



THE TEXAS GOURDZETTE

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE KAPPA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN GOURD SOCIETY

VOLUME 16, ISSUE 2

JUNE 2011

Inside:

SW Gourd Fine Art Show

2011 TGS Festival News

Upcoming Events

Patch News

and more!!



Southwest Gourd
Fine Art Show

Best of Show

*"Prismatic Journey –
Transformations of the
Rainbow Serpents"*

by Mike Peyton



Joe Pritchard, President

President's Message - by Joe Pritchard

It has been a busy spring for us. And now the heat is on! Many of our members have been hosting booths selling gourds and gourd art at various garden shows and events throughout Texas. We appreciate everyone who takes the time to attend these events and educate the public about gourds and gourd art. I find that many people do not even know that gourd societies exist.

We held our spring meeting March 26. Although attendance was low, we had a good meeting. Thanks to Bill Willibey for discussing and demonstrating chip carving. It was very educational. We are working on plans to revamp the spring meeting location and agenda. In past years, we were able to sell gourds at the meeting and to also have classes. We hope to return to that forum in 2012. We welcome your comments and suggestions.

We are well underway with our plans for the 2011 Lone Star Gourd Festival, to be held October 14-16, 2011, in Fredericksburg, Texas; this will be our 16th annual show. Visit our website at www.texasgourdsociety.org for details. Please see my article on page 10 that contains much information about the festival. We are offering 26 classes this year. Class subjects are quite varied and our website contains details and application forms. Thanks to Cheryl Trotter for organizing the classes and taking care of applications. We still have booth spaces - \$100 for members and \$125 for non-members. See the website for a diagram of the floor plan and vendor guidelines and application form. Tom Hornsby is our vendor chair again this year; he does a great job! The number of competition entries was the largest yet last year and we hope to top that this year. Again, the website has all the guidelines and entry forms. Linda Baker and her committee have done an excellent job on this. Admission to the festival is \$5 per person (good for all three days) and parking is free. Fredericksburg is a popular tourist area, so you should make reservations for lodging early.

The Southwest Gourd Fine Art Show at Kerr Arts and Cultural Center in Kerrville, TX, is underway; it runs through June 26, 2011. Congratulations to Mike Peyton for winning Best of Show, and to first-place winners Judy Richie (Southwest/Western Theme), Gloria Christian (Contemporary Theme), Mike Peyton (Sculpture), Judy Richie (Fiber Works), Christine Rebert (Carved), and Dusti Lockey (Vases, Bowls or Containers), and, of course to all of the other winners and entrants. There are some new artists this year. As of May 31, 19 gourds had sold at the show. If you are in the Kerrville area, you definitely need to see this free art show.

We will start mailing printed copies (black and white) of the Gourdzette newsletter to all members - sorry, but color copies are too expensive to mail to everyone. You may access the Gourdzette on line and print a color copy. In the past, we only mailed printed copies to those who asked for the hard copy, but every member will now receive the Gourdzette in the mail.

We will soon have a new website - but it will have the same address. Judy Richie is designing a new website for TGS. I will be asking a committee to assist her with content and layout. Our plan is to quickly build a basic site that has all the information for the 2011 Festival. Judy and the committee will then concentrate on the long term design of our website. If you have suggestions on website content, please email them to me at stormy7606@hotmail.com.

We wish the best for our members or their family members who are experiencing health issues.

Have a wonderful and safe summer.

We hope to see you in Fredericksburg in October!

Joe Pritchard

TGS President

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On the Cover: "Prismatic Journey - Transformations of the Rainbow Serpents" by Mike Peyton was named the Best of Show winner at the 2011 Southwest Gourd Fine Art Show at KACC. This is the second year in a row that Mike has won Best of Show. A really BIG congratulations goes to Mike for this outstanding achievement. Mike has definitely raised the bar for all gourd artists everywhere. Go to page 17 for a list of all the winners and photos of some of the individuals participating in this year's show.



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.

2011 TGS Executive Board

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Help Needed!

TGS needs **your**
assistance at the
Lone Star
Gourd Festival

October 14-16, 2011.

We need these three positions filled –

Chairperson of Admissions – overseeing the admissions tables, collecting entrance fees, and issuing wristbands. We should have plenty of volunteers to man this table in shifts.

