

THE GOLDEN GOURD

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE CALIFORNIA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN GOURD SOCIETY

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SUMMER 2003

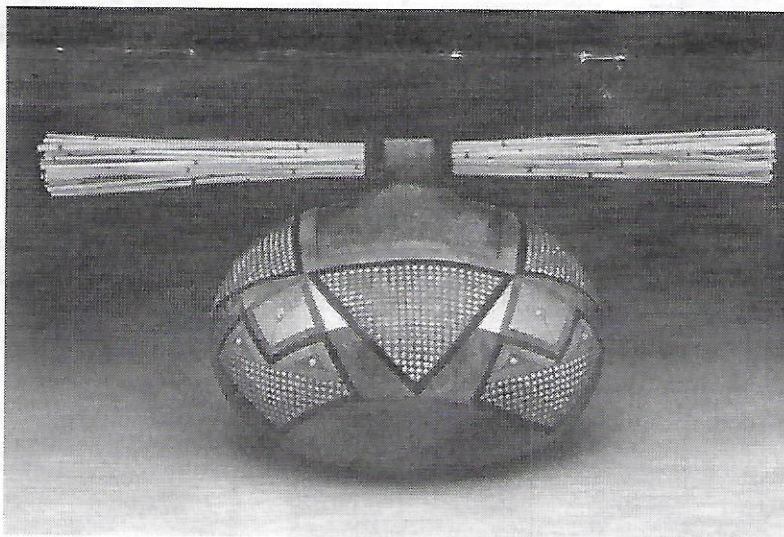
Bill Colligen – Gourd Guru

by Leigh Adams

Bill Colligen's work draws gasps of surprise with its zen like qualities and oriental influence. Known for vessels of exceptional beauty teapots with verdigris patina and exquisite bamboo handles, Bill's work can be found gracing gourd and fine art shows in California, New Mexico and Arizona. Once you've seen the fine detail and finish Bill achieves in his one of a kind pieces, you'll share our admiration for this fine gourd artist.

How did you get started working with gourds?

My first introduction to gourds came one day when I was at a local farmer's place purchasing fresh vegetables. I observed the vines growing on a fence with beautiful green dipper fruit. I inquired about them only to find out that he (the farmer) had many dried gourds from the previous year for sale. I bought an appliance box full and took them home to the storage shed. There they sat for over two years!



Where did you start?

I began doing petroglyphs and Native American/Southwest stuff and then got into horsehair and inlaid turquoise. I joined the local artists' cooperative gallery in Jerome and remained with them for four years. It was encouraging to find out that people liked my work and kept buying it. I worked full-time in my landscaping business at this time.

cont'd page 4

What were the sources of your inspiration?

I travelled around the Southwest a bit visiting Taos and Santa Fe. I saw many gourds that had been decorated for sale in different shops and galleries. I visited the Torres Gallery in Santa Fe and discovered Robert Rivera's work. I was overwhelmingly inspired. I thought: "He must use an airbrush to do this fine detail". I bought an airbrush only to put it away after one day — what a mess! I then bought a clunky woodburner from Wal-Mart and anxiously put it to use — no, this was not producing the results I had in mind. I observed a woodcarver carving birds at a local gem show and noticed him using a rather technical-looking burner — that's the one I wanted. So I sent for my first Detail Master and it did exactly what I had in mind.

Inside....

Mask Article.....	2
Big Gourd Update.....	3
Gourd Workshops.....	5
Gourd News.....	6
California Festivals.....	7
CGS Competition Rules.....	8
CGS Competition Application.....	9
Spotlight on the Gourd Patch.....	10
Gourd Classes.....	11
Regional Roundup.....	12
Officers/Coordinators.....	14
Classified.....	15



President's Message

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Hello Gourd Friends,

As festival season begins in California, gourd people are all abuzz with plans. Leiser Farms Spring Sale seems to have been a roaring success. Next up is Welburn Gourd Festival. Then Zittel's, then Lombardi's, then Gourd Fair LA, where California will host the American Gourd Society's annual meeting for the first time. Please let us know if other events are in the offing so that we can publicize them in *The Golden Gourd* and on the website. Gourd lovers want the information and *The Golden Gourd* is the perfect vehicle to get our gourd news out and about. Tell us about your gourd related classes, demonstrations and other activities.

We have exciting news to share from the Gourd Island Gourd Society. Due to travel restrictions in China right now, Gourd Island Gourd Society members were not able to visit California this summer. However, in the spirit of international friendship, they are sending over an exhibit of unbelievably beautiful molded gourds and "jade knife carved" gourds for our membership to view. We hope to have an exhibit at the Welburn Festival for all to see. With sufficient support, it may be possible to display the gourds at other festivals as well.

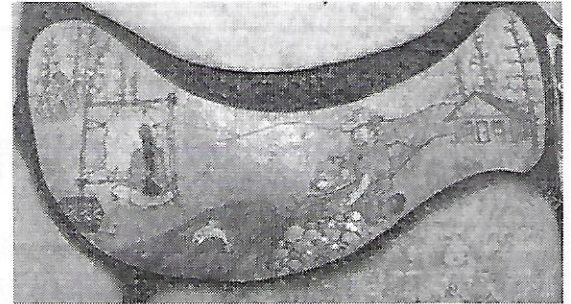
This is a gentle reminder that in an all-volunteer organization like CGS, every activity is dependent upon many hours of donated labor. If you enjoy the festivals, exhibits and activities, consider donating some of your time to make it possible. Every festival organizer needs help to keep these wonderful events taking place.

I look forward to visiting as many events as possible and hope to see you there!

Leigh Adams



Colleen Platt, Don Rideau, Carol Cherry — El Dorado



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Harmonic Convergence of Student Skills

by Leigh Adams

At our back to school planning session, the drama specialist at my school, Susie Tanner, announced she would like to do an Aztec play, *The Hungry Woman*, (hopefully bilingually) with our nine to eleven year old class. As the Spanish specialist, I would be responsible for teaching the language part, but hey! Could we do gourd masks? Susie and I love collaborative teaching. Let's do it! The kids were excited. We learned the dialogue, in English with Susie, in Spanish with me and when the students were ready, they began working on the masks with me.

Susie chose students to work in pairs based on the size of their faces, surely a new way to pair up students! I gave them each a large (9 or 10 inch) bottle gourd to scrub clean. Once the gourd was cleaned, the kids drew a line to divide it in half. I cut the gourds in half lengthwise for them and they cleaned the interiors. Because they would be wearing the gourds as masks, the gourds had to be thoroughly cleaned. But these kids have done at least one gourd project every year for the five or six years they have been at our school, so they are really quite expert. The gourds were immaculate.

