

Volume 9, Issue 4 Winter 2007

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Directors * CGS Membership

Living the California Gourd Life

Application * Classifieds

* Editor's Vine

What better way to end the year then spending time with friends. I did just that, with my gourd friends the talented artist Booker Preston and his wife Leslie. I could not pass up the opportunity when they agreed to be interviewed.



Mary: How did you get started with gourds? **Booker:** I went to the Welburn Gourd Festival in June of 2003, came home with a bag of gourds that I thought might be a good medium to carve. I've been carving them ever since.

Mary: When did you decide on your focus or specialty?

Booker: I had taken a leaf-carving-on-wood class through Profitable Hobbies, and found that the same techniques worked on gourds, so I started focusing on carving leaves.

Mary: What are the tools you use most for your work?

Booker: I enjoy carving (sculpting), so I always use my high-speed dental drill. It was expensive, but since I use it 99% of the time, it has been well worth it. I had the drill before I even knew about gourds. Depending on interest, I may be offering carving classes with the high-speed dental drill.

Mary: Are there any artist that have been an inspirations for you?

Booker: There have been many gourd artists who

have been inspirational including Denny Wainscott, Pat Boyd, Mark and Karen Klay, Dave Sisk, and Bill Colligen.

Mary: What are your motivations for creating?

Booker: My motivation for creating is that it is very relaxing. I start carving and "zone out", time flies and I end up with a beautiful piece of art!

Mary: Tell us about "Gourds by Booker" your business. In particular, what role and influence does Leslie have on it?



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy New Year!

I did it! I grew a gourd with a knot in it. To be sure it will not win any prizes but I did have success with one or two long-handled dippers. I also managed to grow several large "flat" gourds between boards. My prize crops this year were some beautiful canteens and some large kettles grown from seeds Ginger Summit saved from an African gourd. Now it's time to start ordering seeds and planning a 2008 crop. Won't you join me? It will be fun all over again!

We are also making final plans for the Asilomar Gourd College in April. One of the highlights is sure to be my "President's Reception" on Friday evening. All attendees are welcome and will get a chance at my great Door Prize giveaways! On Saturday evening after our always exciting Raffle and Auction you are invited to join our Gourd Lantern Walk to the beach, weather permitting. Make a lantern and join the fun.

We had great plans for the Third Annual Iron Gourd Competition but alas, Mother Nature had other plans. The weather, wind, and fires in Southern California conspired to cause us to cancel the event. Thank you to all who planned to participate or attend and had to be disappointed. Despite the earlier threat of fire Welburn Farms held a successful Fall Gourd and Pumpkin Festival two weeks later and CGS was ablely represented by Carol Rookstool and the Orange County Gourd Patch with Susan Sullivan. Thank you both!

As you read in the last issue of the Golden Gourd we are still seeking individuals who will take a turn serving as officers of C.G.S. We need new blood in the positions of President, Secretary, VP of Programs and Regional Groups, Northern Calif. Patch Coordinator and Southern Calif. Patch Coordinator. (Job descriptions are outline in this issue.) The more members who can serve our organization the more vibrant we can remain with new ideas and enthusiasm. Please make a commitment.

The gourd community ended the year on a sad note with the notification of the death of David Snooks. He will long be remembered for his beautifully beaded gourd work and his patience in teaching his techniques to many of us. Our condolences to all his family and friends.

Jill Walker, President

MISSION STATEMENT

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

THE GOLDEN GOURD

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

Editor/Graphic Design/Advertising

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Special Events

Carol Rookstoolcrookstool@aol.com

Regional Round-up

Barbara McDermott.... mcdeeart@verizon.net

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

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

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FINAL CGS Gourd College at Asilomar, California

We have space for you and a few of your best gourd buds. Don't miss out! Inspire yourself at Asilomar

This will be the FINAL CGS Gourd College at Asilomar, California April 11,(3:00 p.m.) - April 13 (12:00 p.m.), 2008

This event will mark the seventh anniversary of Gourd College

If you are a new CGS member or have not attended this event in the past you won't want to miss this opportunity. Friends and gourds together at the awesome and inspiring grounds of the Asilomar Conference Center.

