



The Newsletter of the California Chapter of the American Gourd Society

And The Winners Are ...

The first CGS competition of the year, hosted by Amador has concluded. Amador reports that their first try at a virtual competition was a success with gourds from all over northern California.



See entries/winners on page 4

In charge of the competition was long time CGS Competition Coordinator, and past CGS President, Sylvia Nelson along with Pam Argo who has been assisting her for years. This was Sylvia and Pam's last competition. We would like to take a moment to thank them for the countless hours they've put into years of CGS competitions, and Sylvia, into training California Judges. Sylvia will remain with CGS in the capacity of AGS Judging Coordinator "Liaison" to California. This will insure that CGS competitions uphold the AGS standard. Sylvia will also track certified AGS Judges and their standing.

Mary Hufft and Colleen Ballard have agreed to take their vacated positions. Mary and Colleen are CGS and Folsom Gourd Artist members. Both have served as judges for several years and have acted as head judge at different events. Both are very qualified, and we know they will

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President's Message



Hi California Gourders!

Fall brings many community activities, like craft fairs and studio tours. Are you showing your art?

The Northern California Competition took place on August 20th. I was really excited to see the interpretations of our newest categories, Whimsical, Wild Things, Modern Art, and Cultural. You did not disappoint!

You can see all the winners starting on page 4 of this Golden Gourd issue. I personally entered 2 gourds. A carload of gourds was delivered to Sylvia Nelson from the Calabash Club of Silicon Valley and Amador and Folsom Gourd Artists submitted a good amount as well. Congratulation to all the winners and to Amador for a successful competition.

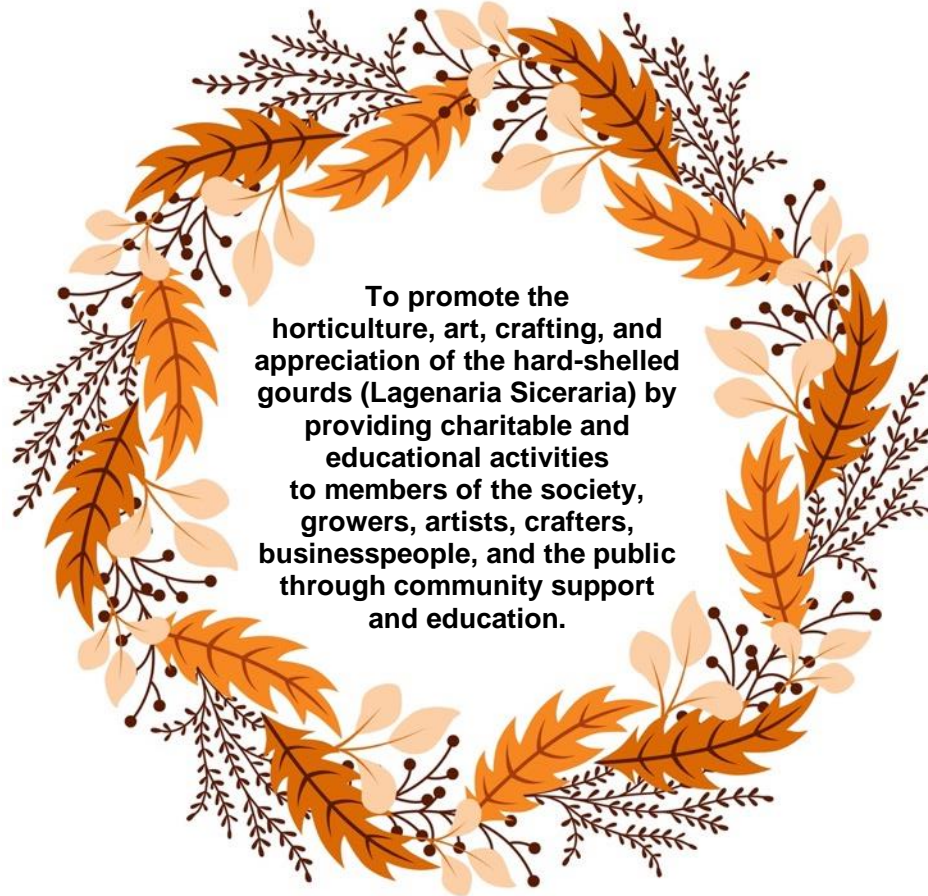
I believe there were approximately 22 entries at the California State Fair in July. Most of the entries were from Amador and Folsom Patches. I know it's very difficult for Southern California to participate and I wish there was a better avenue to do so. The State Fair Best of Division went to Amador Gourd Artist's member Heather Hopman for her "Thai Sea Turtles". She also won First Place and the California Gourd Society Award. I was elated to present her with the Certificate of Achievement. She was also awarded \$100 donated by CGS. Heather generously shares her talented techniques with us up here in the North. We are fortunate to have her!

