



THE TEXAS GOURDZETTE

Volume 10, issue 2

Texas Gourd Society

June 2005



President's Message June 2005

Robbie Pritchard

This is an exciting time for TGS as we move toward our 10th annual Fall Show and Sale. First, let me announce that I have submitted **Esther Chambliss** (Arlington Patch leader) and **Judy Richie** (Guadalupe Patch leader and TGS's 2005 Featured Artist) to the Executive Board as nominees for Board of Director vacancies. If the nominations are approved, the general membership will vote on these nominations plus others from the floor at the Fall business meeting.

Show chairperson **Lee DeKeyser** and all of her committees are doing an excellent job; everything is falling into place. The vendor booths are filling quickly – there are only a few spaces remaining. We are contacting some vendors who have not participated in TGS shows before in hope that we can expand the variety of vendors and products. I hope that every TGS patch will have a booth at the show. We also plan to have the Gourd Artist

Guild's Gourd Quilt at our event in Austin. Several Texas gourd artists contributed to this magnificent work. Because the show will be two days, we will have items to raffle on both Saturday and Sunday. I want to have gourd-related "theme baskets" this year for the raffle. We already have several baskets promised: Luffa Gourds (West Texas Patch), Fourth of July (Cowtown Patch), Christmas (Arlington Patch), "One Stroke" Painting (East Texas Piney Woods Patch). Did I miss anyone? I would like to have several more theme baskets – Halloween, Thanksgiving, jewelry-making, growing, project for kids, or anything else you can think of. SEE MORE ON THE RAFFLE ON PAGE 4. Please let me know if you can help us out.

Betty Brunswick has arranged for 19 classes over the three days, including Friday, our set-up day. A schedule of classes is found on page 9. A portion of the registration fee for each class will go to help pay for the rooms we will be using. Let's make all of these classes a huge success. Spaces are limited, so please register early!

We will have the dinner and Fall business meeting Saturday after the first day of the show. Lee has located an Elk's Lodge not far from the Palmer Events Center that will serve as our meeting place. The meal will be beef or chicken fajitas with all the fixin's. I know we have some vegetarian members in TGS; I am working to accommodate their meal needs also, if the vegetable portion of the fajita meal is not OK. I will soon notify you about the meal, the cost, and how to reserve your place at the dinner.

Lee has contacted these for lodging for us: Homestead Suites, 507 South First Street, 512-476-1818, 0.2 miles to the Palmer, suites w/ kitchens; Holiday Inn Express, 4892 HWY 290 West, 512-891-9500, 5 miles away, continental breakfast. Motor home parking also available. See vendor guidelines for more details.

We need lots of volunteers for the show. If you can help us for an hour or two either Friday during set-up, Saturday, or Sunday, please let us know. **Rebecca Wise** has agreed to coordinate the volunteers. We need help at the admissions table, the bookstore, the Café Press table, the Kids Corner, assisting the teachers at the classes, general guest assistance – and, of course, lots of general "go-fors." Thanks in advance if you can volunteer to help out.

On another note, I would like to personally thank everyone who has helped provide gourds, gourd pieces, and coloring books for the Austin Mission: Possible! Art center. See more on this on page 9.

I am honored to be president of TGS during this exciting time. I hope to see and meet each and every one of you in Austin in October.

Happy gourdng!

INDEX		TGS Fall Show Classes	9
Advertising	3, 4, 8, 10	TGS Fall Show Information	2, 3, 7
AGS Renewal & Contacts	8	TGS Logo Merchandise	2
Gourd Patch Happenings	4, 5, 6	TGS Member Growers and Patches	12, 13
Gourd Quilt at Fall Show	10	TGS Officers & Directors	3
Gourdette Information	14	TGS Membership	8, 14
Mission Possible	9	TGS Spring Meeting	3
New TGS Members	2, 14	Raffle for Fall Show	4
TGS President's Message June 2005	1	The Bottle Gourd	11
TGS History Information	9, 13	Upcoming Events	11
		Web Site TGS	3

NEW MEMBERS (continued on page 14)

Richard Senechal 6930 Brace Houston, TX 77061 713-649-8468 rsene@aol.com	Frankie L. Brown 14111 Hirschfield #2 Tomball, TX 77377 281-351-6076 jfsk24@cs.com	Fred Grimes 601 Tolar Cemetery Rd. Tolar, TX 76476 254-835-5008	June Hanes 2720 Arroyo Doble San Marcos, TX 78666 512-353-1964 charles@ev1.net
Regena Williamson P.O. Box 57 Sheridan, TX 77475	Tom & Zelda Hornsby P.O. Box 4601 Pineville, LA 71361 318-640-4818 tom@bayougourds.com	Nancy Bumpus 14 Impala Way San Antonio, TX 78258 210-481-9380 46maine@earthlink.net	Susan Ashley 2511 Radcliffe Arlington, TX 76012 817-303-4876 susanashley46@yahoo.com
Abby Sandlin 4922 Bonny Loch Lane Houston, TX 77084 281-463-8858 abbygail711@hotmail.com	Jean Lester P.O. Box 298 La Grange, TX 78945 979-966-0080 jvlester@cvtv.net	Charles & Alicia Stough 11907 Holm Oaks Dr. San Antonio, TX 78249 210-641-4142 copyboy@sbcglobal.net	Judith Clark PO Box 871224 Mesquite, TX 75187 Jasc555@yahoo.com