Cost: \$275 What's included:

- Two nights in a shared room of up to three persons (you pick your room mate or we can assign)
- Six meals (great food starting with dinner on Friday & ending with lunch on Sunday)
- A gift bag upon check-in at Asilomar

For complete package details, class descriptions and registration form visit our website at: **www.calgourd.com** or refer to: The Golden Gourd, Summer Issue 2007. For raffle and auction donations please contact Betsy Roberts directly at: gourdprincessb@yahoo.com

Schedule of Activities

Thursday:

7:00 p.m. - CGS Board Meeting

Friday:

2:00 p.m. - Gourd Patch Leaders' Meeting and special activity

3:00 p.m. - Registrants check in

7:00 p.m. - CGS Business Meeting - Jill Walker

Program - "Fun and Games with Gourds Through the Years" Susan Sullivan, photographer and gourd aficionado.

"President's Reception"

Saturday:

Morning & Afternoon - Gourd Classes

4:30 p.m. - Teacher's Art Sale

7:00 p.m. - "Anything you can wear on your body and not get arrested"

Raffle and Auction of gourd art and supplies

Gourd Lantern Walk to the Beach (weather permitting)

Sunday

9:30 a.m. - Member's Flea Market Gourd Art & Craft Panel Discussion Noon - Lunch & Farewell Gourd Friends Learning will be Fun!

Gourd Classes at Asilomar

Saturday Full Day Classes \$ 65 plus materials fee

#101 Kayum Drum

Leigh Adams Material fee \$45

#102 Dragonfly Inlay

Noi Thomas Material fee \$ 20

#103 Twined Gourd Basket

Cookie Hanson Material fee \$ 15

Saturday Half Day Classes \$35 plus materials fee NOTE

#105—#109 are morning classes and #206 -#211 are afternoon classes

#105 a.m. Gourd & Pine needle bracelet

Toni Best Material fee \$ 10

#106 a.m. Gourd Transformation

Diana Rookstool Material fee \$ 10

#108 a.m. Tribal Doll

Betsy Roberts Material fee: \$35

#109 a.m. Gourd Shield
Jill Walker Material fee: \$ 15

#206 p.m. Gourd Transformation
Diana Rookstool Material fee \$ 10

#207 p.m. Chinese Gourd Necklace
Betty Finch Material fee \$ 10

#211 p.m. Gourd Stands

Rebecca Cileo Material fee: \$ 20

Material fee is paid to the teacher on the day of class.

Required Tools & Equipment list will be posted on the website (www.calgourd.com) and included in your registration confirmation letter.

See the Summer 2007 issue of the Golden Gourd page 15 for Conference and Class Registration Form for CGS Final Gourd College at Asilomar and CGS membership form.

California Gourd Art Competition Rules and Categories

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

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

2008 California Gourd Art Competition Rules:

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

There are four divisions:

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

The Open division is for anyone who has won a ribbon in the novice division or who do not consider themselves a beginner. (honor system) **The Masters division** — this division includes artists who have achieved a level of expertise as demonstrated by having won awards, had work published or sold work in galleries. Artists entering in this division my not submit entries in the Novice or Open divisions.

The Children and Youth division

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

Deadline: Mailed entries must be postmarked no later than Monday, June 16. Personal deliveries may be delivered ONLY on Thursday, June 19 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. so that the show may be set up prior to judging.

LATE ENTRIES WILL NOT BE JUDGED!

- Judging will be on Thursday, June 19. All participants agree to allow photographs to be taken of displayed items.
- Pick-up will be Sunday, June 22 from 3:00 5:00 p.m. Entries may not be removed early. Mailed entries will be returned within two weeks after the show. Mailed entries must have return postage and self addressed shipping container.
- All art work not picked up or arranged for pre-paid return will be donated to CGS.
- The California Gourd Society will officiate in all judging.
- While every effort is made to provide security for your items, the Welburn Gourd Farm and the California Gourd Society are not responsible for damaged or lost items.

CALL FOR JUDGES

Any CGS member who wishes to participate in the gourd art judging process is welcome to the training and judging session on Thursday, June 19. This is a fun experience that benefits the participating artists and thousands of visitors who view the exhibit each year. For more information contact Larry McClelland at macgourd@aol.com or Jill Walker at PrezWalker@hotmail.com

CATEGORIES: IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE ARTIST TO ENTER THEIR PIECE IN THE CORRECT CATEGORY. Judges will not move pieces from one category to another. Be certain that you have read the specific criteria outline for the category and make your decision accordingly, e.g. if the criteria specify carving with natural or clear finish only, DO NOT stain the piece or add other embellishments.. If you have questions about proper category placement, check with those taking in the pieces. Volunteers will be available on Thursday, June 19, to answer questions. They may provide advice, but you must make the final determination for placement of your piece. Pieces entered in incorrect categories cannot be judged.

