

# THE GOLDEN GOURD

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE CALIFORNIA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN GOURD SOCIETY

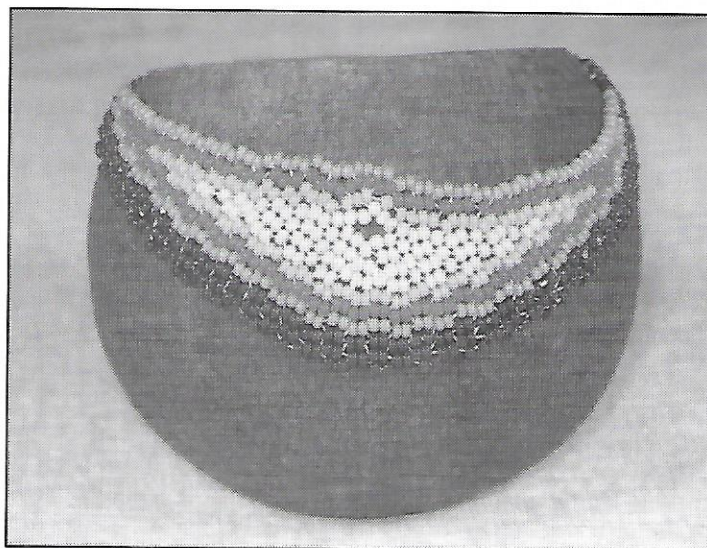
VOLUME 7, ISSUE 2

SUMMER 2005

*In the mountains along the Idaho and Montana border resides beadwright Nicole Campanella who is applying her intricate art to gourds with results admired by magazine publishers, students, and fellow gourders. Nicole's education is in art and medicine, but her foundation and inspiration, she says, comes from her grandmother, a painter, and an Athabaskan couple near Fairbanks with whom she studied. "Beading is for me as breathing", she writes, a feeling with which gourd artists can certainly relate. CGS President Leigh Adams recently explored this artist's vision in an Internet interview.*

## BEAUTY AND THE BEAD

NICOLE CAMPANELLA WITH LEIGH ADAMS



carving, and leatherwork. I have a selection of tools that would even make Bob Villa envious. However, if I had to choose, I don't think I could be without my Freedom, my new Dermal with all of the saw attachments that come with it, and my looms, which are created by "Looms by Mike."

*Are there any teachers or written materials that have inspired you?* Since I discovered the ease of creating just about any type of art on and with gourds, I have searched the web and now own several gourd art books. I have been delighted with the artistic abilities I have found from people all over the world and have gained inspiration from all of them. I am very impressed

*What prompted you to begin*

*working with gourds?* During an annual trip to Southern Oregon to visit my Mom and Nan, who will be 100 years old this year, I was introduced to a piece of gourd art by my Mom, Sally Tronti. This particular gourd was hand carved and stained, the top was decorated with a pine needle weave. I thought to myself "I can do that

with beads," and when I returned home I began my first beaded gourd. That was the beginning of my beaded gourd obsession.

*What are your favorite tools and materials?*

I have been an artist in the beading realm for over 30 years. During that time I have used a substantial number of different materials for designing in beading,

with the artists in *The Complete Book of Gourd Carving* by Jim Widess and Ginger Summit.

*Whose work do you admire?* Since the invitation to the gourd contest on my website, I have been receiving photographs from gourd artists living all across the United States. I must say that every one of them has been outstanding. Therefore, my admiration goes to all of the artists that take the time to create beautiful pieces of work.

(Continued on page 6)



### INSIDE

Beauty and the Bead .....	1,6
President's Message, Mission Statement .....	2
The Gourdman, Marvelous Moulding, Calabash! .....	3
Classes, Special Events at a Glance, Traveler's Guide ..	4
Wonderful Welburn - See the Sites! .....	5
Regional Roundup .....	7, 10-12
Gourd and Basket Fair LA 2005 .....	8-9
Asilomar 2006 .....	13
News You Can Use .....	14
Board Members, Regional Coordinators .....	15
California Gourd Society Membership Application ..	16

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



**MAKING HISTORY ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE GLOBE.** Mr. Zhang Cairi of Tianjin, China sent photos of some of his ground-breaking work. The piece on the right is one of the first (if not the very first) creations combining multiple mold-grown gourds (one on top, one on the bottom and two mold-grown handles. What an amazing accomplishment!

### Hello Gourd Lovers!

The Leiser Festival has had a fabulous event drawing many new people to gourds and members to our CGS. The Welburn Festival was a huge success with lots amazing entries in the competition. CGS's membership is growing daily with the support of our spectacular patch leaders and their commitment to excellence in leadership. Pat Wescott has shepherded the lovely Ashanti Mother and her expanding family to the ticket sales stage. Buy a few tickets and an opportunity to win this fabulous Pat Boyd piece and her CGS artists' created babies and at the same time, support the local and state gourd organization!

More great news abounds! The recently released member coupons are being used with enthusiasm. Please keep the membership card (in the bottom corner) to remind you of your renewal date for membership dues. The time our volunteers spend on reminders could be used working on gourds! This is a reminder also that CGS is an all volunteer organization. The next time you talk to a patch leader or officer, consider asking what you can do to support the organization with your skills!

Thanks to Mary Bliss and Lisa Toth for doing just that! Because of their contributions, list serve is up and running with members posting links to websites and sharing information. The ensuing networking is a wonderful continuation of the finest in gourd traditions. Please join in and enjoy some more gourd fun! See you at the festivals!

*Leigh Adams*

## MISSION STATEMENT

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

## THE GOLDEN GOURD

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

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**NEWSLETTER DEADLINES:** Fall ..... August 20, 2005      Spring... February 20, 2006  
Winter.. November 20, 2005      Summer ..... May 20, 2006

*Electronic submissions preferred: newsletter@calgourd.com*

*Snail mail or questions by phone cheerfully accepted: Nancy Brunson, P.O. Box 1062, Three Rivers, CA 93271; (559) 561-2222*

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## OUT OF THE GOURDINARY

# CALABASH! ART SHOW 2005

## Remembering Loved Ones with Gourd Art

by Barbara Stafford

This year, the fifth annual Calabash! the fine gourd art festival and fundraiser for Food For Thought, Sonoma County's AIDS Food Bank will showcase gourd art as a healing practice.

Friends and families will create memorial gourds in honor of loved ones who've died of AIDS in a series of workshops put on by the Food Bank this Spring. In the tradition of the AIDS Memorial Quilt, these memorial gourds will be shown at Calabash! The memorial project, says Rachel Gardner of the Food Bank, "combines the healing power of creativity, nature, love, beauty and community."

Calabash! 2005 will be held **Sunday, October 2** from 1-4 p.m., in Food For Thought's beautiful gardens in Sonoma County's wine country in **Forestville, CA**.

**CGS members key to 2004 success** Last year's Calabash! was a huge success thanks in part to the many California Gourd Society members who donated pieces for the festival's auction. The event raised over 40% more than the previous year.

"Our heartfelt thanks go out to all who so generously donated beautiful gourd pieces last year," says Rachel Gardner. "You not only helped us raise more money, you raised the level of gourd art we could present to the public."

**A good time for a good cause** Money raised by Calabash! helps provide food, fresh produce and nutritional supplements to over 450 people living with HIV/AIDS in Sonoma County. Even though Sonoma County is mostly rural, it has a high incidence of HIV/AIDS. Women with children make up a growing percentage of the Food Bank's clientele.