NOW MEMBERS CAN BUY CUPS, CAPS, T-SHIRTS and other items with the TGS LOGO

The Texas Gourd Society has made arrangements for members to purchase TGS Logo merchandise. All items will depict the new TGS Logo. Go to www.cafepress.com/TXGourdSociety to view the items for sale, and purchase them. Be the first in your Patch to get the Logo Merchandise. Mugs, magnets and decals will be shown as samples at the Fall TGS meeting, and will be available for purchase. You can also view TGS Logo Merchandise At the TGS website www.texasgourdsociety.com. The TGS Logo has a copyright. The Logo can only be used for TGS official business and Café Press/TGS items or with TGS permission.

Fall Show Competition information was sent to all members in May. If you need the details again, it will appear on the TGS website: www.texasgourdsociety.org or contact:

Natha Miller 4521 Stanley Keller Rd. Haltom City, TX 76117

(817) 838-8819 E-mail: nmmacleod@charter.net

To all Vendors, Patch leaders and TGS members. You are encouraged to promote TGS website logo sales by purchasing and wearing tshirts, caps, buttons, aprons, totes, etc at the show in October. More information on this page.

TGS Officers and Directors

Robbie Pritchard-President, robbiesgarden@hotmail.com 817-905-3178
Sue Haberer – V.P. dhaberer@valomet.com 806-894-1711
Sharon Copenhaver-Treasurer clscope@sbcglobal.net 817-297-0328
Gerry Flewharty – Membership 2flews@flash.net 214-341-2614
Clara Willibey – Secretary willibey@sbcglobal.net 281-493-0117

Betty Kent – Past President bpkent@industryinet.com 979-357-2603
Betty & Jim Lewis – director betsgem@juno.com 254-982-4386
Ramon Williams - director williams gourds@aol.com 512-376-3030
Sandee & Merrill Toone-director stoone@txun.net 254-622-3566
Bill Willibey-Gourdette Editor willibey@sbcglobal.net 281-493-0117
Joe Pritchard-TGS Historian robbiesgarden@hotmail.com 817-905-3178

Fall Show VENDOR information was sent to all members in May. If you need the details again, it will appear on the TGS website: www.texasgourdsociety.org or contact: Betty Kent bpkent@industryinet.com 979-357-2603 or Lee Dekeyser – flintrock@ev1.net 512-280-2390. The vendor booth spaces are going fast, so if you are interested at all, you should act quickly.

TGS Spring Meeting

Members met at the LCRA building in Austin and had a great time. The slate of nominated officers was voted into office by the membership (see list on this page). Proposed rules changes in the TGS constitution and by-laws were approved, plus a change in Dues, from \$10 to \$12 per year, making December 31st the expiration date for all members. Before the election, Betty Kent appointed Joe Pritchard as the TGS Historian. Joe's call for TGS historical articles, photos and other information appears elsewhere in this issue. Gerry Flewharty presented engraved acrylic awards to Betty Kent and Brayton Maynes for their many years of TGS service. Special recognition went to BJ Maynes for her years as Raffle Chair. Also recognized was Gerry Flewharty for her articles in the American Gourd Society's "The Gourd". Lee Dekeyser, the Fall Show Chair, introduced

Judy Richie as the TGS artist of the year, as chosen by the TGS Executive Board. After the business meeting, Bob Schuetze led a discussion about planting and growing gourds, Sue Haberer presented safety while working with gourds, Lelia Sublett, Eve Dewvall, and Bev Tomak conducted demonstrations in gourd art, and Sandy Toone emailed instructions for making clay-like products with flour and bread.



Sue Haberer with website copies

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Books: How-to books by authors: Ginger Summit, Jim Widess, Aurelia Conway, Kathy James, Judy

Mallow, Susan Hollon, Julie Grant & Cindy Pray and more. Also check for sale items.

Need an order form? Let us know and we will send you our most recent listing of seeds, gourds, supplies and books.

Raffle for Fall Show – Chair Person needed – Contact TGS President Robbie Pritchard

We need a Raffle Chair to replace the retiring BJ Maynes. Since this is a bigger, better, two-day show, I would like to have more raffle items. Some items have already been donated or promised: a Big Tex gourd crafted by Pat Duncan of Rowlett, a gourd Boat with Little People by Robert Thundercloud of Waxahachie, a sander donated by the Kents and a crafted gourd by Judy Richie. Several "theme baskets" related to gourds will be nice. Each basket should have a book, an appropriate gourd for the subject, suggestions for projects relating to the subject, embellishments for the projects, maybe a few simple tools, and any items you might think of - perhaps even a small finished gourd.

I hope that patches and individuals will donate one (or more!) theme baskets. If you can't donate a whole prepared basket, maybe you can donate things to go in a basket and we'll put them together. Each basket will have a card attached that tells every item in the basket and who donated the items (and basket).

