

President's Message

Karen Niemeyer

RED, WHITE, & BLUE AND KOKOPELLI, TOO

Are there crafted gourds that could be borrowed for a July exhibit at the Sugar Creek Art Center in Thorntown, Indiana? Our local patches have been asked to add gourds to the special RWB exhibit for the month, and it would be wonderful to add others' gourds as well. How timely—since the 26th annual IGS show is using the theme “Red, White & Blue Gourds.” The theme did rather uproot our patches' plans to have a RWB gallery this year, so we shall be re-thinking over the next couple of months. However, since the gourd show will conclude on May 5, I am hoping a few RWB gourds might be available for loan.

One of the joys of my day job is going through donations of books to the library and assigning them new homes. There is one new arrival that will stay with me and be available to participants to review at the IGS February 24 show committee meeting and at the state show. It is a 1990 booklet of 29 pages “Kokopelli: Casanova of the Cliff Dwellers” by John V. Young. I have seen various renderings of Kokopelli on gourds ever since I started visiting gourd shows, but I had no idea of his history nor variations.

Speculation is that Kokopelli, the traveling salesman, may have used the flute as a notice to villagers that he was coming in peace and was not an enemy sneaking up on them.

(Continued on page 4)

Notice to all Gourd Growers!

The planting season will soon be here. The American Gourd Society would like to get more people interested in entering the Jim Story hand trained gourd competition. Jim Story made a DVD showing how he hand trained gourds and showing many tips on growing gourds in general. This is a very educational and fun DVD to watch. Order the \$20 DVD online at www.indianagourdsociety.org or pick one up at the show.

Gourd Parade!

We are looking for people to participate in a competition for best gourd hat, best gourd jewelry, and best gourd surprise item. All items must have been made by the competitor. There will be a prize for first place in each category and afterward we will have a parade to show off the entries.

Questions call: Jim Ballard 317-468-5717

PATCH NEWS

Central Indiana Patch (Diane Werblo, contact)

In January Mercedes Arriga, RoJene Gillentine, Danny Hall, Mac McCrary, Sandra and Tim Townsend, and I all complimented Jean Long on her 3-tiered gourd snowman sitting at the entrance to GPAC where we meet. The staff members say the kids just love it; some even hug it! Sandra and RoJene provided dinner. Sandra then asked which patch members would do demos and volunteer for different jobs for the State Show. We continued working on the long-term quilt square project. Wet pieces are easily cut with heavy-duty box cutters. Put on a rack with air blowing on them, the pieces dried stiff as before. Each gourders' square might reflect the artist. For example, Mac could weave and I'm planning dotted purple paisley pattern. Even though our meeting is after Valentine's Day, some of us will be showing off red heart gourds. This spring we are looking for someone to teach us how to make rain sticks -- to go with our thunder drums. We have posted some gourd pictures on the IGS Facebook page. The Marion County Fair has requested that we have someone demo gourd art/craft at the fair in mid-June. CIP meets on the fourth Tuesday each month from 6:30-8:30 p.m. ET at the Garfield Park Arts Center in Indy.

Sugar Creek and Thorn Tree Gourd Patches (Karen Niemeyer, contact)

February/March is a great time to focus on gourd craft. Anyone who wants to work with these amazing dried garden products is welcome to the gourd patch sessions at the Thorntown Public Library, 124 N. Market St., Thorntown. Crafting sessions are held from 2-4:00 p.m. ET on the second and fourth Wednesdays and from 6-8 p.m. ET on the first and third Wednesdays each month. In addition to working on special projects, participants are invited to work on their own gourd pieces while sharing gourd conversations. February projects include finishing snowmen, cutting bird feeders, using various techniques on 4" gourd quilt squares, finishing carved gourd lamps, and making plans for March-July. In addition, there will be discussion regarding how we can volunteer to help at the state gourd show on May 4-5. Some will be teaching classes and some will help with demonstrations and make-it/take-it opportunities, while all are assisting the show chair. In July, at the town's Sugar Creek Art Center, there will be a display of red-white-blue gourds in addition to other art works, but in April the plan is to make bird houses from apple gourds. It is all gourd fun!

