



THE TEXAS GOURDZETTE

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE KAPPA CHAPTER OF THE
AMERICAN GOURD SOCIETY

VOLUME 20 ISSUE 4

October 2015

Spring Gourd Retreat March 4, 5, 6

Details inside!



**Best of Show 2015
Mike Munter**

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Texas Gourd Society
Kappa Chapter of The American Gourd Society

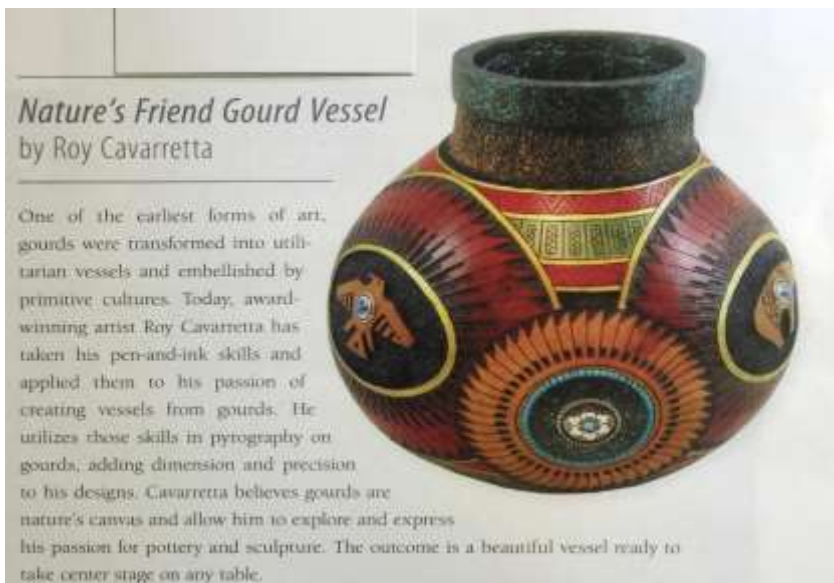
President's Corner

Well. One more Festival is over and I call it a success. We had good weather, good classes, an increase in competition entries with even some gourd grower entries, Bobby Hitt provided entertainment, excellent demos, excellent food by hospitality, and a children's booth provided entertainment for children and adults, and vendors with everything a gourder could want. Attendance was down some, but hopefully moving the date back by 2 weeks will help that issue. We did make money, but I do not remember the exact amount (over \$1500) and that is a successful Festival in my eyes.

Now we are preparing for the Gourd Retreat. I think this is the first one for TGS with just classes. Good friends, good food (hopefully) and creating gourd art- what more could you ask for?

I wish and pray that everyone has a happy and ghoulish Halloween, a Thanksgiving with good food and good friends, and a Merry and Holy Christmas filled with the love of Jesus.

Shelia Guidry, 2015 Texas
Gourd Society President



An honor for Roy Cavarretta, who was featured in Western Art and Architecture Magazine recently. It seems like everywhere you look, Gourds (and Roy!) are showing up. Congrats, Roy!

HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR MEMBERSHIP?

If not go to www.TexasGourdSociety.org and
renew your membership today.

**TGS now accepting membership renewals via
PayPal!!!**



Purpose:

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.

2015 TGS Executive Board

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agsmembership@comcast.net

TGS Patch contacts

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TGS Bay Area Gourd Patch - Baytown TX area
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TS Coastal Bend Gourd Patch - Corpus Christi, TX area
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Or Becky Wise 817-726-6653 dbwise@swbell.net
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Or Judy Richie judyrichie@yahoo.com

TGS Southeast Texas Gourd Patch - Houston TX area
Contact: Buddy Trotter 281-300-5013
Website: www.artisanart.biz/tgs_southeast

TGS West Texas Gourd Patch - Lubbock TX area
Contact: Charla Johnson 806-795-4405 CharKlass@aol.com
Or Paula Bownds bownds@windstream.net

Judging Your Contest Entry

Things to Consider for Your Entry in the 2016 Lone Star Festival Competition

First I'd like to thank all of the gourd artists, crafters and growers for entering the 2015 competition and every volunteer who hosted the area. Volunteers were mostly from the Dallas Gourd Patch, rounded up by Cal Stewart, the Competition Chair.

