suggestion is to volunteer to help out your local pumpkin patch next year and bring along some gourds.

Ann Mitchell - Folsom Patch

UP-COMING GOURD CLASSES



December 4
Cordage Making
Tamara Wilder
Fee: \$55
The Caning Shop
926 Gilman Street
Berkeley
(510) 527-5010
www.caning.com

December 4
Transferring Designs
Diane Merrill
Fee: \$50
The Caning Shop
926 Gilman Street
Berkeley
(510) 527-5010
www.caning.com

December 4
Gourd Painting
Noi Thomas
&
Knotless Netting to Create
Gourd Jewelry
Sue Erb & Toni Best
Thomas Farms
20947-B Ave. 245
Lindsay, CA
Contact: Sue Erb
(559) 562-4117
E-mail: sueerb@jps.net
Or Toni Best
(559) 627-5430
E-mail: abest59368@aol.com

December 11 or 14
Holidays on a Gourd
Lois Rainwater
San Gabriel Mt. Basket Arts
(818) 352-3756

December 12
Gourd Birdhouses
Ann Mitchell
Zittels Gourd Farm
Oak Ave. & Folsom-Auburn Rd
Folsom
Contact: Ann Mitchell
(916) 987-7027

December 18

Gourd Ornaments and Gifts
Lois Rainwater
Fee: \$65
The Caning Shop
926 Gilman Street
Berkeley
(510) 527-5010
www.caning.com

December 18
Gourd Rattle - Caxixi
Salih Qawi
Fee: \$50
The Caning Shop
926 Gilman Street
Berkeley
(510) 527-5010
www.caning.com

December 18 / 9:00 - 3:00
Beginning Gourd Crafting
Noi Thomas
Thomas Farms
20947-B Ave. 245
Lindsay, CA
Contact: Sue Erb
(559) 562-4117
E-mail: sueerb@jps.net
Or Toni Best
(559) 627-5430
E-mail: abest59368@aol.com

December 27 / 9:00 - 3:00
"Do Something for Yourself
Gourd Crafting"
Rookstool Ranch
45493 South Fork Drive
Three Rivers
Contact Carol Rookstool
(559) 561-4087
E-mail: crookstool@aol.com

January 9
Gourd Birdhouses
Ann Mitchell
Zittels Gourd Farm
Oak Ave. & Folsom-Auburn Rd
Folsom
(916) 987-7027

January 15
Beginning Gourd Workshop

Ardith Willner
Fee: \$55
24 Clubhouse Drive
Santa Cruz
(831) 457-0612
Ardithk@aol.com

January 22
Gourd Crafting
Duane Teeter
Fee: \$50
The Caning shop
926 Gilman Street
Berkeley
(510) 527-5010

January 23
How to Organize & Lead
Gourd Projects for Children
Ann Mitchell
Zittels Gourd Farm
Oak Ave. & Folsom-Auburn
Rd
Folsom
(916) 987-7027

January 29 / 10:00 - 2:00
Mini Drum Necklace
Linda Noblitt
Fee: \$25
The Tree MoverTree
& Gourd Farm
5014 E. Ave. N
Palmdale
(661) 947-7121
treengourd@aol.com

February 5 / 9:00 - 3:00
Gourd Basketry
with Natural Fibers
Kathy Riker
Fee: \$40
The Tree MoverTree
& Gourd Farm
5014 E. Ave. N
Palmdale
(661) 947-7121
treengourd@aol.com

February 12
Gourd Table Top Fountain
Lynne Bunt
Fee: \$85
The Caning shop
926 Gilman Street
Berkeley
(510) 527-5010

February 13
Gourd Birdhouses

Ann Mitchell
Zittels Gourd Farm
Oak Ave. & Folsom-Auburn
Rd
Folsom
(916) 987-7027

February 19 / 10:00 - 2:00
Gourd Jewelry
Linda Noblitt
Fee: \$25
The Tree MoverTree
& Gourd Farm
5014 E. Ave. N
Palmdale
(661) 947-7121
treengourd@aol.com

February 26 / 9:00 - 3:00
Knotless Netting
(gourds & necklaces)
Candy Krueger
Fee: \$40
The Tree MoverTree
& Gourd Farm
5014 E. Ave. N
Palmdale
(661) 947-7121
treengourd@aol.com

February 26
Gourd Thumb Piano
Geof Morgan
Fee: \$70
The Caning shop
926 Gilman Street
Berkeley
(510) 527-5010

March 11 / 9:00 - 3:00
Spirit Mask
Kathy Riker
Fee: \$40
The Tree MoverTree
& Gourd Farm
5014 E. Ave. N
Palmdale
(661) 947-7121
treengourd@aol.com

March 18 / 9:00 - 3:00
Gourd Art
(dye, woodburn, embellish)
Linda Noblitt
Fee: \$35
The Tree MoverTree
& Gourd Farm
5014 E. Ave. N
Palmdale
(661) 947-7121
treengourd@aol.com

DEAR SANTA...