- **Don't forget to check out our CGS website for information on:**
 - **Southern California Competition**
 - **Registering for the Gourd Blossom Retreat**
 - **Jim Story Award competition eligibility rules have been **UPDATED!****
 - **Many tutorials available from past Golden Gourd Newsletter**
 - **And more!**

Your President, Marilyn Phelps



CGS ~ Mission Statement



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

YOU DON'T HAVE TO WAIT FOR US TO COME KNOCKING. CONTACT US AND SHARE YOUR GOURD STORY!

Do you have a gourd story to share or know of someone doing community work using gourds? Whether in the past or present, we would love to hear what you or your patch members have been up to and profile it in the Golden Gourd!

You don't have to be a writer to be profiled or submit something. Just contact your Regional Director, Patch Leader, or me. Tell us your story and we will be happy to help write it! Send your story outline and photos to either:

Southern Region
Libbi Salvo:
Libbi_salvo@yahoo.com

Golden Gourd Editor
Lisa Baurmeister:
cgsnewslettereditor@gmail.com

Northern Region
Jody Dingivan:
adollplace@hotmail.com



Some of the Big Winners from the CGS Northern Gourd Competition in Amador!



By Sylvia Nelson

From flying ladybugs to a three-piece band, the CGS Virtual Gourd Competition hosted by the Amador Gourd Artists with support from the Folsom Gourd Artists was full of 66 amazing gourds. Five Gourd patches were represented: Amador, Folsom, Rio Linda, Calabash, and Foothill. We had 17 entries in Novice, 18 in Intermediate, 18 in Advanced and 13 in Masters. Quite a showing!

Joy McCluer



Aaron Bullock



Colleen Ballard



Fran Ford



Mary Hufft



Marilyn Phelps



Cathy Warrick



Diane Guerin



Although these wonderful gourds did not take home a ribbon, they are still lovely and deserve our attention. Nice job!

We started setting up on Friday Morning, and entering gourds that came by mail, and special delivery. Thanks to Jody Dingivan, Carolee Jones, and Marilyn Phelps who brought multiple gourds from their gourd groups. More gourds were brought in by artists throughout Friday and early Saturday.

Judging took place on Saturday afternoon. After judging, the gourds were photographed; some with their ribbons and some without. **A big thank you to Fran Ford's husband Mike** for being our fabulous photographer. We finished up Saturday night by packing up gourds for their return. Quickest competition I have ever been involved in!

Amador, Folsom, and Rio Linda members were there to support the entire process and worked both days. It was fun and everyone worked hard!! Gourders are the Greatest!

~ Continue pg. 5

Best of Division Winners



Novice – Rosalie Stearns,
Mixed Media



Intermediate – Marilyn Taylor,
Pyrography



Advanced – Iris Gach
Modern Art

Best Of Show



Masters – Joyce Campbell
Whimsical



~ Continue pg. 6

A Sample of Divisional Winners

NOVICE DIVISION



Terry Morris



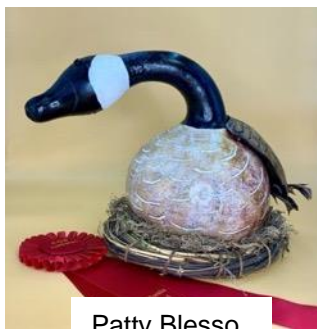
Chyre Kan



Cathy Paonessa



Cathy Warrick

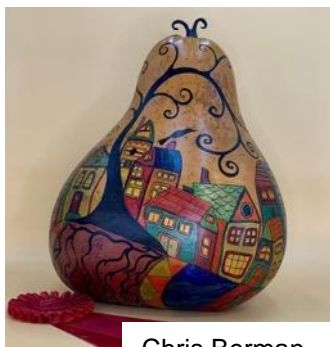


Patty Blesso



Jeanette Ferrario

INTERMEDIATE DIVISION



Chris Berman



Sugi Karrupiah



Cindy Forsberg



Chris Crady



Marilyn Taylor



Carolee Jones

~ Continue pg. 7

ADVANCE DIVISION

Jody Dingivan



Pam Argo



Marilyn Phelps



Joni Canada



Dawnelle Sauve



Christy Tsai



MASTERS DIVISION

Patty Fisher



Janice Horner



Joyce Campbell



Heather Hopman



Heather Hopman



Janice Horner



Patty Fisher



Joyce Campbell



Featured Artist Profile

*Our featured artist for this quarter is **Elaine Linton** of the San Diego County Gourd Artists.*

