

THE TEXAS GOURDZETTE

Volume 12, issue 3

Texas Gourd Society

March 2007



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE – by Sue Haberer

Greetings to all TGS members. I congratulate you on selecting a great group of people for me to work with and to guide your association for the coming year. You have dedicated board members and officers who are committing a year of their time just for you. Please contact any board member or officer if you have any questions, recommendations, or comments.

Your 2007 officers elected at the Spring Meeting are 1st VP Judy Richie, Secretary Patty Sorensen, Treasurer Lynda Smith, and Membership Joe Pritchard. Your 2007 Board Directors include Gerry Flewharty, Hellen Martin, John Flewharty, Bill Willibey, Robert Schuetze, and Rebecca Wise. We are all excited about the coming year and plan on serving you with dedication.

A big THANKS goes to Cindi Creswell for organizing a great panel of lecturers for our Spring Meeting. Jimmy Sublett showed us his and Lelia's innovation of making inlay stones using epoxy in a plastic spoon. John Flewharty then explained how to inlace, Cindy talked to us on how to get new patch members, and I talked on how a vendor can increase sales. Cindi is packed so full of energy and has great ideas. We are looking forward to the classes she will organize for the Lone Star Festival in Waco in October.

Plans are now underway for the Lone Star Festival which will be held on October 27-28th in Waco again this year. Just recently, we were able to secure a more convenient date for our festival. The exhibits will be in the Texas Room with competition in the same room - partitioned off. Classes will be across the hall in the Ranger Room. Everything will be on the same floor this year for your convenience. Our banquet/ business meeting will be held on Friday night before the opening of the show at a location to be announced later. So don't forget to put the NEW DATE (October 27th -28th) on your new gourd calendar. Other details will follow soon. Be sure to check the TGS Web site.

I encourage each of you to support TGS by participating in the fall show, volunteering your services, and by renewing your membership. If you haven't done so already, renew your TGS membership for only \$12. Encourage new members to join for a prorated price.

A group is only as good as its people - and we know Texans have the best - so put all that effort toward TGS and we can have a **great** organization. Remember, you will only get as much out of something as you put into it. Being an active part of TGS makes it twice the fun!!

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TGS MEMBER WEBSITE LINK LISTING ON THE TGS WEBSITE

Any TGS member can have their gourd-related website linked directly with a listing on the TGS website. You can visit the "advertising and links" page on the TGS site and by clicking on links in that section, you can visit advertisers such as Turtle Feathers or the Caning Shop, or you might want to visit one of the other state gourd societies, or one of the TGS Patch websites. Here is how you can place YOUR website link with TGS:

- 1. Contact our education chair-Cindi Creswell at cidnboo@att.net or 817-244-0135.
- 2. Send her your website address (to be shown on the TGS website)
- 3. Send her your member name (to be shown on the TGS website)
- **4.** Business name, if different from your name (to be shown on the TGS website)
- 5. Email address (will NOT be shown on the TGS website)
- 6. Phone number (will NOT be shown on the TGS website)
- 7. Mailing address (Will NOT be shown on the TGS website)

Fall Classes

Cindi Creswell (Fall Show Education Chair) is lining up instructors. To be an instructor for Fall workshop classes or demonstrations or seminars, Contact Cindi at cidnboo@att.net. Before we can enroll students, we need to have a list of teachers and what they teach. Share your skills – someone out there will appreciate learning what you know, or you can recommend someone you know to teach.

NEW MEMBERS Welcome! Join a Patch, ask questions, learn, volunteer & have fun

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DORCAS ATHERTON	LOUISE_CLEMENT	GEORGIA CUNNINGHAM	DEBBIE MARCOTTE	
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	anna@quarryfarmgourds.com	dnjn3227@sbcglobal.net	dick@mardigourds.com	
ELLIS WARD	JOHNNY WIGGS	JEFF WINCEK	Tom Clynch	
1241 SE 13 HWY		6603 Kingsburn Drive	PO Box 729	
Leeton, MO 64761		Dallas, TX 75231	Grandview, TX 76050	
979-846-2995		jdouglasw2001@yahoo.com	817-648-1934	
	jwiggs557@yahoo.com		tom@clynchrealty.com	
ROGER KISLINGBURY	DAVID D. ADAMS	Welcome to all new memb	pers – contact a patch	
5425 Naaman Forest #504			in your area – learn about	
Garland, TX 75044	Nacogdoches, TX 75963	gourds and gourd art. Ge	•	
972-495-2358	936-569-7293	godi as and godi a di 1. oe	i involved and have fun.	

WELCOME TO OUR ADVERTISERS, both new and returning advertisers. Previous advertisers include: The Caning Shop, Carolina Gourds & Seeds, Gay Hill Gourd Farm, Lone Star Gourds, Turtle Feathers, and This & That Gourds. New ads are from Bayou Gourd Farm, Mardi Gourds, and Sunshine Wood Carving Supply - check out these ads and visit the TGS website for links directly to the advertisers' web sites.