The next step was to design the features. We looked at Aztec masks and art work but put no restrictions on the students. We did decide to do uniformly open mouths so that the sound would

cont'd page 10

"Big Gourd" Update

CGS Community Gourd Project

by Judy Cunningham

The latest on the Traveling Gourd:

Shasta-Tehama Patch — *Northern Sierra Patch* — *El Dorado County Patch* — *Amador County Patch* have now added their artwork to the gourd. It is on its way to the *Tahoe Patch* next. After that it will then head to the Bay area and points South.

We have sold 1,264 tickets to date. A short reminder for those patch leaders who are selling tickets to return the stubs to Larry and Judy Cunningham, 1911-B Voorhees Ave, Redondo Beach, CA. 90278.

The raffle for the Big Gourd will be at Asilomar, 2004. For updates, check the CGS website, www.calgourd.com and Welburn Farms *Gourdzette*, published online. To subscribe to The Gourdzette, visit www.welburngourdfarm.com



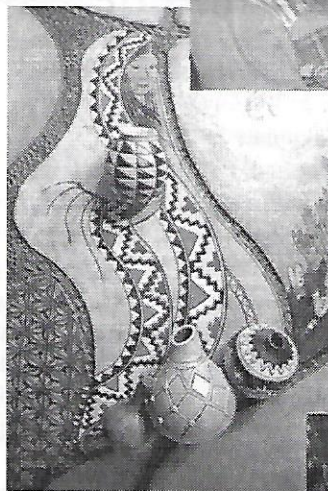
Rebecca Cileo — Shasta/Tehama



Lena Stiward, Colleen Platt — Amador



*Charlotte Vincent
Ann Mitchell
Z Gourd Miners
Folsom*



Jackie Berg — Northern Sierra

Bill Colligen

cont'd from page 1

When did you begin showing your work?

My first show was the Sedona Arts Festival in October of 1999. I made over \$1000.00!!!! I couldn't believe it. I started looking into other shows in the Scottsdale area and checked some of them out. I began to accumulate a lot of information about slides, jury, canopies, display and the amount of money that was involved. I needed to take that big risk and just do it because I decided that this is what I wanted to do with the rest of my life.

Do you dedicate yourself to full time gourd work?

I let my real job go in May of 2000. The only regret I have is that I now don't get that wonderful exercise and sit on my butt all of the time — so, of course, I had to join a gym!

Where can people see your work?

I do the following shows:

Fine Art and Wine Festivals in Carefree, AZ, in November, January and March

Fine Art and Chocolate Festival in Scottsdale, AZ in February

Contemporary Crafts Market in San Francisco in March.

Welburn Gourd Festival in June

Contemporary Crafts Market in Santa Monica in June

Santa Fe Plaza Art Festival in Santa Fe in August

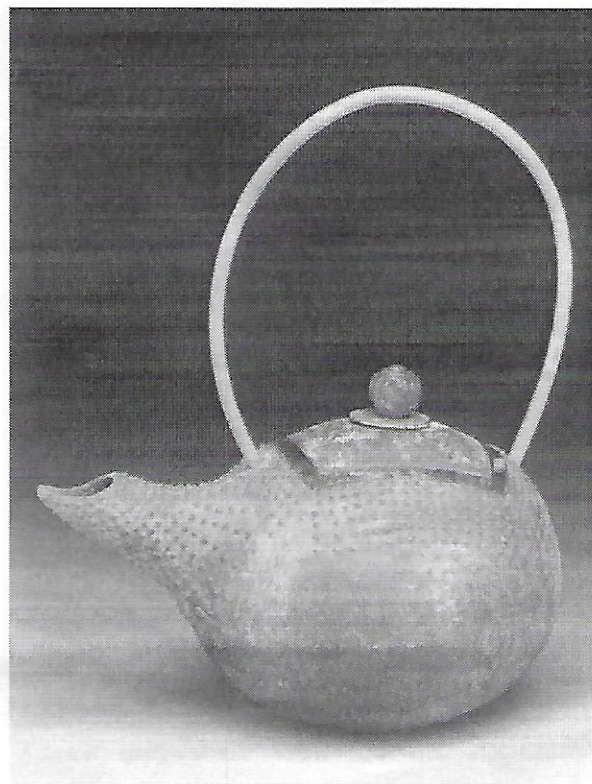
Sausalito Arts Festival in Sausalito over Labor Day weekend

Sedona Arts Festival in October

My work can be seen at the Lanning Gallery in Sedona, AZ, Pine Artisans Gallery in Pine, AZ, at the Spindrift Gallery in Gualala, CA., and of course, www.billcolligen.com. Some of my work will be featured in Jim and Ginger's new book coming out this year on gourd carving. I also did an article for the Insight section of *The Crafts Report* in September of 2002.

Describe your studio space and the tools you like to use.

My studio space is shared with the washer and dryer, lizards, toads, snakes and an occasional mouse or squirrel. It is a small space with a skylight and works perfectly for me. I do some of my work outside — cutting, carving and anything else that involves gourd dust. I'll admit that I have had someone cleaning for me for over two years now — what a relief! I live in a semi-remote area by the Verde River so there are no annoying sound distractions like traffic! I listen mainly to birds (many, many varieties including great blue herons, red-tailed hawks, bald eagles, ospreys) doves cooing, rooster crowing, etc. My environment is very nature-oriented and very conducive to the detailed work I do. The tool I use most of all, of course, is the Sabre IV Detail Master. I have never been able to master the use of the mini jigsaw for cutting — I always break the blade! I am comfortable with using a diamond wheel. For my carving, I use mainly diamond burrs. My best friends are my diamond files, sandpaper, and Xacto knife.



Your work has a strong Asian influence — have you visited the Orient?

I have never spent any time in the Orient but I would love to go to China and Japan one day. I have been greatly inspired by the Asian cultures — from their food presentation to the simplicity of their style and the peacefulness it represents. I have always been an admirer of fine, detailed and colorful raku pottery — from old Japanese to modern day pieces. I have also been inspired by the Native American cultures — especially the many wonderful geometric designs that have been used on their pottery for centuries. The design work I create on my gourd pieces is partially influenced by these inspirations. My intent is to create an experience which leaves the observer with a sense of beauty, balance, and tranquility. My finished pieces create a visual harmony within.

