

03/31/2021

2021-Winter Edition

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The Blooming Gourd



Message from the President

Hello GGS members.

Please watch your email for a message regarding voting on GGS By-law changes and upcoming nominations and votes for Officers & Directors. We will also have a Zoom meeting soon for all members to discuss upcoming GGS events, including our September GourdFest "Gourds on the Go." If you haven't yet renewed your membership, please do so right away so you won't miss anything, and encourage gourdng friends to join also. Troy Tatum, Event Chairman, and his group have been working diligently and have come up with some great ideas!

Jane

Message from the Vice President

With Spring arriving and vaccinations available, things are looking up for 2021! Plans are progressing for our GourdFest in Griffin September 24th - 26th. So...get your membership renewed to support our GGS and take advantage of special offers & discounts for members. If Covid-19 has stalled your creativity, be ready to get back together with fellow gourders. Until you can attend any festivals please support our vendors through online sales & classes. Looking forward to seeing you in person!

Beth

Atlanta Patch News

The Atlanta Patch meets the second Saturday of each month, 9:30 -2:30, at the Pickneyville Community Center in Norcross, GA

We resumed meetings in the fall of 2020, with mask requirements, and social distancing during the classes. It has been really great getting together and sharing new ideas, catching up on each others life and just being social again.

The true take away from the past year of COVID experiences for me, is simply not to take our social relationships for granted—I have totally missed the Gourd events and all my Artistic Gourd friends....social media and zooming are great, but can never replace the personal interaction, face to face and in person....just nothing can replace personal interactions. I look forward to seeing more and more gourders returning as vaccines are distributed.

Below are a few photos from patch meetings in January, February and March.....Tina

January~2021

February~2021

March~2021



Gourdacious Patch ~ Demorist, GA

The Gourdacious Patch has been idle for a year now. Hopefully, we will be able to resume meetings soon. The Patch meets the first Friday of the month (except for when holidays occur near/on date) at 10 a.m. at the Habersham Senior Center. With luck, we will resume with small groups in May or June. Below are meeting dates. If you or anyone you know would like to attend or be an instructor, please contact Gail Justus (justusgail@gmail.com).

May 7
 June 4
 July 9
 August 6
 September 3
 October 1
 November 5
 December 3

Joyful Gourd Souls Patch ~ Loganville, GA

Our patch is temporarily closed, due to our meeting place is not yet available for outside activities. Since Melissa & I were the only two regulars, we have been going to the Atlanta Patch for our "Gourd Fun & Fellowship".

Tina

Flint River Patch ~ Griffin Patch

Flint River Patch hosted a Gourd Education Day with Suzi Nonn teaching Saturday and Sunday different classes each day. Fun was had by all, BIG THANK YOU to Suzi for sharing her expertise and talents with all of us. Please stay tuned for upcoming patch meeting news.



Future meeting dates :

[Sunday, April 18](#)

[Sunday, May 16](#)

[Sunday, June 13](#) (because third Sunday is Father's Day)

[Sunday, July 18](#)

[Sunday, August 15](#)

[Sunday, September 19](#)

[Sunday, October 17](#)

[Sunday, November 21](#)

[Sunday, December 19](#)



Stay in the know for our 2021 show...Gourds on the Go....

GGG Logo Contest—

Get your artwork to Holly Gallagher-

All entries must have show theme-Gourds on the Go...2021 and suitable for printing on merchandise or buttons-deadline for entry is May 1st.

Email all entries to hollyheathgallagher@gmail.com

This year we will be using the same sign up methods as Cherokee and the Florida Gourd show; for class applications; class registrations and volunteer registration. The website will be updated soon for inputting teacher applications in google docs.

All volunteers will get early class sign up privileges, and GGS members will receive discount rate for class fees. Please email Holly Gallagher for volunteer sign ups.

Basket raffles- any patch, group or couple that would like to put together and donate a basket for the raffle please contact Karen Maloney, you may wish to donate items for baskets or an entire basket, all donations appreciated.