TGS SPRING MEETING & ELECTION



Holes for Leather Edge

Cindi Creswell

Sylvia Gaines-Pat Duncan-Lynda Smith

Gerry Flewharty

THE TGS SPRING MEETING was held at the first Lutheran Church in Waco on March 10th. Robbie Pritchard, now our Past President, opened the meeting and then moved to the election of officers and board members. We enjoyed getting together with gourd friends - sandwiches were ordered for lunch. Thanks to Bob and Doris Schuetze for getting us this location. We learned from Jimmy Sublett how to make a leather edge for gourd rims. The above photo shows the hole pattern and Merrill Toone is holding a finished version. John Flewharty gave a recap of his "Inlace" technique. His tips on his inlace experience were helpful. Betty Lewis gave a short description of Betty and Jim's working with school kids, introducing gourds and how to grow and use them for crafting.

Sue Haberer, our new President, gave a talk on how to display and sell gourds. Thanks to Cindi Creswell, (Education Chair), for setting up the demonstrations and talks, and explaining how to get new members.

Newly elected officers included Sue Haberer, our new President. Sue was previously Vice President and Lone Star Show Chair. Sue resides in Levelland with husband Don. Our new Vice President, Judy Richie, was previously a board Director, and competition Chair. Judy lives in Kerrville with husband Bob. Joe Pritchard, Membership officer, was previously TGS Historian and major help for Robbie and all of us. Lynda Smith was elected Treasurer. Lynda, our Vendor Chair last year, lives in Dallas with husband Michael. Secretary Patty Sorensen, from Hempstead worked with the competition group last year. New Board Directors include Gerry Flewharty, who has served as Membership Officer, resides in Dallas with husband Louis. Hellen Martin also is a Director. Hellen and husband Barry are from Grapevine. Bill Willibey, Gourdzette Editor was elected to serve the rest of Judy Richie's term-Judy resigned as director to run as Vice President, Bill and Clara Willibev live in Houston and are active in the Southeast Patch.

PATCH NEWS

TGS TYLER GOURD PATCH held their first meeting at Hobby Lobby in Tyler on February 10, 2007. We had a great turnout with 16 attending the meeting. Piney Woods members came out to support the new patch and brought examples of their "gourdgeous" work to show and explain their techniques. It was great to see Joe and Robbie, who came down to attend our first meeting. In addition to our "show and tell" we also decided that we would have our meetings on the "off" months from when Piney Woods meet, so that if members from either patch wanted to attend a meeting a month, they could do so. Cindy Partin will be the leader for the patch and Cindy Bradbury (also a new TGS member) has graciously accepted the position of secretary/treasurer. We also had Ann Mercer attend the meeting and she joined TGS while she was there. Ann is from Whitehouse and is an acrylic artist. She is just precious and we are so glad to have her as a new member. I'd like to thank all of those who attended our first meeting. You guys are just incredible ... yeah, you know who you are ... what would we do without you? Our next meeting will be held on Saturday, April 14, 2007 at 10:00 a.m. at Hobby Lobby. Pam Word will teach us how to do a gourd she showed us using plaster and metallic powder.

Contact Cindy Partin - 311 CR4920 Troup, TX 75789 - 903-842-4101 Email: cindy@mikegcarroll.com

TGS CAPITAL OF TEXAS GOURD PATCH held the first meeting of the new year in February and had an overwhelming turnout of over 20 people. We discussed many issues including promotion of gourd art and the next show in Waco throughout central Texas using localized written media and public radio/TV. Jocelyn Guajardo brought her newest toy for all of us to try out - a high speed grinder. Our teeth were aching because it sounded like a dentist's drill! I know what I'm asking Santa for this Christmas! We've also had many educational opportunities since the first of the year. Lelia Sublett did classes for the AARP San Antonio group, Ceramics City in Sattler, the Lions Club in San Marcos and a class in woven rims at the New Braunfels Senior Center. Rona Thornton had a group from the Hudson Bend Garden Club at her studio to make a Valentine's Day project. Other exciting news from our patch is that Lelia Sublett, Opal Chadwell, Bev Tomek, and Maria Aguilar have been accepted to exhibit at the Southwest Gourd Fine Art Show in Kerrville.Please stop by if you're in the area between May 24th and July 8th to see all the talented artists' gourd creations.

Contact Rona Thornton, ronat@austin.rr.com 512-266-3810

TGS WEST TEXAS GOURD PATCH missed their January meeting due to the severe ice and snow storms. However, we did meet in February and had a fantastic program. We invited a Wood Carver to meet with us and show us some of his carvings and then he showed us his carving project using a gourd. I had given him a gourd a few months ago to practice on and he did a great job and had fun using a gourd as a medium. He was surprised to find that it had similarities to wood. We enjoyed seeing the different bits and power tools that are used in carving. He even let us play with them. His technique is similar to what we do on gourds, and he showed us some "tricks of the wood carving trade". For our next few meetings we will be trying our hand at doing a gourd carving project of our own. We met at the South Plains Food Bank Orchard site. They have been gracious enough to let us use their classroom facility on a permanent basis. Our gourd patch has helped the food bank by giving demonstrations and classes for kids that have few opportunities to experience arts. They are in the processes of growing gourds for money making projects. We will meet on the 3rd Saturday of every month at the Orchard site.

