

## Editor's Message

### A Word From

#### The Editor

Due to the season and our President having an extremely busy schedule, I decided to do a column and give Karen a break.

We are near the end of another busy year of gourding. The year 2012 will be upon us soon and it will be time for both reflection of what has happened this year and a look at the future as well.

This year started with a few of our normal major events and a new venue, the Flower and Garden Show at Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis.

We have started a "Seed Extraction Day" where we help Steve Sullivan with the task of extracting and cleaning seeds from the gourds grown in the Pure Seed Project. Everyone has a great time at this event which we try to hold in late January or February. (If you wish to join in please eMail Steve Sullivan or Karen Niemeyer.) After the extraction process Steve takes the seeds home and starts the drying process after which he takes the seeds through germination stud-

ies to assure that we are distributing viable seeds.

The next event is our "Seed Packaging Day" when we have all of the seeds available from Steve's Pure Seed Project" along with any other seeds where a purchase was required to fill our seed box with the expected sales for the coming year. This is also a fun process which you might consider attending. This is usually a large group with a lot of camaraderie and fellowship going on along with the packaging and labeling of the seeds.

Last year, following the packaging and a general Board Meeting Phil and Ruth Moorhead held a seminar to develop new Judges for certification. This will be done again this coming year as well. If you're interested you should contact Phil Moorhead or Karen Niemeyer. You must preregister for this seminar so we have study material for you.

The next major event was from an invitation from the three-day Flower and Garden Show held at the Lucas Oil Sta-

*(Continued on page 10)*

# From Gold!



# To Bold!

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## 2012 IGS State Show News

The Indiana Gourd Society is happy to announce the creation of 2 new awards for our 2012 State Show. One award will go the person with the Most Blue Ribbons Won at our State Show. The second award is the Honey Bear and Mary Miller Memorial Award for Most Competition Entries (**this memorial award is in addition to the three already identified in our 2012 Show Book**).

It will go the person with the most competition entries. The IGS Board has voted to recognize and honor someone's efforts to make our show greater and bigger. Not everyone can have a Best Of....Gourd, but with just a little effort, everyone has a chance to win these awards. And remember, you can enter 2 Gourds in each class competition this year, so start GOURDING. The announcement of the winners will be one of the highlights of our Dinner.

The Honey Bear and Mary Miller  
Memorial Award for Most Entries.

IGS has created this award in their memory to honor Honey Bear (2010) and Mary (2010) Miller who were wonderful happy people, friends, gardeners, and artists that lived in Elwood, Indiana. They were both positive influences in the IGS and at our shows. Among the many things they are remembered for are: Mary is remembered for her Black Raspberry Jelly at Ways & Means and for her large number of entries in competition. Honey Bear is remembered as being proud of his Cherokee background and for the good Apache Dippers he grew. He also is remembered as an auctioneer at our shows and for his large number of entries in competition. In their honor, IGS is giving this award to the person with the most competition entries at our State Show.

By Pat Moore



### Drying And Harvesting Gourds

By *John Sturgeon*

Date: Unknown

Ornamental, soft-shelled gourds are ready to harvest when the tendril next to the gourd turns brown or the stems are dry and brown. Ornamentals are often picked prior to being fully mature and used for fall displays. If harvested early and not mature, these soft-shelled gourds may develop wrinkled skins and rot. When the gourds rattle [dry], you can paint or polish them with products used for finishing wood. Ornamental make excellent holiday ornaments or add interest to wreaths.

Hard-shell gourds require 110 to 150 days of warm weather to fully mature. They should be left on the vine as long as there is life in the vine. They must be cured. Since gourds are over 90% water, it may take several

months for a large gourd to dehydrate. I wait till after hard frost in central Indiana to harvest my hard-shells.

Freezing temperatures do not hurt mature gourds. If the gourds wrinkle up, this indicates an immature gourd. One can leave gourds outside to dry or use an attic or garage. The outer skin will mold, rot, and began to peel as the gourd dries. **DO NOT THROW AWAY THE MOLDY GOURD.** After the fruit [gourd] has dried, scrape off the outer skin remaining to reveal the hard permanent shell below the grime. Soak dried gourds in water for a few minutes and wash/scrape. Use of a plastic scrubbing pad works for removing most of the mold. The mold patches may have discolored the shell but this can be painted over or use a clear finish to Enhance the appearance. Remember any wood finishing product can be used on a dried gourd.

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## Get Your Competition Gourds Started!