We plan to have 4 separate silent auctions & would appreciate GGS members (or anyone for that matter) consider donating a finished gourd or an item or two or three, for the silent auctions. Maybe a class gourd? Maybe a tutorial kit? Or something you made that no longer fits your decor.

This year will be our first show event during the same time as the county fair , so we do expect high volume of walk in customers, and we will have a variety of art vendors not limited to just gourd art. We are very excited for the plans we are making for our 2021 GourdFest, so mark your calendars now, make your reservations and start planning to have lots of fun and creating gourd art!!!

Competition Corner.....

Karin Anderson is our chairperson for Competition Committee for the 2021 Gourds on the Go Show, please contact Karin with any questions regarding the upcoming competitions. We do have several changes in our categories and divisions this year ; all rules and categories will be posted on website soon. One big change is the Grand Masters will not be competing, each Artist will be entitled to a space, you can price your pieces, and your business information with your works.

SO, we are asking, that all Grand Masters Artist please declare your intention to exhibit at the GGS show this year. We encourage all GM Artists to participate, and if you choose to exhibit your work, we would like to know in advance Karin will need to know how many pieces you would like to display, so that space allocation can be decided in advance.

A Note from the Editor.....

Good day my Gourd Friends,

I have volunteered to get this publication "blooming" again, however, I need your help. PLEASE send me some gourd news! Pictures, articles, tutorials. Tips & Tricks to share...Gourd Events, upcoming shows—anything we can share with all our Gourd Pals & Patches. I would like to share vendor resources, deal and any thing you would like to share with others. I am open to suggestions, this publication is for you and about you. It would be great to have articles from all patches, all executive board members and a question answer section for all to read.. PLEASE help us make this a Grand Blooming Gourd!!! Please send all suggestions, articles and photos to georgiagourdsociety@gmail.com with the subject line "blooming gourd news" One of the best ways to grow our membership is to share, communicate and educate...You may have heard it said..."Bloom where you are planted", well Gourders..let's get Blooming, and share the "Gourd news"!!!

Happy Gourdin' all, Tina

Membership News....

Our Membership numbers are down sadly, perhaps because of COVID canceling our show last year. Most were accustom to paying at the annual show, however, we are trying to make it is as convenient as possible to renew your membership. GGS will now accept payment via cards—please contact Tom Ricker for payment information.

*We need **EVERY MEMBER** reaching out to grow our membership-please drop off applications when you speak at Garden Clubs or visit Art Guilds to speak about Gourd Art .*

We also strongly encourage all Patch members to pay your Georgia Dues as soon as possible. This year and moving forward, GGS members will receive discounts on class registration, as well as Competition registrations. Non GGS members will pay higher fees for class registrations at all GGS sponsored shows or GEDs.

We have great ideas in the works for future events and projects for the coming year or so; you won't want to be left out...so please pay up and keep up!

Application forms can be printed from website~~~www.georgiagourdsociety.com

GGs Merchandise Market....

To order GGS merchandise please contact Diane Ricker

Dmricker48@yahoo.com

Denim shirts must be special ordered; Diane places order when min of 10 is reached & it takes approximately 8 weeks for them to come in;

Canvas Totes are available for purchase ~

Diane & Holly have a supply of bags for pick up or they can be mailed if you wish to pay postage.

Shirts are \$35/\$38 for XL and larger

Canvas bags are \$25 each

{Dimensions are 24" wide/14" high/7" deep }



To Contact
Holly
email to
Hollyheathgallagher
@gmail.com



Gourding 'round the South...

Several of our Georgia Gourders joined in on the Gourd Fun at the recent Florida Gourd Show—taking several classes and coming home with some ribbons for their competition entries....



Congratulations Karen Maloney!



Congratulations Vickie Patterson!



A few cool Tips or Tricks

heard thru the Gourd vines.....