Contact: Sue Haberer – Levelland, TX 806-523-9092 or dhaberer@valornet.com

TGS EAST TEXAS PINEY WOODS GOURD PATCH members created clay lizards to perch on gourds at the January meeting. Patty Gilliland led the fun project. Joe Little won a rotating paint rack donated by Gail Adams. Our patch agreed to run the 2007 TGS raffle booth in Waco. The raffle project will be the same as last year with each patch donating a gourd decorated tree or gourd related basket. Pam Word will be coordinating Piney Wood's donation to the show. Members voted to create an oriental inspired tree. On February 10 Piney Woods members transported the original traveling gourd to Tyler to help christen the newly formed Tyler Rose Patch. Presently the traveling gourd is on display at the Marshal Visual Arts center in Marshall, Texas.

Our next meeting will be on Saturday, March 31 - 11 am to 2 PM at Hobby Lobby in Longview, TX. Polly Jones will be teaching Aboriginal dot art painting on a gourd tile.

Supply List

gourd tile (gourd cut approximately 5 - 6 inches in circle or square) - base coat tile with acrylic color of choice, Stylus and 3 or 4 colors of acrylic to co-ordinate with chosen base coat Contact information: Patty Gilliland Email calabash75605@aol.com 903 663 0017 Piney Woods Web site http://www.geocities.com/pwgourds/patch.htm

TGS SOUTHEAST TEXAS GOURD PATCH met December 9th at the Willibeys for a great day of fun, food, gourd gifts and gourd crafts making a wonderful close to 2006. We have a full year of great meetings planned for 2007. Hobby Lobby on FM529 is our basic meeting location on the 2nd Saturday of each month. Thank You to Hobby Lobby for allowing our group to use your location! By having our meetings at Hobby Lobby we can always

purchase things we either need for our meetings or might use for other gourd projects. On January 13th, Clara Willibey taught our group how to Tenerife on gourds. We either brought a gourd prepared to use or Clara supplied us with cut pieces to work with, Clara taught us everything we needed to complete a woven Tenerife design. February 10th we started our meeting early with refreshments and talk. Our learning meeting was a request from members about how to get your design onto gourds. Mike Cosgrove showed us how he lays out his designs for his wonderful spiral cut out gourds. Clara Willibey and Darla Hines then showed many ways to transfer a design onto a gourd. We had great meeting with 19 members present!

Contact: - Darla Hines - Magnolia, 281-356-1340 - SE Patch website: www.geocities.com/TGS_southeast.

TGS DALLAS GOURD PATCH meets on the 3rd Saturday of each month, except December from 10 am-1 pm. Our January meeting was our traditional "Chinese Christmas" held in the home of Pat Duncan with 21 attending, including 3 new members and 1 visitor. We ate and discussed the November Waco show and then ate again. Nominations for replacing the DGP officers were opened but tabled until our February meeting (too full to think). The February meeting was held at Raymond's Bar-B-Q with 23 present. We had 2 guests and 1 new member. New officers were elected. Sylvia Gaines will be president and Pat Duncan will be Treasurer. A secretary is still needed. An informative demo was given by our talented Lynda Smith on the application of metal leafing. She also brought an example of clay overlay on gourds. Thanks to Gay Lynn Bynum, some of our members will be participating in the Colleyville Garden Clubs Spring Convention on March 6th, showing and promoting the gourd world of wonders! For information about the DGP please contact:

Sylvia Gaines (903)891-8405 - slgaines@isp.com or Pat Duncan - (972)463-8668 pdunk8@msn.com

TGS COWTOWN PATCH has been collecting raffle money for several years and has decided to put some of it to good use. After doing some research Edie Davis suggested we donate to Smile Train. They are the worlds leading cleft charity. It is an international charity that provides to those in need as well as providing training to doctors in the region. 100 % of our donation will go towards programs that help children get not only a new smile but a new life as well. For more information go to SmileTrain.org. Perhaps it's time for TGS to step up to the plate and begin a similar program. There's bound to be an agricultural student or a wildlife/animal rescue group or grassland preserve that could use a small financial boost. Maybe even one of our own neglected state parks. Think about it.

Contact: Barbara Petroski 1413 Trammel Drive, Benbrook, TX 76126 ph: 817-249-2929 lunarwind7@aol.com
Robbie Pritchard 7606 Ledbetter Road, Arlington, TX 76001-6908 ph: 817-905-3178: robbiesgarden@hotmail.com website: http://www.angelfire.com/tx5/cowtowngourdpatch