Next year the Southeast Texas Gourd Patch will be coordinating the competition area, so I brought the boxes of competition supplies home with me. While sorting through supplies in preparation for next year's event, I came across some interesting notes and thought I would share. These are the number of competition entries in past years: 2004=336, 2005=243, 2006=196, 2007=193, 2008=198, 2009=198, 2010=231, 2012=184, 2014=117, and for 2015=196. **For 2015 we had 196 entries, which was almost double the year before.** In 2016 we would really like to see even more entries! **The competition area is the best area to show the public what gourd art is all about, so let's increase the entries again next year.**

At the annual business meeting, the members present voted to continue with the same divisions and rules of entry for future festivals. The categories for Novice through Masters can be changed. **I would like to hear from some of our members for ideas of new categories that we might consider for the 2016 event.**

As Co-chair of the 2015 competition, I was charged with the task of finding judges for the event and the V.I.P. selection. I asked the New Braunfels Art League this year for a volunteer. My thinking on this was to try for a bit of crossover artist, to show our art form to other artists with hopes of new artist interest. We had two ladies, Barbara Blaschke and Flora (Flo) Biggs, select the award. Their task took quite some time. I had asked Jimmie Holton to host them for any questions they might have since I wasn't sure when they were arriving. As it turned out, they came early and I was available. Jimmie and I both assisted and answered many questions about how the different art forms were done. They looked at all of the entries and narrowed down their selection to just a few. It happened that one of their favorites was one of Barbie Holton's entries so I was watching Jimmie, who kept his jaws firmly closed so he couldn't sway their choice! After their selection was awarded Jimmie was excited to tell them about the entry they chose.

We use standards for judging which come from the American Gourd Society. Before entering or even creating your entries for next year you may want to look over the Judging Handbook. **These standards are available in a PDF form on the AGS website. (http://www.americangourdsociety.org/judging/judging_handbook.pdf)** We use a panel of six judges, who do not all need to be AGS certified but must be familiar with the standards. We use the verbal consensus and we wish there was enough time to leave judges' notes with each entry, but it's just not possible. The judges are not allowed to touch the entries. One of the clerks has the task of picking up any entry requested by a judge so they can look inside, under, and all around. They all carry flashlights for close detail inspection, so be careful with every part of your art pieces. Take the time to remove any pencil marks, excess glue, drips, sanding details, or coiling spacing. **Be sure every detail is perfect. Read the requirements of each category so you can be sure your entries meet the criteria. Start now on your 2016 entries!** The Southeast Patch is already planning for your entries!

Thanks again to all of the volunteers it takes to put on our Lone Star Gourd Festival.

Darla Hines, Competition Co-Chair 2015

TGS Patch Happenings

Arlington Gourd Patch

from Georgia Cunningham

Arlington Gourd Patch did not have their July meeting because some members had planned to attend the Lone Star Gourd Festival in New Braunfels this year.

When hot August rolled around, gourd members felt inspired to meet together. The patch usually doesn't meet in July or August, but we had a need to be together and learn from each other. Georgia Cunningham led a repeat class on alcohol inks. She presented 5 different looks for using alcohol ink on a gourd: burl technique, leather technique, pebbles/sand technique, stone technique, and swirl technique.

Earlier in the year our patch chose to participate in our own "gourd challenge". While we only had 2 entries, they were both spectacular. The theme was "Into the Woods".



Ethel McKithan presented her birdhouse gourd that showed various animals from the woods. Her special little owl peeked through the hole to greet everyone who looked at this unique piece



Nancy Walsh's piece was wood-burned and showed a path that led through the woods depicting things one might see on such a journey.



Julie Lind and Susan Ashley led the workshop in September. They gave an introduction to various types of pine needles and how to gather them. They also helped the group learn ways of preserving and dyeing them for gourd embellishments.

Julie presented her technique for using knotted needles as accents. The entire group worked on making knots to use on future gourds.



We look forward to October so we can see what creation each member brings for show-and-tell.

Bay Area Gourd Patch



Shelia Guidry shows Cathy West how to attach Danish cord.

The Bay Area gourd patch (BAG patch) continues to grow. We meet every 3rd Saturday from 10am – noon at the Baytown Art League in Baytown, Texas.

In September we had a combined meeting of the Bay Area and SE Texas patches. Shelia Guidry was in town and came out to teach us Coiling with Beads. She drew a crowd and gave a great class. She also provided information on the use of Memories Mists and Perfect Pearls as a finish for the gourds. They are amazing!

