



President's Column

My Gourd Is Missing!! Supposedly 1540 people live in my small town of Thorntown, Indiana, and one of them—or, possibly, a visitor--has my one and only handsome, magnificent, large, lovely, delicate-green Marten House Gourd!! At 9:00 a.m. Friday, November 14, I called the town marshal to report the theft of my ONE gourd from the vine I had planted across the alley, across the grassy area that is the library's overflow parking lot. The marshal assured me that he would e-mail all the deputies so that all shifts would immediately know that they were to keep their eyes out for my gourd. Since this was my V.I.G. (Very Important Gourd), you will note, Dear Reader, that it is always capitalized as Marten House Gourd in this story.

This history of this gourd is worth noting, for its origin was the gourd farm of first vice-president and former IGS president Sid Meyers. At the spring meeting of Patch 1, I bought two plants. I plunked them with a prayer on the slightly hilly area I felt was too dangerous for our senior citizen to mow. I had applied RoundUp and then mulch but the prayer was very necessary for the area was not one I planned to water. These were gourd vines that would be on their own.

I'll admit that I finally yielded and watered just a bit, hoping to coax the healthy baby plants into a good start. One vine died rather promptly, but one persevered. I watched it anxiously, until finally in July I could say, "I have a gourd!" Anxiously, I awaited other gourds. Nary another one. You will recall that this was a challenging year for gourd-growing and that second vice-president Bill Freihofer amused the IGS board when he reported via e-mail, "I have a blossom!" and, later, "I have a gourd!"

So...I contented myself with watching my ONE Marten House Gourd develop. It did so beautifully. All fall I have enjoyed seeing it. We are all counseled to take mini-vacations, those brief moments when we go in our minds to a happy spot away from the tensions of the day. My light green Marten House Gourd was my mini-vacation. I love my work, but I also loved looking out my second story window and noting my lovely, healthy ONE gourd growing. Every morning when I parked for my work day, I looked to the far side of the stone lot, across the grassy lot, and noted my beautiful gourd's progress. I even made our gourd board mem-

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Want to try something new? More for decoration or crafting than use. Star Luffa and cross section. Solid luffa in center but very small. Of a few seeds, three per person available free until gone—no guarantees! NOT AVAILABLE IN SEED LIST.

Send an eMail to Seeds from Web Site.

Meyers Dried Gourds

We have purchased Jim & Betty Dabbs' inventory of cleaned dry gourds. Excellent hard gourds ready for crafting.

Sid & Renee Meyers
9494 N 900 E New Carlisle, IN 46552
574-229-0895 or srmeyers@galaxyinternet.net

PATTERN TRANSFERS

We told so many new people at the Fall Festival about this process and they were so excited about it that I thought I should put this in one more time. This is a great way for non-artists to get a pattern onto a gourd and for many we talked to that was a huge advantage for them.

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 with 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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**Above is our 2008 Roll of Honor
It Is Time For New Nominations**

The charter members who founded the Indiana Gourd Society decided to show their appreciation to those individuals who went above and beyond their volunteer efforts for the society. This passion for the growing, crafting and promotion of gourds is shown in their efforts. Individuals who have clearly demonstrated this work in any area of the gourd society may be nominated for the Roll of Honor. All

nominees must be current or past members of the society. Any current IGS member may make a nomination. Nominations for the Roll of Honor are to be sent to the secretary of IGS on an 8 ½ X 11” sheet of paper. The Executive Board will review the nominations. If necessary, the Executive Board will appoint a committee to narrow the number of nominees. If a committee is needed to reduce the number of nominations, they will return to the Executive Board a smaller list of nominees. The executive board will then select the one honoree from the smaller list. The Executive Board will have the final decision regarding the current year’s selection. Nominating instructions will appear in the Tendril and on the IGS website.

Per new rules, one person, found worthy by the Executive Board will then have their names engraved on the Roll of Honor plaque and will be introduced at the dinner of the annual Indiana Gourd Show.

Possible Nomination Instructions:

On a piece of 8 ½ sheet of paper write or type why you believe your nominee should be added to the Roll of Honor. Please site specific activities this individual was involved with.

