

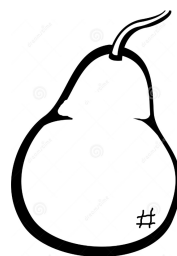


Ohio Gourd Society
c/o Editor
1606 Alexander Road
Galena, OH 43021

Place stamp here

In this issue of Gourd Greetings:

- **2020 Ohio Gourd Show—Cancelled**
- **New OGS Website**— use **password OGS** to access “Members only Information” and see the full color version of the newsletter.
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ISSUE 85, SUMMER 2020

Gourd Greetings

BETA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN GOURD SOCIETY

Ohio Gourd Show Cancelled Membership Drive

2020 has been an extraordinary year. Many people's lives have been affected by COVID-19 and many events have been cancelled. So with heavy hearts, but with the safety of all in mind, the Ohio Gourd Society has decided to cancel our October 2020 show.

This follows the cancellation of our other two major OGS events at Franklin Park Conservatory in March and the Ohio State Fair in July/August. Additionally, our two Gourd Patches have also been “on hold” due to closures of the meeting locations.

The decision to cancel the Show was made foremost to protect the health and safety of our vendors, supporters, workshop instructors, volunteers, and board members who work year after year to make this remarkable show happen. We are hopeful that in 2021, we can return to normal and hold all of the OGS events that are so instrumental in supporting the gourd community.

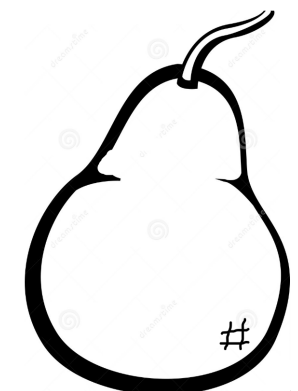
New OGS Website

In the meantime, be sure to check out the NEW OGS website (www.ohiogourdsociety) and Facebook (www.facebook.com/OhioGourdShow) for updates and announcements. See article inside for more info.

We are down 30 members from last October. The goal will be 30 NEW members from now until September 1. Each new member enrolling between now and September will receive a year and a half membership for the cost of one year (\$12.00) Of course we would love to have them pay for three years for \$33.00 or five years for \$55.00.

Each new member will receive a T shirt. **The member that recruits the most new members will receive a \$50.00 gift card!**

Let's get creative! Donna Hutmacher says a few friends are just getting started experimenting with gourds. She is going to give them a membership to OGS for Christmas, Birthday, etc. She will give them an egg gourd with membership card attached. Way to go Donna!!



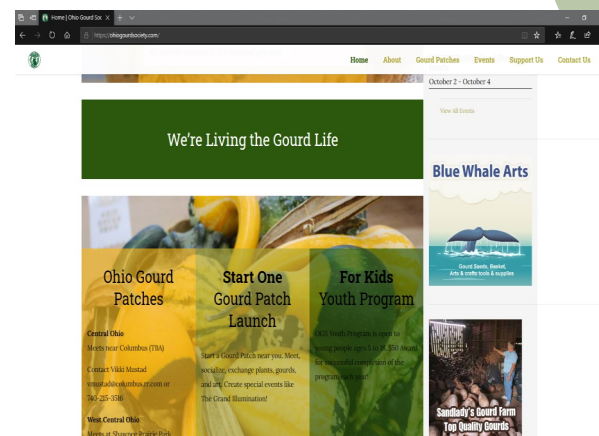
Society Related News

New OGS Website

A new website (OhioGourdSociety.com) has been launched to make it easier for members and the Public to connect with us!

This new website is loaded with information to help members stay up to date with the OGS activities and with OGS members!

The website has loads of pictures for reminiscing of shows past and for inspiration! Also, check out the video tutorial of her beach-themed gourds from our very own — **Barbara Blizzard!** We will add more tutorials in the next few weeks, especially important since we have limited contact with each other this year.



An important feature is our “Members Information” page. This page is for current OGS members only and you’ll need a **password** to gain entry. **The current password is OGS.** In this section of the website, you can find OGS member contact information so that you can connect with other *gourd lovers* who live close to you. *Note—we will NOT post your information without your permission, so be sure to let us know your updated contact information.*

Additionally, starting with this issue, we will be posting a full color version of *Gourd Greetings* to the “Members Information” page on the new OGS website. As described above, you will also use the **password OGS** to gain access to the Members Information page to see the full color version of the newsletter. We hope you like this simple way to access current newsletters, as this step is critical for us to defray print and mailing costs.

Also see that we have two new advertisers —Blue Whale Arts (Gourd Seeds, Basket, Arts & Crafts, Tools & Supplies) and Sandlady’s Gourd Farm (Top Quality Gourds). Be sure to check out their websites and give them your business!

