

THE TEXAS GOURDZETTI

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE KAPPA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN GOURD SOCIETY

VOLUME 21 ISSUE 2

April 2016



WIN THIS GOURD!

(OR ANOTHER EQUALLY BREATHTAKING STUNNER)

LONE STAR
GOURD FESTIVAL

AUGUST 17-21, 2016

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Lone Star Gourd Festival 2016

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President's Message by Shelia Guidry

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It is springtime and the pigeon is sitting in her nest in my jasmine tree again. My fig tree is covered in leaves and I am hoping for as many figs as last year. And I am busy trying to get ready to teach 2 classes in Lafayette, Louisiana on May 14 and to finish my gourds for the Fine Art Gourd Show in Kerrville. Gourds abound in my house: OK, they are scattered from kitchen table, kitchen counter, my husband's office, my craft room, spare room, garage and any other place I can find to put them. And my husband asked if I needed any help prepping some gourds to get ready for Louisiana – I think I will keep him for 43 more years.

The Spring Meeting was held at a Girl Scout camp near Austin and had the best and most peaceful view looking out over a lake from the building we used. It was discussed that TGS would like to try again to have a gourd retreat at the beginning of 2017. But in order to make this happen, I need volunteers to step up. Vickie Hartman said she would help organize classes. But several more people are needed to head up the retreat or we will not have one. It is a lot of work to find a place to have it, to get people to let us know if they want to just have classes somewhere and then let everyone find their own place to sleep. Or do we want a place that can accommodate sleeping and meals also? Do we want to set up a payment plan for those who cannot afford to pay for retreat all at once? A group of people is needed that can split up the work yet stay in contact with each over to get everything organized. Let me know as soon as possible or we will not have a retreat.

Let's make this year the best **Lone Star Gourd Festival** yet. Get those competition pieces ready. All the guidelines and application are on the website along with all the classes and class application. Sign up for classes as soon as possible so teachers can prepare for all the students. There is also room for a few more vendors. NEW in COMPETITION! 2016 OPEN THEME CATEGORY "TEXAS OUR TEXAS". One entry allowed per person, multiple artisans or partnership, on one piece, from Youth to Masters Division levels. Entries in the special open division must focus on a gourd theme piece representative of Texas heritage, animal life, terrain, history, cultures, art, music, people, etc., any technique allowed. Entries in this Open Theme Category will not be considered for Best of Show. One 1st place, 2nd place and 3rd place ribbon will be awarded.

Shelia Guidry, Texas Gourd Society President



The Texas Gourd Society

Kappa Chapter of the American Gourd Society

<u>Purpose:</u> The purpose of the Texas Gourd Society is to promote interest in and appreciation of gourds, both to our membership and to the general public. We will do this by sharing information through education, meetings, festivals, and shows related to the culture, history, uses, crafting, and artistry of gourds.

Officers

President	Shelia Guidry Cell	337-376-9690 864-569-9595	sheliaathome@aol.com		
Vice President	Rosa Semien	<u>713-530-8823</u>	rsemien@sbcglobal.net		
Secretary	C.C. Rice	409-945-2892	KinfolkGourds@gmail.com		
Treasurer Bla	nche Cavarretta Cell	361-798-9538 361-772-6218	brcavarretta@sbcglobal.net		
Membership	Joel Hartman	951-386-0696	jshartman@ymail.com		
Past President	Suzanne Haffey	<u>512-431-6030</u>	bettiesuz@yahoo.com		
Board members					
Rona Thornton (2015-17)		512-468-0700	rona.thornton8@gmail.com		
Cal Stewart (2014-2016)		972-547-0618	caldstewart@yahoo.com		
Roy Cavarretta (2014-2016)		281-222-3225	brcavarretta@sbcglobal.net		
Carey Collier (2015- 2017)		512-264-0436	cacollie2002@yahoo.com		
Mari Tarver (2016-2018)		972-524-9488	maritarver@mypbmail.com		
Linda Hughes (2016- 2018)		817-368-3400	iamonelinda2@yahoo.com		
TGS Website					
C.C. Rice		409-945-2892	KinfolkGourds@gmail.com		
Gourdzette Editor Rickie Newell		830-613-4246	rickie.newell@gmail.com		