Please feel free to make suggestions and new ideas. If you know anyone who would donate items (tools, books, crafted gourds, etc) please let me know. We can put together "packages" - like craft books, if we have enough donations. Here are some ideas:

... Luffa gourds - gourds, seeds, Luffa sponges, Luffa soaps, etc **Sue Haberer & the West Texas Patch have volunteered to donate the Luffa gourd basket** (of course, more than one is welcomed).

... Jewelry crafting - book, instructions, gourd, gourd pieces, findings, beads, etc... Bird House - instructions, pictures, gourds, etc... Carving basket ... Painting basket... Halloween... Thanksgiving... Christmas... growing - seeds, instructions, tools, etc... anything else you can suggest - looking forward to hearing from you, and Thank you in advance for helping us make the raffle a success!

Robbie Pritchard - President

PATCH HAPPENINGS

NEW TGS PATCH FORMED On April 7, ten prospective members met at the home of Bob and Judy Richie in Kerrville and formed a new TGS gourd patch. They selected the name "Guadalupe Gourd Patch" and voted to meet on the first Thursday of every month. No dues will be assessed at the present time.

TGS GUADALUPE GOURD PATCH reports that on May 2 Judy Richie met with Jim Derby of the Kerr Arts and Culture Center (KACC) in Kerrville and proposed holding a juried gourd art show. Jim agreed to take the idea up with the board of directors of the center and suggested that June 2006 would be available. Details will be published as plans are finalized. On May 4, Jim reported that the board of directors had enthusiastically endorsed the idea to sponsor the show and approved the patch for membership with KACC. May 7 was the second meeting of the patch with ten people in attendance. There are other gourd artists and potential artists in the area to join. The decision of KACC was announced and the dates of the TGS annual meeting and gourd art show particulars were discussed for new members. Meeting dates were discussed as well as the possibility of holding meetings in different areas and the decision was made to continue meeting on the first Thursday of every month in Kerrville. The Patch may eventually meet at KACC. A discussion of cleaning and gourd preparation techniques was given for those new to the art.

Contact Bob Richie brichie@kcc.com 830-357-8939 or Judy Richie at judyrichie@kcc.com

TGS CAPITAL OF TEXAS GOURD PATCH held our meeting, April 2nd. We had 13 members and a guest, Frances Cushing . Nancy Bumpus, new to Texas, came all the way from San Antonio to attend. We shared some of our latest crafting experience with the group. And as usual Anne and Ramon Williams from Lockhart brought some of their gourds to sell. Dixie Hollers from Plano had donated some of the experimental gourds that had been grown at an A&M research center up there. We handed them out and challenged people to take them home and come up with something inventive because many of them would be a challenge due to many odd shapes. The real highlight of our meeting was Frances Cushing, a volunteer from the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center. She showed her use of basketry with gourds, using basic tools to decorate her gourds - no electric or automatic anything. Gathered plant items decorate her gourds and no dyes, but shoe waxes are used to seal the gourds. Frances uses a great deal of coiling on her gourds, with some beads on some of them. She knew that the best and longest pine needles came from Mexico. She has had highly respected teachers from around the world. Her work shows a long practiced skill. We should observe and use many different local grasses and needles for coiling and weaving.

Lelia and Jimmy Sublett went to the 3rd annual Gourd Gathering at the Cherokee Indian Tribal Grounds in Cherokee, North Carolina. They taught four classes during the three to four day gathering. When they get back they will give us a run down on all the new ideas and happenings at our June 4th meeting.

Contact Jimmy & Lelia Sublett at 6 S. Valley View, Wimberley,

TX 78676. Phone: (512)847-8102 e-mail: sublett@riverrats.net or Jocelyn Guajardo, Secretary

TGS THE HEART OF TEXAS GOURD PATCH met at Emma's Garden, Hillsboro, on April 30 for an informative lesson on turning our favorite gourd into an electrical lamp. Larry Yadon brought a wonderful sample and showed step-by-step exactly how to make one. We enjoyed the fellowship and made plans for our next meeting.

Contact Angela Orr info@mountainspringsfarm.com 254-582-9586

TGS ARLINGTON GOURD PATCH TGS Arlington Gourd Patch is an affiliate member of Texas Garden Clubs, Inc. By participating with Texas Garden Clubs, Inc, the patch was able to receive its non-profit status and number. Every year, each club president applies for appropriate awards for the club - there are many awards, certificates, and grants available—youth, community, & historical projects.

Texas Garden Clubs Inc, District II Spring Convention was held in Fort Worth on March 29th. Club members from 25 counties in Texas were represented at the convention. At this Spring Meeting, one of the highlights of the convention is the award presentations. In the report I submitted for TGS Arlington Gourd Patch, I described our community projects (Children's Discovery Garden at the Fielder House Museum, school programs, and speaking engagements). I also explained our members' participation in the Texas Gourd Society Fall Show and Sale in November 2004, club programs we have had, and other information on the patch. It is a great honor to inform you that our report for Arlington Gourd Patch scored **100 points!** When the announcement was made that our patch is the newest member of Texas Garden Clubs, Inc, and that our report had scored first place, the other clubs were amazed and applauded our work. At the TGS Fall Show, this award will be placed in our scrapbook for others to view alongside other information on our patch. Thank you, everyone, for all the great work you do for our Patch!! - *Esther*

