



The Bloomin' Gourd

Vol. 13, No. 4

THE GEORGIA GOURD SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Nov/Dec 2010

President's Column

We had great regional GED events in Springfield in September and at the General Membership meeting at Indian Springs in October. Classes were held and enjoyed at both events. Ellen Tatum is planning a Winter Event for the Atlanta area. If you want a Gourd Gathering or Education Day held in your area, let us know.

Welcome to the new and repeating officers who were elected to two year terms. Special thanks to retiring officers Billy Strickland, Hudi Sandgren, Judy Shumake, Louise Horovesky and Bob James who have worked tirelessly as officers for this organization for many years. Judi and Louise are facing some difficult personal and family health challenges.

We voted to established a Gourd Education committee that will be lead by Charlotte

Durrence and Ellen Tatum. We hope with your help to make this a Gourd Education Year. We seek to establish new and revitalize existing patches by holding more events.

We've allocate \$1300.00 in the 2011 budget for GGS speakers, teachers, publications, and events to promote the planting and crafting of gourds. We need your input targeting those locations and activities which will have the greatest effect.

I'd like to see at least four regional gourd events take place plus our end of year Festival in November.

I have surgery in two weeks and perhaps some follow-up treatments, so I'll be out of commission for a little while.

Love ya'll and happy gourding,

Reggie

Best Wishes for a Safe and Happy Holiday Season!

Georgia Gourd Society News

Annual Dues — It's that time again to pay our annual dues which are due in January. Jan Cash is our new membership chairman and renewals and dues should be sent to her at 435 Parr Farm Road, Covington, Georgia 30016.

The Bloomin' Gourd News — Due to the rising costs of paper, ink, and postal rates, The Bloomin' Gourd will only be available online. You can, however, subscribe and receive the printed and postal mail copy for a subscription fee of \$5.00. If you are a renewing member, please send Jan a note with your subscription fee and dues and ask to be placed on the printed copy list. If you are a new member, check the appropriate box on the application form.

New Forum for Georgia Gourders!—We have a new Gourd Forum on Yahoo! This forum was created and is maintained by Jan Cash who is one of the originating members of the Georgia Gourd Society. The forum name is "Georgia Gourdin' ". The forum is for new gourders and old gourders, novice and masters. Any question you have can be answered by someone and the older gourders are always eager to help new gourders. Jan has some exciting ideas for the forum. To join the forum , you need to be a member of Yahoo and can join the "Georgia Gourdin'"

Georgia Gourd Society

General Membership / Board of Directors Minutes

October 30, 2010

Indian Spring State Park, Georgia

The Georgia Gourd Society Board of Directors and General Membership meeting were held on October 30, 2010 at Indian Springs State Park. BOD Members present were Reggie Eakin, Tina Norford, Sandra McGurn, Bob James, Elly Groover, Judy Shumake, Ellen Tatum, Hudi Sundgren, Sandra Hutchins and Nancy Peterson for a total of 10 in attendance. The BOD meeting was held at 10:00 AM and the General Membership meeting was held at 12:30PM.

The meeting was called to order and the minutes of the August 1 meeting were read and approved with a correction.

BOD meeting minutes held between August 1 and October 30 were read and approved. The actions taken by the board included approval of the dates of November 18, 19, 20, 2011 for the 2011 show to be held at the Georgia National Fairgrounds in Perry. The 2011 Annual GGS show will utilize the Murphy Hall, conference rooms, gallery, and outside porches. The date and location were selected to improve weather conditions and visitor traffic. There will be four other events for that weekend which draws 6,000 visitors which may help the attendance at our show.

Reports:

Treasurer's report was presented. After paying all of the show expenses the bank balance was \$11,510.21. The Proposed 2011 GGS budget of \$9,774.00 that was published to the membership on October 13, 2010 was approved by the BOD and later by the General Membership.

Nominating Committee Report: The slate of officers nominated and published on September 30 were elected by the general membership to a two year term as directors: M J Kimble, C. L.