C.C. Rice and Shelia made a side trip to May's Beads in Houston while she was here. May's has a large selection of gemstone beads with great discounts. Check them out in Houston. They are on Harwin in the warehouse district. They also have a nice store in Dallas.

The Art League held the Work of the Hand show which exhibited pottery from some of the most noted potters in the country and gourd art by Shelia Guidry, Mike Munter, Roy and Blanche Cavarretta, JoAnne Tompkins, Cheryl Trotter, Susan Urban, C.C. Rice, and Bonnie Gibson (from Cheryl Trotter's collection).

The patch created gourd masks for the Baytown Art League's Day of the Dead exhibit coming in October. The Art Center will hold a reception for the event on October 24, from 6-8pm with special guest speaker Carlos Orenollos, professor of anthropology, who is an authority on the event.

Also during October, Susan Urban and C.C. Rice gave a demonstration on gourd art to the Baytown Art League members. Two additional people signed up for the patch during the meeting.

The next BAG patch meeting will be October 17 when we will be experimenting with colored pencil on ornaments.



Color on gourd using Memories Mists in multiple colors.

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>

Capitol of Texas Gourd Patch

Pat Spain hosted the September meeting of the Capitol of Texas Gourd Patch. After a delicious lunch of lasagna and salads we had a long discussion about various matters concerning our patch and TGS. We decided to do spirit dolls at our next meeting to donate for the TGS raffle. Pat then showed us how to add beads to the rim of a gourd....leading to much concentration and amazement. Thanks, Pat. Our next meeting will be at Suzanne Haffey's home on Nov. 14th where we hope to see new members join us.

Coastal Bend Gourd Patch

We had a small meeting Sept 19th at Shelia Guidry's house where all coiled with Danish cord. A dip in the front of the gourd was cut. Beads were added on the coiling in the dip. Members were very happy to be taking home a finished gourd.



Pictured from left to right showing their finished gourds are:
Sandra Williams, Shelia Guidry, Julie Wilkinson and Angela Frost

Coastal bend Gourd Patch meets the 4th Saturday of most months. Our next meeting will be November 21, 2015 where we will make a really cute gingerbread ornament. The body is a small bottle gourd and arms and legs are polymer clay. Some of our "snow birds" will be here by then escaping the cold.



Cowtown Gourd Patch

The Cowtown Gourd Patch could be described as a small patch, but we are a busy bunch. We meet the 1st Sunday of each month at noon in Bedford, Texas at the Benbrook Community Center located at the corner of Mercedes and 228 San Angelo Ave. Enter through the rear door. Note: Benbrook is located SW of Ft. Worth.

Our 2-hour meetings provide either a demonstration on the use of tools or techniques, such as the varied types of alcohol dyes and their multiples uses, or a project is presented with all members participating. This year we created spirit dolls which was just one of the many projects taught by Sue Haberer (and which were donated to the 2015 TGS raffle). Barbara Petroski instructed us in glass seed beading techniques. Faux beading and leather tooling was taught by Nancy Walsh, and Cindy Lear fired the glass mosaics for our gourds in her kiln (this class was taught off-site in Granbury).

Each 3-month quarter the members volunteer to present a technique or to instruct the others in a project. As this year ends, in November there will be a demonstration on pine-needle knot weaving. Learn how to create Mimbres style gourd pottery in December. This is the ancient black and white pottery found in New Mexico from 1000 to 1250 AD.

If you would like to join us, call me 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.

Becky Wise

West Texas Gourd Patch

The West Texas Patch hasn't met in several months because we've all been busy with other activities and our wonderful leader and hostess, Charla Johnson, has been ill for several months. We were all saddened last week when she went home to be with her Lord. She very graciously opened her home to us each month, always had wonderful refreshment, and had supplies for anyone who didn't have what was needed to complete the project we were working on at that meeting. She will be greatly missed by all of us in the patch.

Charla was a very talented artist and taught several classes on various arts. Her painting mediums were oil, pastel and water color. She was also involved with ceramics and gourds. Charla's passion was sculpting Santas, which she would sculpt from small to life-sized figures.

Charla hosted the West Texas Gourd Patch meetings for several years. She will be greatly missed by all who knew her.



