

The Gourderly-Quarterly

Zeta Chapter of the American Gourd Society

Volume 4, Issue 3
Summer 2009



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Do you belong to the American Gourd Society? A membership in the American Gourd Society will get you their quarterly magazine, The Gourd, which is always filled with tutorials and nice-to-know information! Join today by going to www.americangourdsociety.org.



Featured Artist:

Andrea Schneeberg

see page 10

Wisconsin Gourd Society
"Cucurbitaceae Custodiae"

Newsletter Information

Editor: Deb Ready
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Co-Editor: terri schmit
thegourdgirl@yahoo.com

Articles & Pictures

Now accepting articles, photographs, questions and comments. Please submit documents (.doc or in e-mail) and photos (.jpeg or .pdf) via e-mail to pready@tds.net before the deadline. Mail hard copies to WGS, 2099 County Road E. Blue Mounds, WI 53517. The editor reserves the right to edit submissions.

Advertisements

Sponsors who wish to advertise in the **Gourderly Quarterly** Newsletter will receive a 10% discount on our advertising rates. The rates for sponsor advertising are:

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Business Card size: one time \$5.40, two issues \$9.90, four issues \$18.90

If you do not wish to be a member or sponsor, we still welcome you to advertise. Advertising rates for non-member/non-sponsors are:

1/4 page ad: one time \$11, two issues \$21, four issues \$41

1/2 page ad: one time \$16, two issues \$31, four issues \$61

*Full page ad: one time \$30, two issues \$59, four issues \$115

Business Card size: one time \$6, two issues \$11, four issues \$21

*Ad sizes: 1/4 page = 3.5"x4" 1/2 page = 6.5x4.5" Full page = 6.5x9"

The deadlines for advertising are: February 1, May 1, August 1 and November 1 for March, June, September and December issues respectively.

We also offer line classified ads at a rate of \$1.50 per 50 space line with a three line minimum (including blanks and punctuation). There is no discount on classified ads.

Rates are subject to change. These rates are effective November 1, 2007.

Ad Deadlines:

Spring February 1

Summer May 1

Autumn August 1

Winter November 1

Society Website

To get information in between newsletters, please visit the official website of The Wisconsin Gourd Society at www.wisconsiningsourdsociety.org

MISSION STATEMENT

The Wisconsin Gourd Society is an educational non-profit association dedicated to creating a community that sows the seeds of understanding and appreciation of gourds and their history, cultural identities, horticulture, utility and role as art medium.

President's Message -

Spring is finally here, along with the "itch" to get those gourd seeds in the ground. May has already passed us by and - with any luck at all - so have the chances for a late frost. In contending with Wisconsin's unpredictable weather, I have had to rethink starting seeds inside. Also a lot of credit and peace of mind can be given to the gourd girl and gourd guy for their gourd planting timetable tips.



In keeping my mind off of early indoor gourd planting in March, much of the credit went to the various activities surrounding our WGS festival "Gourds Gone Wild". Having been the first gourd festival that I was involved in - as far as all of the planning - I am grateful for my co-chair, Deb Ready, and our advisor, terri schmit, not to mention all the wonderful volunteers that helped to make this year's festival a wonderful success.

Our "official" total of attendees, (provided by Olbrich Gardens), was over 1,200; the vendors, classes and competition area were very busy. It was hard to keep people out of the competition area during judging. We really had some intriguing entries. From the size of the crowd, it looked like everyone was having a great time. Even take down and clean up went exceptionally well. I'm already looking forward to next year's festival.

Some of the classes during the festival were full, so if you weren't able to take some of the classes that you wanted or there were two classes taking place at the same time, make sure that you check WGS future class schedule, as some classes will be repeated later this year. Please fill out the online questionnaire. We really would like your input for next year.

Speaking of classes, our Education Chair, terri schmit, is always looking for people willing to share their gourd techniques and talents with others. If you have a technique that you'd like to share, please give terri a call or drop her a line.

As thoughts of summer inch their way into our minds, please keep in mind that there are ways in which you can make a contribution to WGS. Yes YOU. Elsewhere in this publication, please take time to look at WGS current and future open positions. When you read the fine print, you will find an explanation of the job description for both elected and volunteer positions. Maybe there's a niche that you could fill that would give you a chance to share your knowledge and talents to help maintain and promote WGS. Try it out for size, you may be surprised at the fit!

