



JGS Pure Seed Project Report 1/7/08

As we reach into a new year it seems an appropriate time to look backward at last year and forward for a report on our Pure Seed Project. 2007 was a productive year for growing and harvesting our next generation gourds. Gourds that are a step toward the goal of IGS to provide more quality seed of varieties with assured trueness to type.

By the cooperative efforts of members and volunteers over 20 varieties of select gourds were advanced another generation by being grown in isolation or being selfed using hand pollinations. Those gourds were collected and stored under non-freezing conditions then graded and sorted for the best of type and quality. Some, not all yet, of these selected gourds have been opened and had seed extracted, washed, graded for quality, dried, labeled as individual lots and put in moisture resistant containers. In all, so far, over 13,500 seeds came from 39 harvested gourds representing 16 varieties.

Seed from each individual gourd is undergoing germination testing. A full set of results is still pending but expected soon.

Seed stock will be kept from each harvested gourd for producing a future generation and as back up. Excess seed from 3rd or greater generation gourds reproducing true types that test well will be available for IGS regular seed sales in 08.

It is good to have this project showing the potential it is upon reaching the mid years of what will be a 7 year effort required to meet our "Pure Seed" requirements and certification.

As this program continues further we fully anticipate it will grow in size and value to IGS and seed customers. It will additionally involve more effort and increasing need for help. In December our IGS director, Ida Kennedy, and her uncle Ed Minarik came to work for a day with seed harvest and drying. Their help contributed in a big way. Both were also involved with growing some of the gourds we worked on.

If you or someone you know might have an interest in growing for the Pure Seed Project in 08 or helping with seed harvest contact me directly or thru the Indiana Gourd Society web page/pure seed.

Steve Sullivan Phone: 574 721-0284 (cell) e-mail: Gro_Green@Yahoo.com



**January & February
Are Catalog Months
And Time For
Research Articles,
Gardening Planning,
Crafting Planning,
& Lots of Rest
Before Work Time!**

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Your "New Years" Tendril

The Tendril can be accessed on-line (and in color) now. (See last months issue for instructions.) Let us know how you like it! As in this issue, we may have expanded the page count.

We hope you enjoy the on-line access. We want to keep improving the publication throughout the year. Have ideas for improving the publication? Send them in!

Tendril Advertising

Advertising submitted for *The Tendril* MUST be in JPEG format ready for printing. The Editor & Publisher do not have the time to build your Ad. To convert your Word file to PDF use the free Primo PDF package. To convert your PDF file to JPEG use the free GIMP application. This will allow YOU to produce what you want printed.

Ads submitted in MS Word format will be returned for you to convert. If not re-submitted in time the publication will be printed without the Ad in the current issue.

JGS, inc. STATE SHOW

Who can believe our IGS State Gourd Show is only about 60 days away and in a brand new location. Welcome to South Bend and St. Joe county fair ground. What a great new experience this is going to be but with a lot of the old faithful booths and vendors and teachers along with the new.

Well one of the old faithful groups who will be there is the GOURD GUYS. They will be doing the Kids Patch and the demonstration booth. Kids (of all ages) can paint a gourd and all others can watch, do hands on and ask questions We will demonstrate techniques of growing and crafting gourds along with tools of different type and anything thing else you are looking for. Come enjoy, help and be a part of this great new location.

For questions contact: Guy or Lois Shutt @ glshutt@ffni.com or ph. 219-474-5091

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2008 State Show Update

The State show is right around the corner. Plans are getting finalized, and we anticipate a new group of people coming to our show. All of the committee heads are busy taking workshop reservations, and putting names down for volunteers. If you would like to volunteer, please be sure to contact our volunteer chair, Joyce Dankowski. It takes some help getting this show together, and to top it off, you will receive a week-end pass into the show for your efforts.

Something new we are doing this year in conjunction with the show's theme is a treasure hunt. We will have an adult hunt, and a child hunt. We plan on the hunt being on Sunday. We felt that any other day, would take others away with other things to do, with judging, auctions, etc. So, starting on Sunday, find me, and I will give you the clues you need, to find the hidden treasure.

Don't forget this year we again will be having an auction on both days beginning at Noon. There will be something for everyone. Here is your chance to get that 'one of a kind' find.

There will also be our "Art Raffle" once more. This is really the time to go out on a limb, and put your ticket in a box, with hopes of having it chosen so you will be able to take home that piece created by one of our talented artists.

