

THE GOLDEN GOURD

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE CALIFORNIA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN GOURD SOCIETY

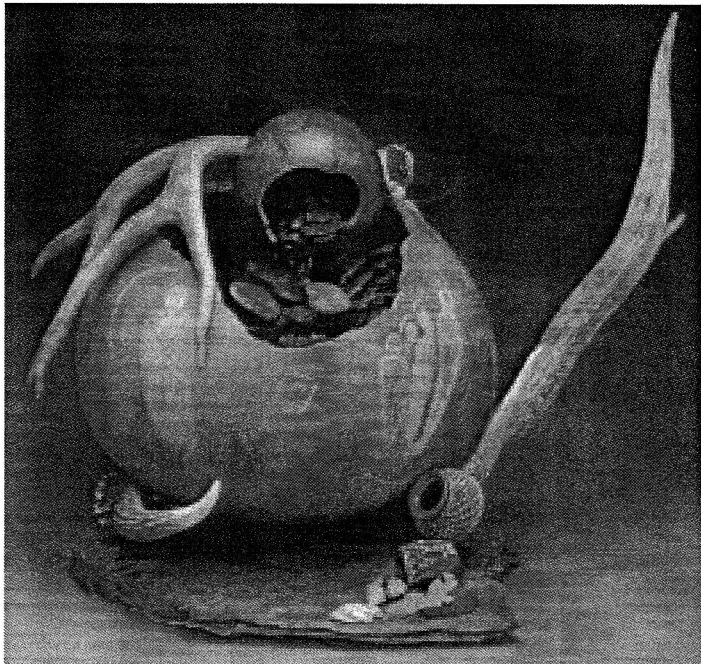
VOLUME 2, ISSUE 2

SUMMER 2000

Artful Containers Create Sounds For The Soul

By Lynne Bunt

In 1995 I visited a gourd farm for the first time. At the sight of enormous piles of dirty, and interesting shaped gourds I fell head over heels (in love that is). Many months later after several trips to different farms in northern & southern



A recent creation with water flow from the small gourd into the large. This creates a superior sound.

California my little house was full of the treasures ranging from dirty to finished craft. Best of all, these last four years, my life has been changed by the people that I have come in contact with. Gourd folk are truly the salt of the earth. Anyone who attended the conference at Asilomar will attest to the feeling of sharing & support the group shared.

Two years ago I started to make fountains from gourds. The idea of doing this came to me as a way to combine form with function. The fact that the sound of moving water is soothing to the soul seemed in perfect harmony with the blissful place I go to whenever I work on gourds.

*“...the sound
of moving water
is soothing to the soul...”*

Initially the greatest challenge was to find a product to coat the interior with that would allow for standing water without causing the exterior of the gourd to sweat. After testing a number of products I came up with a two-product application that has provided consistently good results. The next issue was to create methods for the interior rock placement that would make the best water sound without excessive weight. Who of us has not heard the fountain that creates more in the way of bladder exercise than relaxation? Having finally accomplished a result I was satisfied with I began to teach “Gourd Fountains” at The Caning Shop and continue to learn new techniques from sharing ideas with students and seasoned gourd artists.

This summer, teaching will take me to the Welburn Gourd Festival in June & Thomas Farms in July. The website I share with my gourd partner Stefan Schneider, www.gourdland.com, has a complete list of shows and classes. Stop by & say hi.

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President's Message

Carol Rookstool

This is such an exciting time of year! The next big event for CGS is the annual Gourd Art Competition hosted by the Welburn Gourd Festival on June 24 and 25th in Fallbrook. This year we expect even more visitors to be marveling at the wonderful art work of our members. There are more categories, more awards and more space devoted to gourd art than ever before. Don't miss this show! Kathy Riker has organized a great silent auction to tempt you with some wonderful donated art and gourd supplies. This year the Welburns are adding optional meals on Friday and Saturday evenings.

Most of the CGS Gourd Patches' have meetings and local events scheduled for the summer months. Read about – and plan to attend – some of the activities that are scheduled close to you. The CGS Regional Coordinators are available to hear your ideas and keep you informed about gourd-fun in your region. One example is the Gallery Exhibit sponsored by the Pasadena Gourd Patch at the Burbank Art Center from July 7 through July 26. There are local fairs, workshops, meetings and demonstrations. Circle the name of your closest Coordinator (see table to the right) and make that call today. Find out what is happening and let us know your interests in gourds.

It is not too early to make plans to attend two great fall festivals! Zittel Farms will host the 6th Annual West Coast Gourd Festival on September 23 and 24 in Folsom. Last year, more than 70 new members joined CGS at this festival – an all time one-event record!!! Sign on the web to www.zittelgourds.com for festival details. We have a fun surprise for you when you visit our booth. Also, there will be a CGS no-host dinner (across the street) on Saturday night. Details will be available around September 1 and will be posted on site.

The Baal family is opening their delightful Tree Mover Tree & Gourd Farm for their annual Gourd Festival on October 7 and 8 in Palmdale (Antelope Valley). I believe they have the most incredible gourd arbors in the world. Wagon rides, gourd artists, and dipper gourds (my personal favorites) make this a great family fun event. For more information, give them a call at (661) 947-7121.

On a national level, there is news from our parent organization, the American Gourd Society. Their annual meeting will be held in conjunction with the Ohio Gourd Festival on October 7 and 8. Several members of CGS will attend this business meeting and stay for the fun of the Ohio show. Please let me know if you are attending!! It is always more fun if we get together for meals, gourd art demonstrations and other "mischief" planned by our AGS gourd friends. AGS will soon be completing their new web-site: www.americangourdsociety.org – take a peek!

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Leigh Adams Editor
Ardith Willner ... Regional Roundup & Advertising Editor
Su Wickersham Graphic Artist - Publisher

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CGS Board of Directors

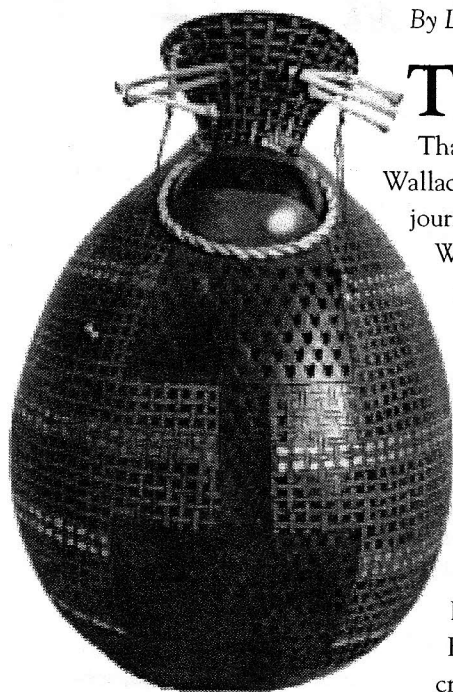
President
Carol Rookstool . . . 213-629-5689 crookstool@aol.com
VP-Membership
Rebecca Cileo 530-357-4855 luv2ridedi@aol.com
VP-Programs – Advertising Editor
Ardith Willner. . . . 831-457-0612 ardithk@aol.com
Treasurer
Rita Tomlinson . . . 559-561-0804 ritat@thegrid.net
Secretary
Lynne Bunt 415-459-3088. . . ladyg@gourland.com
Editor
Leigh Adams 626-797-3728 . . lladams@earthlink.net