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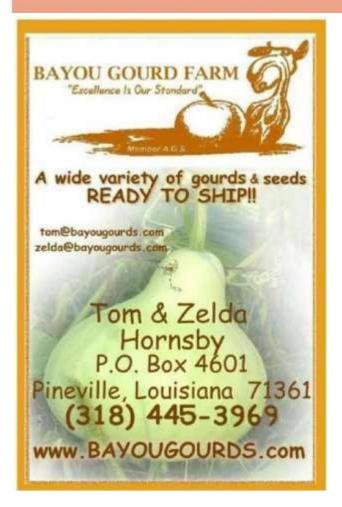
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Email: Nedra@GourdSupplies.com



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www-americangourdsociety-org

agsmembership@comcast.net

TGS Patch Contacts

TGS Arlington Gourd Patch - Arlington, TX area

Contact: Cindi Creswell 817-244-0135 <u>Cidnboo@hotmail.com</u> Website: www.freewebs.com/ArlingtonGourdPatch

TGS Bay Area Gourd Patch - Baytown TX area

Contact: Susan Urban 281-782-6017 hummingbird707@gmail.com

TGS Capitol of Texas Gourd Patch - Austin, TX area

Contact: Lynda Smith 512-524-7897 lyndabethsmith@gmail.com

TGS Coastal Bend Gourd Patch - Corpus Christi, TX area
Contact: Shelia Guidry 337-376-9690 Sheliaathome@aol.com

TGS Concho Valley Gourd Patch - San Angelo, TX area Contact: Beth Lively 325-456-4556 blively@wcc.net

TGS Cowtown Gourd Patch - Ft. Worth area

Contact: Becky Wise 817-726-6653 dbwise@swbell.net

TGS Dallas Gourd Patch - Dallas TX area

Contact: Debbie Clausen dclausen82@verizon.net

Website: www.facebook.com/DallasGourdPatch

TGS Greater San Antonio Gourd Patch - San Antonio area

Contact: Michelle Montgomery, Patch Leader 210-846-5494 mr.mrs.monty@gmail.com

TGS Guadalupe Gourd Patch - Hill Country area

Contact: Bob Richie 830-357-8939 brichie@ktc.com

Or Judy Richie judyrichie@yahoo.com

TGS Southeast Texas Gourd Patch - Houston TX area

Contact: Margaret Bell mabell713@gmail.com

Website: www.artisanart.biz/tgs southeast

TGS West Texas Gourd Patch - Lubbock TX area

Contact: Paula Bownds <u>bownds@windstream.net</u>

TGS Patch Happenings

Arlington Gourd Patch



The 2016 New Year began with a large attendance at the Fielder House Museum in Arlington. Georgia Cunningham taught her teneriffe technique to members. This was a repeat of a previous class, but there were several new members who wanted to learn the skill.

Cindy Lehr brought some of her glass pieces to sell, and we look forward to seeing what our members create from those delightful pieces that Cindy makes in her studio. Mary Rogers has been doing woodburning, Selina Reynolds has been creating more of her signature leaf designs, and Nancy showed her latest membres piece.







For the February meeting, Julie Lind taught a repeat class using tiny glass beads on a gourd piece. Everyone was impressed by the technique. The group experimented with other materials which included decorative sand, decorative stone, and embossing powder to create different textures on the gourd.





The March meeting will consist of marbling on a gourd shard taught by Nancy Walsh, Georgia Cunningham and Cindy Lehr. Other materials for experimentation will include leather, wood, and metal. We look forward to sharing our creations in the next issue.