Submitted By Libbi Salvo

Elaine Linton is an Indigenous artist from the Lipay Nation of Santa Ysabel, located in east San Diego County. She has a son named Jason, two grandchildren, and a great-granddaughter. Born in a large family of seven brothers and two sisters, Elaine credits her mother Lucille's constant support and advice for her success. She is active, outgoing, and always comfortable being the center of attention.



Elaine graduated from Redlands University with a BS in Business and Administration Management. She worked in communications for almost 42 years but is now retired. Elaine was once a certified personal trainer. She loves to sing while playing her ukulele. Being a high-energy person, Elaine loves to exercise. Her favorite activities are golfing with her brothers, Zumba, and hiking.

To balance her active side, she turns to her creative side and is now a full-time artist. Art, in some fashion, is part of her everyday life and is her favorite form of meditation. As a child, Elaine was inspired by a local artist and had been creating ever since. Elaine loves to draw and paint. She paints in both watercolor and acrylic. She also makes jewelry, pine needle baskets, soapstone sculpture, and gourd art. But gourd art is where her artistic passion settled.

~ Continue pg. 9

On a whim, Elaine took her first gourd class at the Welburn Gourd Farm in Fallbrook, CA, in 2005 and was hooked on gourd art. She left the gourd farm with a handful of gourds and immediately began creating. She would stay up every night until the wee hours working on her gourd projects while working full time. Much of her gourd work is Native design. Because of her love for people, Elaine is now a gourd art teacher. She loves meeting people and says the look of satisfaction on her student's faces when they complete an art project constantly inspires her to create.



Although she now teaches gourd art, she still takes classes from many different teachers and has gained numerous skills. Gourd art has become a wonderful way to express her deep and ongoing passion for art. Elaine enjoys working on gourds because they are not perfect, so the designs do not have to be perfect. There is no end to what you can create on a gourd with a few simple tools.



Elaine continues to make more elaborate and beautiful gourds as her skills grow. She has her own little gourd group following, from beginners to advanced.

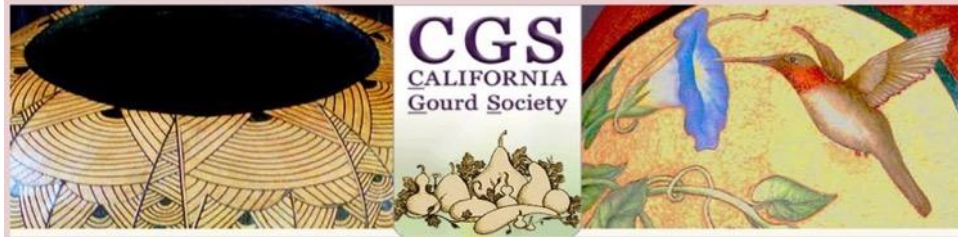
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Elaine is a member of the following gourd groups:

- The American Gourd Society (member since 2005)
- The California Gourd Society (member since 2005)
- CGS - Former Director of Southern Projects
- San Diego County Gourd Artist (member since 2005) - Facebook & Web Page
- Gourd Art Enthusiasts (closed)
- Gourd Arts Tips and Tricks on FB
- Gourding Destash on FB
- Teacher - Morongo Band of Mission Indians
- Teacher - Pechanga Silver Feathers
- The Art of Pine Needle Basketry (member 2020).



**Thank you for sharing with us
Elaine!**



CGS Board Nominations are now being accepted for **Open Positions Termed 2023 - 2024 (2 yr. term)**

Thank you in advance for considering applying for one of the four positions that will be termed out in January; and thank you for being a part of the CGS Family. Members are encouraged to nominate someone or submit their own name to serve as a member of the California Gourd Society Board of Directors. This is a great opportunity to give back to the organization that does much to nurture its members and promote the appreciation of gourds to the public. The positions are listed below with descriptions. We are looking for members who want to be a part of a fun group, a group that approves policies and procedures for CGS and its members. We are a group who strives to take care of the gourding community while doing our best to promote gourds and gourd art!

