

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE CALIFORNIA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN GOURD SOCIETY

Volume 9, Issue I Spring 2007

The Gourdeous Path

by Sala Faruq

Inside this issue:

The Gourdeous Path by Sala Faruq	1
President's Message * Mission Statement * Golden Gourd Staff	2
Announcements * The Gourdeous Path by Sala Faruq (continued)	3
CGS Gourd Art Competition	4
CGS Gourd Art Competition Categories * Call for CGS Volunteers	5
The Fifth Annual Greg Leiser Farms Gourd Art Festival and Gourd Sale * Gourd Camp	6
Gourd Classes	7
Regional Roundup * Tears of Joy by Russ Conley	8 - 10
The IIth Annual International Gourd Art Festival at the Welburn Gourd Farm * The Art Center at Fallbrook's IIth Annual Gourd Fine Art Show	11
Add Zest to Your Life with Garden Experiments By Betty Finch	12
CGS Gourd College at Asilomar California	13
Classified Ads	14
CGS COMPETITION ENTRY FORM * CGS Membership Appli- cation * Gourd Tips * Living the California Gourd Life	15
On-line Gourd Information * CGS	16

How did I end up on the path to gourdeous? Well, over the years I have tried drawing, painting, screen printing and etching but nothing excites me as much as creating art with gourds. After taking some time off in 2003, I dedicated myself to gourd crafting. I've been producing gourd creations ever since.

My primary goal on this path is to capture the essence of the medium and transform it into elegant works of art. Additionally, I am challenged to create works that go beyond the traditional confines of what gourd art is.

I mainly design decorative figurative pieces and vessels. My figurative pieces are an affirmation of my cultural heritage. Beauty Is Here Because I'm Here (see Fig. 1) represents a mix of the West African cultures of the Asante, Ejagham and Yoruba peoples.





My aim with vessels like *Spirit Bottle* (see Fig. 2) is to create an experience for the viewer that blurs the boundaries between gourd and ceramic art.

In December 2006, I started working on a line of distinctive gourd jewelry after being captivated by the book, "1000 Rings: Inspiring Adornments for the Hand." With my jewelry, I want to show the beauty and versatility of the gourd. *Alma* (see

(Continued on page 3)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello Gourd Friends!

It's time to spring into action in the gourd garden! Starting as soon as weather conditions in your area permit will insure as many growing days as possible for these long-season plants. My goal for the year remains to tie a knot in the neck of a long handle dipper. Maybe this will be my year. I hope some of you will take up the challenge as well and follow in the footsteps of Jim Story.

Quite a number of you California gourders got warmed up for this year's round of gourd festivals by attending the Arizona Gourd Society Festival at Wuertz Farm in Casa Grande, Arizona, in early February.

We will kick off the California festival season at the Greg Leiser Farms Festival on May 19th and 20th in Knights Landing. They have expanded their offerings of pre-festival and festival classes so new opportunities await interested gourders. See page six for more details. We still need some volunteers to help out in our CGS booth on Sunday, May 20th. Please let me know if you can assist me for an hour or two.

The 11th Annual International Gourd Art Festival hosted by the Welburn Gourd Farm in Fallbrook, June 23rd and 24th will once again be the location of the California Gourd Society Annual Gourd Art Competition and Exhibit. Competition Chairpersons Larry McClelland and Carol Rookstool have come up with an interesting selection of categories to challenge novice and experienced gourd artists. Please carefully read through this year's list and create one or more gourds for the competition. This is a great place to showcase your unique talents and share them with the world. Opportunities abound to support CGS as a volunteer in a variety of capacities at this festival. Please read through Peggy Blessing's article on page five and let her know where you can help out. Volunteers receive a free pass to the festival and there will be a special raffle held for all volunteers. You'll earn one ticket for each hour you work. Join the fun and support CGS with this important event! Jill Walker

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.

THE GOLDEN GOURD

The Golden Gourd is published quarterly by the California Gourd Society, NU Chapter of the American Gourd Society.

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NEWSLETTER DEADLINES: SummerMay 28, 2007 FallAugust 28, 2007

Winter November 20, 2007 SpringFebruary 28, 2008

Electronic submissions preferred: newsletter@calgourd.com Snail mail or questions by phone cheerfully accepted: Phone: (714)693-1840 (after 11:00 a.m. PST) Mail: California Gourd Society, c/o Mary Bliss, 5765 Via Del Coyote, Yorba Linda, CA 92887

The editors reserve the right to edit any submissions for content and consistency.

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Announcing a show! YOU'RE INVITED!!!!

Organic Vessels at Ave 50 Studio

Opening April 14th, 2007 from 7:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m.

Featured Artist are Pat Boyd, Sally Rosenberg, Larry and Judy Cunningham, Howard Swerdloff, Larry McClelland and Leigh Adams

> 131 N. Avenue 50 Highland Park 323 258 1435

6 Artists' views of their favorite organic vessel will be shown from April 14th - May 7th at Ave 50 Studio in Highland Park, CA.

Workshops will be held throughout the show, check the website for specifics!

http://www.avenue50studio.com/index.shtml

(Continued from page 1)



Fig. 3) is my first attempt at creating gourd jewelry.

There are limitless possibilities waiting for me as I travel along the gourdeous path. Though the path is not always clear, I am home. For I feel a wholeness of spirit and the warm rays of the golden gourd on my face.

Sala Faruq has a B.F.A. and a M.A. in Arts Management. Her gourd creations can be found in select stores, galleries and online at:

www.afrooriginals.com



P.O. Box 157 21886 Knights Rd. Knights Landing CA 95645

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FIFTH ANNUAL GOURD ART FESTIVAL AND GOURD SALE MAY 19 & 20, 2007

Visit our website: www.GourdFarmer.com Email address: gleiser@afes.com Proud member of AGS, CGS, NMGS and AZGS

CGS GOURD ART COMPETITION RULES AND CATEGORIES

The intent of the Gourd Art Competition is to encourage artists to meet the challenge of creating a gourd piece which fulfils the requirements of a show category.

