

President's Message

Pat Moore

Hello ALL,

Well it's been another two months of Covid-19 virus. I hope you are still doing fine and being safe. By now, most things in Indiana should be open and near back to normal. In my small town things were mostly open by mid-June, but we are still practicing social distancing.

I have been looking forward to the last few Gourd Events in the coming months, but alas, they too have been canceled. The Indiana State Fair has canceled most everything but the livestock events, so IGS will not have a booth at the Fair this year in 2020. The next Gourd Show that is near Indiana is the Ohio Gourd Society State Show in October, it too has been canceled. Check the AGS website for gourd show listings and closures for 2020.

(Continued on p. 2)

We have received word that the Ohio Gourd Show has been canceled.

2020 State Fair Canceled

We have received word that the 2020 Indiana State Fair has been canceled as we know it. There will be a small livestock competition. If you paid for entry or tickets you will receive a refund. See www.indianastatefair.com for details

Patch Schedules Jul / Aug 2020

Lakeshore Gourders

Meets third Tuesdays, 10 a.m. CT at the 791 Dodge Trail (on Hwy 6), Westville unless noted

West Central Indiana Gourd Patch

Meets third Thursdays, 1:30-4:30 p.m. ET at the Hendricks Co fairgrounds in Danville

Linda's Gourd Patch

*Meets third Saturdays at Faith Lutheran Church, 200 W McKenzie Rd, Greenfield at 2-4 p.m. ET
For more info, contact Peggy Robertson 317-326-3854*

Central Indiana Patch

Meets second Thursdays at Garfield Park Arts Center in Indy, 6-8 p.m. ET

Sugar Creek Gourd Patch

Meets first Wednesdays at Thorntown Public Library, 6-8 p.m. ET

Thorn Tree Gourd Patch

Meets third Wednesdays at Thorntown Public Library, 2-4 p.m. ET

Please contact patch leaders for dates/times as we slowly come back to normal.

Not a Patch Member?

Why not start a patch? Please see the website or contact RoJene Gillentine at 2ndvp@indianagourdsociety.org or any board member for details.

Did You Know?

The education article on page 4 about Birds and Gourds is available on the website education articles page.

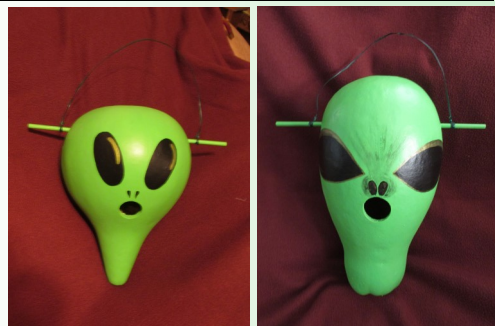
PATCH NEWS

Lakeshore Gourders (Ida Kennedy, contact)

Summer is here and most of us are still affected by the Covid-19 virus rules. I am trying to go by the rules but I sure miss my old habits of going to gourd shows and fairs. I am putting out a few gourd plants this year, but not as many as I usually do. I am not sure when we will start our patches again. Peggy sent gourd members a mask which was very nice of her. They will come in handy when we work on our gourds in the future.

I haven't been working on gourds too much. I did have a request to make an Alien Gourd, which I just finished today. It was fun.

Take care everyone. Hope to see everyone soon.



Sugar Creek and Thorn Tree Gourd Patches (Karen Niemeyer, contact)

Both patches meet at the Thorntown Public Library, 124 N. Market St, in Thorntown. Sugar Creek meets on the first Wednesday from 6-8 p.m. ET, while the Thorn Tree Patch meets on the third Wednesday from 2-4 p.m. ET. Look for the statue of Helen, she is following the masking rules. For the July meetings both patches will host a GREAT GOURD SCRUB. If necessary, participants will spread across the parking lot with their buckets, tubs, pot scrubbers and knives to clean up the dried gourds from last year's growing season...or even previous seasons. I have 301 spinners plus assorted others, all from 2019. Is there anyone who does not have a gourd or two needing cleaned? Once that is complete, participants will work on individual projects and make plans for August-December meetings. Questions may be directed to Karen at 765-436-7348.