Regional Coordinators

Bakersfield
Betty Finch 661-589-3368
El Dorado County
Carol Cherry 209-296-6834
Hazel Taylor. 530-622-4244
Fallbrook
Jo Rosenburg 909-698-6106
Folsom - Sacramento County
OPEN.
Fresno - Madera
Tina Ratto 559-438-9821
Marin County - SF - Oakland
Lynne Bunt 415-459-3088
Orange County
Susan Sullivan 714-997-4482
Pasadena
Mary Jane Jones & Ed Jasaitis 323-224-8034
Redding
Rebecca Cileo (temporary) 530-357-4855
San Bernardino County
Kathy Riker 909-797-4591
San Diego
Peggy Blessing 858-292-9219
Santa Cruz
Jill Walker 831-728-4427
Santa Monica
Lillian Hopkins 310-396-3266
Sonoma - Santa Rosa
Connie Mygatt. 707-568-3010
Jeanette Rehahn 707-792-2196
So. SF Bay Area
Carol Morrison 650-493-2998
Stockton
Karen Makal 209-887-3694
Vallejo - Carquinez
Kemper Stone 707-577-0462
Ventura County
Pearl Reece & Fern Wesley 805-482-3255
Tulare County
Toni Best 559-627-5430
Sue Erb 559-562-4117

Cedar's Creative Roads Meet Here . . . Gourds

By Leigh Adams



"Ah" was created using the following: woodburning, chip carving, leather dyes, yellow cedar bark, waxed linen and bamboo.

Time flies when you're having a good time!"

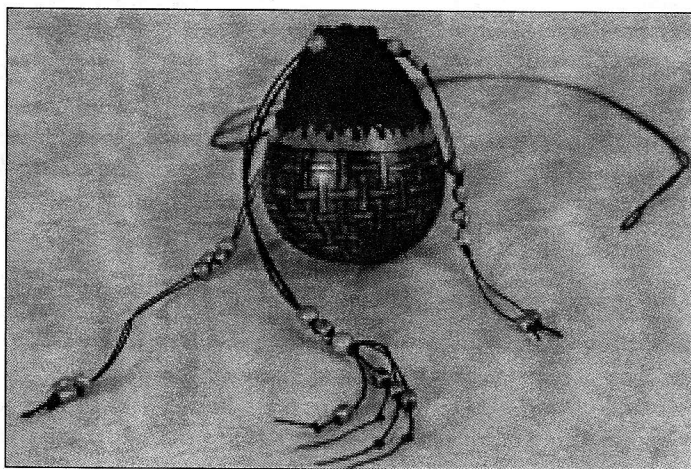
That's how Cedar Denyse Wallace describes her 30 year journey through fiber arts.

With interests like papermaking, basketry, felting, sculptural form and gourds, Cedar enjoys the opportunities that our beloved lagenarias bestow upon her.

From Hornby Island, British Columbia, this creative northernmost member of the California Gourd Society teaches, designs and dreams about working with her favorite materials.

"I began working in cedar bark in the early seventies, while living in the woods and needing some containers. Then after working for 15 years making masks, containers and three dimensional sculptural work, I started to make cedar bark paper, and sculpting with the paper doing casting and one thing led to another and soon I was felting. And then I discovered gourds. I had always hoped that all my creative roads would meet perhaps one day, and gourds were that meeting place."

With enthusiasm and passion for the blending the different natural fibers she loves, Cedar explains her feeling for gourds, "I can work with gourds and paper, gourds and felting, gourds and cedar bark, and feel blessed to have found the gourds and the meeting place. The generosity of the gourds always amazes me, the generosity of the cedar does the same. I feel that they are both so giving and I love that about gourds. I have worked with the seeds



Small amulet pouch using woodburned gourd, waxed linen knotless netting & brass beads

"The generosity of the gourds always amazes me..."

and the gourd paper. I just need to figure out how to weave the gourd vines and it would be complete."

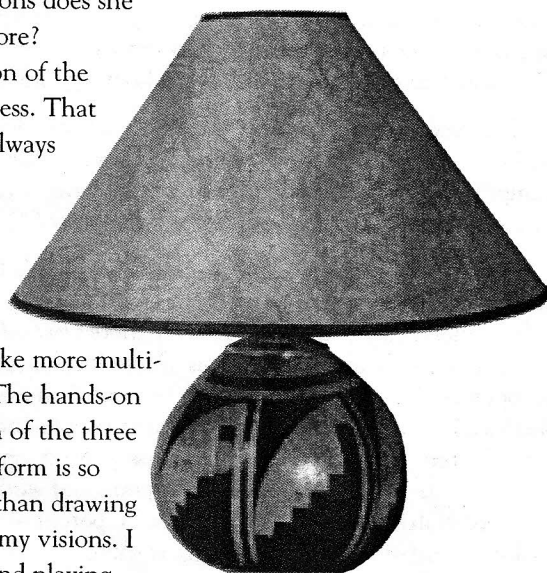
What directions does she want to explore?

"Continuation of the creative process. That is what has always

held me and continues to fascinate me and feed my soul. I have

started to make more multi-piece work. The hands-on manipulation of the three dimensional form is so much easier than drawing or sketching my visions. I love sitting and playing with all the gourd pieces until something speaks

loud enough for me to hear and follow up on."



Southwestern style lamp with plaster filled gourd base.

The variety of techniques and the skilled execution of Cedar's work is extremely impressive. Her feel for tradition is supported by knowledge as Cedar works part time in her local library on Hornby Island. Cedar teaches and exhibits throughout British Columbia, Canada. Homage to Robert Rivera can be noted in "Ah" as well as to local indigenous traditions in her miniature gourd based pouches, but it is Cedar's stunningly different style which shines through in these pieces.



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Bakersfield – The Kern County Gourd group enjoyed a gourd-filled day April 22 with visiting members from the group to the north. We highly recommend gourd groups getting together with neighboring gourd groups. Our groups have tried this twice and participating members enjoyed the experience enough to plan more of them.

The day began with members meeting at the home of Betty Finch, where they passed the time chatting about gourds and browsing through her piles of gourds for future projects as they waited for everyone to arrive. Then it was off to the bead shop to purchase some embellishments. The afternoon was spent with show & tell and several members giving lessons in specific techniques. Members were especially drawn to talented Barbara Campbell's demonstrations and Noi Thomas gourd crafting wares.

The next get-togethers for the Kern County Gourd Patch will be to car pool to the Paso Robles gourd crafting competition and the Welburn Festival in June. If you are interested in car pooling, call Betty Finch at (661) 589-3368.

Colorado Chapter of CGS – Hi! My name is Deborah Easley and I have started a patch in Colorado. We have our first official member, Bo Wiberg – so now there's two of us out here in the boonies being gourd crazies. Some local artists and I had an open studio as part of our local "art walk" and the gourds were well received. We met some great people and generated lots of interest in beginning gourd classes. Next year, I plan to be part of the charter school's art program and work with kids in gourd crafting. I have also organized a potential Crestone Colorado Artist's Guild and we are working on formulating a web-page gallery and hopefully a physical gallery as well. I will also be writing requests for grant monies to be able to "scholarship" those who can't afford gourd classes but want to participate.

El Dorado County – Several of us from The Foothill Gourders attended the Y2 Gourd Conference at Asilomar. It was so outstanding that our goal between now and the next conference, is to raise funds for the purpose of helping more members from our patch attend.

