



THE GOURDIAN KNOT

RHO Chapter of the American Gourd Society

SPRING 2010

Presidents Message

Hello everyone! It has been awhile since I shared with you. I thought I should get off my duff and let you know what is happening. Last fall our newsletter specialist retired. Consequently, we were very late with our winter issue because we had a hard time filling the newsletter shoes. Thankfully, the team of Rob and Vonda Hinckley stepped up to the plate to take on this challenge. As you all know by now they have produced an issue of our quarterly newsletter and did a fine job. THANK YOU ROB and VONDA! Your efforts are very much appreciated.

What can I tell you that you already don't know? Let's start with shows. The Artistry in Wood show the last weekend in February was a complete success. The show brought in almost a 1000 people! Wow! Show attendance far surpassed all expectations!

The Idaho Gourd Society members played a large part in the success of the show. Go Alan, Judy, Maria and volunteers! With one show down there are only two more to go!

The next show coming up will be the NW Gourd Festival in Moses lake, WA. July 17-18, 2010. This will be the first huge gourd show in the NW. There will be vendors and instructors from all over the United States attending. We all need to do our part and take a vacation in July and support the Washington Gourd Society in their large endeavor. If we all help to make this large show a success this will help to keep a gourd event of this caliber in our neck of the woods. Keep eyes to the internet and the Washington Gourd Society web page (www.wagourdsociety.org/nwgourdfestival) to find out what classes will be available starting in April. The classes are expected to fill up fast. The banquet for Saturday night is almost full. Only a hundred tickets are/were available. If you plan on going and want to attend the banquet contact Alan Sweeney at 459-3211. I personally cannot wait!

The Idaho Gourd Society has secured the Holiday Inn in Boise for the 2010 show in November. Planning has already begun with great exuberance! Because of the success of our last year's show we have enough money already set aside to pay for the facility for the entire weekend. Yes! We are going to have the show for two days for the first time ever. We are hoping to have vendor space available this year. The Holiday Inn is an excellent facility with easy access and lots of parking. A great place for a winter gourd festival! As usual everyone is encouraged to help out and volunteer in any way, shape or form. Every little bit helps. My motto and belief taken from J. Paul Getty is, "I'd much rather see the 1% effort of a 100 people than the 100% effort of my own." If we all would contribute at least 1% we would have a phenomenal show. See you at the next meeting!

Caryn E. Nicolosi

And Now... Some Pictures from the Artistry in Wood Show



Letter From the Editors By Rob & Vonda Hinckley

Well... this issue should be on-time (or at least close). We hope to make that a trend! Spring is in the air! (Muscles have been found after weeding last weekend!). It is getting time to start seeds in anticipation of planting. Mark your calendars to attend the April 10th Idaho Gourd Society Meeting, there will be a Planting and Gourd Growing Discussion.

The turnout for the Idaho Artistry in Wood show was very impressive. While we wish the Gourders had shown more entries, (the talent of the presented entries was awesome), I don't know where they would have put them. We're looking forward to our next show at that location. Everyone (us included) better get busy creating entries! Pictures of the event can be found within this issue.

Special thanks to Shelly Setera for the "Woodburning and Dot (Pointillism) Technique" class at the February meeting. Rob actually got a start with the woodburning set he got for Christmas! We *had* some pictures of the meeting, but they have evaporated into the ether. Oh well, we'll try to not lose any more pictures.

Until next edition, happy gourding!

Some Pictures (couldn't resist the cowboy!)



New Members:

Teresa Flesch
Pauline Lough
Ron Swank (not THAT new)
Colleen Treharne

Meetings are held on the second Saturday of the month at the American Legion Hall

Location: 22 West Broadway Street
Meridian, Idaho

10:00 - 10:30 Social
10:30 to 11:00 Business
11:00 to 2:00 Workshop (see page 5)

PICTURES: IDAHO ARTISTRY IN WOOD SHOW

Submitted by Rob Hinckley

These are a few of my favorites. I had more, but not all turned out well.



The Bear & Eskimo seemed to know one another!



As did the Three Little Indians!