West Central Indiana Gourd Patch (Shirley Gates, contact)

Our patch is currently shut down. Hopefully we can resume in September or October.

Central Indiana Patch (Diane Werblo, contact)

When our meeting site, the Garfield Park Arts Center, opens up again, I'll get 2019's "gourd quilt squares" over to show them to Kavita, the manager. I'd like to get them displayed somewhere! We all did such a good job on them. If nothing else, perhaps they can do individual photos on their Facebook page. I miss seeing our regular meeting attendees. I know Penny Boyce and her granddaughter Margie Kempson had seeds going; I'm guessing the plants are in the ground by now. Ann Stankiewicz (whose company is working on defeating the virus) has crafted gourds which we will see in Rochester next May -- if not sooner! Sandra Townsend has organized all her craft projects and supplies. Jean Long is making gourd plans; critters are her specialty. RoJene Gillentine and I are in holding patterns; we both are in need of inspiration.

Vegetable Garden Insects

Now is the time to go online and download Curcubit Insect Management Brochure E-30 from Purdue's Department of Entomology (<https://extension.entm.purdue.edu/publications/E-30/E-30.pdf>) or order from your local extension service office. It details how to spot and manage several common insects that harm gourds:

- Seedcorn Maggot
- Cucumber Beetles
- Squash Bug
- Squash Vine Borer
- Aphids
- Two Spotted Spider Mite

(President's Report, continued from p. 1)

The yearly IGS Membership Meeting is scheduled for Saturday, October 17, 2020, at the Thorntown Library beginning at 10 am EST. At this time, IGS has not made any decision to cancel this meeting. Please check the IGS website as this date approaches to confirm the meeting is still ongoing.

I hope you are finding lots of things to keep you busy during these trying times. Hopefully some of them are gourd related. You have 10 months to work on your gourd competition projects, so have fun.

Have a Gourd Day,

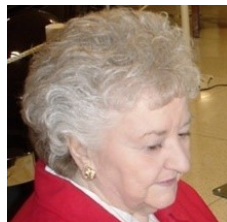
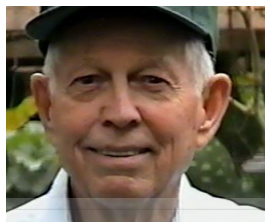
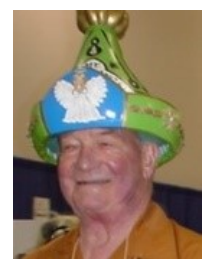
Pat Moore, President IGS

Remember the 2019 Indiana State Gourd Show?



Pop Quiz—Can you name these people?

Without their tireless work the Society would not be what it is today. Did we leave anyone out—yes, many people. Hopefully I can find good pictures and do this again.



(See page 6 for answers)

PATCH CONTACTS

Central Indiana	Indianapolis	Diane Werblo	317-783-1428
Gourd Crafters	Ridgeville	Lois Wright	317-370-1418
Lakeshore Gourders	Plymouth	Ida Kennedy	ikennedy5@msn.com
		Peggy Miller	
Linda's Patch	Greenfield	Lesa Briones	lesalynnbriones@gmail.com
		Peggy Robertson	317-326-3854
Patch 4	West Lafayette	Verona Clark	765-242-1967
Story Gourd Patch	Pendleton	Inactive	
Sugar Creek	Thorntown	Karen Niemeyer	765-436-7518
Thorn Tree	Thorntown	Karen Niemeyer	765-436-7518
West Central Indiana	Avon	Shirley Gates	317-306-6383

New Education Article

BIRDS AND GOURDS

By Lois Wright, Patch Leader, Gourd Crafters, IBC County Coordinator

There are at least twelve different species of birds that are known to use gourds for nesting sites. The two most common birds are the Purple Martin and the House Wren. The table below lists the different species for Indiana along with gourd and hole sizes. Indiana does not have a long enough growing season to grow gourds large enough for the Hairy Woodpecker and the Flicker. Width (Gourd Size) is measured at the gourd's widest point when it sits upright.

