



THE TEXAS GOURDZETTE

THE NEWLETTER OF THE KAPPA CHAPTER OF THE
AMERICAN GOURD SOCIETY

Volume 29 Issue 4

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LONE STAR GOURD FESTIVAL 2024

BEST OF SHOW -MICHAEL FORD

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MISSION STATEMENT

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.

2024 TEXAS GOURD SOCIETY OFFICERS

**Becky Klix - President
Marla Garber - Vice President
Rona Thornton - Treasurer
Debbie Garcia - Secretary
Paul Butcher - Membership
David Cleaveland - Immediate Past President
Cathy West – Gourdzette Editor**

TEXAS GOURD SOCIETY EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

Zeldajean Byrd – Director	Term 2022 – 2024
Blanche Cavarretta – Director	Term 2022 – 2024
Sue Haberer – Director	Term 2024 - 2026
Barbie Holton – Director	Term 2024 - 2026
Sherry Nelson – Director	Term 2022 - 2024
Jill Robinson – Director	Term 2022 - 2024
Sherry Nelson – Director	Term 2022 - 2024

Presidents Message



Happy New Year! I hope everyone enjoyed their holidays!

It's time to start planning to attend the North Texas Gourd Festival in Granbury, TX April 4 & 5. Classes will be held April 3-4-5. January 24 is the deadline for teacher applications. NEW this year, we have added 2 hour class times. Also NEW this year, we will offer classes for KIDS ages 8 to 12. This is a pilot program to introduce kids to gourd art. All classes will be held in the second floor of the building.

Vendor applications information is also available under the "Call for Vendors" Tab. This year all vendors will be on the first floor of the building. There are 24 vendor 10'x10' booth spaces available and NEW this year we will have four Table only spaces available for those who want to be a vendor but do not have enough items to fill a full size booth.

Start creating your Jewelry Theme

Call for Participants to enter the Jewelry Theme exhibition and parade. Entry fee will be \$5.00 to showcase your piece(s). Entry application and rules are available on the TGS website. We would love to see you wearing your creations in the Jewelry Parade!

It's time again to join or renew your TGS membership for 2025 so I will begin by thanking you for your support over the past year. With your help, we've been able to continue TGS outreach programs and fund expenses for both the North Texas Gourd Festival and the Lone Star Gourd Festival. The annual membership dues remains at \$15.00. Your support and contributions will enable us to meet our 2025 goals and fund our mission.

Happy Gourding,

Becky Klix

President, Tx Gourd Society

TGS PATCH HAPPENING'S

Capital of Texas Gourd Patch

Happy New Year!!!!

The year has passed by pretty quickly.

However, it was a good year, there were sad losses of treasured members, loved ones but, lots of good things too.

Our first North Texas Gourd Festival! What fun, I enjoyed the “no pressure” open competition that was held, and glad it will be held again. The Lone Star Festival held at Dripping Springs was neat. My problem was when I would go check on classes, get clean water for Imagination Station- would stop and watch the classes going on with the horses!!!

The patch completed our year’s projects and will now have its annual meeting at Rona’s to have great food, gift swap and oh- plan the 2025 calendar!! I mentioned to all to put on their thinking caps and get those “grey cells” working.

So in closing, take care, keep gourding and will be in touch later.