Arnsdorff and Troy Tatum; as Membership Chairman Jan Cash; As Vice-President Ellen Tatum and Sandra Hutchins, Editor.

President's Report: Judy Shumake has resigned for health concerns as the GGS Webmaster. We are still seeking a replacement. A job description for the webmaster position will be published.

The iContact e-mail account will be moved from Bob James to Jan Cash, the new membership chairman.

Louise Horesovsky resigned as a GGS Director for health reasons. In the BOD Meeting it was determined that the President should recommend a person subject to board approval to fill the position of director left vacant.

The Board of Directors approved Reggie Eakin and Troy Tatum as Co-chairs of the 2011 Annual Gourd Show.

The Board of Director discussed the 2011 show theme the "Journey to the Gourd Pagoda" A motion by Bob James with a second by Sandra Hutchins was made to support the theme selected by the Show committee with thanks to Kathy James, Hudi Sandgren, and Pat Fitzgerald for developing the theme and graphics.

A call for volunteers:

A Ways and Means chairman (responsible for fund raising) is needed.

Tom Taylor has agreed to be Publicity Chairman whose committee members will be Troy Tatum and Sandra Hutchins.

The Georgia National Fair will feature Gourds in their October 2011 Fair. Charlotte Durrence and others reported on the strong showing in

Continued from page 3

the Fall 2010 Show. Many ribbons and winners were displayed at our meeting.

The GGS will operate under the leadership of Vice President Ellen Tatum during Reggie's surgery and recovery.

Reggie explained his ideas for establishing a Gourd Education Committee.

New Business

Establishing a Gourd Education Committee was discussed and a motion to form the committee, to be headed by Hudi Sandgren, seconded by Sandra Hutchins, passed unanimously. Charlotte Durrence and Ellen Tatum volunteered to be co-chairs of the new committee. Operating guidelines will be developed by the co-chair. The Georgia National Fair will feature Gourds in their October 2011 Fair.

A motion by Sandra Hutchins with a second by Judy Shumake was made to reduce the membership dues, for new members only joining after June 30, to \$5.00. The motion passed unanimously. Dues for all renewing members will remain \$10.00 with payment due by January 31 of each year.

Sandra Hutchins moved with a second from Hudi Sandgren that effective January 1, 2011 The Bloomin' Gourd would only be available on line for the general membership. The Bloomin' Gourd can be subscribed to for \$5.00 annually for printed and postal mailed copies. The motion passed

A BOD motion that money to be allotted for website rental from this year's Board Discretionary Fund was made by Sandy McGurn with a second by Tina Norford. The motion passed unanimously.

A request to increase membership dues did not receive a motion or second. The annual GGS dues will remain at \$10.00 per year.

The 2011 Show Committee Volunteers:

Welcome and Attendance Chair: Janet Eakin w/Karin Anderson, Ann Touchton .

Sales and Silent Auction Chair: TBD

Live Auction Chair: TBD

Dinner chairperson: Trish Mills (Table Decorations: Central GA Gourd Patch)

Competition chair: Reggie Eakin

Entry registration chair: Sandra Hutchins w/Jane Ballou.

Head Judge: TBD.

Workshop Chair: Tina Norford

Vendor & Set-up Chair: Troy Tatum

Entertainment Chair: Hudi Sandgren

Worker/Vendor Hospitality Chair: Sandy McGurn and Ellen Tatum

Make & Take Chair: M J Kimble

Gourd Exhibitions Chair: Sandy McGurn (gourd displays, history, etc)

Kathy James will chair Printing-signs, badges, handouts and ribbons.

The board meeting ended at approximately 12:00 pm and the General Membership meeting ended at 1:30PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra McGurn,
Secretary

Glory Gourds

lightglow@atlantic.net 386-984-6410
Louise Horesovsky

Close Out Items for Sale

Pine Needles - harvested from the tree, dried in dark, pale greenish-brown, 13-15 inches

Deer Antlers - half racks

Acorns with caps - 1/4 inch

Dyed corn husks

Palm Inflorescences

Magnolia and Wisteria seed pods

Call or email for prices. Reasonable.