Send your nomination to the Secretary of I.G.S. (see back page) by February 1.

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(Continued from page 1)

bers observe it at our October 25 board meeting.

My reasons for selecting that site were really three-fold: 1) avoid mowing the slope, 2) grow a second type of gourd far enough away from my home that it would not cross-pollinate with the mini-Nigerian bottle plants that were my part of the IGS pure seed project for 2008, and 3) use it as a teaching medium for the community and library. As fall approached, I was debating: leave it on the vine so folks could see how a gourd dries, or remove it and bring it closer to the library to a flower bed so inquisitive minds could more easily be instructed on the drying process?

The dilemma was taken out of my hands when some misguided soul and minor criminal stole the library's one and only Marten House Gourd.

Before I called the marshal, I did poll the staff. Had any of them harvested the gourd? Had they any suspects? There was one name, but she has no phone book listing, which is why I called the marshal: she had been observed daily by the morning cleaning crew. Every morning she walked her dog past our gourd and let her dog raise its leg on the mulch and vines while she admired the gourd. I'll admit that I turned her in as my number one suspect.

The marshal said he feared that the gourd would be found smashed as stolen pumpkins often are. I had feared it might disappear on Halloween, but it had survived that significant date. I could describe it as a healthy gourd, fully 18" tall, delicate green in color, with a smooth surface perfect for retaining fingerprints of a thief.

I value the dedication and detecting skills of our local police. They are skilled in taking shortcuts across cornfields to apprehend thieves before they disappear into nearby woods. They rescue cats and beleaguered spouses. They take part in drug arrests. They stand beside me while I explain to the teen culprit that it is not acceptable to smear feces over the library's men's restroom and that if said teen ever does it again, I'll ask for police intervention. A few weeks ago at 11:00 p.m., a deputy brought a snare loop to my kitchen and removed a hissing baby opossum (6" long plus 6" pink tail plus little pink feet) from underneath my hutch ('possum had probably been brought in through the double pet door system by my 15-pound male cat and then escaped under the hutch,

there to be observed by my two dachshunds, who awoke me with their find.) I needed a third hand, as a rake and a yardstick were not sufficient to get the culprit out of his place of temporary safety. I was happy to stand by wringing my hands and holding a flashlight—have you ever tried to do both at the same time?—while the deputy lay face down on my kitchen floor to snare the critter, escort him out the door and through the fence into the adjoining cornfield. At the end I could only think, “thank goodness I waxed the kitchen floor before going to bed.” Do you know what that officer's navy blue uniform would have looked like otherwise? But, that is a story for another year. I ruefully looked at the wax scuffed by his belt buckle and assorted hardware lining his belt and decided his assistance was well worth every beautiful scuff mark.

All this is just a way of letting you know that the local police are truly great guys who respond when we need them. When we have a stalking or a gun incident, they respond. When we have a wallet stolen or a staff member with a heart incident, they respond. When we have an abandoned child, they respond. When we have a 'possum or a wayward teen or a Missing Marten House Gourd, they respond. They know that when we call, we truly need them, and they respond. Unfortunately, my gourd case is still open. Unresolved.

I have only one decision left—shall I publish in the newspaper the proper way to treat a gourd that is drying? What will happen to my lovely, light green Marten House Gourd when it starts turning tan, then black and white with mold? Will the thief put it out with the trash? I can only hope that he/she/they, thinking the gourd defective, will return the molding gourd to the library where we may spend the winter watching it dry and still use it as an educational tool.

This is the ending to the story, but there is a beginning in August, 1995. That was the year I discovered the Indiana Gourd Society—in a booth in the horticulture building at the Indiana State Fair. I stopped because there was a vest high on the wall and covered with round things—that turned out to be cross sections of luffa gourd. Then we saw the display cases with miniature gourds and jewelry—then we picked up a brochure for the Ohio Gourd Show and drove

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there in October—then we went to a May IGS meeting and bought two marten house gourd plants and put them in a former barn lot—then we harvested 90 gourds from the two plants and all but two dried perfectly. We were HOOKED. Thanks, IGS, for the fun!