One of our members, Pat Muhlbradt, will be taking some of her outstanding gourd art to Warabi, Japan, sister city to Placerville, as gifts. We couldn't be better represented.

Our energies will soon be put forth organizing and manning a gourd booth at The El Dorado Harvest Festival held in Placerville in September. We demonstrate techniques, exhibit gourd art by our members, and dispense written information regarding gourds. To raise funds, our members donate gourd art which is raffled. We have met with great success in the past, resulting in the County Administrators inviting us to participate for the 3rd time.

Our next meeting will be held Friday, July 14, from 10 am -

12 noon, at the Agricultural Commissioners/Cooperative Extension Building, 311 Fair Lane, Placerville. Ardith Willner will be our special guest. She is scheduled to present a slide presentation showing gourd art from various parts of the country. She will also address the various functions of CGS and benefits to members. Everyone is invited to attend. Please contact Carol Cherry, (209) 296-6834 or Hazel Taylor, (530) 622-4244.

Fallbrook – We have been well attended this year and our steadfast core of gourdniks mastered new tips, shared ideas and enjoyed each other's art and company. We have all been impressed with Kimo Trueman's art and he delighted us with helpful pointers on ways we can become more adept in the use of Dremel and Detail Master equipment. I think that each of us who uses a Dremel has been buzzing away on gourds ever since that meeting.

In May, two patch members brought their experience and expertise to the meeting and gave the rest of us good, solid guidance on important issues. Frank Gianforte's knowledge of markets and competitions gave us direction to take when approaching these events. Dennis Weaver's understanding of photography brought focus to our own ideas about photographing our gourd art.

The Welburn Gourd Art Festival promises to be bigger and more impressive than ever before. The festival activity will begin on Friday, June 23, with pre-festival classes taught by our own experts from CGS. This will be followed by 2 days of walking along the lines of booths displaying gourd art that is so ingenious, imaginative and innovative that it'll boggle the mind. It'll be two fantastic days of art to gladden the heart. Hawaiian music and dancing to lift the spirits and food to feed the body. This will be a true fiesta!

In August, our meeting will be a session on the use of color presented by a designer with a large, national company. This will be a short version of a program she has created to help the company's new designers make use of colors to convey their design concepts.

In October, we will have a "Reject Reclamation" meeting. What does one do with those four trash bags filled with broken gourds, gourd pieces, seeds, stems and other unidentifiable odds and ends? We'll try to learn how others turn these bits and pieces into cleverly executed pieces of art.

Folsom - Sacramento – We are forming our new Gourd Patch in Folsom, and invite everyone involved with CGS to come along and join in on the fun. Ardith Willner will be with us for a presentation of the many gourd shows she attends across the USA, and the great time you can have by attending other state gourd shows. Each state sponsors a competition, and there are some



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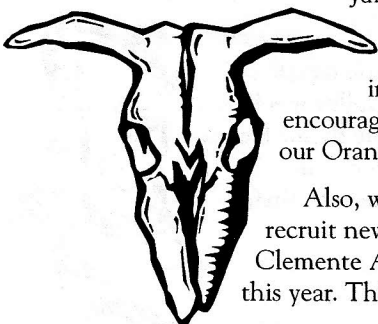
wonderful photos of the entries. We are also going to have a demo on some new dyes and color techniques that have great pigmentations to them. Please bring your latest piece you are working on, or just a gourd you happen to love, to share with the group. Our meeting will be on Wednesday, July 12, at 7 pm in Granite Bay at the home of Alethea Justice, (916) 791-8102. Please call Alethea for directions.

Fresno - Madera – We brought the newest patch to life on the hottest day of the new year, May 20. There were four members in attendance to bring life to our patch. After sharing ideas, and techniques we decided to schedule our meetings every fourth, Saturday of the month, at 10 am. We discussed going on day trips and future topics for meetings. For the month of June, we decided to spotlight making a gourd basket with a handle. Everyone that would like to join us, please bring your gourd(s), and let the creative juices flow. Newbies are welcome, supplies are available for a nominal fee. Bring a lunch, drinks are provided. Call Tina Ratto, (559) 438-9821 for more information and directions.

Marin County - SF - Oakland – Our group had a working meeting in May. We shared ideas on how to make unique opening cuts on gourds. It never fails to amaze how differently we each do the steps to a completed project. This patch leader will be attending the Welburn's Gourd Festival and I am looking forward to the party and seeing the always awesome art. With the many gourd festivals and shows during the summer we will meet twice in July and then take the summer off.

Our next get together will be at the Zittels growing grounds sale July 15. Our target time to meet in Colusa is 9 am. We plan to caravan from the sale to share brunch. (Call 916-989-2633 for directions) Bring your sun hat & water as it's bound to be hot. July 30 is our annual summer pot luck. This is a combined meeting with the Sonoma Patch and is held at the home of Connie Mygatt in Santa Rosa. Car pools are available, call Lynne Bunt, (415) 459-3088 for details.

Orange County – The Orange County Gourd Group met May 18 and had a busy session planning our summer activities including our programs at the Orange County Fair. We will be doing one hour demonstrations and sharing "gourd-glow" at four different sessions in the Home and Hobbies building this year. Our dates and times are July 14 at 2 pm, July 15 at 3:30, July 18 at 6 pm, and July 22 at 6 pm. We will distribute packs of seeds & info, issue invites to our meetings and encourage folks to join CGS! Come to our Orange County Fair and say hello!



Also, we will have a sales booth and recruit new members at the terrific San Clemente Art Festival on Aug 19 & 20 this year. This is really a popular art event

directed by Diane Day, one of our members. Come on by and enjoy the ocean breezes and see some really fantastic artists' wares. We may have some of our inland empire patch friends join us for that one.

Lynne Everett brought Ginger Summit's new Gourd Crafts book to share at our May meeting. It's a real keeper!!! Our group is very proud of Lynne for having her lovely knotless netting necklaces pictured in this special new gourdcraft book. Way to go Lynne! Lynne, Susan and Donna Ault shared some of the wonderful things about Asilomar and told everyone to save the first weekend in February next year and be sure to go to CGS Gourd College and conference! What a great conference and networking opportunity. Kudos to everyone! Especially that small group of very busy board members, regional coordinators, artists, crafters and growers who did so much to make it all work!!! Thanks! We are really looking forward to seeing some of the same friendly faces from Asilomar at the upcoming gourd fests this year.

So we are active and want everyone in Orange County to know about us....spread the word. Our next general meeting is not until October 26, at 6:30 pm in Irvine, when we are hoping to talk Mary Pryor into showing us how to make rain sticks! In the meantime we will be doing several fests and the fair and other events....anyone interested in more info can call Susan Sullivan, Coordinator at (714) 997-4482 or email me at susansphn@aol.com. Keeping growing and glowing!!

Pasadena - The Pasadena Gourd Patch meets the 3rd Wednesday of each month at the Pasadena Bead Company, 146 W. Bellevue in Pasadena. A whole series of speakers has inspired us to create, create, create! As a result, we want to invite everyone to visit our Gourd and Basketry Exhibit opening reception at the Creative Arts Center Gallery, 1100 W. Clark Avenue, Burbank, CA on July 7th from 7-9 pm. The show will feature the work of our inspired members and invited artists from the surrounding area. The exhibit will be open from July 7 through July 26. Please bring your friends to see our work!