TGS ARLINGTON GOURD PATCH has a new home. The Fielder Museum has graciously lent us the little gray house next to the Children's Garden for our meetings. In December our members enjoy the Christmas break. January we played with a caterpillar stitch for a gourd rim. This project can be used on the gourd or a bracelet. Our February meeting was led by Peggy Gilliland directing us on Faux Raku. We all had a grand time. With so many creative hands and ideas any problems they encountered had solutions to take the project farther. March 10th, Esther Chambliss and Sally Schmidt addressed the Edgecliff Garden Club demonstrating the versatility of gourds to their members. Our Patch March meeting there will be a Swap and Sell. Members are invited to bring their gourds, embellishments or anything that our group could use. Time permitting we will be making small gourd mask. By April, weather permitting we will be carving gourds outside. Join us on the third Sunday of the month unless there is a holiday or scheduling problems at the Fielder. If in doubt when weather is questionable contact Cindi. Our group has been invited to display our gourd art at the Spring Gallery night at Brushstrokes on 4400 W. Vickery. She has moved down the street to the gallery place that was there years ago. The building is very unique. She's asking for pieces to display since I talk about the group all the time to her. Her business is ceramics, but she's trying to build an art center with painting and glass in time. If you would like to show the world what a gourd can BE, bring your pieces to the meeting and I'll take them or submit them to her before March 27. Gallery night is March 31. Contact: Cindi Creswell, cidnboo@hotmail.com, 817-244-0135 Joe Pritchard, joe.pritchard@tccd.edu, 817-909-2814 (Newsletter/Website). Email arlingtongourdpatch@hotmail.com: Website www.freewebs.com/arlingtongourdptach.

TGS GUADALUPE GOURD PATCH is planning a booth for Earth Day at the Riverside Nature center in Kerrville on April 21. We plan demonstrations and education on growing gourds. And, of course, we will be advertising our patch as well as TGS. We expect many new members to join. I gave a beginning gourd class at the Kerr Arts and cultural Center this past week with 11 students. When the class ended, they wanted more classes. I believe they will all join TGS and our patch.

The Southwest Gourd Fine Art Show in Kerrville begins May 24 and ends on July 8. The reception for the artists and public will be Saturday, May 26. About 30 artists were accepted into the show. Most are from Texas with one from California, two from NM, one from Kansas and one from New Hampshire.

Contact Bob Richie ktc.com 830-357-8939 or Judy Richie at jrichie@ktc.com 830-357-8939 or <a href="mailto:jrichie@ktc.co

TGS MEMBER GOURD GROWERS - LET US KNOW IF YOU BELONG ON THIS LIST

			1
Jack & Sarah Calender 15566 CR3110 Gladewater, TX 75647		Bill & Pam Salzman 1001 Forgotten Land Alvarado, TX 76009	Gourds 817-790-8472 himandher5@hotmail.com
Virginia Clark 11341 Eddyburg Rd Newark, OH 43055	Foothills Farm 877-346-8445 clark@foothillsfarm.com www.foothillsfarm.com	Robert & Doris Schuetze 1207 N. 64 th St Waco, TX 76710	Gourds 254-772-4519
Charlotte Duke1342 State Hwy 95 South Smithville, TX 78957	Dancing Feather Studio Diamond Y Farm-830-839- 4220 yeisley@gvtc.com	Don & Mary Sills 3970 State Hwy 154 Marshall, TX 75670	Don's Gourd Farm 903-935-6871 Donsgourdfarm@direcway.com
Jim & Betsy Daspit 3778 Hwy 75 North Madisonville, TX 77864	Daspit Gourds 936-348-9433	Kristi Sprinkle 699 Shiloh Road Bastrop, TX 78602	The Bastrop Gourd 512-308-0316 kristi@bga.com/512-585-4275
Tom and Zelda Hornsby PO Box 4601 Pineville, LA 71361	Bayou Gourds 318-640-4818 www.bayougourds.com	Kim & Larry Wall County Rd 2095 Gause, TX 77857	This & That & Gourds 979-280-5197 belltrimmer@aol.com
Harry Hurley 259 Fletcher Ave Fuquay Varina, NC 27526	Carolina Gourds and Seeds 919-557-5946 harryhurley@hotmail.com www.carolinagourdsandseeds.com	Mike Wood & Carol Steele 2301 Kaynell Henderson,TX 75654 Cell-903-806-7321	Lone Star Gourds 903-657-0486 csteele@suddenlink.net www.lonestargourds.com
Gay Wright 174 Kellar Rd Smithville, TX 78957	Rising Dawn Gourd Farm 512-360-2023 alcyone@cmyfarm.com	Rickie Wheeler 1745 Owl Road Lubbock, TX 79407	Gourds 806-885-1916 dhaberer@valornet.com
Bill & Sylvia Langston 793 VZ CR 3809 Wills Point, TX 75169	Gourds 903-873-3355 blang3000@aol.com	Carl & Cindy Weems 303 Gilmore Rd Brenham, TX 77833	Gay Hill Gourd Farm 979-277-0329 cweems@earthlink.net
Roger & Debbie Clausen 3444 Stickhorse Ln McKinney, TX 75071	Clausen's Gourd Farm 972-548-0114 dclausen82@msn.com	Mag & Dayton Spaeth 5397 Tri-County Rd Mason, TX	Spaeth Gourd Farm 325-265-4377 dspaeth@hctc.net
David A Williams 8964 FM 1940 Franklin, TX 77856	Gourdstrings 979-828-5396 gourds@tconline.net	Dorothy Miller 789 CR 146 San Saba, TX 76877	Gourd Mill 325-372-5210 dmiller@centex.net

TGS Traveling Gourd

The original TGS Traveling Gourd – sometimes called "Big Boy" – is currently on display at the Marshall (TX) Visual Arts Center. An article in the Marshall News Messenger by Robin Y. Richardson on March 11, 2007 featured the gourd. Patty Gilliland, patch leader of the East Texas Piney Woods Patch, was interviewed for the article. She described the patch's depiction of the famed East Texas oil wells, Tyler's signature yellow roses, pine trees, an armadillo, a pair of boots, and a guitar. Other patches decorated their portion of the gourd with their own ideas. Gail Adams and Carol Krough also worked on the gourd. Patty talked about the history of gourds and their early uses. The article also mentioned TGS member Ellen Hemby and her gourd creations of hair barrettes and Easter eggs. Patty talked about several ways to create gourd art. The Traveling Gourd will be on display in Marshall through March and will then move on to Tyler. Gerry Flewharty has been keeping a log of the Gourd and reports that it has traveled 4380 miles since it left the Southeast Patch in 2004. Contact any Patch Leader or Officer to schedule this gourd masterpiece in your area.