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To transfer a DETAILED pattern to a gourd you might try the following procedure. Reproduce the pattern on a copier. Now mark this copy as "FRONT". Next, turn the pattern over and trace the pattern on the back of the copy. Again, put this reverse design on the copier and reproduce that with 3-4 copies. Cut and tape one of these REVERSE patterns to your gourd. With a very large tip called a "shoe" inserted into your wood burner, burn the pattern onto your gourd much like using a small iron.

To make great parallel lines on your gourd place some putty on a small board that you can then set your gourd on to steady it. Make sure the plate isn't going to interfere with the pencil stand. Pull the pencil stand near and adjust the height. Place the pencil on the gourd and turn the gourd slowly, holding the pencil lightly. Re-adjust the height for the next line and continue. Try and make all of your parallel horizontal lines in one setting, if possible.

For great geometrical patterns purchase patterns at a stationery store and place those under plastic so you can trace them. Place masking tape on the plastic over the desired pattern and trace the pattern onto the tape. Gently pull the tape from the plastic and place precisely on the

gourd. Gourds being cylindrical or spherical in shape, you may have to adjust the tape slightly. Lightly (at low temperature) burn the pattern through the tape. Now pull the tape and continue with your wood burning of the pattern.

Use GRAPHITE tracing paper under your pattern and trace directly onto the gourd. You may have to cut your paper to fold around the gourd.

Use material from a roll of GLAD – Press and Seal plastic sealer. Place the material over your pattern and trace over the pattern. Pull the plastic from the pattern and place on and around your gourd. This material is GREAT as it will stretch to the shape of the gourd. Make sure the material is well placed and pressed down. Lightly wood burn the pattern (on the lowest control setting) and pull all of the plastic back off of the gourd. You can now continue wood burning or use the pattern for painting, pen and ink, or any of a variety of crafting processes. This information graciously shared by Betsy Davis Parker, outgoing President of the Illinois Gourd Society, at Helen Thomas' Gourd Fest 2008.

By Jesse Glessner/Pat Moore

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630-830-4557 fax  
lady\_jd@att.net email*

*Lady JD Designs*

*Your local supplier for your gourd crafting needs.*

*We now are a Distributor for MicroLux Saws, Drills, Blades, and Transformers. Also new are Pine Needles in natural and colors along with Fiebing's Dyes. All added to our regular line of Feathers, Gold Leafing, Rivets, Swarovski Crystals and Lacing. Let us know your needs and we'll help you get your supplies.*

# Indiana Gourd Society - 2011 Fall Festival



Thanks to our Artists and Vendors for the many auction items on the tables.

We do appreciate all of the “goodies” and have fun bidding on the items.



We had several tables of displays of gourds, plain and decorated.



People found all of the displays rather fascinating! “How did they do that?” was the question of the day on many of these.



Partial detail on right of flower on left photo.



The food court was busy all day from an early breakfast to closing.

The Sand Lady also had a large number of raw gourds available at her booth.



# Indiana Gourd Society - 2011 Fall Festival



Tom and Sheri Benedict at their booth.

Oops! We missed a photo at right. Sorry!

I must apologize to Phil Hart & wife as the photo that I took was extremely fuzzy and was not available on Dallas's CD either.. But, we owe a big "Thank You" to the Hart's one of our very consistent vendors—always there with smiles and a load of great raw gourds for everyone to purview, buy, and use for their crafting projects.



The DeHavens booth always has the "seasonal" look (l)

Ron Pressel selling his gourds?

WOW!!! (r)



Loretta Pressel manning the IGS Store booth. (l)

Welcome

Michael Hegg, a new member and also a new Vendor. (r)



Left & Right, Joyce Dankowski's "Lady JD" booth was busy, busy!



# **SANDLADY'S GOURD FARM**

## **COME VISIT THE FARM - FOR OUR GOURD SALES**

**Buy wagon loads wholesale or fill a car or truck or semi. The more you buy unclean or clean the cheaper they get.**

**Lg to sm Canteen, kettle, Martin, bushel, cannonball, bottles, zukka, bushels, Tobacco box, all sizes bowls and birdhouses. Mini bottles, tear drop, Hershey kiss, bombers, Teardrop, pear, snowman, spoon, etc. sizes range from 2 inches to 6 inches across and or high. Spinners average inch or more across.**

**Hundreds of Precut gourd bowls and Vases,  
and Precut hung Birdhouses  
Seeds for sale \$3 pack includes postage**

**Sandlady's Gourd Farm, Helen Thomas  
10295 N 700 W Tangier, In. 47952  
Email: [sandlady@sandlady.com](mailto:sandlady@sandlady.com)  
See us <http://www.sandlady.com>**

# Indiana Gourd Society - 2011 Fall Festival



Diane Werblo and Mac McCreary (l) were giving demos and talking to people most of the day.