Redding – The California Gourd Society is alive and well in Northern California. The first meeting for the new Cottonwood Gourd Patch will be held on Sunday, June 11, from 1-3 pm at Harmony Hill Farm. This meeting will focus on deciding the future meetings and plans for the group. We will be creating a surprise treasure at this first meeting to kick things off. For more information and directions to the farm, please call Rebecca at (530) 357-4855 evenings, or (530) 347-3675 during the day.

San Bernardino County – The San Bernardino Gourd Patch meets on the second Monday of each month. Our meetings start at 7:30 pm at Kathy Rikers home in Yucaipa. Bring a piece of your gourd art to share. Our main objective of



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our group is to share with each other and our community everything we know about gourds.

Our calendar for this quarter is: Monday, July 10 - Monthly meeting - 7:30 pm.

Embellishment exchange bring beads, feathers or your left over embellishments and we will exchange with each other.

Saturday, July 22 - Dye demonstration from 10-2 pm. Bring any dyes you have and your gourd. Dye will be available. Bring your lunch.

Monday, August 14 - Monthly meeting 7:30 pm. Gourd exchange, bring any unwanted gourds and we will swap with each other.

Monday, September 11 - Monthly meeting 7:30 pm. We will discuss what we would like to do for the rest of the year.

The San Bernardino Gourd Patch has planned a busy quarter with demonstrations, meetings and field trips. If you are in our area come and join us. All are welcome to our meetings and the demonstrations. Call Kathy for directions (909) 797-4591 or e-mail monkmonk@cybertime.net

San Diego – The San Diego Gourd Patch, an offshoot of the Misti Washington Gourd and Basket Guild, was well represented at the Asilomar conference. Besides having some regular members attending, two were popular teachers, Lynn Everett and Mary Pryor, at the Gourd College sessions. I attended my first CGS function as a Gourd Patch leader and was so impressed with the organization and everyone's caring and sharing attitude. We will continue to encourage members of our patch to attend and assist with the February 2001 conference at this beautiful facility.

The MWGBG meets the first Sunday of every month between Noon and 3:30 pm at the beautiful Quail Botanical Gardens, 230 Quail Gardens Drive (from I-5, exit east onto Encinitas Blvd., turn left onto Quail Gardens Drive). We are undergoing some meeting format changes, because we've experienced a shortage of time when we've tried to hold a potluck luncheon, business meeting (held the first Sunday of even-numbered months) and have a lecture or mini-workshop all in one day. Instead, during the business meeting sessions we are encouraging members to bring a project to work on, something they would like advice or suggestions on and/or a show-and-tell item. These are always inspirational and terrific information-exchange sessions.

We plan to hold the free member program events on the first Sunday of odd-numbered months during our more informal meeting sessions. For example, in May we were shown by a fellow member how to make willow baskets in the local Kumeyaay Indian style. This technique could be adapted to make a very natural-looking gourd holder/stand. In March we

were taught how to make a cats-head basket using reed. Incorporating this basket weaving technique with reed or other materials into a gourd could make a very unusual, attractive embellishment. Upcoming sessions will include small gourd projects, such as wood burning name tags and possibly a presentation on ethnic gourd making. We love to receive activity ideas and suggestions.

We are also planning extra member all-day workshops with special out-of-town teachers. There will be fees for these workshops, but it will allow some of the members who either teach or volunteer during the annual basket and gourd weekend workshops a chance to take some great classes. One of these coming down the pike is Marilyn Moore's Fire & Wire workshop in August.

We are busy lining up teachers for the May 5-6, 2001, gourd and basket weekend at Quail Gardens and have what looks like about 30 really interesting projects for students to learn. Members attending the business meetings are given updated information, but a MWGBG Web site with general and weekend workshop information will soon be on line.

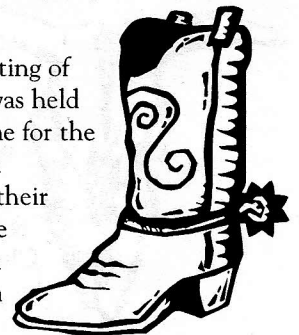
Of course, we will all be at the Welburn Gourd Festival, June 23-25, so we hope to see you there! For more information, contact Peggy Blessing at (858) 292-9219 or giza@sprynet.com.

Santa Cruz – Our May meeting was a wonderful class by Don Weeke. We had about 14 members who were inspired by Don's great knowledge and experience of combining gourds and basketry. He is such a wonderful teacher that you should definitely avail yourself of any opportunity you have to participate in one of his classes if you haven't already done so. In fact you can repeat Don's class and learn more each time. (This endorsement was unsolicited!)

A number of our members will be traveling to Fallbrook for the Welburn's Gourd Festival at the end of June. Some will just visit but several will enter the competition with their art works. We also hope to see and visit with many of our gourd friends.

Our next local encounter with the gourd will be on Saturday, July 22, 2000. We will meet at the home of Ardith Willner. We hope to have a class or demonstration of additional techniques for combining gourds and basketry. For additional information call Jill Walker at (831) 728-4427 or email gourdwalkr@aol.com.

So. SF Bay Area – The June meeting of the Calabash Club of Silicon Valley was held at the home of Kay Hatten. The theme for the event was "A Celebration of Peruvian Gourds." Members filled a table with their collections of Peruvian Gourds and we viewed a video of gourd production in Peru. Afterward, Ginger Summit led a



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discussion of traditional Peruvian techniques. The new show display, built by Larry Cunningham and Manny Alarcon, was erected for its 1st public showing and members filled the shelves with new work. Several members brought gourds to sell.

The August meeting will be held on the 6th of the month but the theme and location are still to be confirmed. For information call Carol Morrison at (650) 493-2998.

Sonoma - Santa Rosa – Several of us from the Sonoma County Gourd Patch took Mary Simmons' Gourd Masks class at the CGS Conference. We all enjoyed doing them so much that Stella Stewart held a another gourd mask workshop in May! Going back to April, Trish Power hosted a "create your own instrument" workshop, using Ginger Summit's, "Making Gourd Musical Instruments" book as a guideline. Coming up on June 22, the meeting will be at Jeanette Rehahn's studio, where we will investigate coiling techniques. Then on July 30 we will repeat our successful "summer social potluck" with the Marin Gourd Patch, which will be held at Connie Mygatt's home. If anyone is interested in meeting a wonderful, excited group of gourders give us a call. Jeanette Rehahn, (707) 792-2196 or Connie Mygatt, (707) 568-3010.

Ventura County – We have changed meeting locations. We are currently meeting at Lee's Nut Shack at 915 E. Main Street in Santa Paula. We meet on the 2nd Sunday of each month at 2:00 pm for chit-chat and hands on projects. We meet on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm for conducting business and demonstrations. We are considering changing both the Sunday and Thursday meeting times. For last minute updates, call or email Fern Wesley, (805) 482-3255 or tjwlesley@msn.com.

On March 22 and 23, Pearl Reece and Fern Wesley presented classes to children associated with the Indian Education Center. The classes consisted of gourd history; hands on demonstrations of various stages of growing; and gourd uses - past and present. Each child (and a number of adult parents and teacher) made a gourd rattle to take home. Twelve children from first through sixth grades and 14 children seventh grade through adults participated in the classes.

Our June meeting will be "Drum Making" demonstrated by Jeremy Adams. Our July meeting will be "Finishing Work" demonstrated by Tony Graves. Also, in July, Fern Wesley will be a guest speaker for the Cornucopia Community Garden in Ventura. Subject: "History, Growing and Embellishment of Gourds." A demo and display will be presented.



