



## President's Message

In this issue you will find much wrap-up information and many photos from the 2012 Indiana Gourd Society state show.

Anyone who wants to participate in a wrap-up discussion is invited to do so by attending the session at 1:00 p.m., Saturday, June 2, at the Tippecanoe County Fairgrounds, Lafayette. This will be during the spring festival. Comments may also be sent via e-mail to the 2013 show chair Pat Moore ([rpm1973@hughes.net](mailto:rpm1973@hughes.net)).

Congratulations are in order to everyone who helped make the annual show a success. Who has more fun than gourd folks?

Congratulations are also due to the winners of the art raffle. Many, many thanks to the artists who donated incredibly fine pieces, to those who bought raffle tickets, and to the winners.

\*Karen was so excited to win Bill's gourd seed necklace, but when James Flaschberger asked her to sell it to him, she did so and donated the money to Ways & Means. Karen owns three of Bill's necklaces, purchased over the years, plus one she made after Bill taught a class for the

Sugar Creek Gourd Patch in Thorn-town. What great fun to win wonderful art, but what fun it is to share it as well!!

Enjoy! Karen

Our members shown below were placed on our Roll of Honor.



Carolyn Rushton



Ruth Moorhead



Karen Niemeyer

## Budding



## Sensations

More articles for germ/growing at [www.indianagourdsociety.org](http://www.indianagourdsociety.org)

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## Meet Our Members

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### Sandlady's history - 'Fun with Gourds Presentation'

I started growing Gourds in the 1980's before I learned they had gourd societies. I was as mesmerized with the gourds as the people who purchased them from me. Ron and I would walk up and down the rows of gourds just enjoying the shapes and watching how fast they would grow. I remember the time, my friend Phyllis walking the fields with me and we would get on our knees loving the gourds and hugging them, especially those big bushels and Nigerian giants. With gourds, there is never a dull moment.

I noticed when I took my produce to farmers markets at Champaign and Urbana, IL that students would come and draw a picture of me and my stand. Why not, it had all those interesting shapes amongst the melons, squash, pumpkins, etc. My yard was full of these things. People were naturally drawn to them as I had been.

In the beginning, Ron didn't like my taking up space in the field for gourds amongst his melons. First year, I wanted one row, liked them so well, next year I took two rows and Ron didn't like that. Then I took about an acre, Ron really didn't like that, and then I took about two acres and Ron didn't really like that. Yet he did walk through there enjoying them with me. Then he later ended up in a wheel chair and I was taller than him and I quit growing the melons, pumpkins, and squash. . A couple saw my sign for melons, pumpkins, squash and gourds. I sold them \$2500 worth of gourds. They showed us their art on gourds and was it beautiful. They decorated a tree with gourd Christmas ornaments in Washington, DC that represented Mississippi. From that day on, Ron became a gourd lover. Wonder why. Then I grew 12 acres the next year. And I started drawing covered bridges on gourds and made Santa ornaments too.

Finally a couple from Chicago shared a newsletter about the World's Greatest Gourd Show. I thought it was a cult centered around the gourds. A friend and I went to the 1988 Ohio Show. We loved it and I came home with the most beautiful pictures of what people do with gourds.

I have been invited many times to do presentations with gourds as my theme. I call it, 'Fun with Gourds'. I have been called to many organizations, clubs, schools, interviews for newspapers, magazines, PBS programs like Across Indiana, Friday Zone, and Weekly Special and many more. The largest group I have done is the Illinois Master Gardeners (350). I have presented at Turkey Run State park, Elder Hostels, Homemaker clubs, Women's Day at the Fair, Women's clubs in Terre Haute, IN and the fair there. Many, Many more. Then I have done a couple large presentations to large Churches NW of Indianapolis. Their group of about 100 each from a church of about 3000 was larger than the small country Church I attended. At most of these

Presentations, if there are men there, they might say their wife or friend pressed them to come. They told me they thought a Presentation about gourds with be boring. They changed their mind. That was when I began calling my presentation 'Fun with Gourds'.

I have never used notes or outlines. It is all in my mind. I start with some personal knowledge how I got started growing the gourds. I had purchased two boxes of seeds my nephew was selling for school. I bought all his seeds thinking he wouldn't ask anyone else. Those were ornamental gourds of all colors and shapes. Sold them all. Sold gourds in my Parke County Covered Bridge Festival Booth. I would tell them about how to plant and grow gourds. Tell them how to pollinate the gourds like the birds and bees do it. Tell them how to prune the vines back to about 10 feet long. Answer any question during my talk. There would be some interesting ones, like when to plant which is after the danger of frost is past. When to harvest which is after the last Jack Frost. What kind of weed killer do I use, which is Trust. And what kind of bug control is used being melithieum and liquid Sevin. Sometimes they would tell me of their experience with gourds growing up.

