



President's Message

Denise Bechtold

First I'd like to say our hearts go out to Linda's patch and our prayers are with you as you go through this difficult time.

I myself can't wait for spring weather to get here so we can get to planting. You can find more information on seeds and planting on our website: (Indiana-gourdsociety.org) You can also go to our Facebook page at: (Indiana Gourd Society). You can purchase seeds at: True leaf market and Benjamin'sLanding.com.

AGS reports that Modern Litho (the printer of "The Gourd Magazine"), says the summer issue will see delays in home deliveries within the USPS. AGS inquiries have not yielded a real answer as to why. AGS will NOT send out replacements, they do not have the inventory. AGS can send them a PDF in the interim. They will revisit the status in a few weeks.

Sugar Creek patch in April is making stained glass cannonballs using "Pebeo" paints. We also have paper napkins and gourds for crafting. If anyone is interested you can contact myself at (317) 270-0180 or Karen at (765) 436-7348.

If you know of any gardening groups interested in having talks about growing gourds and you not comfortable talking in front of a group of people we have people who can do that.

We also have a Gourd Patch in Ridgeville that needs a leader. Also, inactive patches that need restarted are in Valparaiso, West Lafayette, and Pendleton.

A speaker is needed for a 45 min. talk at the Zionsville Town Hall for the Village Garden Club on Aug. 5th at 10am. Contact Phil at (765) 674-8088 or Karen at (765) 436-7348.

We still need volunteers for the state fair booth. Working a 4-hr. shift gets you a free entry ticket and the rest of the day you can roam and check out the fair. Contact Diane Werblo at (317) 783-1428 if interested.

****Keep Those Gourd Crafts Coming****

Patch Schedules

West Central Indiana Gourd Patch

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

Looking for a new patch leader.

Linda's Gourd Patch

*Meets third Sundays at 2-4 p.m. ET
at home of Peggy Robertson,
1224 W 600 N, Greenfield*

For more info,

contact Peggy Robertson 317-326-3854

05-18-25: NO MEETING

06-15-25: NO MEETING

Central Indiana Patch

*Meets second Wednesdays at Garfield
Park Arts Center in Indy, 2-4 p.m. ET*

05-14-25: Calligraphy on Gourds

06-11-25: Finish Calligraphy and Thunder Drums

Sugar Creek Gourd Patch

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

05-07-25: Flowers and Butterflies, Black and White

05-21-25: Flowers and Butterflies, Black and White

06-04-25: Red, white, and blue painting, clean autumn wings

06-18-25: Red, white, and blue painting, clean autumn wings

Bloomington Gourd Patch

*Bloomington Fine Art Supply, 207 S. Rogers St.
Third Thursdays of each month, 1-3 p.m. ET*

05-15-25: Woodburning

06-19-25: Dremel Techniques

Please contact patch leaders to verify dates/times.

IGS Board Meeting

June 7, 2025, 11 am ET

Thorntown Public Library

124 N Market St, Thorntown, IN 46071

PATCH NEWS

Sugar Creek Gourd Patches (Karen Niemeyer, contact)

The Sugar Creek Gourd Patch will meet at the Thorntown Public Library from 2-4:00 p.m. ET on May 7 and 21. It is time for flowers and butterflies on whole gourds and gourd bowls. Black and white will also be a theme in celebration of Cinco de Mayo, a Mexican holiday, as well as the Indianapolis 500. Karen Niemeyer will display a few b&w gourds and invites others to bring any they may have. On May 21 there also be a red white and blue theme with various patriotic gourds displayed in preparation for Memorial Day and July 4th. Toothbrushes will be on hand for anyone who is not feeling artistic and wants to help clean 60 autumn wing gourds while pondering what they might become. There is no charge to participate and questions may be directed to Karen at the library: 765-436-7348.

Central Indiana Patch (Diane Werblo, contact)

In March Mac McCrary gave an intro to Calligraphy to Penny Boyce, Margie Kempson, Mary Johnson, Jean Long, and Diane Werblo. (Margie was his prize student.) We worked with the fancy pens on paper and practiced a selection of alphabets. More alphabetic examples are available on the web. Our patch did not meet in April. In May we will put our saying or ambigrams on very smooth, pre-finished gourds using the calligraphy pens. If you make a mistake on an unfinished gourd, the ink will absorb into the gourd, but if you have a finish on the gourd, alcohol will probably take away the goof.

State Fair is coming August 1-17!

We hope that all of you enter multiple projects and that many of you can volunteer at the gourd booth.

