



ISSUE 96, SPRING 2023

Gourd Greetings

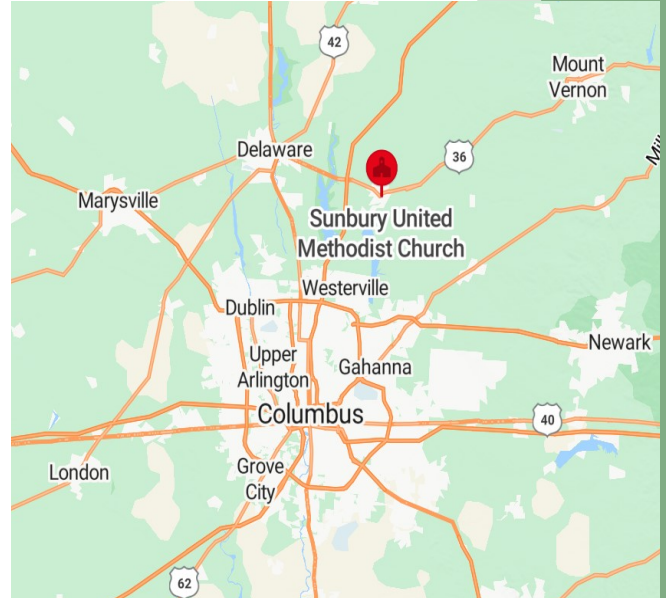
BETA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN GOURD SOCIETY

OGS Spring Meeting

Our place for the Spring meeting, Saturday **April 29, 2023** will be held at the Sunbury United Methodist Church, 100 W. Cherry Street, Sunbury, Ohio, 43074. The meeting room is on the lower level so we can drive to the rear of the building and enter on that level. Time is 11-3 pm, please bring a dish to share for a potluck lunch!

Planning for the 60th Annual Show—including plans for free admission—and filling elected and volunteer positions are the main topics for discussion.

ALL MEMBERS are strongly encouraged to attend!!!



Audubon Center Birdhouse Competition

This year, the OGS is sponsoring a **gourd category!!** We believe this will be a great way to educate the public on the functional and creative use of gourds and also support a fun and activity for our membership!

The entry deadline for the annual birdhouse Competition has been extended to March 29th 2023. For anyone who needs help getting their gourd to the Audubon Center at 505 Whittier Ave in Columbus, contact Vikkie Mustad (750-215-3516; vmustad51@gmail.com).

Entry form and competition details can be found at

<https://act.audubon.org/a/2023-grange-insurance-audubon-center-birdhouse-competition-registration-form-1>

\$1000
in cash awards offered

ENTRY DEADLINE EXTENDED TO MARCH 29

Sponsored by:


Grange Insurance Audubon Center



Society Related News

Announcements:


1. OGS Spring Meeting April 29, 2023 will be held at the Sunbury United Methodist Church, 100 W. Cherry Street, Sunbury, Ohio, 43074. 11—3 pm. All Members are encouraged to attend.
2. One of the many benefits of being an OGS member is that you get to include your contact information in our members directory on the OGS website. This is a great way to promote your gourd-related business to individuals who are seeking gourd-related information and services. Check out the Members Information page on our website (www.ohiogourdsociety.com/members-information) for details. Contact Vikkie Mustad (vmustad51@gmail.com) to update or add your new information.
3. Next meeting of the Central Ohio Gourd Patch will be May 7, 2023, at 1 pm. The project will be: *gourd seed earrings*. Bring a gourd project for show-and-tell or just come as you are! Location is: The Laughing Gourd Studio, 1606 Alexander Road, Galena, OH 43021. For information, contact Vikkie Mustad, vmustad51@gmail.com, 740-215-3516..



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
- Germination tested
- Non-GMO
- No 3rd party growers

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>

Advertise 1/4 page print in the newsletter for
\$50.00/yr

As a bonus, you will also receive an ad on the
OGS website.



Grange Audubon Center

Gourd Birdhouse Workshop

Vikie Mustad

The Laughing Gourd Studio (thelaughinggourdstudio.com)

The Ohio Gourd Society (ohiogourdsociety.com)



Some birds build nests on tree branches, shrubs, porches, and gutters, others seek an enclosure of sorts. These "cavity nesters" look for holes in wood to build nests and lay eggs. Hard-shelled gourds make excellent homes for cavity-nesting birds. You can grow your own - or purchase a dry, clean, hard-shelled gourd.

1. **Select a Gourd** - Choose dry gourds that have hard, firm shells. The gourd size directs the kind of bird that will be attracted. *The ball of the gourd should be large enough for a bird to turn around easily.*
2. **Birdhouse Size Chart** - The size of the gourd and entrance hole will vary depending on the type of bird you wish to attract.
3. **Mark the Entry Hole** - Hold the gourd by its stem and let it hang. Mark a center point along the outermost part of the curve so the hole faces straight out - not toward the sky or the ground.
4. **Drill the Entry Hole** - The size of entrance hole will vary depending on the type of bird you wish to attract *and* keep out.
5. **Create Hanger and Drainage Holes**
6. **Clean the Inside of the Gourd** – The contents of the dried gourd include seeds and dried pulp. Sometimes the seeds will be loose and sometimes they will be bound together in a hard clump.
7. **Attach the Hanger** - Use a weather resistant/plastic-coated cord or wire as a hanger.

If you live in the city or a populated suburb, you'll most likely want a hole **no bigger than 1 1/4."** That size is big enough for chickadees and wrens, but too small for **House Sparrows**—an invasive, non-native species that can be detrimental to bluebirds, chickadees, and other species.

Gourd Birdhouse and Entrance Hole Size Guide

Common Ohio Cavity Nesters	Gourd Size (inches)	Hole Size (inches)
House Wren	6	1
Carolina Wren	6	1 1/2
Tree Swallow	6	1 1/2
Chickadee	8	1 1/8
Tufted Titmouse	8	1 1/4
Downy Woodpecker	8	1 1/4
White Breasted Nuthatch	8	1 1/4
Bluebird	8	1 1/2
Purple Martin	10	2 1/2
Owl	10	3
Hairy Woodpecker	12	1 5/8
Kestrel	14	3
Flicker	16	2 1/2

Additional Gourd Birdhouse Resources: American Gourd Society (www.americangourdsociety.com), Purple Martin Society (www.purplemartin.org), Audubon Birdhouse Book – Margaret Barker and Ellisa Wolfson

www.ohiogourdsociety.com to download full color newsletter



OHIO GOURD SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

PLEASE PRINT

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE OR PROV _____

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

EMAIL (required) _____

Membership dues
\$12.00 for 1 year; \$33.00 for 3
years; \$55.00 for 5 years.
PayPal option is now available
at: www.ohiogourdsociety.com.



ohiogourdsociety@gmail.com



www.facebook.com/OhioGourdShow

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 Terri**

Rideout, 7531 Canal Highlands Blvd, Canal Winchester, Ohio 43110, trideout0823@gmail.com, 614-822-1074. PayPal
is available at 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 month. "GG" correspondence should be addressed to: **Gourd Greetings, C/O Vikkie Mustad, 1606 Alexan-
der Road, Galena, Ohio 43021; 740-215-3516, vmustad51@gmail.com.** Membership in the OGS is \$12 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 spe-
cial 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



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c/o Vikkie Mustad
1606 Alexander Road
Galena, Ohio 43021