We are planning for the Ventura County Fair in August and the State's Sesquicentennial Celebration in Camarillo in September.

Pearl Reece received a first place award for her handpainted gourd Easter basket filled with hand painted eggs displayed in the California Federation of Women's Clubs 2000 Fine Arts Festival. The beautiful floral gourd basket was an entry in the California District #14 Art Festival. District #14 covers Ventura, Santa Barbara, and San Luis Obispo Counties. The basket's first place ribbon automatically qualified for the California State Festival where it again placed first. Congratulations Pearl!

Tulare County – My name is Toni Best. Sue Erb and I are the gourd reps for the San Joaquin Valley Gourd Patch in Tulare County. The San Jouquin Valley Gourd Patch has had an eventful winter and spring. Five members of our Patch went to Asilomar. What a fantastic experience. We are looking forward to next year and hope to have more members attending.

There have been many great classes, from Don Weeke with his wonderful creativity, David Snooks - beading on gourds, Suzette Milam - woodburning on gourds, Sue Erb - musical insturments, Toni Best - pine needle weaving on gourds, Noi Thomas - artistic cutting and dying designs on gourds.

May 20 - 21, our patch braved the temperatures and had a gourdgeous booth at the Redbud Arts Festival in Three Rivers. Ten members, many of whom were new to the patch, participated in the show. What marvelous work. It was a wonderful booth.

June 3, our patch will have a meeting at Carol Rookstool's Ranch in Three Rivers. Everyone is bringing a project to create or a problem to cure. Noi Thomas will present a program on creative cutting on gourds with her mini-saw.

June 19, Sue Erb will teach another musical instrument class at Toni Best's Studio in Visalia. She has quite an inventory of great instruments she has made.

July 8, we have arranged a joint meeting of the Handweavers of the Valley and our Gourd Patch. It will be held at the Memorial Building in Exeter. We are trying to create a better link between weaving and gourds and to foster new interest in both media. Five classes will be taught: Linda Hayden - Random Weaving; Sue Erb - Reed and Willow Baskets; Ardith Willner - Woodburning on Gourds; Noi Thomas - Cutting and Designing Gourds; and Toni Best - Pine Needle Weaving on Gourds. What a wonderful way to spend a day.

July 22, Lynne Bunt will teach a gourd fountain class at Noi Thomas' Farm.

Notice to all Regional Coordinators: Please send your regional news to Ardith Willner by the published article deadline date (see page 2), 24 Clubhouse Road, Santa Cruz, CA 95060 or email at ardithk@aol.com

You're Invited

Walt and Donna Heer would like to extend an invitation to gourd society members and their guests for a Labor Day Weekend Campout.

This annual celebration of the beautiful gourd fields at the end of growing season provides an opportunity to tent or RV camp alongside the beautiful Estrella River in Central California's Paso Robles. Located about 30 miles off the 101 Fwy., the site boasts gourd fields (choose and purchase green gourds), portable outhouses, handwashing facilities and water for camp use. Whether your passion is for finding the perfect bottle gourd, hiking, visiting wineries, dove hunting or just enjoying the natural beauty of this historic area, this unique adventure is for you. (no charge)

Please call or write for reservations: Walt and Donna Heer, c/o The Pumpkin and Gourd Farm, 101 Creston Rd., Paso Robles, California, (805) 238-0624.

Shingletown Gourd Festival

The first annual **Shingletown Gourd Festival** will be held on July 15, 2000 from 10 am - 4 pm. This is the first gourd festival this far north in California and will be welcomed by many. Several local gourd art and crafters will enjoy displaying their wares for sale, and a local Polynesian dance group is expected to perform. Please join in the fun!

The festival will be located in Shingletown, on Highway 44 in the shadows of Mount Lassen and Mt. Shasta. Beautiful scenery and great places to camp near by. For more information, please contact: Judy Rogers at 530-474-5057.

Missouri Hosts 2nd Annual Show Me Gourd Festival

The Show Me Gourd Society, Missouri's Chapter of the National Gourd Society, will host the second annual **Show Me Gourd Festival** in Branson, Missouri, on September 16th and 17th, 2000. The competition and exhibitions will be open to the public at the Branson Lions Club, just across the Taneycomo Lake bridge from downtown Branson, MO at 1015 East Highway 76. Hours are: Saturday, 9:00 am - 5:00 pm and Sunday, 9:00 am - 3:00 pm.

The show will feature competitive awards in 50 categories including dried

gourds and gourd art. Growers, national members of the Gourd Society and nationally recognized gourd artists from around the country will exhibit and sell their artwork. Hundreds of unique pieces of gourd art will be displayed.

Members of the Show Me Gourd Society have traveled around the country winning competitive awards and serving the National Society's programs and efforts. This event marks a milestone in the rapid growth of the Missouri chapter and its dedication to establishing a major showcase for the gourds in Missouri.

In addition to the competition, the show will have gourds for sale, information on growing gourds, and demonstrations for the entire family. Admission is \$3.00 for adults and free for children under the age of twelve. The public is invited to attend and enjoy this festive celebration of the second annual Show Me Gourd Festival.

For more information contact:

Cass Iverson - 573-687-3150 or
Pat Wilkinson - 573-445-6722

Update... This update announces the new contact person for the **North Carolina Gourd Festival**, held on Saturday and Sunday, September 9th and 10th. Please contact Amy Marti for vendor packet requests or general show information.

Amy Marti
1014 West Haven Blvd.
Rocky Mount, NC 27803
(252) 972-5952
gourdworks@peoplepc.com



GOURD EVENTS 2000

June 23 - 25
Welburn Gourd Festival
Fallbrook, CA (760) 728-0269

July 15
Shingletown Gourd Festival
Shingletown, CA (530) 474-5057

September 9 - 10
North Carolina Gourd Festival
(704) 827-0664

September 16 - 17
2nd Annual Show-Me Gourd Show
Branson, MO (573)687-3150

September 23 - 24
Zittel Farms 6th Annual
West Coast Gourd Festival
Folsom, CA (916) 989-2633

October 6 - 8
Ohio Gourd Festival
Mt. Gillead, Ohio

October 7 - 8
Tree Mover Tree & Gourd Farm
Palmdale, CA (667) 947-7121

October 14 - 15
Lombardi Ranch 2nd Annual Gourd Festival
Saugus, CA (661) 296-8697

November 4 - 5
Texas Gourd Society Show
Austin, TX 2flews@flash.net

Seeking Pyroengraving Artists

You can be included in the new book on Gourd Pyroengraving.

Jim Widess, co-author and photographer of *The Complete Book of Gourd Craft* and *Making Gourd Musical Instruments* is in the midst of writing the definitive book for woodburning on gourds. He'd like to include some of *your* work in one of the gallery sections.

Please send snapshots of gourds that you've woodburned to Jim at the address below, for jurying: If the snapshots are examples that can be used in the gallery section, then Jim will contact you to ship the actual piece for the final photography in his studio. Any additional information you can include with the snapshots – as to the type of tool used, which tips were used, etc., will be important information to be included in the caption description for your gourd.

Please send snapshots of individual gourds, not groups of gourds, with plain, uncluttered background. Close-up photos of areas of detail are encouraged.

While this book is just about woodburning on gourds, pyroengraved gourds that have been dyed or painted are acceptable, as long as the color doesn't obscure the woodburning.