I took several pieces of finished gourd artwork with me for show and tell. I would tell of the different types of gourds and the different types techniques used in art on gourds. There was painting with acrylics, weaving, carving, sculpture, jewelry, and much more. Each time I closed a presentation, I show them about 20 pieces of gourd musical instruments, mostly made by Ralph Irish, of upper Illinois. I would ask that about 20 people come forward and make up a band just for fun. They could play like they did when they were kids. I ask for a song leader and they usually have one. They pick an easy song to play and have a great time. Then it is the end of the presentation.

I just did a Mother-daughter Banquet in Veedersburg, IN. Next I do a Women's Garden Club in Terre Haute. They always reimburse my expenses and give me a little extra which makes it more fun. My next event is here at the Farm June 2 from 9 a.m. to 4 pm. Come and see my Gourd Art Museum and walk through a barn full of gourds. Free make it take it for everyone with help if needed.

Helen Thomas, Sandlady's Gourd Farm, 10295 N 700 W, Tangier, IN

Email: [sandlady@sandlady.com](mailto:sandlady@sandlady.com)  
OR <http://www.sandlady.com>

Phone - 765-498-5428



Many of you may not know Kirsten DeHaven, our 2012 State Show Volunteer Chairperson. She is one of our younger members who has taken an active role in the IGS, becoming a Director and then volunteering to chair the Volunteer Committee at which she did an excellent job this year. Jesse

Thank You Volunteers—for all of your help with the 2012 State Show at Greenfield. We do appreciate the time that all of you have donated on behalf of IGS.

Kirsten



# Lady JD Designs

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Bartlett, Illinois 61554

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\*\*\*\*\*We now carry the Hawk and Eagle Burnmaster Woodburning Systems\*\*\*\*\*

We are your local supplier for your gourd crafting needs. We carry the full line of Microlux Saws, Sanders, Blades and other accessories. All added to our regular line of Fiebing Leather Dyes, Memories Water-Based Dyes, Feathers, Gold Leafing, Rivets, Swarovski Crystals, Lacing, Pine needles, Drum Heads, Waxed Linen and so much more.

Let us know your needs and we'll help you get your supplies.

Watch our website in December for news on classes to be held in January/February.

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# 2012 Spring Festival & Membership Meeting

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**Saturday - June 2, 2012 - 9:00am - 3:00pm**

**WHERE: Tippecanoe Co. 4-H Fairgrounds,  
Indiana South Rt 25 or Teal Road, Lafayette, IN**

**Vendors, Demonstrators, IGS Ways & Means Store,  
Auction, Gourd Seeds and Plants, Gourd Displays,**

**Door Prize Drawing, Lots of Information & Camaraderie**

**Lunch available all day in the kitchen**

**Membership Meeting will be held from 2:30-to 4:00pm**

**Setup time: 6:00am to 9:30pm Saturday, June 2**

**For additional information: call Guy Shutt, Ph 219 474 5091**

**or e-mail: 1stvp [at] indianagourdsociety.org**

**[An IGS Sponsored Event]**

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## SPRING MEETING VOTE

**Don't forget that we vote at the spring festival and membership meeting for several board member positions. Be sure to come to the festival, have a great time, then join in on the membership meeting and VOTE for your choices to represent you on the Board of Directors!!**

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## 2012 State Show Photos

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Above Emily Wallace and Guy Shutt the 2012 Puckett Award recipients. Both have contributed a tremendous amount of time and effort in promoting and developing the Indiana Gourd Society in many different capacities over several years of their memberships.

Below, Carolyn Rushton and Delaina DeHaven tied for their “Galleries” displays. Besides the team judging these items other judges were called to give an opinion also. No one seemed inclined to rate one gallery over the other as both were excellent and uniquely presented.

Carolyn Rushton also won the Best of Show award.