Painting/Finishing Tips

- Clean /revitalize brushes with hand sanitizer. Let brush sit in sanitizer for 5-10 mins, then clean with soapy water
- You can apply OIL paint over acrylic paints. But you if you apply water based (eg., acrylic) paint over oil, the acrylic with crackle
- Krylon Clear Coat or Krylon Workable Fixative are a great **first** finish. Prevents “running”. You can use other finishes afterward.
- If you need a very durable outdoor finish, use Helmsman Spar urethane. Apply several coats.

Modeling/Sculpting Tips

Quik Wood, Epoxy Sculp, air dry paper clay)

- For making large, flat pieces - roll out between 2 pieces of plastic wrap (after mixing the two parts, of course)
- To make it easier to smooth/feather out Quick Wood, use a few drops of a product by DecoArt called “Traditions - Extender & Blending Medium”. Put a drop on your fingers before smooth.
- Epoxy Sculp stays pliable longer than QuikWood. Also seems easier to sand when dry.

Sanding

- Cut sanding belt into small rectangles (i.e., 1” x 2” or 2” x 3”) for sanding carved areas. The cloth backing keeps it stiff but flexible. It comes in a variety of grits.
- Sand paper grits - the HIGHER the # (eg. 400), the finer the grit.

To keep this column going we need more input from YOU....

Please Submit your creative tips, tricks and advises to Tina via email to georgiagourdsociety@gmail.com

Let's share the “gourd news” of what works well for you or what doesn't work well on gourds from your experiences

DATES	2021 GOURD SOCIETY EVENTS	AGS Judged	Jim Story Award
Feb 26 – 28	Florida - 2021 Florida Gourd Show, Melbourne, FL www.fgourdsoc.org	Yes	Yes
April 10 – 11	Missouri - Show Me Gourd Society Fine Art Festival, www.showmegourdsociety.com - CANCELED		
April 23 – 24	South Carolina - South Carolina & Ghost Creek Gourd Fest, Ghost Creek Gourd Farm, Laurens, SC www.facebook.com/South-Carolina-Gourd-Society	No	No
April 24 – 26	California - 2021 Baskets and Gourds, Containers of Our Culture - CANCELED		
May 7 – 8	Indiana - Gourd Society State Show, www.indianagourdsociety.org - CANCELED	Yes	Yes
May 6 – 9	California - Folsom Gourd Artists Festival, Rancho Cordova, CA www.californiagourdsociety.com	Yes	Yes
June 26 – 27	California - Amador Gourd & Fine Arts Festival Amador Flower Farm, Plymouth, CA www.AmadorGourdArtists.com	No	No
August 12 – 14	Pennsylvania - PA Gourd Fest, Lebanon Expo Center and Fairgrounds, Lebanon, PA www.pagourdsociety.org	Yes	Yes
Sept 10 – 12	Nevada - Silver State Art Festival - Carson City, NV www.nevadagourdsociety.org	No	No
Sept 24 – 26	Georgia - 2021 GourdFest “Gourds On The Go” Kiwanis Fairgrounds, Griffin, GA www.georgiagourdsociety.com	Yes	Yes
Oct 1 – 3	Ohio - 2021 Ohio Gourd Show, Delaware Co. Fairgrounds, Delaware, OH www.ohiogourdsociety.com	Yes	Yes
Oct 1 – 3	Texas - Lone Star Gourd Festival, Gillespie County Fairgrounds, Fredericksburg, TX www.texasgourdsociety.com (classes start 9/30/21)	Yes	Yes
Oct 15 – 16	Alabama - 2021 Alabama Gourd Show, Sparkman Civic Center, Hartselle, AL www.alabamagourdsociety.org	Yes	Yes
Oct 21 – 24	Idaho - Idaho Gourd Festival, Potomac Manor, Boise, ID www.idahogourdsociety.org	Yes	Yes
Nov 6 – 7	North Carolina - 79th Annual North Carolina Gourd Arts and Crafts Festival, State Fairgrounds, Raleigh, NC www.ncgourdsociety.org	Yes	Yes
Nov 14 – 15	Virginia - VA Gourd Show, Museum of the Shenandoah Valley, Winchester, VA www.vlgs.org	Yes	No
DATES	2021 OTHER GOURD EVENTS	AGS Judged	Jim Story Award
July 28 – Aug 1	North Carolina - Gourd Gathering at Cherokee, Cherokee, NC www.gourdgathering.org	No	No

A Gourdning you may go.....

