

Patch Opportunities

I recently heard a lobbyist state that “government is run by those who show up”. After 4 years as president of the IGS I feel certain that to some degree that is true even within our great organization. HOWEVER, there is a great opportunity available to all members of the IGS. Renee and I have been receiving considerable recognition for the accomplishments of Patch 1. The truth of the matter is that we only facilitate an active and energetic group of people. Without these people Patch 1 would not exist and be so successful.

This is all noteworthy because any group of members can start a patch. You will find applications and requirements in other places such as, The Tendril, our website, or any executive board member. The beauty of our current set up is that a group of people who get together because of the gourd can bond together with other gourdheads. Not only can this be a very enjoyable period of time, it also gives that group of people a voice within the IGS. Each patch will eventually develop their own identity, and some one active within the IGS will recognize this

identity and know how to use it to benefit the entire IGS.

These patches have very few restrictions. You can be a group of growers, crafters, artists, or just plain gourdheads, or any combination of the above. This is a good opportunity to learn from others, as most gourdheads are very knowledgeable and willing to share with others. We have learned more from our patch members, than we had ever thought possible.

We live one mile from the Michigan state line, and know all too well that a trip to Kentucky is at least a 5 hour venture. We also know that it will take approximately one and a half hours to go across the state. These times are using interstate highways. Which brings me to the point that the best way to truly have a Indiana Gourd Society, is for patches to form throughout the state. What seems large for one person or one patch could be quite small with several people in several patches. The gourd gives us excellent opportunities for enjoyment and fellowship and starting a new patch creates the opportunity for both. I encourage more people to consider starting a local patch.

Sid Meyers, 1 Vice President

Notice About Workshop - State Show 2009

I would like to let people know that we will be canceling some of the workshops if the signup is very low. We are looking for ways to cut expenses and this is probably a necessary step due to the circumstances of the economy and low registrations.

I would also like to remind people that the dates on the registration form are not correct. The dates should be Friday, March 27; Saturday, March 28; and Sunday, March 29. If you intend to sign up for a workshop you should do so immediately.

Ida Kennedy

VOLUNTEERS

Something important to all of our shows is our cadre of volunteers. But, we need more of our members to help carry out the 2009 State Show and to help man the 2009 State Fair booth.

Our volunteers get what we can afford as a non-profit society in the way of benefits—free entry to the shows for a limited time, depending on how much you volunteer. This is a great way to meet and connect with and get to know other members of the society. So, if you're interested, so are we.

Volunteer forms will be in the 2009 Show Catalog. Just fill out and submit. For the State Fair, just eMail anyone on the back cover of the Tendril with the dates and times you will be helping out.

Jesse

Still Sharing Gourd Information

I'd like to say hello to all my gourd friends. I didn't make it to any gourd meetings this year but I'm still spreading the word about gourds in my area by giving two gourd presentations in 2008. One to a Red Hat Society and another at a Mothers Day dinner. It's always fun to share information about gourds and let people see all the different possibilities you can do with them.

Kids! Kids! & More Kids!

Thanks to all that had the pleasure of getting some youths involved with this years state show.

If you could please pre-register their projects before the show, it will make it so much easier for all involved. All we need is their name – Div. 8 & the class they fit under class 96-103.

If you have high school students they may be entered under youth or into the adult division, again we ask for name-division & class.

Thank you,
Alice Pawlowski Co-Chair 2009 State Show

Learning About Gourd Crafts

Do you have a special skill in crafting gourds? We are looking for articles for The Tendril as well as updating and adding to our Educational Articles. On one of these cold winter evenings curl up with your word processor and spell it out for us!