

President's Message

Jan 15, 2012

AWARDS, GOURDS

Nominations are open at this time for both the Indiana Gourd Society's Roll of Honor and for the Barbara Puckett Award. A letter of nomination should be written on 8 ½ x 11" paper, mailed to secretary Helen Parker (203 Smock Drive, Greenwood, IN 46143) and postmarked by or on February 15, 2012. Awards will be presented at the annual state show on April 14.

The Roll of Honor pays tribute to current or past members of the IGS who demonstrate dedication to the advancement of the Indiana Gourd Society. The nomination should cite specific activities of the member and explain why the nominee should be selected by the Executive Board for this honor.

The Barbara Puckett Award is presented to someone who demonstrates outstanding volunteerism. The previous year's winner, the state show chair, and the IGS president are responsible for making the selection, but recommendations by IGS members are welcomed. Names of candidates for nomination may be sent to Karen Niemeyer, 1217 Wesley Court, Thorntown,

IN 46071 or via e-mai to <u>niemey-er@frontiernet.net</u>

Gourd seed harvest will be held at Thorntown Public Library on Feb. 11. With latex gloves, participants will separateseeds from gourds grown in isolation and potentially fit for sale. Remaining bits of pulp will be screened from the seeds that will then be counted and bagged. Seeds Chairman Steve Sullivan will see that the seeds are dried and tested for germination rates before IGS members and friends meet again in Thorntown on March 24 to package seeds. The March 24 date will also include a judges' training update session and IGS board meeting. Anyone interested in being trained and AGS certified as a gourd show judge should contact Phil and Ruth Moorhead, Indiana's AGS trainers, at 765 674 8088.

The children's librarian at our Thorntown Library asked me in early January if I could provide her with a gourd fiddle because the youth in the American Girls reading group had read that slaves sometimes played fiddles made of gourds. The request was that if I

(Continued on page 7)

Hot, Burning Tips for woodburning!



Web Pages!

www.indianagourdsociety.org

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2012 IGS State Show News

IMPORTANT 2012 SHOW EXHIBITOR NOTES / UPDATES

Please remember that this year the competition pieces will be judged on Friday evening!

Exhibitor registration at door & entry placement is Friday, April 13, 2012 from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm. If you bring an entry piece on Saturday morning we will be happy to display as an exhibit but it will not be judged.

The reason is last year we had so many walk ins that we were late in judging. Frankly, people were upset that they couldn't get in to see the competition until much later than posted.

We will avoid that problem this year by judging Friday evening! Judging starts promptly at 8:00 pm, no exceptions!

Please, Please! Send in your exhibit entry forms. It is best to send in a form for any entries you expect to be in competition, so all the identification cards can be printed ahead of time.

IMPORTANT 2012 SHOW VENDOR NOTES / UPDATES

We are now officially in the New Year! We are off and running with the state show preparations!

There will be some changes this year and some things that we cannot change. Please note!

The vendor building, also known as the sheep building, still does not have very good lighting or insulation,-so if you are a vendor make appropriate accommodations for your space.

There has been mention from the fairgrounds administration that the sheep building will get insulation. BUT it is doubtful it will be ready for our state show. Hopefully condensation will not be as much of a problem this year as we will be making sure the heat stays on throughout the night.

The fairgrounds have also promised to work on the PA system so both buildings and the outside areas can hear all announcements at the same time.

The show arena where the mulch was will also be closed off, but we will still have access to bathrooms at the end of building. We will continue with same entry into the sheep building unless you are in a wheelchair or scooter then we will assist you with entry around the corner on the southwest side of building (changes to that door require fire code changes).

IMPORTANT 2012 SHOW CAMPING INFORMATION

If you are going to camp, please email me at showchair@indianagourdsociety.org. Camping is \$10 a night - there are no sewage or water hookups, only electrical. Make your check payable to IGS and mail to Emily or Phil. OR, payment must be made by noon, Sunday at the IGS info booth.

Looking forward to a great state show! Emily Wallace - 2012 Show Chair

IGS Spring Membership and Festival

June 2, 2012 - 9am - 3pm

Tippecanoe Co. 4-H Fairgrounds, Lafayette, IN

Classes, Vendors, Auction, IGS Gourd store, Gourd Seeds and Plants

Lunch available. Membership Meeting will be held at 2:30-4pm

Voting for board members occurs at this meeting

For additional information: call Guy Shutt, Ph 219 474 5091 or e-mail: 1stvp [at] indianagourdsociety.org

[An IGS Sponsored Event]

SPRING MEETING VOTE

Don't forget that we vote at the spring festival and membership meeting for several board member positions. Be sure to come to the festival, have a great time, then join in on the membership meeting and **VOTE** for your choices to represent you on the Borad of Directors!!