Carolina Gourds and Seeds

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Seeds: 30 varieties of gourd seeds.

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Harry Hurley - 259 Fletcher Ave, Fuquay Varina, NC 27526 Phone: 919-557-5946 Email: harryhurley@hotmail.com http://www.carolinagourdsandseeds.com

TGS Seeks Publicity and Advertising Leads

Do you know of a magazine or Newspaper with a calendar of events?

We need this information to help publicize our upcoming Lone Star Gourd Festival in Waco on October 27 and 28.

Email – <u>dbwise@swbell.net</u> or call Robbie Pritchard - 817-905-3178

Gay Hill Gourd Farm

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Nelma Fannin

TGS expresses condolences to Bob Fannin on the loss of his wife Nelma, who passed away March 8, 2007. Nelma, 66, joined TGS in May 2003. Nelma tried all types of art work, but she had a real passion for working with gourds. They even told of her filling in their swimming pool so she could grow gourds! Nelma led a workshop on gourd jewelry making at the Arlington Gourd Patch in April 2005 and presented a program on the same subject to the Cowtown Gourd Patch in May 2005. She taught a class in gourd jewelry making at the TGS Fall Show in 2005 in Austin. Nelma won five ribbons at the Competition at the TGS Fall Show in 2004 – Honorable Mention for Wood-burned Cut Gourd, second place for Baskets, and blue ribbons for Birdhouse-Lived In, Gourds-Clowns of the Garden, and Jewelry. In 2005, Nelma received a blue ribbon in the Jewelry category at the Fall Show and a third- place ribbon in the "My Idea" category. Nelma was elected Secretary of TGS on April 1, 2006, and served in that capacity until she became ill in late summer 2006.

Nelma and Bob were married March 31, 1962. Nelma is survived by her husband Bob, three children, two sisters, and several grandchildren and great grandchildren. And many friends in TGS.



Vera Carhart

TGS lost a valued friend on August 5, 2006. Vera, 77, had been a TGS member since 2001. She took a lot of classes and applied her learning to her gourd work. Vera helped her Southeast Patch by mailing monthly newsletters to members who had no email. In 2006 she attended the Cherokee gourd retreat and also took classes at the Indiana gourd show. In addition to her artistic endeavors, Vera was very active in federal, state, and local support of all Republican candidates. She is survived by her son, John William Carhart and his wife Carolyn, daughter Melissa Carhart Lanier: grandchildren, Kimberly Ann Carhart, Laura Catherine Carhart, Mackenzie Elizabeth Carhart, Ada Everest Lanier and Thomas Carhart Lanier. She is also survived by her brother William Hartlage, Jr, her brother-in-law, Tom Carhart and his wife Betty, close friends, Don and Julia Carlson and many other relatives, friends and neighbors, along with many friends in TGS.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mar 30-April 1 Indiana Gourd Society Show in Kokomo, Indiana. Workshops Friday, Saturday, and Sunday April 28-29 Show Me Gourd Festival in Sedalia MO. Workshops, auction. www.showmegourdsociety.com

May 5-6 Wisconsin Gourd Festival, classes, auction - www.wisconsingourdsociety.org

May 19-20 Kentucky Gourd Art Show – www.kygourdsociety.com or 1-877-765-8594

May 19-20 Greg Leiser Farms Gourd Art Festival and Sale, Knights Landing, CA www.gourdFarmer.com

June 1-3 Gourd Artists Gathering in Cherokee, NC. Need teachers - www.GourdGathering.ne t

Jun 15-16 Hawaii Gourd Show – www.ipushow.com

Jun 15-16 Pennsylvania Gourd Society Fest - www.pagourdsociety.org

Jul 20-22 Georgia Gourd Society Gourd Show workshops, auction - www.georgiagourdsociety.com

Sep 8-9 North Carolina Gourd Festival – www.twincreek.com/gourds/festival.com

Sep 14-16 Illinois Gourd Society Festival – new location – www.americangourdsociety.org/ILGS

Sep 16 Mississippi Gourd Festival – www.gourdgracious.homestead.com/gourdfestival.html

Sep 29-30 Greenville OH "World's Largest Gourd Show" - www.ohiogourdsociety.org

Oct 20-21 Alabama Gourd Festival

Oct 27-28 Texas Gourd Society Lone Star Gourd Festival in Waco, TX www.texasgourdsociety.org

The Competition Committee will soon report the new categories and guidelines with one new division for the TGS 2007 Fall Festival competition. The rules and entry forms will be posted on the website. Information will be in the June Gourdzette plus a mailer to each member. Competitors start working on your master pieces. The committee Chairperson this year is Darla Hines, assisted by a great hard working team - they are Sylvia Gaines, Dusti Lockey, Hellen Martin, Judy Richie, and Patty Sorensen. We also welcome Bill Broughton who was one of our judges last year is now a TGS member on the competition committee. Bill is being featured as a one man art show in Palestine, showing his gourds, paintings and drawings.