This year taught me the difference between a the fertility of a former barn lot where one waters gourds frequently and my use this year of a recent construction site with no watering of the gourd plants. I just hope that the thief is REALLY, REALLY, REALLY enjoying the library's one Marten House Gourd!! Thanks, Sid, for providing me a plant determined to

produce!

Ironically, I now own THE VEST THAT STARTED IT ALL. Veteran gourd-grower Helen Parker offered that noted luffa-decorated vest at an IGS auction last year, and I was able to acquire it. I wear it at appropriate occasions and treasure it and the matching luffa-decorated pillbox hat. Thanks, Helen, for sharing!

Next time, I shall have a serious issue to discuss: the establishment of gourd patches in Indiana. Until then, happy gourding!

Karen K. Niemeyer



Has your eMail Address changed since your last sign-up? If so, we cannot reach you with notices of *The Tendril* being available, nor send you any other notice concerning IGS activities.

Please update your information with the Membership Chair listed on the back cover of *The Tendril* as soon as possible. Pat Moore

Seed packaging day will again be held in the Thorntown library. Date: February 21, 2009 from 9:00 AM until finished. A Board Meeting will convene immediately after the seeds wrap up. We've been making short work of this the last two years, but it is a great place to meet and greet friends and fellow gourdheads. Jesse Glessner

Joyce Dankowski
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2009 Show Update

Hurray!!! The show catalogs have been printed and some were distributed at the Fall Festival/Meeting in Lafayette. By the time you read this, you should have received your copy. If you haven't, let me know, and I will get a replacement out right away. You can email me srmeyers@galaxyinternet.net, or call me at 574-229-0895.

We have made a few changes, and added a few new things that we hope that you will find entertaining. The "People's Choice" will be new this year, and we know that the general public will help vote for their favorite gourd creation.

Sid and I would like to make an offer to those of you who would like to do a project in keeping with the show theme, "going to the birds". We have quite a few duck gourds and we would be willing to contribute to those who would like to create a bird of their choice. Just contact us at the above, and we will see that you get your gourd.

Just to warn some of you, I heard at the Fall Festival that quite a few people were going to send in their workshop registrations right away. They did not want to miss out on some of the new workshops being offered. So, if you think that

you might want to take a workshop, don't hesitate, it might fill up faster than normal. Ida will be more than happy to register you for the class.

We are again offering free entry into the show if you can volunteer to help out in some of the aspects of the show. Set up, workshop monitors, working at any of the committees' booths to give the chairpersons a break. Membership, ways and means, seeds, all need extra hands.

Then of course comes the tearing down. Last year there were enough people who helped out that we were done and out of the building by 6 P.M. So, if you feel you can help out in any capacity, contact Joyce Dankowski, and she will put your name down.

I would personally like to recognize Jesse Glessner for all of his diligent work, and efforts. Without his willingness, understanding, and sometimes, mind-reading, the catalog would not be done yet. I thank him for all his time and professionalism that he puts into the publication.

Show Chair, Renee Meyers

VENDOR NOTICE VENDOR NOTICE VENDOR NOTICE VENDOR NOTICE

**A new IGS Vendor Chairperson has been announced for the 2009 IGS State Show!!
Send inquires to Tom or contact Tom Benedict, 6875 St. Rd 17, Plymouth, IN 46563,
Phone 574-936-4805 or send eMail to vendor@indianagourdsociety.org**

2009 Show Book Errata

Page 2 Below Workshops

Left Side Days and Dates Should Be The Following

**Thursday March 26th
Friday March 27th
Saturday March 28th
Sunday March 29th**

**PLEASE! Make these changes
in your book or on your calendar.**

Use a little bleach and a bit of liquid fabric softener to help soften the mold on your gourds. Soak for at least two hours. Use a stainless steel scrubber with a handle then use a knife to clean around the stem. Done!

Renee's Embroidery

Custom embroidery for your shirts, towels, and lightweight jackets. Gourds pictured are patterns currently in stock. Other patterns available if required. Call or email for pricing quotes and questions.

Renee Meyers
574-229-0895 or srmeyers@galaxyinternet.net



Kids! Kids! & More Kids!