Being <u>bored</u> out of your gourd is to be so bored you don't know what to do, basically to be bored out of your mind, unknown origin. As a general rule, people would rather be occupied with something than nothing. When people are occupied with nothing, they exist in a state of boredom, which is usually a place people do not want to be in for very long. The best way to counter act boredom is to do something. If you're bored, let's try to find something to help you pass the time.

Don't let the "winter blues" get to you. You need something to do. SO, PLAN TO GROW A GOURD!!

Joyce Dankowski 221 Gingerbrook Lane Bartlett, Illinois 60103 630-830-4546 630-830-4557 fax lady jd@att.net email



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We now are a Distributor for MicroLux Saws, Drills, Blades, and Transformers. Also new are Pine Needles in natural and colors along with Fiebing's Dyes. All added to our regular line of Feathers, Gold Leafing, Rivets, Swarovski Crystals and Lacing. Let us know your needs and we'll help you get your supplies.

2011 Index For The Tendril

This two page spread is an index of ARTICLES only for the prior year. The listings show the article Title, the Author (if known), the Month and Year, and the Page Number of the article.

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Our Patch Place - Lakeshore Gourders - Fall Events (Alice Pawlowski) ... Dec11(8)

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President's Message (Karen Niemeyer) ... Aug 11(1)

President's Message: Communication - or Not (Karen Niemeyer) ... Apr11(1)

President's Message: The Banquet of Friends, The Leftovers of Gourds (Karen Niemeyer) ... Feb11(1)

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The Wide World of Gourds!! (Mary Gayle VanIngen) ... Aug11(9)

Workshops for 2011 IGS State Show W/Changes ... Feb11(9), Apr11(9)

WOW! Fall Festival Time Already! (Ida Kennedy) ... Oct11(3)

Wow! Where is the year going? ... Aug11(4)

Your Friendly Ways & Means Store ... Oct11(9)

I am looking for someone to take over and to handle the Seed Sales for the Indiana Gourd Society. Duties involve helping at Seed Extraction Day, Seed Packaging Day, and Seed Sales — on-line and at several events throughout the year.

You should have the capability of maintaining an Excel Spreadsheet (can be done in Open Office also) and to write letters to those who order on-line. You should also

have a place to store a few records and a large space to contain the two wooden seed boxes, several plastic boxes, and several cardboard boxes that fit into the seed boxes.

If interested, please contact Jesse Glessner. See the back page of this document for contact information.

I would work with whomever takes over this task until they felt comfortable in doing the job, but support that may be by phone or eMail. Jesse Glessner

SANDLADY'S GOURD FARM COME VISIT THE FARM FOR OUR GOURD SALES Buy wagon loads wholesale or fill a car or truck or semi. The more you buy unclean or clean the cheaper they get.

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Sandlady's Gourd Farm, Helen Thomas 10295 N 700 W Tangier, In. 47952 Email: sandlady@sandlady.com See us http//www.sandlady.com

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could not borrow one, could I make one really quickly. I was getting ready to spend Jan. 6-8 setting up and working our gourd booth at the Indianapolis Home and Garden Show at the convention center, so time was at a premium. I called Sandlady Helen Thomas, and although she has no gourd fiddles in her museum near Tangier, Indiana, she has many other musical instruments. I really did not want to bother our Lafayette gourd musicians, so we improvised. With the Japanese duck gourd I bought at an IGS auction a few years ago, the "An Afternoon with Minnie Black" videotape by John and Jean Mc Clintock, and a ukulele from the Thorntown Heritage Museum, the girls got to see and touch stringed instruments and gourds and to watch Minnie play them. The ukulele had been made in 1930 from a wooden Perfecto cigar box when Robert L. Gillan was in the 8th grade. Bob spent 1999-2000 collecting about 20 fiddles, banjos, and ukuleles that had been played in Thorntown in the 1930's and 40's. He also collected the stories behind the instruments and the musicians.

I am thinking the Minnie Black videotape needs to be played at the IGS state show on April 13-15 in Greenfield. If you have not seen Minnie's works (or even if you have), it is a treat to browse through her collection, which includes a full-size replica of Minnie herself. Looking at the tape caused me to wonder what had happened to her personal gourd museum, and when the Internet did not provide a full answer, I e-mailed the Kentucky Gourd Society. Janet Barnett answered, "Karen. I know that some of her things were sold at her auction. I think that David Wutke of NC may have some of her pieces and he was wanting to sell them to someone. He was wanting someone to open a museum of gourd art but with the economy that is almost out of the question. About 3 vears or more ago I was at the Ohio Gourd show and one of the Ohio members donated a self likeness of herself using gourds and gourds pieces. I think she even used some of her own hair. She did do a great job. I bought the item for \$100 and she sits in my basement among all my gourdy stuff. I am thankful to the McClintocks for doing the video. She was a spry old lady. She did get to come to the KY shows for a few years until her health kept her closer at home. Hope this helps some." Thanks, Janet, for the update. If any Indiana members have Minnie Black pieces, I would love to see pictures of them.