Deadline is September 15, 2000, for submission of the snapshots. Send photos to: Jim Widess, 926 Gilman St, Berkeley, CA 94710. For more information, contact Jim at 1-800-544-3373.

Coordinator Needed For Asilomar 2001

CGS is looking for someone to coordinate the 2001 Gourd College that is scheduled for February 2, 3, 4, 2001 at the Asilomar Conference Grounds in Monterey. We have willing volunteers available for all the essential activities – we need a leader to keep us on track! Do you like to organize events, put on a good show, plan a big party? We need you!!! Call Carol Rookstool at (213) 624-1200 or (213) 629-5689 for more information.

Gourds on Display

Lynne Bunt & Stefan Schneider will be showing regularly at Bay Area art & wine festivals throughout the summer & into the fall. A schedule can be viewed on their website www.gourdland.com.

Lombardi Ranch 2nd Annual Gourd Festival

Come and enjoy a day of family fun at the **Second Annual Lombardi Ranch Gourd Festival** on October 14 & 15, 2000. There will be a competition with cash prizes and gourds for sale as well.

In addition to the gourd festival, they will have tons of pumpkins and lots of Halloween season ideas.

Visit their website at www.lombadiranch.com for a history of the ranch and a list of all October events.

The festival will be located at 29527 Bouquet Cyn Road in Saugas, California. For more information on the competition and vendor space, please contact the ranch at (661) 296-8697.

Pasadena Patch Arranges Gourd Programs on TV

By Mary Jane Jones

The Pasadena Patch has taken a new direction under the benevolent guidance of Mary Jane Jones and Ed Jasaitis. They arranged the videotaping of three half-hour segments to (date) on various aspects of gourdng for Adelphia Cable Television which serves a large area of Los Angeles, Santa Monica and the San Fernando Valley.

Sally Shishmanian who has hosted programs about antiques and collectibles for over seven years, did the interviewing. The first segment had Angela Villalba demonstrating gourds through the ages for the first half of the program and Carol Rookstool (CGS President) showing work by Gourd Patch members and talking about the California Gourd Society and contemporary gourd art. Beverly Shamana, Pat Boyd and their mother were featured in the second show. All truly gifted, each moves in her own

direction and stretches the use of gourds and embellishment. The influence of Africa is always there in the vitality, color and spirit of the work of these African-American artists. The tape is a winner! The third show features Guillermo Martinez of Modjeska Canyon, a Native American musician and instrument maker who works in wood, gourd and ceramics. He talked about his work and performed some of his incredible music.

There will probably be more tapings down the road, but in the meantime, if anyone wants to arrange for the tapes to be shown in other areas of the state on local cable channels, it can be done. Just contact:

Pasadena Gourd Patch
c/o Mary Jane Jones
3679 Roseview Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90065

GOURD NEWS & HAPPENINGS . . .

continued

Zittel Farm's Pre-Festival Classes

Learn new techniques in our Pre-Festival Gourd Classes. Designed with our gourd festival participants in mind, but open to all gourd enthusiasts, these 2-hour classes have been planned to maximize learning potential while minimizing the participant's cost and commitment during the festival setup day. All gourds will be selected and prepared to meet instructor's specifications, eliminating this time factor. Each class fee is \$25 and includes all materials.

All classes will be held on Friday, September 22, 2000, in the Entertainment Tent at Zittel Farms, Folsom, CA. All classes will start and end promptly, with no exceptions. Class size is limited. Registration and payment is due in full by September 12, 2000. A \$5.00 cancellation fee will apply, and no refunds will be given after September 18, 2000.

Please mail the completed form (right) with check payable to: Zittel Farms Festival Classes, Zittel Farms, 6781 Oak Avenue, Folsom, CA 95630.

First Session - 12:30 pm - 2:30 pm

Rebecca Cileo	Clay & Gourds
Joyce Fisher	Rubber Stamping & Gourds
Kay Mackelburg	Beginning Basics & Gourds
Dave Roseberry	Leather Sculpting & Gourds
Duane Teeter	Wood Burning, Designs & Gourds

Second Session - 3 pm - 5 pm

Rebecca Cileo	Clay & Gourds
Judy Cunningham	Enameling & Gourds
Kay Mackelburg	Masks & Gourds
Stella Steward	Pine Needle Basketry & Gourds
Duane Teeter	Wood Burning, Designs & Gourds

First Session - 12:30 pm - 2:30 pm	
Class: _____	
	Cost: \$25.00
Second Session - 3 pm - 5 pm	
Class: _____	
	Cost: \$25.00
	Total: _____
Name: _____	
Address: _____	
City: _____	
State: _____	Zip: _____
Phone: _____	

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Each year an election is held for one half of the CGS board. This year, 2000, elections will be held for 4 offices:

Recording Secretary/Historian
(currently held by Lynne Bunt)

Vice President of Membership
(currently held by Rebecca Cileo)

One Member-at-Large
(currently held by Kathy Riker)

and

Vice President of Communications
(currently open)

Current officers are eligible for re-election.

CGS members who want to be considered for these offices should mail a letter of interest to:

CGS Nominating Committee
c/o Susan Sullivan
18711 Vale Avenue
Santa Ana, CA 92705

Letters of interest must be received by August 15, 2000.

A ballot for a slate of officers will then be published in the Fall issue of *The Golden Gourd*.

Create a rose with leftover gourds

By Betty Finch

Seasoned gourd enthusiasts know there is no such thing as "leftover" gourd parts. Cut off tops, seeds, lining and stems can be used to create an unlimited variety of things. Let me share with you how I created a rose from gourd stem ends and lining.

This idea came to me while putting the finishing touches on an Easter bonnet for the Indiana Gourd Festival hat competition. It came out so lifelike, I just had to share it!

First, you must peel off some gourd lining pieces larger than one square inch. This is most easily accomplished when you cut open a gourd that is still slightly damp inside but has not formed mold. The lining should be white and shiny. Peel off sections and lay them out flat to dry where they will dry quickly and not get moldy. As long as they are kept dry, they store well for a long time.

To make a gourd rose you need the stem end of a gourd with a small bit of the gourd attached. Long straight stems are best. Small gourd tops such as penguin gourds work best for roses. Just above the stem, cut the gourd to create points resembling the sepals of the rose. (see figure 1) Paint the entire piece green and let it dry.

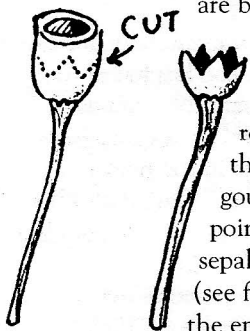


Figure 1

Cut oval shapes from the gourd lining using scissors. Dampen the ovals slightly. Paint them the desired colors. I like the effect made by painting the oval with a light wash of pink water base paint and touching a tiny bit of red to the very edge while the pink is still wet. This gives a very natural look to the edge of the petal where the color bleeds together.