Thousands of visitors attend the exhibit each year and enjoy the creativity and skill of CGS members. If requested, individual artist's telephone number may be released by CGS so that visitors may contact the artist after the show. For more information contact Larry McClelland at macqourd@aol.com

California Gourd Art Competition Rules:

- Any individual may enter. All entrants must be current members of the California Gourd Society.
- GOURDS MUST PREDOMINATE- artistry, originality and integrity of technique are considered.
- Participants may enter only one entry per category.
- There are three divisions -

The Novice division is for members who have not previously won a ribbon in the CGS competition.

The Open division is for anyone who has won a ribbon in the novice division or those who do not consider themselves a beginner. (honor system).

Masters division – This division would include artists who have achieved a level of expertise as demonstrated by having won awards, had work published, or sold work in galleries. Artists entering in this division may not submit entries in the Novice or Open divisions.

- The entry fee is \$6 for each entry. Make checks Payable to CGS. There is no charge for children and youth.
- All work must be original and done by the exhibiting artist and not previously entered in any CGS competition.
- Advanced registration is NOT taken. When mailing entries, please enclose a completed registration for each entry as well as the \$6.00 entry fee and return postage if needed.

Deadline: Mailed entries postmarked no later than Monday, June 18. Personal deliveries may be delivered ONLY on Thursday, June 21 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. so that the show may be set up prior to iudging. **LATE ENTRIES WILL NOT BE JUDGED!**

- Judging will be on Thursday, June 21. All participants agree to allow photographs to be taken of displayed items.
- Pick-up will be Sunday, June 24 from 3:00 5:00 p.m. Entries may not be removed early.
- Mailed entries will be returned in approximately two weeks after the show. Mailed entries must have return postage and self addressed shipping container.
- All art work not picked up or arranged for pre-paid return will be donated to CGS.
- The California Gourd Society will officiate in all judging.

CALL FOR JUDGES

Any CGS member who wishes to participate in the gourd art judging process is welcome to the training and judging session starting at 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 21. This is a fun experience that benefits the participating artists and thousands of visitors that view the exhibit each year. For more information contact Larry McClelland at (310) 549-3294 or macgourd@aol.com

CATEGORIES: IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE ARTIST TO ENTER THEIR PIECE IN THE CORRECT CATEGORY. Judges will not move pieces from one category to another. Be certain that you have read the specific criteria outlined for the category and make your decision accordingly, e.g. if the criteria specify carving with natural or clear finish only, DO NOT stain the piece or add other embellishments. If you have questions about proper category placement, check with those taking in the pieces. Volunteers will be available on Thursday, June 21, to answer questions. They may provide advice, but you must make the final determination for placement. Pieces entered in incorrect categories cannot be judged.

27 CATEGORIES: GOURDS MUST PREDOMINATE. INDICATE ON YOUR APPLICATION WHICH DIVISION YOU ARE ENTERING AND SPECIFY THE CATEGORY BY NUMBER AND TITLE.

Category 1: Gourd with weaving or coiling of natural materials, e.g. pine needles, palm influoresence, sea grass, etc. The binder, such as waxed linen, may be man made. Any finish is allowed

Category 2: Gourd with weaving or coiling of man-made materials such as Danish cord, waxed linen, wire, etc. Any finish is allowed.

Category 3: This years art challenge: "Pattern" Create a piece emphasizing the use of pattern. It may be a repetitive pattern, a recurring pattern, and an overall pattern. Any technique allowed.

Category 4: Inspired by the Masters. Create a piece reflecting the influence of one of the Masters – Van Gogh, Renoir, Degas, Picasso, Calder, etc. but in a concept unique to the gourd artist. The inspiring Master may be a painter, sculptor, etcher, printmaker, etc. May be whole or cut gourd, carved, wood-burned, painted, stained or sculptural. Include a 3 x 5 card indicating the inspiring Master.

Category 5: Painting. Whole or cut gourd. Painting must predominate. Please indicate type of paint used.

Category 6: Staining. Whole or cut gourd. Woodburning allowed. Staining must be featured.

Category 7: Mixed media. Whole or cut gourd. On entry form please indicate materials used. Any technique allowed.

Category 8: Hand trained gourds grown by the artist. This category is called the Jim Story category. This is a relatively new category with techniques and processes growing in popularity. Gourds may be knotted, grown in a mold or otherwise manipulated. On the entry form, specify the technique used. Pieces should be cleaned gourds and left natural or finished with a clear finish only.

Category 9: Clay embellishment. May be air dried or polymer clay. Any finishing technique allowed.

Category 10: Pyrography: Whole or cut gourd. Wood burned only. Natural or clear finish only.

Category 11: Carving: Whole or cut gourd. Carving should be featured. Natural or clear finish only.

Category 12: Doll/Human figure. Single or multiple gourds may be used to create a single figure. Any finishing technique allowed. Gourds must predominate.

Category 13: Flowers. Single or multiple flowers. Any technique allowed, including burning, carving, painted or sculptural pieces.

Category 14: Sculptural bird figure. Single or multiple gourds or pieces are allowed to create a single bird. Gourds must predominate. Any technique allowed.

Category 15: Sculptural land mammal. Created from one or more gourds or pieces to create a single piece. Any technique allowed.

(Continued on page 5)

CGS GOURD ART COMPETITION RULES AND CATEGORIES (CONTINUED) AND CGS CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

(Continued from on page 4)

Category 16: Fantasy creature. May be single or multiple gourds or pieces. The piece can be painted, carved, woodburned or sculptural. Any technique allowed.

Category 17: Mask. Whole or cut gourds or pieces. Any technique allowed. Must include a sturdy hanger as this category will be hung.

Category 18: Jewelry. Whole or cut gourds or pieces. Any technique allowed. Additional embellishments may be used.

Category 19: Beaded embellishment. Beading must predominate.

Category 20: Musical Instruments. Any technique allowed. Instrument must be playable.

