

March 2023

Winter Edition

The Blooming Gourd



President:

Troy Tatum

Vice President:

Beth Westberry

Treasurer:

Tom Ricker

Secretary:

Sara Faulkner

Show Chairman:

Holly Gallagher

Publicity Chairman: Open

Audit Chairman: Open

Webmaster Contact:

Suzi Nonn

Membership Chair:

Janet Eakin

Editor:

Tina Handrop

Directors:

Jan Cash

Janet Eakin

Holly Gallagher

Diane Ricker

Karen Maloney

Tina Handrop

Karin Anderson

Jane Y. Ballou

Message from the President

Hello fellow gourders and welcome to 2023. As we begin a new year, I am very excited for all that this year holds for the Georgia Gourd Society. The show chair and committees are already hard at work to ensure that GourdFest 2023 will be the best ever. This year is the 25th anniversary of the GGS and we want to incorporate that celebration into our show scheduled for October 28-29, 2023 with set-up, classes and competition turn-in and judging on Friday the 27th.

I am proud to announce that as part of the celebration, GourdFest 2023 will host the American Gourd Society's annual membership meeting. This will create additional attention for our show and provide excellent opportunities for national advertising. This will be the first time that Georgia has hosted the AGS annual membership meeting and is perfect timing with our 25th anniversary celebration.

The theme for this year's show will be the "A World Within". So put on your thinking caps and design and create a winning gourd with a scene or diorama inside (see the separate article for more information on the show theme). With the cold weather outside, now is also the perfect time to be working on those blue-ribbon entries for the competition. The competition will again utilize the same divisions as last year, but a few of the categories are being re-evaluated. Any changes will be announced as soon as they are finalized. I encourage each of you to enter the competition. I am convinced that we have the largest group of the most talented gourd artists anywhere any we need to utilize the GourdFest 2023 to display that talent. Also be thinking about donating to our silent auction. Finish that class piece that you didn't finish or that design you had in the back of your mind and bring them to the show for the auction.

The show committees are planning another stellar array of instructors and classes for this year's show so watch for future announcements about classes. Also watch the website, the Blooming Gourd and the Facebook page for other announcements and opportunities for you to participate. If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact me or Holly Gallagher, Show chair.

Be sure to mark your calendars now for GOURDFEST 2023 – October 28-29, 2023 and SAVE THE DATE!!

Keep on Gourding,

Troy Tatum, President

troytatum@bellsouth.net 770.468.3579

Inside this issue:

Editor's Note Message from Show Chair	2-3
	4-9
Miscellaneous Show Photos	10-18
Perry Fair Photos	19
Jim Story Award	20
2023 Show Information	21
Merchandise/Membership	22-23

Message from our Show Chair...

2023 will be our 25th Anniversary Show

So very much is coming together to make our 25th Anniversary Show the most incredible ever!

YEP that's right. This will be our **25th year of the Georgia Gourd Society**.

Remember to Save the Date October 27-29th our **25th Anniversary GourdFest Show**

October 27- set up, competition drop off; judging and classes; then opening to the public, with more classes on the 28th-29th. We have several GREAT instructors already committed to teach, as well as several vendors committed to have demos, "stay and play" tables or "make it take" projects.

The theme this year is "**A World Within**"

Allow your imagination to run wild. Artists should create a scene or diorama inside a gourd vessel. The gourd should be cut and decorated to compliment the scene created inside, so that the total piece tells a story. Whether you are recreating a real or imagined location, landmark or fairytale, this is your opportunity to create your own world inside a gourd. Any techniques can be used, but as always, the finished piece should be majority gourd and comply with show guidelines.

- We have received confirmation that the AGS annual meeting will also be held at our GourdFest. This will bring many more gourd artists to our show, and hopefully more competition and teachers from afar as well.
- Our **25th Anniversary Show** can't be a successful show without each of you, so please let us know your suggestions and ideas. Maybe there was something you loved at last year's show or something you would like to see changed, or perhaps you saw something at another show you would like to see us do at the Georgia show, all feedback and suggestions are welcomed. Please email to me at HollyheathGallagher@gmail.com
- **Basket Raffle & Silent Auction**— Karen Maloney is in charge of raffle baskets and silent auction; if you have any donations, please contact her to make arrangements to get them to her. The baskets have to be put together prior to the show, so the earlier the better for donations. Please email Karen at kccm3158@bellsouth.net for additional information.