#1 CGS President

- Provide leadership for and act as a spokesperson for CGS to carry out the CGS mission statement.
- Serve as a member of the Board of Directors, prepare board meeting agenda, and conduct the annual meeting.
- Maintain communication with Board Members and call for annual reports from each director.
- Monitor society financial status with the treasurer, promote fund raisers, and sign-off on the annual IRS non-profit reports.
- Prepare a quarterly "President's Message" for the Golden Gourd.
- Prepare a quarterly message for The American Gourd Society Magazine.
- Coordinate with the Directors of the Northern and Southern Patches to maintain a CGS presence at major gourd festivals and other events as appropriate.
- Respond to members' concerns and make referrals as needed.
- Respond to inquiries from potential members.
- Serve as a member of the annual Gourd Art Competition Committee.
- Maintain communication with the American Gourd Society and other gourd societies as needed.
- Attend annual AGS meeting if feasible.
- May or may not place insurance coverage for CGS, order renewals and request Certificates of Insurance as needed. (Currently the Secretary does this)
- Is granted a lifetime free annual membership to the CGS upon completion.



~ Continue pg. 12



#2 Treasurer

- Serve as a member of the Board of Directors.
- Record deposits made by membership chair. Deposit funds from various events.
- Pay bills as presented by vendors and/or members for reimbursements.
- Record deposits and expenses. Maintain a monthly financial balance.
- Prepare annual reports for the Board meeting.
- Prepare Federal and State annual tax returns. Note: If gross receipts and assets continue to be less than \$50,000, the Form 990/199 is not required. You can send 990-N and 199-N Electronic post cards at IR/FTB website.
- Maintain PayPal and SquareUp accounts for accepting of credit card payments as well as approve CGS members as sales associates for the Square Account.
- File form RRF-1 Registration/Renewal Report with the Department of Justice annually.
- File forms CT-NRP-1 Nonprofit Raffle Registration Form and CT-NRP-2 Nonprofit Raffle Report with the Department of Justice annually.
- File Statement of Information with Secretary of State (biannually).
- Communicate returned checks.
- File sales tax returns annually.
- Respond to correspondence from Franchise Tax Board, Internal Revenue Service, and CA Board of Equalization.
- File forms 1099 yearly. Both state and federal yearly returns are now required.
- Distribute prize checks for annual CGS competition.
- Keep last seven years of tax and financial records.



#3 Director of Southern Regional Groups

- Serve as a member of the Board of Directors.
- Contact each Patch within your territory a minimum of quarterly. Contact may be made in person or via internet or telephone.
- Conduct annual meetings of Patch Leaders.
- Maintain a roster of Patch Leaders.
- Provide each Patch Leader with a "Red" Book of CGS policies and procedures, as well as other written materials to assist them in conducting meetings.
- Attend annual Board meeting and present a status report of the past year's activities.
- Identify and coordinate new Patch leadership.
- Provide training to Patch Leaders.
- Encourage each Patch to participate in fundraisers and other activities of CGS, including fairs, festivals, and competitions.
- Inform CGS President and Vice-Presidents of issues presented to you by Patches.

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#4 **Ambassador at Large – Northern Region**

- Promote CGS and AGS at every opportunity.
- Attend annual CGS Board meeting.
- Initiate ideas and promote CGS through planning activities with CGS President and appropriate Board members.
- Provide membership applications to prospective members, teachers, growers, vendors.
- Respond to mail or telephone inquiries from members.
- Keep dues up to date.



Here is how to apply for one of the CGS Board 2023 Open Positions.

TIMELINE

12/15/23 – Last day to submit nominations.

1/8/23 - Nominations reviewed by Board at yearly meeting on January 8, 2023.

1/8/23 - Official start date for new board members immediately after board meeting.

There are two options for you to submit a Nomination. One is to go to the CGS Website and fill out the online form which will be sent directly to our Secretary, Peggy Blessing. The other option would be to print off the form and mail it to our Secretary, Peggy Blessing at: **CGS Secretary Peggy Blessing, 3177 Mt. Tami Dr., San Diego, CA 92111**. Choose your option and click the appropriate box below.



Thank you again for considering applying for one of these board positions!

ElGourdo's Rambling

The Failures

Greetings again, one and all. Hope your gourding is rolling along as our world seems to be finally waking up. Yawn, well, most of the world, that is.