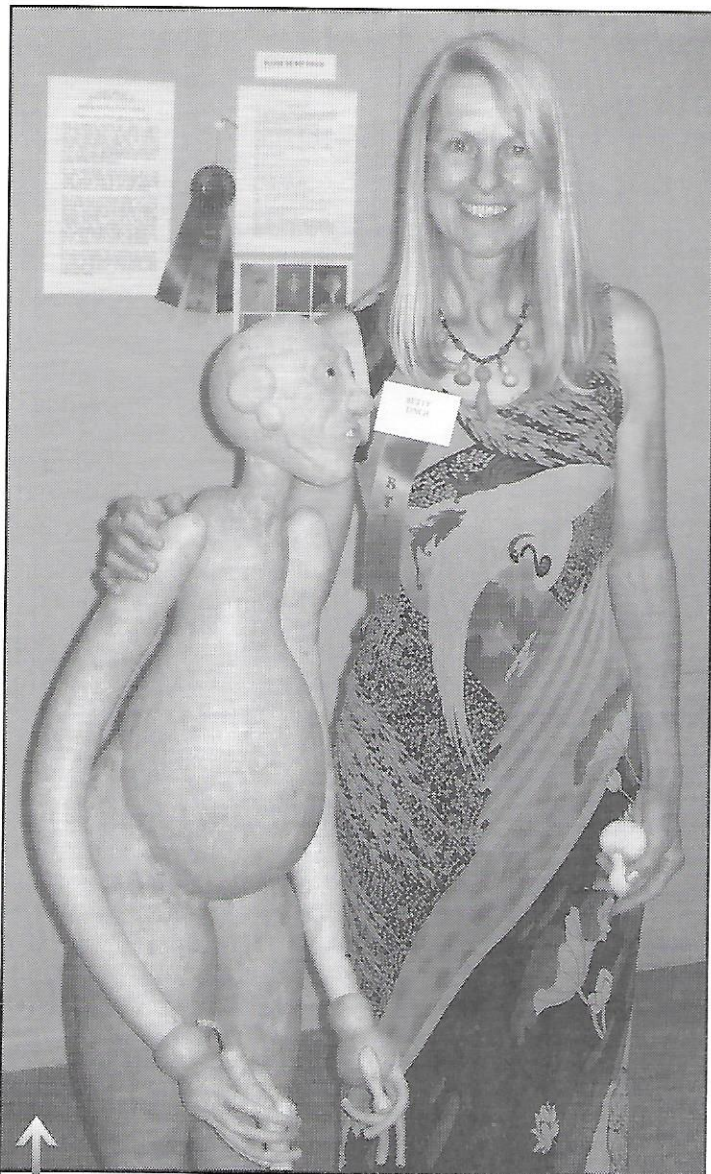
Calabash! raises money for a serious cause, but the event itself is whimsical and fun. Attendees enjoy organic food and wine, tour the Food Bank's organic gardens, are serenaded by gourd instruments and, of course, bid on fine gourd art pieces in the auction. Hundreds of people attend each year.

**Call for 2005 Calabash! entries** Gourd Society members are encouraged to submit pieces for this year's event. The Calabash! art committee is looking for high quality work in a variety of styles traditional as well as mixed media pieces that take gourd art into exciting new directions. The art auction will be juried and prizes will be awarded in a variety of categories. Deadline for applying to enter is July 30, 2005.

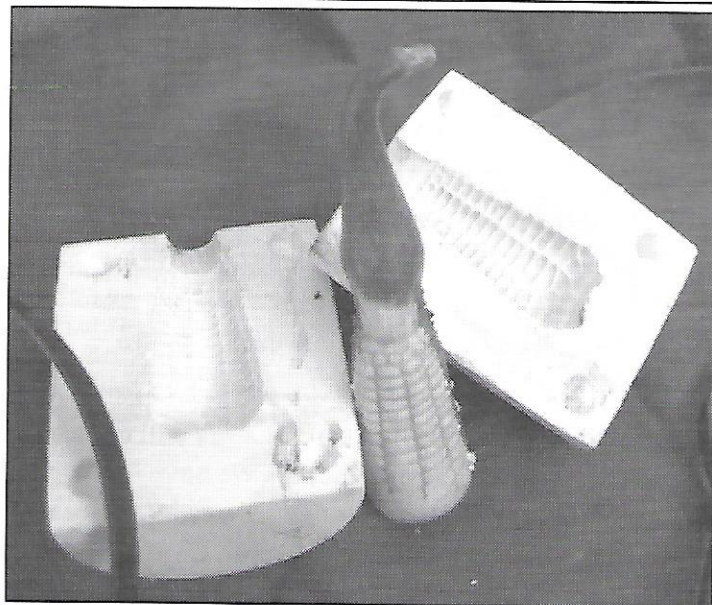
"We go out of our way to support artists," says the Food Bank's Rachel Gardner, adding that Calabash! even supplies artists with gourds for their artwork. The art committee is happy to answer technical questions about working with gourds. Two special gourd art workshops will be held at Food For Thought on Saturdays July 16 and August 6.

**For Calabash! tickets or art entry guidelines** To order Calabash! tickets or for information about submitting a piece of gourd art to the festival, call (707) 887-1647 or write Calabash!, P.O. Box 1608, Forestville, CA 95436-1608. To learn more about Food For Thought or Calabash!, visit [www.calabashARTfest.org](http://www.calabashARTfest.org).

Jill Walker has done it! Is it an ear of corn or a gourd? Its both! Jill successfully grew a gourd inside of a corn-shaped mold. What's next, Jill? The possibilities are endless . . .



Betty Finch with Best of Show at the annual Fallbrook Gallery Show. Gourdman was made by Betty from gourds grown by Betty. He was the popular choice as well as the judges' choice. Congratulations, Betty!



# CLASSES • CLASSES • CLASSES

July 8; 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Gourd Decorating

Learn how to safely prepare and carve gourds, then use a woodburning tool (provided free of charge) to create a variety of designs and do texturing and shading. Glass beads, feathers and shells also provided for embellishment. Students will learn how to do basketry using a variety of plant materials. Gourds make wonderful works-of-art, containers, vases, and birdhouses.

Nadine Spier, lovetoweave@cox.net

www.nadinespier.com

Miracosta College

(760) 795-6820

July 11 and 18; 6:30-9:30 p.m.

Gourd Decorating

(See July 8 listing for course description.)

Nadine Spier, lovetoweave@cox.net

www.nadinespier.com

Encinitas Parks & Recreation

www.encinitasrec.org

July 16; 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Gourd Decorating

(See July 8 listing for course description.)

Nadine Spier, lovetoweave@cox.net

www.nadinespier.com

Irvine Fine Art Center, www.irvinefinearts.org

Aug. 7; 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Gourd Decorating

(See July 8 listing for course description.)

Nadine Spier, lovetoweave@cox.net

www.nadinespier.com

Grossmont College

(619) 660-4350

Class submissions: Please email class schedules to newsletter@calgourd.com. Include name of class, instructor, day, date, time, location, price and contact information. If you have a photo of the technique (high resolution is best), you can email that as well and it will be included in the newsletter on a space available basis.

## 11TH ANNUAL FOLSOM GOURD FESTIVAL

CLASSES - SEPT. 22 AND 23 FESTIVAL - SEPT. 24 AND 25

Pre-festival classes taught by talented instructors from all Western States and Canada. \$45 class fee includes gourds and all materials unless otherwise noted. Parking fee will be \$2 per car per day. All proceeds go to Z-Gourd Miners Gourd Club for their assistance. Contact Zittel Farms for more details, folsomgourdfeast@aol.com.

Oct. 2; 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Gourd Decorating

(See July 8 listing for course description.)

Nadine Spier, lovetoweave@cox.net

www.nadinespier.com

Grossmont College

(619) 660-4350

Oct. 9; 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Gourd Decorating

(See July 8 listing for course description.)

Nadine Spier, lovetoweave@cox.net

www.nadinespier.com

El Camino College

www.ecommunityed.com

Oct 15; 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Gourd Decorating

(See July 8 listing for course description.)

Nadine Spier, lovetoweave@cox.net

www.nadinespier.com

Vista Adult Ed

(760) 758-7122

THURSDAY, SEPT. 22 • 9 AM - 12 NOON

Betsy Roberts	Wild Spray Painting and Danish Cord Coiling (***)(s)
Kristy Dial	Burnt Offerings Gourd Torching (*)
Rhoda Forbes	Gourd Oil Lamp (**)(w)
Dar Beck	Silk Dye Technique and Jacquard Photo Transfer(**)(s)
Tia Flores	Spirit Pouches (**)
Kathy Riker	Wax Resist Designs(*) (s)
Jill Walker	Doll with Beaded Hair
Darlene Propp	Aromatherapy Necklace
Ardith Willner	Detail Master Woodburning
Colleen Murphy	Beginning Gourd Basics
11. Patti Brown	Inlay Techniques (*) (c/d)
12. Linda Pietz	Pineneedle Gourd Basket w/Pinecone (**)

THURSDAY, SEPT. 22 • 2-5 PM

Rhoda Forbes	Sinew Wrapped Pineneedle Coils (***)(s)
Dar Beck	Beaded Jewel Pots (*) (s)
Charlotte Vincent	African Shekerie Instrument (**)(s)
Tia Flores	Personal Spirit Mask
Kathy Riker	Woven Angel Necklace (*)
Paula Bonilla-Valdez	Native American Dreamcatcher (*) (s)
Colleen Murphy	Mystical Rainstick (*)
Betsy Roberts	Tribal Princess Doll (***)(s)
Ardith Willner	Detail Master Woodburning
Patti Brown	Inlay Techniques (**)(c/w)
Vera Kuttig	African Safari Necklace & Earrings
Renee Rassmussen	Metalworking on Gourds (*) (w)
Linda Pietz	Ubiquitous Loop Mini Gourd Purse (*)

*More pre-festival classes on page 3 . . .*

**. . . and more classes** For more talent, techniques and inspiration than you can shake a gourd at be sure to check out all the great classes at the Gourd and Basket Fair LA 2005 (page 8) and the CGS Conference at Asilomar 2006 (page 13).