Category 21: Gourd toy. This could be a carriage, race car, marionette, whatever. Must be made primarily from gourds.

Category 22: Inspired by Native America, including North Coast Indian

Category 23: Inspired by the Orient.

Category 24: Inspired by Africa.

Category 25: Inspired by the South Pacific.

Category 26: Inspired by Latin America.

Category 27: "Anything Goes" Any technique allowed. This category is for gourds that don't fit into any other category. Let your imagination run wild!

MASTERS DIVISION

Category 1: Vases, bowls or containers. Any technique allowed. **Category 2:** Sculptural Gourds. May be single or multiple gourds. Any technique allowed.

CHILDREN 12 AND UNDER. No restrictions. (minimal adult assistance, please)

YOUTH 13 – 17. No restrictions. Work of entrant only. Children and youth are also eligible to enter any Novice category.

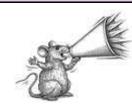
Category 1: One decorated gourd, functional or decorative, any technique allowed. May be a mask, doll, animal, insect, pot, whatever

Competition Entry Form and CGS Membership Form are on page 15



Over 7,000 People Expected to Attend!

For gourd class registration, competition submission form, and more information please visit www.GourdFestival.com!



Come and be a part of the CALIFORNIA GOURD SOCIETY'S 11TH ANNUAL GOURD ART COMPETITION AND EXHIBIT and Crafting Coral SATURDAY & SUNDAY JUNE 23 & 24, 2007

Fun and interesting volunteer opportunities await those CGS members who plan to attend this year's Welburn Festival. Your contribution of time will help CGS inspire and expose gourd art to children and adults alike. Last year, in addition to all those who experienced the art exhibit and signed up for membership at the information booth, over 250 individuals created a piece of gourd art in the crafting coral. Some of these people may go on to be the next generation of CGS!

In exchange for free entrance to the Festival, could you donate two or more hours to monitor our exhibit and welcome and share your enthusiasm with visitors? Or maybe you would like to answer questions and sign up new members at the information booth? Or perhaps you would find mentoring and assisting visitors to create gourd art in the Crafting Coral more to your liking?

As always, Leigh Adams will be in charge of the children's crafting tables in the Crafting Coral, and would love your assistance. (Volunteers must be impervious to boogers, immune to glue flue, delights by indiscriminate use of glitter and enchanted by children who paint while biting their lips and wrinkling their faces.) However, we are especially looking for someone to lead or co-lead the overall efforts in the Coral. You might also consider having your patch as a whole take ownership of this important element of the Festival. Not only will you help raise money that can be used by patches for CGS outreach programs, you will play an important role in a magical interaction with newcomers to the world of gourds.

On Thursday, June 21, we need help with the set up of the display in the competition/exhibit space.

On Friday July 22, we need help with the set up of the CGS booth

On Saturday, June 23, we need people to monitor the exhibit, finish any set up and sit in the CGS info/sales booth and assist festival visitors to create gourd art in the crafting coral.

On Sunday, June 24, we'll need the same areas covered as Saturday, plus take-down after the Festival (with great numbers of people, this takes surprisingly little time.)

If you are planning to attend the festival, please contact me, Peggy Blessing, glassworks2005-gourdnews@yahoo.com or 858-292-9219, with your availability to volunteer. I'd also be very happy to discuss the Crafting Coral leadership with any one of you! I will be in touch with those who sign up as we get closer to the event to work out a schedule and get your address to mail the comp ticket(s).

Please Note the date change Judging will be on Thursday, July 21, any CGS member who wishes to participate in the gourd art judging process is welcome to the training and judging session starting at 5:00 p.m. For more information, contact Larry McClelland at (310) 549-3294 or macgourd@aol.com

The Fifth Annual Greg Leiser Farms Gourd Art Festival and Gourd Sale

The Fifth Annual Greg Leiser Farms Gourd Art Festival and Gourd Sale will be held May 19th and 20th from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the family farm of Greg and Mary Leiser 21886 Knights Road, Knights Landing, California.

This year we will have twice the covered vendor space with the addition of another 38' x 100' tent. Gourd Artists from all over California will be selling exquisite gourd art. Vendors will also be selling tools and supplies.

Friday through Sunday, gourd classes are being offered by five outstanding gourd artists, Larry McClelland, Kathy Riker, Toni Best, Betsy Roberts and Jill Walker. Pre-registration for all these classes is required. Please visit our website: www.GourdFarmer.com for class descriptions and fees.

Again we will be selling thousands of new crops gourds at a special festival discount. During the festival weekend, you have the opportunity to experience what it's like to walk through a field with acres of gourds and select your very own. We will be providing a Gourd Wagon ride around the field. For those of you that are not so adventurous you can pick your gourds right out of the bins that are all organized by variety.

During the festival there will be a birdhouse contest by the local Robbins Community School. The students will be making over 90 gourd birdhouses as a school project and the judging will be held during the festival.

Back by popular demand will be Billie Pass. You buy a small gourd, learn how to clean it and Billie will paint a horse on it. Billie's motto is " If you can hold it still, I can paint a horse on it".

Something new this year for children and adults, will be "Create A Gourd Birdhouse" by Patti Brown and Linda Chipman. They will show you how to decorate gourd birdhouses. This is a drop in, on going class. A \$12.00 fee includes everything you will need to complete this project.

Betty Finch will be on hand to sign her new book, The Immortal Molded Gourds.. Two new gourd books, soon to be released before the festival, For Gourds Sake by Gail Hohlweg and Spirit In The Gourd by Ginger Summit and Jim Widess, are also scheduled to be present during the festival for book signing.

The Festival is a wonderful opportunity for show and tell, or just visiting and sharing gourd ideas and making new friends.

Admission is free. Parking will be \$2.00.

Food service and picnic area will be available. For more information or vendor applications, gourd class sign ups and festival updates please visit our

Website: www.GourdFarmer.com

Hardbound, Unique, NEW book!!