American Gourd Society — <u>www.americangourdsociety.org</u> Visit the AGS website for tutorials and ideas. Join the AGS and get their GREAT gourd quarterly called "**The Gourd**". Membership is \$15 per year and is prorated for expiration December 31. You can mail a check to: PO Box 2186, Kokomo, IN 46904-2186 — email: agsmembership@insightbb.com

TGS 2007 Gourd Calendar Update

We are happy to announce that TGS made a slight profit with the 2007 Gourd Calendar. We have sold 280 calendars to date. Thanks to advertisements that were placed in various state gourd newsletters and on the TGS website and the AGS website, we received orders for calendars from 26 states and the District of Columbia (see map at right – states where calendars were ordered are in yellow). This gives some great exposure for our wonderful artists. We will have the calendars on sale at the Southwest Gourd Fine Art Show in Kerrville May 24 through July 8, 2007. The TGS Board voted for TGS to offer a calendar again for 2008. Carol Steele has offered to do the design



of the calendar for 2008 – she will be requesting high-resolution photographs of your gourd art creations in the near future so we can get an early start. We want to have this calendar ready for the Lone Star Gourd Festival October 27 & 28 in Waco. Thanks to all of the artists who submitted photos of their work for the calendar. The **more participation this year**, the better.

LONE STAR GOURD FESTIVAL IN WACO OCTOBER 27 & 28 - FREE PARKING - GOURD CLASSES - FREE DEMONSTRATIONS - DRY, CLEAN GOURDS - BEAUTIFUL CRAFTED GOURDS - LOT OF FRIENDLY PEOPLE - RAFFLES - GOURD CRAFTING SUPPLIES

Southwest Gourd Fine Art Show

The second annual Southwest Gourd Fine Art Show will be held at the Kerr Arts and Cultural Center (KACC) in Kerrville, Texas, May 24 through July 8, 2007. The reception and awards ceremony will be Saturday, May 26, 2007, from 4:00 to 6:00 pm. Many of our fine TGS artists have entered the juried competition again this year. Attendance was very impressive at the show last year and they are excited to have the show again this year at the Center. The Traveling Raffle Gourd will be on exhibit at the show and the KACC will be selling raffle tickets for us. We hope everyone can view the show sometime during its six-week run.

MESSAGE FROM PAST PRESIDENT Robbie Pritchard

I want to thank all the wonderful members of the Texas Gourd Society for allowing me to be your president for the past two years. TGS has been through several changes in those two years – first, we lost our fall show site in Austin through no fault of ours and moved to the Palmer Center for 2005. We were unable to obtain that venue for 2006 and moved the show to Waco. We feel this will be our home for the next several years. Through all these changes, you – the artists, vendors, and members of TGS – made our fall gatherings a success. This year's Lone Star Gourd Festival is October 27 and 28 in Waco.

I thank everyone who helped me during these past two years – the Executive Board, the

Board of Directors, all of the various chairpersons, the volunteers, and each and every one who helped in any way. The TGS Board dedicates a lot of time throughout the year on behalf of TGS and deserves your appreciation. Judy Richie and her Competition Committee did an excellent job of restructuring our juried competition; their revisions gave us a new and improved competition in 2006, and we will continue to build on that.

I want to issue a special "Thank you" to Robert and Doris Schuetze for showing TGS around Waco, for obtaining our banquet site in 2006, for getting Waco Mayor DuPuy to serve as VIP judge for the competition, and for obtaining locations for our spring meeting and our 2007 fall banquet.

My two years as President would not have been possible without the help of my husband, Joe Pritchard. Joe has spent numerous hours sending and receiving the email to the President because I did not have a computer at home until recently. He would bring it home for me to go over and then type and send my replies the next day. Any project that needed doing he would help with while writing many articles for the <u>Gourdzette</u>. He accompanied me to many of the state's patch meetings and to the Kerr Arts & Cultural Center in Kerrville. When we needed flyers for the yearly Lone Star Gourd Festival, Joe designed and printed them at no cost to TGS and gave them to any member who would pass them out. Whatever anyone needed done for TGS, Joe would take care of it. He worked booths with me for TGS at many events, helped promote the gourd coloring books, handled mailing the calendars this year, is writing the booklet to accompany the Traveling Raffle Gourd as well as helping me promote it across the state, and helped me work the President's Table at our last Lone Star Gourd Festival. Thanks, Joe, for being my right arm and for all you have done for TGS.

There are many of you who work to spread knowledge of gourds. Our mission statement says that TGS will further education about gourds by "...sharing information through education, meetings, festivals, and shows related to the culture, history, uses, crafting, and artistry of gourds." Many of you do that and I thank you. Some who come to mind are Jim and Betty Lewis, Esther Chambliss, Jimmy and Lelia Sublett. Cindi Creswell, and many more who do presentations to schools, retirement homes, garden clubs and shows, and groups like the AARP. This is what TGS is all about! I encourage more of you to get involved in this education of the public about gourds – it is easy and it is fun.