Do any members know of 3-4-5th graders that would like to be in our youth competition this coming year! Well here's your chance to get them interested into the world of gourds.

You could get a whole classroom involved as we did last year, or perhaps the girl or boy scouts in your area, maybe just a group of your grandchildren's friends.

Get your patch to help out with the donation of gourds, or ask one of our gourd growers to help donate or give a discount for the gourds.

It was a great success last year so let's try to expand our love of gourds to the youth of today!

Co-chair 2009 show

Alice Pawlowski

VOLUNTEERS

Something important to all of our shows is our cadre of volunteers. But, we need more than the cadre to help carry out the 2009 State Show and to help man the 2009 State Fair.

Our volunteers get what we can afford as a non-profit society in the way of benefits—free entry to the shows for a limited time, depending on how much you volunteer.

This is a great way to meet and connect with and get to know other members of the society. So, if you're interested, so are we.

Volunteer forms will be in the 2009 Show Catalog. For the State Fair, just eMail anyone on the back cover of the Tendril to do so.

Jesse

Wonderful Workshops

Just wanted to let everyone know that our 2009 IGS State show book is ready and being distributed. Some were given out at our Fall Show last weekend.

Please look them over as soon as possible and let me know if you are interested in taking any of the workshops.

We have some new instructors who will be adding their expertise to our workshops. We have tried to pick classes that would be fun as well as informative.

If anyone has any type of class that they would like to see us offer, please feel free to let me know and I will try to find an instructor to share their talents.

Looking forward to hearing from you,

Ida Kennedy

Workshop Chairperson

219-767-2901

ikennedy5@msn.com

2009 State Fair

The fair is expanding to 17 days! The 2009 fair runs Aug 7 to Aug 23, 2009. What does this mean to the Gourd Society? Well, it means we need even more volunteers and people to demonstrate gourd techniques. We've added a third co-chair for this event: Loretta Pressel.

Generally we need at least 3 people in addition to the chair person at the booth most of the time. We're trying to even out the workload by asking volunteers to work 4-hour blocks of time (9am-1pm, 1pm-5pm, 5pm-9pm). You could also work multiple times if you desire. We call it "work", but actually it is a lot of fun to meet and greet people and talk gourds with them. You don't have to be an expert to help out - and you'll learn a lot at the same time. For your help, we give a free pass to the fair!

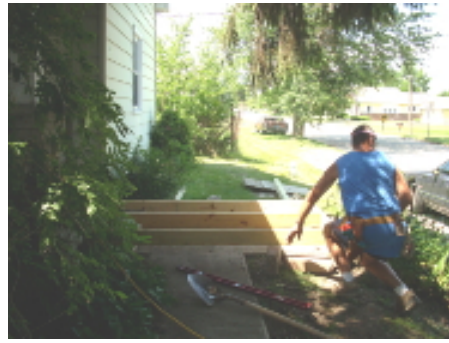
People who expect to exhibit need to be sure to get the premium book from the fair (it is not available yet as of this writing) so you know what exhibition classes are available, and what the premium will be.

We'll have more information in the next Tendril as it becomes available.

Phil Moorhead, co-chair 765-674-8088



Preparing the platform extending the porch.



Getting the platform leveled—just right.



Honey Bear watching all of the work.



Measure twice, cut once, making sure it fits.



Eating the rewards. With a little copying, cropping and pasting we got all three of these guys into one frame

Members Helping Members

At the 2008 State Show Fran Bascom asked Phil and Jesse if they would take on a special project.

It seems that Honey Bear Miller was going up a 14" ramp that was approximately 18" in length with his scooter. Neither of us thought WE would even attempt do that so we took on the project. The porch was extended eight feet with a wooden platform off of which an eight foot ramp was attached.

An extra step was added for trips to the mail box

and stepping up on the extended platform. Honey Bear tried several trips up and down the ramp and was delighted.

The workers were served fresh strawberries, cake, and ice cream for their efforts.

Later another step and handrail was installed for Mary to be able to get down off the platform on the opposite side from the ramp.

Helpers: Fran Bascom from Windfall Duane Briar from Markleville; Phil Moorhead from Marion, and Jesse Glessner from Hartford City.