## SPECIAL EVENTS AT A GLANCE

**September 24-25**, 11th Annual Folsom Gourd Festival, folsomgourdfeast@aol.com

**October 8**, October Gourd and Pumpkin Fest, Welburn Gourd Farm, 1-877-728-4271, info@welburngourds.com

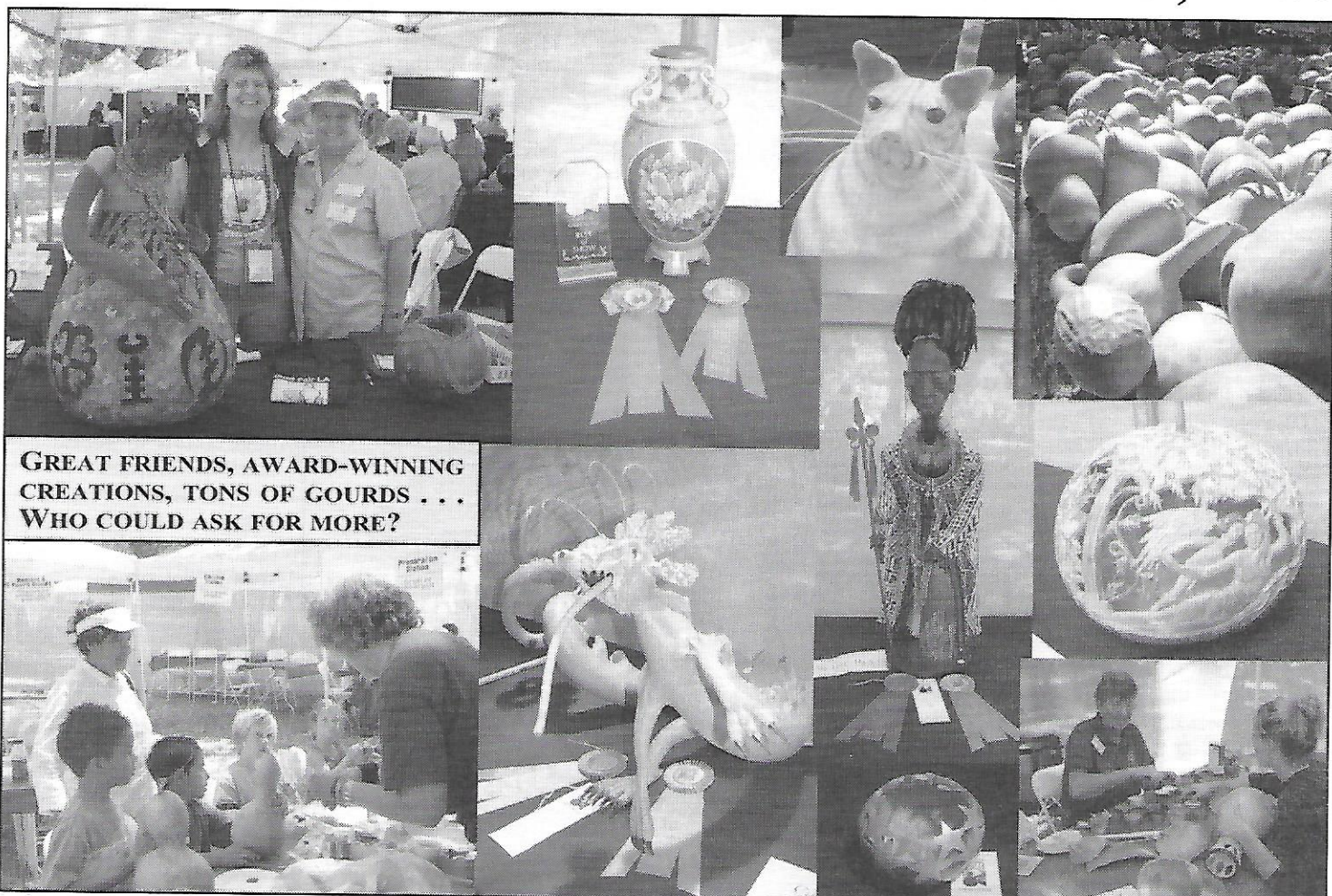
**October 22 and 23**, California Gourd Art Festival, Los Angeles Botanical Gardens, (213) 624-1200 ext. 3023.

See details, pgs. 8-9.

**April 14, 15 and 16, 2006**, CGS Biennial Conference at Asilomar, lynnebunt@sbcglobal.net. See details, pg. 13

**CHINA TRIP CANCELLED** Due to unforeseen circumstances the CGS sponsored trip to China will not take place this fall. While many members wish to attend the Chinese Gourd Festival in Huludao, we have not been able to make the necessary reservations for that to happen. Please note that any CGS members who travel to Huludao on their own will be met by Huludao Gourd Society members and helped to attend the festival. Contact Leigh Adams lladams@earthlink.net or Julius Wang GIGS@gourd.com.cn to attend the festival in mid August.

# FRIENDS AND RIBBONS AND GOURDS! OH, MY!



**GREAT FRIENDS, AWARD-WINNING CREATIONS, TONS OF GOURDS . . . WHO COULD ASK FOR MORE?**

## FOLSOM PRE-FESTIVAL CLASSES (CONT.)

### FRIDAY, SEPT. 23 • 9 AM - 12 NOON

Betsy Roberts	Wild Painting and Coiling Danish Cord(***)(s)
Kristy Dial	Burnt Offerings Gourd Torching
Rhoda Forbes	Batik Designs with Pineneedle Rim (**)(s)
Dar Beck	Silk Dye Technique and Photo Transfer(**)(s)
Dynva Todd	Horsehair Mask Made Simple(***)(s)
Patti Brown	Animal Skin Gourd Box (*) (w)(d)
Judy Jurow	Amazing Stone Technique (*)
Linda Pietz	Twisted Handle Pineneedle Basket(**)
Kathy Riker	Teneriffe Woven Necklace(**)(s)
Rebecca Cileo	Relief Carving With Foiling(**)(w)(d)
Larry McClellan	Whimsical Fantasy Animals
Karlene Propp	Aromatherapy Necklace
Lisa Gatz	Clay Applications & Attachments (*)
Joni Heinrich	Beginning Woodburning Hot Tool only (w)

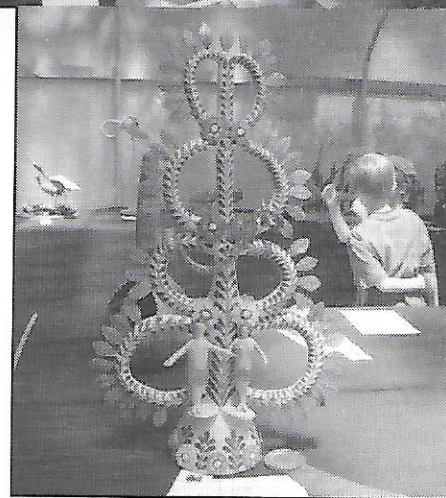
### FRIDAY, SEPT. 23 • 2-5 PM

Dar Beck	Leather & Bead Canteen Purse (**)(s)
Rhoda Forbes	Moon/Sun Ray Pineneedle Coiling (**)(s)
Kathy Riker	Knotless Netting Necklace with Beads (*) (s)
Lisa Gatz	Needle Lace On Gourds (*) (s)
Rebecca Cileo	Hand Rubbed Wax Finish on Vase (*)
Larry McClellan	Aboriginal Dot Painting On Gourds
Patti Brown	Animal Skin Gourd Box (*) (w)(d)
Betty Finch	Ancient Gourd Treasure with Clay (*)
Linda Pietz	Beads & Pineneedle Rim on Gourd (*)
Charlotte Vincent	Twisted Handle Shell Rattle (*) (a)
Julie Jurow	Amazing Stone Technique (*)
David Snooks	Native American Washoe Beading
Vera Kurrig	African Safari Necklace and Earrings (*) (w)

**Remember to sign up early!  
Classes fill up quickly!  
Class size is limited to 12 students each.**

- (\*) \$5 Materials fee payable to instructor
- (p) Bring Paint Brushes to class see description page
- (\*\*) \$10 Materials fee payable to instructor
- (a) Bring small awl
- (\*\*\*) \$15 Materials fee payable to instructor

- (c) Bring Carving tools to class
- (s) Bring Scissors to class
- (w) Bring Woodburner or Hot Tool to class
- (d) Bring Dremel Tool to class



The 9th Annual International Gourd Art Festival drew a crowd of gourd enthusiasts from far and wide. The weather was outstanding, the food was scrumptious, and creativity buzzed in the air. The CGS Gourd Art Competition was a huge success . . . Established gourd artists and first-time participants of all ages submitted their creations by the dozens (actually over 120 in all). The volunteer judges had the difficult task of selecting the winners. Here is just a smidgen of the wonderful Welburn event. Check out more details on [www.calgourd.com](http://www.calgourd.com).

