

THE ZGOURD MINER

The official newsletter of the ZGourdminers, Folsom-Sacramento Valley Gourd Patch
Volume 18 A Patch of CGS January/February 2011

'ROUND THE CLUBHOUSE Meeting Notes:



January Notes

* **The California State Flower, Food and Garden Show:** Participation was discussed. The show is 4 days, April 7 - April 10. The club will provide water for the volunteers, but it is advised to bring your own lunch. Sign-ups were again circulated. The sign-up schedule will be posted on the website. Linda again requested volunteers to provide demonstrations at the show. **Advertisement:** Diane provided mock-ups of a club brochure and bookmark for discussion and approval. The members liked both and it was decided to use both at the April Flower, Food & Garden Show and at future festivals. Orangevale Printing provided a great price for the printing. Patti and Linda will review the documents content prior to printing.

Newsletter... Diane asked members to help out with articles for the club's newsletter. Two names will be drawn from the monthly sign-in sheet and they will write a short article (a paragraph or two) on one of the following topics:

1. How I came to work with gourds.
2. Gourd sightings (gourds seen when traveling, friend's houses, or even your own favorite gourd in your home)
3. Inspiration (who inspires you to work on gourds...favorite teacher, kids, parents, partners, other artists.)
4. What is your favorite tool or product to work with and why. (could be burners, carvers, saws, paint, favorite finish, etc.)
5. Georgia Nelson and Betty Wilkinson will be our first authors!

Other News: *Linda shared some of her gourd and art books for ideas and tutorials. * Linda asked if anyone was interested in a drum necklace class. Several members are interested and Linda will work with Patti to decide on a month for the class. * Betsy Kritzon will be teaching her gourd purse class at the March meeting. * Two new prospective members were introduced. * Show and Tell...Look for pictures in the newsletter at the end of February.

February Notes

The California State Flower, Food and Garden Show: About 140 small to medium gourds were distributed to members to clean and drill for the kids 'hands on' area at the show. These are due back at the March meeting. Members are to drill a 1 in. hole for birdhouses and clean out the inside, rinsing with bleach water to eliminate the mold inside. Large gourds were distributed to members to clean and cut gourd shards for the adult 'make & take' area. Clean and sand front and back. Put all seeds from cleaned gourds in a paper bag and bring to the March meeting. Sylvia passed out the volunteer signup sheet for signups. If you are working in the booth, you can sell your art. Whatever doesn't sell while you are there must be taken home with you. Lynda will bring price tags to the March meeting. The money collected from selling artwork will be handled by the club if paid by check. If paid by cash, fill out receipt and keep appropriate cash. . **Classes:** Barbara Cody will be giving a class next month (March) on making a gourd necklace. Bring a prepared gourd shard to class along with beads, wire (22 or 20 gauge) wire cutters, needle nose pliers and scissors. **Advertisement:** It was decided to only have the bookmarks (100 sheets, 600

bookmarks) printed for handouts at the Flower, Food & Garden show and Leiser's festival. **Other News:** Lynda gave an accounting of the patches bank account. Lynda & Patti shared a couple of new books that are available @ Leiser's farm. Diane to send out the membership list that Carol Des Voigne has updated. There is an Egg Show at the Holiday Inn on Date Avenue the first weekend in March. This is a good source of embellishments. Lou Johnson and Barbara Cody were chosen for the next two articles for the newsletter. Their articles are due at the March meeting. Lou Johnson has volunteered to man a garage sale for some of the Larry McClellan estate items. This will be Saturday morning, May 14th.

MEMBER ARTICLES!!!

My name is Betty Wilkinson. I was invited to my first meeting by Lorraine Thompson. I joined that day. I have done many crafts in my lifetime. Starting with sewing, to macramé, weaving, Tole painting, making dolls, ceramics, etc. I knew nothing about gourds when I joined. I marvel at all the beautiful projects our members have brought to show & tell. I have enjoyed the meetings & meeting so many talented and friendly members.



My name is Georgia Nelson. I was introduced to the gourd club by Betty Wilkinson. I too have enjoyed meeting so many talented & friendly people. I also started out by sewing, knitting, & crochet for my family. I owned a ceramic shop. I also constructed a dollhouse, along with the furniture, all homemade out of scrap lumber. I have also done oil painting and other crafts.

REMINDER!!!

Elections are coming up in the month of May. The following positions will be voted on...President, Vice President (or co-president), Secretary, Treasurer, and Newsletter Editor. Be thinking about who you would like to nominate and check with that person to make sure they are willing to serve.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

The Patch needs a volunteer to head up the booth set up and display committee. Dan & Jan Zuckerman are moving and will no longer be part of our patch. So, if you sell at the club booth during the festivals, consider heading up this committee.

GOURD TIPS

If you live in a dry climate, do not place your wet gourds in the direct sun as they may crack! Ironically, very thick-shelled gourds have more of a tendency to crack in the sun. This is because the hot air that expands inside the gourd cannot escape as quickly as with a thin shelled gourd. (from Welburn's Gourd Crafting Guide.)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Classes and Demonstrations:

Barbara Cody is giving a class on **making a gourd necklace** at the *March 2011* meeting.

Charlotte Vincent will be giving a class on her **Faux Turquoise technique** at the *April 2, 2011* meeting

Emma Paulson will be giving a demonstration on **attachments** at the *July 2011* meeting.

Betsy Kritzon will be giving a **gourd purse class** later this year.

Festivals:

**** California State Flower, Food & Garden Show. April 7, 8, 9, and 10**

California Gourd Society will have space at this show and Northern California Patches will be helping with staffing the booth as well as demonstrations. If you would like to sell your gourds, you must volunteer in the booth. You are responsible for your own gourds. Bring them with you when you are working. What doesn't sell needs to be taken with you at the end of your shift. Please consider showing some of your work to represent our club. There will be sign-up sheets to help out at the booth in our upcoming meetings.

****Leiser Farm's 9th Annual Gourd Art Festival and Sale. May 14 and 15. Pre-festival classes will be held on May 11, 12, and 13th. See gourdfarmer.com for details about the festival. See galaxygourds.com for information and sign-ups for the festival classes.**

zgourdminer Website

The club website is now on-line. Input from members is needed. There is a section for member to sell gourd related tools and supplies. Members who have their own websites can have a link posted on the club's site. If you have a favorite on-line supplier for gourd related products, please send the information to Diane @ dpb10388@yahoo.com. There is now a link on the Leiser Farms website to the club's website as well as our web site is listed with our information on the CalGourd website.

January 2011 Patch Meeting



February 2011 Patch Meeting



YOUR BOARD MEMBERS

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The newsletter and the club website can be a valuable resource for all of us. If you have any hints or tips to share please call or email me: Diane Pavey-Bentley 916-682-4113 or dpb10388@yahoo.com