Lakeshore Gourders (Loretta Pressel, contact)

Because of bad weather up North here, we did not have a January meeting. The next meeting will be on February 20, 2018. Peggy Miller will be giving a demo on decoupage on a gourd with paper napkins. If you would like to learn come join us.

At this time our regular reporter, Loretta Pressel is a little under the weather (Sherry filling in). Our group is talking about the State Show in May and busy planning what we will exhibit and how to help out at the Show. We're seriously looking forward to spring and warmer weather! If you would like more info about our meeting contact: Patch Leader Sherry Benedict at stbenedict@embarqmail.com

West Central Indiana Gourd Patch (Shirley Gates, contact)

We have been painting then painting some more to finish our Santa gourds we started in November. Whew!!!! Most are finished. We learned to use alcohol/ink techniques at our January meeting. It was fun. Each of us crafted two Christmas ornaments. Carol Brown taught the class. We had a guest, Donna Harcourt, who teaches the ink/alcohol technique for the Indy Decorative Artists, present and helped us with different techniques. We each had beautiful results.

Carol and I are trying to pep everyone up for the Indiana Gourd show and county fairs. Several members expressed interest but need guidance. This year Hendricks county is having a separate gourd class at the county fair. We helped the county set this up.

Birdhouse Measurements 101

Some birds will not nest in birdhouses.

Only cavity nesters will use nest boxes/houses because they nest in natural cavities.

Birdhouse Measurements for North American Birds:

SPECIES	FLOOR (IN)	HEIGHT (IN)	HOLE DIAMETER (IN)	HOLE ABOVE FLOOR (IN)	BOX ABOVE GROUND (FT)
Chickadees & Tits	4x4	6-10	1 1/8	4-8	6-15
Titmouse	4x4	6-12	1 1/4	4-10	6-15
Wood Duck	10x18	10-24	4	12-16	6-20
Ash-Throated Flycatcher	6x6	8-12	1 1/2	6-10	5-15
Great Crested Flycatcher	6x6	8-12	1 3/4	6-10	5-15
American Kestrel	8x8	12-15	3	9-12	8-30
Red-tailed Hawk*	24x24 platform	-	-	-	at least 14
Brown-headed Nuthatch Pygmy Nuthatch Red-breasted Nuthatch	4x4	8-10	1 1/4	6-8	5-15
White Breasted Nuthatches	4x4	8-10	1 3/8	6-8	5-15
Osprey*	48x48 platform	-	-	-	at least 15 over water**
Barn Owl	10x18	15-18	6	4	12-18
Great Horned Owl*	24x24 platform	-	-	-	-
Screech Owl	8x8	12-15	3	9-12	8-30
Phoebes*	6x6 nest shelf	6	-	-	8-12
Barn Swallow*	6x6 nest shelf	6	-	-	8-12
Purple Martin	6x6	6	1 3/4 to 2 1/4	1-2	6-20
Tree Swallow & Violet Green Swallow	5x5	6-8	1 1/2	4-6	6-15
American Robin*	7x8 nest shelf	8	-	-	6-15
Eastern Blue Bird	5x5	6-12	1 1/2	4-10	4-10
Western Blue Bird	5x5	6-12	1 1/2	4-10	4-10
Mt. Blue Bird	5x5	6-12	1 9/16	4-10	4-10
Downy Woodpecker	4x4	8-10	1 1/4	6-8	5-15
Hairy Woodpecker	6x6	12-15	1 1/2	9-12	8-20
Lewis's Woodpecker	7x7	16-18	2 1/2	14-16	12-20
Flicker Woodpecker	7x7	16-18	2 1/2	14-16	6-20
Pileated Woodpecker	8x8	16-24	3 x 4	12-20	15-25
Red-headed Woodpecker	6x6	12-15	2	9-12	10-20
Yellow-bellied Woodpecker	5x5	12-15	1 1/2	9-12	10-20
Prothonotory	5x5	6	1 1/8	4-5	4-8
House Wren	4x4	6-8	1 1/8	4-6	5-10
Carolina Wren	4x4	6-8	1 1/4	4-6	5-10
Bewick's Wren	4x4	6-8	1 1/8	4-6	5-10