This is about the end of the GOOD pictures that I got.

Notes from a wishful gardener

What a difference a year can make. Last year, I bought bottle gourd seeds from the store and threw it into the ground and informed hubby I was joining the Idaho Gourd Society, I've never worked with gourds in my life but have seen finished gourds and knew what I liked. I was a novice and planted the seeds next to the corn which worked well for a trellis. I was able to pick the corn before the vines took over the patch. I believe 100 were picked off the vine and we may have ended up with approximately 75 which could be turned into some form or another. I've always been impatient when it comes to getting my garden started. I start the seeds in the house, then move the plants outside into walls-o-water greenhouses. This year I started gourd seeds along with my tomatoes. If I can get tomatoes a month earlier, surely this will allow more gourds time to mature. As promised, here is our first comment on the seeds from the Indiana Gourd Society: Bought Canteens, Mini Bottles and Extra Long Handle Dippers. So far, the sprout rate advertised had been met or exceeded on the Canteens and Extra Long Handle Dippers. I had to start a second batch of the Mini Bottles and impatiently waiting for seed to sprout in either batch. I used another vendor for martins, so far no germination and I'm on my second batch of those as well. Thinking of getting a heating pad and then see if I've started too many. The heating pad could be handy after spending a day weeding. Vonda Hinckley

2010

Rochester Gourd Patch monthly workshops

The Rochester Patch, in Caldwell, is one of the most active & fun patches in the Idaho Gourd Society! Here are the activities for Spring 2010.

March 27th- The Rochester Patch will be holding a special workshop on March 27, 2010 at 1:00 PM This will be an advanced chip carving class on a spiral design gourd tutorial by A.B. Amis. We will follow step by step directions to create a unique spiral design on a Martin House gourd. Participants for this workshop will need to bring a cleaned Martin house gourd, sharp U shaped gouge and cut resistant glove. For more information call Alan Sweeney @ 459-3211

April 14th- Prismacolor colored pencils on gourds. This workshop is designed to teach you the basics of using Prismacolor Colored pencils on Gourds. Participants for this workshop will need to bring a basic set of Prismacolor colored pencils (It is important that you have the Premier style of Prismacolor pencils), a gourd or piece of gourd with the provided flower pattern burned on. This pattern will be available at the March 10th and 20th meetings. You will also need to have a stencil brush and a good quality hand pencil sharpener. If you are new to the group and do not have access to a burner or have questions please call Duane Langworthy @ 459-3211 and set up a time prior our workshop so he can assist you with this.

Note: We do have a limited amount of colored pencils that can be used by those who can't afford to buy them. Also Walnut Hollow oil pencils will work for this workshop too.

April 17th- The Kuna and Rochester Patches are once again teaming up for a field trip to Paul Idaho and visit Dan and Doreen Landers on their Pumpkin/Gourd farm. Last year's gourd crop is almost dry and ready for crafting. We will meet at JB's Restaurant next to the Meridian freeway exit at 8:00 AM and form a caravan. Some of us have extra room if anyone would like to carpool. If you are interested in going please call Alan Sweeney @ 459-3211 and he will put you on the list. We would like to extend this invite to the Sunshine Patch. Dan is a super guy & a good artist! Don't miss this one!

May 12th- Stippling or pointillism on a gourd. This workshop is designed to teach you the basics of stippling on gourds.

Participants for this workshop will stipple a pansy pattern on a gourd that will be provided at the Saturday, May 8th IGS meeting. You will need to bring a gourd or piece of gourd large enough to put a 5x5 pattern on, a woodburner and a burning pen suitable for stippling. A modified writing or ballpoint burning pen works great for this. You will also need to bring a burning pen that can be used for doing outline work. There will be 3 extra woodburners available for those who may not have one yet. If you have questions please call Duane Langworthy @ 459-3211 and he will be happy to assist you.

June 9th- The Rochester Patch will be kicking summer off with a BBQ potluck. Duane and Alan will provide the hamburgers, buns, condiments and tools for eating with. You will need to bring a side dish or desert to share and something to drink. So let's get together and celebrate the return of summer.

