



GOURD GREETINGS

Issue Seventy Four

The Beta Chapter of the American Gourd Society

June 2017



2017 Ohio State Fair



JULY 26 - AUG. 6, 2017

It is not too late to enter the competition for this year's "Ohio State Fair". The Fair runs from July 26 thru August 6. The information about entries is carried on the Ohio State Fair website at: www.ohiostatefair.com Cardinal Hall is a fantastic venue for the Gourd arts and crafts entries, and everyone involved in 2016 is hopeful for an

even bigger display in this year. The general classes for Gourd Art (Division 4201) are: 1. Painted/Colored, 2. Carved/Wood Burned, 3. Decorated (any technique), 4. Doll/Animal/Character, 5. Jewelry, 6. Musical Instrument, and 7. Holiday Theme. Please be sure to check the Fair's website to see the exact class descriptions. The entry **DEADLINE FOR THE OHIO STATE FAIR IS JUNE 20TH.**

Remember that at the Fair an exhibitor may enter two items in each class. So if you are undecided about your entry, bring both!

The Ohio Gourd Society has its roots in the State Fair, and has been involved for years. In addition to encouraging entries, OGS is a sponsor of the gourd competition and is involved in the "Featured Artist Demonstrations Program." Several times during the Fair, OGS will provide artists to demonstrate gourd art techniques for visitors. Generally, the demonstration sessions last for about six hours and may involve up to four people. If you are interested in helping with the demonstration program, John Martin martin.jf.kl@frontier.com is working on the schedule.



"GOURD JUDGES NEEDED"

Hello ALL!

As always, Laura, our OGS Judge Coordinator, is looking for people that would like to be judges this year at our Ohio Gourd Show. If you are a AGS Judge or are interested in learning more about judging gourds and would like to clerk, contact Laura Martin at: www.agourdfamily@gmail.com or call - **859-466-9308**

The Judging takes place on Saturday at the show from 11 am till done. We need your help to make this happen. Thanks in advance!

Bruce Barber OGS Show Chair

A Visit to Red Sands Christian School

In April, Judy and I traveled to Winslow, Arizona to a Navajo Christian School run by Lifeline Christian Missions in Westerville, Ohio. We had the privilege to teach some Navajo Children about Gourds. We took 40 Spinner Gourds and showed them how to spin them. It turned into a science lesson by applying force with your fingers that converts the potential (stored) energy into kinetic energy, or (energy in motion), that allows

the gourd to spin until acted upon by gravity and friction. Bet you even learned something there! We also took 40 Egg Gourds for the teacher to use in a craft of what ever the children would like to do at a later date. The lesson ended with scripture from the bible where the plant that grew up over Johna was a **"Gourd"** to give him shade. **Johna 4:6** and **"The Deadly Stew"**, where the men went out and gathered a lap full of wild gourds, and came and cut them up into the pot of stew, not knowing what they were. When they went to eat it, they said, "Man of God, there is Death in this pot!" And they could not eat it. So they put flour in the pot and served it to the men and they were able to eat it. **2 Kings 4:38-42**



THE CHILDREN PERFORMED A WESTERN THEME PLAY FOR US - DRESS REHEARSAL.



EACH STUDENT WAS GIVEN A SPINNER GOURD !

GOURD HAPPENINGS

West central Ohio Gourd Patch

Presents

The Shawnee Prairie Gourd Patch Events



The West Central Ohio Gourd Patch held its second Spring Gourd Show at the Shawnee Prairie on Saturday May 13, 2017. Gourd demonstrations, Gourd cleaning, gourd plants, dry gourds and gourd crafts were featured. There will be a Fall show on September 9, 2017 at the same location. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend.



OHIO GOURD SOCIETY Show & Meeting Dates!