AGP meets on the 3rd Sunday of the month. Upcoming events can be viewed at the web site:

http://arlingtongourdpatch.webs.com/

THE TEXAS GOURDZETTE IS A BENEFIT OF TGS MEMBERSHIP

If you would like to view this and back issues in color you can access them on the website.

http://www.texasgourdsociety.org

Coastal Bend Gourd Patch

In January we had the pleasure of going to Rockport, to one of our winter Texans, Roxanne, to weave on gourds. The weather was beautiful and the friendship with our winter Texans is special. Some members actually sat on the front porch to weave on their gourds. In February, we met back at Shelia Guidry's house and played with dyes. We used Pinata and Adirondack alcohol dyes. Then we used something new to me – Brusho Watercolor crystals. They are a fine powder that can be sprinkled on a gourd then sprayed with water, water sprayed on the gourd then crystals sprinkled on or mixed with water and painted on. They are really fun to work with and I will have some for sale at the Festival.



Safe travels to our northern friends and hope to see all this winter.

Concho Valley Gourd Patch

Contact Person: Beth Lively Eden, Texas blively@wcc.net

325-456-4556

Hello from the Concho Valley (San Angelo, Texas area). Our patch has had a fun few months. One month we worked on transferring patterns onto gourds. Then we painted our patterns with ink dyes and transparent acrylics and then used India ink and added detail work. We had a really fun afternoon. Our big project was using Miriam Joy's wire/gem tree canteen gourd using her DVD and following her directions. I've added pictures of two of the ones we did. One was wisteria and created by Katie Watkins and the other is a fall tree created by Vicki Kime. It was an all day project. We started at 9:00, broke for a sack lunch together then back to work until around 4:00. It was a great and creative day. Our next project is Bonnie Gibson's project packet of a gourd mouse house. We are busy gathering all kinds of treasures to use on and in our mouse house. Pictures next newsletter! We hope that all patches are happy, healthy and "gourding" like crazy. If you'd like to join our patch, please give me a call. Beth Lively





Vickie's Gem Tree

Katie's Gem Tree

Cowtown Gourd Patch

The Cowtown Gourd Patch regularly meets on the 1st Sunday of each month at noon in Benbrook, Texas. We converge at the Benbrook Community Center located at the corner of Mercedes and 228 San Angelo Ave. This location is just a few blocks south of I-20 and Winscott Road (southwest Ft. Worth area). However there have been some changes to locations and dates, as so noted in this article.

Our 2-hour meetings provide either a demonstration on the use of tools or how a specific technique is used on a gourd. April 2016, Cindy Lear (a glass artist) demonstrated how she made fused-glass cabochons to use as an embellishment. Using a wire screen in her kiln, she melted piles of colored and clear glass shards. These dripped and flowed onto a paper surface, and once cooled they are broken. The desired pieces are re-melted giving the cabochon a smooth surface with rounded edges. Those attending were encouraged to select a cabochon to use on a gourd for Show-and-Tell at the May meeting.

The May 8th meeting will be held at noon, but will take place at Ethel McKithan's home in south Ft. Worth. She is a selftaught pyrographer and her work is stunning. Bring some raw gourds or gourd shards, and your wood burner/tips. Call Becky at 817-726-6653 for directions to Ethel's home.

June 5th we will be making gourd rattles. The July meeting date has moved to July 10th due to the Fourth of July holiday but, as yet, no project has been assigned.

If you would like to join us, call Becky Wise at 817-726-6653 so I can include you in the email meeting announcements or so you will know what to bring for the monthly project. We look forwarding to sharing our time and experience with all.

Note: Watch for the upcoming Cowtown Gourd Patch page on Facebook.



Birdhouse Gourds by Becky Lear



Antler Gourd by Ethel McKithan

Mimbres Style Plate by Sue Haberer

Greater San Antonio Gourd Patch

Sad news to report from the San Antonio patch: Darla Vosburg, their patch leader and founder of the patch passed away recently. Prayers for her family. Michelle Montgomery has taken over as patch leader.

Guadalupe Gourd Patch

The Guadalupe Gourd Patch has been having a great time at our meetings.

In January we made Rain gourds. We met at Judy Richie's house where everyone had a great time. We got the gourds ready to take home and finish with our choice of designs. These were made from canteen gourds.

For our February meeting the patch met at Ann Little's home in Fredericksburg. Unfinished projects were brought to work on. A few of our members went to the Wuertz Show this year. Judy Richie was one of the Judges for competition and had a booth.