Finally, a big THANK YOU to Lyn Rehm (previous webmanager) and especially - **Linda Rose (pictured on right)** - whose vision, hard work and persistence made the new website something for our organization to be proud of!!



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, c/o Linda Rose, 3768 Worthington Road, Galena, Ohio 43021 lindarose@insight.com. 740-965-8772

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



Annual membership dues are now US \$12.00 for 1 year; \$33.00 for 3 years; \$55.00 for 5 years.

PayPal option is now available at: www.ohiogourdsociety.com.



www.facebook.com/OhioGourdShow

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 Vikkie Mustad, 1606 Alexander Road, Galena, Ohio 43021; 740-215-3516, vmustad51@gmail.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 \$20.00 to American Gourd Society, Inc., P.O. Box 2186, Kokomo, IN 46904 www.americangourdsociety.org

Gourd-Patch News

West Central Ohio Gourd Patch

Celia Roberts

Well, not much has been happening since March. BUT, a lot happened in February and March!

Like a lot of organizations, membership has been falling off for several years. Last year we decided that it was time to try and do something about it. In February we began with a newspaper article by our then publicity secretary, Carmen Howell, plus we also asked our members to distribute a brochure made by member Charlotte Moss. (check our new website for materials if you'd like to copy)! We asked that all our members invite anyone that might be interested and to bring a gourd item or project to share at the meeting.

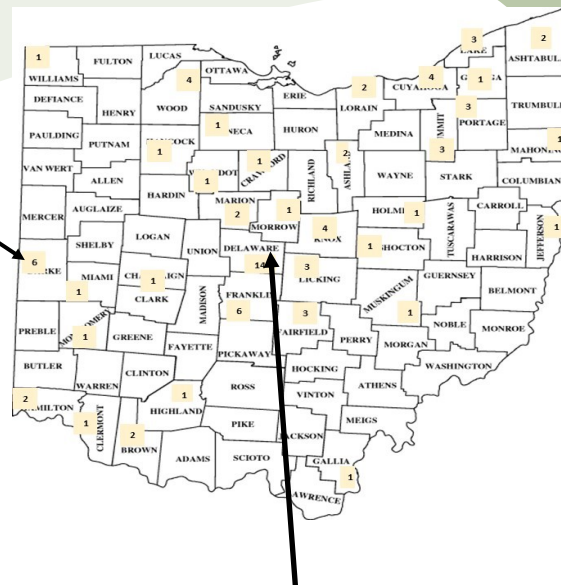
Then as our March meeting approached; Covid 19 virus hit. The morning of the meeting, we got a call from one of our members saying they thought that we should cancel the meeting. We really didn't know what we should do. We had no way of knowing if anyone was planning to come in response to our invitations and no way of letting them know that we were canceling. We decided that we would go and be there in case anyone came and at least let them know that we were glad to see them and invite them later.

Well, as the meeting time approached both members and guests began to arrive. We went on with the meeting and then each of our members shared what they had brought. It was the best meeting we have had in a very long time! At the meeting were 8 regular members, 2 non-members who had attended 1 or 2 meetings in the past, 3 new invitees. In the end, we added 3 new members plus the possibility of another!

This all happened on March 12, the day that Gov Dewine imposed the lockdown. If anything could go wrong or against us that day, IT DID! But, I think that our efforts were a success!

For more info, please check out and "like" our newly created facebook page at "West Central Ohio Gourd Patch" to share with your friends and let others know about this fun, creative and satisfying hobby.

If you have any questions, please contact NORM ROBERTS (937) 692-6122.



Central Ohio Gourd Patch

Vikkie Mustad

The **Central Ohio Gourd Patch** had to cancel the May and June meetings (the library space was closed), but will hopefully resume our regular schedule at the Sunbury Community Library every 2nd Monday from 6-8 pm.

The first gathering will be Monday, July 13. This first gourd patch will not involve a craft. Instead, we ask everyone to bring a favorite tool that you use for your gourd art/craft and give us a brief demonstration on how you used it on a gourd. Nothing formal, no rules.

Contact **Vikkie Mustad** at vmustad51@gmail.com or 740-215-3516 for suggestions or more information.

SOCIETY People

Happy 90th Birthday, Aunt Bertha!!

From Suzanne Rothhaar

This is my Aunt Bertha: her birthday is August 9th and she will be 90!

We have been members of the Ohio Gourd Society since 2008 (or 2007, I don't remember which) and have attended both KY and IN shows as well. Aunt Berta has been crafting gourds for over 50 years starting when her son was born in 1965. She wanted Christmas ornaments that wouldn't be so dangerous for him, and found some dried gourds left over from the previous Thanksgiving that she turned into ornaments!