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VACANT

Webmaster Needed for GGS Web Site

Judy Shumake, who has been our Web Master for the past five years, has asked to be relieved from this job due to health problems for her and her husband. Judy is not resigning from the GGS just some of the responsibilities.

We are looking for someone who is familiar with "Front Page" software and can take over this important part of our society.

Judy has worked hard to make the web site functional and educational for gourders.

If you would be willing to talk to Judy about the web site, please get in contact with her at www.jgshumake@comcast.net.

We want to thank Judy for the great job she has done for the past five years. You went over and beyond what was expected from you.

Gourd Snowman

You'll need a small, ornamental gourd. You'll also need white Gesso (2 coats of white paint can be substituted), acrylic or craft paints, paint brushes, and a black permanent marker.



Start off by choosing a gourd with a good shape for a snowman.

Each gourd should be prepped with one coat of gesso, let dry, and then painted with a coat of white paint over that. Once you've prepped the gourds, everyone can begin to add the snowman's features such as eyes, carrot nose, mouth, and arms. You can also outline the other details like a scarf, vest, hat, or earmuffs at this time too. I painted mine on, but you may find a marker to be easier, especially for the kids.

Once the outline is in place, it's time to add color! You can embellish them with little straw hats, use strips of cloth for scarves, sequins for eyes and buttons. Let your inner child come out and play.

And here's one final tip: a gourd's natural shape makes for a great snowman—but it might not stay upright up on its own. If that's the case, just glue a penny or nickel to the bottom of the finished gourd to give it a flatter base to stand on.

CARVIN' CAGE

Bonnie Adams - Cabinmade Artworks

LIST OF MATERIALS:

- 4 – 5' X 1/2" PVC Plastic Pipe - approx. \$4 available at any Building store
- 8 – 1/2" Corner 90's PVC - approx. \$12 available on-line @ PVCFittings.com
- 2 – 1/2" T's PVC - approx. \$2 available at any Building Store
- 1 – Clear Plastic 25 X 21 X 11 Comforter Cover - approx. \$10 on-line at Bed, Bath & Beyond
- 1 – Roll of Clear Packing Tape – approx. \$3 at Walmart

Marking Pen

OPT. 1 Yd. T-shirt Ribbing Material

TOOLS:

- Rubber Mallet
- Saw
- Scissors
- OPT. Sewing Machine and thread
- Sandpaper or Grinder

INSTRUCTIONS:

Cut plastic piping per the diagram below:

_____ 22 1/2" _____ 22 1/2" _____ 8 1/2" _____
[_____] _____ [_____] _____]

_____ 10 3/4" _____ 10 3/4" _____ 10 3/4" _____ 10 3/4" _____ 8 1/2" _____
[_____] _____ [_____] _____ [_____] _____]

_____ 19 1/2" _____ 19 1/2" _____ 19 1/2" _____
[_____] _____ [_____] _____]

_____ 19 1/2" _____ 8 1/2" _____ 8 1/2" _____ 19 1/4" _____
[_____] _____ [_____] _____ [_____] _____]

Clean or de-burr the cut pipe ends by sanding or (opt.) use grinder.

Connect a Corner 90 PVC fitting to each end of each 19 1/2" pipe.

Connect two of the assemblies with 2 – 8 1/2" pipes to form a rectangle.

Repeat with the other two assemblies and 8 1/2" pipes to form a second rectangle. All the Corner 90's should be pointing upward on each assembly.

Use a rubber mallet to sink the pipes firmly into the fittings.

Note: After carving with the *Carvin' Cage*, take the cage outside, open the zipper, and shake as much of the dust out as possible, always staying upwind of the dust. **Use a mask when emptying the cage.**

Wipe the inside walls with a damp paper towel. Allow the inside of the cage to dry thoroughly before zipping it back up. Or dry the inside with dry paper towels.