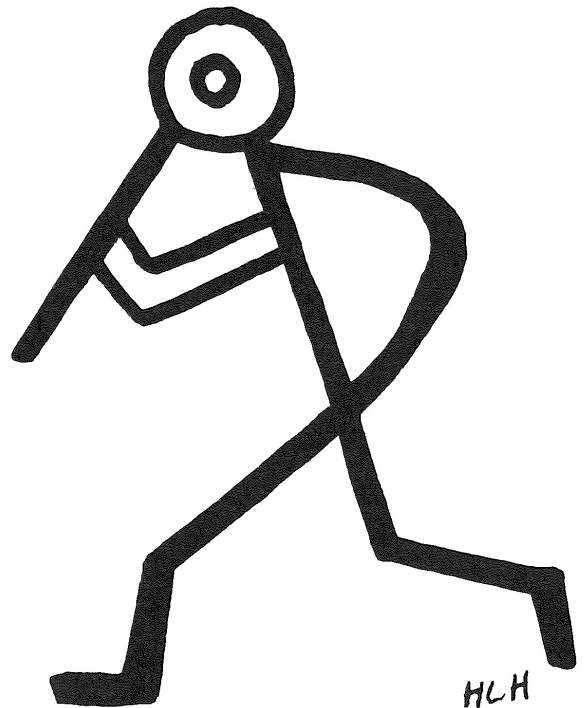
*These species use a nesting shelf (3 sides and an open front) or a platform instead of a closed-box design.

**If the Osprey platform is placed inland, the height should exceed the height of any nearby trees or 20 feet.

Was he a water sprinkler, wandering minstrel, fertility enhancer, or simply a hunchbacked flute player? As the water sprinkler, he was considered a minor god who brought rain and food to the People. There are depictions of Kokopelli, followed by his wife Kokopelli-mana in a Hohokam bowl from Arizona. He has been painted and scratched on the rocks and in caves of the pre-Columbian people of the southwest United States. Young's booklet depicts him on rocks, tee shirts, pottery, and fabrics; he notes Kokopelli has never been a sinister character, never voodooistic, but frequently comic. His likeness varies almost as much as his legends, the author states, but usually he is grotesquely hunchbacked, usually phallic in the extreme, and nearly always playing some sort of flute or flageolet. His figure has been found in ruins from 200 A.D. to as late as the 16th century.



To tempt you to read Young's booklet, where he notes that Kokopelli's outstanding feature was NOT his feet, although many carvings depict six-toed symbols, I offer his explanation. "The reason Kokopelli has a name is fairly simple. The Hopi people of central Arizona, aptly called 'archaeology on the hoof,' make a variety of kachina dolls to sell to tourists. Among the dolls is one they call Kokopelli, and his 'wife' is called Kokopelli-mana. Koko is hunchbacked and plays a flute. Formerly he was vividly phallic, but the missionaries persuaded the Indians to omit this feature in the interests of what they (the missionaries) called decency. The Hopis did not consider sex to be indecent—merely absurd." Sometimes standing/marching, sometimes recumbent, sometimes with horns, sometimes potbellied, sometimes carrying a pack of seeds on his back, he is at least once depicted wearing a helmet and blowing a horn instead of a flute.



Borrow the booklet and read on—and then depict Kokopelli or him and Kokopelli-mana on a gourd. What endless challenges he offers gourd artists!

Message from the Show Chair

We are getting ready for our 2018 Gourd Art and Craft Show - "Red, White, and Blue Gourds." I want to give a big THANK YOU to EVERYONE for all your support and help in the past years and for this year, too. We are again looking for people to participate in our next show:

- *We need vendors and Instructors**
- *We need volunteers to man tables and help in other areas**
- *We need everyone to enter their gourds in the competition and/or an exhibit**
- *We need for everyone to promote the show by "talking it up"**
- *We need items donated for the Auction**
- *We want everyone to come and have a good time, showing, selling, learning more and talking gourds**

Once again this year there will be NO SHOW ON SUNDAY. Thursday will be for set-up and competition placement only. Open to the public on Friday (10 am - 7:30 pm ET) and Saturday (9 am - 4 pm PM ET) with everything going on.