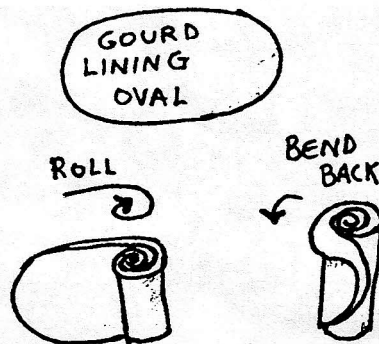


Figure 2

While petals are still slightly damp, start shaping them. If you are getting paint all over your hands and making a mess, you are doing it correctly! Use the largest oval to form the center of the rose by rolling it into a roll and folding back the end just slightly. (see figure 2)

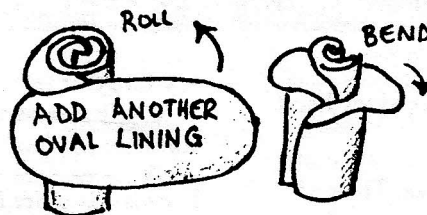


Figure 3



The Gourd Hat by Betty Finch won 2nd Place at The Indiana Gourd Festival. It was purchased by The American Gourd Society to place in their museum.

Roll the next oval around the first and then fold the top edge back. Roll the next oval around the second and on, until it is the size that will just barely fit in the gourd sepals. (see figure 3)

Place this in the sepals and prop it up to dry. The petals should keep the shape fairly well as they dry. (see figure 4)

The rose will shrink slightly as it dries. When it is completely dry, you can remove the rose from the sepals and add a drop of glue to hold it in place.

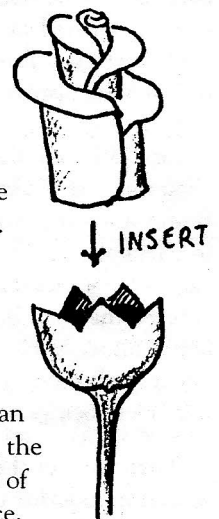


Figure 4

Slide Library Forming

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

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

Send all slides to Ardith Willner, 24 Clubhouse Road, Santa Cruz, CA 95060.

Thanks so much for helping to create our library!

New Address, Phone?

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

Please send any new information to:

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

Gourds and Great Apes

By Leigh Adams

I met Roxane Losey and her friend Kim in the zoo parking lot on Saturday morning before the park was open to the public. They were both carrying gourds so it was easy for us to recognize one another. We passed through the security entrance and boarded a golf cart that Roxane skillfully navigated through the service roads of the zoo. After a brief stop for an elephant on her morning walk with her two keepers we arrived at the orangutan compound. Roxane introduced us to the orangutan keeper Rose-Marie, and another volunteer, Marian Stocking. They were busy cleaning the environment and preparing the day's food. In an effort to stimulate the orangutans and provide a more natural environment for their foraging food habits, the keepers place "goodies" around the ladders, caves, trees and rocks of the outdoor living space where the animals are on display during the day. Kim and I (as newcomers) were taken to meet the orangutans.

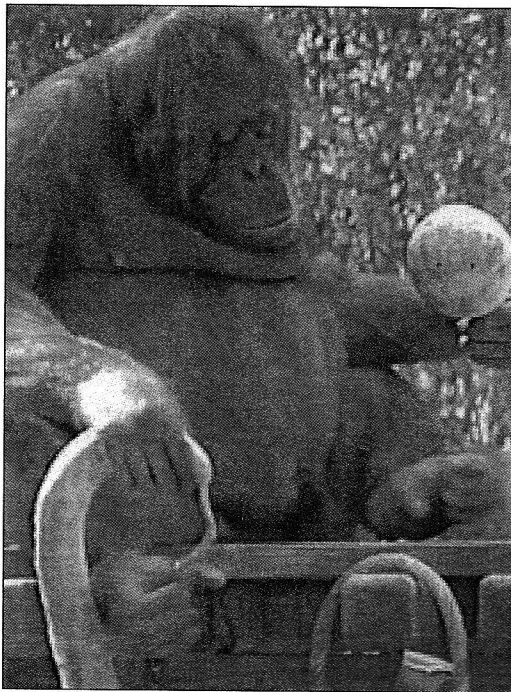
As we entered the pungent sleeping quarters, a loud hooting and metallic banging greeted us. The keeper explained that "Bruno" was putting on a macho display for the new women as one of the females was in estrus. "Who are the new women?" "You mean us!?" And indeed she did! Bruno wanted to smell and touch us to check us out. Despite the very aggressive noises and actions when we entered the area, Bruno was gentle and not at all scary. He wanted us to rub under his bottom lip after he decided we were okay beings and I felt honored when he licked my hand.

Then we met the "girls", Kalim and Rosie. They are extra special friends due to having been reared together. Their meeting and greeting ritual was entirely different than Bruno's. We rubbed the backs of their fingers and then they smelled their hands. Then they demanded attention and demonstrated the extraordinary spitting skill of an ignored orangutan as we met the fourth member of the group, Eloise. She is a "challenged" orang who suffered oxygen deprivation when she was born so she has some special problems but was very sweet and affectionate.

While Kim and I were getting to know the animals, the kitchen volunteer was preparing intriguing food surprises. Pine cones with peanut butter, paper towel tubes filled with granola and mustard and folded closed, baskets with raisin, fruit and vegetables. Looked like a balanced and healthy diet. The gourds that Roxane had gotten from Tom Baal at the Tree Mover Tree and Gourd Farm were drilled with holes and stuffed with raisins, nuts and other treats. The snake gourds I had gotten

from Beth McGrath and Doug Welburn were left intact and all the gourds were placed in the display environment.

When the oranges were released into their "play" yard, one gourd-wise female (Kalim) bolted through the area grabbing a snake gourd and a "stuffed" gourd as she quickly found a spot to defend her gourds and eat the seeds. At one point she immersed the gourds into the water several times, filling the interior and slurping the food-rich water out of the gourd. It was surprising to see the oranges use their feet as well as their hands to hold the gourds while they explored the cherished treat.



Kalim enjoying her gourds.

All told, I watched the oranges for about an hour as they thoroughly enjoyed their gourds. So how did this all get started? Roxane read in *Womans Day* about gourds and thought they would be a good natural container to use in the enriched environment project. Once they were approved by the veterinarians, she contacted the Baals in Palmdale and bought the first gourds. The animals were obviously happy with them and Roxane was soon asked to get them for other animals. Part of the gourds I took from my garden will go to the meerkats!

In an effort to use naturally occurring materials, the LA Zoo has found that many of their animals like gourds as much as we do! Gourds are also in evidence as feeders in the nursery with the Emperor tamarins and in the tree top environment of the golden lion tamarins. If you have occasion to visit the zoo, look for these displays and enjoy a day at the L A Zoo!

From Roxane: It all started with a Womans Day magazine and a dream. Well, something like that. I would like to thank everyone who has been so helpful in my gourding endeavor. Lynne Bunt, for turning me in the right direction, Tom and Sheryl Baal, Leigh Adams, the Welburns, and Beth McGrath for their generous donations of their coveted gourds and answers and insights about gourds.

The Behavioral Enrichment department is always looking for intriguing, natural looking things for use in the exhibits, and this is always a challenging task. When I typed in keyword "gourds" even I didn't know the full magnitude of how useful they would become to our program. It really is about the animals, and it is through the kind donations and discounts of the above people as well as their interest, ideas and support that the Behavioral Enrichment department can make the animals environment a more happy and interesting place to live. Thank you all so much and please come by and see us at the Los Angeles Zoo.

ATTENTION TEACHERS

The California Gourd Society will hold its Second Annual Membership Meeting and Conference on the weekend of February 2 - 4, 2001 at Asilomar Conference Grounds in Pacific Grove, California.

The CGS is soliciting proposals from teachers for Mini-Classes to be taught on Saturday, February 3, 2001. Proposals are for 2 1/2 to 3 hour mini-classes which will be held in the morning from 9 am - 12 noon and in the afternoon from 1 pm - 4 p.m.