(Continued from page 1)

(Editor's note: Nicole's website, [www.nicolecampanella.com](http://www.nicolecampanella.com), is offering a contest featuring beaded gourds (Deadline JULY 15). Winning submissions will be included in her next book.... Be watching for news of publication!)

**What are your favorite techniques to use?** Since I already carve stone it was an easy transition to carve gourds. In fact it actually seems to be easier to carve gourds. Of course everything I create has to have beads on it.

**Do you have a favorite variety of gourd?** I have lived in California and Arizona, so I have been familiar with gourds for many years. However, I was unaware of the various types and styles there are. Now that I live in the mountains I have tried growing my own gourds but because of the lack of "growing season" here, it is just impossible. All of my gourds are now purchased from California Gourds. I have found that my favorites consist of the bottleneck, canteen and especially the pear-shaped which lends itself to so many creative ideas. The kettle gourds are fun to play with and the tiny gourds (Nigerian hard-shelled minis) make interesting jewelry. I even like the gourds that have all the lumps and bumps on them. I guess it would be safe to say that I like them all!

**How do you plan your work?** I never plan an art project. I "see" it in my mind and then create it. My Nan is a renowned artist in oil and water paints. She traveled the world when she was young taking art class from some of the finest teachers. Her work is still sought after and some of her own students have gone on to become well known painters. She was the first woman to open an art gallery in Bremerton, WA. during a time that businesswomen were not appreciated. When I was little she would sit me in a tall chair in front of a canvas. She would then place a vase with an apple sitting next to it and tell me to draw what I saw. I had the most difficult time doing that. I drew what my eyes depicted however, no one knew then that I was dyslexic, and what I saw was different than what others saw. It was my Nan that took away the vase and apple and taught me to create what was in my mind, my thoughts and my spirit. So back to the question of how do I plan my work? I dream it then create it.

**Do the gourds determine the beads or do the beads speak for themselves?** Once I have decided on the gourd project, the beads pretty much fall into place. I have more experience with beads and glass, so that is the easy part for me

What prompted you to put them (beads and gourds) together the first time? It was entirely my Mom's gourd work that inspired me. The marriage of beads and gourds in contemporary art seemed natural to me.

**Where do you work?** I have the best husband, who for the past 25 years has made sure that I have everything I need for my artwork. Together we have created a studio in our home complete with supplies, tools and anything I need to accomplish my art. In addition, living in the mountains, surrounded by nature creates an atmosphere where I can lose myself in my art. I have inspirational places outside where I do most of my carving, of course I am only

able to do that in the summer months due to the mounds of snow that accumulate in the winter here.

**Where do you sell your work?** I feel very fortunate that over the past 30 years I have sold my art to galleries, shops, and individual clients from all over the world. In the past Mike and I did travel doing shows and teaching, however, the past few years I only do four or five local shows a year. I have written many instructional articles published in several beading magazines that give me the exposure to a worldwide audience that leads to a great customer base. Website? The Internet has made it possible to introduce people all over the world to my art and to allow them any creative inclinations they may have. I will admit that my website receives the least of my attention as far as updating. I do have the best price for beading supplies, I answer all of my emails and I give free instructions to those who write me at [www.nicolecampanella.com](http://www.nicolecampanella.com).

**What haven't you tried with a gourd that you'd like to do?** I would like to find a huge gourd to carve, paint and of course bead.

**What haven't I asked that you have a burning desire to tell?** The only other things I would like to add are this. Over the last several months that I have been compiling information and art for my beaded gourd book, I have met some of the finest people in the gourd art world. They are fun loving, humorous, full of life, generous and giving. I look forward to meeting even more gourd artists. For some inspiration on beading and beading gourds I urge all of you to pick up one of the

newest and finest beading magazines on the market. It is "Bead Unique". The editor, Pam Hawkins, has taken this magazine far beyond the jewelry forum. Through the magazine she has encompassed what true artists are searching for, new and innovative ideas. The photo of the beaded gourd candleholder will be one of the instructional articles in an upcoming issue. Visit Bead Unique website at [www.beaduniquemag.com](http://www.beaduniquemag.com).



## ADVERTISING RATES FOR THE GOLDEN GOURD NEWSLETTER

3" X 3" - \$25 PER ISSUE

### DEADLINES:

Fall - August 20, 2005

Winter - November 20, 2005

Spring - February 20, 2006

Summer - May 20, 2006

To place an ad or for more information contact:  
Nancy Brunson

[newsletter@calgourd.com](mailto:newsletter@calgourd.com) or [brunson@theworks.com](mailto:brunson@theworks.com)  
(559) 561-2222

P.O. Box 1062, Three Rivers, CA 93271

# REGIONAL ROUNDUP

## Amador County

Regional Coordinator: Carol Cherry  
(209) 296-6834  
ccanddon@volcano.net



## Antelope Valley Gourd Patch

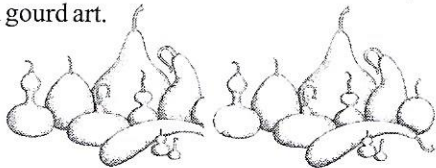
Regional Coordinator: Nancy Brown, (661) 400-0391  
nancy\_b93544@yahoo.com

We now have a permanent meeting day, time and place: 4 p.m. on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at Pat Boyd's Studio at 44645 Sierra Highway in Lancaster (between J and Lancaster Blvd.). A new gourd source has opened up in our area, the Mojave Gourd Farm in Newberry Springs. We are planning a field trip there. Hope to see you at a meeting soon!

## Bakersfield/Kern County Gourd Patch

Regional Co-Coordinator: Carol Walter, 661-588-8398  
glwalter@earthlink.net

The K.C. / Bakersfield Patch meets on the third Wednesday of each month from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Beverly's Craft Shop, 2819 F. Street, Bakersfield. We have an "opportunity" table at each meeting and everyone brings something to donate and everyone takes home a goodie. At our May meeting we collected members' Gourd Art which was displayed for the month of June in the two display cases at the Beale Memorial Library on Truxton Avenue, downtown Bakersfield. In September our Patch will again sponsor a trophy for Best in Show for Non-Professional Gourd Art at the Kern County Fair (Sept. 21 to Oct. 2). We hope to have several entries from our Patch. We hope that anyone interested in the wonderful world of gourds will join us for a fun evening once a month. All of our members are eager to share their ideas and help anyone who is interested in gourd art.



## Calabash Club of Silicon Valley

Regional Coordinator: Jayne Xavier, (408) 779-955  
nimbleneedle@aol.com

Our group meets every other month (Feb., April, June, Aug., Oct., and Dec.) at various members' houses, on the second Sunday of the month, from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. We have many members willing to host our meetings; we could be in Los Altos, San Jose, Watsonville, or Hollister. On the months we do not meet we try to have what we call an "Inbetweener." This might be a guest artist giving a class or a member with an unusual technique that we want to learn more about. We welcome anyone interested in gourds to attend our meetings.

## Channel Islands Gourd Society (Ventura County)

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

We meet the third Wednesday evening of each month from 7-9 p.m. at the Santa Rosa Valley Community Clubhouse, 11701 E. Los Posas Road, in Camarillo. Call/email Elsie for directions or questions. Come join us! At our April meeting, all members present received a shake gourd to take home, apply their artistic talent and return the completed gourd to our June meeting for prizes. Several members attended the Farm Fest at Faulkner Farms in Santa Paula on April 30th. We have a very successful Third Annual Gourd Fest at our clubhouse in May.