26 CATEGORIES:

GOURDS MUST PREDOMINATE. INDICATE ON YOU ENTRY FORM WHICH DIVISION YOU ARE ENTERING AND SPECIFY THE CATEGORY BY NUMBER AND TITLE.

Category 1: Gourd with weaving of natural or man-made materials.

Category 2: Gourd with coiling of natural or man-made materials.

Category 3: This Years Art Challenge: "The Color Purple" Create a piece emphasizing use of the color purple. Any technique or medium allowed.

Category 4: Inspired by the Sea. Create a piece inspired by the sea. The piece may be painted, carved or sculptural. Any technique allowed.

Category 5: Painting. Whole or cut gourd. Painting must predominate. On entry form, please specify type of paint used.

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

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

Category 8: Hand trained gourds. This category has been named the Jim Story category. This is a relatively new category with techniques and processes growing in popularity. Gourds may be grown in a mold or otherwise manipulated. Pieces should be left natural or finished with a clear finish only.

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

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

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

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

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

(Continued from page 4)

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

Category 15: Sculptural reptiles or amphibians: Create a creature that slithers, crawls or hops. Created from one or more gourds, pieces or whole. Any technique allowed.

Category 16: Gourd seeds as embellishment: Create a piece featuring the use of gourd seeds as the primary design element. The piece may be utilitarian, a creature, whatever.

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

Category 18: Jewelry. Whole or cut gourds and/or pieces. Any technique allowed. May use additional materials/embellishments.

Category 19: Beaded embellishment. Beading must predominate.

Category 20: Musical instruments. Instrument must be playable.

Category 21: Whimsy. Create a whimsical piece. It may be painted, carved, sculptural or assembled. Any technique allowed.

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

Category 23: Inspired by the Orient.

Category 24: Inspired by Africa, including Egypt. **Category 25:** Inspired by Greco-Roman themes.

Category 26: Inspired by Latin America

MASTERS DIVISION

Category 1: Vases, bowls or containers. Any technique allowed.

Category 2: Sculptural gourds. May be single or multiple gourds. Any technique allowed.

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

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

Category 1: Anything Goes. Create a piece, functional or decorative. May be single or multiple gourds. Any technique allowed. Use your imagination

Category 2: "Critters" Create a critter, real or imaginary. Single or multiple gourds allowed. Any technique allowed.

We will have more details in the Spring edition of the Golden Gourd on ways you can get in on even more fun at the festival while you help support CGS. Stay tuned!

Help grow that new CROP of gourders!

Think about mentoring a child in gourd art and be sure to mention our competition (under 17 years old is free). If you don't have children of your own think about youth groups, school art programs, or other community groups.

(Continued from page 1)

Booker: I have my day job to pay the bills, so I consider Gourds by Booker a wonderful, creative outlet. Leslie handles the business/non-creative end of Gourds by Booker, including researching venues, filling out applications, assembling price sheets, sales tags, and all the other nitsy things that artists would rather not deal with.

Mary: What have you learned or advice can you give when choosing a sales venue or show?

Booker: We have learned from every show we've been in, regardless of whether we've sold anything, or not. Participating in local shows, even if it's a small craft boutique to start, is helpful. You get to see the booths of the other participants and pick up some tips from them. We have learned how to present and stage the pieces effectively for different venues and space, whether to display on shelves, individually elevated on stands or pedestals, or hanging from Pro Panels.

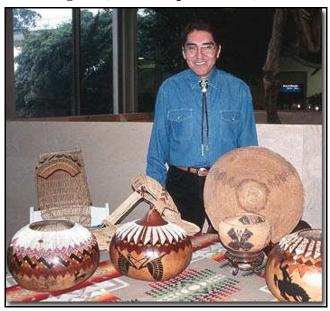
Choosing a particular show depends on what you are selling.... something crafty or something fine art. The price of the piece sometimes defines what category you are in, but not necessarily. Some of the fine arts shows can have expensive fees and are usually juried. Professional-looking photography of your pieces is probably the most important part of your presentation to being juried in to a show. Your work may be spectacular, but if the photographs you're submitting to the jury don't look professional, you and your art may not be accepted. I enrolled in Photoshop, In-Design, and Digital Photography classes at the local Orange Education Center and now do my own photographs and have saved a lot of money.

