



President's Message

Ida Kennedy, IGS President

Hello all my Gourd Friends. I hope you are doing well with this crazy fall weather. Hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving. Christmas is just around the corner so I want to wish everyone a very merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Our fall show came and went so quickly this year. Overall, I was very pleased with the show. I'm looking forward to seeing more of you come next fall. We hope to make it a bigger and better show and would appreciate any help or suggestions to make it better. The date and place of our next fall show have been changed to October 10 & 11, 2015 in the 4-H Building at the Lake County Fairgrounds at Crown Point, Indiana. The state show is approaching quickly. I'm sure Pat Moore, our show chairperson, is well under way with plans for the show. She did a terrific job last year; I'm sure our next show will be even better. Volunteers are always appreciated at all our shows, so please come and give your help and support where needed. It is a lot of work putting on a show, so we need all the help we can get!

Don't forget to send in your nominations for Honor Roll awards. We have many people in this organization that are deserving of this award. Please send a note to our secretary with the person's name and why you feel he or she deserve the recognition. Please get this info to our Secretary by the end of January 2015.

(Continued on page 3)

PATCH MEETINGS

- Jan 7, 2015, 6 p.m. EST: Sugar Creek/Thorn Tree Gourd Patches, Thorntown Library, Thorntown, IN
- Jan 11, 2015, 1 p.m. CST: Lakeshore Gourders, Hobart Art League, Howard St, Hobart, IN 46342
- Jan 13, 2015, 6:30 p.m. EST: Central Indiana Patch, Garfield Park Art Center, 2432 Conservatory Dr., Indianapolis, IN
- Jan 14, 2015, 4 p.m. EST: Sugar Creek/Thorn Tree Gourd Patches, Thorntown Library, Thorntown, IN
- Jan 21, 2015, 6 p.m. EST: Sugar Creek/Thorn Tree Gourd Patches, Thorntown Library, Thorntown, IN
- Jan 28, 2015, 4 p.m. EST: Sugar Creek/Thorn Tree Gourd Patches, Thorntown Library, Thorntown, IN
- Feb 4, 2015, 6 p.m. EST: Sugar Creek/Thorn Tree Gourd Patches, Thorntown Library, Thorntown, IN
- Feb 8, 2015, 1 p.m. CST: Lakeshore Gourders, Hobart Art League, Howard St, Hobart, IN 46342
- Feb 10, 2015, 6:30 p.m. EST: Central Indiana Patch, Garfield Park Art Center, 2432 Conservatory Dr., Indianapolis, IN
- Feb 11, 2015, 4 p.m. EST: Sugar Creek/Thorn Tree Gourd Patches, Thorntown Library, Thorntown, IN
- Feb 18, 2015, 6 p.m. EST: Sugar Creek/Thorn Tree Gourd Patches, Thorntown Library, Thorntown, IN
- Feb 25, 2015, 4 p.m. EST: Sugar Creek/Thorn Tree Gourd Patches, Thorntown Library, Thorntown, IN

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PATCH NEWS

Lakeshore Gourders (Alice Pawlowski)

Our Nov. patch meeting was all fun and games. We have many snowbirds going south and west for the winter months, so we had our holiday party and send-off with our gourd friends. We had chicken with an array of yummy side dishes along with our annual grab-bag gift exchange. This year everyone was asked to wear their ugly holiday sweater. The winner was Tom Benedict. We played a game of “hot gourd” instead of “hot potato” to add some laughs to the party.

In December our patch takes a holiday break. We wish all our gourd friends safe travels, and *may the gourds go with you!* Our patch would like to wish all our members a safe and wonderful holiday season.

Central Indiana Gourd Patch (Diane Werblo and Mac McCrary)

Due to slick weather and the fact that our strongest members couldn't come to a meeting, we canceled the December Central Indiana Gourd Patch meeting. We were going to dot-paint egg gourds as Christmas ornaments. We will now make them for Valentine's Day and Easter instead!

We will be changing the meeting date, probably to the second Tuesday of each month. I need more feedback from the patch, but right now that means Jan 13th for the next meeting. We will also adjust the times to 6:30-8:30 p.m. EST.