Bloomington Gourd Patch (Greg Olson, contact)

The Bloomington Patch of the Indiana Gourd Society meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month from 1-3 p.m. ET. The next meeting is May 15th, featuring a discussion on woodburning or pyrography for gourds. Our June 19th meeting will practice the many uses of a Dremel tool in carving and engraving gourds. Bring a project using these techniques (finished or in progress), or share photos! Samples will be available for hands-on practice. Meetings are held at Bloomington Fine Arts Supply, 207 S Rogers St, Bloomington. Everyone is welcome! For more info, contact Greg at 970-628-6864 or igs.rgolson@aol.com.

State Fair and Show Preliminary Meeting May 10, 2025, 12Noon Thorntown Library

In preparation for the June 7 board meeting, Greg Ollson (970-628-6864) has asked for a meeting to talk about IGS involvement in the state fair booth. We also need to start talking about the state show coming later this year. Take a single gourd item to talk about and remind us of why we belong to the Society.

SCAM ALERT

We've had several recent instances of members being contacted supposedly by the President wanting them to pay a "vendor" quickly because the Treasurer was unavailable. These can appear to come from one of several people, supposedly with spending authority. If you suspect a problem, move the mouse over the "From" address, it will show the real source of the e-mail. **DO NOT RESPOND** to these requests, that just proves to the scammers that you exist and will probably be getting more scams. This is not limited to our group, other groups are seeing a rise in this kind of scam.

PATCH CONTACTS

Central Indiana Gourd Crafters	Indianapolis	Diane Werblo	317-783-1428
Lakeshore Gourders	Ridgeville	Needs a leader	
Linda's Patch	Valparaiso	Inactive	
	Greenfield	Peggy Robertson	317-440-8174
		Rosemary Hill	317-793-0447
Patch 4	West Lafayette	Inactive	
Story Gourd Patch	Pendleton	Inactive	
Sugar Creek	Thorntown	Karen Niemeyer	765-436-7518
West Central Indiana	Avon	Needs a leader	
Bloomington Gourd Patch	Bloomington	Greg Olson	970-628-6864

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Speaker Needed

We are in need of a speaker on gourds, both growing and artistic, for a 45-minute talk at the Zionsville Town Hall for the Village Garden Club on August 5 at 10 AM ET. If interested, please contact Phil at 765-674-8088. or Karen at 765-436-7348. Would you like to help the society grow by being a spokesperson? Let us know.

VOLUNTEER AT THE FAIR!

We are in need of volunteers to help at the state fair booth. Working a 4-hour shift gets you a free entry ticket, and the rest of the day you can roam and enjoy the fair. Contact Diane Werblo (info on last page) or call her at 317-783-1428 if interested.

Visit us on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61568193715191>



Indiana Gourd Society Bloomington Patch

Learn how to cultivate and transform gourds into works of art! We will be learning artistic techniques as well as how to grow and care for gourds. Join a fun and friendly group. No experience required!

2025 Calender

April 17th- Acrylic Painting, Stencils, Decopage
May 15th- Woodburning
June 19th- Dremel Techniques
July 17th - Alcohol Inks
September 18th - Weaving
November 20th- Birdhouses, seeds, shells, and applications

Meetings held at
Bloomington Fine Art Supply
207 S. Rogers St., Bloomington
1-3pm

Contact
Greg Olson with any questions
igs.rgolson@aol.com
970-628-6864

Ways & Means

We have some end-of-stock Aurelia Conway books on gourds. We are selling them at a super discount price, all prices below include shipping/handling/postage.

Jim Story material:

DVD:	\$23.00
Book, <i>Gourds: From Vine to Design</i> :	\$15.00

Aurelia Conway books:

<i>Gourd Purses, Decorative Painting</i> #9728	\$13.50
<i>How to Paint a Gourd</i> #9606	\$13.50

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

Please send e-mail or phone in case we need to contact you

A Patch Project with Pebeo Paints

Philip Moorhead

Denise Bechtold

Karen Niemeyer

One of the patch members from The Sugar Creek Patch in Thorntown purchased a set of Pebeo (pronounced Peh-bee-oh or P-bee-oh) Vitrail Glass Paint. A set of 10 45 ml bottles is approximately \$80, so they are not cheap paints. The paint is solvent-based and transparent, for “brilliant stained glass effects on transparent bases.”

We wondered how that brilliance would work on gourds. We had two patch workshops where we tried various techniques. We first experimented with natural gourds and found painting a single coat left a very thin paint that didn’t have any brilliance, probably because the paint was being absorbed into the gourd. Multiple coats looked better (see the photo on the top right).