All I want for Christmas is a:

**DETAIL MASTER
HOT BURNING TOOL**

Please bring me one. I know it's the best hot tool on the market and I can't wait to try it out! I hear it does fine lines, shadowing, and parallel borders! If you have troubles finding one, just call Ardith Willner at (831) 457-0612 or email her at: ardithk@aol.com. I hear she has lots of inventory in stock and can help you and the elves with my wish.

*Yours Truly,
Gourdon Dipper*

**AWARD WINNING
TRUE GOURD SEEDS
FOR SALE**

Germination tested at **80% or better.**

Extra Long, Long, and Short Handled Dippers, Indonesian Bottle, Big Apple, Snake, Miniature Chinese Bottle, Hard Shell Warty

PLUS many Ornamentals such as:
Egg, Spoon, Flat Striped, white Ball
PLUS MANY, MANY MORE VARIETIES!!

Most packages contain 12 seeds
All orders - \$2.50 per pack, postpaid
Call for discounts and shipping fees

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P.O. Box 222, 178 Losee St.
Cygnet, Ohio 43413
Phone (419) 655-2152**

Zittel Gourd Farm
Oak Avenue & Folsom Auburn Rd
Folsom, CA
(916) 989-2633



**Happy Holidays and here's to a wonderful
Year 2000!!**

**Our new crop is in and we're ready to go Call
us for more information at (916)989-2633**

WELBURN GOURD FARM

www.welburngourd.com
e-mail: info@welburngourd.com

Ph/Fax: (760) 728-4271

40787 De Luz Murrieta Rd.
Fallbrook, CA 92028



50% off on all stock January 1 - 31, 2000
New gourd crop harvest will be ready in March 2000

Gourds

Crafting For Fun and
Profit

Free Catalog

Books, Supplies, Tools
for Music and Crafts

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926 Gilman Street at 8th
Berkeley, CA 94710

1-800-544-3373

Fax 1-510-527-7718
www.caning.com

PUMPKIN AND GOURD FARM
Calabaza Gallery

**CHECK OUT OUR WINTER
SPECIALS**

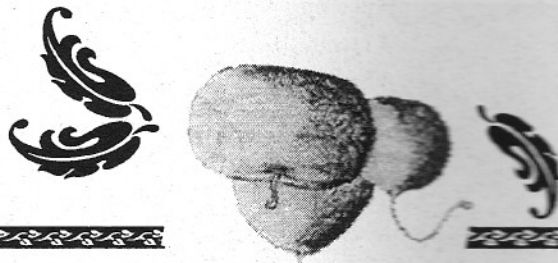
**Quality Gourds for 30 Years
Gourd arts & crafts
Visa and Mastercard accepted
We ship anywhere**

101 Creston Road, Paso Robles
(805) 238-0624

**Gourd
Sale**
50% OFF
**January 10
Thru
January 22**

The Tree Mover
Tree & Gourd Farm
5014 E. Ave N
Palmdale, CA 93552
(661) 947-7121
Mon. - Sat.
8 AM - 4 PM
Hours May Vary
Please Call Ahead





REGISTRATION FORM ENCLOSED IN THIS NEWSLETTER

Open to all members - Room reservations limited - ACT NOW!

4th Annual Board of Directors Meeting & "Gourd College"

Y 2 Gourd - March 17th - 19th, 2000
Asilomar Conference Center, Monterey CA

**CALIFORNIA GOURD SOCIETY
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

FOR NEW MEMBERSHIP complete the following information and send your \$10.00 annual dues to the address listed below:

Name: _____
please print

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Zip: _____ Telephone: _____

E-Mail: _____

TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP, just send the mailing label to the right along with any corrections and your \$10.00 dues to:

**CALIFORNIA GOURD SOCIETY
REBECCA CILEO
P.O. Box 762
ANDERSON, CA 96007**



The Golden Gourd
California Gourd Society
PO Box 762
Anderson, CA 96007

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