We were looking forward to going to the Gourd Gathering and the Ohio Gourd Show this year, but they and other events that we had planned have been cancelled.

It would be great if some people could send her a card at: **Roberta Watson, 670 Compton Rd Cincinnati, OH 45231.**



Youth Program Participant

Mckenna Hensley

Mckenna is our first participant in the Youth Program! Her sponsor is Vikkie Mustad.

Mckenna first became interested in gourds when she and her Mom would spy gourds drying on Vikkie's front porch. She was "bitten by the gourd bug" when she and Vikkie got together last year to paint gourds for Valentine's day.

Mckenna likes painting gourds, and in the future she would love to make more birdhouses. In addition to gourds, she has many other interests including dog training, art, horseback riding, reading and gardening.



Sandlady’s Gourd Farm

Gourds for sale anytime and special sale July 2-3

Helen Thomas
10295 N 700 W, Tangier, IN 47952
House Phone 765-498-5428; Cell: 765-505-2120
Email: sandlady@sandlady.com; <http://www.sandlady.com>; or text on Messenger on Facebook.



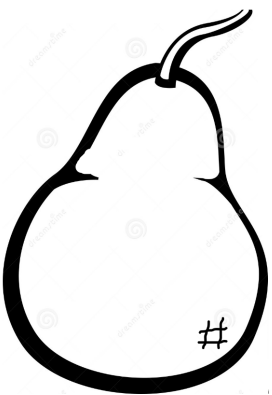
Clean or unclean.

Ship or pick up at the farm.

Thousands of gourds and many varieties and sizes of small, medium and large.

Vase. Cannonball. Basketball, Kettles or Martins. Tobacco box. Bottle gourds.

Mini Kettle gourds. Pear gourds.



Advertisements

Advertise 1 year on the OGS website for \$50.00.
As a bonus, you will also receive a 1/4 page print ad in the Newsletter.



Blue Whale Arts

Gourd Seeds and More

- Prickly Pear Cactus Skeleton
- Gourd Lamp Beads from Turkey
- Gourd Lamps, and Lighting Supplies
- Paper Twist for coiling
- Gourd Cleaning Tools
- Quikwood
- Adirondack Alcohol Ink
- Memories Dye Ink
- Apoxie Sculpt
- Wax Linen & Imitation Sinew
- Embossing Powder
- PVC Gourd Scribe
- Razertip, Proxxon, Microlux
- Drum/Thunder Drum Supplies
- Dried Botanicals/Naturals
- Bed Springs
- Clay Tools and Molds
- Pine Needles Natural/Dyed
- Basket supplies
- Stands and Bases
- Applicators and Brushes
- Vinyl Masking & Car Decals

- Washi Paper
- Suede Tex Flocking



Gourd Seeds

All our seeds are

- Grown in Isolation and hand pollinated
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www.bluewhalearts.com
info@bluewhalearts.com 603-679-1961
Like us on Facebook and our Join Facebook group Everything Gourds
<https://www.youtube.com/c/Bluewhaleartsdotcom>

A Gourd Surprise

Vikkie Mustad (featuring husband, Sam)

I’ve grown gourds in my backyard garden for about 20 years. In the first couple of years it was easy—almost *too* easy! I would plant seeds straight into the ground (always after soaking overnight) and be rewarded with a patch overflowing with healthy gourd vines, flowers and GOURDS! In fact it was so easy that my motto used to be “leave them alone”! I was in gourd heaven for about 10 years, just planting seeds and reaping gourds! Until things changed.

Late frosts, too much rain, not enough rain, squash bugs, cucumber beetles, wilt. I was forced to invest in grow lights and heating pads to manage the central Ohio spring weather. I made soil amendments. I learned about bug management. I purchased my seeds from only reliable sources. My “hands-off” backyard hobby became *work*. But the reward of harvesting even one gourd is tremendous, so I keep going....

This year, my packet of 12 seeds yielded one pathetic sprout. I was resigned to the fact that I might not have the pleasure of watching the gourd plant lifecycle, of counting each female flower bud, of watching the young gourd mature then dry and harvest.

Then - SUPRISE!!!!!! First, my husband Sam (finally) cleared an unused and long overgrown garden spot near his shed. Next, eight beautiful gourd plants emerged! I haven't used this spot for gourds for a couple of years and I assume the seeds have been dormant, just waiting for someone to give them a chance. I quickly surrounded them with black tarp and some protection from browsing deer and am happy to say they are growing and hopefully thriving! This picture was from June 1st, and they are now about 12 times this size, and just beginning to vine!

I can’t wait to see what gourd/cross I get, but I’m grateful for my Gourd Surprise!