Honey Bear made several trips up and down the ramp to make sure it worked!

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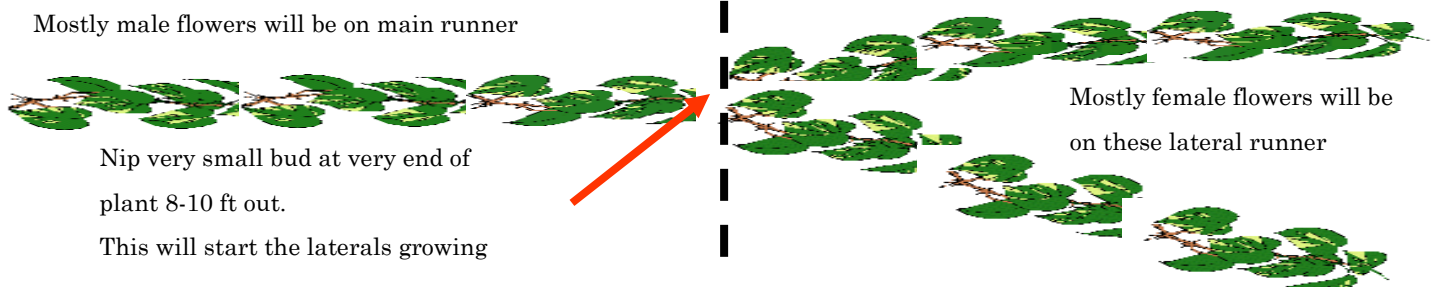


Increasing Gourd Fruit Yield

The main vine runner should have the end pinched off when it is 8 to 10' long. This will cause the production of side runners. These side runners produce mostly female flowers which produce the gourd fruits. The main runner produces mostly male flowers. The 1st side runners can have the tips pinched off when 5 to 8 leaves are present. This, in turn, will produce more side runners [female] flowers.

To produce larger gourds hand-pollinate the 1st female flowers [use male flowers from the same plant for pure seed]. This causes a larger seed set which causes a larger fruit to contain the increased number of seeds. The use of 2 male blossoms per female flower is recommended for plenty of pollen. To produce smaller gourds, crowd the gourds into smaller space or do not thin the gourds as one normally would.

Remember, larger type hardshell gourd fruits not present till after the 1st of August, [central Indiana or north] may have thin shells or may not fully mature. Smaller varieties or ornamental gourds require shorter growing seasons than the larger types. Those types can be planted and often mature with only 80 to 100 days of growing season. The number of growing degree days will determine the results. 70 degree soil temperature is generally needed for good growth.



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FEB 20-22, 2009

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Saturday 9am-4pm
Sunday 9am-2pm

**Over 30,000 shoppers per weekend at
The Market of Marion in February.**

**Currently seeking workshop instructors.
Instructor application form available on our web site.**

**For additional information go to
www.themarketofmarion.com and
click on the gourd show link.**

Fall Festival Photos



Have you started your “Show Stoppers” for the 2009 State Show? If not, you should get busy. We talked to a lot of people new to gourding at the Fall Festival who were very interested in competing at South Bend this year!

Gourd Happenings In Our Gourdeous World

January 10—13, 2009 2nd Gourds in Paradise Festival - Kailua-Kona, HI. Full information on website: www.hawaiigourdsociety.com

January 24, 2009 6th Annual Gardening Show, Porter County Expo Center, 215 E. Division Road—Valparaiso, Indiana 46383
Full information on website www.pcgarden.info

February 6-8, 2009 **Wuertz Farm's 6th Annual Gourd Festival** in Casa Grande AZ.. Features over 100 Gourd Artists and Vendors, Reserved Classes, AzGS Judged Show, Sailing Regourda, Mini Gourdster Races, Gourd Games, Flash Gourdon, Non-Stop Live Musical Entertainment, Great Food & Thousands of Dried Gourds for Sale!

February 20-22, 2009 **Marion County Gourd Artist Show**, The Market of Marion, Belleview, FL. Classes, vendors, judging. For information www.themarketofmarion.com (click on events and then Marion County Gourd show.)