Sugar Creek Gourd Patch & Thorn Tree Gourd Patch (Karen Niemeyer)

Both the Sugar Creek and Thorn Tree gourd patches meet at the Thorntown Public Library in Boone County. Visitors are invited to any of the meetings: 6-8:00 p.m. first and third Wednesdays, and 2-4:00 p.m. on the second and fourth Wednesdays; there will not be a meeting on December 24. Members have had sale booths at area fall bazaars, and in November the focus was on green cleaning and working on individual projects. On December 3 ten members made pine cone roofs on gourds and worked on their own projects. On Dec. 10 and 17 the group experimented with decoupage on gourds, using one of Peggy Miller's snowman gourds as inspiration. Karen Niemeyer displayed one of Emily Dillard's creations as well as one she developed for her parents' 50th wedding anniversary and into which she incorporated her grandmother's tatted needlework.

In spite of possibilities of bad weather and busy schedules, participants decided to continue the weekly meetings for any who could attend. Visitors are welcome to both the library and to the patch meetings, and questions may be directed to Karen at 765-436-7348.

President's Message (continued)

(continued from page 1)

I would like to express my deepest sympathies for the loss of another gourd lover, Ralph Irish. He was a very talented and well-liked member of the Indiana Gourd Society.

Please keep thinking about ways that we can make our society improve and grow our membership. Any suggestions will be considered. Don't forget to think about stepping up and taking on a board position for a short time to bring new ideas into the society. We are still in need of a secretary and directors. Any member can be on the board and be able to help make changes. We need individuals to take on all board positions. Please give this your consideration.

Have a wonderful holiday season

Ida Kennedy
President, Indiana Gourd Society

SPECIAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Feb 7, 2015, 2 p.m. EST

Golden Corral, 287 S 00 EW, Kokomo, IN

Discuss legal changes to the society, with vote to follow.

EDUCATION ARTICLE

(from the archives)

One Way To Start Seeds

By *Acy Puckett*

- 1) Take a half gallon paper milk carton and poke some small drain holes in the bottom of it (DO NOT CUT OFF THE TOP OF THE CARTON), then fill it with 3" to 4" of potting soil.
- 2) After soaking your seeds in water overnight, take 2 or 3 of them and plant them no more than 1/2" deep or as deep as they are long in each of your cartons.
- 3) Keep the potting soil moist (NOT WET) and in a warm place until the seeds sprout and grow till they have 4-6 or more leaves on them.
- 4) After danger of frost has passed transfer the gourd plants carton and all to your garden. Dig a hole large enough to hold your carton and deep enough to have the potting soil inside the carton at the same level as the soil outside the carton.
- 5) Carefully cut off the bottom of the carton (DO NOT CUT OFF TO HIGH UP THE SIDE OF THE CARTON) and place carton and gourd plant in the hole. Move soil in around carton.
- 6) By planting carton and gourd plant together, you place a protective barrier around the plant to protect it from wind, hot sun, and insects.
- 7) For each carton you plant take a 1 gallon plastic carton and cut just the bottom off of it. These can be used to place over the top of your gourd plants incase of late frost, and they will work as a mini greenhouse also.
- 8) After your gourd plants have become well established, you can cut off the carton at ground level and discard it.

Germinating Large Or Hard Seeds

By *Jesse Glessner*

Date: 06 April 2011

Typically one just soaks seeds overnight and then plants in either a peat pot or in the soil. However, some gourd seeds need a bit of special care if you wish to have higher germination rates. Larger seeds, in particular take a long time to pop open the pod when germinating after planting.

The Bushel 100 + in the IGS Seed Inventory is just one of those (pictured below). To prep for germination you should sand the white flutes off on both sides down to the brown of the seed. It isn't necessary to sand off the top of the seed. Take care not to sand into the brown portion. If other large seeds have the flutes you can sand those off or you can just score the surface if none are present. Much of getting the germination process started is to soak the seeds overnight.



After sanding you may want to also score the surface of the Bushel 100 + seed with a sharp knife, again, being careful not to go too far down into the brown "meat" of the seed. This will help the seed pod crack open more readily when the germination process starts.

DO NOT score into the tip of any seed!