Kids' Kraft Korner Help – I hope we can have kids' projects at various times each day (maybe two or three sessions per day). This is NOT a full-time requirement, and we should have volunteers to help. TGS will provide the supplies and materials for projects.

Set-up Assistant – Someone to work with Bill Willibey on the "set-up" committee; this involves transporting (with a TGS-rented truck) materials from our storage unit in Fredericksburg to the Fairgrounds, setting up TGS areas (competition, etc.), and transporting the materials back to the storage facility when the show ends.

Contact me if you can help with this.

Joe Pritchard, 817-909-2814.

Thank you!

TGS GOURD PATCH NEWS & HAPPENINGS

TGS WEST TEXAS GOURD PATCH - Lubbock, TX area CONTACT: Charla Johnson - Lubbock, TX 806 795-4405 or CharKlass@aol.com

The West Texas Gourd Patch has been really busy the last three months. In March, we learned a texture technique using sausage casings and a heat gun. Reminded us of "Shrinky Dinks". This technique was taught by Beth Lively who attended a class at the 2010 Lone Star Gourd Festival in Fredericksburg in October. That class was taught by Hellen Martin. Many beautiful gourds were made, all of them different and unique. Some members were a little "squeamish" about using sausage casings and the sticky, messy glue! In April, Charla Johnson taught a class using Silver Clay. Those in attendance each designed an embellishment to be added to a gourd they will share at a future meeting. Each item made will be a treasure on a unique, "one of a kind" gourd. In May, Charla also taught a class on Miriam Joy's Wax Design technique using melted crayons. What fun we had! Tearing the paper off crayons, breaking them and melting them took us right back to our childhood days. Beautiful gourds were created. It was kind of like "adult" coloring and we all acted like kids! Future classes we are planning are: Faux Burl Wood, Bead and Wire Coiling, Large Gourd Masks, Santa Claus Faces Using Clay, Poinsettia Gourd Painting, Mini Spirit Dolls. Several members from our patch have plans to attend the 2011 Lone Star Gourd Festival. They have signed up for many different classes they can share with the group. Our patch meets the 3rd Saturday of each month at 1:00. Contact Charla for more details. We welcome anyone interested in joining us as we learn more about gourd art and crafting. Of course, we think we have the BEST gourd patch in Texas. Please join us!!!

TGS CAPITAL OF TEXAS GOURD PATCH - Austin, TX area CONTACT: Suzanne Haffey, bettiesuz@yahoo.com 512 431-6030

COTGP has experienced a busy and satisfying Spring. We are so lucky to have Karen Hobbs in our neighborhood. We were invited to have our March meeting at her studio and everyone arrived with their gourd prepared and ready for the tapestry weaving class. Everyone selected their personal favorite yarn and reed material.

Using Karen's precise instructions, we finished over 10 completely different masterpieces. Since we prepared the gourd with our own design we all ended up with an original piece. Thanks Karen! Next, at our May meeting Jimmy Sublett kept everyone's attention while demonstrating many



A sample of a variety of gourds created by the COTGP during their March meeting.



Karen Hobbs teaching Suzanne Haffey some tapestry weaving techniques.



Maria Aguilar, Carie Collier, Jimmy Sublett and Anne Williams work on their gourds.

different power tools with a wide variety of bits. He made ripples and filigree look easy. We all had thick scraps to try experimenting and many work stations set up inside and outside. We are happy to report some new members popping up. Of course, the good food helps. Try to survive the hot Summer and we'll see you all in the Fall.

TGS HEART OF TEXAS PATCH - Waco, TX area CONTACT: Bob Schuetze at 254 772-4519 Currently inactive.

TGS GUADALUPE GOURD PATCH - Hill Country, TX area

CONTACT: Bob Richie brichie@kctc.com 830 357-8939 or Judy Richie at judyrichie@yahoo.com

We had a fun meeting the second weekend of May. We played with a sand and metallic paint finish on our gourds. It was a beautiful day to be outside to play, cool and dry. We had 11 members at our meeting, and of course, we had a wonderful pot luck lunch. We also, planned our food for the reception at the KACC Southwest Gourd Fine Art Show. This is our 6th year to provide food for it. We plan on starting our ornaments for a raffle project for the Lone Star Gourd Festival, as well as some for our donation to the Brookwood Community in Brookshire, Texas at our next meeting. It was a successful show for some of our members at the KACC show. Winners were Betty Vertin - 2nd place in the Fiber Works category, Nancy Barnard - 3rd place in Fiber Works, and Judy Richie - 1st in both Southwest/Western category and Fiber Works and 2nd in Contemporary. All three have already had sales. Our next meeting is July 9, 10 am until 2pm with our usual potluck lunch. For information call Judy Richie, 830-257-8939 or email to judyrichie@yahoo.com