Every time I try to start this article, I begin with absolutely no idea what I will write about. Hold on—wait a minute—uh. Okay, I think I know, wait, oh no, I lost it! I think I need to go back to some of my old articles and get into a better mindset. Do I want to write something different this time? But what if the readers are forming a tar and feather party on me? Nah, they don't want to waste nice feathers that can be used on gourds. I always go through a few mind games while trying to create something. Whether it be gourd art or writing for you fine folks.

I got it! Have any of you ever experienced CGS Syndrome? You know, the "Can't Get Started" Syndrome. Answering for myself, it's a resounding yes. It's not that I don't have any ideas, quite the opposite. I have too many. What causes your CGS? What's holding you/us back, I wonder? Too busy, no-good ideas, fear of falling short?

I was recently asked to give a gourd presentation at our County Art Association. A great honor as it's been a few years since I last did it. While pondering what to say to these incredible artists, I thought back to some words of wisdom from the past. "Teach what you know." After a little more of my gray matter grinding away, it suddenly became clear. I'm pretty darn good at Failure. In fact, I have quite a rich history of failures. In the dark corners of my basement are several bags of failures, which I hid away in disgust, shame, and a measure of frustration. In fact, I've been watching some survival and competition shows where the new buzzword is, in fact, Failure. Those folks embrace Failure as the significant learning part of their process.

One thing I appreciate most about artists and successful people is they are only as good as the failures they've overcome. I look at those dismal pieces in my basement and see many lessons that have made me better. Maybe that's why I've kept them all these years. Since I sculpt, I have learned to do drawings before going on to clay to better understand the subject. Pre-planning has reduced many of my failures, not eliminating them but reducing them. Most of you who've stuck with the arts or have life-related success have learned this.

We are only as good as our failures. Without setbacks, little would improve or evolve into something we can be proud of. A good salesman will relish each "No," knowing he/she is one step closer to a "Yes." Meanwhile, we artists can improve by sharing, teaching, doing, and failing.

ElGourdo, AKA EG



~ Patch Happenings ~

Ventura County Gourd Artists Update

Submitted by Evy Eisele, VCGA President

GOURDS

Superheroes through the centuries!

That is the theme represented by the Ventura County Gourd Artists proudly displayed at the Ventura County Fair, and they took home a 2nd Place Ribbon! It was difficult when the committee announced late that the Fair was being held this year, then followed up with the Agricultural Educational Building posting announcing their booth competition theme:



Superheroes. 10 club members, led by team leader Joyce Parker, rose to the challenge. It was short notice and a difficult concept to come up with, how do you make a gourd a superhero? Passing on creating the classic comic book characters, an even better idea was born!

Gourds themselves have been Superheroes through the centuries. Now to convince the judges of that! 9 displays were created, grouped in 3 sets of 3. It felt like a history research project, and it required our clubs talented volunteers, 10 in all to complete.

Each member chose a Country and decided how and what would be the focus. We all learned some fascinating uses of gourds that went beyond food, utensils, containers, and instruments. Like Haiti who used gourds for trade which brought currency and stability to the bankrupt country. Gourds saved their economy, so in 1807 the unit of currency was renamed the "Gourde". Hawaiian warriors wore gourd helmets, and Peruvian fisherman relied on their gourds to keep their fishing nets afloat.

The booth had split shifts manned by club members to educate and assist the kids at the children's table making little Superhero Gourds with their choice of cape attached with a pipe cleaner.

VCGA is very proud of what was achieved this year.

Pictured are some of the many Ventura patch volunteers. Kathleen Johnston, Joyce Parker, Debora Curnett, and Evy Eisele

2nd Place Winning Booth with Joyce Parker manning the helm!



~ Continue pg. 16

More from Ventura...



Hats off to Ventura County for doing such an amazing job!

Calabash Club Update *By: Lisa Baurmeister*

Pam Eckert took all three classes given by Janice Reich at the Nevada Gourd and Art Festival. Fancy Bowl with Turtle, Spirit Doll, and Trans Tint Alcohol Dye techniques.



Calabash at the Nevada's Silver State Art Festival



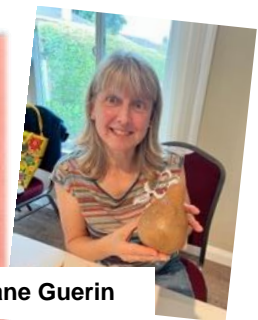
Kennie Winter – had a booth there and was very successful!