Soak the seeds overnight and then you may either start the germination process in the peat pot, or, if you want to assure higher germination try placing the seed on a thoroughly rinsed paper towel that has been folded in half. Place the seeds on only one half of the dampened (not dripping) folded towel, then fold the other half over the seeds. Place the towel in a sealable plastic bag and assure a temperature of 80° F for 2-3 days, checking on seeds each day.

As soon as you see the seed pod opening it is ready to be put into a pot or the soil. NEVER tamp down on the soil after you pull it over the seed. Water will move the soil down around the seed. Just make sure and keep the prepared pots warm while plants continue to grow.

Another very hard seed is the very tiny black seed of the Ball Luffa. You should hold these seeds with a set of tweezers and score one side of the seed before starting to soak overnight.

If you wish to try something different with some of your seeds, no matter the variety, try soaking half of them in a Hydrogen Peroxide solution overnight and check the resulting seed germination and growth against those soaked in water.

Also, you might want to try starting some seed in Peat Pots and plant others of the same varieties directly into the soil when temperatures are good for planting. Plant both, with identifications, on the same day and watch the growth of both.

If you are planting your seeds in a permanent location, directly into the soil, the soil temperature should be around 50°F-55°F, which, in Indiana, is usually around the end of the third week in May. Your plants should also be planted at those ground temperatures AFTER they have been hardened. Good luck with your gourds!

***** IGS Events 2015 *****

Indiana Gourd Society State Show

May 2 (9 a.m.-6 p.m.) and May 3 (9 a.m.-3 p.m.) EST
Boone Co Fairgrounds, Lebanon, IN 46052

Admission charged. Open to public.

Adult and children's gourd competition, IGS gourd store,
gourds, seeds, demos, workshops, vendors, kid's booth, gourd
art raffle, gourd auction Saturday and Sunday.

Gourd gurus available to answer questions

Contact: Pat Moore, e-mail:

showchair@indianagourdsociety.org

[This is an IGS Sponsored Event]

Indiana State Fair

Aug 7-23, 2015

Dried gourds and gourd art competition

For additional info: Pat Moore 765 597 2049 or Phil Moorhead
765 674 8088

IGS Fall Festival

w/Membership Meeting Saturday at 4 p.m.

October 10, 2015 - 9 a.m.-4 p.m. (CST)

October 11, 2015—9 a.m.-3 p.m. (CST)

Lake Co Fairgrounds, 889 S. Court St, Crown Point, IN

Free admission, open to public. Vendors, IGS gourd store,
gourd seeds, demonstrations, mini craft, kids booth, auction or
raffle. Mid-morning snacks and lunch available

For additional info: Ida Kennedy, 219 767 2901 or e-mail:

ikennedy5@msn.com

[An IGS Sponsored Event]

GENERAL EVENTS

February/March—Seed harvest/packing days

For additional dates see:

www.indianagourdsociety.org

ROAD TRIPS

2015—courtesy of AGS

(www.americangourdsociety.org)

Jan / Feb / Mar

No events listed

INDIANA GOURD SOCIETY, INC. NEW RENEW ID# _____

Membership Application DATE: _____

1 year @ \$15.00 3 year @ \$40.00 Patch # _____

PLEASE PRINT (Free gift with New or 3yr Membership)

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

PHONE _____ COUNTY _____

EMAIL _____

DO YOU WANT ELECTRONIC TENDRIL ? CIRCLE YES or NO

Make your CHECK payable to the **INDIANA GOURD SOCIETY, INC.**

MAIL TO: **INDIANA GOURD SOCIETY, INC., 691 W Veach Rd, Bloomingdale, IN 47832**

Visit the IGS Web site at: **www.indianagourdsociety.org**

Indiana Gourd Society, Inc. - 2015 Gourd Seed Order Form

Please go to www.indianagourdsociety.org - click on "Seed Sales" to link to more detailed descriptions and pictures

Instructions: To ensure accuracy, please fill out this form and send it with payment to the address below.