As functional art is all the rage, are your teapots ever used for tea?

I do drink yerba mate on occasion, however not from a gourd. I have spoken to a couple of ladies from Argentina at shows in the past. I asked one about curing the inside to eliminate the bitter taste. She said it is done with a combination of sugar granules and charcoal and would email me the process. She never did. I would like to some day make my teapots functional. Right now they are just decorative pieces.

It seems you must have a fine arts background, can you tell us about it?

I majored in art education back in the dark ages. I only completed 3 semesters deciding I would rather major in party time. I have worked in watercolor and stone. I did small carvings out of mainly alabaster, marble and turquoise. They were limited to frogs and lizards. I still do a lot of carved-out frogs and insects and enjoy doing the teapots and "Zen vessels".

What processes haven't you tried or what directions would you like to explore?

I would like to experiment with more inlay — such as wood and metal — in the future. I have experimented with atomized metal powders mixed in acrylic mediums extensively in the past year and with the use of oxidizing agents and dyes have come up with the patinas I have been visualizing for years.

We suggest you make a point of visiting Bill Colligen's website, or visiting this eloquent gourd artist at the next gourd or art show where his work may be seen!



Gourd Workshops

Janis Kobe and Thena Trygstad

For beginners & intermediate artists

May 4th, 10:00 – 5:00 **Vessels & Embellishments**

July 13th, 10:00 – 5:00 **Cutting and Attaching**

August 17th, 10:00 – 5:00 **Wearable Art & Woodburning**

September 21st, 10:00 – 5:00 **Spirit Dolls**

Learn the basics of creating a gourd vessel. Gourds, tools and most materials will be provided.

Bring your own beads, bone, fetishes, charms, feathers, horsehair, or anything you wish for embellishment. I have birch twigs and pine needles and waxed linen depending on your needs. You may wish to bring a toolbox with your own scissors, awl, etc., if you have one. Mark them with your name.

Wear your work clothes and dress in layers, as we will be going indoors and outdoors depending on the weather that day. We need to do the cutting and cleaning outside and if it is cold and damp, we will spend the rest of the time working inside on the details and dyes. Bring a sack lunch that you will eat at your leisure when you decide to take a break. This is a fun, inspirational day and you will have a lovely piece of art by the time you leave.

Fee: \$60 — includes tools, materials and instruction. Space is limited to 12 per class, maximum.

Workshops are in Sonoma at 630 2nd St. East, Sonoma, CA.

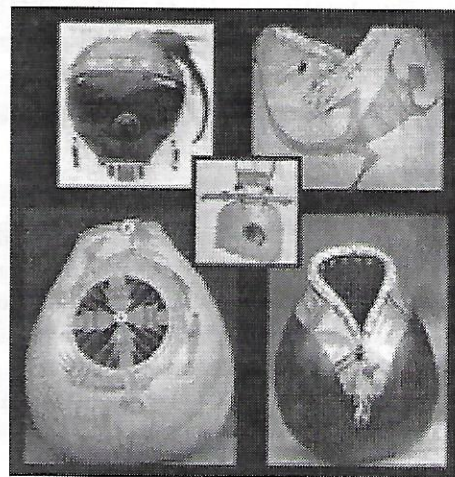
To sign up, please call Janis 707-938-2081.

Gourd Workshops

Mary Simmons and Skye Leona

These workshops are also open to experienced gourd crafters.

An experienced, professional gourd crafter will be available for specific questions.



The fine art of gourd crafting is again available in our new series of summer work-

shops. You will learn to design and finish your own gourd art.

Beginning Vessel: Sat. June 21st from 10 AM to 4 PM

Mask Making: Sat. July 26th from 10 AM to 4 PM

Weaving on Gourds: Sat. Aug 16th from 10 AM to 4 PM

Fetish Dolls: Sat. Sept 20th from 10 AM to 4 PM

Gourd Scrap Art: Sat. Oct 11th from 12 PM to 4 PM

The Workshops include:

- Selection, cutting, and preparing a gourd,
- Wood burning
- Applying dyes and paints
- Application of natural fiber such as pine needles
- Embellishments using beads, pods and feathers
- Weaving Techniques

Classes are limited to 10 maximum.

Where: Out of Scotts Valley in the beautiful Santa Cruz Mountains

Time: 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Cost: \$50.00 per workshop (includes materials)

Reservations: Call Skye (831) 438-2719



Gourd News

Welcome to the **San Fernando Valley Gourd Patch (Calabaza)**, CGS's newest group. Rumors are flying about the great attendance and enormous enthusiasm of this group led by **Judy Nace** and **Jeannette Nemon-Fischman**. Welcome aboard and we'll look forward to hearing about your great gourding adventures!

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A huge and hearty welcome to **Z Gourd Miners**, the **Folsom** area patch known for its great get-togethers and high energy events! Long-time leader **Ann Mitchell** along with **Charlotte Vincent** were recently photographed with their incredible addition to the Big Gourd project. May our association be long lived, mutually enjoyable and a benefit to all involved.

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Teachers!! We need teachers! Applications to teach at **Asilomar 2004** should be sent to **Lynn Bunt**. Contact her at roy-sms@msn.com or at (559) 561-1925.

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Forbestown —The local paper ran an article about the **Big Gourd** and **Jackie Berg**. Jackie gave a talk at a businessmen's group on May 21st about the California Gourd Society. Plus, they bought tickets for a chance to win the Big Gourd!

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Through The Gourdvine, the Gourd community's #1 print magazine, is extending an invitation to all Gourd Organizations, Patches, and other Gourd-related non-profit groups: **Advertise for Free!**

It's about as simple as that. The Free Offer is good for up to 10 lines of classifieds advertising for any non-profit group. This offer is good anytime. It doesn't expire. Never will! This is a service that we offer to the gourding community and its volunteer organizations. Since we've received a great deal of support from so many, this offer is the least we could do.