"THE IMMORTAL MOLDED GOURDS of MR. ZHANG CAIRI"

by Betty Finch and Guojun Zhang

- * Color photo gallery of molded gourds
- * Step-by-step mold making instructions
- * Chinese techniques for applying molds



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Get ready for Gourd Camp at Club Lair

Date: August 26th through September 2th, Cost about \$725.

Nestled deep in the Stanislaus National Forest at Pinecrest, California, you'll find the Lair of the Golden Bear, an unforgettable family summer vacation spot—owned and operated by the California Alumni Association since 1949

It's an adult week where the menus and programs are upgraded and expanded. No experience is necessary, and camp will provide more than enough gourds, materials, tools to share, etc. We can't anticipate or fulfill every desire, though, so campers are encouraged to bring their own tool kits, fave materials and special gourds.

A mini-week is the Lair family camp experience condensed into a half-week format. If your family has never attended the Lair, this is an ideal opportunity to see what all the excitement is about. Mini-weeks are offered in a 3-day or 4-day format in June. The Mini-Week at Camp Gold includes "Gourd Camp" where you can learn to make wonderful things from gourds plan your weekend session for June 8-10.

For additional information on the Lair of the Golden Bear call (510) 642-0221, or visit www.alumni.berkeley.edu/lair

For further information on Gourd Camp visit www.gourdcamp.com or call Kemper at (707)557-0462, or email gourdcamp@yahoo.com

Gourd Classes for April, May, June and July 2007



April 20 Kristy Dial Woodburning & Gold Leafing

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Cost \$65

Make Gourd Paper

finish by putting it on a gourd as a doll 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. \$35

April 21 Kristy Dial Power Carving

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Cost \$65 Beading Around a Bowl 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Cost \$35

April 22 Kristy Dial Metal Inlay

9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Cost \$65 To sign up for Kristy's

classes please email: kenniewinter@yahoo.com or call (707) 263-7980

April 14 & 21 Diane Calderwood Hawaiian Gourd Basket

Piecemakers Country Store Costa Mesa, CA 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Cost - \$38.00 Material Fee - \$14.00 (714) 641-3112

April 28 Sylvia Marson & Mary Bliss Round Gourd Bowl with Woodburned Design

Costa Mesa, CA
10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Tuition: \$50.00
To register email or phone
Norrah at:
createitceramics@aol.com or

714 641-8124

*

April 29 Diane Calderwood Gourd Mini-Mask

Piecemakers Country Store 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Cost - \$35.00 Material fee - \$12.00



(714) 641-3112
May 5
Jo Anne Sadler
Gourd Basketry with an emphasis on working safety with gourds.

10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Class \$39 + materials fee \$12.00 Glendale College Adult School—Glendale, CA 818-240-1000, ext. 5015 or

5016 email: hegra4@hotmail.com

May 10, 17, 24 & 31 Diane Calderwood Mini-Bits & Pieces Gourd

For Home School Children ages 6 - 14 Piecemakers Country Store 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 p.m. Cost \$30.00 Material fee - \$6.00 (714) 641-3112

May 12 Diane Calderwood Gourd Neck Pouch

Piecemakers Country Store 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Cost - \$ 35.00 Material fee - \$10.00 (714) 641-3112

May 19 Sala Faruq Gourd Jewelry

Oceanside Museum of Art—School of Art
Tuition \$85, OMA members
\$65.00
\$10 materials fee
10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

To register call (760) 754-0118

*

May 23 Leigh Adams Mini Gourd Twining

San Gabriel Bead 7:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m. \$35.00 + materials list

> May 27 Leigh Adams Gourd Basketry San Gabriel Bead noon -5:00 p.m.



\$45.00 + materials list June 2 Cookie Hanson Basket on A Gourd

Learn weaving & twining of natural materials on a gourd base.

11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Cost: \$55 includes materials The Artisan's Lair Gallery Long Beach, CA 562- 856-7578 or theartisianlair.com

June 2 Nadine Spier Gourd Decorating/ Woodburning

9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Saddleback Adult Ed \$50 www.goadulted.com class # 4214

June 3 Gourd Decorating/ Woodburning Nadine Spier

10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Grossmont College \$55 (619) 660-4350

June 3 & 10 Diane Calderwood Bits & Pieces Gourd

Piecemakers Country Store

Material fee - \$ 6.00 (714) 641-3112

June 9 Gourd Decorating/ Woodburning

Nadine Spier 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Mira Costa College \$64 (760) 757-2121 x 6820



July 6 Kathy Riker Asian Doll

9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. \$65.00

6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Gourd Shard Shadow Box \$35.00

July 7 Kathy Riker Sponge Painting Rock Art

9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. \$65.00

Evening of Embellishing 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. \$35.00

July 8 Kathy Riker Indian Pottery \$65.00

9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Northern Cali fornia in the city of Lake Port at Clear Lake
Contact Kennie Winter
Phone Lake 707-263-7980
Home Phone 650-9489189 or email
kenniewinter@yahoo.com

July 21 Angela Briggs Gourd Jewelry

The Artisan's Lair Gallery Long Beach, CA 562-856-7578 or www.theartisianlair.com

REGIONAL ROUNDUP

Compiled and edited by Barbara McDermott

Please call or email the Regional Coordinators of each patch for the most current meeting information. New members and guests are always welcome. Or check at the CGS website: www.calgourd.com

Amador County

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

Our group gathers on the second Thursday of each month from 9 a.m. to Noon at the Amador County Agriculture Building , 12200 Airport Rd. Jackson , CA 95624 . Our gatherings are full of fun. We love sharing techniques and ideas and always have a "gallery" showing of our latest gourd art works.

Please call or email for information and you are welcome to join us anytime.

Antelope Valley Gourd Patch

Regional Coordinator: Nancy Brown (661) 944-5528 or Nancy_b93544@yahoo.com

Our meeting time is 2 p.m. on the 2nd Wednesday of each month. We invite anyone in the Palmdale, Lancaster, Rosamond, Littlerock, Pearblossom, Llano and Lake Los Angeles areas to join us. For information please call above.