Species	Gourd Size	Hole Size
House Wren	6	1
Carolina Wren	6	1-1/2
Purple Martin	6	2-1/2
Chickadee	8	1-1/8
Tufted Titmouse	8	1-1/4
Downy Woodpecker	8	1-1/4
White Breasted Nuthatch	8	1-1/4
Eastern Bluebird	8	1-1/2
Great crested flycatcher	8	2
Small Owls	10	2-1/4
Hairy Woodpecker	12	1-5/8
Flicker	16	2-1/2

Sizes in inches

It is best to start out with true seeds if you wish to grow your own gourds. Gourds will cross pollinate easily with other gourds, cucumbers, and melons. There are two basic divisions of gourds, ornamental and hard shell. It is the hard-shell gourds that have at least 40 different types. Some are tiny and used to make jewelry and some are as large as an end table. They are all in different sizes and shapes.

One of my favorites is the large apple gourd. It looks like an oversized apple. The bottle shaped gourd is another favorite of mine in making birdhouses. It is best to germinate the seeds before planting. Do not harvest until you have at least two good killing frosts; you can let them rest on the trellis all winter where the air can circulate all around them. Turn them occasionally. Mold will form on the gourd and this is part of the curing and drying process. Once dried you should be able to shake them and hear the seeds inside rattle. It takes about a year from seed to curing and drying the gourd before they are ready to be made into a birdhouse. If you don't want to paint them you can skip washing them and go with the natural look. They will last about two to three years outside that way.

If you prefer you can soak them in bleach and dish soap water and scrub off the mold and let dry, then drill drain holes in the bottom of the gourd, vent holes in the top, the entrance hole, and two holes at the top to run a wire through to hang the gourd. The placement of the entrance hole is important. You need to ask yourself what bird you wish to attract. Wrens that like to fly straight into the hole. Or, does your bird like to hop down into the hole? The hole should not be placed too low in the gourd that the babies would fall out. Another consideration would be a perch or not a perch. You could use a piece of gourd or a twig for a perch. I take a screwdriver and clean out at least some of the seeds but leave the membrane of the gourd in for insulation.

The last consideration would be the placement of the gourd. You need to know the habitat of the bird you want to attract. Wrens like brush, Bluebirds like open areas, Purple Martins want to nest in colonies. Any questions please e-mail Lois at lawright54@yahoo.com.

ROAD TRIPS

2020—courtesy of AGS

(www.americangourdsociety.org)

- Sep 4-6: California: Amador Gourd and Fine Arts Festival, Amador Flower Farm, Plymouth, CA
www.AmadorGourdArtists.com
- Sep 11-13: Nevada: Silver State Art Festival, Fuji Hall, Carson City, NV
www.nevadagourdsociety.org
- Sep 12-14: Iowa Clay County Fairgrounds, Spencer, IA
- Sep 25-27: Georgia: GGS GourdFest, Kiwanis Fairgrounds, Griffin, GA
www.georgiagourdsociety.com
- Oct 2-4: Ohio Gourd Show—**CANCELED**
- Oct 2-4: Texas: Lone Star Gourd Festival, Gillespie County Fairgrounds, Fredericksburg, TX
www.texasgourdsociety.org
- Oct 16-18: California: So California Gourd Art Show and Competition, Santa Ana, CA
www.californiagourdsociety.org
- Oct 16-17: Alabama: Alabama Gourd Show, Sparkman Civic Center, Hartselle, AL
www.alabamagourdsociety.org
- Oct 22-25: Idaho: (hosting AGS Annual Membership Meeting), Potomac Manor, Boise, ID www.idahogourdsociety.org/2020-festival

If you plan to go to any of these events, please check the AGS website at www.americangourdsociety.org or the state website to determine if the event is still taking place.

