

## ***Patch 1 Report***

Our patch has been very busy. Starting in August some of us volunteered at the State Fair, and enjoyed talking with others about gourdng. We always have a good time while helping out, and have learned a thing or two along the way ourselves.

In late August, we did a "patch" visit to some of the member's gourd patches. We started out a Ray and Debbie Nixon's, next was our house, Ron and Loretta Pressel's, Ida Kennedy's, Jerry and Judy Millard's, and ending at Bill and Kim Schulz's home. There were 20 of us, in 8 cars, and we got the opportunity to see how our members grow their gourds. Kim was expecting 10, but to her surprise, the 20 of us converge on her home. She supplied us with a wonderful meal, and we had a short meeting after.

The latest meeting as at Alice Pawlowski's home. After the meeting, Alice taught how to apply clay to banana gourds to make a Christmas ornaments. And Kim Schulz showed us how to use the

embossing powder on gourds. On December 9<sup>th</sup> we are having our annual Christmas dinner at a local restaurant, with a gift of exchange of, what else, gourds.

Looking forward, our patch will be manning a booth at the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Gardening Show in Valparaiso on January 19<sup>th</sup>. Again, this is a good opportunity for us to pass along the gourd word to a few newbies.

And looking even further into the future, we are going to be having another festival of our own. This time it will be at the La Porte County Fairgrounds in May. We have already made arrangements and are looking forward to another successful festival.

As always, if you would like to join us, feel free. We are always looking for more to come join the fun. Contact us at 574-654-3474 or [srmeyers@galaxyinternet.net](mailto:srmeyers@galaxyinternet.net)

Sid & Renee Meyers

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