We have another new patch!

Bachelor Valley Gourd Club of Lake County

Regional Coordinator: Marilyn Crayton (707) 275-3469 or doodahland@hughes.net Kennie Winter (707) 263-7980 or (650) 948-9189 kenniewinter@yahoo.com

We are a new patch to the CGS although we have been growing since July 2005. Gourd Gatherings are generally held on the first Saturday of each month at 11000 Bachelor Valley Rd. outside Lakeport from 11:00 a.m to 2:00 p.m. (Winter hours are 12: to 3:) Call to confirm for we sometimes have satellite meeting sites. We always have energetic "Show and Tell" and try to set a theme each month to work on during the meetings. Several members have demo-ed or taught various techniques. We welcome guest teachers or demonstrators. Play days and field trips during the month are encouraged. Recently we had a "Clear Lake Diamond" search at a member's home and field trips to Leiser's Gourd Farm. Memorial Day Weekend the club will sponsor a booth at the Kiwanas Craft Fair at Natural High School in Lakeport.

This summer we are hosting our first major workshop weekend with Kathy Riker. We will kick off her visit with a pot luck dinner on July 4th. See class listing page seven for more details.

Bakersfield/Kern County Gourd Patch

Regional Co-Coordinators: Melanie Ansolabehere, (661) 836-2501 or littlefeather3@aol.com Alice Hengst, (559) 949-8651 or moondust@savy2K.net Carol Walter, (661) 588-8398 or glwalter39@sbcglobal.net

The Bakersfield / Kern County Patch meets on the third Wednesday of the month from 6:30 to 9 p.m. at Beverly 's Craft Shop, 2819 F. St , Bakersfield .

El Dorado County Foothill Gourders

Regional Coordinator: Chuck York (209)295-1355 or likacb@volcano.net

The Foothill Gourders meet on the first Thursday of each month at the El Dorado County Agricultural Commission's Cooperative Extension Building , 311 Fair Lane , Placerville . Our meetings are held from 9:30 a.m. until noon. We hold a gallery time at each meeting and allow plenty of time for show and tell.

We have been busy this year planning workshops, field trips and theme meetings. In February we were guests of neighboring Patch, the Z-Gourders where we shared in "Show and Tell," and enjoyed a great meal provided by our host.

Contact Chuck at above for directions or more information

Fallbrook Gourd Patch

Regional Coordinator: Barbara McDermott (760)746-3913, (951)894-1817 or mcdeeart@verizon.net

The Fallbrook Area Gourd Patch meets every other month, on the second Saturday, at a Member's home, library or gourd farm. On the alternate months we conduct gourd classes, participate in gourd shows, festivals or other gourd related activities. We love GOURD times!

We are looking forward to spring activities coming up including a Patch Play day at the beach home of Pat Bentsen & Erickson, March 14, our regular Patch Meeting, April 14, the Misty Washington Weekend in May and the Delmar Fair and Welburn Festival in June. We have a friendly group who is always looking for "fun with gourds activities." If you would like to visit or join our meetings please call Barbara at above for directions or more information.

Folsom/Sacramento Patch - Z-Gourd Miners

Welcome New Regional Coordinator: Susan Gouig (707)433-8223 day or (707) 433-9162 Eve.

The Folsom-Sacramento Patch meets the second Saturday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. of each month at Zittle Farms, Corner of Oak Avenue and Folsom/Auburn Road in Folsom. We have social time, show & tell, lunch, work on projects or classes. We have a great group and wish you to join us.

Galt Patch

Regional Coordinator: Elizabeth Kummerle (209)745-6618 or ekummerle@sbcglobal.net

Our meetings are held monthly, alternating weekdays and weekends. 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The next meeting will be April 21. No meeting in May as we will go as a group to the Leiser Festival. We have a short business meeting, a gourd gallery (bring your latest gourds for show) and a hands on period. Bring a lunch and join in on working on ornaments, sampler masks and name tags or bring your own project to

(Continued on page 9)

(Continued from page 8)

work on. We continue to seek new members so please come and help make this the kind of patch you wish.

Regional boundaries will be Stockton, Lodi, Galt, Elk Grove and all surrounding areas east and west.

Kings River Gourd Patch

Regional Coordinator: Pat Wescott (559) 897-7470 or graybadgers@attwb.net

The Kingsburg Fiber & Gourd Patch continues to meet on the first Saturday of each month. We share gourds, fiber arts, books, latest projects, pot luck lunch and great friendship.

We are adding new people and have been doing challenges the past two months. We will not meet the first weekend of May as we will attend the Misty Washington weekend, but plan to meet the next week, May 12. Come and join us. Don't forget to call Pat and let her know that you will be coming as we meet at her house. All are welcome. Happy Gourding.

Los Angeles - Gourd Artisans of Los Angeles (GALA)

Regional Representative: Larry McClelland (310)549-3294 or macgourd@aol.com

The GALA Patch members are from the greater Los Angeles/Pasadena area and our meetings are held the third Wednesday of the month (September – June), 7:30, at the San Gabriel Bead Company, 325 E. Live Oak, Arcadia, CA 91006, (626)447-7753. Guests are always welcome. We usually begin our meetings with a "show and tell" of gourd projects that our members have been working on, followed by a demonstration, workshop or presentation by a guest artist. For more information please contact Larry at above. Happy Gourding.

L.A.W. (Los Angeles West) Gourd Patch

Regional Coordinators: Dr. Judy Bin-Nun, (310) 207-2998 or jbn12401@aol.com Colleen Huff, colleenhuff@charter.net or Sheila Goetz, shegoetz@earthlink.net

We meet the first Wednesday of each month, 7 to 9 p.m. at Dr. Judy's Garden Studio in West Los Angeles . We have an enthusiastic group and new members are welcome. Please call above for upcoming meeting information.