OHIO STATE FAIR

July 26 thru August 6th

Ohio Exhibition Center
17th Avenue,
Columbus, OH 43211

Shawnee Prairie Gourd Patch Event

Sept. 9th

4267 St. Rt. 502
Greenville, OH 43334

OHIO GOURD SHOW

October 6th, 7th, & 8th

Delaware Co. Fairgrounds
236 Pennsylvania Ave.
Delaware, OH 43015
OGS FALL MEETING

Franklin Park Gourd & Tell

March 3rd & 4th

Franklin Park Conservatory
1777 E. Broad St.
Columbus, Ohio 43213

OGS SPRING MEETING

Date to Be Announced

Franklin Park Conservatory
1777 E. Broad St.
Columbus, Ohio 43213

Ohiogourd@hotmail.com

www.ohiogourdsociety.com

www.facebook.com/ohiogourdshow.com

**OHIO GOURD SOCIETY,
INC.**

**ESTABLISHED
FEBRUARY 1947**

**The BETA CHAPTER of
the AMERICAN GOURD
SOCIETY, INC.**

PRAYERS NEEDED



ANNA MILLER **"OGS Past President Update"**

Friends, I am writing to tell you that Anna is in the Blanchard Valley Hospital. On May 24th after breakfast she was trying to transfer from her wheelchair to her armchair. She complained that her foot was stuck to the floor, and she couldn't move it at all. With no notion it was about to happen, she fell to one side, and we both went down. The EMS took Anna to the hospital, and we spent the afternoon in the ER. I had no head injury, despite giving the stairway door a resounding smack with my head, but Anna was admitted for observation and testing to determine the reasons for her suddenly elevated blood pressure. Anna spent most of the next day doing tests.

Please keep Anna and Me in your prayers!

Jim Miller

Results from our Election of Officers for the next two years starting January 2018

PRESIDENT - Nelson Litzenberg

1st VICE PRESIDENT - Abe Martin

TREASURER - Judy Litzenberg

ASST. TREASURER - Gordon Smith

SECRETARY - Jenn Ross

DIRECTOR - Norm Roberts

Congratulations to all the new officers!



Words from the past GG's & The Gourd

DID YOU KNOW!

One of the first gourd publications was called, "GOURD SEED" published by, "THE GOURD SOCIETY OF AMERICA, INC"

Boston, Massachusetts

February 1948 Volume IX, No. 1

1947 Annual Report

In 1937 a group of earnest and diligent gourd enthusiasts brought forth in this building (Horticultural Hall, Boston) a society known as "The New England Gourd Society", which has since grown in stature and wisdom to be called, "The Gourd Society of America".

This being the 10th anniversary, it was deemed fitting that a brochure be compiled giving the high points in the life of the society. Mrs. Walter

Chick was chosen Editor. The brochure is expected to be off the press early in 1948 and a copy will be mailed to each member. The long-awaited publication of the book "The Gourd in Folk Literature", by Mrs. Eddie W. Wilson was finally realized and has been very well received by all.

Three copies of "The Gourd Seed", edited by Miss Marguerite Daloz, were published this year and sent to all members. Due to the high cost of printing, it was decided to forego the 4th issue of "The Gourd seed", and apply the money toward the brochure.

The Society notes with pride the names of the Regional Vice Presidents who served this year:

Mrs. Thomas Wilkinson, Cary, NC

Mrs. D. O. Corner, Canton, OH

Mrs. Jesse B. Perlman, Montrose-on-Hudson, NY

Mr. Connie Watts, Baldwin, GA

The Beta Chapter in Ohio was officially welcomed into the Society in February 1947. This live group of gourd enthusiasts is to be commended for its achievements in such a short life.

HISTORY OF GOURDS

The gourd has been grown by all peoples in history in warm climates, and was one of the earliest cultivated plants. Some types were used as food, but the main development was for utensils of various types. The shapes of the gourds and their uses had a great bearing on pottery development, which was generally the next step up in civilization. The decoration and use of gourds was a means of developing artistic skill, with carving, dying, burning and addition of feathers and leather all being used to carry out cultural advancement. People in more rigorous climates traded for the useful gourd.

The Polynesian people used gourds for bowels and cups, water bottles, musical instruments, toys and storage containers, for both dry storages and for pickling meats and vegetables. Their wanderings and migrations that are the wonder of researchers would not have been possible without the gourd container for carrying water, and catching rain water supplies. Musical instruments included rattles of various types, drums, and whistles.