February 21, 2009 IGS Seed Packaging Day Thorntown Public Library, Thorntown, Indiana, from 9:00 AM until finished. A Board Meeting will immediately follow. [An IGS Event]

Feb 27-Mar1, 2009 Florida Gourd Society 11th annual **Florida Gourd Show** in Palatka Florida

March 27, 28, & 29, 2009 **IGS State Gourd Show**
St. Joseph County Fairgrounds, 5117 S. Ironwood Rd,
South Bend, IN 46614 [Map](#)
Admission: \$6 (this is a change from last year) 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: Renee Meyers, 574-229-0895 or e-mail: showchair@indianagourdsociety.org
[An IGS Sponsored Event]

April 19, 2009 3rd annual Gourd Educational Day in Laurens, SC at Ghost Creek Gourd Farm. We will have classes, work stations, and a raffle. (9 am to 5 pm) For more information: SCGourdSociety.com

May 9, 2009 **Mississippi Farms Gourd Festival** Saturday 9am - 5pm classes will be offered. Adkins Farms, Booneville, MS 38829, www.adkinsfarms.com

May 16, 2009 The Spring/Festival Membership Meeting LaPorte County Fairgrounds, LaPorte, IN. Sid Meyers, 1st Vice-President is the chairperson of this event.

Nov 7, 2009 **IGS Fall Festival** Saturday 9:00AM to 3:00PM, Lafayette, Tippecanoe County Fairgrounds.

THE TENDRIL
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MARION, IN 46952

INDIANA GOURD SOCIETY, INC.

The editors reserve the right to edit any submissions for content and consistency. All contents copyright © **Indiana Gourd Society** 1997—2008. For permission to reprint excerpts, please contact Jesse Glessner at - editor@IndianaGourdSociety.org

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All submissions due January 15, 2009

for the next Tendril Issue!

ADS ARE TO BE PREPAID. 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 sug-

gestions 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

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Director - **Emily Wallace** - emmewal@aol.com

INDIANA GOURD SOCIETY, INC.
Fall Membership/Festival Meeting
November 8, 2008 9:00 am – 3:00 pm
Tippecanoe County Fairgrounds, Lafayette, IN

ATTENDANCE: Phil Moorhead, Ruth Moorhead, Karen Niemeyer, Phyllis Kingen, Peg Sullivan, Marion Ellis, Ronald Pressel, Loretta Pressel, Jesse Glessner, Steve Sullivan, Pat Moore, Joe Lee, Helen J. Parker, Alice Pawloski, Robbie Hiduke, Blanch Murrin, Bill Freihofer, Carolyn Rushton, Emily J. Wallace, Dan Wallace, Carl Abner, Kevin Davis, Guy Shutt, and Joyce Dankowski.

The IGS Fall Membership/Festival Membership Meeting was held November 8, 2008 at the Tippecanoe County Fairgrounds, Lafayette, IN. Karen Niemeyer opened the meeting at 2:45 P.M., EST.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Helen Parker made a motion that we suspend from reading the minutes of May 3, 2008 and approve them as published in the Tendril. Guy 2nd. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The bank balance as of 9-30-08 is \$39,341.26. There is \$33,318.99 in the money market account and \$6,022.37 in the checking account. The Indiana Business Entity Fee has been paid. The State and Federal Business Taxes have been filed. The treasurer's report will be filed for Audit.

MEMBERSHIP: Reported by Pat Moore. The IGS membership roll is current up to the first of Nov. Today we have two new memberships, seven renewals and six free memberships. The free memberships were the idea of the chairperson, Bill Freihofer. The 63 persons who signed up and did not win will receive an invitation letter from Pat.

STATE SHOW: The Indiana Gourd Society, Inc. 17th annual State Show is scheduled for March 27, 28 & 29, 2009 at the St. Joseph County Fairgrounds, 5177 S. Ironwood Road, South Bend, IN. The Show Books were handed out today. Those not picked up will be mailed. It has been determined that there will be heat in the building.