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	sheliaathome@aol.com
Ways and Means	Becky Klix	castlek@msn.com
Competition	Darla Hines and SE Patch	dhines@exede.net
Education	Vickie Hartman	vickiesvessels@ymail.com
Hospitality	Penny Lyons and Abby Sandlin	txlyonsden@sbcglobal.net
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 and Shelia Guidry	rona.thornton8@gmail.com

An Idea for Us All



As part of a summer activity at a local church in their hometown of Wimberley, Texas, Leila and Jimmy Sublett were invited to conduct a gourd class. The 25 students participated in making birdhouses out of gourds. After a short lesson on "What is a Gourd" the students each received a prepared gourd and began to freely decorate it using ink dye, acrylic paint, stamps, and leather straps. The creativity flowed freely and many one of a kind birdhouses were the result of an exciting morning spent with a wonderful bunch of energetic young people from 5 to 12 years old. It's hard to say who had more fun, the kids or the Subletts.

2015 Festival Results



BEST OF SHOW
Mike Munter



PEOPLE'S CHOICE
John Flewharty



VIP AWARD
Barbie Holton

BEST OF DIVISION WINNERS



YOUTH DIVISION
Noah Spinrath



NOVICE DIVISION
Lynda Boltz



INTERMEDIATE DIVISION
Judy Absher



ADVANCED DIVISION
Mike Munter



MASTERS DIVISION
Yoshi Green



GROWERS DIVISION
Roger Clausen

BLUE RIBBON WINNERS

Youth and Novice Divisions



14-18 Years
Skylar Wilson



9-13 Years
Noah Spinrath



8 Years & Under
Kylee O'Quinn



Wearable
Joy McGinn



Vessels
Nita Beard



My Idea
Nancy Brock

BLUE RIBBON WINNERS

Youth and Novice Divisions



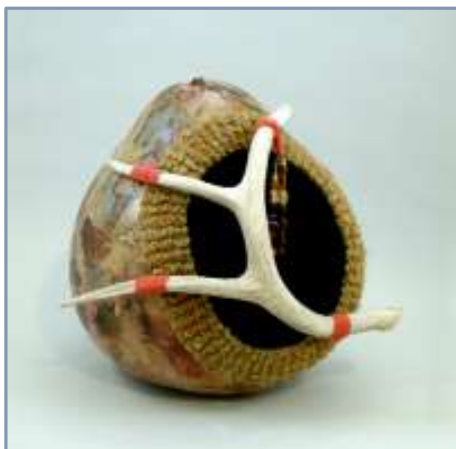
Southwest/Native American
Lynda Boltz



Pyrography
Lynda Boltz



Painted
Debbie Winnegar



Mixed Media
Nita Beard



Mask
Nita Beard



Holiday
Nita Beard

BLUE RIBBON WINNERS

Youth and Novice Divisions



Fiber Works

Nancy Brock



Fantasy/Whimsical

Gloria Drab



Carved

Mary Beth Martin



Birdhouse, Decorated

Joy McGinn



Animal Design

Lynda Boltz

BLUE RIBBON WINNERS

Intermediate Division



Animal Design

Georgia Frazier Clark



Carved

Judy Absher



Fantasy/Whimsical

Sammie Roye



Fiber Works

Judy Medders



Holiday

Becky Lisbon



Mixed Media

Judy Absher

BLUE RIBBON WINNERS

Advanced Division



My Idea
Dee Reichert



Pyrography
Judy Absher



SW/Native American
Becky Klix



Vessels
Zeldajean Byrd



Wearable
Linda Hughes

BLUE RIBBON WINNERS

Masters Division



Animal Design
Mike Munter



Carved
John Flewharty



Doll
Mike Munter



Fantasy/Whimsical
C.C. Rice



Fiber Works
Joanne Tompkins



Holiday
Becky Truex

BLUE RIBBON WINNERS

Masters Division



Wall Hangings
Joanne Tompkins



Mixed Media
Mike Munter



Pyrography
John Flewharty



Sculpture
Clarissa Spence



SW/Native American
Clarissa Spence



Vessels
John Flewharty

BLUE RIBBON WINNERS

Masters Division



Fiber Works
James Medder



Mixed Media
Sue Haberer



My Idea
Cal Stewart



Animal Design
Roy Cavarretta



Doll
Yoshi Green



Mask
Cheryl Trotter

BLUE RIBBON WINNERS

Masters Division



SW/Native American
Cheryl Trotter



Vessels
Barbie Holton

BLUE RIBBON WINNERS

Growers Division



3 of a Kind
Bill Schiel



Display, Dried
Bill Schiel



Largest
Vickie Hall



Most Unusual Dry
Roger Clausen



Stemmed Beauty
Maria Aguilar

❀❀❀ TGS class Retreat ❀❀❀



1 2 lodges with wrap-around porches with views of the Guadalupe River on 78 acres