TGS ARLINGTON GOURD PATCH - Arlington, TX area CONTACT: Cindi Creswell cidnboo@att.net 817 244-0135 email arlingtongourdpatch@hotmail.com website www.freewebs.com/arlingtongourdpatch

As we prepare for summer our members made gourd rattles led by the direction of Sam Simpson. We used past information to create our rattles with feathers, leather, beads and a small gourd. We also took a month to carve and wood burn on a gourd. The group is looking ahead to the Gourd Show and will make plans to get business cards printed and embellished to hand out. We plan to meet one week earlier due to the pending holiday in June. We will take the summer off and return in September. We have a very talented group and invite anyone to visit. To help support the Fielder Museum where we meet, and the Texas Garden Inc., our members participated in the Fielder Spring Festival. We usually meet the third Sunday of the month, 8 times out of the year, so check the website for schedule changes and dates.

TGS COWTOWN PATCH - Ft. Worth, TX area CONTACT: Barb Petroski 817 249-2929 lunarwind7@aol.com or Becky Wise 817 726-6653 db.wise@me.com website: <http://www.angelfire.com/tx5/cowtowngourdpatch>

No news at this time.

TGS SOUTHEAST TEXAS GOURD PATCH - Houston, TX area CONTACT: Buddy Trotter (Acting Secretary) 281-300-5013 buddytrotter@gmail.com website www.artisanart.biz/tgs_southeast

The Southeast Texas Gourd Patch has been busy, with April and May monthly meetings being well-attended. Several members participated in the Folk Life Festival on April 2nd, in Katy, Texas (just West of Houston), where record-setting attendance caused the group to run out of egg-shaped gourds (for the kids to paint) by mid-afternoon. As part of our charter is to educate the public, the event was deemed a success! TGS Education Committee Chairman Cheryl Trotter reported that a good selection of classes will be offered at the TGS Festival in October. As of mid-April, sign-up is underway, and the response so far from students is good. Workshops were included in both meetings. The April meeting included carving techniques, and the May meeting featured using Sculpt Nouveau, Guilders Paste, and a showing of gourd rattles with corn fillers. A couple of the SE Texas patch members were accepted and are currently showing at the KACC Southwest Gourd Fine Art Show in Kerrville. Both Mike Peyton and Cheryl Trotter have pieces there. The show runs until June 26th. Additionally, Mike Peyton was one of the 1,834 eligible folks to enter the Lone Star Art Guild Convention Art Show. His piece "Gathering" won first place, and "The Samurai" won an Honorable Mention Award in the Sculpture/Jewelry Semi Professional Category Division. Mike has helped to expose a whole different group of folks to gourd art!



Margaret Bell experimenting with torching the rim of a gourd.



Clara Willibey and Claire Cassan show their woven gourd purses.

TGS EAST TEXAS PINEY WOODS GOURD PATCH - East TX area CONTACT: Pam Word havnwords@peoplepc.com 903 663-0017 Piney Woods web site <http://www.geocities.com/pwgourds/patch.html> Currently inactive.

TGS DALLAS GOURD PATCH - Dallas, TX area CONTACT: Sylvia Gaines 903 891-8405 slgaines@isp.com or Pat Duncan 972 463-8668 pdunk8@msn.com

The Dallas Gourd Patch is growing by leaps and bounds. This year we've had 8-10 new members join our patch. We've enjoyed getting to know them and they seem to be enjoying getting to know us and learning new things to do with gourds. We visited the home and studio of Barbie and Jimmy Holton in March. They have a great space to carve and experiment with a variety of tools. In April, Sharon Flewharty demonstrated attaching an antler to a gourd rim with pine needles. We had a large turn out for this meeting and in May, Mari Tarver demonstrated Judy Richie's Alcohol Dye technique and adding beads to a rim. Each meeting seems to have a bigger attendance than the last. Our June meeting demo will be given by another new member, Debbie Speed. Debbie will demonstrate her carving technique with a Dremel. Both John Flewharty and Sylvia Gaines are contributing their talents to the current Raffle gourd in progress. In the SW Gourd Fine Art Show, Barbie Holton won a 3rd place in the Contemporary category and Sylvia Gaines an Honorable Mention in the SW/Western category. We're looking forward to this year's festival and will be donating several things to the different giveaways that will be on-going during the festival weekend. If you're new to the world of gourds and live in the Dallas/Ft. Worth area, please join us for a gourd filled day once a month in Dallas at the Elks Lodge. There's room for many more members and we hope you will be one of them.