When you search the Web for Minnie Black Gourds, you find many, many references to her gourd band. On the tape Minnie says that she finally had to give up the gourd band because she "just could not control those old people." The tape was made in 1991 and Minnie died in 1996 at age 97. "Foxfire 10" has great pictures of Minnie and of her playing gourd instruments. It also shows her life size replica of herself. And, yes, she did use her own hair, and on the tape she talks about capturing her hair at different ages/colors for use on dolls.

Using the book "Making Gourd Musical Instruments" by Ginger Summit and Jim Widess, I have decided that one of my goals is to make a few gourd instruments. I have long admired the resonance produced by various gourds, but I have not made a study of them. It is time to change that. I think when the IGS meets in Parke County on Nov. 3, 2012, for the fall membership meeting and show, we need to have Helen Thomas and others bring musical instruments.

At the library we used snow as the theme for our Dec. 5 family Christmas "Reading is Snow Much Fun". There were 268 people here who enjoyed seeing Delaina DeHaven's snowman luminary (I just HAD to have it when I saw it on Nov 5, 2011, at our fall meeting). Sherry Benedict's triple snowmen and crystal hanging ornament (also purchased Nov. 5, another HAD to have) was on our bulletin board then and has been re-upped for the winter reading program "Warm Up to a Good Book", where the snowmen join sliding penguins and snowflakes. Delaina's snowmen heads also solved another problem—we could not find tee shirts we wanted for the staff, so 14 of us wore Delaina snowmen as necklaces and lapel pins, large ones, but distinctive, so that everyone knew who was staff.

Also in December I enjoyed cleaning, cutting, sanding and drilling 20 mini bottle gourds into tiny bowls. Artist Jan Boettcher, a member of our Sugar Creek Gourd Patch, painted the inside of the bowls white, the outside with metallic colors, and dipped them in glue and glitter for a sparkling top edge. Fine gold wire handles completed the place setting candy-holding favors for the Sugar Creek Home Extension Club's Christmas dinner. We continue to infiltrate Boone County with the gourdgeous gourd.

(Continued on page 9)

Lakeshore Gourders - Winter Events

Our patch took a small break over the holidays to celebrate with family & friends. In Jan. we had our holiday party, bottom photo, starting with a nice array of food to feast upon & we had a great time chatting it up with everyone. We had our holiday grabbag with some really nice gifts made & gourd supplies exchanged.

On Jan. 20th Ida (right photo) & I represented the IGS at the Valparaiso Master Gardeners Show, this was our 8th year attending the show. Sherry Benedict (left photo) also had a booth & the Pressels' came for seminars & to keep us company. Our booth

always draws an interest & we may have many newcomers joining our patch. We sold seeds, gave out information material & passed out a few state books to those we thought were really interested.

In March we have Hellen Martin, from Texas, coming to give our patch a retreat workshop. She will be teaching us 4 projects with 5 different techniques. We are all so excited to meet such a talented gourd artist and hope to learn some new ways to enhance & decorate our gourds.

By: Alice Pawlowski







PRESIDENTS MESSAGE - (Continued from page 7)

I am providing our editor with a couple of photos that may be of interest. The tray holding a large ficus tree in my home has developed a crack and as I water, the dark brown fluid runs onto the carpet and stains it. After the annual carpet cleaning, I placed the plant on waxed paper, which looks aesthetically tacky. During Christmas I covered the tray and dolly with decorative fabric, but since then, I have been frowning at the waxed paper. Concerned about the effect of long-term frowning on the aging face, I finally had an Aha! Moment, also known as an Epiphany. I had been moving some gourds out of the sewing/craft room and into the garage in order to find the exercise bike (found it, also find it does absolutely NO good to just LOOK at the darned thing). Now an inspirational pile of gourds, mostly larger ones and at least two by Guy Shutt, are surrounding the tree's base, hiding the offending tray and waxed paper, and taunting me daily, asking, "What do you want to make of me?" My rescued white cat Cuddles, who sleeps beside the plant, is asking, "Who are these interlopers that have invaded my space?"

Several years ago I took a painting class from gourd artist Jolee Schlea and have always remembered her saying, "You have to wait until the gourd speaks to you. I have had one gourd on my work bench for two years and it has not spoken to me yet." I have to believe that my "still life with gourds" will speak to me. Maybe they will even motivate me to action, a necessary step if I am to meet my personal goal of having 40 entries in the Indiana Gourd Society state show in April.