Hellen Martin and Shelia Guidry have been working on the logistics for a gourd retreat with only classes and fun for TGS members (if you are not a TGS member yet you can still join TGS, then sign up for the retreat). The dates for the retreat are March 4, 5 and 6, 2016. We will have a **very** short Spring Business Meeting during supper on Saturday, March 5, 2016 during the retreat. The retreat will be held at Camp Capers which is off of I-10 (west of San Antonio) past Boerne and is an Episcopal Camp at 418 FM 1621, Waring, TX 78074.

TGS has signed a contract with Camp Capers for TGS to hold a gourd retreat for at least 30

students not to exceed 40 students. **If we do not get 30 students by December 20, 2015, TGS will cancel the contract and the retreat and get the deposit back.** Camp Capers will provide room and board, meals and additional space to hold classes. Looking at how many have already shown an interest, I really think we will fill up the all spaces for students. If you sign up and pay and then need to cancel, cancellations for full refund will be allowed until November 20, 2015. After that date you will not be allowed to cancel but you can sell your spot to another TGS member. Deadline for final registration will be January 20, 2016 or until all spaces are filled, whichever comes first. There is a limit of 40 total students, so do not wait.



Students staying at Camp Capers will pay a flat rate for the retreat which covers room, 5 meals, classes and gourds for the classes (teachers may charge an additional fee not to exceed \$15 per class per student for supplies such as burs, light kits, special dyes etc. It will cost **\$410** per student (couples that both take classes are treated as 2 single students and pay \$410 each). Camp Capers charges per person for the room and rooms have 2 beds so will have 2 people in each room. If you want to room with someone specific, please let us know. Due to the limited number of rooms at Camp Capers, couples wishing to attend with only one of them taking classes will need to stay at a motel at their expense and pay

\$225 for classes. The cost of meals for those not staying at the Camp are \$8 for breakfast, \$9 for lunch and \$13 for dinner and is your choice of which ones you want to eat at the Camp. Hellen Martin must know which meals those staying at motels want to eat at the Camp no later than February 20, 2016. Spouses are welcome to come with the member to the Camp while classes are being held and can also pay to eat meals at the Camp.

There will be 4 sessions of classes for each student – Friday -1pm to 5pm, Saturday- 8am to noon, Saturday - 1pm to 5 pm and Sunday- 8am to noon. Students will have a choice between 3 classes for each session. Only 13 or 14 students will be allowed for each class. There will be a limit of 40 students for the retreat.

The teachers will be:

Hellen Martin hellenmmartin@gmail.com	817-907-3320
Sue Haberer shaberer47@gmail.com	817-559-3000
Vickie Hartman vickiesessels@ymail.com	915-491-9051
Barbie Holton barbie@barbieholton.com	830-285-5102
Shelia Guidry sheliaathome@aol.com	337-376-9690

Note: Barbie will have tools and supplies to sell

Those who have already emailed Hellen and Shelia have been put on a list and will be given first choice of classes. An email will be sent to those on the list with retreat info and they will have 2 weeks to respond. There will be 1st, 2nd and 3rd choice for each of the 4 sessions. **We will not use Paypal for the retreat.** The sign up forms will be on the TGS website for everyone else 2 weeks later (an email will be sent informing TGS members when the retreat info is posted). Forms and checks will need to be mailed to **Vickie Hartman at P.O. BOX 317, AZEL, TEXAS 92596.**



We also plan on having some fun after classes. On Friday evening, we will have some demos. If anyone attending the retreat wants to do a demo, please let Shelia Guidry know.

On Saturday evening, we will play bingo. Each person who wants to play needs to bring a gourd-related item or items worth around \$20 from items you already have at home(excess items or gently used items someone else would love to have) to be used as prizes for the bingo game. It can be dyes, books, new gourds, seagrass, etc, etc. Spouses are welcome to play but will need to bring gourd related items for prize also. The items need to be in a bag so that the items cannot be seen.