We had another full house for Marchwith a pine needle coiling project. We have several members that are new to gourds. We met at Judy Richie's home

Everyone was excited for Roy and Blanche Cavaretta to be at our April meeting. Roy was kind enough to show us how to chip carve on gourds with Blanche assisting him. This was one of our best meetings yet.

We have paid our dues for group membership at Kerr Arts and Cultural Center in Kerrville. We have been members for several years and provide the food for the reception at the Southwest Fine Art Gourd Show as well as volunteer to help set up and take down the show. Also, look for our booth at the Lone Star Gourd Festival. Our patch is growing with members from other cities joining us.



Southeast Texas Gourd Patch

The Southeast Texas Patch meets the second Saturday of each month for a business meeting, show and tell, a workshop, lunch involved, reviewing the rules, coordinating with the leadership of the Texas Gourd Society to get the information onto the website and generally getting ready for August. We have a very able and experienced head of the committee, Darla Hines, and everyone in the patch has been an enthusiastic participant in the process.

We also find time at each meeting for a workshop usually given by one of the members on a technique. So far this year, we have had lessons in use of alcohol dyes, teneriffe and closed coiling. This month we were really treated to a fun day at Darla's new home located north of Bryan, Texas. Darla and her husband, Tee, were wonderful hosts, provided a delicious lunch and Darla conducted a great closed coiling workshop. We had two new additions to our patch, Bobby and Darlene Thornton. Mary Rogers came all the way from Waco to participate in our patch for the day.

Our patch is in charge of the competition for the 2016 Lone Star Gourd Festival in August and we have been busy learning what our duties are.

We were also treated to a White Gourd drink.



As you can see, a good time was had by all.



West Texas Gourd Patch

The West Texas gourd patch has been reorganizing and regrouping after the passing of our beloved leader, Charla Johnson.

We are looking forward to beginning a new project in April.

If you are in our area and interested in what can be done with gourds, call Paula Bownds at <u>806-634-5919</u> for more information.

Thank you,
Paula Bownds
PO Box 388
Lorenzo, TX 79343
(806) 634-5919
bownds@windstream.net

TGS RAFFLE GOURDS!

A **BIG THANK YOU** to the nine TGS members that have donated some beautiful gourds for our raffle: The gourds will be on display and raffle tickets will be sold at the Kerrville Arts and Cultural Center during the "Fine Art Gourd Show" from May 26 to June 25.







Judy Richie – "Golden Butterflies"

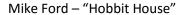
Roy Cavarretta – "Good Dreams"

John Flewharty – "Red Antler Bowl"

Next, the gourds will be on display during the "Lone Star Gourd Festival" from Aug 17 to Aug 21. The winners will be drawn at 2pm on Sunday, Aug 21.

Raffle tickets will be mailed to Patch Leaders to give to members to sell as soon as I get them. **PLEASE MAKE SURE WHEN PEOPLE FILL OUT THEIR NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBER WE CAN READ IT.** And if you are going to the Festival, bring the stubs to turn in for the raffle. If you are not going to the Festival, mail the stubs to me so I have them by Aug 13 or give them to a TGS member who will be going to the Festival. Tickets will be \$1.00 for 1 ticket or 6 for \$5.00.







Shelia Guidry – "Blue Bayou"



Vickie Hartman – "Step It Up With Black Walnuts"







Mike Munford – "Sunflowers"

Lynda Smith – "Autumn Oaks"

Cheryl Trotter- "It's All a Masquarade"

If 100 members sell just one booklet (12 tickets in a booklet) TGS could make at least \$1000 just off of the 9 gourds.

We will still do another raffle at the Festival where you choose which item you want to buy tickets for.