We have some very talented artists in TGS and I encourage you to share your hints, tips, tricks, techniques, and even your secrets with fellow members. I hope you will teach classes at our festivals – encourage a new generation of gourd artists by teaching them what you know.

To borrow a phrase – TGS Needs YOU! We need more people to step up and take leadership positions or to become show chairpersons. It is work but it is fun and it is rewarding! Share your ideas by putting them in action. Lend a hand and help TGS continue to get better for its members. It is your Texas Gourd Society, so help shape it into what you want.

Let's all support Sue and help her continue to improve TGS as a teaching and learning organization. Good luck, Sue! I'll see you at our meetings and shows. Again, a very heart-felt "Thank You" to every one of you.

Rasin Prichard

Traveling Raffle Gourd

The Gourd is now traveling! Our beautiful "Cultures of Early Texas" gourd depicts 18 cultures that were important in forming Texas. The gourd is approximately 15" in diameter and stands about 22" tall. After the Lone Star Gourd Festival in Waco in November 2006, the gourd came to Arlington for a gourd program presented to the Arlington Women's Club. Following presentations in the Austin area in December through February and a stop at the TGS Spring Meeting in Waco, the gourd is now in the North Texas area. The Raffle Gourd will be at patch meetings in the area and will be on display at the Fort Worth Herb Festival on May 19th. Following that, we will be taking the Raffle Gourd to Kerrville, where it will be on exhibit at the **Southwest Gourd Fine Art Show** May 24 through July 8 (the reception and awards ceremony is May 26, 4:00-6:00 pm). It will be in the Houston area in September and will be on display at our Lone Star Gourd Festival Oct 27-28 at the Waco Convention Center in Waco, Texas.

Please let us know of events in your area and we will try to bring it to you or arrange for it to be there. We will try to keep a calendar of its schedule of appearances and will be happy to add your event(s) to the schedule.

The Traveling Raffle Gourd will be presented in a drawing at 3:00 p.m. on November 18, 2007. You need not be present to win – we will contact you. Please complete the form below to obtain raffle tickets.











Texas Traveling Raffle Gourd To be presented Nov 18, 2007 at 3:00 p.m.

\$ 1.00 donation per ticket or 6 tickets for \$ 5.00

Please send ticket(s) to:
Please add 50 cents for postage.
Enclosed is \$ donation (check or money order payable to Texas Gourd Society)
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We will enter your ticket(s) and return your stubs and a receipt as proof of donation.









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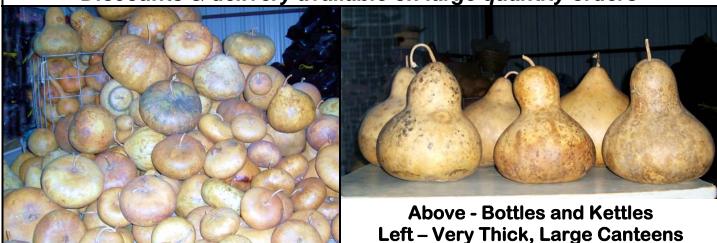
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Tyler Gourd Patch

Congratulations to the Tyler Rose City Gourd Patch, who held their inaugural meeting at the Hobby Lobby Craft Center in Tyler on February 10, 2007 – and to Cindy Partin, organizer of the new patch. Sixteen members – including **Ann Mercer**, who joined TGS that day – attended the first meeting. Lauren Keaton of the <u>Tyler Morning Telegraph</u> newspaper was at the meeting and interviewed several people. An article about the patch subsequently ran in the newspaper – it is reprinted below. At least eight members conducted Show and Tell, demonstrating their art work and sharing secrets and techniques. The Tyler Patch discussed future programs and classes they would like at their meetings. The patch tentatively plans to meet every other month, alternating meeting months with the East Texas Piney Woods Patch in Longview. Congratulations and we wish you continued success.

This article ran in the <u>Tyler Morning Telegraph</u> on March 4, 2007, and is reprinted with their permission(The article was accompanied by photos of Cindi Partin and some of her work – those photos are not presented here)

By LAUREN KEATON

Feature Writer

They are musical and they float. Some people cook with them, and if they are big enough, others bathe with them.

"Your imagination is your limitation," said Sarah Calendar, member of Texas Gourd Society.

She's talking about gourds, a hard shell of a fruit from the Cucurbitaceous family, the same family as pumpkins and cucumbers.

This hour-glass shaped produce has been around since prehistoric times, research shows.

Most people associate them with Africa, Peru, or Mexico – but now they have come to Texas, and in a big way.

Gourd art is becoming more and more popular and members of the Texas Gourd Society say it has "consumed their lives."

"They bring out all of my talents," said Patty Gilliland, gourd artist and president of Texas Gourd Society's East Texas Piney Woods Patch in Longview. "They are much more challenging than a flat canvas."

A new "patch" (club) has formed in Tyler.