Spring has been busy for us. Our April program was an exhibition of jewelry and other items crafted by Nelma Fannin; she discussed and demonstrated methods for several different types of items she has created. Nelma will be conducting a jewelry-making class at the Fall Show in October. In May, we were honored to have two-time Texas state wood-carver Steve Schoolar show some of his works and provide a very informative dialogue on carving tips, hints, and experiences. Although Steve works with low-relief wood carving, many of his tips and techniques lend themselves to gourd carving. We have elected to not meet in June. We staffed an information and items-for-sale table at several spring gardening events to further education about gourds; we distributed educational materials and hope we will gain some new members for TGS. We represented TGS at Earth Day celebrations at Texas Garden Clubs, Inc's 41st Annual Standard Flower Show and Sale at the Fielder House Museum (Arlington) and the Johnson County Festival of Herbs. We represented TGS at the Fort Worth Herb Festival, sold about four dozen seed packets and gave out information about gourding. Arlington Patch will be providing a Christmas-themed basket for the raffle at the TGS Fall show and will have a booth there. *Joe*

We all wish a speedy recovery from recent heart surgery to B.J. Conrad.

Contact: Robbie Pritchard (Treasurer/Events) 817-905-3178 robbiesgarden@hotmail.com; Cindi Creswell 817-244-0135 cidnboo@att.net; Esther Chambliss (President) 817-263-9322; Joe Pritchard 817-909-2814

(Newsletter/Website). Email arlingtongourdpatch@hotmail.com: Website www.freewebs.com/arlingtongourdpatch.

TGS COWTOWN PATCH meets the first Tuesday of each month, Feb – Oct at the Rig Restaurant in Fort Worth (no meeting this July. In March, Jeanette Johnson and Myra Zimmerman demonstrated painting on gourds and led a hands-on workshop. For April, Dave Hodgson talked about growing gourds and gave an educational program on how primitive cultures used gourds for storage, water carriers, ceremonial masks, and musical instruments. In May, Cowtown voted to donate a Fourth-of-July theme basket for the raffle at the Fall Show. Nelma Fannin demonstrated and gave an informative talk on making jewelry with gourds. The program showed stamping on gourds.

Contact: Barb Petroski - Phone (817) 249-2929 or lunarwind7@aol.com

TGS EAST TEXAS PINEY WOODS TGS EAST TEXAS PINEY WOODS GOURD PATCH members added another skill to their gourd crafting at the April meeting. Kathy Baker taught the group the leather lace woven rim technique. Pyrography paper was used to burn the pattern. Holes were drilled and leather lacing woven around the top of the cut gourd. Kathy had the opportunity to learn the technique from COTGP's Leila Sublett at the 2004 TGS Show and Sell. Patty Burke of Winnsboro, TX joined the roll of TGS members. Patty attended the Third Annual Gourd Artists Gathering in Cherokee. Speaking of the Gourd Artists Gathering, our own Mary Ellen Hemby donated a raffle item for the gathering - a beaded gourd hot air balloon at www.gourdgathering.net/RafflePrizes.html

Members all agreed to send \$10.00 to the newly adopted "Mission Possible" project in Austin. The money will be used to purchase the gourd coloring books for inner city children. Per Robbie Pritchard, TGS President, "this is the type of mission that I would like to see TGS involved in, furthering public education about gourds and fostering what could become new gourd artists." A "One Stroke" painting basket is being assembled for the 2005 TGS Show and Competition. The basket will be donated by East Texas Piney Woods Gourd Patch as a raffle item for the fall show. The Piney Woods Patch voted to not meet in May. On April 30, Kenneth (Ace) Hemby passed away. Kenneth was one of the founding members of ETPWGP. In this time of great sorrow we pray that Mary Ellen, Jo Dessa and Lena's hearts be filled with memories of love.

Patch 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 in March at the Spring Creek Feed Store and had a polymer clay workshop. Ms Novak had examples of her work and each of us covered a small gourd with a layer of beautifully colored polymer clay. On April 2, we met at the Katy Folklife festival and had over 150 children paint special pendants on gourd pieces. April 23, we had a table at Moody Gardens with several garden clubs, promoting our Patch and TGS. For the May 14th meeting, Clara taught a Jewelry class with Vera Carhart's help, and Bill had three students learning the "chipping" technique, using a gouge. On June 15, at 4 pm, we meet at the Kents for a picnic and planning session. All members who have ideas, or want to hear what is planned should make arrangements to attend. November 19 will be the patch fall "Show and Sell" at Dewberry Farms. Jim Babb is recovering from a light stroke, and we wish him a speedy, complete recovery, so he can work on some more gourds. Contact: Delanie Brownson: browngourd@msn.com or 281-391-9891-SE Patch website: www.geocities.com/TGS_southeast. Also contact Clara Willibey or Betty Kent.

TGS WEST TEXAS GOURD PATCH met April 16th, at Tandy's Leather Store, in Lubbock. Tandy has been very generous in lending us a place to hold our meetings. The West Texas Gourd Patch plans to combine our member's efforts and talents and sponsor a booth at the Annual Gourd Show and Sell in Austin in October. We will also be donating money toward the purchase of Coloring Books to give to Jackie Cherico and the inner city kids in Austin to help teach and inspire them to work with gourds.