We are looking forward to the show being in northern Indiana. South Bend, Indiana is a city rich in culture, and things of interest. They have the College Football Hall of Fame, the Museum of History, and for those who like to shop, University Park Mall, along with lots of chain stores moving into Erskine Plaza, close to the fairgrounds. We have lots of restaurants near by, and hotels just up the road. There is always something to do in South Bend.

Come on, join the fun.

Renee Meyers, Show Chair

Kids/Teens In 2008 Show

IGS is glad to announce two exciting programs with kids & teens creating art on gourds. We have a 4th gr. class incorporating gourds into their study of Indians & will be entering the youth contest.

And New this year we have a High School of talented artists that will create their own work of art using gourds. They will then have their own raffle, all proceeds going back to their school.

This is a Win-Win for both the IGS & these talented teens. Please help support them by purchasing a raffle this year at the state show.

Alice Pawlowski

2008 Show Vendor Spaces

As chair person of vendor spaces for the Indiana Gourd Society State Show I would like to thank every one for their early response. The inside spaces are all filled at this point. We still have outside spaces available. If you wish to sign up for an outside space please contact me as soon as you can. I am sending confirmation letters out soon.

Ray Nixon 5455 N Range Road LaPorte, In.
46350 219-362-3500 rdnixon@verizon.net

Carolina Gourds and Seeds

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Web site: carolinagourdsandseeds.com

Phone: 919-557-5946

Email: harryhurley@hotmail.com

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Check web site for the sale items. Order forms available on web site. Contact us for more information, order forms, or questions. Visa, MasterCard, Checks, and Money Orders are accepted.

Calling all JGS Members

(ie. Volunteers)

It doesn't take just a few people to put on a major festival it takes the whole society. So we need you in South Bend at our annual "big" show!!! There is much to do on Thursday, Friday, Saturday and even Sunday at the Festival. We are not asking you to devote all of your time but we can use you whenever you are available. There are many things to do...some easy, some hard....but with your help we will get it all done.

And for your willingness to help, you will receive free access to the show for all three days!!!

You can **VOLUNTEER** by filling out the form in your show book and mailing it to me at Joyce Dankowski, 221 Gingerbrook Lane, Bartlett, IL 60103 or emailing me with the same details at lady_jd@att.net. We need to have your sheets/emails no later than March 15, 2008 in order to make sure that you are on the list for free access to the show.

I will contact each person the week prior to the show to confirm your hours of service. Thanks for helping to make the show a success.

Joyce Dankowski, Volunteer Chairperson

2008 Show Workshops

Hello everyone. The Spring show in South Bend is sneaking up on us fast. We have 44 signups so far for the classes we are offering. Now that the holidays are over you can concentrate on which ones you would like to take to learn some new skills and have a lot of fun in the process.

There are 39 classes being offered this year so I hope we have you excited about learning something new or improving on skills you already have. Please contact me as soon as possible so that class you would really like to take isn't filled up and you will have to wait til next year.

Please send your registration and your check for the classes plus your \$5.00 door fee to me as soon as possible.

Ida Kennedy

2008 Workshops Corrections

Sorry about the misunderstanding Regarding class FR04 Santa Ornaments There will be a choice of only 2 Santa ornaments with the option of taking the 1st part only "Working with clay" for \$26.00, or both classes which would include painting the ornaments after the clay is dry the next day for \$52.00.

Ida Kennedy

JGS Board & Directors

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REMINDER: The above is the location of the new State Show site. This map is located on the St. Joseph County Fairgrounds Web Site along with a map of the fairgrounds.

WAY'S and MEAN'S

More fondly know as "THE GOURD STORE"

Our State Show is rapidly approaching . **I need stuff.** You know like things you put in a yard sale, such as, trinkets, gardening books, old gourd books or magazines you no longer use, craft stuff, crafted gourds, birdhouses and etc. Let's have a huge crowd at the Way's and Mean's tables. This could increase our other sales, too.

The last article, in the *Tendril*, had a sentence with one little word left out. The Way's and Mean's do **not** make a lot of profit on the articles that we sell. We make 100% profit on the donated items. So folks, I challenge you to bring in your weird and wonderful. See you at the show!

Loretta Pressel, chairperson W & M.

Our Membership Is Important To Us

Totals as of 1 Jan 2008:

Members:	423
New Members:	48
Members who renewed:	171
Members who did not renew:	139

We started 2007 with 548 members, it would be nice to know why members did not rejoin ? We want to try and retain ALL of our members if possible.