Another consideration is if the show is not local, the gas/food/lodging expenses have to be figured in. Our best show was in Park City, Utah, and we were fortunate that we have family living in the area and could stay with them. A local show that we'd highly recommend is the Claremont Village Venture in Claremont, CA. This is always the last Saturday in October, rain or shine. Although it has mostly craft items, there are some fine arts booths mixed in.



(Continued on page 10)

IN MEMORY OF DAVID SNOOKS August 1, 1952 - September 15, 2007



David Snooks, of Washoe decent, passed away on September 15th. David was a famed Native American artist who produced unique beaded and hand-painted gourds. According to David, his talent was a tribute to his parents. His mother was an accomplished basket maker. His father had a gift for producing images from original drawings. In David's own words, "I inherited the ability to draw a straight line from my parents".

David said, "when I first started painting gourds I wanted to paint and reproduce on my gourds the traditional designs of my heritage, but tradition requires that I first seek and receive permission from the family. Then the design itself is a spiritual reproduction of the basket design, in respect for the elders who first made the basket." David prided himself on making one of a kind pieces. He altered the geometric designs to evolve his own interpretations. David's pride of his heritage and the history of his tribe's artistry are visible in his gourds.

David grew up in the Sierra Nevada foothills near Jackson. After graduating from Amador High School in Sutter Creek, he attended Sacramento State College, majoring in sociology. He worked as a steward for Pan American Airlines before returning to the Jackson area to pursue archaeological work, and subsequently became an interpreter for the Park Service at the State Indian Museum before focusing primarily on his artistic endeavors. His studio was located in the small community of Pine Grove.

David has no formal art training but the influence of his parents and culture was reflected in his work. Traditional colors, themes, designs and beadwork characterized his gourds. David received many awards and recognition throughout his career. In 2006, he became the first Native American to have his artwork become a part of the Cal Expo/State Fair collections.

David is remembered as a man with a kind and gentle soul. He shared his knowledge and love of gourds freely. He was a member of the Amador Gourd Group and shared with the group that he wanted his gourds to be on every continent in the world. Last year a friend was able to help fulfill part of his dream and took one of his gourds to Antarctica. He will be missed in the gourd community.

*

MEMBERSHIP REPORT PLEASE WELCOME OUR NEWEST MEMBERS! THIS DOES NOT INCLUDE RENEWING MEMBERS

- SUSAN ALBERS
- JANICE ALEXANDER
- CAROL BECKER
- ANNETTE BOTHMAN
- YUAN CHAO
- CAROL CHERRY
- JEAN CHRISTIE
- MARIJKE DEWEERS
- MARGARET DIAZ
- PAT FANNON
- ETHEL HOY
- MICHAEL GALES
- JEAN GASTELUM
- DARYLLE GOODFIELD
- JULIEGRIFFIN
- ROBERT HATHAWAY
- DONALD HOGAN
- SUSAN HORNE
- FLORENCE "SMOKIE"

 JORDAN
- CANDIE KOEHN
- JANICE LANGER
- MARGARET LEDUC
- ERIKA LEWIS

- LILIANA MARSH
- RICHARD MARSH
- JEANNE MATSUMOTO
- DIANE PAVEY-BENTLEY
- DEBRA A. PHILLIPS
- VICKI PRATHER
- MACK RAMIREZ
- SUSAN RAMIREZ
- DON RIDEAU
- JOYCE RODERICK
- KAREN ROSELLI
- ROSEMARIE RUSH
- PATRICIA
 SCHALBRACK
- GERALD SEBREN
- VICTORIA SEIFERT
- JEANNE TAGGART
- RHONDA STUBBS
- THEDA S. TRUJILLO
- STEVE VEENSTRA
- BEVERLY WEBB
- MONIQUE WINFREE