The instructors are paid \$20 per student per class. If necessary you may also charge a materials fee. No travel or lodging expenses are paid. Classes are held indoors. Folding tables and chairs will be provided.

Teachers of morning classes will help with set up of teaching areas. Teachers of afternoon classes will help with breakdown.

If possible, prepare a handout and make copies to distribute to students in your class. If you are able, include your handout with your proposal. Remember the emphasis is on projects of modest scope that can be completed in 2 1/2 to 3 hours. This

probably means that the gourd size for your project should be approximately 6 - 8 inches.

Please bring all necessary supplies as there will be no nearby sources of materials. A dye station will be set up to confine this process to one area and reduce the possibility of spilling accidents.

Instructors are encouraged to stay on the conference grounds although many hotels and motels are available in the Monterey area.

Information about registration for the conference will be available in a future issue of the Golden Gourd.

Please complete the class proposal form below by August 15. Make a copy to keep and forward the original to us. If you would like to propose more than one class, please complete a separate form for each class. If you have any questions, please contact:

Jill Walker
Coordinator of Conference Mini-Classes
(831) 728-4427 or
E-mail: gourdwalkr@aol.com

**California Gourd Society
Call for Mini-Class Proposals for Second Annual Membership Conference
Saturday, February 3, 2001
Asilomar Conference Grounds, Pacific Grove, California**

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ FAX: _____ E-mail: _____

Name of proposed class: _____

Description of finished project: _____

Class Level: All levels ___ Beginner ___ Intermediate ___ Advanced ___ Length of class will be 2 1/2 - 3 hours

Can student expect to finish this project? Yes ___ No ___

Number of students you will take: Minimum _____ Maximum _____

Description - (include materials, supplies and tools students will use and the techniques that will be demonstrated.)
Please use 40 words or less. _____

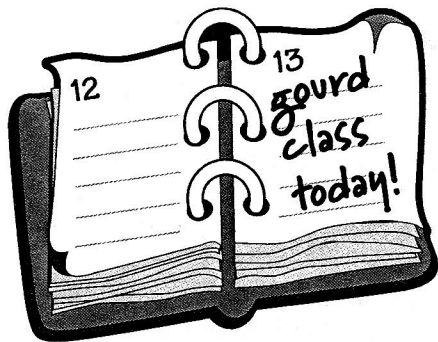
Total materials fee (if any) per student \$ _____

Size and type/shape of gourd(s) used for this project. _____

Tools or additional materials students may wish to bring: _____

Photograph: Please include a photograph of your teaching project with this form. **Deadline for proposals: August 15, 2000.**

Mail to: Jill Walker • 905 W. Linden Road • Watsonville, CA 95076
Telephone: (831) 728-4427 • FAX: (831) 728 - 4977 • E-mail: gourdwalkr@aol.com



Calendar of Gourd Classes

~ July ~

July 1
Gourd Crafting
Duane Teeter
 The Caning Shop, Berkeley, CA
 (510) 527-5010

July 8
Gourd Shakeree & Mini-Gourd Drums
Lynn Everett
 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
 Cost \$40 plus \$5 materials fee
 (949) 728-0269 Evenings

July 8
Woodburning on Gourds
Ardith Willner
 Handweavers of the Valley
 Workshop Day
 Memorial Building, Exeter
 (559) 627-5430

July 8
The Gourd As Art
Lois Rainwater
 Glendale Community College
 For registration information, see the
 Glendale Community College website at:
www.glendale.cc.ca.us/cse/arts.ht

July 12
Beginning Gourd Crafting
(4 Wednesday evenings),
Doris Soyka
 Los Angeles Pierce College
 Community Services

July 20 - August 17
Working with Mini-Gourds
Lois Rainwater
 \$20 materials fee
 payable to instructor at class time.
 Learning Tree University
 Chatsworth Campus
 20960 Knapp St., Chatsworth, CA 91311
 (818) 882-5599

July 22
Gourd Fountain
Lynne Bunt
 Cost \$75.00
 includes all supplies & lunch
 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
 Thomas Farms
 20947-B Ave 245, Lindsay, CA 93247
 (559) 562-9640

July 24
Gourd Basics
Diane Merrill
 Cost \$45
 The Caning Shop, Berkeley, CA
 (510) 527-5010

July 30
Gourd Birdhouses
Su Wickersham
 Noon - 4 pm
 Cost \$40 plus \$7 materials fee
 Cameron Parks & Rec Department
 Cameron Park, CA
 (530) 676-4744

~ August ~

August 5
Ocarina Vessel Flute and African Shakeree
Sam Soultter and Noi Thomas
 Thomas Farms
 20947-B Ave 245, Lindsay, CA 93247
 (559) 562-9640

August 10th
Contemporary Gourd Drum
Leigh Adams
 Pasadena Bead Co.
 7:00 pm - 10:00 pm
 \$35.00 Materials list (626) 796-1837

August 12th
Metal Embellished Gourds
Carolyn Potter
 Pasadena Bead Co.
 1:30 pm - 6:00 pm
 \$45.00 Materials list (626) 796-1837

August 19th
Woodburning on Gourds
Leigh Adams
 Pasadena Bead Co.
 2:00 pm - 5:00 pm
 \$35.00 Materials list (626) 796-1837

August 20
Gourd Basics
Su Wickersham
 Noon - 4 pm
 Cost \$40 plus \$7 materials fee
 Cameron Parks & Rec Department
 Cameron Park, CA
 (530) 676-4744

August 23
Gourd Wallhangings
Leigh Adams
 Pasadena Bead Co.
 7:00 pm - 10:00 pm
 \$35.00 Materials list (626) 796-1837

August 26
Contemporary Gourd Basketry
Leigh Adams
 Pasadena Bead Co.
 \$60.00
 Materials - \$15.00 (626) 796-1837

~ September ~

September 9
Kachina Doll
Kathy Riker
 The Tree Mover Tree & Gourd Farm
 Palmdale
 (661) 947-7121

September 16
Gourd Drum
Kathy Riker
 The Tree Mover Tree & Gourd Farm
 Palmdale
 (661) 947-7121

HOT BURNING TOOL Detail Master

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

Catalogues available for \$1.00.

Ardith Willner
24 Clubhouse Road
Santa Cruz, CA 95060
(831) 457-0612
ardithk@aol.com



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See Gourds Growing

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We Ship Anywhere

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(805) 238-0624

Ads: Please send your advertisements to Ardith Willner by the published article deadline date (see page 2), 24 Clubhouse Road, Santa Cruz, CA 95060 or email at ardithk@aol.com. Cost of advertisements is \$25 per issue for ads the size you see on this page.

Little Shop of Gourds

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10:00 am - 5:00 pm

3318 "B" Main Street
Cottonwood, CA 96022
(530) 347-3675

Mail Inquiries to:
P. O. Box 762
Anderson, CA 96007

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VISIT OUR FARM JUNE THRU SEPTEMBER



ALL GOURDS 40% OFF

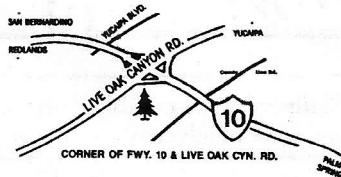
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Washed and unwashed

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Visit our website at liveoakcanyon.com



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In the city of Yucaipa