We have several categories of contact information and advertising information and rates listed on the back of *The Tendril* for your use along with all of the names and eMail addresses of the Board Members of the society as well.

If you have questions, let me know and I will try to answer them.

Dallas

Joyce Dankowski
221 Gingerbrook Lane
Bartlett, Illinois 60103

630-830-4546
630-830-4557 fax
lady_jd@att.net email

Lady JD Designs

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Trellises: Cheap, Fast, and Easy

Note: We have round and oval raised beds.

Our first trellis experience was lashing water shoots from the apple tree together into tripods and then lashing on crossbars. The only expense was a bit of string for tying. These lasted about seven years, even with standing out in the rain all winter. They did need to be retied once or twice because we used cotton string.

Our second experience was of bolting two 2 x 4s together a few inches from the ends, making an "X" with long legs. We straddled two of them over the ends of an old clothes line pole in our yard around which we made a large raised bed.

We screwed in "L" hooks about 12" apart down the length of the 2 x 4s, laid bamboo poles in the "L" hooks, then laid additional poles across the ends of the first poles at right angles (the side poles support the end poles and make a square,) then lashed them together with twist ties.

Cost was the cost of the four 2 x 4s, a few "L" hooks, two bolts, washers, and the bamboo poles, some of which were obtained for free from a bamboo grower's compost pile. The bamboo doesn't weather particularly well, so we bring these poles indoors. We sometimes fold down the 2 x 4s and bring them in also.

Mary Gayle Van Ingen Milwaukie, Oregon

Requirements for Accessing the 2008 JGS Show

What is required to get into the 2008 IGS Show?

Tickets, Tickets, Tickets, Tickets, Tickets!!!

And, of course, a good map to find the fairgrounds and the buildings we will be in (see prior issues).

If you are placing items into competition you will need a ticket to get into the grounds to do so.

If you are volunteering at the show you will need a show pass to get into the grounds. You need to Volunteer EARLY to get your pass. We really want and need our volunteers, however, if you wait too long we may not be able to supply the pass as the volunteers require Pre-Show Registration. Register at the latest two weeks PRIOR to the start of the show.

If your are attending Workshops you WILL need a ticket to get into the grounds. The ticket is NOT included in the price of your Workshop.

If you are a Vendor you will need your Gate Pass to access the Fairgrounds, otherwise you will have to purchase a Ticket!

Tickets and gate passes will be sold (\$5.00 for all three days) and/or identified just off of the main roadway into the Fairgrounds far from the buildings.

Jesse Glessner

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President's Message

Gourd Greetings. As I write this, northern Indiana has already received more snow than any recent year. They now are forecasting extremely cold temperatures. This can only mean one thing; we are in the home stretch to another Indiana Gourd Society State Show. This year's show has, as you know, been moved to the St. Joseph County Fairgrounds, in South Bend, Indiana. If you have looked at maps printed in your newsletter, you can see that getting to the fairgrounds is very easy. Renee Meyers and her show committee have been hard at work. This year's show brings a unique set of situations because of the new building. We of course, had become very comfortable with our previous setting and I am sure that the committee will triumph over all of these new challenges and present an excellent show.

I want to remind all of the membership that our election of officers will take place at our spring meeting in Peru, at the Miami County Fairgrounds, on May 3rd. I again, encourage all members to consider serving on

our executive board. All officers serve for 2 years. This election is very important because some members who have served for a number of years have chosen to step aside at this time. Yes, it does take a commitment of some time, but, the satisfaction of knowing that you contributed to the operations of your society can be very rewarding. If you think you might be interested in serving in any position, I encourage you to contact me. You can call, write or email.

One area that has been very rewarding for me is the progress that our pure seed committee has made under Steve Sullivan's leadership. We now have some varieties entering their 5th and 6th years of repeated pureness. As we move closer to our goal of pure seeds, it is becoming more and more obvious how much of a positive impact this project can have on our society. If you are interested in knowing more, Steve is always willing to share.

Until next time, get working on your entries for the state show. Let's show non-gourdheads from northern Indiana just how amazing our gourd can be.

Sid Meyers

www.turtlefeathers.com

Proxxon Gourd Saw package - Everything that you need.

Angelus Leather Dyes - All 39 colors!

Angelus Acrylic Paints - All 62 colors!