Drop us a line, or visit our website.

www.throughthegourdvine.com

Vincent Williams, Editor, editor@throughthegourdvine.com

714-615-1968

Through The Gourdvine Magazine

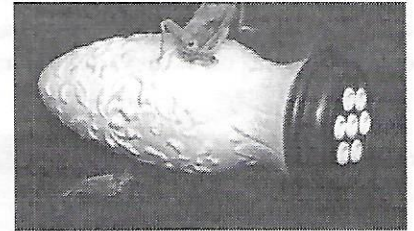
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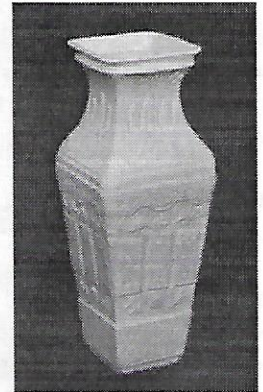


Chinese Gourd Exhibit

Officers of the Huludao (Gourd Island) Gourd Society (GIGS China) have sent regrets that they will not be able to attend the Welburn Gourd Festival as planned. They have prepared a videotape demonstrating the ancient Chinese art of gourd molding. In the spirit of international friendship and shared interests, CGS will host an exhibit of Chinese molded gourds at both the Welburn Festival and Gourd Fair LA 2003. There will be a display of gourds as well as a limited number of molded gourds for sale.



Although we are disappointed that our Chinese friends can not attend at this time, we look forward to a continued and flourishing friendship between CGS and the Gourd Island Gourd Society.



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New and Expanded Exhibit Space for the CGS Gourd Art Competition.

Volunteers are needed to donate one hour on Saturday or Sunday at the CGS Competition exhibit during the Welburn Gourd Festival. Will you be a CGS host for an hour? Send name and telephone number to Carol Rookstool at (213) 629-5698 or crookstool@aol.com.

Volunteers Needed at Welburn Gourd Festival

- CGS exhibit
(Fri setup, Sat security, Sun security & takedown)
- CGS information and sales booth (Sat & Sun)
- Demonstration/Question & Answer Sessions (Sat & Sun)

Those volunteering will receive free admission to the Festival and have the privilege of selling their gourd artwork in the sales booth the day they are volunteering.

If interested, please send all available times and what area you'd be interested in. Based on this, you will be assigned a 1- to 2-hour time slot. For the demos (demos can be as simple as cleaning a gourd), we only need to fill one-hour time slots as follows:

Sat 6/21: 9-10, 3-4; Sun 6/22: 9-10, 3-4, 4-5

Thanks! Peggy Blessing — giza@sprynet.com
San Diego Patch Rep
Volunteer Coord./Welburn Festival 2003

California Festivals

Also see back page.

Ninth Annual West Coast Gourd Festival

This year's Gourd Festival promises to be the biggest and best yet! Having outgrown the space at our Folsom site, Zittel Farms is pleased to announce its partnership with the Folsom Patrons of the Arts, the City of Folsom's Parks and Recreation Department, the Folsom Arts and Cultural Committee and the "Z" Gourd Miners Gourd Club to bring you this year's festival.

We will be holding the festival on the tree-shaded grounds of the Folsom City Park, 50 Natoma Street, Folsom, CA. Roger and Kent Zittel will be on hand with their huge supply of dried gourds to sell to our visitors as usual, and to join in the festivities. We will be keeping the rest of the festival the same—lots of high quality gourd art, entertainment featuring native dancers and gourd instruments, good food, demonstrations galore and free admittance!

So, mark your calendars for the festival on September 27-28, 2003, our most beautiful time of the year here in historic Folsom. There will be a day of classes held the Friday before, on September 26, 2003, which will feature several famous artists, including one from Peru. Classes will go on our website, GourdMinerMama.Freeservers.com, after July 1, 2003.

For additional information, please call the Patrons of the Arts, (916) 431-3139, or check the following web sites: www.GourdMinerMama.Freeservers.com, www.patronsofthearts.org, or www.zittelgourds.com.



Welburn International Gourd Festival

www.gourdfestival.com for more information

There will be gourds galore at the 7th Annual International Gourd Art Festival on Jun 21st and 22nd at Welburn Gourd Farm, located between Temecula and Fallbrook. The festival will feature the CGS Gourd Art Competition and exhibits by some of the finest gourd artists in the country. Live musical performances, demonstrations, food, a wine garden, gourd equipment providers, "Funzone" for kids, a youth arts and crafts show will all be part of the choices for participants. In addition, the event will be preceded by two days of gourd art classes taught by Carol Rookstool, Toni Best, Guillermo Martinez, Don Weeke, Judy Cunningham, and many others.



Lombardi Ranch



4th Annual Gourd Festival October 18 & 19

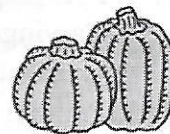
Thousands of gourds for sale, along with:

Vendors

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Indian Corn, Corn Stalks

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Take a walk thru Scarecrow Alley

Enjoy our attractions, such as:

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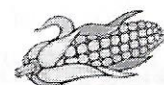
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Face Painting

Petting Zoo



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FREE ADMISSION • FREE PARKING

Robert Rivera Poster 'Painted Gourds'

in earth tones

beautifully matted and framed.

Overall size 32 1/2" X 39"

fillet mat black and gold

2" diameter stained frame with regular glass

\$125.00

Will take to Welburn Festival if interested, but will not ship.

Bill Colligen

Tel: 928-634-4398

Billcolligen@commspeed.net

CGS 2003 Gourd Art Competition

June 21 and 22, 2003

Space donated by the Welburn 7th International Gourd Festival • 40635 De Luz Rd., Fallbrook, CA 92028

Beginner and Advanced Artists¹ in the following categories:

Category 1: Pyrography - Whole or cut gourd. Woodburned only. Natural or clear finish allowed.

Category 2: Carving/Cutting - Whole or cut gourd. Cutting and/or carving must be featured. Gourd may be colored in any medium.

Category 3: Painting - Whole or cut gourd. Please indicate type of paint used.

Category 4: Staining - Whole or cut gourd. Woodburning allowed. Staining must be featured.

Category 5: Inlay - Whole or cut gourd featuring inlay. Any items may be inlaid. Woodburning or coloring is allowed.

Category 6: Colored or Black Pen and Ink - Whole or cut gourd. Only pen and ink may be used. Clear finish allowed.

Category 7: Weaving - Whole or cut gourd. Natural or synthetic materials allowed. Gourd may be colored.

Category 8: Dolls and Human Figures - Single or multiple gourds may be used.

Category 9: Animal Figures - Single or multiple gourds may be used. Gourds must predominate.

Category 10: Insects - Whole or cut gourds. Sculptural. Three dimensional only.

Category 11: Birds - Whole or cut gourds. Any media.

Category 12: Masks - Whole or cut gourds. Any media. Embellishments allowed.

Must have hanger or attachment to allow the mask to be displayed on a wall.

Category 13: Jewelry - Whole or cut gourds or pieces. Any technique. May use additional materials.