I challenge each of you to be thinking now, of where you want to volunteer; of what you want to create for competition and start making your list of what you may need to purchase from our vendors.

Lastly, if you see a posting on our facebook page, please share it on your feed, so we get information out to a wider audience. We actually have several new gourders who saw us on facebook and decided to join us.

Stay tuned for more info ...and Happy Gourding.....

Holly —HollyheathGallagher@gmail.com

It's not too early for planning to enter your Gourd Art in the Georgia National Fair in 2023. Just a few years ago the Fair Directors were about to dissolve the Gourd Art category in the Art Competition, this year we had many Gourd Art entries and several of our GGS members received awards at the fair. Visit the website for additional information georgianationalfair.com. Updated information will be posted on our facebook page, and in this publication.

Please "like" us on FB page if you haven't already done so-Georgia Gourd Society.



*Message from our Competition Chair...**2023 will be our 25th Anniversary Show*

Just a few reminders for our upcoming 25th Anniversary show,

- This year we will return to one entry per category for each artist;
- As a reminder, class projects are only allowed to be entered in the Novice and Youth categories. All class entries must be accompanied with an index card stating the instructors name.
- Grand Masters is an “exhibit only” category, please notify me if you plan to exhibit, so we can plan accordingly. Please email me at **praisethegourd@windstream.net**
- Registration directions, entry rules and competition descriptions will be forthcoming very soon;
- Certified judges or anyone who wishes to assist clerking, for our competition, please email me at **praisethegourd@windstream.net**, as soon as possible, I will be putting the teams in advance of the show;
- Please email me at **praisethegourd@windstream.net**, if you are interested in volunteering at registration, competition area monitoring or Sunday Afternoon pick up;
- AGS will be hosting their annual meeting at our show this year, we would love to see everyone wearing a GGS shirt-old or new-, as well as previous show badges and patches....after 25 years we should have quite the collection—let’s show off at the show!!!
- Finally, hope each of you are creating your “A World Within” masterpiece....what a great variety of options we have with this years theme...”A World Within”-create an art story inside a gourd, with the exterior complimenting the story on the inside of the gourd.

Any member that has ideas, suggestions or any questions regarding competition or categories please email me at **praisethegourd@windstream.net**. We are always looking for suggestions to improve our competition.

Karin Anderson, Competition Chairperson

A Note from the Editor.....

Hello Fellow Gourders,

Below are a few things I need for future editions, please consider emailing me at **bloominggourd@gmail.com** some of these items.

- Tutorials-I would love to include tutorials to share with our members please email me in word or pdf file to
- Tips, Tricks or advice in creating with specific tools or products; helpful hints to share with our members;
- Photos & info from patches or events you participated in. A couple of our patches are doing great at getting me info, but nothing from others-please email me if you have questions about getting photos or information to me for this publication;

This publication is designed for our GGS members, however, I encourage each of you to share it with all your friends, & art groups. When it posts on our facebook page please share the post on your personal feed or with other art groups you belong to as well. In my opinion, the more exposure of Gourd Art, the more likely we can grow our membership, so let’s share some “Gourd News” they can use. And remember, it takes lots of input to make this publication helpful to our members, please, send me “all you gots”!!!
Deadline for next edition May 20th to include March, April & May information.

Happy Gourdin' ya'll, Tina

bloominggourd@gmail.com

Atlanta Patch News

February~2023~Cane wrapping gourds



Coastal Gourd Sprouts Patch

Just a note to let all know in the area surrounding Springfield, GA, we are in the process of re-starting patch meetings. This is northwest of Savannah, GA, if anyone knows of interested gourders in or near this area please share this information.