Debbie

Cowtown Gourd Patch

No patch news reported

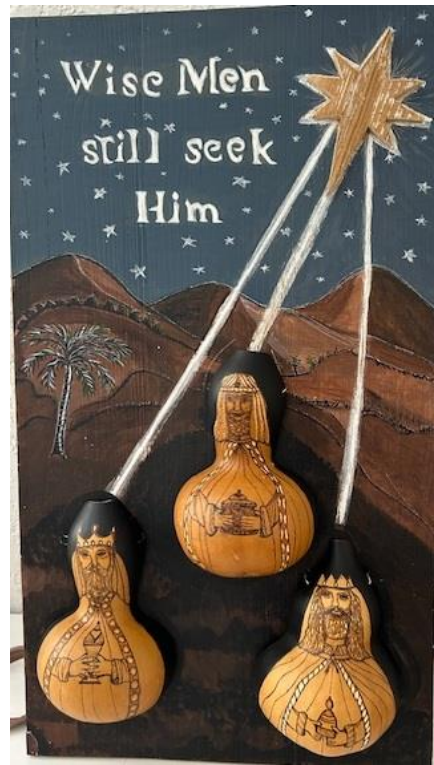
Dallas Gourd Patch

No patch news reported

Bay Area Gourd Patch

As we begin a new year, we think back to what we accomplished in the old year. This past year the Bay Area Patch added a few new members, learned new techniques, created projects, and had great fellowship.

October's meeting was filled with creating wooden signs with gourd accents. This shows how versatile gourds are in art.



We also spent a Saturday at Roy and Blanche Cavarretta's home in Hallettsville. We had a great time learning from the experts in attendance. It was a wonderful day of gourds, food, and friends.

At our November meeting, we practiced what we had learned in Hallettsville. We carved channels for beads and prepared a spot on a gourd for a cabochon.

Our December meeting was our meet and eat luncheon. We met at a burger restaurant in Kemah and enjoyed a great meal together.

We are all looking forward to see what 2025 has to offer. Happy New Year everyone!

[Southeast Gourd Patch](#)

The SE Patch met on October 12, 2024 at the home of Roy and Blanche Cavarretta in Hallettsville, TX. Roy did a demonstration on carving. The Cavarretta's provided the main dish and members brought other dishes.

In November the patch met at the Raddack center and continued our project of creating wet felt and placing on a gourd. Joanne Tompkins showed everyone how to embellish the felt piece. Joanne also instructed us on how to attach the felt to the gourd and trim it out.

No meeting in December because of everyone's busy schedules.



[Guadelupe Gourd Patch](#)

No news from the Guadelupe Patch this Quarter.

[West Texas Gourd Patch](#)

No news from the West Texas Gourd Patch this Quarter.

Community Outreach Events / Imagination Station

By Rona Thornton

Imagination Station was a big hit at the 29th Annual Lone Star Gourd Festival in Dripping Springs. There are so many people to thank for their help loading in, setting up, spending time to assist attendees to get their creative juices flowing, and then packing it all up and loading out. Also, a big thank you to members for donations. I am truly grateful to all!

The weekend before Thanksgiving we facilitated a program at The Natural Gardener in Oak Hill. They are the premier organic garden center in Central Texas and owner John Dromgoole has hosted a TV show about gardening for many years. They were very excited to have us there to learn about the history of gourds, growing gourds, and the hands-on experience of making art with gourds. Seeds were handed out to those that wanted them and we had a nice display of our gourd projects and gourd art from around the world. It was our first outdoor presentation and it went very well with the help of Capital of Texas Gourd Patch President Debbie Garcia.

In early December I had Debbie Garcia's help again doing a program for a Girl Scout troop. They were working towards a badge and were very eager to start painting on a gourd. Parents were in the background learning too and we encouraged them to look at and touch the collection of gourd art we brought. The girls were young (Daisy's) but were inquisitive and asked lots of good questions.

There is one scheduled event for February at the Bee Cave Arts Foundation. I will be contacting my previous year's event coordinators to get more programs on the calendar for 2025. After all these years, it never ceases to amaze me how gourds can inspire creativity in people who have never seen a gourd before!