## East Bay Gourd Patch (San Francisco East Bay)

Regional Coordinator: Bee Hylinski, (925) 552-5977  
beebee723@earthlink.net

Our meetings are held in Berkeley and Walnut Creek on the 3rd Saturday of each month from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. For more info, contact Bee Hylinski (see above). In June, those of us who did not go to Welburn met at the Caning Shop for an informal meeting to talk and work on individual projects. In July, our members are going on a retreat to Kay Van Hoesen's mountain home in Kingvale, CA. In August, we are back at the Caning Shop, doing our own thing again (See June above). In September, Sheri Novak will teach us stenciling on gourds in Walnut Creek. We welcome new members to our fun group of beginners to advanced gourders. Please join us! We have fun and learn a lot.

(Regional Roundup - continued on page 6)

## Proxxon Jigsaw Razortip • Hot Tool

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info@welburngourdfarm.com

# CALIFORNIA GOURD ART FESTIVAL 2005

**Classes:** Registration is \$30 for 3 hour classes and \$50 for 5 hour classes. Nominal materials fee due to the instructor on the day of class. See [www.calgourd.com](http://www.calgourd.com) for more details Send registration and check payable to CGS (No refunds after October 1, 2005)  
 Registrar: Mary Bliss, 5765 Via Del Coyote, Yorba Linda, CA 92887-3543. Email: [isbliss@yahoo.com](mailto:isbliss@yahoo.com)

## Saturday, October 22

- Early Bird 8:30 - 11:30 a.m. (3 hour classes)  
 101 Mini Gourd Drum Necklace (Pat Estes)  
 102 Philodendron on Gourd (Diane Calderwood)  
 103 Dracaena Draco Basket (Mary Pryor)  
 104 Silk Dye on Gourds (Susan Nikkel)

## 12 Noon - 5 p.m. (5 hour classes begin at noon)

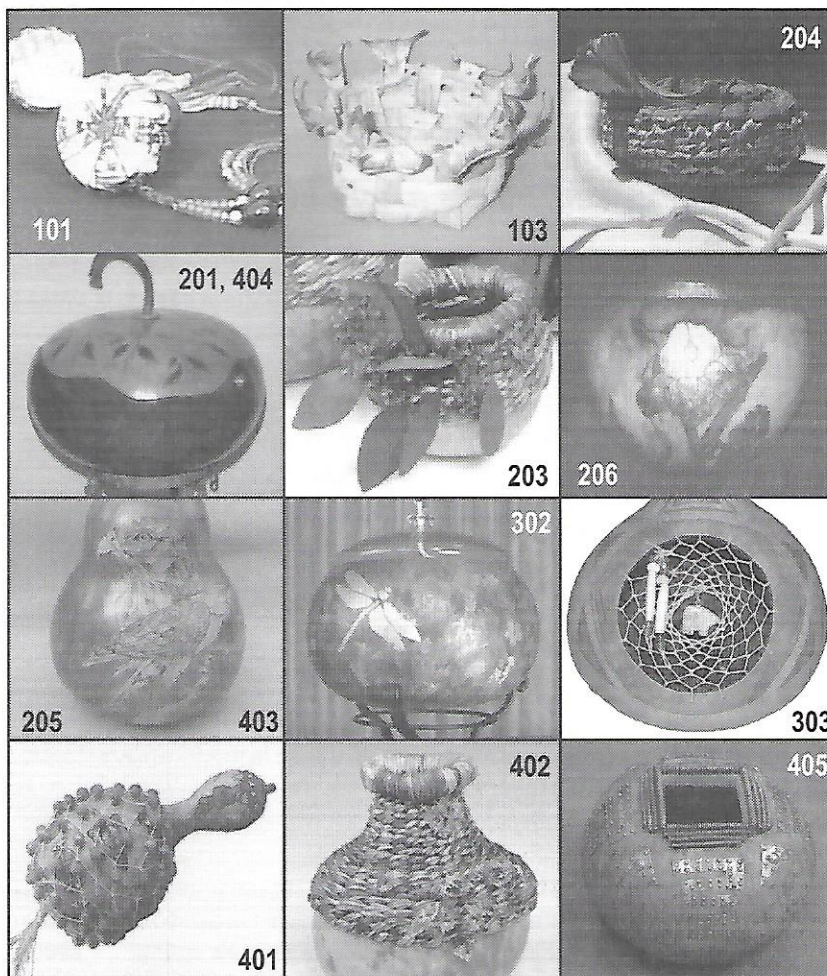
- 201 Lidded Gourd Basket (Diane Connelly)  
 202 Cutouts on Gourds (Rebecca Cileo)  
 203 Weaving on Gourds (Cookie Hanson)  
 204 King Palm Basket (Lynne Everett)  
 205 Woodburning on Gourds (Noi Thomas)  
 206 Gold Leafing on Gourds (Merilou Jenkins)

## Sunday, October 23

- Early Bird 8:30 - 11:30 a.m. (3 hour classes)  
 301 Knotless Netting on Gourds (Lynne Everett)  
 302 Lamp Gourd (Laura Makay)  
 303 Dreamcatcher on Gourd (Pat Estes)  
 304 Heavy Metal (Carolyn Potter)

## 12 Noon - 5 p.m. (5 hour classes begin at noon)

- 401 Shekere (Pat Estes)  
 402 Twining Philodendron onto Gourds (Cookie Hanson)  
 403 Woodburning on Gourds (Noi Thomas)  
 404 Lidded Gourd Basket (Diane Connelly)  
 405 Foiling and Carving on Gourds (Rebecca Cileo)



## CALIFORNIA GOURD ART FESTIVAL 2005 CLASS REGISTRATION FORM

Class size is limited. Your class confirmation and a materials list will be mailed at the end of September.  
 Please indicate 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> choices. No phone-in registrations or cancellations accepted. **No refunds after October 1, 2005.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_ Questions?: Email to [isbliss@yahoo.com](mailto:isbliss@yahoo.com)

Saturday Early Bird: Class choice 1: \_\_\_\_\_ Class choice 2: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Saturday Noon Class: Class choice 1: \_\_\_\_\_ Class choice 2: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sunday Early Bird: Class choice 1: \_\_\_\_\_ Class choice 2: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sunday Noon Class: Class choice 1: \_\_\_\_\_ Class choice 2: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature (required) \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to **California Gourd Society**. Mail with a self addressed, stamped #10 business envelope to:  
 CGS c/o Mary Bliss, 5765 Via Del Coyote, Yorba Linda, CA 92887.

CGS use only: Received  
 Payment type: Check

Entered  
 Money Order

Confirmation sent  
 Cash



# CALIFORNIA GOURD ART FESTIVAL 2005

**Starting line:** Saturday, October 22 at 9 a.m. Iron Gourd Olympiad at California Gourd Art Festival 2005. LA Botanical Gardens, 301 N. Baldwin, Arcadia, CA.

**Sponsor:** California Gourd Society

**Event Guidelines:** EACH PARTICIPANT WILL SELECT GOURD(S) FROM PRESELECTED, LARGE CANTEN TYPE GOURDS. These incredible gourds will be donated by Welburn Gourd Farm specifically for the competition. Artists may use more than one gourd if desired. However, the finished art project must be a single object.

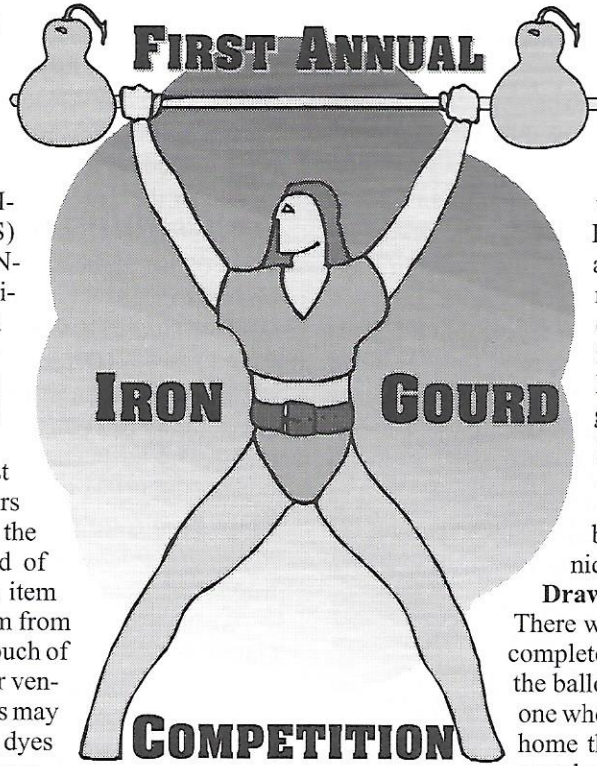
There will be secret items that must be included in the work. Competitors MUST also use at least one bead from the San Gabriel Bead Company; one yard of waxed linen from the Caning Shop, an item from Candy Krueger Supplies, one item from Cane and Basket Supply, and at least a touch of a coloring medium from one of the other vendors in the on-site Vendor Village. Artists may bring any electrical or hand tools, paints, dyes or additional supplies they might want to use.