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Place the two 22 ½" pipes into the fittings on the long side of one of the rectangles.

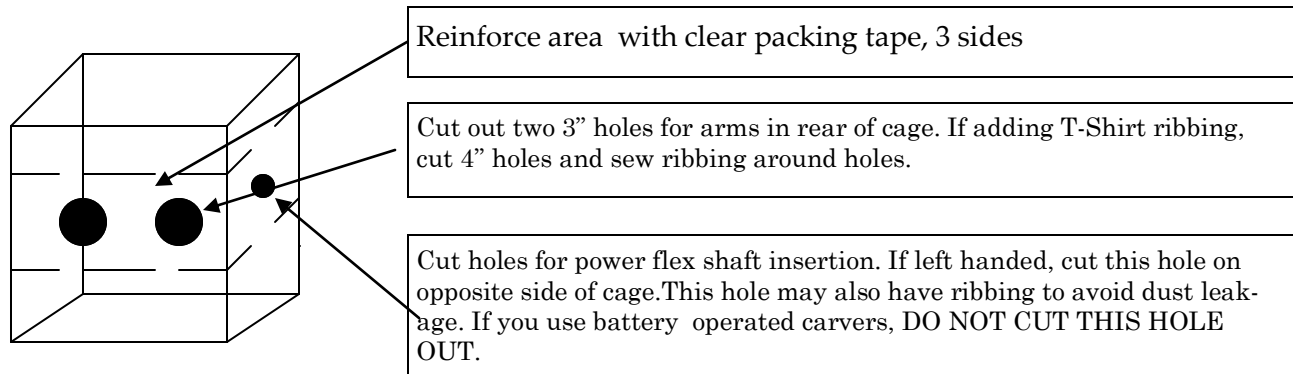
Place the 'H' assembly into the other side of the rectangle.

Connect the second rectangle over the four upright pipes.

Use a rubber mallet to sink the pipes firmly into the fittings.

Slip the clear plastic cover over the framework. It should fit snugly. Adjust pipe lengths if cover does not fit over framework.

Apply the clear tape per the diagram below. The tape will reinforce the arm holes and the hole for the power extension wand of your carver. (Editors Note: Cage drawing is not to size or design. Use for illustration only.)



Mark two 3" holes above the arm rest bar and on the tape reinforced area as shown above.

Measure your carving tool power extension wand and Mark the proper size entrance hole in the tape reinforced area on the Right side of the cage as indicated above. Keep this hole as small as possible to insert the wand.

NOTE: If you are **LEFT HANDED**, mark the hole needed in the tape reinforced area on the **LEFT SIDE** of the cage.

Remove the plastic cover from the frame.

Carefully cut the two 3" holes through the reinforced area with scissors as shown above.

Carefully cut the hole needed for your carving tool power flex shaft. If you use battery operated power carving tools, this hole is NOT necessary and should NOT be cut out.

Optional: If using T-shirt ribbing, cut two 3 ½" holes instead. Set your sewing machine to the largest stitch length. Sew T-shirt ribbing around each 3 ½" hole with the plastic cover sandwiched between the layers of the T-shirt ribbing. Any thread is acceptable, but nylon thread is preferred. T-shirt ribbing will provide a self-venting seal around your arms. You can do this later if you decide you want the venting the ribbing will provide.

PLEASE NOTE! The *Carvin' Cage* does not totally eliminate the need for your mask. You will do most of your carving inside the cage but don't forget the need for a mask or ventilator when you do ANY carving outside the cage!

Bonnie Adams is a frequent contributor to the various forums on the *Gourd Art Enthusiasts* web site. This is a web site that Bonnie Gibson started so that all gourders can communicate ideas on everything concerning gourds. There are many forums that with different topics and you most likely will get several answers,.

Go to gourdartenthusiasts.ning.com/main and sign up and join the many gourders who participate

Thanks, Bonnie Adams, for allowing us to use your Carvin' Cage instructions.