Los Angeles - Inner City Patch

Regional Coordinator: Bea Jones (323)291-8752 or beasyche@aol.com

Northern Sierra Gourd Patch

Regional Coordinator: Jackie Berg (530)675-2577 or ljberg@cwnet.com

Orange County Gourd Society Patch

Regional Coordinator: Susan Sullivan (714) 997-4482 eves or susansphn@aol.com For more info visit our Website at: www.orangecountygourdsociety.org

Our Patch continues to meet in Costa Mesa the 4th Thursday and have Play Days on the 3rd Saturdays (see info on website). Currently several of our patch members are work-

ing on a Traveling Gourd to be raffled off in November. This is our first fundraiser of this kind. If you would like an opportunity to win this lovely piece of art. Tickets are \$1 each for complete information visit our website or email Mary Bliss at: isbliss@yahoo.com for more information.

See ya soon, Susan Sullivan

Pico Rivera/Whittier Patch

Regional Coordinators: Tony and Paula Torres (562)328-5124 or AyPTorres@msn.com

San Bernardino Patch

Regional Coordinator: Darlene Propp (909) 862-9717 or dragongourd@dslextreme.com

The San Bernardino Patch tries new things and we are open to all suggestions. At this time we plan activities as we go along. Call Darlene or Valerie Martinell at (909)883-3527 for current meeting information. We will be glad to add you to our e-mail list and notify you of our planned activities. We would love to have you come visit (and join) our Patch. Bring something to share – we love show and tell!

San Diego - Misti Washington Gourd and Basket Guild

Regional Coordinator: Peggy Blessing

(858) 292-9219 or glassworks2005-gourdnews@yahoo.com Website: www.baskets-gourds.com

The San Diego Patch is part of the Misti Washington Gourd and Basket Guild, which meets the first Sunday of each month at Quail Botanical Gardens in Encinitas, 12 to 3:30 p.m. and begins with a pot luck lunch.

Meetings are informal and we encourage members and visitors to bring something to work on, a completed project to show the group, and/or a problem piece that you would like input on. About six times a year, there will be mini workshops (for a nominal fee), lectures or demonstrations at these meeting. Let the parking attendant know you are there for the "Misti Meeting," and they will waive the entrance fee.

Due to the upcoming Weekend in the Garden event on May 5 & 6, 2007, there will not be a regular meeting that month. Although many gourd and basket classes are already full for the May Weekend event, a class catalog and registration form are available on our website. Look for notations of available classes on the May Weekend home page before filling out registration form.

San Fernando Valley Gourd Patch

Regional Coordinators: Art and Nina Lowy (818) 996-3606 or gourds@mac.com

Dori Aberson (818) 702-8020 or daberson@aol.com

We meet the second Tuesday of each month at Mountain Restoration Trust in Calabasas , CA . If you are in the area and would like to come to a meeting please call/email one of the coordinators above.

$San\ Francisco\ East\ Bay\ -\ East\ Bay\ Gourd\ Patch$

Regional Coordinators: Kay Van Hoesen (925)254-0838 or kdvanh@sbcglobal.net

Kathleen MacIntyre kmac1958@hotmail.com Kemper Stone gourdcamp@yahoo.com

(Continued on page 10)

(Continued from page 9)

Our Patch meets every third Saturday of the month from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at either The Caning Shop in Berkeley or the Civic Arts Studio in Walnut Creek .

April 21, we will meet at the Caning Shop when Cookie Cala will instruct us on Rotary Tool Carving. May 19 & 20, we will have a booth at the Leiser Farms Gourd Festival at Knots Landing. June 16, we will be back at the Caning Shop when Bee Hylinski and Chris Johnson will teach us how to incorporate wire mesh into our gourd art. For more information please contact above.

Santa Cruz Gourd Patch

Regional Coordinator: Barbara Johnson (831) 440-1540 or greggjohnson@earthlink.net
Kris Mangliers (831) 338-3449 or kmangliers@msn.com
Our Patch meets every other month. The date of the next meeting is scheduled at each meeting so please contact us (above) for meeting information. We'd love to have you!!!

Shasta Tahoma Gourd Patch

Regional Coordinator: Rebecca Cileo (530) 357-4855 or luv2ridedi@aol.com

Silicon Valley - Calabash Club of Silicon Valley

Regional Coordinator: Jayne Xavier (408)779-9550 or nimbleneedle@aol.com

We meet every other month (Feb, April, June, Aug, Oct, Dec), the second Sunday of the month. We welcome anyone with an interest in gourds or a curiosity to see what this "gourding thing" is all about. For more information please call Jayne (above).

Sonoma Gourd Patch

Regional Coordinator: Donna von Edelkrantz (707) 778-0580 or donnavone@comcast.net

Our meetings are held the last Wednesday of every month from 7:00 until 9:30 p.m. For location information, contact Donna (see above). We invite any gourd, art or craft enthusiast to join our group to share, learn and explore. We decide on topics or workshops month to month.

Tulare Sequoia Patch

Regional Coordinators: Toni Best (559) 627-5430 or capineneedles@sbcglobal.net

Sue Winters-Brown ((559) 561-0608 or suewb@tcoe.org

Regular Meetings are not held, but impromptu get togethers work best for our group. Please contact Toni or Sue (at above) for more information on activities.

Ventura County - Channel Islands Gourd Society

Regional Coordinator: Elsie Cogswell (805)491-5846 or elsiecogs@verizon.net

Our website www.channelislandsgourdsociety.com
Our group meets the third Wednesday of the month, 7 – 9 p.
m. at the Santa Rosa Valley Clubhouse, 11701 E. Las Posas
Road, Santa Rosa Valley, CA 93012. We have some interesting classes planned for the coming year which includes
painting horses on gourds, metal inlay and a class for beginners. We extend a warm welcome to visitors.

Keep Spreading that Gourd Glow
Next Regional Roundup News due to Barbara by May 20,
2007. mcdeeart@verizon.net, Thank you.