A majority of the work must be completed in Ayres Hall at the Arboretum. There will be a space, outside of Ayres Hall where competitors may do major cutting, cleaning and sanding of the gourd and avoid exposing others to the hazards of gourd dust and mold. We ask that competitors wear appropriate masks or other safety equipment needed as a "safety message" to the audience. We will label this "workshop" space appropriately and indicate that it is part of this first-ever, super athlete, gourd marathon!!

The "art in process" may be taken outside to apply and spray paint and/or sealer. The majority of the artwork must be completed within your booth space. The deadline for completing the project - the FINISH LINE - is Sunday, October 23 at 2 p.m.

**Prizes: Grand Prize \$500.** The winning art will be chosen by Margo Farrin of Farrin O'Connor Design Studios. See more about Margo on page 15.

**People's Choice Award:** "An incredible selection of gourds and



gourd-related products and supplies" will be awarded to the artist who receives the most "ballots" cast by visitors who have purchased tickets (\$1 per ticket) and dropped them into the box at your work station. Each competing arts will have a ballot box in their work area. Fan clubs, cheer leaders, marching bands and other sports events hullabaloo are permitted to encourage the purchasing of tickets and create general pandemonium. that is appropriate for a sporting event. Proceeds from this event will be used for gourd and basket art class scholarships for youth during the 2006 California Gourd Arts Festival. Iron Gourd Competitors can influence visitors to purchase ballots by their showmanship as well as the techniques that are demonstrated.

**Drawing:** At 3: p.m. on Sunday, October 23. There will be a separate drawing for each of the completed art pieces. The drawing will be from the ballot box of each of the competitors. Everyone who buys a ballot will have an chance to take home the project created by their favorite iron gourd athlete. Winners of the drawing do not

have to be present to win.

**Special Privileges for Competitors:** Iron Gourd Competitors have the right to display and sell their work in their competition booth space.

**The Coach of Iron Gourd 2005:** The lead coach and concept creator of this event, Jill Walker (gourdwalker@charter.net), will be present during the competition to answer questions, give assistance and monitor activities in the competition area. While this is a serious art competition, the climate can be one of fun, spirited competition to promote gourd arts, crafts and horticulture.

Only 10 athlete/artists will be permitted to enter! Entry fee is \$100 per artist/athlete. Participants qualified to date: Angela Briggs, Larry McClelland, Kathy Riker, Betsy Roberts, and Mike Wong.

**Good luck artists. On your mark . . . Get set . . . GO!**

## VENDOR VILLAGE AT THE CALIFORNIA GOURD ART FESTIVAL 2005

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323-939-9644

GlueMaster  
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San Gabriel Bead Co.  
Contact: Kelly  
kelly@beadcompany.com

Welburn Gourd Farm  
Contact: Doug Welburn  
www.welburngourd.com

Seven Spirits  
Contact: Robert Riker  
909-797-4591

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**CGS SPECIAL EVENT - FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21 AT LA BOTANICAL GARDENS**

**FOR DETAILS, CONTACT: CAROL ROOKSTOOL, crookstool@aol.com, (213) 624-1200, X 3023**

(Regional Roundup - continued from page 5)

### **El Dorado County Foothill Gourders**

*Regional Coordinator: Carolee Jones, (916) 988-7971  
sahtaitwo@earthlink.net*

The Foothill Gourders meet on the first Thursday of the month. The Business meeting is held at 9:30 a.m. and the education meeting is from 10 p.m.-12 p.m. in the El Dorado County Agricultural Commissions Cooperative Extension Building at 311 Fair Lane in Placerville, except July through September, 2005, when the meetings will be hosted by members. July brings "Christmas in July" outdoors at the home of Ellie Malone, where Marcia Sairanen will be teaching us how to make a Santa Clause face out of a banana gourd. In August we will again be under the trees at the home of Donna Nelson, where Roberta Altshuler will share her knowledge of Huichol beadwork in a small gourd bowl. In September, Roberta McKim will present a workshop on acrylic painting with a Halloween theme at Ralph Mesa's garage. In October, we will be back at the Ag Building. We also have monthly challenges for our members. Contact Carolee for more information, directions, etc. (see above).

### **Fallbrook Gourd Patch**

*Regional Coordinator: Barbara McDermott  
(760) 743-3710  
mcdeart@msn.com*

*The Fallbrook Gourd Patch had a wonderful Spring with a Beautiful Pizzazz Gourd Gallery show in Escondido in March. In April, Barbara Letson demonstrated peyote stitch beading on gourds. The June meeting was held at the Catwalker Gallery in Fallbrook where member, Susan Nikkel showed us silk dying on gourds. In July, we will be having a gourd purse workshop playday at Barbara McDermott's home in Escondido in preparation for our show of gourd purses at the Valley Center Library in August. We meet every other month at different designated areas around Fallbrook. On the alternate months we have playdays, classes and other gourd-related activities. For more information, contact Barbara (see above).*

### **Gourd Artisans of Los Angeles (GALA)**

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

Our meetings are held at 7:30 p.m. on the third Wednesday of the month (except July and August) at San Gabriel Bead Company, 325 E Live Oak, Arcadia, CA 91006, (626) 447-7753. Our late Winter/Spring meetings have seen some wonderful demonstrations, including the use of paper clay and polymer clay (demonstrated by the extraordinary Carolyn Potter), use of various techniques on gourds and sharing various tips for different processes. Some of our members will be showing their work in the Fallbrook Fine Art Gourd Show and participating in a number ways in the Welburn Gourd Festival, the Zittel Gourd Festival (September) and Gourd Fair LA (October). We are planning a social gathering during the month of August to meet and talk to more people that we usually see only in a patch setting. It promises to be an exciting year for all of us.

### **Kings River Gourd Patch**

*Regional Coordinator: Pat Wescott, (559) 897-7470  
wagon4@lightspeed.net*

We have been working on our contributions to the Tulare Patch Quilt and the Ashanti Mother project, which our able Patch Leader heads. All CGS members in Fresno, Kings, Tulare, Mariposa and Madera Counties are welcome. We also welcome those CGS members who are "patchless." We will be meeting throughout the summer and plan to attend Gourd Fair LA in the Fall. For more info, contact Pat (see above). We are small, but full of fun: No dues at this time and no officers. We believe in play at first light!

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

*Regional Coordinators: Angela Briggs, 310-431-8522  
rhamah13@yahoo.com  
Dr. Judy Bin-Nun, 310-207-2998  
jbn12401@aol.com*

Our usual meeting site is at 12401 Wilshire Blvd. Ste. #200 (conference room) at the Selvin and Weiner Law Office, L.A. 90025, the first Wednesday night of each month from 7-9 p.m. We hope to encourage more members to join our creative camaraderie. We will not be having meetings through August as many members are on vacation. We will resume meetings in September.

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### **Northern Sierra Gourd Patch**

Regional Coordinator: Jackie Berg, (530)675-2577

[ljberg@cwnet.com](mailto:ljberg@cwnet.com)

We meet every other month at Jackie's Little Red House and a good time is always had by all. Most go away with sore cheeks from laughing too much. Call/email Jackie for dates and times of our upcoming meetings and directions. Gourd-On!!!!!!

### **Orange County Gourd Society Patch**

Regional Coordinator: Susan Sullivan, (714) 997-4482 evenings

[susansphn@aol.com](mailto:susansphn@aol.com)

The OC Patch and guests really enjoyed "The Great Gourd Gathering at the Zoo" in April with about 70 persons attending... and YES! We hope to have it again next year with even more patches represented. Thanks to all who helped and demonstrated.

We are now meeting thru August on the 4th Thursday evenings each month at RSCCD Adult Education Center at 1465 N Batavia in Orange at 6:30 pm. We meet in Room 138 or 140 in SE corner of the building.

At our July 28th meeting we have a demo using Horse Hair given by Randy from the Matoska Trading Company in Orange.

We will also be doing demonstrations at the OC Fair July 22, 23 and 24 in Home & Hobbies Bldg. Come see us! We have some activities scheduled at Fullerton Arboretum in October our patch will have a booth at Green Scene II on the 15th & 16th and Curtis Hayes will be teaching a 2-day drum class starting on the 22nd and finishing on the 29th. Check our website for more info and updates at [www.orangecountygourdsociety.org](http://www.orangecountygourdsociety.org)

All CGS members are welcome to attend our meetings and events. See you all at the California Gourd Arts Festival at the LA Botanical Gardens!