So, for all those artists who are itching for something a little different, this might be the answer. They can find out how to get involved by calling Texas Gourd Society's Tyler patch contact leader Cindy Partin at 903-705-2738.

Ms. Partin claims she is "no artist," but she loves her gourds.

"If I can do this, anybody can," said Ms. Partin.

She performs an array of techniques on her gourds, from painting to wood-burning, turning them into lamps, and she even creates instruments out of them.

According to these enthusiasts, gourds are a lot more common than you would think.

"This is a shakeree," said Ms. Partin holding the fruit adorned in beads and hemp designed to create percussion. "You know what? If you watch Jay Leno, at the beginning one of the guys in the band throws one of these up in the air. It is so cool."

Ms. Partin says her favorite thing about gourds is they are virtually impossible to mess up.

"You don't have to be an artist to make something beautiful out of a gourd," said Ms. Partin. "You can make a mistake and it can still turn out great. If you screw up, go with it."

But artists beware: There is something quite unusual about this art medium. Apparently, you don't get to choose what they will be, it chooses for you, artists say.

"After you clean it and wash it, it will tell you what it wants to become," said Ms. Gilliland. "At first I thought I was hearing voices, but then other gourd artists told me they experienced the same thing."

However a person decides to decorate their gourd, artists say to expect to make some close ties.

"If nothing else, if I never pick up a burner or anything else with gourds, the friendships I have made are the biggest benefit," said Ms. Partin.

To learn more about Gourd art visit

www.texasgourdsociety.org.

The TEXAS GOURD SOCIETY LONE STAR GOURD FESTIVAL will be held in Waco on October 27th & 28th at the Convention Center. The Banquet and General Business Meeting will be held on Friday, October 26th in the Lutheran Church at 1008 Jefferson Avenue in Waco – about one mile from the Convention Center. In the June issue of the Gourdzette, and on the TGS website, you will find more details about the Lone Star Festival and banquet, with workshop classes, vendor, demonstrations, raffle, and competition information, plus hotel-motel details. Plan now to attend. Spread the word and contact Beck Wise or Robbie about ways to publicize this great event.

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Judy Richie – Vice President	judyrichie@yahoo.com	830-257-8939			
Lynda Smith - Treasurer	pennsmith@bigplanet.com	214-339-7599			
Joe Pritchard-Membership	stormy7606@hotmail.com	817-909-2814			
Patty Sorenson – Secretary	cpsorensen@consolidated.net	936-597-6357			
Robbie Pritchard-Past President	robbiesgarden@hotmail.com	817-905-3178			
Bob Schuetze-director	robertschuetze@grandecom.net	254-772-4519			
Rebecca Wise-director	dbwise@swbell.net	817-726-6653			
John Flewharty-director	jmf1511@juno.com	940-380-9566			

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2007 TGS LONE STAR FALL FESTIVAL CHAIRS

2flews@flash.net

barhelltif@aol.com

willibey@sbcglobal.net

Gerry Flewharty-director

Hellen Martin – director

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Show Co-Chair - TGS President - dhaberer@valornet.com - Sue Haberer - 806-523-9092

Show Co-Chair - Vice President - Judy Richie judyrichie@yahoo.com 830-257-8939

Competition Chair - Darla Hines - tedlh@charter.net - 281-356-1340

Vendor Chair - John Flewharty - jmf1511@juno.com - 940-380-9566

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Publicity Co-Chair - Carol Steele - carolsteele@suddenlink.net - 903-657-0486

Education-Classes - Cindi Creswell - cidnboo@att.net - 817-244-0135

Show Treasurer - Lynda Smith - pennsmith@bigplanet.com - 214-339-7599

Bookstore - Mike and Julia Cosgrove- icosgrove1@peoplepc.com - 979-921-0538

Admission Table - Jim & Betty Lewis - betsgem@juno.com - 254-982-4386

Kids Kraft Korner - Charlotte Schaefers - mcss911@hotmail.com - 903-882-4053

Raffle - East Piney Woods Patch - Patty Gilliland -calabash75605@aol.com - 903-663-0017

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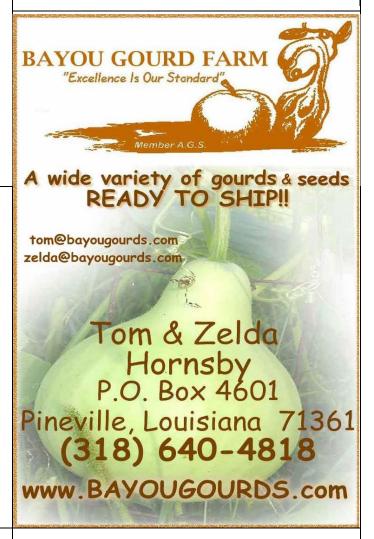
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Texas Gourd Society Annual Dues

Payment of \$12 will be paid each year by TGS members. Membership will expire December 31 each year. Note new mailing address. See details on last page of this issue or the TGS website at:

www.texasgourdsociety.org

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.

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TEXAS GOURD SOCIETY, INC.

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Please send your ideas, questions, photographs, stories, gourd tips, and comments to: Editor, the Texas Gourdzette, 11411 Ash Creek Dr, Houston, TX 77043 Phone 832-8166228 or 281-493-0117

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