



ISSUE 99, WINTER 2023

# Gourd Greetings

BETA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN GOURD SOCIETY

## The 60th Annual Ohio Gourd Show in review!

The 60th Annual Ohio Gourd Show was held at the Delaware County Fairgrounds, October 6, 7, 8, 2023. The post-show meeting minutes are inside and pictures of special awards are shown below.



**BEST OF JUNIOR**  
Owen Whitelaw



**BEST OF DIVISION III**  
Steve Travis



**JUDGE'S CHOICE**  
Judy Litzenberg



**BEST OF DIVISION I**  
Karen Martin



**PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD**  
Miriam Frankhauser



**BEST OF YOUTH**  
Carter Whitelaw



**BEST OF DIVISION II**  
Roy Schmidlin

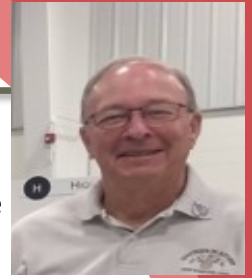


**JIM STORY AWARD (SINGLE)**  
Roy Schmidlin



**JIM STORY AWARD (MULTIPLE)**  
Roy Schmidlin

# Society Related News



## Message from Outgoing President, *Nelson Litzenberg*

I would like to take this time to thank all of you for your support during my 6 years as President of the Ohio Gourd Society. You have made it very enjoyable. To the members of the OGS, I would encourage you to volunteer to help in some way. We never turn down volunteers! We have just a few people doing just about everything, and it becomes quite daunting at times. Also, be supportive of our new President, Vikkie Mustad. You will need to support her in the same manner and enthusiasm that you have shown me. I will continue in the Society as the recording secretary and workshop set up. I am looking forward to continued growth in our organization, both in membership as well as participation. Thank you for everything!

## Message from Incoming President, *Vikkie Mustad*

I'm so excited to begin as OGS President starting January 2024!! Thank you, Nelson, for your 6 years of dedication as President. I am optimistic about the future of our Society and look forward to working with all of you to make it and the Show even better! I also look forward to meeting all of you at the Spring Meeting in April!



## 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

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.

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

[info@bluewhalearts.com](mailto:info@bluewhalearts.com) 603-679-1961

Like us on Facebook and our Join Facebook group Everything Gourds  
<https://www.youtube.com/c/Bluewhaleartsdotcom>

# Post-Show Meeting Minutes

## Nelson Litzenberg, Secretary

The post-show meeting of the Ohio Gourd Society met on Saturday, November 11, 2023, at 11:00 AM, at the Sunbury United Methodist Church. Those in attendance were Barbara Joy, Krista Ebling, Terri Rideout, John Martin, Karen Martin, Steve Murray, Nancy Travis, Vikkie Mustad, and Nelson Litzenberg. President Nelson Litzenberg called the meeting to order at 11:10 AM. John Martin read the minutes from our meeting that we had at the Gourd Show. Nelson read the minutes from the Spring meeting.

In the absence of the Treasurer Judy Litzenberg, Nelson read her report. The balance in the treasury is \$13031.57 (includes \$2069.56 designated Youth Fund). Karen Martin moved to accept the meeting minutes and the treasurer's reports. Terri Rideout seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Nelson shared some workshop data. There were 15 workshops offered and 64 registrations. Suggestions for next year include name tags for registrants, and a feedback form for each workshop attendee. These will be given to the instructors.

The Saturday evening banquet was held at the Old Bag of Nails in Delaware. It was decided to try and do that again next year at the same place.

Judging, Staging, and Entries reports were shared by John and Karen. Judging went very well, staging was well organized, and the entry data was shared from John's extensive numbers report. Discussion took place in classes that have little or no entries for the past two shows. The plan is for John to change some of these and have two members review/proofread/ edit those changes. Terri Rideout volunteered to do that, and it was suggested that Linda Rose might agree to help.

Vikkie reported on the vendors for this year's show and suggested that we try and help find others, such as crafters, embellishments, etc.

Terri reported that we now have 128 members in the OGS. Of that number 14 were new signees from this year's show, along with 10 renewal memberships. There are currently 31 expired memberships remaining on the register. She also reported on the Make-and-Take area. There were a lot of young and older people who took part in this. Terri stated that she will need more gourds and gourd pieces for next year.

The auctions that we had at the show under the direction of Donna Hutmacher netted \$953.00.

Linda Rose sent a report on the volunteers that she was able to get from Berlin High School Interactive Club and Connections Volunteer Center in Delaware. We had a total of 28 volunteers helping at the show. Linda is resigning from the volunteer coordinator position and Krista Ebling has agreed to do that going forward.

Old Business- We have too many open office positions. They are Show Chair, Publicity and Assistant Publicity, Assistant Treasurer, 1<sup>st</sup> VP, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP, two Directors. Barbara Joy agreed to be a Director. Volunteer positions open are for Website contact person and Gourd Greetings editor. We decided to prioritize the three most needed positions and concentrate on filling them. They are the Publicity positions, Assistant Treasurer, and 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President. We were all encouraged to talk to members that we know personally and try to involve them.