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Drum Heads

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Oil Lamps

IT WILL SOON BE SEED PACKAGING TIME AGAIN

I have reserved the room at the Thorntown Library again this year for our Seed Packaging Day on ?????? (I've asked for March 1, 2008).

As many of you know, during the past year, there has been a LOT of activity about what we are going to do and where we are headed with seeds.

We will be eliminating 10 varieties from the box this year, so we may have to either re-label those or print other information on the packages. The varieties eliminated were the "mixes", those that were "duplicates" of other varieties or of inferior quality, and those that were at the bottom of the list in sales over the last three years.

Steve Sullivan took on the task of Germination Studies of those seeds we already had in the Seed Box to assure that all are germinating properly. The results of the studies MAY require marking the correct germination rate on all packages of some varieties.

Although we haven't purchased as many seeds as in prior years we will be packaging about the same quantity with the seeds coming from the Pure Seed Project efforts.

We will also be figuring out what to do with our existing packages of PSP seeds as well. Some of those may need re-labeled to fold over into our Seed Box.

The white plastic boxes you have seen at past festivals will either disappear or will contain seed "sale specials" of the varieties being eliminated from the Seed Box.

We need to get as much of this done during the packaging day as I also have to update the two books we have for our customers to view.

SO, as usual, WE NEED VOLUNTEERS!! Your help is requested and greatly appreciated in the packaging effort. I could not get this done by myself until about State Fair time, or later. And, it is a great time to get together or re-acquainted with all of your gourdhead friends again.

Jesse Glessner

Missing Travel Gourd

At our meeting after the show in Valparaiso someone brought up an item about a missing "Indiana Gourd Society Travelling Gourd". The gourd was described as having the shape of the state of Indiana inlaid in silver on it. It also had inlays of some crystal and the background of Gary on the surface. Please contact any of the IGS officers if you know where this gourd is. We would like to see it continue with its "travels".

Gourd Pests

**On how to control gourd pests, Dallas Lunsford reviewed back issues and this article was copied from *The Tendril*, Vol 2 No 2, Page 1
It was written by Ron Bair**

Just a short note for this growing season. For those pesky little striped and spotted cucumber beetles that seem to invade us all - Liquid Sevin does wonders! But be careful! Spray about 1 to 1 1/2 hours before dark AFTER THE HONEYBEES HAVE QUIT VISITING. DO NOT SPRAY IN THE HEAT OF THE DAY and if you don't have a very big bee population visiting your blossoms, you may want to leave a few of the pesky cucumber beetles for pollination purposes



These two photos showing IGS' booth activities were taken by Phil Moorhead at the Valparaiso Garden Show held on Saturday, January 19, 2008



EDUCATIONAL ARTICLES LISTED ON OUR WEBSITE

GROWING. CURING. CLEANING AND CRAFTING GOURDS

By Jim Story

WHY GROW GOURDS

Gourds are one of the world's most versatile plants. The many shapes and sizes of the fruits, lightness when cured (dried), their lasting qualities, and the many utilitarian purposes make the gourd a favorite of gardeners and craftsmen worldwide. Dried gourds have been made into bowls, storage containers, dippers, birdhouses, vases, pitchers, dolls, musical instruments (gourds are excellent resonators), lamps, jewelry, birds, animals, reptiles, insects, wreaths, wall hangings, Christmas ornaments, contrived flowers, caricatures and even cathouses. Gourds are excellent material for fall decorations and are attractive and in demand in creative floral designs. They are popular sale items at ways and means tables.

GOURD CULTURE

There are two species of gourds: cucurbita pepo, the colorful, yellow flowered ornamental; and the Lagenaria siceraria, the white flowered hard shell kind. Lagenaria require a long growing season (130 frost free days) to fully mature. It is important to get them started early so plant as soon as possible after the danger of frost has passed. Seeds can be started inside about 35 days before the last frost. Too early will let the plants get leggy and difficult to transplant. Harden off plants before planting where they will grow. Ornamental gourd seeds can be planted (direct seeded) in the garden after danger of frost has passed.

Gourd culture is similar to that of pumpkins, cucumbers and squash. Plant in full sun and allow plenty of room for the vines that sometimes grow to a length of 30 or more feet. Gourds may be grown on the ground, but it is preferable to grow them on a fence or trellis. Hand pollinate lagenarias to increase yield. Both kinds can be grown in molds to obtain unusual shapes. Use 1/4" or thicker plexiglass to make molds. Wood and plaster forms may be used but I prefer translucent (clear) molds.