Barbie Holton discusses the carving tool she uses to make a variety of textures on her gourds, while Gay Lynn Bynum, Sharon Flewharty and others look on.



A detailed image of Barbie's demo gourd used to show members different carving methods.



John Flewharty tries out a carving tool at our March meeting at the home of Jimmy and Barbie Holton.

TGS COASTAL BEND GOURD PATCH - Corpus Christi, TX area CONTACT: Don Vyskocil 281-451-3494 dvyskocil@sbcglobal.net

Our first organizational meeting was held Jan.15, 2011 with ten people in attendance, interested in forming a gourd patch. By the March meeting of this group, we had volunteers willing to be officers. They are: Don Vyskocil and Sheila Guidry – Co-Leaders, and Shirley Sliger – Secretary. At that meeting we set our calendar for the rest of 2011, filling it with demos, hands-on instruction and events. In the past three months, Sheila has demonstrated and provided hands-on instruction on how to do beaded rims, pyrography, and finishes with inks and dyes. We are off and running!



Sheila Guidry demonstrates finishes to members.

TGS Member Gourd Growers

Let us know if you belong on this list!

JS Gourds

Jack & Sarah Calender
15566 CR 3110 Gladewater, TX 75647
903 845-3695 jsgourds@hotmail.com

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1342 State Hwy 95 South Smithville, TX 78957
830-8394220 yeisley@gvvc.com

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3778 Hwy 75 North Madisonville, TX 77864
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Harry Hurley
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919 557-5946 harryhurley@hotmail.com or
www.carolinagourdsandseeds.com

Gourd Mill

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325 372-5210 dmiller@centex.net

Spaeth Gourd Farm

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325 265-4377 dspaeth@hctc.net

Quarry Farm Gourds

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Clausen's Gourd Farm

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Amore Gourd Farm & More

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Gay Hill Gourd Farm

Carl & Cindy Weems
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979 277-0329 cweems@earthlink.net

Jack's Grain & Gourds

14105 Rowley Rd. Durand, IL 61024
815 721-4531
jacksgrainandgourds@stateline-isp.com

Rising Dawn Gourd Farm

Gay Wright
174 Kellar Rd. Smithville, TX 78957
512 360-2023 alcyone@cmyfarm.com

ATTENTION!

Gourd buyers, please try to contact the Growers on this list before you visit them. They can give you the hours that they are open and can tell you the type of gourds they grow as well as the amount of gourds they have available. It might save you a trip and the frustration of not finding them at home.

Raffle Gourd 2012

In the past, artists from each of the Texas patches have decorated a section of a themed gourd which was then raffled for TGS during our annual festival. Unfortunately there won't be a Raffle Gourd at this year's festival. However, the board has voted to have one in 2012. Judy Richie has donated a gourd and requested volunteer artists to create a 'no theme' gourd that is decorated with whatever each artist wants to create. She has organized a group of 12 artists to contribute their time and talent to the creation of a decorated gourd which will be raffled at our 2012 Gourd Festival.

Judy's hope is to create a fine art piece that will encourage festival goers to buy raffle tickets

for a chance to win it at our 2012 Texas Gourd Festival.

Artist's who will participate are: Crystal Ziemann, Darla Hines, John Flewharty, Hellen Martin, Lynda Smith, Judy Richie, Martha Webb, Don Vyskocil, Cheryl Trotter, Betty Vertin, Edie Davis and Sylvia Gaines. Stay tuned to get a peek at this masterpiece in upcoming issues of the Gourdzette. We know you will want the opportunity to possibly win this piece when you see some of the incredible work of these 12 artists.

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Dyes



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the products available at

www.galaxygourds.com

If you don't see it - ask! Contact
Betsy Roberts at gourdprincessb@yahoo.com



New Members Welcome!

Join a Patch, ask questions, volunteer and have fun!