Calabash Club Meeting 9/15/22 ~ Smruthi Kurse Teaching “Madhubani Arkwork” Patterns

Smruthi Kurse



Jody Dingivan



Diane Guerin

~ Continue pg. 17

San Diego County Gourd Artists Update

By: Sherry Hunga Moore



San Diego County Gourd Artists hold Board Member Retreat

The San Diego County Gourd Artists held their annual Retreat for Board Members from Monday, June 13 through Friday, June 17 at The Dell Airbnb — a few miles east of Ramona. During the Retreat the SDCGA officers discussed upcoming events, went over the budget for 2023, learned new techniques from their fellow artists, shared new materials, discussed favorite finishes, traded UFOs (unfinished projects), and visited the Hatfield Creek Vineyards and Winery right next door for a tasting. The major topic of discussion was the California Gourd Society “Gourd Blossom” Retreat scheduled for June 16-18, 2023, to be held in Visalia, California. SDCGA is hosting the event for the entire state of California and is responsible for activities, accommodations, meals, workshops and all the other planning that goes into a fun and informative weekend.



Moni sharing her fun Mosaic Piece she just finished just needs to be grouted. This was a project we did at our Board Members Retreat in June.



Peggy Blessing Left shared a gourd that had cracked she turned it into three beautiful pieces. Two shadow boxes and one tea light candle holder! **Right** she did a wonderful picture using ink dye.



Olive shared her fantastic large mushrooms and snail. This is how this great class we have coming up started. The class will be these great minis shown above. Love them!

We'd love to report your patch happenings in the Golden Gourd! Share what's happening; ask your patch leaders to let us know what you and your gourd club have been up to. Take photos of your meeting and get-togethers and we will share it in the newsletter. You can send your info to your patch leader, Regional Directors libbi_salvo@yahoo.com or Jody Dingivan, adolplace@hotmail.com or to me Lisa Baurmeister at: cgsnewslettereditor@gmail.com.

DON'T FORGET TO SHARE WITH US. WE LOVE HEARING FROM YOU!

State Fair Gourd Competition Results

By Marilyn Phelps

We had a great showing at the California State Fair 2022 with quality gourds and big winners. Here are the results of the State Fair Competition. Heather Hopman (pictured with Marilyn Phelps) received the Certificate of Achievement for "Best of Division". She also received a \$100 prize for her win donated by CGS.



Heather Hopman – Amador and Marilyn Phelps, CGS President



Patricia Fisher - Amador



Dawnelle Sauve - Amador

~ Continue pg. 19



Marilyn Carrico
- Folsom



Christine Crady - Folsom



Thanks to those who participated in the State Fair and helped to promote Gourds and CGS! Well done everyone!

Woodcarvers Gourd Competition Results



Bill Wilson - Masters



Marilyn Phelps - Intermediate

We had some Gourders participate in the Woodcarvers event earlier this year.

Great job Gourders!



Colleen Ballard - Advanced

Heather Hopman - Masters



Patty Fisher - Masters



Janice Horner - Masters
A BIG WINNER!



Chris Berman - Intermediate

CHECK OUT THE NEW
CATEGORY

California Gourd
Society
Southern California
Virtual Gourd
Competition

OCTOBER 15, 2022

ENTRY DEADLINE
OCTOBER 10, 2022

Competition rules and entry form
at California Gourd Society website
www.CaliforniaGourdSociety.com

**Hosted by Orange County
Gourd Society**

California Gourd Society
Southern California Virtual Gourd Competition 2022
Hosted by Orange County Gourd Society
October 15, 2022

How To Enter

- The competition is open to **ALL**.
- The entry fee per entry is \$6.00 for CGS members and \$10.00 for all others. One entry per entry form. **Make checks payable to CGS and put inside your box containing your entry. Please complete the entry form and e-mail back to head clerk. Enclose a copy with your entry piece.**
- **Mailed entries** will be accepted. Mailed entries must arrive by October 10, 2022. See directions below.
- Entries may be submitted before October 10, 2022. **LATE ENTRIES WILL NOT BE JUDGED. The manual entry form is available on the CGS website:**
<https://www.californiagourdsociety.com/>
- **For on-line entry form, please use this link: [CGS So. Cal Entry Form 2022](#) It will be submitted electronically. When you submit your entry, a copy will be sent to you.**
- CGS reserves the right to photograph and video each entry and use in promotion of CGS Art Competition.
- While every effort is made to provide security of items, the California Gourd Society and Orange County Gourd Society are **not** responsible for damaged or lost items.
- The artist is responsible for placing his or her piece in the correct **category**.
Note: We have four divisions. Please read category and division descriptions carefully. Fit your artwork to the categories.