Have a great summer, and take time to watch the gourds grow and attend a patch meeting or two. Don't forget to check out other Gourd Societies when you travel. Most of them have websites to accommodate your summer fun.

Barb

2009 Gourds Gone Wild! Festival Wrap Up!!

We couldn't have asked for a better turn out for the WGS Gourds Gone Wild! festival held on April 4 at Olbrich Botanical Gardens. We had anticipated the number of members who might come, but we couldn't have anticipated the public walk-ins. The festival ran from 9am until 4pm and the approximate foot traffic was over 1,200, not including vendors, volunteers and their families (so add another 75 maybe). It was busy, and crowded, and wonderful.

For our first time at Olbrich, it was a great success! We have already secured Olbrich Botanical Gardens for our 2010 festival, which will be held on April 10, 2010, so mark your calendars now! We will be working with Olbrich to make some improvements to space and processes, but overall, we feel that we have a good working relationship with them and we're looking forward to another successful festival in 2010.

The vendors were all happy with the crowd and with their sales. There was some question as to why we had a jewelry vendor and that was a miscommunication. We'd hoped that Midnight Moon would have brought beads for embellishments, but by the time we and they realized that they'd misunderstood, there was no time for them to run back to Stoughton and change their supply. But something good came out of it, as they have space for classes in their store, and we're going to work with them to get some classes going there.

The competition was twice what it had been in the past – we know it was hard to see all the pieces, and there was just no way to arrange them after a while – but another lesson learned for next year – more space! However, everyone was impressed with the quality of the works submitted, from the youngest to the master craftsman – it was all stunning. People's Choice

award went to Andrea Schneeberg of Ladysmith, WI for her beautiful carving. Congratulations to Andrea!! Andrea will be teaching her carving techniques at the fall gourd gathering on October 10 in Blue Mounds – watch the calendar on the web page (www.wisconsin gourdsociety.org) for more information on that. The final competition results are printed in this newsletter. Congratulations to all of you – whether you walked away with a ribbon or not- you made it an amazing display to behold. Also, this year was the first time we've used the American Gourd Society judging standards and qualified judges. Many thanks to them for their unbiased and professional services. They did a terrific job.

Music was provided in the morning by the Moldy Jam group and in the afternoon Djam Vivier and Tani Djakite played music indigenous to Africa on drums and ngoni (a guitar-like instrument made from a gourd). We were told the music was a bit loud for the room and it got too crowded for some of the vendors, but they all still enjoyed it nonetheless. We'll be working with Olbrich to make the music space more conducive to the overall festival for next year.

Our membership table brought in over \$900 in fundraising efforts, selling books, shirts, totes, aprons and raffle/silent auction items. Many thanks to Linda Smulka for organizing this effort and to all the volunteers who helped Linda out. Speaking of membership, we managed to acquire 16 new members on festival day, with about another ten coming in within the week after the festival.

Classes were near full before festival day and those that weren't certainly filled quickly. Classrooms were set up based on number of students registered prior to festival day, and so there were a few space problems when additional students signed up. Many thanks to the instructors for their willingness to adapt to the issues. Our questionnaire results show that the

students all had a very good time and were quite pleased with their projects. There was a question of lighting in one classroom, which will be addressed for next year's festival.

The volunteer team, lead by Meredith Hanson did such a wonderful job of greeting people as they came in, making sure they knew where to go, giving vendors breaks, helping to set up and break down and so much more. Hats off to all of the volunteers – you are what makes this group work and we truly appreciate all of your efforts!

After a long day, about thirty people managed to still have the stamina to join us for the WGS membership meeting and dinner at Talula Restaurant in Madison. It was a chance to hear the state of the society and win door prizes, but after that, it was a great opportunity to get to know each other in a very relaxed setting. There was lots of laughter, great food and we all learned a lot about each other. It was terrific seeing some new faces at the tables – a very fun and diverse group.