| Qty | Item | Qty | Item | Qty | Item |
|-----|---|-----|--|-----|---|
| | 01: Apple, SHORT | | 19: Bottle, CHINESE (8-10" h) | | 37: Kettle, SMALL (6" W x 9" H) |
| | 02: Apple, TALL | | 20: (Not used) | | 38: (Not used) |
| | 03: Martin House, SMALL (9" W x 12" H) | | 21: Dipper, SHORT Handle (12 - 18" long) | | 39: Bottle, Indonesian |
| | 04: Martin House, GIANT (6 seeds/pack) (14" W x 16" H) | | 22: Dipper, APACHE (flat bottom) (12 - 18" long) | | 40: Bottle, NIGERIAN - Mini (limited quantity) |
| | 05: Kettle, Mix | | 23: Dipper, LONG Handle (24 - 30" long) | | 41: Basketball |
| | 06: Kettle, African Wine (6 seeds/pack) (16" W x 24" H) | | 24: Dipper, EXTRA LONG HANDLE (30 + " long) | | 42: Duck Gourd (OUT OF STOCK) |
| | 07: Bird House, Hardshell Mix | | 25: Luffa, LONG | | 43: Long Gourd (6 seeds/pack) (limited quantity) |
| | 08: Bushel, SMALL | | 26: Jewelry, sub-mini mix | | 44: Snake |
| | 09: Bushel, 100 lbs PLUS (6 seeds/pack) (18" W x 14" H) | | 27: Bottle, MINI CHINESE (3" H) (OUT OF STOCK) | | 45: Swan/Goose Gourd |
| | 10: Bushel, GIANT (12" W x 11" H) | | 28: Kettle, Mini (3 - 4" H) (OUT OF STOCK) | | 46: Warty, African (8 - 9" H) |
| | 11: Canteen (8" W x 4" H) | | 29: Bottle, SMALL CHINESE (snowmen) (4 - 6" H) (limited quantity) | | 47: Penguin |
| | 12: Canteen, Corsican (10" W x 5" H) | | 30: Bottle, Mini mix (snowmen) (2 - 4" H) (limited quantity) | | 48: Luffa, BALL |
| | 13: Tobacco Box (taper top) (8" W x 6" H) | | 31: Peruvian Pear, Mini (6 seeds/pack) (3 - 4" H) (limited quantity) | | 49: Zucca (6 seeds/pack) (12" tall) OUT OF STOCK |
| | 14: Canteen, Copper Canyon (Pear shape) (6" W x 8" H) | | 32: Banana | | 50: Sennari, mini (3 - 4" H) (OUT OF STOCK) |
| | 15: Maranka | | 33: Spoon | | 51: Buffalo Gourd (ball shape) (limited quantity) |
| | 16: Cannon Ball | | 34: Spinner | | 52: Autumn Wings, mixed (limited quantity) |
| | 17: Bat Gourd (30 - 36" long) | | 35: Crown of Thorns | | 53: Tall Vase (14 - 16" H) |
| | 18: Bottle, Mexican Water | | 36: Nest Egg | | |

Note: Sizes and shapes listed are approximate
Each package contains 12 seeds unless noted. All cost \$3.00 / package. All seed batches are checked annually for germination rates.

SHIP TO:

Name _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone or E-mail if we have questions: _____

Total Packages: _____
 Price per pack: x \$3.00
 Plus Postage: _____
TOTAL ORDER: _____

Postage/handling, including IGS members
 (through :Dec 31, 2015):

1-4 packs = \$ 2.00 11-20 packs = \$4.00
 5-10 packs = \$ 3.00 21 packs and up = \$5.00

Please list alternate choices here in case any of the above are out of stock. _____

Please make check payable to "Indiana Gourd Society" or "IGS" and mail to Ida Kennedy, 5615 S. 425 W., LaPorte, IN 46350.

If you have questions, please contact us at seeds@indianagourdsociety.org

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THE TENDRIL

P.O. BOX 822

MARION, IN 46952

INDIANA GOURD SOCIETY, INC.

The editors reserve the right to edit any submissions for content and consistency. All contents copyrighted, see below. For permission to reprint excerpts, please contact Phil Moorhead (see below for contact info).

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**NEW submissions due the 1st of the
odd-numbered months for the next
Tendril Issue!**

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

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.

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AFTER THE @ SYMBOL**