Competition placement will be on Thursday (2-8 pm ET) and Friday (7-10 am ET) The judges meeting will be on Friday (10 am ET), followed by competition judging until completed. Competition area will be closed during judging.

The Children's Competition Classes had many great entries last year. This year, we are continuing with many fun classes for kids, check them out in our Show Book (Division 7). 2018 will be the sixth annual vendors competition for the Joyce Dankowski Memorial Award, "Best Vendor Display." We would like to congratulate the 2017 winner, Sue Westhues, for her impressive display last year. Good luck to all our 2018 vendors.

We have several vary talented people giving classes at our show. In addition, we will have some Make It Take It classes for adults and kids. There will be many crafted gourds on display or for sale. This is your opportunity to stock up on dry gourds. Check out our website indianagourdsociety.org for updates on the show.

I personally want to thank all those who have stepped up and volunteered already. Your support is very appreciated.

Hope to see you at our IGS 26th State Show, "Red , White, and Blue Gourds"

Ida Kennedy, 2018 Show Chair

PATCH CONTACTS

Central Indiana	Indianapolis	Diane Werblo	317-783-1428
Gourd Crafters	Ridgeville	Lois Wright	317-370-1418
Lakeshore Gourders	Plymouth	Sherry Benedict	574-936-4805
Linda's Patch	Greenfield	Jim Ballard	317-468-5717
Patch 4	West Lafayette	Verona Clark	765-242-1967
Story Gourd Patch	Pendleton	Inactive	
Sugar Creek	Thorntown	Karen Niemeyer	765-436-7518
Thorn Tree	Thorntown	Karen Niemeyer	765-436-7518
West Central Indiana	Avon	Carol Brown	317-742-5184 or
		Shirley Gates	317-306-6383

ROAD TRIPS

2018—courtesy of AGS

(www.americangourdsociety.org)

Mar 17-18: Idaho Aristry in Wood and Gourd Show, Boise, ID—www.idahogourdsociety.org

Apr 7-8: Missouri Show Me Gourd Society Fine Art Festival, Ozark Empire Fairgrounds, Springfield MO—www.showmegourdsociety.com

Apr 7: Wisconsin Midwest Gourd Fest, Olbrich Botanical Gardens, Madison, WI—www.wisconsin gourdsociety.org

Apr 21-22: Virginia Gourd Workshops Weekend, Museum of the Shenandoah Valley, Winchester, VA—www.vigs.org

Apr 27-28: South Carolina Gourd Society and Ghost Creek Gourds, Laurens, SC—www.southcarolinagourd.wixsite.com

May 4-5: Indiana Gourd Society Show, Fulton Co Historical Society, Rochester, IN —www.indianagourdsociety.org

May 19-20: Kentucky Gourd Art Show, Spencer Co. Elementary School, Taylorsville, KY—www.kygourdsociety.org

* * IGS Events 2018 * *

Indiana Gourd Society State Gourd Show

May 4-5, 2018

Fulton County Historical Society
37 E. 375 N

Rochester, IN 46975

[This is an IGS Sponsored Event]



Jean Long's snowman
at the Garfield Park Art Center in Indy

CHANGE OF VENUE

IGS State Show

May 4-5, 2018

Setup on May 3, 2018

Fulton County Historical Museum

37 E 375 N

Rochester, IN 46975

The IGS was formed and exists pursuant to the Indiana Not-for-Profit corporation statute Sect. 501 (c) (5). The corporation has never attained Sect. 501 (c) (3) status of the Internal Revenue Code. Therefore, gifts to IGS are not deductible for income tax purposes.