The West Texas Gourd Patch met with the South Plains Food Bank kids and taught them how to plant and grow gourds. After planting seeds in their garden, we showed them some gourds that we had painted and designed and let them use our saw and engraver to practice the techniques of cutting and designing gourds. They became excited with they practiced using the "tools", so excited, in fact, that they went to the garden and started looking for mature gourds from last year that could be decorated. They came away with great ideas on what to do with the "ugly" things. Our next meeting with them will be to help them actually decorate gourds for their own money raising project.

One of our major goals this year is to promote the awareness of gourds as an artist's medium and to educate the public on growing and decorating gourds. We are in the process of contacting various businesses to help us promote gourd interest in the West Texas area. We meet once a month in Lubbock and invite anyone with an interest in growing, selling, or decorating gourds to join us.

Contact: Sue Haberer – Levelland, TX 806-894-1711 or dhaberer@valornet.com

TGS DALLAS GOURD PATCH meets the 3rd Saturday at Raymond's B-B-Que on Garland Rd. We normally have around 20 attendees and share lunch and news around the gourdpatch. We also have some kind of demo presented, including info on safety when working with gourds, how to transfer designs to a gourd, how to add pine-needle rims to a gourd, and how to apply inlaid. This month we designed our own t-shirts with gourds in mind as a fund raiser for our patch. We have new leaders, Lynda Smith and Pat Duncan. We take turns running the meeting as the gap left by John was too large for one person to fill! We have begun discussing plans for the state show. Some people in our group would like to share the electricity but don't know who will be in our "pod" yet. Can we get some info on how we can do this? Also we have at least one person who would like to share a booth. Any takers?

Contact: Lynda Smith at 214-339-7599 pennsmith@bigplanet.com, or Pat Duncan at 972-463-8668.



Saturday, October 15, 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
Sunday, October 16, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Palmer Events Center
900 Barton Springs Road
Austin, TX 78704

A TWO-DAY SPECTACULAR GOURD SHOW

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Judged Competition

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Raffle

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Judy Richie

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Texas Traveling Gourd

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Fall Show Contacts:

Show Chair, Lee DeKeyser, flintrock@ev1.net 512-280-2390

Vendor Chair, Betty Kent, bpkent@industryinet.com 979-357-2603

Show Competition, Nat Miller, nmmacleod@charter.net 817-222-1804

Show Classes, Betty Brunswick, jbrunswick@austin.rr.com 830-990-4441

Show Volunteer Coordinator, Rebecca Wise, dbwise@swbell.net 817-685-7027

TGS President, Robbie Pritchard, robbiesgarden@hotmail.com, 817-905-3178

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CAROL STEELE

Communications

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AGS COLLECTION OF DUES

To join or renew American Gourd Society dues, pay \$15 directly to AGS PO Box 2186 Kokomo, IN 46904 2186, or email agsmembership@insightbb.com - phone 765-453-5047. TGS no longer collects American Gourd Society Dues. Visit AGS website at: www.americangourdsociety.org

Texas Gourd Society annual dues

Payment of \$12 will be paid separately each year by TGS members. This will be pro-rated at \$1 per month to expire December 31 each year. If your membership is due for renewal in June, send \$7 for renewal. See details on last page of this issue or the TGS website at: www.texasgourdsociety.org

Austin Mission: Possible! Art center, by Robbie Pritchard

Several TGS patches were recently contacted by email by Jackie Cherico of Austin, TX. Jackie works with Austin Mission: Possible! Inc. Jackie's work involves keeping inner city kids and parents connected with various resources. She has built an art center in East Austin for the families and kids and for artists who want to share their art with the inner city. Their classes vary from pottery, sewing, and advanced science experiments to kiddie art for the little ones, as well as music classes.

This summer, Jackie plans to have the kids make musical instruments from gourds and other materials. Jackie believes that when children make their own, they have pride of ownership with increased interest. She observed that music lessons helped the students develop discipline in their lives and better behavior in school.

Jackie visited the TGS website and saw some of our artist's finished items, and she hopes some of her children will become gourd artists. Jackie's outreach is non-profit, with donations whenever possible. She contacted us with the hope of donations of gourds or at least of special prices from some of our growers. Several growers have already sent gourds and others are making arrangements with Jackie to pick up gourds from them.

I have also requested all the TGS patches to donate some of the gourd coloring books to Jackie, for gourd information as well as additional projects for coloring. Several of the patches have sent money to TGS and we are providing the kids almost 70 gourd coloring books. Thank you!!

I believe this is the type of effort that will help TGS expand public knowledge of gourds and gourd crafts.

Call for Historical Information by Joe Pritchard (See Joe's first TGS history article in this issue)

At the Spring meeting on March 12, 2005, Betty Kent appointed me as Historian for the Texas Gourd Society. Betty gave me a box containing lots of information from the past. Many of you have been members of local patches and TGS for several years. I would like to compile as complete a history of TGS as is possible. Hopefully, we can produce a pamphlet of TGS progress, development, and events.