* * IGS Events * *

Judge Class

March 21, 2020, 10 A.M. ET

POSTPONED
To mid-summer

IGS State Gourd Show

May 1-2, 2020

CANCELED

Indiana State Fair

August 7-23, 2020

State Fairgrounds

1202 E 38th St

Indianapolis, IN 46205

[Note: The fair charges an entry fee]

CANCELED

IGS Membership Meeting

October 17, 2020, 10 am ET

Thorntown Public Library

124 N Market St

Thorntown, IN 46071

[This is an IGS Sponsored Event]

HOLD THESE DATES!

	State Show	Membership Meeting
2020:		October 17
2021:	May 7/8	October 16

Remember to inform IGS if you have a postal address, e-mail or phone change. We would like to keep our records current!

The IGS was formed and exists pursuant to the Indiana Not-for-Profit corporation statute Sect. 501 (c) (5). The corporation has never attained Sect. 501 (c) (3) status of the Internal Revenue Code. Therefore, gifts to IGS are not deductible for income tax purposes.

Address Change: Fill out form and mail to indicated address below.

INDIANA GOURD SOCIETY, INC. ☐ NEW ☐ RENEW ID# _____

Membership Application DATE: _____

☐ 1 year @ \$15.00 ☐ 3 year @ \$40.00 Patch # _____

PLEASE PRINT (Free gift with New or 3yr Membership)

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

PHONE _____ COUNTY _____

EMAIL _____

DO YOU WANT ELECTRONIC *TENDRIL*? CIRCLE YES or NO

Make your CHECK payable to the INDIANA GOURD SOCIETY, INC.

MAIL TO: INDIANA GOURD SOCIETY, INC., 691 W Veach Rd, Bloomington, IN 47832

Visit the IGS Web site at: www.indianagourdsociety.org

The Indiana State Fair has been canceled. We are sorry for another disappointment for our gourd artists and growers. We hope to see your wonderful efforts next spring at Rochester for the Indiana Gourd Show on May 7-8. (Yes, it seems later than usual, but the 7th is the first Friday.) In the meantime, let's post pictures on the IGS Facebook page, continue to check the IGS website, and enjoy the AGS website and FB page also. Am I the only one with a perfectly round little gourd that tells me to stud it with nails and turn it into the "Coronagourd"? We could SMASH it afterwards!

Diane Werblo



Rick Ryan's birdhouse has "Make a joyful noise unto the Lord" carved on it. Karen Niemeyer reports the wrens are certainly doing that this year.



Chance, the Thorntown Library's cat found the Christmas decorations during the quarantine.

Do you want an easy project?

Here's how to marbleize gourds

This is an outside project! Choose small-medium gourds; plain or pre-spray-painted ones with stems or insert handles seem to work best. Large ones are hard to manipulate in the buckets. This is a project that works for thin-walled gourds you don't want to cut. The tan color of plain gourds will show through the marbleization; sometimes that makes the colors "muddy." The marbleization will look crisper against a solid color on a painted gourd; all the fine lines will show up.

Before you start the marbleizing process, be sure you have a way to hang the gourds to dry or stick the stems/handles into floral foam or a bucket of sand. Fill a 3-5 gallon bucket 2/3 - 3/4 with water. Wear gloves and a mask. Spray paint(s) directly onto the water. Slowly dip the VERY DRY gourd while rotating and jiggling it. Lift and let dry. Multiple paint colors in one bucket will mix, i. e. red and white will give you some pink. Separate dips (air-dry or blow-dry between) will yield distinct colors. Clean the water's surface by dragging a paper towel across the top. Gloved fingers can "rearrange" color splotches and blur some "too-straight" lines. You can do multiple dips as long as they dry between. Sometimes water drops get trapped so check the gourd and tap/prick the trapped droplets. Sometimes the paint will build up in a ridge which you can sand down after the gourd is thoroughly dry. Temperature, humidity, and wind will affect your project.