Gourd Gathering at Cherokee 2021



**Save the Dates
July 28th - August 1st**

Go To Our Facebook Page

South Carolina Gourd Society

HOME JOIN/CONTACT US 2021 Festival PATCHES OFFICERS KEY LINKS More

SC Gourd Festival is a two day event, held April 23-24, 2021 at the Ghost Creek Gourd Farm in Laurens, SC.
Festival hours are Friday 1-5 and Saturday 8-5

Click here to see information about....

Class applications general information		Class Registration Form		2021 Make and Take	
General Information (Deadlines)		Class Registration Form		2021 Make and Take	
All Classes View	Friday PM Classes	Saturday AM Classes	Saturday PM Classes		

Vendors, Sales, Raffles and Give-Aways	Lodging and Food	General Information/Needs
Ghost Creek Gourd Fest Vendors	Lodging	Volunteers Needed
Member Sales Tent	Food Tent at Event	Annual Membership Meeting
Basket Give-Aways	Directions to Event	
Raffles		

**\$5 of every class tuition fee is retained by South Carolina Gourd Society for expenses related to the Festival

It's Always a Gourd Day in PA!

August 12-14th, 2021

2021 Pennsylvania Gourd Fest

Lebanon Valley Expo Center and Fairgrounds
80 Rocherty Road, Lebanon, PA 17042
(Near many great PA attractions)

3 days of classes	Indoor & outdoor facilities
Supply & Tool Vendors	On-site concessions
AGS Competition	On-site camping/showers

...and much, much more!

Interested instructors and vendors can find applications at www.pagourdsociety.org

Miriam Joy
Professional Artist & Teacher

928-499-9637
Email me: Art@MiriamJoy.com

Facebook: Miriam Joy Gourd Creations
Net: www.MiriamJoy.com

Add a little "Joy" to your life

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Karen & Ben Kirkland
Leesburg, Ga. (229) 432-7109
chehawknapper@mediacommb.net

*A few of
our
Vendor
Resources*

Pumpkin Hollow Gourds

www.pumpkinhollowgourds.com
ellen@pumpkinhollow.com
870-598-3568

We grow a wide variety of quality gourds. Check out our online catalog at www.pumpkinhollowgourds.com for pricing and photos of our gourds.

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prickly Pear Cactus Skeleton • Gourd Lamp Beads from Turkey • Gourd Lamps, and Lighting Supplies • Paper Twist for coiling • Gourd Cleaning Tools • Quikwood • Adirondack Alcohol Ink • Memories Dye Ink • Apoxic Sculpt • Wax Linen & Imitation Sinew • Embossing Powder • PVC Gourd Scribe • Razertip, Proxon, Microlux • Drum/Thunder Drum Supplies • Dried Botanicals/Naturals • Bed Springs • Clay Tools and Molds • Pine Needles Natural/Dyed • Basket supplies • Stands and Bases • Applicators and Brushes • Vinyl Masking & Car Decals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Washi Paper • Suede Tex Flocking
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Gourd Seeds

All our seeds are

- Grown in Isolation and hand pollinated
- Germination tested
- Non-GMO
- No 3rd party growers

www.bluewhalearts.com
info@bluewhalearts.com 603-679-1961
Like us on Facebook and our Join Facebook group Everything Gourds
<https://www.youtube.com/c/Bluewhaleartsdotcom>

The Gourd Pile

The Gourd Pile bins are full of gourds of every shape and size, just waiting to be used for all your projects.

You will be pleased with the quality and especially the thickness we have achieved with this year's crop.