STATE FAIR: Phil Moorhead reminded us that the State Fair has been extended by five days. We have to be there three days before opening day, so the total time we are there is three weeks. Due to this extended schedule we are going to have three co-chairs. They are Phil Moorhead, Jesse Glessner and Loretta Pressel. Phil expressed the need for additional volunteers.

SPRING MEETING 2008: The Spring/Festival Membership Meeting is May 16 at the LaPorte County Fairgrounds, LaPorte, IN. Sid Meyers, 1st Vice-President is the chairperson of this event.

FALL 2008 MEETING: Karen thanked the 2nd Vice-President, Bill Freihofer, for doing a great job. Attendance was good. The auction brought in \$335.00. All the vendors, except one, reported brisk sales. Bill thanked everyone for their support.

WAYS AND MEANS: Loretta Pressel, chair, reported that we now have Jim Story DVD'S as well as tapes. The price for the DVD's and tapes are \$20.00. W&M's had a profit of \$907.43 at the State Fair. Today we had sales of \$184.00. Loretta will be ordering, in the spring, merchandise to fill out some of the missing sizes.

SEEDS: Jesse Glessner reported that he sold 104 packets of seeds today. The State Fair receipts were \$2,195.99. Jesse is going to redesign the seed box. It is too heavy. He is thinking about making two smaller boxes.

TENDRIL: Jesse reported that the past year has gone well. He would like to receive more articles, written by the members, or just review the old articles and rewrite them. The "Meet and Greet" articles, written by Ruth Moorhead, have been well received.

PURE SEEDS: Steve Sullivan explained how to extract seed. He will have a seed extraction day, in the near future. Those who grew for the Pure Seed Program brought their harvested gourds today.

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PUBLICITY: Renee Meyers will be working on publishing either a bi-fold or tri-fold brochure this spring.

EDUCATION: Ray Nixon has resigned. Charlene Abel will start Jan 1, 2009. She is from Madison, Indiana.

WEB MASTER: Phil reported he had only 54 hits on the last Tendril. Many people are not using the Internet to get their Tendril.

ARCHIVES: Karen is still sorting and compiling at home.

PATCH # 1: Loretta reported that Patch 1 had a Progressive Patch Meeting on Oct. 3. We traveled to five different member's homes to view their growing gourds. We had supper and a meeting at the last home. Our next meeting will be a Christmas dinner and meeting at a restaurant with a gourd gift exchange. We will not have our own festival next spring. We will be helping with the Spring/Festival membership meeting held in our area.

PATCH # 10: Carl Abner and Kevin Davis reported they were involved, in October, at the James Whitcome Riley Days in Greenfield.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: We have applications for three new patches. Karen and two board members will assist the patches. Susan Salings, Corydon, IN. Bill Freihofer and Pat Moore are assigned to Susan. Barbara Brovont, Central, IN. Steve Sullivan and Guy Shutt are assigned to Barbara. Emily Wallace, Pendleton, IN. Carolyn Rushton and Phil Moorhead are assigned to Emily.

It is time for nominations for the Roll of Honor. They are due by Feb. 1, 2009. Send them to the secretary, Loretta Pressel. The committee will select one person, from the nominees, to receive the award.

We are checking on a site suggested by Jim Ballard and Phyllis Kingen at the Hancock County Fairgrounds at a cost of \$200.00. Nov. 7 is our choice for the meeting date. We discussed whether we wanted competition vs. exhibition at the Spring and Fall Meetings. It was decided that we wanted exhibitions. We always are in the need for Auction items. What we make on the auction usually pays for the rent of the building. We have Gordy the clown head and costume. We need someone to wear it at our meetings.

SEED PACKING DAY: Seed packing day is February 21, 2009 at Thorntown Library.

An Executive Board Meeting will follow. The meeting for choosing a Roll of Honor Honoree will also be held.

COMMENTS: Alice Pawloski suggested that gourd members set up displays in their public libraries, to advertise the State Show. Alice will write an article inviting schools to enter the competition at the State Show, for the Tendril.

Kevin modeled his Gourd Clown costume.

Joe Lee provided us with a delicious persimmon pudding treat.

The meeting was closed at 3:55 P.M. EST.

Respectfully submitted,

Loretta Pressel, Secretary