To that purpose, I am requesting that you send me any information you have that you think would be valuable in this "living history" of TGS – past *Gourdette* newsletters, publications, flyers, events, member profiles or biographies, artist profiles, patch founding and events, photos, newspaper articles, etc. I will return anything that you request back. I'll even reimburse your postage if you request.

There is no deadline for your submission of materials, but the sooner the better.

If you are not sure it can be used, send it anyway! Please send anything you think might be helpful.

I hope we can also add this history to the TGS website in the future.

A BIG TEXAS THANKS!!

Mail to:

Joe Pritchard
7606 Ledbetter Road
Arlington, TX 76001-6908

Email to any of these addresses:

Joe.Pritchard@tccd.edu
Joseph.e.Pritchard@swf02.usace.army.mil
robbiesgarden@hotmail.com

Announcing Classes for Fall Show – Class Size Limited – Do Not Delay Registration

FRIDAY 9 to 12:30	FRIDAY 1 to 4:30	SAT 9 to 12:30	SAT 1 to 4:30	SUN 10:30 to 1:30
Judy Richie \$50 Power Carving on Gourd	Ethel Virgin \$30 Making a Snowman	Francis Cushing \$45 Pine Needle Rim	Gene Endicott \$35 Chip Carving	Virginia Watts \$30 Woodburning
Betty Vertin \$35 Crochet gourd rim	Linda Sura \$40 Wire Netted Gourd	Dusti Lockey \$40 Bead embroidery on gourd	Lynda Smith \$30 Clay creations on gourd	Lelia Sublett \$30 Woodburn w masking tape
Betty Brunswick \$35 Wax linen coil on rim	Marie Mahoney \$35 Texas Gourd Purse	Rowena Philbeck Dream Catcher \$30	Linda Sura \$40 Crown of Thorns	Jerry Barbero \$30 Woodburn Salt-Pep Shaker
C. Willibey & E. Drinkwater Gourd Painting \$30	Lelia Sublett \$35 Berry Bulee - warty gourd	Nelma Fannin \$30 Jewelry Class	Cindi Creswell \$35 Christmas Theme	Visit the TGS web site for more details after July 1.

Classes at the Fall Show—October 14 to 16. Cutoff date is Sept 15th and no refunds after this date. Classes to be paid in full with registration. No deposits - no saved spaces - class size is limited. Make checks out to Texas Gourd Society & Mail to Betty Brunswick, Box 1455 Fredericksburg Texas 78624 830-990-4441 jbrunswick@austin.rr.com

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Heishi Beads

[Joe Pritchard] **The bottle gourd** [*Lagenaria siceraria*] is also called the Pre-Columbian gourd. The size of this gourd may vary from 2" to 12" in diameter and from 4" to 36" in length. The fruit may have a seedless neck that varies from a few to 15" in length and from 1" to 2" in width. (Wider necks usually contain seeds.)

The bottle gourd is one of the plant-products that was used for containers in both the Old and New Worlds before Columbus discovered America. Records of the bottle gourd have been found in Peru (7000 B.C.), Thailand (7000 B.C.), Mexico (2700 B.C.), and Egypt (2500 B.C.), even though it is native to Africa. Experiments have shown that dried, sealed bottle gourds can float for as long as two years in seawater without killing the seeds.

The bottle gourd was probably first used as a water carrier, but quickly developed more diverse purposes. Societies used the bottle gourd for storing dry grains, churning butter and cheese, and brewing beer. Many societies made snuff boxes of tiny gourds, with various decorations. One of the bottle gourd's most common uses is as a musical instrument. The hollowed-out shell has been turned into drums, rattles, scrapers, and even wind or stringed instruments.

In China, Japan, and many other parts of Asia, bottle gourds are magical objects that can be used to overcome the malevolent forces of nature, such as demons and monsters. Gourds appear in art and in rites and rituals connected with folk festivals and religious festivals. Historically, small children and elderly people wore small bottle gourds as protective amulets.

It was believed that bottle gourds contained magic elixir or medicine. The gourds were believed to act as a purgative, an antidote for certain poisons, and a cure for coughs. The juice of the gourd has been used to treat baldness and jaundice. Drinking an infusion of bottle gourd seeds was thought to cure chills and soothe headaches.

In early Peruvian civilizations, the bottle gourd was even used in surgery. Broken pieces of skull were replaced with a piece of the shell and the skin was then stitched back over the incision. Today, many people around the world carve and decorate gourds for the home or for ceremonies, including ceremonial masks.