Overall, this was the best WGS festival yet. We plan to have it again at Olbrich in 2010 and we'll see where we go from there. Again, so many thanks to all of you who participated – as volunteers, vendors, instructors, organizers. In the coming months we'll already begin our planning process for the 2010 festival. We're always looking for volunteers, so if you've got even a small amount of time, we can use you! Not sure what you can do? We've got a list in this issue of some of the tasks involved in making this happen. Don't see something you can do? Just let us know and we'll find something that works for you!

So until next year, wishing you all every success at all things gourd –

WGS Festival Organizers
Deb Ready, Barb Rothwell, terri schmit

2009 Wisconsin Gourd Festival Questionnaire

TOTAL RESPONSES: 21

Date:

Would you rather we keep an early spring festival date or would you like to see it a little later in the year?

Early Spring 89% Fall 12%

Please name your preferred month for a WGS Festival.

89% April

Should we attempt a two-day festival next year? **24% YES
76% NO**

What else would you like to see added (more classes, demonstrations, etc.)?

46% More Demonstrations

27% More Classes

9% More students per class

9% Display class projects at class registration table for classes which haven't filled

9% WGS should have a credit card purchasing table for vendors who don't have credit card services

Location:

Should we continue having our festival at Olbrich Gardens after 2010? **86% YES**

Will you be willing to travel to attend? **7% will travel; 7% will travel within 30 minutes to Madison**

What did you like about this year's setting?

24% Location

9% Access

62% Atmosphere

5% Lots of Space

What didn't you like about the setting?

10% Olbrich's Rules (i.e., use of space in lobby)

20% No Food on premises

10% Poor lighting

10% Music space too crowded

10% Many attendees didn't know there were activities in the Atrium

10% Parking

30% Too crowded

Can you recommend a location for our 2011 festival?

72% Olbrich

7% Green Bay Botanical Garden

7% Jefferson County Fair Grounds

7% Milwaukee

7% Shake Rag Alley

Should the WGS festival move around the state each year or should we try to keep it in one place?

73% Stay at Olbrich

18% Undecided

9% Stay South

Workshops:

Did you attend any workshops during the festival? **56% YES 44% NO**

If not, please explain why (i.e., cost, time of day, type of class, level of difficulty, etc.) **6% COST**

Please give your candid impressions of the workshops and instructors.

-Comments: Workshops are integral to the festival; Need ventilation for woodburning demo/class or go outside;

-Instructors: Great, patient, helpful, competent, organized.

What classes would you like to see offered at the next festival?

7% Musical Instruments

7% Silk Dyes

34% Woodburning

12% Rims

20% Carving

7% Gourd Drum Necklace

13% Color Class

What upgrades can you recommend for the workshops?

-Better Lighting, More Space

What upgrades can you recommend for the workshop descriptions as found on our WGS Festival web page?

No Comments

Would you be interested in teaching a gourd workshop next year? Please name your area of expertise.

Chris Manno

Bonnie Cox

Andrea Schneeberg for October Gathering

Fees:

Are you willing to pay \$3 to get into the festival? **67% YES
19% NO 14% Would pay as a member, but don't think the public would pay.**

Are you willing to pay to the \$2-\$3 to compete? **100% YES**

If not, what would be an acceptable competition fee to you? **29% less than \$5**

Activities:

This year we had a silent auction, raffle, competition and there was a Kid's Korner where the kids could play with gourds. What other activities would you like us to provide? (i.e., hat or mask contest, gourd parade, etc.)

-Suggested contests: Hat Contest, Mask Contest, Name tag Contest

-Other suggestion: Drop the Kid's Corner

Competition:

What upgrades can you recommend for the competition application?

-Have separate categories for holiday decorations

-Have more categories

What did you like about the competition?

88% - Variety

12% - Number of entries

What did you dislike about the competition?

-All nametags should be turned over after judging

-Use non-WGS judges, maybe from UW Art Department

-Need more space, hard to see

-Would like to know why they didn't receive a ribbon

Vendors/Products:

What specific types of vendor items/products would you like to see at future festivals?

6% - Would like to have Primitive Originals, Turtle Feathers, Mardi Gourds attend

23% - More Gourds

35% - More supplies

12% - More finished artwork

6% - Books

6% - Beads

12% - Food

Please give your candid impressions of the quality of the vendor products.