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Washington State Gourd Society



2011 Lone Star Gourd Festival

by Joe Pritchard

As you know, the 2011 Lone Star Gourd Festival is fast approaching – less than 120 days from when you read this article. We have lots of things in place already and are continuing to work remaining items. We hope to make this the best festival yet!

We still have several booth spaces left, so why not be a vendor? \$100 for a 10' x 10' space for all three days. The vendor application and contract is on our website www.texasgourdsociety.org.

Setup day is Thursday, October 13, 2011. Vendors will be allowed access to set up their booths once Tom Hornsby and his helpers have marked off the floor spaces. No selling that day! We can use lots of volunteers to help set up the festival. Six (6) **classes** will be offered in the pavilion, some beginning at 9:00 am and some running until 4:00 pm Thursday. Check our website for class listings and application form. It is recommended that you contact Cheryl Trotter at 281-300-5013 or email 4cheryltrotter@gmail.com for class availability before sending your application. **Entries for the judged competition** will be accepted at the south end of the exhibition hall – a change from last year – from 1:00 to 5:00 pm. At about 5:00 pm, there will be an **appreciation dinner** for all volunteers, vendors, and judges of the competition – if you are a vendor or helped in setting up the festival or area competition judge, join us! **Judging of the competition** pieces will begin as soon as the judges are full, and will continue as long as necessary. Judging is closed to observers.

Friday, the festival is open to the public 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. Entrance fee is \$5 (good for all three days) and parking is free. Eight (8) **classes** are being offered on Friday – times vary so be sure to check the website for class listings and application form. Be sure to view the **competition** and fill out the ballot for your pick for the **People's Choice Award**. Enjoy a great night in Fredericksburg Friday.

Saturday, the festival is again open to the public 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. Seven (7) **classes** are being offered on Saturday – times vary so be sure to check the website for class listings and application form. If you haven't already done so, view the **competition** and fill out the ballot for your choice for the **People's Choice Award**. Saturday night will be the Texas Gourd Society **banquet** and **Fall general business meeting**.

The meal will be barbecue (same provider as last year); the **location has changed**. The banquet will begin around 6:00 pm and will be held at the **Golden Hub Senior Center** in Fredericksburg – the center is located at 1009 North Lincoln Street, and is east of Highway 16 approximately 8 blocks north of downtown and US 290. Directions will be provided; we will also provide instructions on reserving your meal. You will pay at the door for meals. Following the banquet, we will have the annual general business meeting, including election of officers and two Directors. During the meeting, the winner of the **People's Choice Award** will be announced. We will provide updates on the state of TGS. Everyone is invited and encouraged to participate in the meeting

Sunday, the festival hours are 10:00 am to 3:00 pm – a **change** from previous years. Five (5) classes are being offered on Sunday, starting at 8:30; the last class ends at 2:00 pm. Vendors may start taking down their booths at 3:00 pm – **not before!** We will need volunteers to help with taking TGS items to our storage facility in Fredericksburg, so if you will be in town Sunday night, please give us an hour or so of your time.

We have a great lineup of **teachers** – Bonnie Gibson, Judy Richie, Miriam Joy, Cass Iverson, Barbie Holton, Pamela Gilde, Mary Gayle Van Ingen, Sylvia Gaines, Hellen Martin, Clara Willibey, and Jany Reeves. Take some of their classes and learn what they are willing to share. Be sure to thank them for their time and efforts!

Here are the **vendors** we have so far – Jimmy & Barbie Holton, Judy Richie, Bayou Gourd Farm (Tom & Zelda Hornsby), Southeast Texas Gourd Patch, Galaxy Gourds (Betsy Roberts), Cass Iverson, Marilyn See (2010/2011 Artist of the Year), Hill Country Gourds (Laura Stephenson), Sue Haberer, Hellen Martin, John & Sharon Flewharty, Dallas Gourd Patch, Linda Hughes, Coastal Bend Gourd Patch, Arlington Gourd Patch, Hanky Panky (hand painted gourds and bird houses), Guadalupe Gourd Patch, Nedra Dennison/Sawdust Connection, Mike Peyton, Lynda Smith, Miriam Joy Gourd Creations, Edie Davis, Mari's Little Lamb (gourd earrings and stands), Capital of Texas Gourd Patch, Gay Wright, and Beth Lively.

See you there!