PATCHES, IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO DONATE ITEMS FOR THIS RAFFLE, HAVE THEM COMPLETELY READY WHEN
YOU TURN THEM IN – IF YOU ARE DONATING A BASKET OF ITEMS, PLEASE HAVE IT WRAPPED AND PROVIDE
A LIST OF ITEMS WHICH ARE IN THE BASKET. PLEASE LET LYNDA SMITH KNOW IF YOU ARE DONATING AN
ITEM SO SHE CAN PLAN FOR THEM. EMAIL HER AT— lyndabethsmith@gmail.com

If we all pitch in and sell tickets and donate items to raffle, we can make this the biggest and most profitable raffles yet.

Attention: Competition Growers Division

Are you a back yard gourd grower or a large farm gourd grower? Have you ever tried to manipulate a growing gourd into a different shape? Our category 13 which is Hand Trained Dried might just be the place to show your gourd garden skills! If you win this category at our state level festival and a member of the American Gourd Society your gourd will be eligible for you to enter the AGS Jim Story Award challenge.

The information below is provided from the American Gourd Society's webpage. This is just part of their information about the Jim Story Award.

The AGS "Jim Story Award"

Introducing Jim Story and the "Jim Story Award"

Jim Story, from Pendleton, Indiana was known around the world as a gourd gardener, a gourd manipulator and molder of gourds. Jim was ever the experimenter, teacher, and legendary supporter of the American Gourd Society. He inspired many of us to try new and different techniques, a number of which he pioneered. Jim encouraged gourd growers to continually "raise the bar" by facing ever-greater challenges.

Jim Story died in 2005 at the age of 83. In his honor, the AGS started the "Jim Story Award" in 2009 to encourage and inspire gourd growers to continue the exploration of gourd manipulation. The award is funded through voluntary contributions from AGS Chapters and individuals. The Jim Story Award (JSA) Committee has developed an application process, engages qualified judges and identifies winners every year. The top 3 winners receive cash awards and photos of them and their winning gourds are published in The Gourd Magazine.

A Jim Story Award trophy for outstanding gourd manipulation will be presented to the first place winner annually at the state chapter show of his or her choice.

This is a challenge to push the envelope. We are looking for innovation, new ideas, and new techniques of gourd manipulation or molding. The winners of the AGS Jim Story Award will receive:

• 1st place: \$300.00 and a Trophy

• 2nd place: \$150.00 and a Certificate

3rd place: \$50.00 and a Certificate

This competition begins at the state/chapter level. Winners at the state/chapter level may then enter the national competition.

To be considered for the national competition, the state/chapter winner must (A) be a current member of the American Gourd Society and (B) complete and submit the application and required photos to the Jim Story Award Committee as described on the application form.

Beginning with the 2015 competition, we are encouraging the chapter winners to submit their applications electronically (via email) as noted on the application. We will still accept applications by USPS mail (those directions are also on the application.) The rules and guidelines are posted above and may change as determined by the AGS Jim Story Award Committee





"Big Tex" Wants Us!

The Dallas Gourd Patch with the help of Dee Reichert has been able to talk the State Fair of Texas into offering a category for GOURDS ONLY!

In the past Dee was able to get two other categories into the fair: polymer clay and machine knitting. And they have expanded those categories over the years to fill the need for art. So why don't we have a gourd art category she thought? Dee was very frustrated trying to find a section to enter her gourd creations. "We have so many great artists in the gourd world, and so often the public doesn't even know what a gourd is", states Dee.

Sooo...last year she began soliciting the Fair for a Gourd Category. She put the idea to the Dallas Patch and began a petition. She also presented it to the gourdheads at the Texas Festival last year. She was able to obtain over 150 signatures. When she delivered her fair entries she presented the petition to the director of the Creative Arts Department. They were immediately excited as they had already oohed and awwwed over the pieces that had been entered so far. It was an easy sell! They even offered them a day to come to the fair and demo their art for a couple of hours.

Mari Tarver, Becky Truex, Skylar Wilson and Dee gathered a horde of gourds and supplies and set up three demo tables in the Creative Arts building. They had an amazing response! The Fair was so pleased with their presentation that they allowed them to stay the whole day and hoped they would come back the next year!

"We had so much fun talking to so many people!" says Dee. "The time just flew by and we gave out every business card and flyer we had in only a couple of hours.....and we forgot to eat!"