# **SANDLADY'S GOURD FARM**

**June 1 – 3. Gourd sale.**

**Free make it take it. Class on Saturday...colored pencil.**

**COME VISIT THE FARM –Gourd Sales. Thousands of gourds available. Prebags (\$25, \$50, to \$80) or individual gourds. Bring this add and get 10 % off unbagged gourds.**

**Lg to sm Canteen, kettle, Martin, bushel, cannonball, snake, 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,  
precut hung birdhouses**

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

**Phone 765:498.5428**

**Cells 765:505.2267 or 765.505.2120**

**Located 7 miles west of US 41 on CR 1050 on Tangier Blacktop road. Go 10 miles north of Rockville, In. on US 41. Turn west on 1050 (Tangier RD). Go exactly 7 miles. You go through 3 s-curves. See a graveyard. One more mile or less. Go up hill and you are in Howard where we live.**

# 2012 State Show Photos



# Lakeshore Gourders - Winter Events

April was once again a busy month for our patch. We had our state show to keep us busy for the weekend & 14 of us from our area came to support the society. Some had booths with their crafted gourds, Joyce sold supplies, Ida & Fran took over seed control for Jesse, while others either volunteered some time or entered the competition this year.

Towards the end of the month Ida ran a booth for the IGS in honor of "Going Green" at the Porter Co. fairgrounds. The following weekend Ida, Fran, Sherry, Tom & Alice had two booths at the "Illiana Garden & Pond Show," located in Crown Point.

We promoted the IGS, sold seeds, gave out informational material & had a booth selling our crafted gourd art. We had quite an interest in the society & hooked up some new people interested in joining our patch.

In May, some of us are headed to Ky., state show, Sherry & Tom run a booth, Alice is teaching two workshops, while Ida & Fran are going to check out their show & help in judging. I'm looking forward to buying some starter plants & get my gourd garden underway.

June will start our meetings during the middle of the week vs. the weekend as we all get too busy. We found we prefer choosing a midday vs. not seeing each other for 3 months. Robbie is going to show us how to create a little bird out of gourds & gourd shards.

Happy Summer everyone,  
Alice Pawlowski



The Four Gourdettes ??

## 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.)**

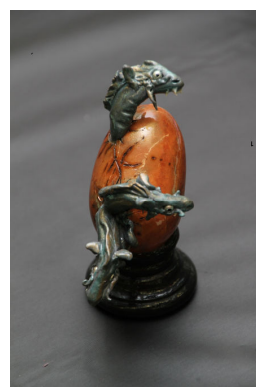


# 2012 State Show Photos



There's just a bit of Voo Doo in either of the left or right photos isn't there? Phil Hart's techniques in tying knots in gourds is a bit of that and the masked dancer had us all captivated at our Saturday evening dinner.

Voo Doo, goblins, monsters, faces, pirates, aliens, and hobgoblins were peeking out all over the show, but you had to look closely to see some of them.



## Needed: Ways & Means Chair

Ron and Loretta Pressel will no longer be managing the Ways and Means functions for the IGS. They will be delivering all of the product at the time of the State Show at which time Phil Moorhead will then deliver most of the items to the warehouse storage in Kokomo

You should have the capability of maintaining an Excel Spreadsheet (can be done in Open Office Calc also) for controlling Inventory and to write letters to and ship items to those who order on-line.

You should also have a place to store existing and new records and a large space to contain the 8 to 10 large plastic boxes which hold all of our current Inventory.

There may be a possibility in the future of having these products on-line, but that decision is still forthcoming. You possibly could be a participant in that decision process.

If interested, please contact Karen Niemeyer or Phil Moorhead for further details. See the back page of this document for contact information.

We want to thank Ron and Loretta for their long years of service to the Indiana Gourd Society and in their commitment to the Ways and Means functions.

The IGS Board

### Estate Planning?

Please remember to include IGS as you plan your estate. Gifts of any amount, large or small, will help insure the continuity of our Society and make

our gourdng, and those who follow us, the very best ever. Please act now--tomorrow may be too late!!!

Bill Freihofer

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

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# Tips On Planting To Sell A Field Of Gourds

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**By Helen Thomas**

Sandlady 'Helen Thomas' shares 'Tips on planting to selling a field of gourds'. I live in Parke County, Indiana, zone 5 in Liberty Township. Here in Howard, In. (Tangier, In.). There are several acres of sandy soil. This soil is perfect for gourds, melons, pumpkins, squash, and vegetables.

I cultivate the 14 acre field and disk it down. I have the Co-op come out and spray dried fertilizer over the fields. I don't know the amount; but it would be close to 12-12-12. I tell them to look up whatever amounts you would need for melons, pumpkins, squash, and gourds. They go from there.