In the West Indies the people were so dependent upon the gourd for ordinary necessities that it became the medium exchange in Haiti. The Indians of Southwestern America developed an entire line of necessities, treasured specimens of which are in museums. These include water bottles, musical instruments, toys, storage containers, ladies, spoons, cups, funnels, cornmeal sifters, measures, salt containers, soap dishes, seed containers, strainers, food bowels, egg holders, baskets, masks for ceremonial dances etc. Many of the tribes relied upon the simple polished surfaces of the various shapes for their artistic appreciation.

Gourds were used and treasured in the Middle East and Egypt in ancient times, because they have found in tombs of the rulers for the storage of material things that were to help the deceased on his or her journey into the unknown.



OHIO GOURD SOCIETY

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

PLEASE PRINT

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE OR PROV _____

ZIP CODE OR POSTAL CODE _____ PHONE NUMBER (____) _____

EMAIL _____

The Annual Dues for Membership are \$12.00. These dues are due January 1 of each year. This membership includes your subscription to our quarterly **Gourd Greetings**. Please make your check or money order (US \$12.00) PAYABLE TO:

OHIO GOURD SOCIETY, 6305 Dustin Rd., Galena, OH 43021-9758

email: ohiogourd@hotmail.com web site: www.ohiogourdsociety.com

All OGS Members must be a member of the American Gourd Society **www.americangourdsociety.org**

GG Information:

Gourd Greetings "GG" is the official publication of the Ohio Gourd Society, (OGS) Inc. No part may be reproduced in any manner without written permission from the OGS, Inc.

Publications are; March, June, Sept., Dec. Article submission deadline is the 1st day of the previous month.

"GG" correspondence should be addressed to: Gourd Greetings, C/O Bruce Barber, 6305 Dustin Rd., Galena, Ohio 43021-9758 Ph. 740-965-4661
email; ohiogourd@Hotmail.com

You MUST be a member of the American Gourd Society, (AGS) Inc. in order to be a member of the OGS Chapter. The OGS does not collect dues for the AGS. Send AGS Dues \$15.00 to American Gourd Society, Inc., P.O. Box 2186, Kokomo, IN 46904

Membership in OGS is \$12.00 per year Due each year the 1st of January and includes 4 issues of the "Gourd Greetings", with articles about growing, crafting, gourd happenings, and special events and our Annual Show Booklet. It also entitles members to have a vote at all OGS meetings and a free listing on our OGS Web Site.

HELP NEEDED

The Ohio Gourd Society is looking for help setting up at the show this fall. We set up on Thursday Oct 5th at 9am. If you can help contact Bruce at : 740-965-4661

Officers of the "Ohio Gourd Society, Inc."

President _____ Abe Martin
1st Vice President _____
2nd Vice President _____ Celia Roberts
Secretary _____ Lois Smith
Treasurer _____ Gordon Smith
Assistant Treasurer _____ Judy Litzenberg
Membership Secretary _____ Judy Barber
Director _____ Nelson Litzenberg
Director _____ Norm Roberts
Show Chair _____ Bruce Barber
Publicity _____ Christina Voise
Publicity Asst. & Photographer _____ Jenn Ross
Historian _____ Marcia Hintz
Advisor _____ John Martin
GG Editors ---- Bruce Barber & Larry Sherman
Website ----- Lynn Rehr

Gourd Greetings

C/O Bruce Barber

6305 Dustin Rd.

Galena, Ohio 43021-9758

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

Cover Story



The Gourd Bowl on the cover filled with many different ornamental gourds, the artist unknown, took the time to use several decorating techniques to decorate the bowl. This creation took first place in its class at the 2016 Ohio Gourd Show.

FEATURED ARTICLES

ATTENTION OGS MEMBERS

If you have an article that you would like to see featured in the GG, Please send me a picture of your gourd and a brief description about it to: Ohio Gourd Society, Inc.,
ATTN: GG Editor, 6305 Dustin Rd. Galena, OH 43021
or email to: ohiogourd@hotmail.com