



# ***GOURD GREETINGS***

Issue Seventy Five

The Beta Chapter of the American Gourd Society

SEPTEMBER 2017





# 2017 Ohio State Fair



JULY 26 - AUG. 6, 2017

The gourd competition was again located in Cardinal Hall. The arrangement of the hall was more open than last year, and served to highlight the creative arts exhibits. This was a great year for gourd art competition, with 40 entries. Our display case was full! A special "Thank you" goes to all the entrants who participated in this year's competition. Not only did the case look full, the art work was remarkable in both concept and craftsmanship. The Ohio Gourd Society also provided demonstrations of gourd work on four separate days during the Fair. This was a chance to engage visitors in conversation, answer questions about gourd work and promote the Ohio Gourd Show. Watch for notices in GG and on the website for next year's opportunities in competition and in participating with the on-site demonstration program. Remember that entries for the Ohio State Fair are always due on June 20!

By John Martin



# Ohio Gourd Show Children's Program

## LETTER TO SCHOOLS

Ryan Malony  
Woodward Elementary School  
200 S. Washington St.  
Delaware, Ohio 43015

Dear Mr. Malony (or current principal)

I am writing to you in behalf of the Ohio Gourd Society, Inc. We will be holding our Annual Ohio Gourd Show again this year at the Delaware County Fairgrounds on October 6, 7, and 8, 2017. I am contacting you because we are offering a free educational program for 4th and / or 5th grade children. This year the subject will be "THE USE OF GOURDS THROUGH HISTORY" and will include general information about gourds. We can accommodate up to 50 children at 10 AM and a second group of up to 50 at 11 AM on Friday October 6, 2017. Please pass this information to the teacher or teachers who might be interested in bringing their class to one of these presentations. Please note that I will be sending this letter to all the Elementary Schools in Delaware and I can only accommodate 2 groups. The first teachers to contact me and accept this invitation, will be served.

I can be reached via e-mail at [nroberts3@ who.rr.com](mailto:nroberts3@who.rr.com), or by phone at **937-692-6122**

Sincerely,

Celia M. Roberts

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## "A PLEA FOR HELP"

This year we are doing a free educational program for the Delaware Elementary Schools. I am preparing a presentation about gourds through history as well as general information about gourds. I need to borrow a few items to use for demonstration. If you have any simple useful items ( i e ) bowls, dippers, containers, toys, etc. — also masks or other items that might be used or have been used in tribal ceremonies ), I would appreciate borrowing them for just 2 hours on Friday morning, just prior to the show opening. I am especially looking for those items that will capture the attention of 4th and 5th graders. The one thing we probably already have access to is a variety of musical instruments. If you can help me with any of this, please contact me at [nroberts3@woh.rr.com](mailto:nroberts3@woh.rr.com), **937-692-6122** , or Celia Roberts , P.O. Box 248 ,Pitsburg, Ohio 45358

If there is any problem, let me know.

Celia

# GOURD HAPPENINGS

## GOURD JUDGES NEEDED!

"Gourdings"! The Ohio Gourd Show is looking for judge and clerk volunteers for the 2017 show! The show will once again be held at the Delaware County Fairgrounds, October 6th- 8th 2017. Judging will begin at 11am Saturday October 7th, and finish that afternoon. I have 25 spots to fill and hope that you can join us for "The Wizarding World of Gourds" our 2017 show! Please respond by August 31st, 2017. Please include in your response (response slip attached) if there are certain classes you would/ would not like to judge. I will be sending Judging packets, class assignments, and other information before the show! Thank you! I hope to see you at the show!

Laura Martin Judging Coordinator

859.466.9308  
agourdfamily@gmail.com  
455 Bells Run Road  
Sardinia, Ohio 45171

Cut Here:

\*\*\*\*\*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

I am interested in being a: (please circle all you are interested in)

JUDGE

CLERK

I am interested in judging or clerking: (please circle all you are interested in)

FRESH    DRY    CRAFTED    YOUTH/ JUNIOR

Class Preferences: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return by August 31st, 2017. By mail, a phone call, or email. Thanks

## OHIO GOURD SOCIETY Show & Meeting Dates!

### 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

### Shawnee Prairie Gourd

**Patch Event**

**Date to Be Announced**

4267 St. Rt. 502  
Greenville, OH 43334

### OHIO STATE FAIR

**July 25 thru August 5th**

Ohio Exhibition Center  
17th Avenue,  
Columbus, OH 43211

[Ohiogourd@hotmail.com](mailto:Ohiogourd@hotmail.com)

[www.ohiogourdsociety.com](http://www.ohiogourdsociety.com)

[www.facebook.com/ohiogourdshow.com](http://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"

Anna is home again but still can not do many of the things she used to be able to do. If you have the time drop her a card to let her know you are thinking about her and wish her a quick recovery.