Fallbrook Patch Holiday Gathering 2007



Gourd Classes for January, February and March



January 12 **Kathy Riker**

Spirit Vessel Gourd
Class Fee: \$75.00
OCGS Patch
www.orangecountygourdsociety.org
Costa Mesa, CA
714-641-8124 or
email: Createit@att.net

January 13

Kathy Riker

Faux Raku on Gourd Class Fee: \$75.00 OCGS Patch Costa Mesa, CA 714-641-8124 or email: Createit@att.net

January 19

Diane Calderwood

Basic Gourd Art
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
An introductory class to
working with gourds.
Piecemakers Country Store
Costa Mesa, CA
714-641-3112

-10

January 26 **Diane Calderwood**

Autumn Gourd
10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
We will be weaving philodendron sheaths and date palm onto a waxed gourd and adding beaded embellishments.

Piecemakers Country Store Costa Mesa , CA 714-641-3112

ELBRAGO!

February 16 **Diane Calderwood**

Ima Gourddoll
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Using the "Masquepen" we
will create a batik-type pattern on this colorful
doll's dress then accent her
with wire, beads and more!
Piecemakers Country Store
Costa Mesa, CA
714-641-3112

February 23

Vickie Echols

Pine Needle Fitted Lid Gourd Basket 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Temecula Cost: \$60.00 Phone: 951-926-3306



March 1 Kristy Dial

Metal embossing
on Gourds
\$75 plus \$10 material fee Bring a clean prepped gourd.
OCGS Patch
Costa Mesa , CA
714-641-8124 or
email: Createit@att.net

March 2 **Kristy Dial**

Beaded rim with demos on burning the bottom of gourds, patinas & more \$75 no material fee
Bring a clean prepped gourd.
OCGS Patch
Costa Mesa, CA
714-641-8124 or
email: Createit@att.net

March 8 & 15 **Diane Calderwood**

Women of the World 10:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. This enchanting design is created by using a combination of wood burning, coloring and carving techniques. Piecemakers Country Store Costa Mesa, CA 714-641-3112

March 14 **Betsy Roberts**

Faces from Polymer Clay

You will create 6 faces from molds. Then paint and attach them to a gourd shard for their future use. San Diego Class fee is \$50

gourdprincessb@yahoo.com WWW.GALAXYGOURDS.COM

> March 15 **Betsy Roberts**

Forest Friends

You will be creating Fae's or Fairies. We will start with faces attached to a gourd shard, decorate the hair, dye or paint the body, add wings and other fun embellishments. We will mount them on a slab stone.

San Diego, CA
Class Fee is \$65
gourdprincessb@yahoo.com
Bring a gourd you

would like to use for a body. Very tall Banana Gourd or a Snake gourd is great!

*

March 27, 28 & 29

Betsy Roberts
3 Day Workshop

Power Carving made
Gentle and Easy
Silk Dye – The Dar
Beck method
Shadow boxes with
Gourd pieces

Classy Necklaces with
Tubular Wire

Workshop fee is \$300 gourdprincessb@yahoo.com WWW. GALAXYGOURDS.COM

March 29 **Diane Calderwood**

Glitzy Gourd
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
In this class we will
working with leather
dye and mica powders
to get an
unbelievable shiny metallic finish. We will
finish off the gourd
with a complimentary
beaded rim.
Piecemakers Country Store
Costa Mesa, CA
714-641-3112

See page 3 for gourd classes being offered at the FINAL CGS Gourd College at Asilomar in April.

See page 13 for gourd classes being offered at the Sixth Annual Spring Gourd Art Festival and Gourd Sale in May at the Greg Leiser Gourd Farm.

REDOTAL ROUNDUP

Compiled and edited by Barbara McDermott

Please call or email the Regional Coordinators of each patch for the most current meeting information. New members and guests are always welcome. Or check at the CGS website: www.calgourd.com Next Regional Roundup News due to Barbara mcdeeart@verizon.net by February 10, 2008.



Amador County

Regional Coordinator: Carol Cherry

(916)941-1551 or

Sylvia Nelson, (916)682-2437 or sylvianelson@citlink.net

Amador County gourders gather on the second Thursday of each month from 9 a.m. to 11 or Noon at the Amador County Agriculture Building , 12200 Airport Rd. Jackson , CA 95624 , to have our meeting and share ideas and techniques.

We are very happy to have several new members who found us through our, "Meet the Artist" day at the Jackson County Library in November. We love to welcome new members.