This process came out of the deep, dark recesses of my memory. I vaguely remember seeing or hearing about someone doing this to tennis shoes. My husband Mac says he wants to find an old Volkswagen and an swimming pool -- hmm

Diane Werblo

Answers to pop quiz on page 3:

Top Row (L-R): Ron Bair, Emily Dillard, Dallas Lunsford, Emily Wallace, Steve Stairs, Honey Bear Miller

Bottom Row (L-R): Joe Lee, Jim Story, Jane Story, Guy Shutt, Carolyn Rushton

Future Gourd Show Themes

The show committee is seeking possible themes for future state gourd shows. The goal is to have themes identified two to three years ahead of the show. The theme applies only to a limited number of competition classes. That will give us time to publicize the event and make posters for distribution at the state fair and other events throughout the year. Send your ideas to any officer or board member. See last page for addresses.



What do you do when you find a King Snake taking up nesting in one of your gourds?
(Courtesy Richard Ryan)



Karen Niemeyer got so bored during isolation she cleaned her garage full of gourd paraphernalia



The last three years I have been growing gourds in containers. It has been successful. Water requirements are high. To help remedy this I have been using my own irrigation system. That consists of empty plastic milk containers filled with water and a pin hole in the bottom. I place these in the middle of the gourd container. It works. My only problem is battling the pesky chipmunks who think there must be a seed at the bottom of those plants. I sprinkle red pepper flakes around the plants. That's ok until it rains then the pesky rascals are back in there. It keeps me busy.

Shirley Gates

The Society has received a distribution from the estate of Jane Story. We were given money to continue the awarding of monetary prizes for the three Jim/Jane Story competition classes. The three classes are corkscrew, knotted, and grown in a mold. The award restricts these three classes to a maximum of one entry per class per person. Only the first place winner receives money. Additionally it requires the gourd to be "entirely green-cleaned, including the gourd stem." These stipulations will be discussed by the board and show committee and reflected in an addenda to the 2021 show book.

Judge's Course

The AGS judge's class was postponed because of the COVID-19 virus. We will try to reschedule later in the summer. If you missed applying for the course and would like to join the next one, please contact Phil Moorhead (765-765-674-8088 or treasurer@indianagourdsociety.org).

Ways & Means

Caps and visors:

\$12 + \$2 S/H each

Jim Story DVD:

\$20 + \$3 S/H each

Gourds: *From Vine to Design* book:

\$10 + \$3 S/H each

**Send check payable to IGS to
Phil Moorhead
PO Box 822
Marion, IN 46952**

THE TENDRIL
P.O. BOX 822
MARION, IN 46952

Like us on Facebook!



Search "Indiana Gourd Society"

INDIANA GOURD SOCIETY, INC.

The editors reserve the right to edit any submissions for content and consistency. All contents copyrighted, see below. For permission to reprint excerpts, please contact Phil Moorhead (see below for contact info).

The Tendril, published 6 times per year
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CHECK EXPIRATION DATE ABOVE YOUR ADDRESS! **THIS MAY BE YOUR LAST ISSUE**

All submissions welcome!

Issue: Articles Due:

<i>Jan/Feb</i>	<i>Dec 1</i>
<i>Mar/Apr</i>	<i>Feb 1</i>
<i>May/Jun</i>	<i>Apr 1</i>
<i>Jul/Aug</i>	<i>Jun 1</i>
<i>Sep/Oct</i>	<i>Aug 1</i>
<i>Nov/Dec</i>	<i>Oct 1</i>

ARTICLES 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*. We reserve the right to edit for content, style, or to fit printing requirements

IGS Executive Board and Board of Directors

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