2024 LONE STAR GOURD FESTIVAL WINNERS

Best of Show

Mike Ford



Texas Award
(Best of Show Runner Up)
Sherry Nelson



VIP Award
Paul Butcher



**Best of Open Theme
Butterflies and Dragonflies
Linda Smith**



**Best of Division – Masters
Roy Cavarretta**



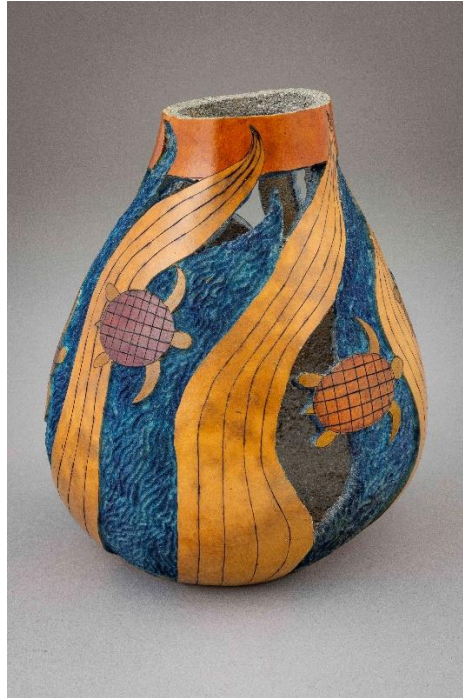
**Best of Division 1
Rita Aliperto**



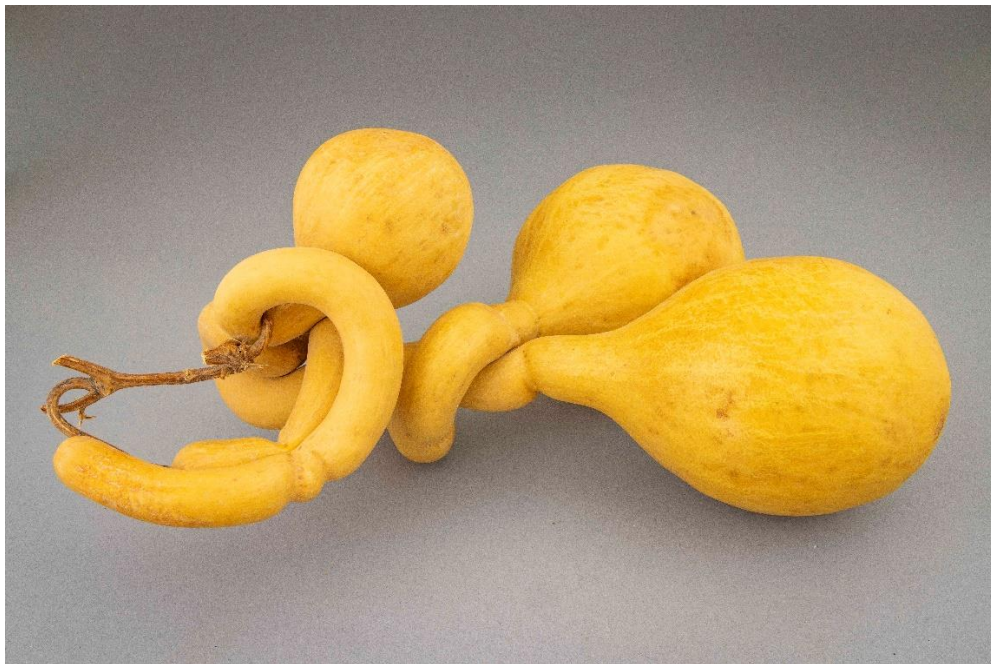
**Best of Division 2
Janet Comontofski**



**Best of Youth
Randle Brandt**



**Best of Growers
Jim Story Award – Manipulated
Ana Poma**





The fall Texas Gourd Society membership meeting was held on October 4, 2024. Members were advised of preliminary numbers for the Fall Festival:

- 102 Paid attendees
- 19 Classes were held with 42 students
- 21 Paid booths

The membership voted to hold the 2025 TGS Festival at Dripping Springs on October 16, 17 and 18, 2025

2025 Officers and Board – The membership discussed and voted on officers for 2025. They are as follows:

Board of Directors

TGS Directors for 3 year term:

- Lynda Smith
- Fredia Carron
- Anne Raspery
- Mari Tarves

TGS Officer Positions for 2025:

- President: Becky Klix
- Vice President: Marla Garber
- Secretary: Debbie Garcia
- Membership: Paul Butcher
- Gourdzette Editor: Cathy West
- Competition: Yoanna Baumgartner
- Education: Sue Harber
- Admission: Mari Tarves, Kathy Lawson
- Ways & Means: Debbie Garcia
- Hospitality: Debbie Garcia
- Imagination Station: Rona Thornton