CURING GOURDS

Both the ornamentals and hardshell gourds can be cured outside. Winter weather will not damage the shells of fully mature gourds and the freezing and thawing makes the skin easier to remove. To save seed, the gourd must be brought inside to dry. Put small gourds in a mesh bag and drape over a fence or tree limb. Shake the bag every three or four weeks. Cure large gourds off the ground where they will get good air circulation. No matter how moldy it looks, it is good. The shell below the mold will be a beautiful tan. Immature gourds will shrivel during the curing process and should be discarded.

CLEANING GOURDS

To bring out the beauty of gourds and to prepare them for crafting, they must be cleaned. This means removing the outside skin and mold. Soak gourds in warm water until the outside skin becomes soft, then remove the skin with a steel scouring pad and/or knife. Some folks use soapy water to clean gourds, but just plain water will do. When the cleaned gourds are dry, they are ready for crafting.

CRAFTING GOURDS

Craftsmen are limited only by their imagination as to the things that can be made from gourds. Gourds can be sawed, drilled, etched, burned (wood burning tool, dyed, painted, stained and varnished. mature gourds are light and durable, making them an excellent medium for all sorts of crafting ideas. Creative people love gourds.

GOURD KNOWLEDGE may be obtained by: (1) attending a gourd show; (2) joining the Indiana and American Gourd societies; (3) gourd books; and/or (4) visiting a gourd grower.

INDIANA GOURD SOCIETY, INC.

If you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions about IGS, The Tendril, or other matters in the organization, please contact one of the following.

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All submissions due Mar. 15th, 2008 for next Issue!

Ads are to be pre-paid and submissions **MUST** be in JPEG format. All submissions welcome! Please send **articles** in MS Word, RTF format 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

Gourd Happenings In Our Gourgeous World

January 19, 2008 - 5th Annual Gardening Show—9 AM to 4 PM

SATURDAY at Washington Township Elementary School, 178 Division Road, Valparaiso, IN. Sponsored by Purdue University Cooperative Extension & Porter County Master Gardeners Association. Patch 1 will be working the booths, 1 for the IGS Society, and 2 for patch members. Come and join us.

February 23, 2008 - Seed Packing Day 9:00 AM—4:00 PM

Thorntown Public Library (send eMail to editor for Maps).

Repackage or re-identify existing seeds packages in Seed Box. Repackage bulk seeds ordered from vendors or seeds from the Pure Seed Project. This is a "FUN" day where you can meet other members and chat with new friends.

April 4th, 5th, and 6th, 2008 - 16th ANNUAL

INDIANA GOURD SOCIETY - NEW LOCATION - SOUTH BEND, INDIANA. Theme: Discover Gourds Hidden Treasures. This is a whole new market area for many of you. See our IGS web site for updates. www.indianagourdsociety.org

May 03, 2008 - Spring Membership Meeting - 9 AM to 3 PM

at the Miami County Fairgrounds, at the 4-H Project building in Peru Indiana. Food service provided. Friday night setup allowed. Tables available. Outside vendor setup. RV hook up available at \$20.00 (water and electric and waste disposal available). General elections to be held during the Board Meeting. See article pg 5. Board meeting and Elections follow the festival breakdown.

May 24, 2008 - Patch #1 Gourd Festival 9 AM to 3 PM

LaPorte County Fairgrounds 2581 W. SR 2, LaPorte, IN
Gourd plants, dried gourd vendors, gourd arts and crafting supplies
Gourd seeds and IGS Gourd Store, free demonstrations
For additional info: contact Sid & Renee Meyers, 574-654-3474 or e-mail: smeyers@galaxyinternet.net

, 2008 - State Fair Setup 9:00 AM—3:00 PM

Mark your calendar and come down to the Fairgrounds and help set up the IGS booth for the run of the fair August 8th through August 19th

We are seeking volunteers for both demonstrating their talents in gourd and volunteers for helping with Seeds Sales, Ways & Means Sales, and in general discussing gourds with the public.

August -6 thru 17, 2008 Indiana State Fair

Dried gourd and gourd art competition
Gourd seeds and IGS Gourd Store, free demonstrations

Volunteers needed to help staff the booth, or do demonstrations

For additional info: contact Jesse Glessner 765 348 0344, or Phil Moorhead 765 674 8088