We then painted a white undercoat and left it dry completely. The second photo shows some samples of the paint. The right-most swatches, labeled “Yellow” show one coat on top painted on (the small swatch) and a single coat daubed on (the longer stripe). The color is not yellow, but more of a burnt orange. The painted swatch is more yellow, probably because the white is showing through.

The other colors, from right-to-left after the yellow are Blue, Chartreuse, Crimson, and two coats of Crimson. A hair drier was used between coats to get to a tacky paint before applying the second coat.

The colors might be more true-to-name if applied to a glass surface where the light would shine through it instead of being reflected, as the advertising suggests.

The third photo shows a gourd without undercoating. It has metallic silver sticks from a heat gun applied. These still need to be trimmed because it is extremely difficult to get a thin, even line.

The first photo on the left, below, shows (left-to-right) Sandra Townsend, Denise Bechtold, and Lisa Goldman working on projects. The right photo below shows Denise applying a second coat to a gourd. Notice the micro-brushes she is using.

Some final notes. Pebeo does not dry quickly and needs to sit 24-hours to be fully dry. A hair drier causes the paint to become tacky only, and lets the gourd be transported to where it can finish air drying. Once tacky, a second coat can easily be applied if needed. Brush clean-up is challenging and we found using micro brushes works, and they can simply be discarded. Soaking a brush in mineral spirits then washing with dish soap and water will salvage a brush if needed.

Most importantly, the paint soaks through paper plates, even plastic impregnated paper plates. It even went on through the plastic table covering. We were able to clean the table with scouring powder and a scrubber. A fully plastic plate would be a better choice.



ROAD TRIPS

2025—courtesy of AGS (www.americangourdsociety.org)

Jun 12-14: PA Gourd Art Show and Festival, Lebanon Valley Expo Center & Fairgrounds, Lebanon, PA.
Pagourdsociety.org

Jun 27-29: Missouri: Show Me gourd Society Art Festival, Cowan Civic Center, Lebanon, MO.
Showmegourdsociety.org

Jul 16-18: Washington State Gourd Retreat. Mineral Lake Lodge and Conference Center, Mineral WA.
Wagourdsociety.org

Sep 6-7: North Carolina Gourd Arts & Crafts Festival, Holshouser Building, NC State Fairgrounds, Raleigh, NC. Ncgourdsociety.org

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

Have you checked out Indiana Gourd Society on Facebook? The name changed from Indiana Gourd Patch. It's only gourds, art techniques, and "save the pollinators" info. Visit anytime.

* * IGS Events * *

Indiana State Fair

Aug 1, 2025 to Aug 17, 2025

(Closed Mondays)

State Fairgrounds

1202 E 38th St

Indianapolis, IN 46205

[Note: The fair charges an entry fee]

IGS State Gourd Show

TBD

TBD

TBD

TBD

[This is an IGS Sponsored Event]

IGS Membership Meeting

October 18, 2025, 2 pm ET

Thorntown Public Library

124 N Market St, Thorntown, IN 46071

[This is an IGS Sponsored Event]

HOLD THESE DATES!

	State Show	Membership Meeting (Thorntown)
2025:	TBD	Oct. 18, 2025
2026	TBD	Oct. 17, 2026
2027	TBD	Oct. 16, 2027

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 filed for Sect. 501 (c) (3) status of the Internal Revenue Code. Therefore, gifts to IGS are not deductible for income tax purposes.

INDIANA GOURD SOCIETY, INC.

Membership Application

PLEASE PRINT

NAME: _____ (Free gift with New or 3yr Membership)

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

PHONE _____ COUNTY _____

EMAIL _____

I will allow IGS to share my information (name/address/e-mail) with the American Gourd Society (AGS). Yes or No

You will receive an ELECTRONIC TENDRIL. (Paper copy by separate written request only.)

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

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

☐ NEW ☐ RENEW

☐ 1 year @ \$15.00

☐ 3 year @ \$40.00

ID#

Patch

Cash

CK #

Date

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

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).

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**YOU WILL RECEIVE A POSTCARD FROM IGS IN
THE MONTH THAT YOUR MEMBERSHIP
EXPIRES**

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>

All submissions welcome!

**ARTICLES MUST BE IN MS WORD OR RTF
FORMAT.**

Send as an attachment to your email or mail your submissions to the editor (address in left box). 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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**ON ALL EMAIL ADDRESSES ABOVE, PUT indianagourdsociety.org
AFTER THE @ SYMBOL**