Tears of Joy

Hi Everyone,

I am not sure how many of you are aware of the honor bestowed on me at Wuertz so I will give you a little background. I have been a member of AGS and CGS and in addition have an online Yahoo group called Forgourdnesssake. The group has grown to be the largest gourd related Yahoo group and has been helpful in drawing new people to the world of gourds and providing a community for gourd artists, vendors, growers and others to help each other. Over the past few years many friends have been made. When I was diagnosed with ALS in 11/06 I received much love and support from all my gourd friends. Recently at the CGS annual meeting Jill Walker began the idea of having friends send gourd with words of encouragement to me, so when I felt down I could read them and be encouraged. At the annual meeting of the Arizona Gourd Society at Wuertz, this Love Basket was presented to me. I can not tell you the love I felt at that time. I was totally surprised and found it hard to speak and try to hold back the tears of joy. As I got back to my place at the

table and began reading the gourds I could not hold back the tears any longer and broke down as I read the words of love and encouragement. I love you all.

I have taken photos of the Basket and all the gourds and



will update the album as I understand that some are still coming in. Here is the link to the photo album: http://www.kodakgallery.com/I.jsp?c=6zws01d.cfypj4wt&x=0&y=i6wnwc

Enjoy,
Russ Conley
Long Beach, CA
Join Forgourdnesssake:
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/forgourdnesssake/

The 11th Annual International Gourd Art Festival at the Welburn Gourd Farm

Well gourd-lovers, its time again for the International Gourd Art Festival at the Welburn Gourd Farm, happening June 23^{rd} and 24^{th} , 2007!

This year will be very special, with the addition of 15 non-juried spaces set aside especially for brand new artists! The goal is to get all of you wonderful artists who don't think you have what it takes to get into the juried portion of the show and encourage you to share your talent with us.

These spaces are filling fast so if you would like one, please get your application in right away. The only requirement is that you have 90% gourd art, and that you have never done our show before. Go online to www.GourdFestival.com and download the exhibitor application.

Returning to the festival is the very popular Gourd Crafting Arena, set up and operated by the California Gourd Society with all proceeds benefiting CGS, the Wine Garden and of course, the Gourd Art Competition, also brought to you by the California Gourd Society. Be sure to enter a piece in the competition! Contact Larry McClelland at Macgourd@aol.com, for competition categories and guidelines!

Maria Dellos will again be joining us to show you all the incredible tips and techniques for getting the most fantastic results with GourdMasterTM Products. The response to Gourd. TV (where Maria offers a free weekly gourd class online) has been phenomenal, and many fans of the show are planning to come see Maria at the festival!

By far the most asked about and desired aspect of the festival this year is the gourd art classes. They will again be held the 3 days prior to the festival, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, June 20^{th} , 21^{st} , and 22^{nd}

Even though there are over 30 classes being offered, they are filling up so sign up as soon as you can. In fact, Bonnie Gibson's Filigree Carving class sold out so fast, we had to offer another one on the Saturday of the festival! Keep checking the "Classes" page of the festival web site for updates, at www. GourdFestival.com.

There is an amazing gourd crop this year, so if the June festival is your once-a-year visit to the farm, come prepared to want to take every one of them home with you! This year's crop is definitely one of the best ever with gourds so thick they are taking longer than usual to dry! (Harvesting is expected to continue into April because of the thick shells creating a longer drying time.)

Save money by purchasing your tickets online this year, and you can also get your parking passes too! Online ticket price is \$7.50; the price at the door is \$9.50. Parking is varied so check the website. For more information or any questions call me, Laura Cunningham, Festival Director, or Vickie Knox, Assistant Festival Director at 760-728-5584. We look forward to seeing you in June!

The Golden Gourd is always looking for gourd information and stories to share with our membership.

Both in our newsletter and at our website.

Please share with us what inspires you! New products and techniques you are using. Submit your gourd tutorials, tips, pictures, book reviews and more.

Email to:

editorgoldengourd@yahoo.com

Mary Bliss - Editor

The Art Center at Fallbrook presents Gourd Fine Art in a gallery setting. The Village of Fallbrook has international acclaim as a gourd-growing and gourd-art destination. The Welburn Gourd Farm is a short distance from the Art Center and we collaborate on our two annual Gourd Events ... our Fine Art Gourd Show and their International Gourd Art Festival, which is held the last weekend of our show presenting an opportunity for collectors and artists alike to experience 'both sides of the gourd'.

The Art Center at Fallbrook's 11th ANNUAL GOURD FINE ART SHOW

May 20 – June 24, 2007 Monday -Saturday 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. and Sunday Noon-3:00 p.m. Open late Saturday, June 23 until 8:00 p.m. \$5 admission, Art Center Members free

> ART CENTER AT FALLBROOK 103 South Main Fallbrook, CA 92028 (760) 728-1414 (800) 919-1159 www.fallbrookart.org

ARTISTS ... if you are interested in participating in next year's show or other art show presented at the Art Center, please contact us.

Add Zest to Your Life with Garden Experiments By Betty Finch

It is time to think about growing gourds. Are you already hooked on the creative enjoyment gourds bring to your life? Imagine broadening this gourd art passion to include the growing process! Garden experiments can give you a reason to leap out of bed each morning excited about the possibilities waiting in the garden.

Replicating the exquisite molded gourds of Chinese emperors may seem impossible to most of us, but my gourd growing mentor, Jim Story, taught me that manipulating gourds can be quite simple. Tying a gourd in a knot requires on equipment at all.



This close-up shows the secret of tying a gourd in a knot.

The gourd must be off the ground and gravity completes job as the gourd grows.

Bolt two pieces of sturdy plywood together at the corners, place a baby gourd between them and grow a flat gourd. Bind a gourd with rope, pantyhose, or pipe cleaners to create a "buldgie".

Wrapping an immature gourd to create a "buldgie".



These simple experiments can fill your head with wonderful dreams at night. Here is a summary of what you need to get growing:

- * A minimum of 140 frost-free growing days.
- * Most seeds sprout in about 7 to 10 days @ 82 degrees
- * Fruit sets in 2 months.