Category 14: Musical Instruments - Whole or cut gourd. Must be playable.

Category 15: Useful Object - No restrictions. Gourds must predominate.

Category 16: Whimsey - No restrictions.

Category 17: This Year's Art Challenge — **COLOR**

This category is a challenge to use the design element of "color." Use your imagination!

Category 18: Patriotic U.S. - No restrictions.

Category 19: California Theme - Create a symbol of California. No restrictions.

Category 20: Heritage categories (5 categories this year)

Using a single gourd (cut or whole) create a representation of one of these great gourd cultures:

A — African

B — Polynesian

C — Chinese

D — Mexican

E — Native American

Children (12 and under) or Youth (13 to 18) There is no entry fee for children and youth.

Category 1: Toy or game

Category 2: Animal

Category 3: Insect

Category 4: Reptile

Category 5: Mobile

Category 6: Human Figures

Note: Categories 18, 19 and 20 will also be eligible for exhibition at **CGS Gourd Fair LA 2003 "Bridging Cultures"** on October 11 and 12, 2003 at the Los Angeles County Botanic Garden in Arcadia, 301 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia, CA 91007 (Formerly the Arboretum).

Competition Rules – Gourds must Predominate!

- Entrants must be a member of the California Gourd Society. One entry per category.
- Entry fee is \$6. per entry. Children and Youth free. Checks payable to CGS.
- All work must be done by the exhibiting artist and not previously entered in a CGS competition.
- The California Gourd Society will officiate at all judging on Saturday, June 21 beginning at 8:00 am.
The show will be open to the public at 11:00 am. Photographing of entries is permitted.

Deadlines: Mailed entries must be received no later than June 17. Personal deliveries no later than noon on Friday, June 20. Deadlines are firm so volunteers can mount the display in advance of judging. Pick-up time will be Sunday, June 22 between 3:30 and 5:00 pm. Mailed entries will be returned approximately two weeks after the show. Mailed entries must have return postage and self-addressed shipping container. All art work not claimed or prepaid return will be donated to CGS.

Please leave your name off any gourd that you enter. Often the judges need to look at the whole entry — having a name on the bottom of the piece can influence fairness.

Be sure your entry fits in the category you enter. When an entry is placed in the wrong category we have to disqualify it. **READ THE CATEGORY CAREFULLY PLEASE**

The purpose of the California Gourd Society Gourd Art Competition is to challenge CGS members to create new art and to develop new ideas for themselves within a category. The judging criteria includes the integrity of the gourd. Gourds must predominate. Thousands of visitors attend the exhibit each year and enjoy the creativity of CGS members. Individual artist's telephone numbers may be released by CGS so that visitors may contact the artist after the show.

For more information – contact Carol Rookstool at crookstool@aol.com or info@welburngourdfarm.com



California Gourd Society Gourd Art Competition 2003

Entry Application – one form per entry please!

Name _____

Street _____ City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ E-mail _____

Division Beginner _____ Advanced _____ Children _____ Youth _____

Category Number _____

Mail or deliver entry with check payable to: California Gourd Society (CGS)
c/o Welburn Gourd Farm, 40635 Del Luz Murrieta Road, Fallbrook, CA 92028

Application form is available on the Internet at www.calgourd.com

¹ Beginner: Entrant has never won a CGS ribbon

Advanced: Entrant has won a CGS ribbon in a past competition

Spotlight on the Gourd Patch – Channel Islands

by Barbara McDermott

The Channel Islands Gourd Patch is a fun-loving group of gourd enthusiasts who enjoy anything and everything that has to do with gourds. The Patch was founded four years ago under the direction of Pearl Reese and Fern Wesley. Membership has continued to grow, meeting monthly to share information and demonstrations. In December, Channel Islands hosted Judy Cunningham at their Christmas Social, and this past March their meeting was spiced up by a visit from Jerry Lewis of Coop-de-Gourds fame.

This group loves to help out with community service projects and share the education of gourd with many youth groups, including Cub Scouts, 4H, and local clubs, colleges, and libraries.

The Patch members especially like showing at fairs and festivals, participating in Gourd Fair LA, the Welburn Festival, and local events, including the Tierra Farm Festival. They have won prizes and ribbons at the Ventura County Fair the past two years; in April the club held their very first Patch-sponsored gourd festival at the Santa Rosa Community Club House. CIGP displayed crafted gourds, offered gourds and embellishments for sale, and demonstrated gourdcrafting throughout the day. Their many activities also include a Christmas Social and Summer BBQ every year.

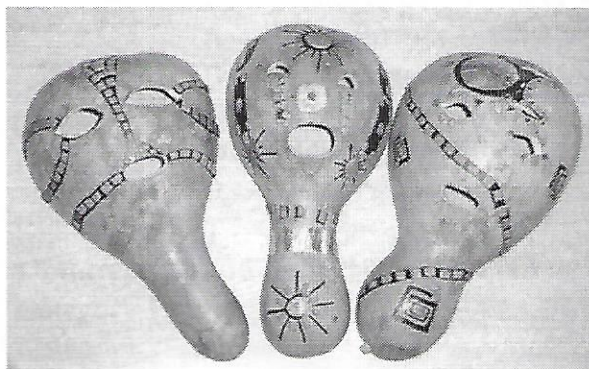
Patch leader Fern Wesley sums up the Club in this way: “The Patch members are a diverse group, composed of growers, educators and artisans from all over Ventura County. Each member brings a wealth of knowledge and talent which strengthens the Club.”

If you’re in the Ventura area, be sure to look up the Channel Islands Gourd Patch — they will surely welcome you!



Student Skills

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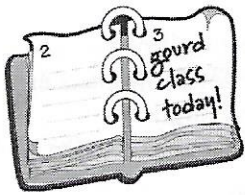


not be muffled during the performance as the kids spoke their lines. Once the eyes and mouths were cut out, the children drew on the surface of the gourd with black permanent markers, both fine and bold, to achieve the look each student wanted. I did encourage them to use more black than they initially felt like employing, primarily to increase the contrast between the gourd and the mosaic and to provide a background that would look like the tiles had been grouted into place.

Back to a circle sitting on the floor, the 26 students were eager to work with the clay. We used Fimo, a popular brand of polymer clay. Each student was given about a fourth of a block of one of the colors I had chosen to approximate turquoise stone. We used about six different colors of teal, green, blue and turquoise. As each student softened the clay according to instructions given in

Spanish (the visual clues derive from watching the teacher doing the motions prescribed) we began to mix the various colors together to create the striated coloration of real stone. The most remarkable part of the exercise, was that the enthusiastic learners were able to focus on the language activities and repetitions while continuing to soften and mold clay!