There was much discussion on the sponsorship program and keeping the show "free." Since we only had 5 months to get sponsors for the show this year, we thought we should give it another year. We did realize that sponsors donated \$1852.27 for this year's show. Karen moved that we do it for another year and Terri seconded the motion. The motion carried. The committee will remain with Terri Rideout, Nelda Sisler-Buck, Kit Walter, and Nelson Litzenberg.

New Business- We discussed a 3 day show versus a 2-day show. It was agreed that we need to try and do some different things to increase attendance for Sunday and keep the show as it is.

We had decided at the show meeting in October to not have a theme for the 2024 show. It was brought up at this meeting, after much discussion, to have a theme for 2024. "Peace" was what was suggested. Vikkie moved that we do this, and Barbara Joy seconded the motion. The motion carried. Barbara will write the show book description of what Peace could be interpreted as.

The 2024 Spring Meeting will be on April 20 from 11:00 AM until 3:00 PM at the Sunbury United Methodist Church. All members are encouraged to attend this organizational meeting. A potluck lunch will be at noon. Please bring something to share.

Krista moved that we adjourn, and Terri seconded the motion. The motion carried.

## 2024 Ohio Gourd Society Event Calendar

**January**—Show Committee zoom call, date and time tbd\*

**MARCH**—Show Committee zoom call, date and time tbd\*

**April 20—Member's Spring Meeting.** Sunbury United Methodist Church, 11-3 pm. All members are encouraged to attend. We will also have a seed sale & gourd swap. More details in the next newsletter.

**May**—Show Committee zoom call, date and time tbd\*

**June 21**—Ohio State Fair entry deadline.

**July**—Show Committee zoom call, date and time tbd\*

**September**—Show Committee zoom call, date and time tbd\*

**OCTOBER, 4, 5, 6, —61ST ANNUAL OHIO GOURD SHOW, DELAWARE COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS.**

**November**—Post-Show Meeting, date, time and location, tbd\*

\* Zoom call details will be sent to current Show Committee Members. Contact Vikkie Mustad if you'd like to be a part of the 2024 Gourd Show Committee: 740-215-3516, vmustad51@gmail.com.

### Congratulations to the winners of the Welburn Gourds sampler packs from the Membership table drawings at the Show

Friday's winner: Susan Walker

Saturday's winner: Patricia Badgero

Sunday's winner: Carmen Howell

### Welcome new members:

Kelly Brocklehurst

Susan Copsey-Pearce

Mary Ebert

Penny Freeman-Butts

Phyllis Hanna

Tara Harper

Stuart Hensel

Becky Jarvis

Barbara Joy

Sue Rosenbeck

Roy Schmidlin

Chelsea Steinman

Philip Taraska & Family

Amber Tendam

Susan Walker

### Morrow County Fair Winner takes 1st Place!

Elsie McQuiston (seated left) of Mount Gilead received a 1st place at the Morrow County Fair for her whimsical gourd birdhouse (picture).

Elsie is a regular participant at the gourd arts classes (led by Vikkie Mustad) at the Seniors on Center in Mount Gilead. Elsie says she had a great time making her birdhouse and it now sits in the living room under her tv where she cherishes it daily!!



# Member Highlights

## Judy Litzenberg

I've been a member of OGS since 1996. I was assistant treasurer for 2 years and then Treasurer for 6 years and continue to hold this position.

Nelson and I went to the Ohio Gourd Show in Mt Gilead out of curiosity in 1995 and came away from there very impressed. We both decided and said we can do that!

I have so many good memories working with gourds that it's very hard to pick one, but one of the best is working with other people that love gourds too. My preference of working with gourds is painting. I also enjoy pine needle rimming. I really enjoy telling other people about gourds and how to grow them and occasionally teach a class. It's also wonderful to see the amazing art in the competition at the Show.



Nelson (left) and Judy (right) Litzenberg.

## Nelson Litzenberg

I've been a member of OGS since 1996—after Judy and I went to the Show in Mt Gilead and were hooked! I have served as Director, President for 6 years, and currently the Recording Secretary.

My favorite memories are of the music at Mount Gilead Gourd Show. My favorite saying is, "I can do that!" After going to our first Ohio Gourd Show in 1995, that's what I said to Judy! I really enjoy growing and chip carving gourds. I have had to discontinue the growing part as of this year, due to physical limitations. I will miss that. I took a class on chip carving from Lyn Rehm 26 years ago and have been doing it ever since.



Nelson Litzenberg with their gourd display.



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



[ohiogourdsociety@gmail.com](mailto:ohiogourdsociety@gmail.com)



[www.facebook.com/OhioGourdShow](http://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](http://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 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.** 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 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



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