That said, if you soak some gourd seeds tonight, plant them (or start them indoors) tomorrow, two months from now you could be creating your own gourd sculptures. It is time for action!!! You know where to get some gourds seeds. Go find them and throw them in a glass of water.





CGS Gourd College at Asilomar California

Date: April 11, (3:00 p.m.) - April 13(12:00 p.m.), 2008

Classes and conference registration early bird special will be included in the summer newsletter.

Early bird registration fee \$250.00

After September 15, 2007 the rate increases to \$275.00.

What's included: Two nights shared room, 6 meals and a welcome package All events except classes

We plan to have 3 and 6 hour classes on Saturday and 3 hour classes on Sunday. If you have a technique you have been wanting to learn may be from a special instructor contact Lynne Bunt below with your request or information.

Class fee will be \$35 for a 3 hour class and \$65 for a 6 hour class plus materials fee

Attendance is open to all CGS members staying on site at Asilomar Conference Grounds

For a Teachers Application
Go to website: www.calgourd.com
or contact Lynne Bunt
lynnebunt@sbcglobal.net or
by snail mail at:
43669 Skyline Dr
Three Rivers, Ca 93271

Deadline for application May 15, 2007

Attention CGS Teachers!

Would you like to see your gourd class listed in the Golden Gourd?

Gourd Class Announcements are **free** to all **CGS members** and are included in the newsletter on a first submit and space available basis. Please email class schedules in either a .txt or .doc file format to:

newsletter@calgourd.com

Include: name of class, instructor, day, date time, location, price and contact information.

PLUS!

CGS would like to add your teachers' contact information on our website. We are most especially interested in teachers willing to travel but also those willing to teach so that festival organizers, gourd patches and interested institutes can contact them. Please send relevant information, i.e. name, contact information, general location and classes taught along with a digital photo of yourself (if you wish) to Lisa Toth, VP communications at: qourddiva@verizon.net

FOR THE MOST CURRENT CLASS LISTINGS AND FOR THE TRAVELING TEACHER'S LISTING CHECK OUR WEBSITE

AT: www.calgourd.com

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your new gourd dyes! The colors are bright & crisp, easy to use. Many Thanks!"
-Cynthia B., Picture Rocks Art, www.picturerocks.net

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COMPETITION 2007 ENTRY FORM

One form per entry, please

one form per entry, pieuse		
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Division: Novice Open Masters Child Youth		
Category No		
Category Title:		
Any description required by category. See list:		
I have read the competition rules and agree to abide by them. Signature:		
Mail or deliver your entry (see competition rules) with \$6.00 per entry fee to:		
California Gourd Society		
c/o Welburn Gourd Farm		
40635 De Luz Murrieta Pd		

40635 De Luz Murrieta Rd Fallbrook, CA 92028

Gourd Tips

While at the Welburn Gourd Farm Kay C. Kleiber shared this tip with me.

When shopping for gourds bring a 8" x 10" piece of stiff cardboard to use as a leveling table.

森林森森森森森森森森森森森森森森森

杀疾疾疾疾疾疾疾疾疾疾疾疾疾疾

Sala Faruq writes: When you need a pedestal to finish your gourd creation, go to a trophy shop. There you will find a variety of styles and sizes of bases, which you can purchase separately.



CALIFORNIA GOURD SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Membership dues are being increased to \$20 a year effective July 1, 2007. Until that time you can renew multi years(2 years) at the old price

of \$15. (Please note when you pay multiple years at a time you will still get receive your coupons and membership card once each year during your renewal quarter).

NEW MEMBER RENEWAL (SEE BACK PAGE OF THIS FORM FOR EXP DATE)		
Name:		
Mailing Address:		
City: State: Zip:		
Phone: ()		
Email:		
PREFERRED METHOD OF NEWSLETTER DELIVERY:		

Annual dues: \$15. Please make check payable to California Gourd Society (CGS) and mail to: California Gourd Society, c/o Niki Escobedo, 827 E. Chevy Chase Dr. #2, Glendale, CA 91205

Annual membership dues for our national organization, the American Gourd Society, are \$15 and may be paid directly to: AGS Membership Secretary, 317 Maple Ct., Kokomo, MI 46902-3633

Living the Gourd Life California Style 2007

May 5 & 6—MWG&B—Weekend in the Gardens—Quail Botanical Gardens— Encinitas, CA

May 19 & 20 - Greg Leiser Farms Fifth Annual Gourd Art Festival and Gourd Sale, Knights Landing, CA

June 23 & 24— 11th Annual International Gourd Art Festival and CGS Gourd Art Competition — Welburn Gourd Farm—Fallbrook, CA

CGS On-line Gourd Information

For the most current and latest *CGS* information and gourd happenings go to: http://www.calgourd.com

For our members that enjoy the on-line community atmosphere and want the latest gourd news and happenings check us out on-line at:

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/calgourd/ Ask questions, share stories, photos and

Call to Artists, Arts Suppliers, & Gourmet Foods

2007 Folsom Gourd & Arts Festival September 29-30, 2007

Folsom City Park Folsom, California Applications for the 2007 Folsom Gourd & Arts Festival are now available on our website -http://www.folsomgourdfestival.com/.

The event is open to all 2- and 3-dimensional arts, quality crafts, dancers, musicians, and gourmet food items. All artwork must be created by the artist. No manufactured goods.

Visit our website to view scenes from 2006 and see the exciting changes in this year's festival. For the first time, you can request your own booth location... and you have more booths to choose from than ever before! The festival sold out early in 2006, so we've added more booths and included a larger section of the park!

Applications and booth requests will be handled on a "first-come" basis, so get your application in early for the best selection. Don't lose this opportunity to pick that spot you've always wanted!

Lori Wille

Festival Director, Folsom Gourd & Arts Festival President, Folsom Patrons of the Arts

ADVERTISING RATES FOR THE GOLDEN GOURD NEWSLETTER

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To place an ad or for more information contact: Mary Bliss newsletter@calgourd.com (714) 693-1840 (after 11:00 a.m. PST)



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