I save my own seeds for planting each crop. I like to open the gourds in the fall right after they are picked. I choose good shapes, thick walls, and take the seeds out and do not let the seeds freeze. I wash the seeds. I lay them on screens. I dry them for a week or two in the shop in front of a furnace, fan, and they don't touch floors or walls. Mold is dangerous, so in taking seeds from green gourds, I can get the green shells outside.

It started raining and it seemed like it rained a month. It takes at least 90 days to grow small gourds and 90 to 150 days to grow larger gourds. Plant after last frost and harvest after frost.

Next I put Trust, a weed killer, in my tank, and added water according to directions. Sprayed fields and then very lightly disk it in. I only let mine lay a couple of days before planting.

It started raining and it was getting late when I finally planted the gourds. Every seed came up. They were robust in growing.

About every week or two, if needed, I cultivated. I sprayed liquid seven for bugs. I don't like to do that unless I need to.

I have a John Deere tractor and planter. The weather was good for a couple months. Then it turned off real hot. Seems like gourds enjoy 75 to 85 degree temps. The gourds seemed to be at a standstill. I was disappointed and so didn't go look at them again until frost hit them. Didn't think I would harvest many. Got a surprise. I harvested 20 loads off 10 acres of kettles, bushels, canteens, tobacco boxes, etc. I was really surprised at the quality and quantity of my bombers. Anything small 2"-5" that has a round bulb with a tip, or rounded top or neck, I call a bomber. The quality was excellent on this field. Quantity? We loaded 5 wagon loads off 4 acres. Using enough fertilizer sure makes a difference. I have found whenever I cheat on the amount of fertilizer, the quality goes down.

We had to clean up the gourd washer and put on new strainers to keep bits of sand out of the pipes. John started washing gourds Monday, March 5, 2012. Looking good. As John washes, I choose which ones we will load and take to the Indiana Gourd Show, April 12-15 at Greenfield, Indiana.

Then I lay out gourds we will use for free make it take it classes here at the farm when we have our gourd sale on June 1-3. After that, we will start putting the gourds on shelves in the barns and anyplace the light will not fade them. It gets funny when someone comes and they survey those piles of gourds and many shelves of gourds in the barn, they grinned real big and squeal, "I feel like I am in Gourd Haven"! I love it. Any questions, feel free to call me at 765-498-5428 or 765-505-2267.

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## Gourd Happenings In Our Gourdeous World

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### **Jun 2, 2012 - IGS Spring Festival and Membership Meeting**

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 Shutt, Ph 219 474 5091 or e-mail:

1stvp [at] indianagourdsociety.org

[An IGS Sponsored Event]

### **Aug 3-19 Indiana State Fair - Volunteer Time**

We are looking for people to do demonstrations at the 2012 Indiana State Fair. Give us your schedule, bring you tools, and WOW your audiences with your skills and expertise.

Contact Pat Moore, Phil Moorhead, or Jesse Glessner for times for whatever demonstration and your schedule for this year.

### **IGS Fall Membership and Festival**

November 3, 2012 - 9am-3pm - Parke Co Fairgrounds, Rockville, IN

Free admission, open to public

Vendors, IGS Gourd store, Gourd Seeds

Demonstrations, mini craft and dried gourd competition, music, kids booth and Auction

Membership meeting at 3pm

Midmorning snacks and lunch available

For additional info: Helen Thomas, 765-498-5428 or e-mail:

sandlady@sandlady.com

[An IGS Sponsored Event]

**Keep in touch through our Web Site at the URL shown below. You can use any Public Library to access this site. If you need help all you need to do is ask a librarian to help you get started. Remember, to see the seed list and the graphics you need to use the Internet Explorer Browser.**

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

# THE TENDRIL

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## INDIANA GOURD SOCIETY, INC.

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

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

All submissions welcome! **ARTI-  
CLES 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 Ten-  
dril.

**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)  
1st Vice President - **Guy Shutt** - [glshutt@ffni.com](mailto:glshutt@ffni.com)  
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Director - **Bill Freihofer** - [wfreihofer@yahoo.com](mailto:wfreihofer@yahoo.com)