All interested artists should contact Charlotte, at gourds1@AOL.com to be added to the email list.

Happy Gourding Y'all!!!! Charlotte & Jan

Dahlonega Gold Gourd Patch

The Dahlonega Gold Gourd Patch is Off to a great start. Below are a few photos from recent patch meeting. The Patch meets the 4th Saturday of each month at 1:00 p.m. (starting time may be adjusted for the months of non-daylight savings) at the Lumpkin County Senior Center located at 266 Mechanicsville, Rd, Dahlonega, GA 30533. Always verify with Gail, before attending, as dates and times are subject to change.

We need students and teachers, so if you are interested in being kept up-to-date added to the Patch email list, you can email Gail Justus at justusgail@gmail.com to be added. All levels of crafters/artists are welcome. All materials will be furnished for you for most patch projects-if you plan to attend please email Gail ,in advance.



*Flint River Gourd Patch ~
GA Research & Education Garden
129 Ellis Road, Griffin Patch
Flint River Patch meets the third Sunday of each month,
(holiday weekends may vary)*



*Flint River Gourd Patch ~
GA Research & Education Garden
129 Ellis Road, Griffin Patch
Flint River Patch meets the third Sunday of each month,
(holiday weekends may vary)*



GGG Merchandise Market....



To order please contact Diane Ricker
Dmrick48@yahoo.com
 Canvas Totes are \$25 each
 {Dimensions are 24" wide/14" high/7" deep }
 Folks these items are TOP quality; canvas totes are
 VERY nice, useful & Durable-They will last a very long time!



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



Membership News....

Time to "Pay Up"—Dues are Due—Why not "triple pay" send in payment for three years and get a \$5 discountOnly \$40

To pay via credit/debit cards—please contact Tom Ricker-contact information is on the form
 If prefer to mail a check, please complete the form on next page & mail with payment.

We need **EVERY MEMBER to BRING a MEMBER....**

Please, let's all make extra efforts to reach out in our local areas to grow our membership. You can start with printing the application on the next page; take it to your patch meetings; take or post in local libraries & art guilds.

This year & 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 many great things planned for future events & projects for the coming years; 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 or Georgia Gourd Society facebook page also.}

Georgia Gourd Society Membership Application

We invite you to join us in sharing and learning all about gourds. We meet periodically for workshops and meetings, host a state gourd show, produce seasonal newsletters, and offer resources for gourd supplies, decorating ideas, and friendship.

Membership dues of \$15.00 are due January 1 of each year. You can pay for multiple years if you wish. E-mailed newsletters are included in your membership fee.

New Member Renewal

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City/State Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail _____

Annual family dues for the Georgia Gourd Society are \$15.00 or \$40 for three years. The membership year runs from January 1st to December 31st. Dues for new members who join after June 30 each year will be \$5.00. If a new member joins after September 30, they will pay \$15.00 for the next year's membership plus three months of the current year. These options are not available for renewing members.

How many gourd members living in your home should be included in your family membership?

()

Names of additional members: _____

E-mail address for additional member/s: _____

Dues for all renewing members will be \$15.00 with payment due by January 31 or three years for \$40. If dues are not paid prior to January 31 of each year, your membership privileges will end until your membership is reinstated upon payment of the annual dues.

Please print, complete, and mail this form with your payment to:

{Checks should be made payable to Georgia Gourd Society}

**Tom Ricker, Treasurer
3653 Cedar Corners Trail
Peachtree Corners, GA 30092**

Please contact Janet Eakin for any questions on membership: Email her at: jeakin19@gmail.com
To pay by credit card please contact Tom Ricker via email to tomricker45@gmail.com

The Georgia Gourd Society encourages membership in the American Gourd Society (AGS). Annual AGS dues for the AGS are \$20.00; which includes a subscription to their national magazine, The Gourd Magazine. Both dues can be mailed to GGS when you join, however, please make two separate checks — \$15.00 to the Georgia Gourd Society and \$20.00 to the American Gourd Society. We will gladly forward your check and information to the AGS or you may opt to contact the AGS independently.