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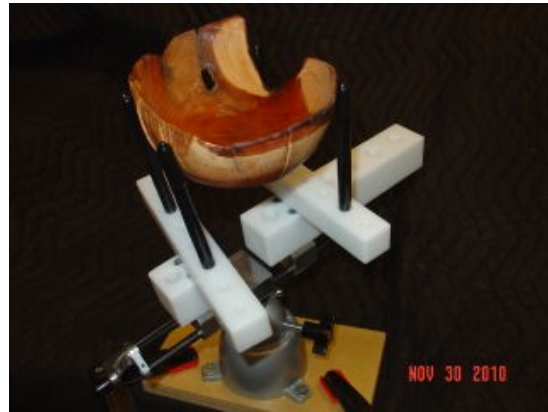
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Gourding Tips from the "Gourdette", "Simply Superb Sanding"

Irregularly-shaped gourds may have concave surfaces and tiny indentations that are difficult to sand smooth. However, it's easy to make simple sanding tools at home!

Glue a piece of fine-grit sandpaper (220-grit or finer) to the back of an old spoon to sand large concave areas or hard-to-reach curves. (This is especially useful for sanding inside a gourd with a long, thin neck to create a smooth inner surface.) To sand smaller indentations, try wrapping your sandpaper around a wooden pencil, or around the tapered end of a disposable chopstick. You'll be able to sand even tricky surfaces to create a smooth, uniform finish on your gourd!

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Patch News



The Geechee Gourders have about twenty-two members with the addition of seven new people this past Saturday. Some are first time gourders and others are experienced painters and crafter's learning about gourds.

Our October and November project was a gourd cornucopia with a woven rim, and fruits and veggies made from like-shaped gourds. Everyone, including two second time new people, did a great job and have a nice decoration for Thanksgiving. The newbies and some of the oldies did a birdhouse and a Christmas ornament.

We will not have a class in December as we are car pooling to Springfield to join the Coastal Gourd Sprouts for a Christmas party.

Our January project will be wood burning a leather look onto a gourd bowl. This may prove interesting to me and to the students. M J Kimble has moved to Swainsboro with me and will help with this group as well as have a weekday class in Baxley for her group.

M and I both have gourds displayed in the showcase at Twin City Elementary School for the rest of the year and both have five gourds each displayed in the local Artists Guild show at the Kalmanson Gallery here in Swainsboro. I have done a couple of gourd educational classes and projects locally as well as taught classes at the gallery and the schools. We are also doing more festivals to the end of the year.

Cathy Glover had a good showing at the local fair this year and it was her first year to enter. She won the Basketry class with a twill basket and also took home an Award of Excellence for that basket and got a second with a Pine Needle Basket. She also won a blue ribbon with a

beaded necklace in the Jewelry Division, a second with a gourd Christmas Ornament, a second for my wood burned Eagle Dancer gourd, a second with a painted gourd and an Honorable Mention with an inked gourd. To say the least, I was thrilled.

M J Kimble won a first, two seconds, and two thirds at the fair.

Good job, ladies!

Submitted by Cathy Glover

COASTAL GOURD SPROUTS

The Coastal Gourd Sprouts held their monthly meeting on Saturday, October 23. Debbie Leslie taught nine of us the fine art of faux Japanese Raku. A total of fourteen folks attended our meeting. Here is a picture of Debbie (black tee shirt) providing instructions to the class.



Our annual Christmas party and ornament exchange is scheduled for Saturday, December 11. This year, the 'Geechee Gourders and O-My-Gourd patches will join us. We will start at 10am at the Fellowship Bible Church, 841 Old Dixie Hwy, Springfield, GA 31329. Hope to see you there!

Submitted by Charlotte Durrence



We have had three wonderful meetings since the GGS Show and it's great to see more new faces! We all watched a Welburn video together and chatted on things we have tried, all the while learning from each other. The well experienced painter, Diane Ricker, taught a class in painting a pumpkin for Halloween. Our last meeting was taught by Hudi Sandgren. We learned all about blending with water color pens...not pencils! Pens! It was fun!