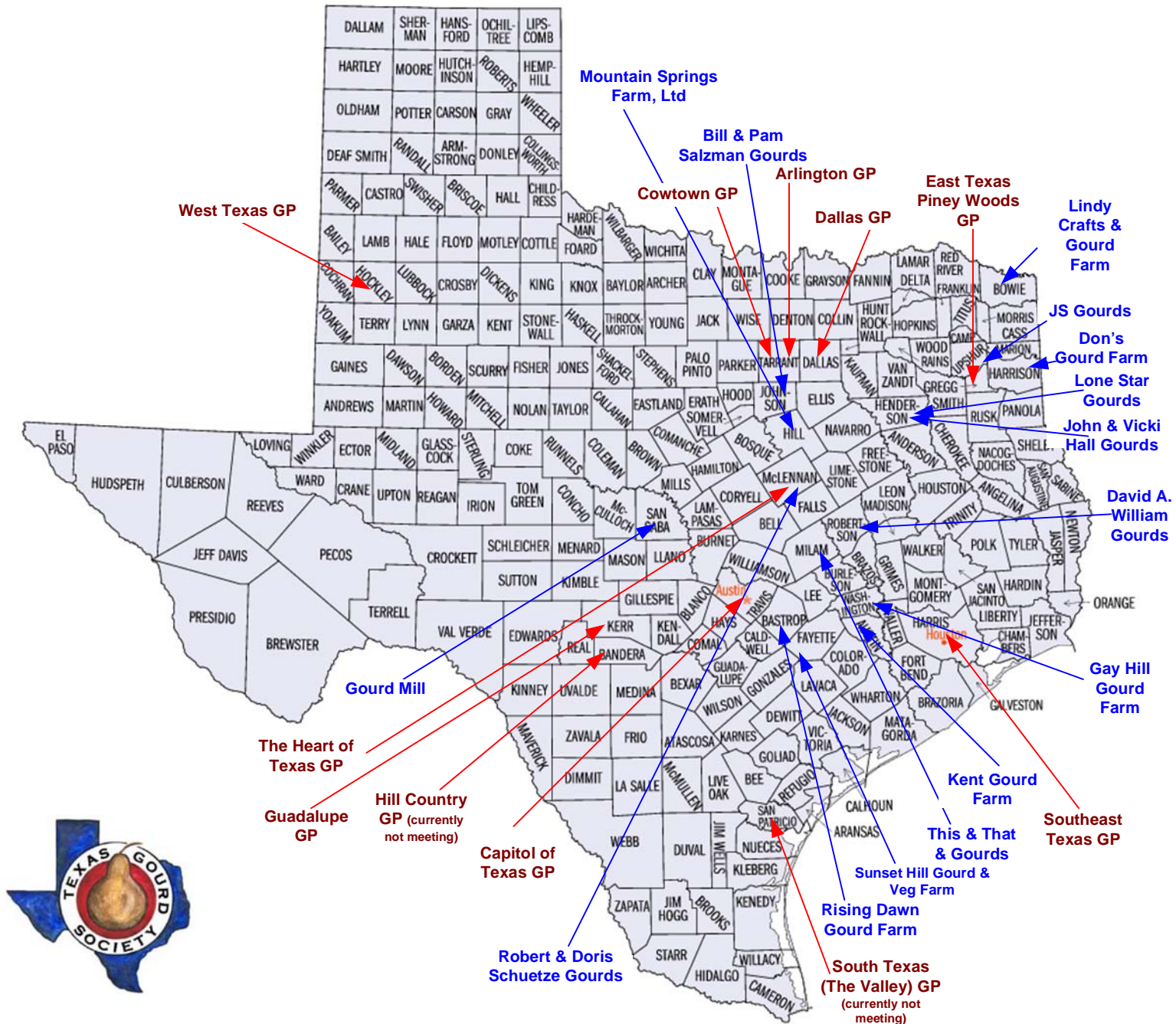


UPCOMING EVENTS

- June 11 Pennsylvania Gourd Society annual Gourd Fest in Harrisburg, PA
- June 11-12 Gourd and Garlic Festival in Camp Verde Arizona. Vendors, gourd art and demonstrations.
- June 25-26 Ninth annual international Gourd Art Festival – Welburn Gourd Farm in Fallbrook, CA
- Aug 6 Gourd Education Day near Savannah, Georgia. More at www.georgiagourdsociety.com
- Aug 27 The Iowa Gourd Society hosting a booth at Eastern Iowa Garden and Landscape Show.
- Aug 27-28 Sandlady's Gourd Festival at Tangier, IN. Gourd art, demonstrations, workshops & vendors.
- Sep 10-11 Illinois Gourd Society Festival of Gourds . Competition, workshops, vendors and gourd art.
- Sep 10-11 North Carolina Gourd Society Art and Craft Festival. Twincreek.com/gourds/festival.htm
- Sep 17 Mississippi Gourd Festival in Collinsville, MS. gourdgracious@comcast.net
- Sep 23-25 Tennessee Volunteer Gourd Show. annglebrth@aol.com
- Oct 1-2 Ohio Gourd Show, Mt. Gilead, OH. Workshops on Sept 30.

Oct 15-16 Tenth Annual TEXAS Fall "Show and Sell" – new location and new dates.