July 14th- Northwest Gourd Festival, Moses Lake Washington. We will not have a patch meeting in July. If you are planning to attend the festival and would like to help out, contact Duane Langworthy and volunteer a couple of hours at the front aate with admissions.



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2010 Workshops/Activities:

April 10th

Planting & Growing Gourd Discussion (Jessie Newberry)
Plus, hints from other growers.

May 8th

Rainsticks Part 1 (design, layout, cutting, doweling) (Duane Langworthy)

June 12th

Rainsticks Part 2 (assembling and completion) (Duane Langworthy)

July 10th

PICNIC (Potluck) At Liz Meyer's Home

August 14th

Tentative - Patina class and/or demo (Heather Mingus, Woodcraft)

September 11th

Carving Part 1 Your choice of 3-D or Relief carving
(Instructor Pending)

October 9th

Carving Part 2 Your choice of 3-D or Relief carving
(Instructor Pending)

November 13th and 14th

GOURD FESTIVAL

December 11th

HOLIDAY/CHRISTMAS PARTY (POTLUCK w/ optional
gourd gift exchange)

Gourd Trivia:

Native Americans used gourds for many purposes: water vessels, pots for cooking with heated stones, dippers, spoons, funnels, ladles, birdhouses, whistles, rattles and masks used in dance ceremonies. Gourds were used to teach their children how to swim, the gourds are naturally buoyant, so they float and hold children up much like the modern day floats and wings.

Tech Tip From Alan Sweeney:

I have a MicroLux Mini Gourd Saw that has been in use for over 8 years. It has really been a great saw and it has cut countless gourds by many people. Unfortunately last weekend it cut its final gourd. A plastic part inside the crankpin/blade shaft assembly wore out and popped off inside the plastic housing. When I took it apart and found out what had happened I thought that my saw would never cut again. My only possibility for reviving my saw would be to contact the company I bought it from and ask for help. Much to my surprise the Micro-Mark company does carry the replacement part I needed to fix my saw. It is not listed in their catalog or on their web site but they did give me an order number that I thought I would pass on. The part is called a Crankpin/blade shaft assembly Item #15226-5, priced at \$9.95 + shipping and can be ordered by calling their order dept. at 1-800-225-1006.

I know that many people have the MicroLux Saw. Perhaps this will save someone some grief! Thanks Alan!

Editor

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From our friends in North Carolina:

Hi Fellow Editors:

Here is a calendar listing with details of the NC festival in September. Any time you can include it in your newsletter, we will be very grateful.

Mary Ann

Sept. 11-12 69th annual North Carolina Gourd Arts and Crafts Festival. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday. Theme: "Into the Woods." See historic gourds from around the world, learn a craft at workshops. Vendors of gourds, gourd craft, craft supplies. Holshouser Building (new location!), NC State Fairgrounds, Raleigh, N.C. Adults \$4, ages 12-17 \$2, younger than 12 free, seniors \$3. Information: Festival Chair: Kate Mahony at tolecat@nc.rr.com, (910) 639-4577, www.ncgourdsociety.org/festival.htm

NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

Editors-Rob and Vonda Hinckley
contact- idahogourdheads@q.com
Ph. (208) 466-2278

ADVERTISEMENT RATES:

Rates for 2010 are:

One fourth page- \$10.00 for one year.

One half page- \$20.00 for one year.

The page sizes may be slightly larger.

The newsletter is published four times a year.

Payment for the ads should be sent to:

Karen Ryker
226 E. 3rd Street
Meridian, Idaho 83642

The copy for the ad should be sent to:

Rob & Vonda Hinckley
440 W. Edwards Ave.
Nampa, ID 83686


idahogourdheads@q.com

This is your newsletter so all articles are welcome. When submitting for an article please send it in a word document format with pictures attached. If you have a favorite technique to share please send it to Rob or Vonda at the above address or e-mail.

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All classes will be posted on our
festival website and you will be
able to sign up for a class via
the website!

For more information visit our website and come join in all the fun!
www.wagourdsociety.org/NorthwestGourdFestival.htm

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