

2009 State Show Workshop Update

Hello all you fellow gourd heads. The IGS State Show (March 27-29, 2009) will be here before we know it; I can't believe how fast this year is going. I just wanted to give you something to think about for this ever popular show each year.

We will be offering some new and exciting classes plus some of our popular past classes. We had many workshop applications but due to time and space available we could only fit in a limited number of classes (34). We hope we have picked classes that everyone will be excited about. Our workshop instructors this year will be:

Betsy Roberts from Arizona offering all day workshops in carving techniques and texturing and coiling.

Joe Lee will be instructing workshops in woodburning.

Delaina Dehaven will be instructing workshops in painting and an ocean wave gourd.

Marla Helton will be instructing workshops for twining, using dyes, paints and weaving on her beautiful bowls and making impressive jewelry.

Sue Billingsley will be instructing workshops in various techniques on gourds such as twining, coiling, using glue, bleach and carving plus her popular handled gourd basket.

Alice Pawlowski has some great new workshops for creating lampshades, cutting a leaf bowl and a carving project.

Karen Hundt Brown will be instructing workshops in carving a maple leaf and working with clay on gourds to create some interesting ornaments. **Joanne Loibl** will be instructing in beginning chip carving and dot painting.

Janet Heinz will be offering her popular "Chicks" and some decoupage ornaments and leaf cutting workshops.

Blanche Murrin will be offering some neat workshops on decoupage on a bowl and creating luminaries.

Robbie Hiduke will be offering some workshops on making gourd necklaces and creating a really neat gourd purse.

Joyce Dankowski will be offering some instructive workshops on gold leaf and ink application and the use of automotive paint to create beautiful gourd projects.

We are always interested in new ideas for workshops so don't be shy if you think you have a unique idea for a workshop and would like to give it a try. Keep this in mind for the 2010 show. You would need to keep your classes to 2-4 hours unless you are offering an all day class. You would be expected to furnish the gourds for your classes. You should also provide simple written instructions for your students to take home. I can be contacted anytime for questions.

Thank you for your interest! Happy Gourding

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NEW GOURD MUSEUM

Turtle Feathers announces the opening of the Turtle Feathers Smokey Mountain Gourd Art Museum.

The museum has nearly 500 pieces of gourd art from all over the world.

Thelma Kushe was a gourd artist from southern California and her pieces date back to the 1930's.

Much of the collection belonged to Opal Lilly, a Floridian, who was great friends with the likes of Minnie Black, Jim Story, Dr. Miller (Lynn Rehms father), and Eugene Deardorf to name a few. They met at the Ohio gourd show and swapped many of their pieces with each other.

The collection includes 50 of Minnie Blacks, the famed Kentucky folk artist, who was well known for her whimsical folk art pieces, including 2 self-replica dolls and some of her original band instruments.

It is truly an outstanding collection that will spark the imagination of many gourd artists and offer a unique experience for all.

The museum is located at 140 Frye St., Bryson City, NC and is only 10 miles from the Cherokee Indian Reservation. It is housed in 'Sleepy Hollow Farm and Friends', an arts and crafts gift shop owned by Mike and Joan Glover. It is one block from the Great Smokey Mtn. Railroad.

Classes are also being offered, group or private. For more information contact Ronna Wuttke (Turtle Feathers) at 828-246-3788 or Joan Glover (Sleepy Hollow Farm) at www.sleepyhollowfarm.biz

Pictures from the Opal Lilly collection can be viewed here.

<http://community.webshots.com/user/turtlefeathers>

By David Blackwell