Questions about the retreat need to be sent to Shelia Guidry (sheliaathome@aol.com) or Hellen Martin (hellenmmartin@gmail.com) and questions about the sign up for classes need to be sent to Vickie Hartman (vickiesvessels@ymail.com).

Shelia Guidry 2015-2016 President

Membership Matters

Texas Gourd Society's membership chair, Joel Hartman, is updating our membership roll. If Joel has not received dues or confirmation that you paid by February 28, 2016, you will be taken off the membership list and you will not receive update emails from TGS.

Joel's mailing address for membership is:

Texas Gourd Society

His email is: jshartman@ymail.com

P.O. Box 317

Azel, Texas 76098

Deadline for submissions

to the next issue is January 7!



Texas State Fair Finally “Gets” the Gourd

The Gourdzette is pleased to have received this news from Dee Reichert and the **Dallas Gourd Patch**:

Pat Duncan suggested I contact you about our efforts in getting a gourd category in the Texas State Fair.

I began a letter and petition to submit to the Fair so that we can have a category for gourds only in next year's competition. At our festival in July, I made a petition to open a **category for gourds only** in next year's Texas State Fair competition. Announcements were made to come sign it in my booth. When the petition had more than enough signatures, I headed to the fair where they were in the process of collecting entries for this year's fair. Becky Truex and I had entries to submit and they were so well received. They asked so many questions about techniques and

such that they asked if we could do a demo during the fair. So October 11th from 1-3 p.m. there were four of us demoing our craft in the Creative Arts Building.

Then we headed to the office and spoke with the manager of this enormous undertaking of the Creative Arts Department. I explained that we had a local chapter and how many more chapters there were in Texas. I showed her pictures of the Lone Star Festival competition and she was so impressed she approved us immediately for 2016! She approved nine of classes in gourd crafting with possibly more being added.

I was so thrilled for the future of our craft. This venue will be a great way to show the Texas talent we have and a wonderful opportunity to grow our patches and our craft.



Mari Tarver, Dee Reichert, Becky Truex, and Skylar Wilson were so fired up about their gourd demo at The State Fair that they stayed an extra three hours.

We owe you ladies for representing our Gourd Passion so well!

THE TEXAS GOURDZETTE NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING RATES

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Deadlines for ad changes are the first day of March, June, Sept. or Dec.

AD RATES PER ISSUE

Single issue ads will run slightly higher if you do not go with a full year – and, do not include a free link listed as “Gourdzette Advertisers”.

Full Page AD(8.5 x 11 inches) \$70 per issue
1/2 Page AD \$35 per issue
1/3 Page AD \$25 per issue
1/4 Page AD \$18 per issue
1/6 Page AD(3 x 3.5 inches) \$12 per issue

Deadlines for ad changes are the first day of March, June, Sept. or Dec.

Check should be made payable to:

The Texas Gourd Society
and mailed to:
1518 Airline Drive, Katy, TX 77493

GOURDZETTE EDITOR
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ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP TEXAS GOURD SOCIETY

The Kappa Chapter, TEXAS GOURD SOCIETY (TGS) is part of the American Gourd Society (AGS). Membership benefits of TGS include quarterly newsletters called THE TEXAS GOURDZETTE, source information for seeds, gourds, educational materials, show information, tools, seminars, workshops, meetings, horticulture, demonstrations, ideas for embellishing and more. Texas is divided into regions called “TGS Gourd Patches”. Dues for TGS members are \$12 per year, expiring Dec. 31. Two state meetings are held: one in Spring and one in Fall.

TGS ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Membership (Circle One)

New Member Amount Enclosed Renewal
\$12 renewal

\$12 TGS MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL STARTS JANUARY FIRST EACH YEAR.

DUES FOR NEW MEMBERS JOINING IN LATER MONTHS ARE PRORATED: JAN \$12, FEB \$11, MAR \$10, APRIL \$9, MAY \$8, JUNE \$7.

TO COVER CURRENT + FOLLOWING YEAR: JULY \$18 (12+6), AUG \$17, SEPT \$16.

Please mail payment and completed form to:

TEXAS GOURD SOCIETY

P.O.Box 317

Azel, TX 76098

Make checks payable to: Texas Gourd Society, Inc.

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