Our regular meeting in January will feature Carol Cherry, sharing her expertise on wax resist. Everyone will have an opportunity to work on a small gourd We generally have a demonstration on gourd techniques at every meeting. We will also be planning future activities for our group. We welcome any and everyone to come and share and learn with us.

Antelope Valley Gourd Patch

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

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

Bachelor Valley Gourd Club of Lake County

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

We meet the 1st Saturday of the month from 12:00 noon - 3:00 p.m. during the winter months, usually at 11000 Bachelor Valley Road in Witter Springs (just outside Lakeport). Call or email ahead to confirm site. All gourders welcome. We encourage 'Show and Tell' at all meetings and look forward to classes and demos of different techniques.

This past November and half of December we were invited back to the Lower Lake Schoolhouse Museum, where they gave us the entire 2nd floor to display our art. They sold and collected sales for us. Also in November we had a wonderful time with our own 'Gourd College'. It was three full days of classes with Kathy Riker. Her African Doll class was a monumental hit, and four other classes made for a wonderful weekend. Kathy will be back for another series of five classes over a three-day period April 18th, 19th & 20th, 2008. Mark your calendars. Contact Kennie Winter for more information and to

book classes.

Bakersfield/Kern County Gourd Patch

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

We meet on the 3rd Wednesday of the month from 6:30 to 9 p.m. at Beverly 's Craft Shop, 2819 F. Street, Bakersfield.

El Dorado County Foothill Gourders

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

The Foothill Gourders meet on the 1st Thursday of each month at the El Dorado County Agricultural Commission's Cooperative Extension Building, 311 Fair Lane, Placerville. Our meetings are held from 9:30 a.m. until noon. We hold a gallery time at each meeting and allow plenty of time for show and tell. Contact Chuck for directions or more information.

Fallbrook Gourd Patch

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

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

December 8, we will had our annual Christmas Party, Pot Luck Brunch and gourd ornament gift exchange. We also collected ornaments that were distributed to local fire victims.

We will have our Annual Meeting, February 9, planning activities for the coming year. We have many fun related gourd activities and would love to have you join us. If you would like to visit or join our meetings please call above for directions or more information.

Folsom/Sacramento Patch - Z-Gourd Miners

Regional Coordinator: Susan Gouig (707)433-8223 day or (707) 433-9162 Eve. suegg51@yahoo.com

Our group will no longer be meeting at Zittle Farms as they are retiring. We all want to thank them for all they have done for us and all of the wonderful Festivals we have had at their farm. We will miss them, and we wish them the very best

We still meet the second Saturday of every month, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. currently at Leiser Farms. Thank you Greg and Mary for giving us a home while we look for a new place in Folsom. We also wish to thank the Foothill Gourders for hosting our group and giving us a great lunch. Presently we are working on our Class List for 2008. Come join our group and take a class with us

Galt Patch

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

Come join this growing group of gourders, share your gourd

(Continued from page 8)

in our gourd gallery, work on your latest gourd or try your hand at a mask, ornament or small gourd to learn new techniques. All levels are encouraged to bring a lunch and spend the day with enthusiastic gourd people. Remember, we always have brownies.

Our meetings are held monthly, alternating 3rd Tuesday, one month and 3rd Saturday the next, 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Kings River Gourd Patch

Regional Coordinator: Pat Wescott (559) 897-7470 or Graybadgers@att.net

We continues to meet on the 1st Saturday of each month. We share gourds, fiber arts, books, latest projects, pot luck lunch and great friendship.

Come and join us. Don't forget to call Pat and let her know that you will be coming as we meet at her house. All are welcome. Happy Gourding.

Los Angeles - Gourd Artisans of Los Angeles (GALA)

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

The GALA Patch members are from the greater Los Angeles/Pasadena area and our meetings are held the 3rd Wednesday of the month (September – June), 7:30, at the San Gabriel Bead Company, 325 E. Live Oak, Arcadia, CA 91006, (626)447-7753.

Guests are always welcome. We usually begin our meetings with a "show and tell" of gourd projects that our members have been working on, followed by a demonstration, workshop or presentation by a guest artist.