### **San Bernardino Patch**

Regional Coordinator: Darlene Propp, (909) 862-9717

[str8edg@ez2.net](mailto:str8edg@ez2.net)

The San Bernardino Patch meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. at the home of Valerie Martinell. We will be planning new events as we go along. We want to have some field trips as well in the future. All are welcome to attend; be sure to bring something for show and tell (our favorite part of the meetings). Call/email

Valerie at (909) 883-3527, [vmartinell@netzero.net](mailto:vmartinell@netzero.net) or Darlene (see above) for directions or questions.

### **San Diego Misti Washington Gourd and Basket Guild**

Regional Coordinator: Peggy Blessing, (858) 292-9219

[giza2005@sbcglobal.net](mailto:giza2005@sbcglobal.net)

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, from 12-3:30 p.m. Tell the parking attendant you are attending the "Misti Meeting." Gourd and basket enthusiasts that are in the San Diego area are most welcome to join us at our meetings. At the July 3rd meeting, Margaret Tyler, professional fiber instructor, taught kumihimo braiding on a card.



Great growing gourds! They've done it now!

### **San Fernando Valley Gourd Patch**

Regional Coordinators: Art and Nina Lowy, (818) 715-9473

[gourds@mac.com](mailto:gourds@mac.com)

Dori Aberson, (818) 702-8020

[daberson@aol.com](mailto:daberson@aol.com)

Our meetings are held at Mountain Restoration Trust Property,  
(Regional Roundup - continued on page 12)

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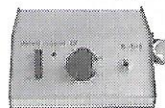
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## **HOT BURNING TOOL DETAIL MASTER**

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Santa Cruz, CA 95060 [ardithk@aol.com](mailto:ardithk@aol.com)

[www.woodburningpens.com](http://www.woodburningpens.com)

(Regional Roundup - continued from page 11)

23075 Mulholland Road, in Calabasas, on the 2nd Tuesday each month from 7-9 p.m. We offer new members this promise: You will go home with the gourd you worked on. Just bring yourself; we provide the gourds and supplies. We finished planting our Gourd Garden. Phase 2 will be an "Adopt a Gourd" program which is directed to the community: people come and adopt a gourd which will have their name added to it on a plastic band. At harvest time, each participant will get to keep their gourd and decorate it. We hope this gets the many guests who pass through the garden gates to be interested in gourds.

#### **Santa Cruz Gourd Patch**

*Regional Coordinator: Barbara Johnson  
(831) 440-1540  
greggjohnson@earthlink.net*

The Santa Cruz Patch is busy working on their Ashanti Babies and participated in the Leiser Gourd Festival in May. We are a pretty small laid-back group who meets every other month and decide each upcoming meeting at the previous meeting. We have a good time and welcome new members.

#### **Shasta/Tahama Gourd Patch**

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

#### **Sonoma Gourd Patch**

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

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

#### **Tahoe/Truckee/Reno Gourd Patch**

*Regional Coordinator: Gabrielle Bryant (on leave)  
P. O. Box 1507, Carnelian Bay, CA 96140  
g-rbryant@sbcglobal.net*

Gabrielle writes: "Our patch is not meeting temporarily. We hope to start up again soon. I have been undergoing chemo and unable to lead and hold meetings." Why don't you drop Gabrielle a get well card or email to speed her recovery! New members may contact her about upcoming meetings.

#### **Tulare Sequoia Patch**

*Regional Coordinators: Toni Best, (559) 627-5430  
capineneedles@earthlink.net  
Sue Winters-Brown, (559) 561-0608  
suewb@tcoe.org*

On August 20th, come to our Fun Day at the Dahlvang. Bring a project and potluck contribution. Barbara Fowler, a local bead merchant, will be there to sell beads to members. Please come join us. For more information, contact either Toni or Sue (see above).

#### **Vallejo Carquinez Patch**

*Regional Coordinator: Kemper Stone, (707) 557-0462  
gourdcamp@yahoo.com*

We finally have located a suitable meeting and work space in a lush, rural pocket in the heart of a quiet old Vallejo neighborhood and we are hoping it will become the HQ for a new wave of gourd evangelism here in Solano County. We also draw from up the Napa River and along the I-80 corridor as far as Davis. We expect to be holding classes by mid-summer, with an early emphasis on basic gourdcraft as we recruit locals to the Patch, CGS and the world of gourds. For more info, contact Kemper (see above).

#### **Z-Gourd Miners Patch (Folsom/Sacramento)**

*Regional Coordinator: Colleen Murphy, (916) 736-9803  
jazlady88@hotmail.com*

The Z-Gourd Miners group in Folsom is going strong. We meet at Zittel Gourd Farm and have a great schedule for the rest 2005. In April, we had Tool Day. Everyone is brought their favorite tool to share and let people try them out to see if they liked them. We are also had a tool exchange/rummage sale for those who wanted to unload tools they no longer use. Our annual picnic was held in June at Janna's. For meeting times, directions or more info, contact Colleen Murphy, President of Z-Gourd Miners (see above).

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**Winter - November 20, 2005**  
**Spring - February 20, 2006**  
**Summer - May 20, 2006**

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newsletter@calgourd.com or brunson@theworks.com  
(559) 561-2222  
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# CALIFORNIA GOURD SOCIETY CONFERENCE AT ASILOMAR

## FRIDAY-SUNDAY, APRIL 14-16, 2006

The California Gourd Society Conference at Asilomar in Pacific Grove, CA was established in 2001 and became an instant success. Affectionately known by many as "gourd college," the conference offers an outstanding opportunity for gourders of all skill levels to learn, share and visit in a stunning and inspiring setting. Now held only on even-numbered years . . . Make your reservations early!

**What is included with my conference registration?** A shared room for three days and two nights; six (6) meals (dinner Friday night through lunch on Sunday); and entertainment each evening including live music, auction, and a raffle. We'll draw the winning ticket for "The Ashanti Mother" and plenty of opportunities to buy supplies and art from our talented group of teachers. On Sunday morning we will have a two-hour presentation by Judy and Larry Cunningham (at no additional cost) — "The Art of Selling Gourds."

### BUT BEST OF ALL . . . "MORE DARN GOURD FUN THAN SHOULD BE LEGAL"

#### Classes

**When?** All classes will be held on Saturday, April 15, 2006.  
Morning classes are scheduled from 8:45 to 11:45 a.m.  
Afternoon classes are scheduled from 12:45 to 3:45 p.m.

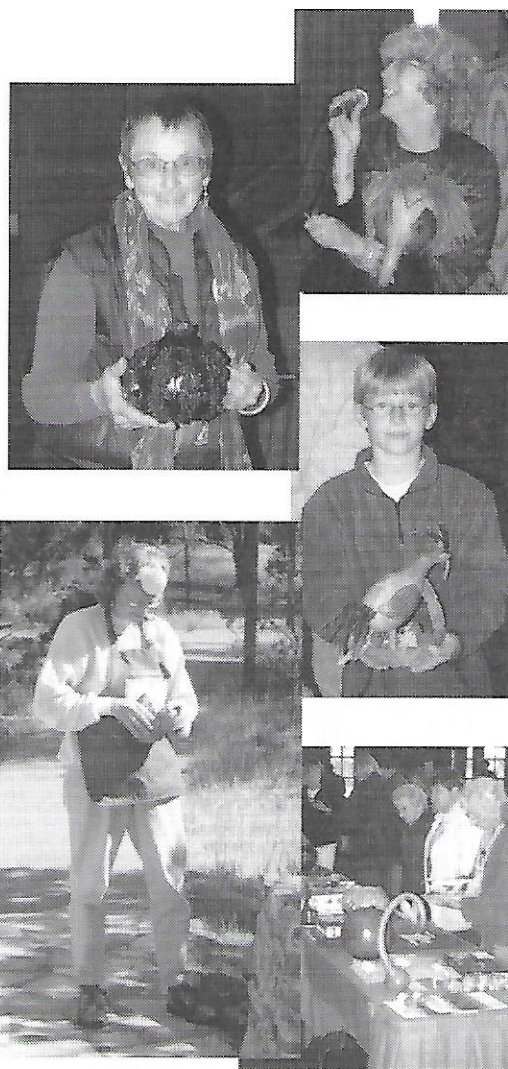
**Cost?** Each class is \$35 plus a nominal material fee.  
Material fee is paid directly to the teacher at the beginning of class.