We are very proud to have the new American Gourd Society President among us! Congratulations, Hudi!

Our next meeting will, again, be Diane Ricker guiding us through a painting class. We will paint Christmas bells using canon ball gourds. Check website for details and don't forget our ornament exchange!

Wishing all a happy & safe holiday season!

Submitted by Pat Fitzgerald

Broad River

Although we are a small group, we are learning! We have cut out Halloween faces, ink dyed, painted and applied yarn for hair on one! We also painted gourd egg bugs using pipe cleaners for legs. Our next meeting will be Tuesday, Dec. 7th. We will be using paints, inks and pastels on egg gourd ornaments. Can't wait to see them on the tree! Happy Holidays Everyone!

Submitted by Pat Fitzgerald

New Patch Forming

A new patch is forming in the Douglasville area or the Lithia Springs Library where Jane works. Call Jane for more information and let's get this patch going and enjoy the gourd glow! Please contact:

Jane Y. Ballou

770-949-9854 (home)

5747 Stewart Mill Road

Douglasville, Georgia 30135

email jyb50@yahoo.com

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Membership Form

We invite you to join us in sharing and learning all about gourds. We meet periodically for workshops and meetings, attend state gourd shows, produce four newsletters a year and offer to you resources for gourd supplies and decorating ideas and friendship. Membership dues are due January, 2011.

New Member \$10.00 Renewal \$10.00
 Printed/Postal Mailed, The Bloomin' Gourd \$5.00

Name _____

Address _____

City/State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

How many gourders living in your home will be included in your family membership? _____

Please mail your dues and/or application to **Jan Cash, 435 Parr Farm Road, Covington, Georgia 30016**. The only prerequisite for membership in the Georgia Gourd Society is membership in the American Gourd Society (AGS). Annual dues for the AGS is \$15.00, which includes a subscription to their national magazine, *The Gourd Magazine*. Both dues can be sent to the GGS when you join but **please, send two separate checks** — \$10.00 to the Georgia Gourd Society and \$15.00 to the American Gourd Society. We will be glad to forward your check and information to the AGS or you may opt to contact the AGS directly by emailing the Membership Secretary, Dallas Lunsford, at agsmembership@insightbb.com.

Georgia Gourd Society Ad Prices

1/8 page, \$8.00 per issue

1-1/2" high x 3-3/4" wide

1/4 page, \$13.00 issue

4-1/2" high x 3-3/4" wide

1/2 page, \$21.00 per issue

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Gourds for sale. Wallace Maxwell, Royston, GA, 3226 Hoot Owl Road, 30662. Call 706-245-4218.

Turkey Branch Gourds. Raw gourds. C.L. Arnsdorff, 560 Turkey Branch Rd., Springfield, GA 31329, 912-754-3779.

Barry Zettler—Raw gourds, 1092 Stillwell Rd., Springfield, GA 31329. 912-754-3539.

Brad Weaver, Bradley's Pumpkin Patch, Christmas Trees, Daffodils, Daylilies. Dawsonville, GA 30354. 706-265-1447.

Events Calendar

March 26-28, 2011, New Ebenezer Retreat near Savannah, Georgia. Contact Charlotte Durrence, gourds1@aol.com. www.webgourds.com/southern/. Retreat web site www.newebenezerretreat.org.

April 1-2-3, 2011, Indiana Gourd Society State Gourd Show, Hancock County Fairgrounds, Greenfield, IN. www.indianagourdsociety.org.

April 26-27, 2011, Show Me Gourd Festival, Competition, Workshops, Demonstrations and more.

May 15, 2010 16th Annual Kentucky Gourd Art Show ,*"Horsing Around With Gourds"*, Spencer County Elementary School, Ky. Hwy. 44, west of Downtown Taylorsville KY, Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. , Sunday May 16, 2010 , 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

June 4-6, 2011, Gourd Gathering, Cherokee, NC. Classes, demos, raw gourds, vendors, swap, name badge contest, gourd art exchange, group project. www.gourdgathering.net