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

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

The L.A.W. Group meets on the first Wednesday of each month, 7 to 9 p.m. We have show and tell and would love to have you join us for creative fun. Please call or email one of us for more information

Los Angeles - Inner City Patch

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

Northern Sierra Gourd Patch

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

Orange County Gourd Society Patch

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

Our Patch continues to roll right along and gain new members and we continue to get them involved in volunteer roles to help with ideas and activities. We meet in Costa Mesa the 4th Thursday evenings and have Play Days on the 3rd Saturdays. Be sure to check our website for the latest info.

If you would like to offer to teach a class or want to be on our notification list send an email to createit@att.net CGS members can call Susan (above) or Norrah at (714)641-8124 for more information. So, hop aboard the OC Gourd Express for new gourd friends and fun.

Pico Rivera/Whittier Patch

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

San Bernardino Patch

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

The San Bernardino Patch is always willing to try new things and we are open to all suggestions. At this time we plan activities as we go along. The meetings are held on the fourth Saturday of the month, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Bring the current gourd project that you are working on or a show & tell piece. The last few meetings we have been going out to lunch after the meeting. Call Darlene or Valerie Martinell at (909) 883-3527 for current meeting location or information. We will be glad to add you to our e-mail list and notify you of our planned activities. We would love to have you come visit (and join) our Patch. Please RSVP.

San Diego - Misti Washington Gourd and Basket Guild

Regional Coordinator: Peggy Blessing

(858) 292-9219 or glassworks2005-gourdnews@yahoo.com

Regional Co-Rep: Vickie Echols

Vickie79@earthlink.net

Check our website: www.baskets-gourds.com

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

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

San Fernando Valley Gourd Patch

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

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

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

San Francisco East Bay – East Bay Gourd Patch

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

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

 $(Continued\ on\ page\ 10)$

(Continued from page 9)

Contact us for more meeting information.

Santa Cruz Gourd Patch

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

Kris Mangliers (831) 338-3449 or kmangliers@msn.com

Our Patch meets every other month at various member's homes and most often exchange new product information and share techniques.

Silicon Valley - Calabash Club of Silicon Valley

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

We meet every other month (Feb, April, June, Aug, Oct, Dec), the 2nd Sunday of the month. Please call if you would like more information. All are welcome!

Sonoma Gourd Patch

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

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

Tulare Sequoia Patch

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

Regular Meetings are not held, but impromptu get togethers work best for our group. Please contact above.

Ventura County - Channel Islands Gourd Society

Regional Coordinator: Charlene Smith (805)649-9868 or ojairedhead@hotmail.com

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

Our website www.channelislandsgourdsociety.com

Our Patch meets the third Wednesday of the month, 7 - 9p.m. at the Santa Rosa Valley Clubhouse, 11701 E. Las Posas Road, Santa Rosa Valley, CA 93012.

Our artists have had a busy fall with all kinds of projects, including a nice display at the Moorpark Art Gallery . Our progressive gourd is turning out to be a real work of art that we can all be proud of and should be finished this coming year. We extend a warm welcome to all visitors.



Thanks go to the Orange County patch!! They provided a wonderful make-and-take experience for many young children who attended the Fall Festival at the Welburn Gourd Farm.

The weather was great and the Festival had a cozy, family feel! Both the Fallbrook and Orange County patch members showed up in force... what fun to see their new work on exhibit!!!

Carol Rookstool

(Continued from page 5)

Mary: Lastly, is there anything you would like to add that we haven't covered in our interview?

Booker: Yes, we're happy to have met so many nice people who share an interest in gourds. We value their friendship!

Mary: Before we end, I would like to thank you both for the time and pictures you have given me to do the interview.

If you would like to see more of Booker's art work please visit his website at:

www.gourdsbybooker.com

email:goodfootdr@aol.com

phone: (714) 279-9006

You also may want to check out the following websites:

www.profitablehobbies.com

www.propanels.com



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Open CGS Officer/Board Positions

CGS would like to invite members to send in a letter of interest if you are interested in serving in any of the positions listed. Even if you aren't quite sure you are ready to serve but are interested in taking a more active role in our organization we encourage you to let us know.

We would like to train/ groom some willing members to take on leadership roles during the coming year. All positions are for a term of two years with the possibility of extending that time for additional years. You can call, write or email your letter of interest to Jill Walker at: PrezWalker@hotmail.com or phone (831) 728-4427.