-Excellent, impressive, good selection, great

If you were a vendor, what upgrades can you recommend for the vendor application?

No Comments

Would you consider vending again for the next festival?

100% YES

Membership Meeting/Dinner:

Did you stay for the membership meeting/dinner? 28%

YES 72%NO

If not, why?

33% Long Drive

8% Health reasons

17% Long Day

42% Had other plans

The meeting covered introductions, festival information, membership and treasurer reports and a "state of the organization" recap. What other information or activity would you like to see in the membership meetings?

Award to farthest traveler; gourd swap

Did you attend the Third Annual Gourds Gone Wild! Wisconsin Gourd Festival?

100% YES



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Festival Photos . . .

By Patrick Ready



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Festival Competition Results . . .

Congratulations to everyone who participated in the festival competition. All the pieces were superb and the judges had to make some very tough decisions. We appreciate your support and patience during the judging process. This year the American Gourd Society implemented judging standards and this was the first competition in the Midwest to use these standards. Our judges have been trained by American Gourd Society Master Judges. While there was a learning curve, and it was very difficult to choose in many categories, having the standards as our guidelines helped us in the judging process. Following are the first, second and third place winners, and People's Choice Award.

DIVISION/CATEGORY	FIRST PLACE	SECOND PLACE	THIRD PLACE
People's Choice Award	Andrea Schneeberg		
Youth Juniors	Nolan Amoth	Celia Lohr	Ian Williams
Novice Woodburning	Jeanne Stietz	Sarah Bradley	
Novice Beaded, Clay, Inlay	Meredith Hanson	Jo Lakota	
Novice Painted or Pens (Inks)	Racer X		
Novice Mixed Media	Jo Lakota	Dan Duchay	Lee Lohr
Novice Jewelry	Meredith Hanson		
Novice Musical Instrument	Marlene Meyer		
Novice Wild Card	Marlene Meyer	Lee Lohr	Carol Lawrence
Open Woodburning	Sharon Donahue	Bonnie Adams	June Kilgren
Open Carved, Chiseled, Gouged	Dan Douchay		
Open Inlay	Bonnie Cox	Margie Jordan	
Open Cut Design	Jan Zwicke	Bonnie Adams	Carol Lawrence
Open Painted or Pens	Wayne Otto	Jeanne Stietz	
Open Weaving	Chris Manno	Marge Engelman	Dan Duchay
Open Mixed Media	Margie Jordan	Tammy Evans	June Kilgren
Open Beaded	Terri LaBrosse	Marlene Meyer	
Open Clay Embellishment	Bonnie Adams		
Open Jewelry	Marge Engelman	Chris Manno	Carol Lawrence
Open Gourd Purse	Barb Rothwell		
Open Birdhouse/Feeder	Chris Manno	M.A. Katke	Bonnie Adams
Open Musical Instrument	Bonnie Adams		
Open Lamps	Bonnie Adams	Cathy Frosch	Dan Duchay
Open Mask	Barb Rothwell	Carol Lawrence	Jeanne Stietz
Open Miniature Decorated Gourd	Chris Manno	Karen Jackson	
Open Wild Card	Barb Rothwell	Barb Bellmer	Chris Manno
Master/Sculptural	Gary Kvalheim	Barb Bellmer	Bonnie Adams
Master Vases, Bowls	Gary Kvalheim	Andrea Schneeberg	Barb Bellmer
Master Wild Card	Gary Kvalheim		
Grower Smallest Hardshell	Larry Haas		
Grower Smallest Ornamental	Larry Haas		
Grower Hand Trained	Larry Haas		
Grower Widest in Diameter-Hardshell	Jack Schandelmeier		
Grower Longest Straight Long Handle Dipper	Larry Haas		

Join us in wishing our new Wisconsin Gourd Society President, Barb Rothwell, a very happy birthday on June 11th.

Fine art on gourd media.



Terri Schmit
artist

2099 County Road E
Blue Mounds, WI 53517

608.437.1944
thegourdguy@hotmail.com

Competition Winners...