# Indiana Gourd Society

## Roll of Honor

<u>1999</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2009</u>
Jim Story	Jane Snider	Sid Meyers
Jane Story	Acy Puckett	Jesse Glessner
Owen Crowder	John Sturgeon	<u>2010</u>
Dorothy Crowder	2004	Peggy Sullivan
Richard Thompson	No Award Given	Loretta Pressel
H. R. (Honey Bear) Miller	<u>2005</u>	Ron Pressel
Hazel Thompson	Dick Harshman	<u>2011</u>
Dr. Charles Heller	Bob Dillard	Bill Freihofer
<u>2000</u>	Bill Taylor	<u>2012</u>
Nancy Norris	<u>2006</u>	Ruth Moorhead
Lee Parker	No Award Given	Karen Niemeyer
Helen Parker	<u>2007</u>	Carolyn Rushton
Rosemary Dougherty	Joe Lee	
<u>2001</u>	Renee Meyers	
Ron Bair	Debby Grunden	
Dallas Lunsford	Helen Thomas	
<u>2002</u>	<u>2008</u>	
Valene Alexander	Steve Sullivan	
Barbara Puckett	Jim Ballard	
	Guy Shutt	
	Phil Moorhead	

The Barbara Puckett Award is also made each year from recommendations from the prior year's recipient/s. The 2012 Puckett Award was presented to Emily Wallace and Guy Shutt. Both members have worked diligently in promoting the IGS in many different capacities and many different events. Congratulations Emily and Guy!

# State Show Winners & Thank You To Judges & Volunteers

## Congratulations to our 2012 IGS State Show Award Winners

<b>Div 1 (Dried Gourds):</b>	<b>Phil Hart</b>
<b>Div 2 (Botanicals):</b>	<b>Pat Moore</b>
<b>Div 3 (Floral Design):</b>	<b>John Gates</b>
<b>Div 4 (Basic Techniques):</b>	<b>Carolyn Rushton</b>
<b>Div 5 (Functional Arts and Crafts):</b>	<b>Ralph Irish</b>
<b>Div 6 (Arts and Crafts):</b>	<b>Ron Pressel</b>
<b>Div 7 (Galleries):</b>	<b>tie, Delaina DeHaven and Carolyn Rushton</b>
<b>Div 8 (Children):</b>	<b>Mia Hiduke</b>
<b>Div 9 (Schools):</b>	<b>Rushville Elementary</b>
<b>People's Choice:</b>	<b>Carrie Rogers</b>
<b>Chairman's Choice Award:</b>	<b>Allison Adams</b>
<b>Best of Show:</b>	<b>Carolyn Rushton</b>

evening after 8pm instead of Saturday morning. This allowed the judges to relax as they judged and we didn't have to hurry to get the judging done so visitors to the show could see the competition results on Saturday morning. From all accounts, this time change worked great and we intend to continue judging on Friday evening.

Thank you to the AGS-certified judges: Karen Niemeyer, Pat Moore, Kirsten DeHaven, Delaina DeHaven, Ron Pressel, Loretta Pressel, Emily Wallace, Ida Kennedy, Fran Bascom, Carolyn Rushton and Bill Freihofer. We received more positive comments about the judging process this year than ever before. I attribute that to the knowledge and expertise of our Indiana judges.

## Thank You to Show Judges

Thank you to all of the judges who made the IGS State Show a competition success! We tried something different for judging this year. The judging was accomplished on Friday

If you would like to become an AGS-certified judge please contact Ruth or Phil to take the class. We'll try to offer it again around the end of the year.

Phil and Ruth Moorhead, AGS-certified Master Gourd Show Judges 765-674-8088

## Art Raffle Winners

Congratulations to the winners of the art raffle. Many, many thanks to the artists who donated incredibly fine pieces, to those who bought raffle tickets, and to the winners.

### WINNER/STATE

Mary Gayle Van Ingen (OR)  
Beverly Hufford (IN)  
Fran Bascom (IN)  
Carolyn Walsh (WI)  
Fran Bascom (IN)  
Julie Glover (MI)  
Karen Niemeyer (IN)  
James Flaschberger (IN)  
Beth Kline (IN)  
Starr Gill (IL)  
Chris Kelly (IN)  
Chris Kelly (IN)

### ARTIST AND PIECE

Mac McCrary – Necklace woven in gourd oval  
Delaina DeHaven -- Knotless netting prayer necklace  
Kirsten DeHaven — Small bowl with gold, Southwest  
Delaina DeHaven – Large bowl with gold, Southwest  
Sherry Benedict -- Green bowl with clay  
Carolyn Rushton -- Wood burned vase/ butterflies, flowers  
William Friehofer – Gourd seed necklace\*  
Ron Pressel – Wood burned necklace  
Alice Pawlowski -- Fall leaf cut/stained luminary w/candle  
Pat Moore – Vase stained with gold leaf, floral arrangement  
Robbie Hiduke -- Wood burned/cut poppy martin house  
Marilyn Brames – Necklace with netting, beads