Carolyn Rushton (r) did demos most of the day and had people drop by again after an initial talk.



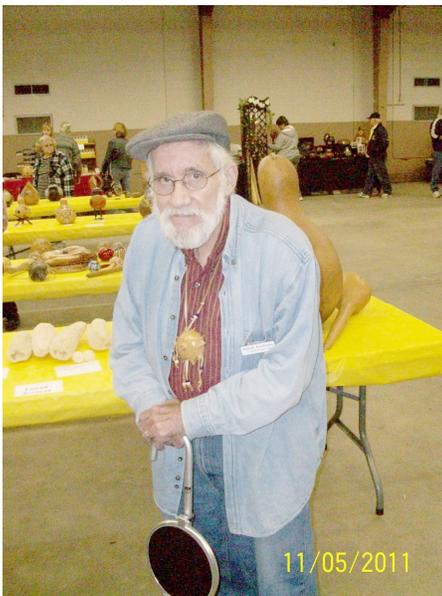
Phil Moorhead (l) did our “Meet & Greet” for the event, & gave announcements and general information.

Dallas Lunsford, pictured with Phil, is our societies

Historian and was busy with photos of the event.



Ron Bair, above—right—was back in form with demos all day long of wood burning techniques and usually had interested on-lookers.



Fred Jenkins, pictured at left, let us take a close up of his unique necklace. It is a Crown Of Thorns gourd with holes cut top, bottom, left, and right to accept the leather pieces. The necklaces is knotted inside to allow the thongs to go on through the piece to allow for the bottom thongs and beads. A few beads around the neckpiece made for a great looking finish to the base piece.

At first glance I thought this was a representation of a turtle - gobbling up the neckpiece, of course. Hmmm! Does that give anyone an idea? **Thanks Fred!**

# Our Patch Place

## Lakeshore Gourders - Fall Events

Well fall is here & our group is still busy creating & coming up with new ideas & old ones to review.

In Oct. the patch made Shakere gourds, I missed the fun & was envious of all the finished Shakere's they brought to show off at the Nov. meeting. Sherry Benedict was the instructor and did an excellent job teaching everyone this fun project. Everyone had a different type of bead, color & look to them.

At our Nov. patch meeting Loretta Pressel gave us the honors of teaching & refreshing some of our memories on coiling. Most of us finished our project at the meeting and had a great time just sharing gourd talk. Ida filled those that missed the fall show on the events happenings. While Blanche Murrin & Robbie Hiduke were lucky enough to attend the Texas show & reported on their fun time.

Pictured in the Shakere project are Blanche Murrin, Sherry & Tom Benedict, Lynn Waters, & Loretta & Ron Pressel.

Pictured in the coiling project are Alice Pawlowski, Tom Benedict, Blanche Murrin, Peggy Miller, & Loretta & Ron Pressel.

By Alice Pawlowski



## Mother Of Pearl In Gourds

By Mary Gayle Van Ingen

Date: 10 Oct 2007

If you happen to open a gourd that is filled with soft, fluffy, off-white "cotton," pull the fiber out gently with your hand. There will still be soft remnants clinging to an otherwise nice hard mother of pearl finish.

What to do? Very carefully scrape away the soft fibers, and underneath the dullness is hard shiny mother of pearl. In places, it may not be perfectly smooth. It may have been gouged or coming off in layers, still pretty, but a looking a bit fly-away and imperfect.

Mix one part Elmer's glue to two parts water, and paint the inside with a foam brush. Doing so will put a hard finish on the softer white parts, tacking them down so they are not prone to further damage. The glue mixture will dry clear and shiny just like the "good" mother of pearl with no discoloration, and now you have a true

gem on your hands.

Note: I cut open about fourteen of these this year. I had seen the mother of pearl before on rare occasions but never a gourd filled with the soft cottony fiber.

