



ISSUE 92, SPRING 2022

Gourd Greetings

BETA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN GOURD SOCIETY



Pottery Perfection Done Your Way & The Gourd Connection in Freemont, Ohio offers various art classes and workshops, including canvas painting classes, pottery painting, hydro dipping (shown above), and much more!!

Owned and operated by OGS member and Facebook administrator, Jody Hasselbach.

2022 Ohio Gourd Show, Oct 7,8,9, theme:

"Art is in the Eye of the
Gourd holder."



Society Related News

From the President:

To the Ohio Gourd Society membership: Our annual Spring meeting is coming up on April 23 at the Franklin Park Conservatory., Columbus, Ohio. The covered dish lunch and meeting will begin at 11:00 AM. The purpose for this annual meeting is to plan and discuss the Fall show at Delaware County Fairgrounds and review our financial situation.

One thing that is of great concern to me is the open officers' positions that we have within the Society. We need a Show Chairperson, Secretary, Membership Secretary, Volunteer coordinator, Gourd Greetings editor and Judging Coordinator. With these openings going unfilled it will mean a lot more work for those current officers. It is too much! I fear that the show will not be up to the standards that we have become used to. The few can not do the work of the many. If you, or someone you know, would be interested in helping, now is the time to get involved. We will help you with whatever you volunteer to do. We simply need to know that we can count on you.

Please let me know, come to the meeting if possible, and we can continue with this outstanding annual event.

Thank you,

Nelson Litzenberg, President, Ohio Gourd Society

Anyone interested in leading a **gourd workshop** for our 2022 Show may submit an application by **March 15, 2022**. Applications can be found on our website: www.ohiogourdsociety.com, or contact John Martin at 937-446-2174 or jfm45171@gmail.com.

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The covered dish lunch and meeting will begin at 11:00 AM. The purpose for this annual meeting is to plan and discuss the Fall show at Delaware County Fairgrounds and review our financial situation.

The color version of the GG Newsletter can be found on the website; www.ohiogourdsociety.com, password OGS.

In Memoriam

Norman D. Roberts, Age 89, of Pittsburg, passed away on Sunday, January 30, 2022 at Everhart Hospice in Greenville, following a brief illness. He was preceded in death by his mother, Catherine Long & by sons, Timothy & Ross Roberts. He was a US Air Force veteran, he retired from Chrysler Air-Temp in Dayton & he loved working many other jobs after retirement. Norm is survived by his wife of 68 years, Celia; children, Jeff Roberts, Charles (Stacie) Roberts & Anita (Tim) Christlieb; grandchildren, David (Stephanie), Christopher, Ashley (Blake), Ross (Laura), Colin, Spencer & Sophia; great-grandsons, Henson & Lewis. Funeral services were held Tue. Feb. 15 at the Kreitzer Funeral Home, Arcanum, OH, with burial in Dayton National Cemetery.



Member Spotlight—Joni Hasselbach

I've been a member of the OGS for two years. At the 2021 Show, I was asked to demonstrate hydro-dipping, and in return, I reached out to see if I could help out the OGS with the OGS Facebook page, since I grew my business page from 1,700 to 7.2K followers!!

My husband, Paul, grew my first Gourd. It took two years before we knew what to do with it. I got on the computer and I had an eye-opener: I never knew a species of fruit that you could eat decorate, carve, create housing for little baby birds and create musical instruments with. I completely fell in love with gourds, even with the odd shaped ones. The OGS changed my life in a whole new way I entered gourds in the Sandusky county fair and the Ohio gourd show. I sell my painted and crafted gourds I teach classes at our studio and on sites collaborating with other businesses, camp grounds and nursing homes.



Joni Hasselbach, Freemont, Ohio



Satisfied customers at Pottery Perfection Done Your Way and The Gourd Connection, Freemont, Ohio.

My husband and I own and operate a paint your own walk-in Pottery Studio named Pottery Perfection Done Your Way, in Freemont, Ohio. We are open 7 days a week. We specialize and host lots of parties. We have classes and workshops for pottery, clay hand builds, wood cut out, canvas and of course my true love..... Gourds!!! Prior to opening on April Fool's Day 2019 I was a hairdresser of 37 years and my husband a 4th generation career meat cutter of a family owned meat processing plant. I struggled with spine, ankle and shoulder issues in the salon industry so we took a leap of faith and purchase our Pottery Studio!

Now 6 months before we bought our studio Paul asked me what I wanted to do for our 21st wedding anniversary!! I replied I want to go to the Ohio Gourd Show!!! It was a Sunday, no classes, but I met some inspirational people. Sheryl Scott of Kentucky, a gourd farmer, artist and vendor who sold us gourds and shared so much knowledge. We have become and remained friends ever since. I also met Leah from Blue Whale Arts. She taught us how to Hydro dip! That's when the fire was lit inside me..... The Gourd Connection was started! A fun side business, where we hydro-dipped banana, Tennessee spinners, egg Gourds and crown of thorns turning them into Christmas ornaments. We went to all the craft shows, in-

home parties and winter wonderland's. So when we took over our pre-existing pottery studio we added gourds to it. Our first Easter there, we spun color on over 400 Egg gourds for kids from 2 to 92 making each person smile!

The following year I went back to the OGS and attended every class I could plus the Scott's (Tim & Sheryl) came to our studio and taught five classes when the big shows were canceled due to Covid. This was huge for our business and they came back again several months later truly helping our gourd classes grow. When Covid hit we were scared like most. We thought outside the box as we were not essential. So we pre-cleaned Martin birdhouse gourds spray-painted them and made appointments for people every 15 minutes for Guest/customers to come in and Hydro dip Martin Gourd bird houses, we did this on the sidewalk, everyone was fully masked, gloved wearing disposable aprons. It literally paid our rent for the month!!

Fun fact: We rescue Great Danes!



Cannonball gourds, cleaned and carved and ready for ink dyes at Ghoulish School. A Kids night out, Parents night off, Halloween themed party.



OHIO GOURD SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

PLEASE PRINT

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE OR PROV _____

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

EMAIL (required) _____

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.rr.com. 740-965-8772.

PayPal is available at ohiogourdsociety.com. All OGS Members must be a member of the American Gourd Society

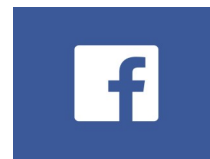
www.americangourdsociety.org



ohiogourdsociety@gmail.com

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](http://www.facebook.com/OhioGourdShow)

GG Information:

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"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

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.