Interested in helping maintain the Indiana Gourd Society Facebook page? If so, please contact Phil Moorhead 765-674-8088 or treasurer@indiangourdsociety.org

Address Change: Fill out form and mail to indicated address below.

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. - Gourd Seed Order Form - 2018

Go to: indianagourdsociety.org - open seed link, click on gourd names for pictures and descriptions.

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: Bottle Mix, BILOBAL		38: (Out of Stock)
	03: Martin House, MEDIUM (8 - 9" W)		21: Dipper, SHORT Handle (12 - 18" long)		39: Small Pear – (Orn.)
	04: Martin House, LARGE (6 seeds) (10 - 12" W)		22: Dipper, APACHE (flat bottom) (12 - 18" long)		40: Bottle, NIGERIAN - MINI (limited quantity)
	05: Kettle Mix (Taper Top)		23: Dipper, LONG Handle (36 - 48" long)		41: Basketball (6 seeds)
	06: (Out of Stock)		24: Dipper, EXTRA LONG Handle (30+" long)		42: (Out of Stock)
	07: Birdhouse Mix (Hard Shell)		25: Luffa, LONG - (Orn.)		43: Long Gourd (6 seeds) (limited quantity)
	08: Bushel (10 -12" H)		26: (Out of Stock)		44: Snake
	09: Bushel, 100 lbs. PLUS (Out of Stock)		27: Bottle, CHINESE MINI (3 - 4" H)		45: Swan/Goose Gourd
	10: (Out of Stock)		28: (Out of Stock)		46: Warty, AFRICAN (8 - 9" H)
	11: Canteen (8" W x 4" H)		29: Bottle, SMALL (4 - 7" H)		47: Penguin (limited quantity)
	12: Canteen, Corsican (10" W x 5" H)		30: Bottle Mix, MINI (Taper Top) (3 – 5"H)		48: Luffa, BALL – (Orn.)
	13: Tobacco Box (Taper Top) (8" W x 6" H)		31: Round Gourd (Taper Top) (4 - 5" H)		49: (Out of Stock)
	14: Canteen, Copper Canyon (Pear Shape) (6"W x 8" H)		32: Banana		50: Hardshell Warty (5 - 6" H)
	15: Maranka		33: Spoon – (Orn.)		51: Orange Gourd – (Orn.) (3" - Round)
	16: Cannon Ball		34: Spinner– (Orn.)		52: Autumn Wings, MIX – (Orn.)
	17: Bat Gourd (30 - 36" long)		35: Crown of Thorns – (Orn.)		53: Tall Vase (14 - 16" H)
	18: Bottle, Mexican Water		36: Nest Egg – (Orn.)		

Seeds will NOT be shipped until the first week in February 2018

<p>Note: Sizes and shapes listed are approximate Each package contains 12 seeds <i>unless noted</i>. All cost \$3.00 / package. All seed batches are checked annually for germination rates. SHIP TO:</p> <p>Name: _____</p> <p>Address: _____</p> <p>City/State/Zip: _____</p> <p>Phone: _____</p> <p>E-mail: _____</p>	<p>Total Packages: _____</p> <p>Price per pack: _____ x \$3.00</p> <p>Plus Postage: _____</p> <p>TOTAL ORDER: _____</p> <p>Postage/handling, including IGS members (through: May 31, 2018): 1-4 packs = \$3.00 11-20 packs = \$5.00 5-10 packs = \$4.00 21 packs and up = \$6.00</p> <p>Please list alternate choices below in case any of the above are out of stock. _____</p>
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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, contact us at: seeds@indianagourdsociety.org Copyright © 2018, Indiana Gourd Society, Inc. IGS/12-21-17

THE TENDRIL

P.O. BOX 822

MARION, IN 46952

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The Tendril published 6 times per year
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CHECK EXPIRATION DATE ABOVE YOUR ADDRESS!
THIS MAY BE YOUR LAST ISSUE

Issue: Articles Due:

Jan/Feb Dec 1
Mar/Apr Feb 1
May/Jun Apr 1
Jul/Aug Jun 1
Sep/Oct Aug 1
Nov/Dec Oct 1

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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