Job Description Regional Secretary CGS

- Takes the minutes at the annual Board meeting and distributes to all Board members
- Takes minutes at interim board meetings as needed
- Maintains official CGS records
- May or may not place Insurance coverages or order renewals for same
- May or may not serve on the Budget committee of CGS
- Maintains historical archives

These are 2 New Positions

Job Description for Northern and Southern California Patch Coordinators

- Identify & coordinate new patch leadership.
- Provide training to patch leaders based on materials provided by Regional VP Programs
- Contact each patch within your territory a minimum of quarterly. (Contact may be made in person or via internet or telephone)
- Encourage each patch to participate in fundraisers and other activities of CGS including fairs, festivals and competitions
- Inform Regional VP Programs of issues presented to you by patches
- Support Regional VP Programs in planning and execution and attend the annual patch leader meeting

Job Description for President

- Provide leadership for and act as a spokesperson for CGS in order to carry out the CGS mission statement
- Serve as a member of the Board of Directors and conduct the annual meeting
- Maintain communication with Board Members and call for annual reports from each director
- Monitor society financial status with the treasurer, promote fund raisers, and sign-off on the annual IRS non-profit reports
- Prepare a quarterly "President's Message" for the Golden Gourd
- Coordinate with the N. and S. CA patch coordinators to maintain a CGS presence at major gourd festivals and other events as appropriate
- Respond to members' concerns and make referrals as needed
- Serve as a member of the annual Gourd Art Competition Committee
- Maintain communication with the American Gourd Society and other gourd societies as needed

Job Description Regional VP Programs

- Serve as a member of the board of directors of CGS
- Maintain a roster of patch leaders
- Provide each patch with a red book of CGS policies & procedures
- As well as other written materials to assist them in conducting meetings
- Conduct annual meetings of patch leaders
- Attend annual board meeting and present a status report of the past years activities
- Select and appoint a northern and southern California patch coordinator





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9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Class fee: \$75.00

PAINTED GOURD QUAIL with Larry McClelland

9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Class fee: \$75.00

CAT OR RABBIT CONSTRUCTION with Betty Finch

9:00 a.m.-12 Noon Class fee: \$65.00

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BEGINNING POWER CARVING with Bonnie Gibson

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MORE POWER CARVING TECHNIQUES with Bonnie Gibson

1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. Class fee: \$50.00

Saturday May 17

Filigree Carving with Bonnie Gibson

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DOT PAINTED GOURDS with Larry McClelland

9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Class fee: \$75.00

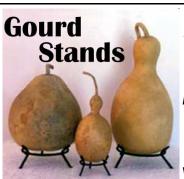
FOREST FRIENDS with Betsy Roberts

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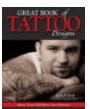


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One form per entry, please

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Category No
Category Title
Any description required by category. See list:
I have read the competition rules and agree to abide by them. Signature:
Mail or deliver your entry (see competition rules) with \$6.00 per entry fee to:
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February 1-3 Wuertz Gourd Festival - Casa Grande, AZ

February 22 –24 10th Annual Florida Gourd Show— East Palatka Fairground—E. Palatka, FL

April 4-6 Indiana Gourd Society Show—St. Joseph County Fairgrounds—South Bend, IN

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Editors Vine—Mary Bliss

Can you believe it? It's already 2008 and the start of my third year as editor of the Golden Gourd. I know this newsletter would not be possible without all of the wonderful, hard working and talented contributors that make not only this newsletter happen but the whole "Gourd Scene", in our state and beyond. I would like to publicly say thank you, for all that each of you do to make this scene possible.

I look forward to another gourd filled year playing and working with you. As always I invite you to share your ideas with me for the Golden Gourd. Please tell me what you would like to see in our newsletter and we will see what can be worked out. What do you have in mind? I already have several things on my wish list. First I would like to encourage as many members as possible to participate in one or more of the following request. I look forward to hearing from you.

Please send answers or pictures to me for the following:

- What is the most unusual or odd tool in your tool box?
- Show us your most favorite gourd. Please include the artist name, why it is your "MFG", and how it joined your collection i.e. sale, gift or trade.
- Who is your favorite artist? What one question would you ask them?
- What is the most surprising thing you have learned about gourds?
- What gourds do you grow? Include a picture of your gourd patch.
- What new techniques would you like to learn this year.
- What one item in your workshop/studio can't you live without. Why?