During planning time, I ran the mixed clay through a pasta machine and turned out long thin “noodles” of clay. Placing the turquoise amalgam upon waxed paper, I cut it into roughly 3/8” squares, approximating tiles. The students warmed the clay with their body heat and pressed lightly into the places they wanted clay. They took care not to smash the corners of the tiles, helping to maintain the illusion of stone overlay. Some students also used gold foil applied with white glue to add additional character to their masks. The play was a success and you can judge the masks for yourself!



Gourd Classes

Check the website at www.calgourd.com for more classes

All members of CGS may list gourd classes they are teaching — there is no charge to list a class.

• **June** •

June 7

**Gourd Decorating
Woodburning/Basketry**
Nadine Spier
Vista Adult Education
760-758-7122

June 7

**Wood Burning with a
Professional-type Burner**
Cindy Lee
Zittel Farms, Folsom

June 11

Dreamcatcher Gourd
Leigh Adams
San Gabriel Bead Co.

June 14

Gourd Basketry
Leigh Adams
San Gabriel Bead Co.

June 14

**Wood Burning with a
Hot Tool-type Burner**
Ann Mitchell
Zittel Farms, Folsom

June 19 and 20

Many classes, many teachers
Welburn International Gourd Festival
Fallbrook
www.welburngourdfarm.com

June 21

Pine Needle Basketry and Gourds
Linda Pietz
Zittel Farms, Folsom

June 21

Beginning Vessel
Mary Simmons - Skye Leona
Scotts Valley, CA
831-438-2719

• **July** •

July 12

Gourd Rainstick
Leigh Adams
San Gabriel Bead Co.

July 12

Enameling on Gourds
Judy Cunningham
Thomas Farms, Lindsay

July 13

Deep Burning
Judy Cunningham
Thomas Farms, Lindsay

July 13

Cutting and Attaching
Janis Kobe - Thena Trygstad
630 2nd St. East, Sonoma
707-938-2081

July 19

Huichol Beaded Gourd Ornament
Cindy Lee
Zittel Farms, Folsom

July 26

Gourd Drum Class
Forrest Flanigan
Zittel Farms, Folsom

July 26

Mask Making
Mary Simmons - Skye Leona
Scotts Valley, CA
831-438-2719

July 31

Huichol Bowl
Leigh Adams
San Gabriel Bead Co.

• **August** •

August 3

Beginning Gourd Basics
Paula Bonilla-Valdez
Zittel Farms, Folsom

• **August** •

August 9

**Gourd Decorating
Woodburning/Basketry**
Nadine Spier
Irvine Fine Art Center
749-724-6880

August 16

Leather Lacing on Gourds
MaryLou Leger
Zittel Farms, Folsom

August 16

Weaving on Gourds
Mary Simmons - Skye Leona
Scotts Valley, CA
831-438-2719

August 17

Wearable Art & Woodburning
Janis Kobe - Thena Trygstad
630 2nd St. East, Sonoma
707-938-2081

• **September** •

September 20

Fetish Dolls
Mary Simmons - Skye Leona
Scotts Valley, CA
831-438-2719

September 21

Spirit Dolls
Janis Kobe - Thena Trygstad
630 2nd St. East, Sonoma
707-938-2081

The Caning Shop
926 Gilman Street
Berkeley
(510) 527-5010

San Gabriel Bead Co.
8970 Huntington Drive
San Gabriel
(626) 614-0014

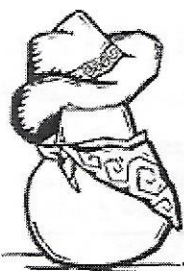
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Lindsay
(559) 562-9640

Welburn Gourd Farm
40635 De Luz Rd.
Fallbrook
(760) 728-4271

Zittel Farms
6781 Oak Avenue
Folsom
(916) 989-2633

Carol Rookstool is coordinating class listings for the CGS website and *The Golden Gourd*.

Please send all class listings to Carol at least one week BEFORE the quarterly deadline (see page 2) at crookstool@fidm.edu.



REGIONAL ROUNDUP

June 21 and 22: Welburn International Gourd Festival
August 9: Patch meeting at Valley Center Library
September 6: Grape Day Harvest Festival
October 11 and 12: Gourd Fair LA 2003 in Arcadia
October 18: Gourd Fest at Bell Gardens
November 15: Fall Gourd Artist Studio Tour
December 6: Patch Christmas meeting

For more information contact Barbara McDermott, Regional Coordinator at McDeeArt@msn.com or (760) 743-3710.

Amador County —

We had great coverage in the Amador and Calaveras County newspapers. Our local flyers were successful and we had 29 people at our first official meeting. Colleen Platt and Lena Steward contributed to the "Traveling Gourd" and we are in close contact with the El Dorado County Patch. What fun we are having.

Our meetings are held on the 2nd Thursday of each month from 10 am to noon at the University of California Extension Offices, 12200 B Airport Boulevard in Martell off Highway 49. Our goal is to have many, many members of the California Gourd Society in our local network. Everyone is welcome!

For more information contact Carol Cherry at (209) 296-6834.

Channel Islands —

We meet on the third Wednesday of the month at the Santa Rosa Valley Community Clubhouse, 11701 E. Las Posas Road, Camarillo.

June 18: Jan Wyatt - Weaving on gourds

June 21 & 22: 7th Annual International Gourd Art Festival, Fallbrook

July 16: Lisa Toth - Embossing Powders on Gourds

Aug 1 - 10: Ventura County Fair Booth and Competition

Aug 20: 2nd Annual CI Patch Summer Picnic in the Park

Sept 17: Charlene Smith - Dream Catcher (Also a bag exchange)

Oct TBA: Lombardi Gourd Festival, Saugus with Club Booth

Oct 10-12: CGS 3rd Annual Gourd Fair LA 2003, Arcadia

Oct 15: Bag Exchange (2nd Phase)

Nov 19: "Show and Tell" Holiday Ornaments

Dec 13: Christmas Social

For more information contact Fern Wesley at tjwesley@msn.com or (805) 482-3255.

East Bay —

The East Bay Gourd Patch meets at the El Sobrante United Methodist Church, 670 Apian Way, El Sobrante. Time: 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Call Coordinator Kathy Casey at (510) 223-1952 for directions and more information.