The new competition category for Gourd art will be: Mixed Media, Fantasy/Whimsical, Carved/pyrography, Vessels and Birdhouses. Competition books will be available first of April but can be pre-ordered now. Contact the Creative Arts Department at 1-214-421-8744 or their website at www.BigTex.com in a few weeks. Entries will then be submitted in July.

We need to make a good showing so that we can continue to have this privilege. So let's show these people what we can do with a gourd! We need your entries folks. You can deliver your gourds in person or mail them so there is no excuse to miss this opportunity!

LONE STAR FESTIVAL COMPETITION

It's time to check out the 2016 competition guidelines, categories and divisions and start designing and creating those super entry pieces! All the information is posted on the Texas Gourd Society website.

The competition area is one of the most interesting areas of the festival for first timers as it is for the membership. We're really hoping for a record number of entries this year!

The artisan of the Best of Show entry becomes the Artist of the Year and receives a free booth in the following year's festival. Just think it could be you!

Members of the Southeast Patch are organizing the competition area this year. Our committee has come with a new line up of categories, the divisions are the same.

This year we have a new exciting open theme category, TEXAS OUR TEXAS. One entry allowed per person, multiple artisans or a partnership. This way you can work on your own piece, one with friends, grandchildren, patch members, family members, invite a non-gourd person to help you! This is open from youth levels to masters. Entries in this special theme open division will not be able to be considered for Best of Show due to the rules. The entries must focus on a theme that is representative of Texas. Think of Texas heritage, animal life, terrain, history cultures, art, music, people, etc., any technique or mediums are allowed.

You can enter this category plus your entries from any other arts and craft division and or the growers division. When considering entry fees, at least one person from the multiple or partnership needs to be a TGS member to receive the lower member's entry fee, this person should fill out the entry form.

The Texas Our Texas entries will be setup on a special display table area and we have some nice ribbons of Texas size for the 1st place through 3rd place. We're hoping for lots of entries to show Texas gourd art at its best!







THE TEXAS GOURDZETTE NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING RATES

AD RATES FOR 1 YEAR (4 issues) Includes a LINK on the TGS website to your website, or your email and/or phone number. Single issue ads do not receive a free website link. Full Page AD(8.5 x 11 inches) \$60 per issue

1/2 Page AD\$30 per issue1/3 Page AD\$20 per issue1/4 Page AD\$15 per issue

1/6 Page AD(3 x 3.5 inches) \$10 per issue

AD RATES PER ISSUE Single issue ads will run higher if you do not go with a full year

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Deadlines for ad changes are the first day of March, June, Sept. or Dec. Check should be made payable to:

should be made payable to:

Texas Gourd Society
Blanche Cavarretta, Treasurer
220 CR 90 E
Hallettsville, Texas 77964



All Hands on Deck!

These brave people are the committee heads who will produce next year's Gourdfest. They can use some help, folks. Take the time to let them know you will help with Lone Star Gourd Festival 2016.

Show Chair	Shelia Guidry 337-376-9690	sheliaathome@aol.com
Show Helpers	Rickie Newell 830-613-4246 Debbie Clausen	rickie.newell@gmail.com dclausen82@verizon.net
Vendors	Linda Hughes	lamonelinda2@yahoo.com
Ways and Means	Becky Klix	castlek@msn.com
Competition	Darla Hines and SE Patch	dhines@exede.net
Education	Vickie Hartman 951-491-9051	vickiesvessels@ymail.com
Hospitality	Penny Lyons 832-593-4533 Abby Sandlin 281-463-8858	Txlyonsden@sbcglobal.net Abbygail711@hotmail.com
Set up and breakdown	Jim Lively	blively@wcc.net
Admissions	Cal Stewart and Dallas patch	caldstewart@yahoo.com
Demo	Lelia and Jimmy Sublett	jsublett4@austin.rr.com
Children's Booth	Rona Thornton 512-468-0700	rona.thornton8@gmail.com

Texas Gourd Society, Inc. 106 Rio Llano Drive Llano, Texas 78643 Address Correction Requested