Visit our farm (call before you come) and pick out just what you need or give me a call and I will ship them out to you within two days.

Pamela Morrison
The Gourd Pile
(407) 538-4700
pamelamorrison98@yahoo.com
P.O. Box 516 - 874 Morrison Rd.
Morven, GA 31638

FRONT PORCH GOURDS LLC
www.frontporchgourdsllc.com

Sheryl Scott
Owner & Artist
sherylscott66@outlook.com

2940 Hardyville Rd.
Munfordville, KY 42765
270-537-3842



A HUGE "CONGRATULATIONS" shout out to

Dennis McDonald

Dennis was the featured Artist in the spring edition of American Gourd Society magazine.

Dennis is a truly amazing Artist & it is a honor to have one of our very own GGS Artists featured in the national magazine...

"Way to go Dennis!!!"



Featured Artist - Dennis McDonald

Written by Eric Rosenbaum

The moment Dennis would have been his favorite. As Dennis was approaching his retirement from working in 2010, he began looking for a hobby to fill time. In the past, he would fill spare time with woodworking. But artistic and age made it less enjoyable. One day he was going through old books and came across a small book he used in the Boy Scouts.



Thinking to start woodworking, he went online to search for modern wood burners and was amazed at how they had evolved. Settling on a Calwood burner, Dennis began his new hobby. One evening, he sat at his wife's feet, placed a small, polished piece into a gourd shell and he wondered, what if?

It was the first time he had ever finished a gourd. The next day he sent it to his mother, something happened that only a "Gourd head" would understand. Dennis spent the next week covering the gourd with a bamboo weave pattern and wood burning for more quality. He discovered the Gourd Society website and other like-minded people with the same addiction he was developing.

"The work that others were doing, the creative techniques with talented artists in the Gourd Society and their knowledge, has led my obsession ever since."

As with many who enter the gourd world, Dennis learned by trial and error. His has always served

Dennis well at life. As he puts it, "Life has shown me that mistakes happen to teach us things I apply that principle to my wood and gourd burning."

Dennis likes to experiment and try new things. He often starts a project above his skill level or requests help before he starts. Dennis keeps a practice gourd with his current project, trying things out on a "before" using it on his practice piece. There are times, looks in particular that he has seen on—Jim White's "Gourd Paraglyphy" and The "Paraglyphy Workbook" by Ted Walker.

When Dennis gets to a place in his art where the right idea isn't there, he says just the gourd will do what he calls a "filling piece" in a few days, see "Thinking Piece". A smaller gourd with a repeating



pattern that allows him time to mull over the problem. "I like to take things slow and deliberate, enjoying the glowing process as much as the finished product. It never is called perfect."

Dennis enjoys the challenge paraglyphy presents. "It's the beauty in the work, it's never something that is done." He never finished one over a year ago, he says, which often the gourd is a piece of wood or the natural gourd is a gourd to create one. Dennis is someone who is the part of the gourd that is a little repetitive. He's not to create things that are not to the artist's or the gourd's best interest.

Dennis is inspired by and grateful to his creative spirit during this chapter of his life. "Could anyone do as much as Dennis has done? I'm inspired by his work, what things it's been a gift."



Left column: The One Two Gourd Society
Right column: One, Two, Three, Four, Five, Six, Seven, Eight, Nine, Ten, Eleven, Twelve, Thirteen, Fourteen, Fifteen, Sixteen, Seventeen, Eighteen, Nineteen, Twenty

The page shows the first piece of the July 2021 issue of The Gourd Magazine. Center with the theme "Thinking Piece". Right: Author: Eric Rosenbaum

Dennis McDonald continued



This page shows items from top left: Archer & Bow, One, Two, Three, Four, Five, Six, Seven, Eight, Nine, Ten, Eleven, Twelve, Thirteen, Fourteen, Fifteen, Sixteen, Seventeen, Eighteen, Nineteen, Twenty. Center: Egg One