Kathy Casey at Chattykacky@hotmail.com.

El Dorado Co. —

The El Dorado County Gourd Patch meets monthly in Placerville. One of the greatest benefits of attending our meetings are the "sharing" sessions when members bring currently completed projects and provide tips about the process of creating their art. Our patch also participates in regional fairs and shows so we can reach out to our community to spread the "gourd word."

Contact Sandy Martin at (530) 622-2021 for more information.

Fallbrook —

The Fallbrook Area Gourd Patch holds an interesting and fun meeting every other month. Our June Meeting was held at the Lavender Fields in Valley Center CA. Our August meeting will be held at the brand new Valley Center Library.

We are looking forward to fall and the many harvest festivals we love to participate in.

Folsom/Sacramento —

The Folsom/Sacramento Gourd Club at Zittel Farms is pleased to be a patch of CGS once again. We know this union makes both the club and CGS winners. We are a large gourd club, with over 85 members, most of whom are active. We meet on the second Saturday of every month at Zittel Farms in Folsom except June and December (when we meet on Sunday and at a special location). Our meeting time is from 10 to 2. We work on gourds and have an information/sharing session from 11:30 - 12:30.

We were pleased and excited to have Judy Cunningham give a whole club demonstration and class on her enameling techniques at our April meeting. There were 42 members and 3 guests in attendance and everyone had a fantastic time and learned a tremendous amount. I think Michael's had a run on heat guns after the class!

Our May 10th meeting will feature Jeanne Chapman leading the group in the making of loofa soap. For June, we will take a field trip to the Costa's home where we will have our spring pot luck. July, August and September will have regular work meetings with special emphasis placed on the Gourd Festival organization.

For more information contact Ann Mitchell, Regional Coordinator at GourdMinerMama@cs.com or 707-577-0462.

Los Angeles/Pasadena —

The Gourd Artisans of Los Angeles (GALA) is welcoming new Regional Coordinator Larry McClelland as our longtime leaders Mary Jane Jones and Ed Jasaitis take a well earned rest. Thank you, Mary Jane and Ed, for your guidance, encouragement and charm. Welcome, Larry, as you help us continue to grow and have fun.

GALA meets on the 3rd Wednesday at 7:30 at FIDM, 919 South Grand, Los Angeles. We have speakers, workshops, demonstrations, material exchanges and more. Recently our group conducted gourd art demonstrations at Baldwin Bonanza held at the Los Angeles County Botanical Garden and Arboretum. Literally thousands of visitors attend this show and our patch has a wonderful time as part of the show.

A change in meeting dates is planned for June. We are holding a joint meeting with the Santa Monica Gourd Patch on Wednesday, June 4th. We do not meet in July and August but instead have a midsummer party and potluck. Dates and locations will be announced soon.

GALA is the hosting gourd patch for Gourd Fair LA to be held at the LA Botanical Garden (Arboretum) on October 10 - 12, 2003. Preparations are in high gear for this fabulous event. Volunteers should contact Niki Escobedo at enjapf@aol.com or 818-244-3705. For the first time ever, the annual meeting of the American Gourd Society will be held in conjunction with the Gourd Fair. AGS President John Sturgeon, state-level presidents, and many of the officers of AGS will be attending. This year's theme is "Bridging Cultures" and we will be celebrating the cultures of Africa, Polynesia, China, Mexico and Native America by

displaying the culturally inspired gourd art of CGS members. Show Chair Carol Rookstool can be contacted at crookstool@aol.com.

For more information about GALA, please contact Larry McClelland at 310-540-3294 or macgourd@aol.com.

Kern County/Bakersfield —

The Kern County/Bakersfield Gourd Patch has caught fire. We meet the first Thursday of each month at Beverly's Crafts & Fabric, 2819 "F" St. in Bakersfield. Visitors are welcome to join the fun. Bring a project to work on, or just watch. Refreshments are provided, but bring your own beverage. The "Opportunity Table" drawing has been such a hit we will have one every month, so you may want to bring a crafting item to donate to the table. Call Betty Finch (661) 589-3368 for more information.

Kingsburg River —

We are beginning our second year of fun with the world of gourds! We love visitors and we love new ideas! Our calendar for 2003:

- June 21 and 22 – We are traveling to the 7th Annual International Gourd Festival in Fallbrook, CA

For more information contact Pat Wescott at (559) 897-7470 or wagon4@lightspeed.com.

Lake Tahoe/Truckee —

Winter has been very long and seems to still want to stay a while. In spite of the weather our patch has managed to have wonderful meetings in March and April. Our patch is slowly growing and the core faithful makes our newcomers feel welcome. We're looking forward to the summer when perhaps the Great Basin Basketmakers will join us.

The March meeting was great fun with each member working on a creative challenge gourd that included criteria to use beads, lacing, stitching etc for embellishment. We pooled our bead stashes and some wonderful gourds resulted with no two alike.

In April one of our members shared information from a weekend seminar on Golden Acrylics. The product line includes some exciting textures and iridescent colors. We got to experiment with many of the vivid colors and textures.

In May we are going to try our hand at jewelry using our scraps from cut gourds. May is also going to be exciting since we are due to receive the 'Traveling Gourd' around May 18 just in time for our May 20th meeting.

Other activities planned soon are woodburning and enameling classes. For more information please contact Gabrielle Bryant at gbryant@ltol.com.

Orange County —

CGS members are welcome to join us on 4th Thursday meetings at "Create It Ceramics" 801 Baker in Costa Mesa. Contact Norrah there at (714) 641-8121 for information on schedules or directions.

Bill Boyle has agreed to create our patch's artistic contribution to the magnificent traveling Big Gourd masterpiece. We have already sold over 100 tickets for the drawing to be held at Asilomar in 2004.

We have learned that our Peggy Wiedemann has taped a segment for the Carol Duval Show. Peggy will alert us about the air date.

Our members plan to participate in the 7th Annual CGS Gourd Art Competition at the Welburn Gourd Festival in June and also exhibit at Gourd Fair LA 2003 in October at the LA Botanical Garden (Arboretum). We look forward to learning how to form molded gourds from the video tape and display from the Hiludao (Gourd Island) Gourd Society of China.

Thanks to Lynne Everett, OCGS members are again on the program and will do a live demonstration and CGS outreach at OC Fair on July 23. Plan to attend that day, catch our show and stop by and say "Hello".

Popular teachers Mary Pryor and Lynne Everett have joined forces to provide on-going "tips" sessions for novice netting projects at our monthly meetings. Their talents are greatly appreciated by our members. Visitors are always welcome.