#### MORNING

Class #	Title	Teacher	Material Fee
101	Beginning Color	Stefan Schneider	\$ 8
102	Relief Carving and Foil	Rebecca Cileo	\$ 10
103	Woven Angel Necklace	Kathy Riker	\$ 7
104	Asian Design	Diana Rookstool	\$ 10
105	Khatiti Altar Doll	Angela Briggs	\$ 20
106	Gourd Lamp	Roy Bunt	\$ 30
107	Coiling on Gourds	Toni Best	\$ 10
108	Gourd Marionette	Betty Finch	\$ 10
109	Ornamentals and Paper Clay	Larry McClelland	\$ 10
110	Chip Carving	Lyn Rehm	\$ 10

#### AFTERNOON

Class #	Title	Teacher	Material Fee
201	Wax Resist and Beaded Doll	Jill Walker	\$ 10
202	Relief Carving and Foil	Rebecca Cileo	\$ 10
203	Teneriffe Lace Necklace	Kathy Riker	\$ 7
204	Asian Design	Diana Rookstool	\$ 10
205	Khatiti Altar Doll	Angela Briggs	\$ 20
206	Gourd Lamp	Roy Bunt	\$ 30
207	Pine Needle and Feather Bowl	Toni Best	\$ 15
208	Dracaena Draco Gourd	Mary Pryor	\$ 8
209	Ornamentals and Paper Clay	Larry McClelland	\$ 10
210	Chip Carving	Lyn Rehm	\$ 10



#### Conference Registration Fee:

**Early Bird Special: \$250 per person through October 1, 2005. \$275 per person after October 1, 2005.**

Credit cards will be accepted through the website or by contacting Lynne Bunt directly by telephone (559) 561-1925 or email [lynnebunt@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lynnebunt@sbcglobal.net). **No refunds will be made after October 15, 2005.**

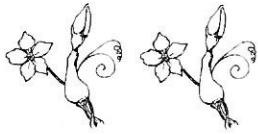
Reservations are first come, first serve. Groups of three or four sharing the same room will be given priority.

Because of high demand, attendance at the conference (including classes) is limited to those staying onsite.

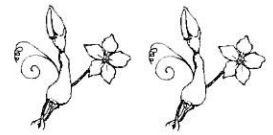
Detailed event and class information, including pictures plus a printable reservation form, will be available at [www.calgourd.com](http://www.calgourd.com) by August 1, 2005.

If you are unable to access the Internet, you can receive full details by mail; contact: Lynne Bunt, 43669 Skyline Dr., Three Rivers, CA 93271.

**You must be a current member of the California Gourd Society to attend the conference.**



# EVENT WRAP-UPS



**GARDENS 2000 OPEN HOUSE AND MINI GOURD FESTIVAL.** The weather was a little iffy on Sunday, April 24th in LeGrand (near Merced), but Gary and Pat Clausen were warm and welcoming to visitors at their 7th Annual Open House and Mini Gourd Festival. Gary, a retired college agriculture professor, has taken a great interest in growing gourds. He is very enthusiastic about things he has discovered and very open and willing to share what his knowledge. He had a variety of cleaned and uncleaned gourds for sale. Pat is just as enthusiastic about gourd crafting and had her on-site studio open for visitors. In addition to Pat there were 5 or 6 other gourders who had booths displaying and selling their creations. One of our own CGS members, Donna Wright, who teaches gourd art classes at the college, had a booth and was demonstrating some of her gourd decorating techniques. The real emphasis of this mini festival is growing gourds in a weed-free environment so if this topic is of interest to you then Gary is the "go to" man. He plans to write some articles for the Golden Gourd in the future and I for one will be looking forward to his reading his recommendations. Submitted by Jill Walker.

**LEISER GOURD FESTIVAL A SUCCESS!** By all accounts, Greg and Mary Leiser's Gourd Festival May 14th and 15th was a roaring success. There were many more people there than previously, especially Saturday when the place was jumping. Greg erected a new aluminum and white Quonset hut-like building where most of the booths were located which was wonderful for all of us who would not have been happy in the sun! The ends were open so we got a wonderful breeze most of the day. And it was hot! My car registered the outside temperature at 91°! There were many more vendors this year and sales seemed to be going well at most booths. Greg and Mary gave us a 15% discount on all gourds and honored the CGS coupon as well so that we all bought more gourds than we need, but that is the way of

gourders: addicts, really. The food was wonderful both Mexican and grilled delicacies and Billie Pass renewed her offer of painting a horse on a Leiser gourd for free! The portapotties were clean and the pink one was almost luxurious! All kidding aside, we owe a great many thanks to Greg and Mary for putting on such a wonderful gourd festival, which takes a lot of preparation and work. It was a beautiful weekend in a beautiful place and I can't wait until next year! Submitted by Bee Hylinski.

**LA BASKETRY GUILD RETREAT** Over Palm Sunday weekend I attended a FABULOUS basketry retreat sponsored by the Los Angeles Basketry Guild. The conference was held at beautiful Camp Stevens in Julian. Enthusiasm and creativity ran high! There were 3 distinctly different workshops . . . a very intricate bamboo basket (which would have put me in a panic attack), a contemporary basket using non-traditional materials, and a class twining a basket using a wide variety of indigenous plant materials (which I attended and loved). The workshops are held in a spacious room with 2 fireplaces, windows looking out on oak trees, and lots of natural light streaming in through James Hubbell windows. Three days of absolute fun, comradery and laughter. But we can't overlook the food . . . such splendid organic feasts! After every meal, as we waddled out filled to capacity many of us say "oh, we'll skip the next meal!" But then no one does because we can't wait to see what's next on the menu! I managed to squeeze in 3 hikes (had to work off the calories) with oak and pine trees shrouded in mist, finding delights on each trail, a lovely pond in a meadow, a cave, and utter beauty everywhere. Three days spent with other basket junkies, seeing old friends, oooh-ing and aaaaaah-ing over everybody's work, completely energized the creative juices. I came home eager to jump into new weaving projects, fresh ideas zipping around in my head. I love the residual effect of attending basket and gourd conferences. And making new friends. Blessings upon all the volunteers who make these events happen! Submitted by Nadine Spier.



## GARDENS 2000

**O**ur gourds are grown on our own ranch in the Central San Joaquin Valley in California. We have been supplying gourd artists and crafters with quality gourds for several years. All our gourds are grown on our **Weedless Garden System.**

### *Our gourds include:*

- *Bushels*
- *Kettles*
- *Mexican Bottles*
- *Indonesian Bottles*
- *Short Handle Dippers*
- *Long Handle Dippers*
- *Mini Nigerian*
- *Martins*
- *Apples*

**Gary & Pat Clausen**  
**8716 E. Toews**  
**LeGrand, CA 95333**  
**209-382-0240**  
**gpclausen@cell2000.net**

Please visit our website to preview our gardens:

**[www.gardens2000.com](http://www.gardens2000.com)**

## Margo Farrin O'Connor to Judge 1st Annual Iron Gourd Competition

**MARGO FARRIN O'CONNOR** - The combination of formal training (multiple degrees in fine arts) and a creative spirit is the key to Margo's success as a professional designer, instructor, and business owner. As well as having taught jewelry, crafts and design in university, community college and private classes, Margo is also the principle designer and director in her own business: **FARRIN O'CONNOR DESIGN STUDIOS**. Originally a bead and craft store started in 1992, her Design Studios was often the site of many a gourd arts class and a favorite meeting place for the first Gourd Society organized in Southern California. Today, Margo is concentrating the business more in the metal arts, with wonderful workshops focusing on all kinds of jewelry making techniques. The Jewelry Supply Store which is a part of the business features tools, jewelry supplies, and yes **BEADS!** Visit the original Farrin O'Connor Design Studios at its same old address: 146 West Bellevue Drive, Pasadena CA 91105. Phone for information and a schedule of classes: 626 796-5300. or [www.farrinoconnordesign.com](http://www.farrinoconnordesign.com). Margo says: "Art and quality design has always been an integral part of my life and I enjoy sharing my enthusiasm with others."

*For info on the Iron Gourd Competition, see page 9.*

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## 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 Nancy Brunson, newsletter@calgourd.com

## CHANGING PLACES CHANGING FACES

Thank you Lorraine Valenzuela for serving on the California Gourd Society board of directors. We wish Lorraine the best of luck as she moves to Chicago to begin a life with her new husband! Congratulations! Thank you for your support of CGS and all your invaluable contributions!

Larry McClelland has been appointed to the CGS Board of Director as a replacement to fill director-at-large Lorraine Valenzuela's current term. Welcome to Larry and thank you for your support of the California Gourd Society!

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