Texas Gourd Society Patches and Member Growers



Foothills Farm,
Newark, OH



Carolina Gourds & Seeds,
Fuquay Varina, NC



Bayou Gourds,
Pineville, LA



June 1, 2005

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

JS Gourds	Jack & Sarah Calender	15566 CR3110	Gladewater	75647	903-845-3695	jsgourds@hotmail.com
Foothills Farm	Virginia Clark	11341 Eddyburg Rd	Newark, OH	43055	877-346-8445	clark@foothillsfarm.com www.foothillsfarm.com
Sunset Hill Gourd & Vegetable Farm	Tracy Fajkus	1 8827 N Hwy 95	Flatonia	78941	830-839-4724	
Bayou Gourds	Tom & Zelda Hornsby	PO Box 4601	Pineville, LA	71361	328-640-4818	tom@bayougourds.com
Gourds	John & Vicki Hall	5196 CR3710 PO Box 1015	Athens	75751	903-677-4733	vhall918@earthlink.net
Lindy Crafts and Gourd Farm	Linda Higgins	Route 2, Box 91	Dekalb	75559	903-667-5109	
Carolina Gourds and Seeds	Harry Hurley	259 Fletcher Avenue	Fuquay Varina, NC	27526	919-557-5946	harryhurley@hotmail.com www.carolinagourdsandseeds.com
Kent Gourd Farm	Betty & Pete Kent	7521 Hoppe Sister Road	New Ulm	78950	979-357-2603	bpkent@industryinet.com
Gourd Mill	Dorothy Miller	789 CR 146	San Saba	76877	325-372-5210	dmiller2@centex.net
Mountain Springs Farm, Ltd.	Will, Angelia Orr	1015 HCR 4235	Hillsboro	76645	254-582-9586	angelia_orr@hillsboro.net www.mountainspringsfarm.com
Gourds	Bill & Pam Salzman	1001 Forgotten Land	Alvarado	76009	817-790-8472	himandher5@prodigy.net
Gourds	Robert & Doris Schuetze	1207 N. 64 th St.	Waco	76710	254-772-4519	
Don's Gourd Farm	Don & Mary Sills	3970 State Hwy 154	Marshall	75670	903-935-6871	Donsgourdfarm@direcway.com
Gourds	David A. Williams	8964 FM 1940	Franklin	77856	979-828-5396	gourds@tconline.net
Lone Star Gourds	Mike Wood & Carol Steele	2803 FM 225 South	Henderson	75654	903-657-0486	csteele@cox-internet.com
Rising Dawn Gourd Farm	Gay Wright	174 Kellar Rd	Smithville	78957	512-360-2023	alcyone@cmyfarm.com
This & That & Gourds	Kim & Larry Wall	PO Box 351	Gause	77857	979-280-5197	belltrimmer@aol.com
Gay Hill Gourd Farm	Carl & Cindy Weems	303 Gilmore Rd	Brenham	77833	979-277-0329	cweems@earthlink.net

TGS History: The Beginnings

[Joe Pritchard, TGS Historian] This information is taken from the minutes of the first meeting of TGS, held October 21, 1995, at the Main Fort Hood Officer's Club in Killeen, TX. Dr. Dave Layman had completed a lot of the preliminary work and contacts with the American Gourd Society. Founding members who attended that meeting were: Dr. Dave Layman, Otha M. McCay, Dorothy Miller, Duane Smith, Joyce Smith, Linda Tate, Dr. Martin Terry, Marilyn Terry, and Vernell Wiemers. Founding members who were unable to attend were: Carol Barrett, Dr. Don Sutherland, James T. Fielder, Margarette Nowlin, Steve Quitta, Miriam Balo, and Honorary member Dr. Sam Cotner from Texas A&M University. Rebecca Grider, a representative of the Killeen Chamber of Commerce attended the meeting. A display of gourds and crafts was provided by Dr. Layman, Dorothy Miller, and Marilyn Terry. TGS opened a checking account with a balance of \$ 40.00. Yearly dues were established at \$ 5.00 per address. Various tasks were assigned to members to accomplish the goal of forming a Texas chapter of the AGS. The first group of officers of TGS was selected at this meeting:

President	Duane Smith (Arlington)	Secretary	Joyce Smith (Arlington)
Vice President..	Dorothy Miller (San Saba)	Editor	Dr. Martin Terry (Bremond)
Treasurer	Dr. Dave Layman (Harker Heights)		

The next meeting was set for March 2, 1996, and the first Fall Show and Meeting was scheduled for October 26, 1996.

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 the TGS are \$12 per year prorated at \$1 per month, expiring Dec 31.

Two state meetings are held: one spring and one fall meeting.

TGS ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name _____
Address _____
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Membership (Check one) Amount Enclosed
☐ New Member \$ _____
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LANE, DALLAS, TX 75238 Make checks payable
to: TEXAS GOURD SOCIETY, INC.

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Vol 10-2

Address Correction Requested

Check your membership Expiration

If there is a red Arrow on or near the mail Label, this indicates that your membership is due and should be renewed.

PLEASE HELP TGS WITH CHANGES IN YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION – Contact Gerry Flewharty, Robbie Pritchard, or Bill Willibey with changes or corrections, including your **EMAIL**.

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1Q: 3/1 2Q: 6/1 3Q: 9/1 4Q: 12/1

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members

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Q1: 3/15

Q2: 6/15

Q3: 9/15

Q4: 12/15

Please send your ideas, questions, photographs,
and comments to: Editor, the Texas Gourdzette,

11411 Ashcreek, Houston, TX 77043

Phone 281-493-0117 willibey@sbcglobal.net

NEW MEMBERS Continued from Page 2

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