Karen







Your Friendly Ways & Means Store

We have a nice selection of knit shirts, T-shirts, and cotton shirts, aprons, shopping bags, hats, pins, books for children, and various miscellaneous items and

Jim Story Tapes© or Jim Story DVDs© - \$20.00 each

See the Ways & Means section on our Web Site www.indianagourdsociety.org

(Jim Story Tapes and Jim Story CD's are copyrighted by the Indiana Gourd Society and may NOT be duplicated in any manner. All rights are reserved.)

January Home & Garden Show Photos



Thank you, volunteers!



We had a very large variety of crafted gourds to show attendees of the Indiana Home & Garden Show at the Indiana Convention Center in downtown Indianapolis.

We had many gourds hanging on the back supports and the curtain and they wrapped around most of the booth on the tables. Even our mobile seed box was a tight fit here.

For as small as this show was we were busy talking to people most of the time. Our booth seemed to be bursting at the seams at times with volunteers and attendees in the booth perimeter.



Thank you, customers and attendees!



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For the Gourd Times

In the early days of spring.

when you feel life start to zing

PLANT A GOURD!

In the sultry days of summer

when life may seem to be a bummer

SMELL A GOURD!

In the lazy days of fall

when you hear the wild goose call

PICK A GOURD!

In the days of winter's hue

and your mood is turning blue

SCRAPE A GOURD!

Any other time or day

when you're in the mood to play

PAINT A GOURD!

By /Bill Taylor - January 1999

IGS Judges Class CAN-CELLED

Due to low enrollment, we are cancelling the Judging class for NEW judges for Seed Pack day.

If you are already a judge, please plan to go to Seed Packing Day at Thorntown (3-24-12, snow day 3-31-12) so we can do a refresher.

When we have enough students for a new Judging Course we will announce the schedule

Thanks to all our judges!!

Phil Moorhead

Gourd Happenings In Our Gourdgeous World

Feb 11, 2012 - IGS Seed Harvest, Thorntown Public

Library, Thorntown, IN

Open to public

9am until done

Contact Phil Moorhead 765 674 8088, or e-mail treasurer [at] indianagourdsociety.org for details

[An IGS Sponsored Event]

Mar 24, 2012 - IGS Seed Pack and Judges

Refresher (Mar 31 snow date)

Thorntown Public Library, IN

Open to public

9am until done

Contact Phil Moorhead 765 674 8088, or e-mail treasurer [at] indianagourdsociety.org for details

[An IGS Sponsored Event]

April 13, 14, & 15, 2012 - IGS State Gourd Show

Hancock County Fairgrounds, Greenfield, IN Admission: \$6 for entire weekend, open to public Large gourd competition, Vendors, IGS Gourd store, Gourd Seeds Demonstrations, kids booth, Auction Saturday and Sunday For additional info: Emily Wallace, e-mail: showchair@indianagourdsociety.org

[An IGS Sponsored Event]

Apr 20-22 - Tennessee Gourd Festival -- Pikeville, Tennessee 5th Annual Home Grown & Hand Made Gourd Festival to be held at the Bledsoe Community Complex Center234 Allen P. Deakins Road Pikeville, TN 37367 TennesseeVolunteerGourdSociety.org

May 19-20, 2012 - Kentucky Gourd Show –Taylorsville, Kentucky See at www.kygourdsociety.org

<u>Jun 2, 2012</u> - IGS Spring Membership and Festival

9am - 3pm

Tippecanoe Co. 4-H Fairgrounds, Lafayette, IN

Classes, Vendors, Auction, IGS Gourd store, Gourd Seeds and Plants Lunch available. Membership Meeting will be held at 2:30-4pm Voting for board members occurs at this meeting

For additional information: Guy Shutt, Ph 219 474 5091 or e-mail: 1stvp [at] indianagourdsociety.org

[An IGS Sponsored Event]

THE TENDRIL

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MARION, IN 46952

INDIANA GOURD SOCIETY, INC.

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President, Indiana Gourd Society

Karen K. Niemeyer 1217 Wesley

Thorntown, IN 46071-8955 Telephone: 765-436-7518 Fax: 765-436-7011 NEW submissions due Mar. 15, 2012 for the next Tendril Issue!

ADS ARE TO BE PREPAID. AD SUBMISSIONS MUST BE IN JPEG FORMAT.

All submissions welcome! <u>ARTI-</u>CLES MUST BE IN MS WORD OR RTF FORMAT.

Send as an attachment to your eMail or mail your submissions to the above address. Please send us your pictures, stories, tutorials, and anything else gourd related plus your suggestions for improving or inclusion in The Tendril.

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MAY BE YOUR LAST ISSUE

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2" Column \$10 1/4 page \$15 1/3 page \$22.50

1/2 PAGE \$30 Full page \$60

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