- **Packing – gourds will be transported from a group pick-up to entry, storage and to show. Please pack your gourd for safe transport and handling. If you have multiple entries or entries with stands, please enclose a picture or diagram.**
- **Direction for Mailed Entries – Please mail to:**

Debra Zimmerman
5636 Campo Walk
Long Beach, CA 90803
Phone 562 822-6940 (ok to text)
Email: dzgourd@gmail.com

CGS or its representatives are not responsible for any damage caused during shipping. Insurance coverage is recommended. Please ensure that your gourds are packed carefully with ample protection.

- (1) Take the box to the post office or shipping office you prefer.
- (2) After determining postal cost for one-way shipping, purchase two (2) shipping labels.
- (3) Enclose postage label for return shipping inside the package with your gourds.
- (4) Affix postage for shipping to the competition on the outside of the package.
- (5) Send a text or e-mail with the tracking number to Debra Zimmerman.

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General Rules

1. Gourds must predominate. Entries must have a **predominate** focus of the medium or technique for the entry category. For example, if entered in Painting, the painting must be the focal point of the piece.
2. Gourds previously entered in a **CGS competition** and judged by AGS guidelines will not be permitted.
3. Craft/artwork for each entry must be the **original** work of the person who is the entrant. Pieces **cannot** be **collaborations** of two or more artists.
4. Only one entry per category is permitted.
5. Class gourds are permitted only in the **Class Gourd Category**.
6. The Head Judge reserves the right to disqualify or reassign entries that do not meet category criteria. S/He may also change, subdivide, or combine categories as necessary.
7. **Copyright designs such as Disney characters or copies of other artist's work may not be used on entries unless written permission is granted by the artist or copyright holder. Copyright free designs may be used.**
8. All participants agree to allow photographs and videos to be taken of displayed items.
9. Not all categories may be included in each division.
10. Category definitions may be the same for Novice, Intermediate, Advanced and Master Craftsman, but will be judged according to **Division** level.
11. Laser work and fractal burning on gourds will not be judged in the Gourd Competition. If a gourd contains these techniques, that portion of the work will not be considered in the judging.

Judging

The California Gourd Society will coordinate all judging. Judging will follow the American Gourd Society judging guidelines. The overall appearance of the entry, quality of craftsmanship, difficulty and level of effort as well as the use of featured technique/theme will be considered.

Awards

Awards will be given for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in each category at the judge's discretion. A category with only one entry does not necessarily guarantee a 1st place. Winners can choose to receive a ribbon or pin for 1st, 2nd, or 3rd place awards.

Best of Show – award given to preferred entry of BOD. Best of Division – One entry out of all First-place entries in each division. Judges Choice – award given by each judge to their favorite entry.

Special Category – Class Gourds For this competition, we are allowing class gourds in an open division (all levels). Entries in this category are **not** eligible for Best of Show or Best of Division. You may enter a gourd completed in a class. There will be two sections: **Section A - Simple class gourds** – work completed in class in **one** session. **Section B – Complex class gourds** – work completed in multiple days in and out of class or in a multiple day class.

Please go to our [CGS Website's Competition page](#) or the Orange County Gourd Society Web page for all the details including the forms and Gourd Crafting Terms and Definitions.

Remember the Deadline is October 10th!

Don't forget to renew your CGS Membership!

Read below to learn more about CGS and the benefits of being a CGS Member!

A membership is a great way to share the joy of gourds with loved ones and friends!



CGS incorporated with the American Gourd Society in 1999. There are numerous Gourd Clubs "Patches" located throughout California which include approximately 300 members. CGS is considered a state chapter of the American Gourd Society and works in conjunction with AGS to promote gourd enthusiasm. To find out more about AGS, PLEASE visit the American Gourd Society at: www.americangourdsociety.org

CGS Member Benefits - You will get 4 Quarterly Issues of the The Golden Gourd Newsletter (via Email) and access to the "Members Only Site" on the Web!

You will be able to view online and/or download the CGS Golden Gourd Newsletter, which comes out quarterly; Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter. You will receive emails from CGS notifying you of the latest happenings. We refer to them as Shout-Outs which are sent via Constant Contact. For example:

- Get the latest on Festivals and Competitions Events
- Featured Artists Profiles
- Get Gourd Tutorials
- Teachers can advertise gourd classes.
- Participate in occasional members-only State-wide events.
- Share thoughts about Growing Gourds
- Members can hold leadership roles as President, Vice President, or a variety of board member positions in our dynamic organization.
- Get Advertisements for gourd-related services/products.
- Sign up, be trained, and certified as an American Gourd Society judge – and more!