Mary Gayle Van Ingen

Milwaukie, Oregon

**IGS SEED PRICES WILL BE INCREASING TO \$3.00 PER PACKAGE AS OF JAN 01, 2012**  
**Due to higher prices of seed for our inventory stock prices will be increasing this coming year. This is an adjustment to cover costs of seeds, labeling/packaging, and postage increases for 2012.**

## Indiana Gourd Society

### 2011 Fiscal Year End

Budget	fye2011 budget	Income	Expenses	fye2012 budget
Membership	500.00	2975.00	467.50	500.00
State Show	18000.00	17370.00	21623.64	16200.00
State Fair	2000.00	0.00	1750.01	200.00
SprMtg	500.00	353.75	295.00	500.00
FallMtg	500.00	773.00	59.61	100.00
Tendril	1500.00	208.75	1674.27	1800.00
Ways&Means	1000.00	2635.73	2039.12	500.00
Seeds	2400.00	4934.54	4125.93	2700.00
Publicity/Not Show	500.00	0.00	686.90	200.00
Education	1500.00	130.46	39.01	1500.00
Patch	500.00	0.00		800.00
Operations	2200.00	2064.00	2626.11	3000.00
Photography	50.00			50.00
Pure Seed	50.00			50.00
LucasOil-Indy Show	0.00			600.00
General Shows	0.00			600.00
Archives	0.00			50.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>31200.00</b>	<b>31445.23</b>	<b>35387.10</b>	<b>29350.00</b>
Notes: All expenses over budget were approved by board. Operations income includes \$2000 from Hancock Co Visitor's Bureau				

## Indianapolis Home & Garden Show

We will have an IGS presence at the Home & Garden Show again this year. It will be held in the Indiana Convention Center, Hall F100 South Capitol Avenue, Indianapolis, IN 46225.

**Date: January 6-8, 2012**

### Home Show Hours:

**Friday** 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM

**Saturday** 10:00 AM - 8:00 PM

**Sunday** 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM

### Home Show Ticket Price:

**Adults** \$5.00

**Children Under 18** FREE

See the show's Web Site (check out the show specials) at this URL: <http://homeshowcenter.com/Visitors/discountspecials.aspx?show=IndianapolisHomeShow>

Setup is on Friday from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM, with the doors opening to the public at 2:00 PM.

If you wish to volunteer for this event please contact Jesse Glessner or Phil Moorhead at the eMail addresses or Phone Numbers on the back page of the Tendril. Give date and time you will be there, whether you have crafted gourds to display, or whether you can demonstrate your craft.

Jesse Glessner

## Your Friendly Ways & Means Store

We have a nice selection of knit shirts, T-shirts, and cotton shirts, aprons, shopping bags, hats, pins, books for children, and various miscellaneous items and

**Jim Story Tapes© or Jim Story DVDs© - \$20.00 each**

**See the Ways & Means section on our Web Site**

**[www.indianagourdsociety.org](http://www.indianagourdsociety.org)**

(Jim Story Tapes and Jim Story CD's are copyrighted by the Indiana Gourd Society and may NOT be duplicated in any manner. All rights are reserved.)

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## Editor's Message, Cont.

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*(Continued from page 1)*

dium. We had a double-space booth with many different varieties of art work to display and usually a booth full of volunteers who were busy talking to the public about the organization and the crafted gourds. We are not entirely sure about this event in the coming year as the venue location is changing. We will keep you posted on this.

One month after the Flower & Garden Show we had our own State Show at Greenfield, IN, a new venue for this show as well. The 2012 IGS State Show will be held in the same location, the Hancock County Fairgrounds, Greenfield, IN on April 13, 14, and 15, 2012. If you have not received your Show Book, or if you need a book for someone else, contact someone from the back of this publication or access the IGS Web Pages directly. We are always looking for eager volunteers for this event, so, again, if you are looking for something different to do this is a good place to try out.

Soon after our 2011 State Show came the Spring Festival, then too soon it was time for setup at the Indiana State Fair where we had our educational literature table and a demonstration table only. We had no sales at the fair this year for several reasons and this also will probably be the case during the 2012 State Fair.

We had a good span of time between the State Fair and our Fall Festival and Membership Meeting in Peru, Indiana.

And IGS had a booth with several members representing the organization at the Autumn Arts Festival at Garfield Park in Indianapolis.

What this leads to is to show that our organization is represented well around the state by all of our volunteers.

What we are not showing here are all of the many hours from individual volunteers at various

*(Continued on page 11)*

**[www.turtlefeathers.net](http://www.turtlefeathers.net)**

**Angelus Leather Dyes**

**39 colors - 3 ounce and pint bottles.**

**InLace Liquid Inlay System**

**Kits available in Small and Large sizes.**

**Nuggets and Granules available in two sizes.**

**Optima Woodburners and pens.**

**Proxxon jigsaw package. Everything you need.**

**Large selection of tools, supplies, and books.**

**Oil Lamps**

**828.488.8586**

**QuickWood**

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## Editor's Message, Cont.