**Jim & Anna Miller**

12091 Eagleville Rd. N. Baltimore, OH 45872

Please keep Anna and Jim in your prayers!

## "The 55th Annual Ohio Gourd Show"

**October 6th, 7th & 8th 2017**  
**Delaware County Fairgrounds**  
**236 Pennsylvania Ave.**  
**Delaware, Ohio 43015**

**HOST HOTEL Pacer Inn & Suites**  
**Camping on the Fairgrounds \$30.00 per night**  
**Saturday Night Dinner \$15.00 paid in advance to**  
**Bruce Barber 6305 Dustin Rd. Galena, OH 43021**

**Please Plan to Attend and bring a Friend!**

[www.ohiogourdsociety.com](http://www.ohiogourdsociety.com)



# Words from the past GG's & The Gourd

## BITS OF NEWS! FROM GOURD LETTERS... G-O-U-R-D

**G** for gourds that grow on a vine.

**O** for ornamentals, a special kind.

**U** for the unique Lagenarias.

**R** for their radiant colors, shapes & sizes

**D** for dolphin gourds; shaped like a swan.

Put them altogether -

They spell fun for everyone.

Mother Nature's gift of varied fruit -

To make into items that suit.

By Hazel Rinehart 1981

## DID YOU KNOW!

On September 23rd, 1962, **Mr. O.C. Stevens**, the father of **John Stevens**, suggested for the first time of having a Gourd Show at the Mt. Gilead Fair Grounds in autumn of 1963 in connection with the Gourd Society of America's annual meeting.

**The Ohio Gourd Society, Inc.**, Beta Chapter of **The Gourd Society of America, Inc.**, known as **The American Gourd Society, Inc.**, had its first "**Ohio Gourd Show**" October of 1963.

By 1967 The Ohio Gourd Show had approximately 5000 people in attendance. There were only two chapters at that time.

Alpha Chapter - S. Carolina Gourd Society

Beta Chapter - Ohio Gourd Society

## HISTORY OF GOURDS

### IN THE "GOOD OLD DAYS"

Long before the first Europeans arrived in the Americas, gourds had been cultivated by the Indians. Gourds grew in various sizes, shapes and colors and the early settlers soon learned to use these plants in a variety of ways.

The dipper gourd was useful for scooping water from a barrel or a spring. They were also used as ladles and measures. Other large gourds were dried and hollowed out to make thin but tough bowls and cups.

A round short handled gourd with a small hole cut near the top, was hung on the wall to store precious seed until spring planting time. Seed-gourds served as decorations when lined up along the kitchen wall or near the fireplace to keep their contents extra dry.

From the "Bottle Gourd" fine flasks were made by cutting off the hollow neck two or three inches above the swelling. A piece of corncob was used as a stopper. Bottle gourds were used as flower vases since glass was very expensive and difficult to obtain.

The pith of a dishrag gourd and a little sand scrubbed clean the settlers iron cook pots. Small egg gourds were the right size and shape for nest eggs and were often used for darning socks, or made into dolls heads.

As gourds dried, the seeds became loose and could be shaken free of the entire pith. Gourd rattles with stick handles were used by many Indian tribes. A large egg gourd mounted on a short wooden handle was the early American play rattle.

Fresh gourds were gathered in a basket and must have added a bright and different look to any kitchen, fireplace, or table in pioneer and colonial homes. Small bright colored or warty gourds served then as now as decorative charmstrings - dried and polished with oil or beeswax and hung from the mantle or door frame.

By Carroll Neidhart - 1972



# 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](mailto:ohiogourd@hotmail.com) web site: [www.ohiogourdsociety.com](http://www.ohiogourdsociety.com)**

All OGS Members must be a member of the American Gourd Society [www.americangourdsociety.org](http://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. 614-206-6083  
email; [ohiogourd@hotmail.com](mailto: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 : 614-206-6083

### 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

PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

## Gourd Greetings

C/O Bruce Barber

6305 Dustin Rd.

Galena, Ohio 43021-9758

## Cover Story



**The Gourd Peacock on the cover won "Best of Show" at the 2017 "Ohio State Fair." The creator was Sherri Lee Love of Gahanna, Ohio. This is some work of art and we hope to see more of Sherri's handy gourd crafts at our show this fall. Come join us as we celebrate 55 years of The " Ohio Gourd Show, October 6th, 7th, & 8th.**

## 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](mailto:ohiogourd@hotmail.com)