North Texas Festival

- Vendor: Anne Raspery
- Admission: Mari Tarves



NORTH TEXAS GOURD FESTIVAL APRIL 4-5, 2025

The second North Texas Gourd Festival will be held on April 4-5, 2025 at the beautiful Lake Granbury Conference Center in Granbury, Texas. Mark your calendar now to attend this fun gourd festival where everyone can find something to spark their interest. There will be vendors, competitions, classes for both adults and kids, and lots for everyone to enjoy. Now is the time to make your reservations. Be sure and check the Texas Gourd Society webpage www.texasgourdsociety.org to learn about all the happenings at the festival.

Kids Gourd Class - North Texas Gourd Festival

Join us for a fun and creative 2-hour Kids Gourd Class at the North Texas Gourd Festival, held April 4-5th in Granbury! This special class is designed for kids ages 8-12 to explore the art of gourd crafting. With step-by-step guidance, children will learn how to decorate and transform their own gourd into a unique work of art. All materials are provided, and the class is only \$25. Don't miss out on this hands-on, artistic experience! For more information and to register, visit texasgourdsociety.org.

Competition Theme Announced – Jewelry

Join the competition at the North Texas Festival and get those creative juices flowing. This year's competition theme will be jewelry. See the application on the following pages for guidelines and entry application. We will host a jewelry parade for all participants to model their creations in a parade inside the festival. Don't miss out on the fun!!

Call For Teachers

This is a call for people to teach at the North Texas Gourd Festival, April 3-5, in Granbury, Texas. We have expanded our space and are now utilizing the top floor as well as the bottom. The top floor will be used for all classes, including wood burning and carving. We will be able to partition off the carving class from the rest of the other classes.

We are excited to have some new teachers this year but would like to have some back from previous years. If you are interested, please go to www.texasgourdsociety.org to fill out the application and submit it before the end of the week. The **deadline** for teacher applications is **January 24** which is this coming Friday.

We would like new and exciting classes for people to choose from. Something new this year is that we are offering 2 hour classes FOR ADULTS as well as the regular 4 hour and all day classes. The cap on the 2 hour classes is no more than \$60.

We are also **offering Kids classes which will be a pilot program to see how well it is received**. These will be 2 hour classes for kids ages 8-12 and they must be accompanied by their parents or by a school classroom teacher. The maximum number of kids in a class is 10 and the price is set at \$25, with \$5 going to TGS. There is a separate application to fill out for this class.

If you decide to teach please send a good picture of your class and label it with your last name and the name of your class. Example is— Haberer- coiled diamond pattern.jpg. I also request that you send me a copy of your tutorial, which will be returned at the festival.

If you are interested in teaching one of these classes please look at the application on the TGS website or call Sue Haberer at 817-559-3000

Jewelry Theme Competition for 2025 North Texas Gourd Festival

Rules and Regulations

1. Acceptable types of jewelry that may be entered:

Brooches
Necklaces
Rings
Earrings
Anklets
Bracelets
Accessories for hats

2. The jewelry must be made of/from a gourd with 90% being gourd.

3. Display your jewelry on a black foam board (8.5"x 11") or a Jewelry display bust. If it is on a board please provide a stand.

4. Entry fee is \$5

Late entry fee is \$6

5. The entry application must be mailed or emailed to Marla at the address / email address below by Friday, March 8

Marla Garber
797 Anderson CR 327
Frankston, TX 75763
gourdlady247@hotmail.com

6. Turn in your display by Friday, April 4, at 9:00am at the festival.

7. The Jewelry Parade will be Saturday at 12:30. Meet with Marla at that time

Signature_____ Date_____

Note from the Editor: I would like to reach out to everyone and encourage you to submit any interesting information, patch news, community outreach events, simple tutorials, or gourd news for the next issue of the Gourdzette.

Cathy West