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*(Continued from page 10)*

other venues where people ask for speakers or we attend partial day events, usually with only one or two people representing IGS.

Requests keep coming in for attendance at other venues, however, we are stretched out now and more new venues mean that we need fresh, new volunteers from our membership to become more active in the organization.

We do have a core of people who "make it happen" and we would like to get these people more assistants to actually do a better job and at more events. Please, think about doing a volunteer job at even one event during the 2012 season. Plus, we would just like to see more people becoming more active overall in the organization.

You might also consider volunteering your name to be considered for a Board position within the organization. We currently have one new young Board Member in a directors position and doing a

very good job. We would like to see more young people coming into such positions.

So, when making those New Years' resolutions spoken about at the start of this article, please add a line for the Indiana Gourd Society and a note to yourself to become more active in the organization.

All of our publications, educational articles, all of our events, and speaking engagements happen because our members are dedicated to educating the public all about gourds - growing, selling raw gourds, crafting, selling crafted gourds, and the benefits of seeing and hearing people's reactions from these events. We hope that, as a member, you will join us in this process.

Do you have ideas about how to improve the IGS? Then eMail those to one of the officers on the back page please. We would love to have your inputs.

By Jesse Glessner

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## Gourd Happenings In Our Gourdeous World

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**Apr 13, 14, 15, 2012 - Indiana Gourd Society—  
State Show** — Greenfield, Indiana. Admission: Keep posted to the Tendril or on our Web Site.  
Large gourd competition, Vendors, IGS Gourd store, Gourd Seeds Demonstrations, kids booth, Auction Saturday and Sunday  
For additional info: Emily Wallace, e-mail:  
showchair@indianagourdsociety.org  
Admission: \$6.00 per adult (14 and over) - Parking: FREE  
[An IGS Sponsored Event]

**Jan 21, 2012 - IGS Seed Harvest (Feb 11 snow date) -**  
Thorntown Public Library, IN  
Open to public  
9am until done  
Contact Phil Moorhead 765 674 8088, or e-mail treasurer [at] indianagourdsociety.org for details  
[An IGS Sponsored Event]

**Mar 24, 2012 - IGS Seed Pack and Judges  
Refresher (Mar 31 snow date)**  
Thorntown Public Library, IN  
Open to public  
9am until done  
Contact Phil Moorhead 765 674 8088, or e-mail treasurer [at] indianagourdsociety.org for details  
[An IGS Sponsored Event]

**April 13, 14, & 15, 2012 - IGS State Gourd Show**  
Hancock County Fairgrounds, Greenfield, IN  
Admission: \$6 for entire weekend, open to public  
Large gourd competition, Vendors, IGS Gourd store, Gourd Seeds Demonstrations, kids booth, Auction Saturday and Sunday  
For additional info: Emily Wallace, e-mail:  
showchair@indianagourdsociety.org  
[An IGS Sponsored Event]

**May 19-20, 2012 - Kentucky Gourd Show** —Taylorsville  
KY [www.kygourdsociety.org](http://www.kygourdsociety.org)

**Jun 2, 2012 - IGS Spring Membership and  
Festival**  
9am - 3pm  
Tippecanoe Co. 4-H Fairgrounds, Lafayette, IN  
Classes, Vendors, Auction, IGS Gourd store, Gourd Seeds and Plants  
Lunch available. Membership Meeting will be held at 2:30-4pm  
Voting for board members occurs at this meeting  
For additional information: Guy Schutt, Ph 219 474 5091 or e-mail:  
1stvp [at] indianagourdsociety.org  
[An IGS Sponsored Event]

# THE TENDRIL

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**NEW submissions due Jan. 15, 2012 for the next Tendril Issue!**

**ADS ARE TO BE PREPAID. AD SUBMISSIONS MUST BE IN JPEG FORMAT.**

All submissions welcome! **ARTICLES MUST BE IN MS WORD OR RTF FORMAT.**

Send as an attachment to your eMail or mail your submissions to the above address. Please send us your pictures,

stories, tutorials, and anything else gourd related plus your suggestions for improving or inclusion in The Tendril.

**CHECK EXPIRATION DATE ABOVE YOUR ADDRESS! THIS MAY BE YOUR LAST ISSUE**

### IGS Advertising Rates

2" Column	\$10	
1/4 page	\$15	1/2 PAGE \$30
1/3 page	\$22.50	Full page \$60

## **IGS Executive Board**

President - **Karen K. Niemeyer** - [niemeyer@frontiernet.net](mailto:niemeyer@frontiernet.net)  
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