You can also check out our "Join Us" page on the CGS website for mail-in or online membership forms.

<https://www.californiagourdsociety.com/membership-form-mail-in>

~ Golden Gourd Editor's Take ~

The Price of living off grid!

FALL is almost upon us and thank goodness; I will take the cooler weather any day over hotter. I really have a hard time dealing with oppressive heat, and right now, as I write this, we are at the tail end of the hottest days in California history! We've lived in the Santa Cruz Mountains for 12 years now and this is the first time we hit 110 degrees. (Might as well live in Arizona.)

Our home runs efficiently on an off-grid system. We don't have PG&E, cable lines, phone lines. etc. The house runs on solar panels, a large bank of batteries, and propane. Therefore, we don't have AC; it uses too much energy. However, when we have consecutive heatwave days, and no offshore system from living off grid and not having PG&E, it's almost unbearable at times. Thank goodness it's only a few days a year!

This is one reason why I love the Fall. It is by far my most favorite time of the year. The weather starts cooling off, the air smells crisper, very green, not muggy (at least not in the Santa Cruz mountains) and there is the anticipation of winter, which means rain, which means life.

This fall, my days will be filled with more than just gourds. I have a new puppy. I would like you all to meet LUNA, the newest love in my life! Luna is a Multi-Generation Australian Labradoodle. We picked her up in Utah on July 9th. At that time, she was 8 weeks old and 6.5 lbs. Now, at 18 weeks and a whopping 20 lbs. she is a rambunctious teen who is running circles around me. Wish me luck with this one, I am going to need it!

In between the puppy training and the three newsletters I produce, I am fulfilling two big gourd art commissions, totaling 9 pieces for the holidays. At some point I will have to concentrate on replenishing my gourd art stock for the two art shows to which I've committed. Oh yeh, and then there is the Southern Gourd Competition! I wonder if I can find the time to make something for that. Oui!!! Where does all the time go????? I hope you will be entering a piece into the Southern Cal competition. Ah well, I think I will leave you with photos of my work-in-progress for my commissioned pieces. Have a great fall everyone!

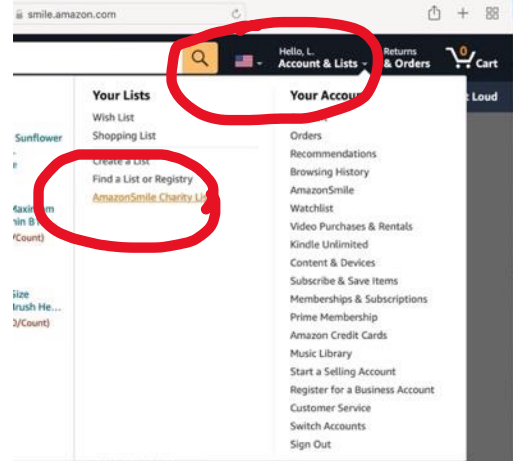


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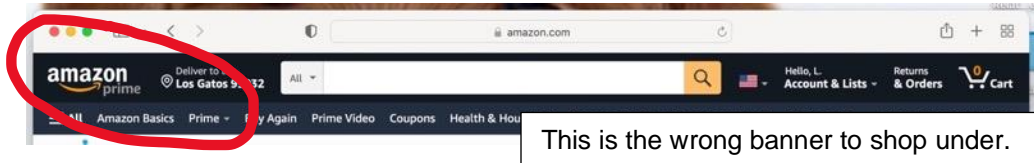
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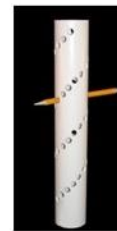


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Here are some positive things about this business:
No heavy lifting, it takes up very little room. We operate the business out of a good size bedroom. Also, if you get your USPS mail delivered to your home you can request pick up of outgoing parcels for the next day; the carrier will pick them up at no charge. You simply request a pickup the day before.

Because we are moving, hopefully before Thanksgiving, the purchase would need to be completed before that time.

To clarify our location. We are in the Seattle, WA area. We purchased the business from Bonnie Gibson of Tucson and kept the name of the business.

Interested Buyers Please Email Ora at info@arizonagourds.com