Contact Regional Coordinator Susan Sullivan at (714) 641-8121 or susansphn@aol.com for more information.

San Diego —

The San Diego Gourd Patch is a part of the Misti Washington Gourd and Basket Guild, which meets the first Sunday of each month at Quail Botanical Gardens in Encinitas, 12:00 to 3:30. On even-numbered months, a potluck lunch and door prize drawing is followed by a business meeting. On odd-numbered months, the meeting is an informal gathering and attendees bring a sack lunch and we often hold a mini-workshop or demonstration.

The MWGBG web site is baskets-gourds.com and patch leader is Peggy Blessing, 858-292-9219 or giza@sprynet.com.

San Fernando Valley (Calbaza Gourd Artisans) —

Meets the 3rd or 4th Tue of each month and alternate Saturday workshops. We are in the process of securing a meeting place in Calabasas at the foot of the Santa Monica Mountains, where we will also have space to grow gourds!

Contact Jeannette Nemon-Fischman, 818-346-3474, or Judy Nace, 818-789-1828, email jnace@hw.com.

Santa Monica —

The Santa Monica Gourd Patch holds monthly meetings on the first Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. We meet at Salvin and Winter Law Office, 2401 Wilshire, West Los Angeles. Patch leaders Angela Briggs and Judy Bin-Nun always have something new and exciting to do at the gatherings. We are also well known for keeping up to date on some of the fabulous exhibits that occur in the greater Los Angeles area. Our meetings are attracting visitors from our northern neighbors in the Channel Island patch. Everyone is invited to attend. A donation of \$3.00 is charged to cover some of our meeting expenses.

Contact Angela Briggs at (310) 674-2626 or rhamah@aol.com.

Shasta/Tehama —

We meet the 2nd Saturday of the month from 1 PM to 3:00 PM. Contact Rebecca Cileo at luy2ridedi@aol.com.

Sonoma County —

Join us on the last Wednesday of each month from 7:00 to 9:30 pm. Our monthly meetings are held at the home of Janet Klein in Petaluma.

Thanks to Ginny Mathewsen for her able leadership this past year!!!! Our new Regional Coordinator is Donna van Edelkrantz. She can be reached at donnaavone@atbi.com or (707) 778-0580.

Tulare County/Sequoia —

There is always something exciting going on in the Tulare County area. We often team with the neighboring Kern/Bakersfield and the Kingsburg River Patches and we love to host visiting gourd-artists. We are well-known for our community outreach and our network with the Handweavers of the Valley.

For information contact Sue-Winters Brown at (559) 561-0608 or Toni Best at (559) 627-5430. Toni's email is abest59368@aol.com.

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CGS Website

Peggy Blessing (giza@sprynet.com).....858-292-9219

ATTENTION!!

CGS Members

We need articles, step-by-step projects, hints and tips, interviews, etc. of the sort that **YOU** wish to see in *The Golden Gourd*.

Send to Dawn Schiller, rhaiven@pacificnet.net

We are also looking for an editor for a new feature, "Children's Corner".

Contact Carol Rookstool, crookstool@fidm.edu

Regional Coordinators

Please send your Regional news to
Carol Rookstool (213) 624-1200 x 302
at least one week BEFORE the quarterly deadline at
crookstool@fidm.edu, or to

Carol c/o FIDM
919 South Grand, Los Angeles, CA, 90015

• NEWSLETTER DEADLINES •

— electronic submissions preferred, please —

Fall - Aug. 15, 2003

Winter - Nov. 21, 2003

Spring - Feb. 20, 2004

Summer - May 21, 2004

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rhaiven@pacificnet.net

Lisa Toth — Publisher (farfield@earthlink.net)
Lorraine C. Valenzuela — Advertising Editor (562-695-8122)

The Editors reserve the right to edit any contributions
for content and consistency.

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Pearl Reece and Fern Wesley.....805-482-3255

East Bay

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El Dorado County

Sandy Martin.....530-622-2021

Fallbrook

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Barbara Johnson.....831-440-1540

Santa Monica

Angela Briggs.....310-674-2626

Shasta/Tehama Counties

Rebecca Cileo.....530-357-4855

Sonoma/Santa Rosa

Donna von Edelkrantz.....707-778-0580

So. SF Bay Area (Calabash Club)

Carol Morrison.....650-493-2998

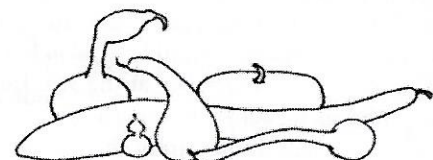
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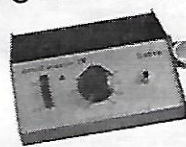
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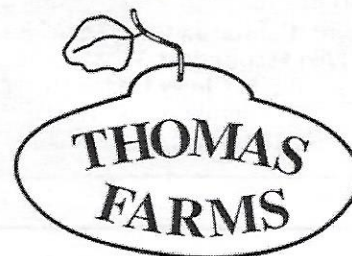
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Niki Escobedo
827E. Chevy Chase Dr. #2
Glendale, CA 91205
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To Renew Your Membership: Send the mailing label to the right, along with any corrections, and your \$15.00 annual dues to Niki Escobedo at the address listed above.

For New Membership: Complete the following information and send your \$15.00 annual dues to Niki Escobedo at the address listed above.

Name (please print) _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____

E-Mail _____

Annual dues for CGS are \$15.00 – Membership in the American Gourd Society is \$15.00 annually, and may be paid directly to: AGS Membership Secretary, 317 Maple Ct., Kokomo, IN 46902-3633

Information Changed?

Has your address, email, or phone number changed?

CGS is updating the member database, and to keep everyone informed of all CGS activities, we need your help!

Send any new information to:

**California Gourd Society
Niki Escobedo • VP Membership
827E. Chevy Chase Dr. #2
Glendale, CA 91205
Email: enjapf@aol.com**

• Newsletter Email Submissions •

Please use "return Receipt Requested" when emailing submissions to the editors. Contact Leigh Adams at lladams@earthlink.net if you need instruction; let her know what email program you are using.

The editors' email for electronic submissions is rhaiven@pacificnet.net; basketgourd@aol.com for advertisements, and crookstool@aol.com for classes and Regional Roundup.

• • • • •

Remember! The deadline is the latest possible date for submissions!
Your email doesn't always arrive as soon as it's sent.