Featured Artist: Andrea Schneeberg By Deb Ready

Recently, at the Wisconsin Gourd Society Festival in April, I met a talented young artist from Ladysmith – Andrea Schneeberg. As a self-taught gourd artist, Andrea specializes in pyrocarving – carving with a woodburning tool. Her festival booth was awe-inspiring, with gourds carved in designs featuring birds, flowers, and lots more.

Originally from West Bend, Andrea started out several years ago growing gourds in her garden. From there, it was a natural step to experiment with various art techniques. Andrea has always had her hand in art in one form or another - with a passion for watercolors and a background as a screen printer for the past 14 years, which made the artistic jump to gourds relatively easy. However working with a gourd for a canvas, a rounded and often uneven surface, she chose to use a woodburning tool and the rest is history.

Andrea's subjects cover a wide variety with no end in sight. She just finished working on a motorcycle gourd piece and is looking forward to trying new subjects and challenges. Andrea is the winner of the 2009 People's Choice Award at the Wisconsin Gourd Festival with a stunning and uniquely-carved bowl of birds of all types.

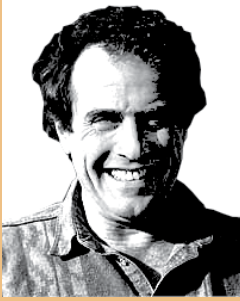
This spring, Andrea planted 200 gourd plants in her garden. Previously, she bought gourds faithfully from a vendor in South Carolina but has found that – at times - the gourds have been “too thick” for the carving she wants. With her crop now planted, she will be able to experiment and find what works best for her. Her crop includes a hodgepodge of gourd varieties.

Asked about what hurdles she has faced with this new art form, Andrea said that she has had trouble finding a Dremel tool that she likes. As for future artwork, she will continue to work in pyrography and painting.

This fall, Andrea will be teaching her first class for the Wisconsin Gourd Society, Pyrocarving, on Saturday, Oct. 10th from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the annual Fall Gourd Gathering at The Gourd Guy Farm in Blue Mounds. More information on this class is available on the WGS website at www.wisconsin gourdsociety.org and registrations are currently being taken.



Ask the Gourd Guy



Question: Are you familiar with bushel basket gourds? I remember years ago, my dad would grow these, it seemed, easily. But when I FINALLY found the seeds, the germination percentage was VERY low if at all. Right now I started some seeds(20) and only one has germinated. I would love to grow these and make baskets out of them.

Any info would be so helpful.

— Sherri Wilson

Answer: Bushel gourds are large, long season gourds, usually at least 120 days. The seeds can be found usually at garden centers that sell a wide variety of gourd seeds, but also online at any of the major gourd seed sellers. If you are looking for pure seeds, meaning you want to be certain that what you plant is what you get, you might try Quarry Farms or North Carolina Seeds online. Illinois seed seller Jack Schandelmeier also grows bushels, but he does not advertise as having true/pure seeds. When you purchase seeds, you can ask the seller, especially if you're buying direct from them, what their germination percentage is

expected to be and if the seed is pure. Also keep in mind that prepping the seed can have a huge impact on the germination time. You can soak the seed for up to 12 hours before you plant to soften the hull; you can snip the "shoulders" just before you plant; you can start them indoors in a very warm place and transplant. Wisconsin's spring weather can fluctuate so much that the seeds may take longer to germinate than you'd like if you direct seed.

Question: I was just wondering if it would be to the plant's advantage if I snipped off those first leaves (cotyledons) - the smooth-edged leaves that first appear. I do have 3-5 true leaves on the plants.

— Cindy Isaacs, St. Paul Pk. MN

Answer: The cotyledons will drop off by themselves (or not), so I don't see much point in removing them (so why keep them?) ... these little guys actually start the first photosynthesis in these dicots (meaning gourds have two cotyledons), and more photosynthesis is better than less, so if they help to drink up more energy, it's better for the plant to keep them...that's what I think...plus, if it ain't broke, dont' fix it!

The Wisconsin Gourd Society wishes to extend its condolences to Barb Rothwell on the loss of her husband Hampton. Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this time of transition.

Keep this gift idea in mind!

Give the gift of gourd society membership. Just send the \$12 membership dues and the recipient's name and address to WIGS, 2099 County Road E, Blue Mounds, WI, 53517. Then give the Gift Certificate as a present. We'll take care of the rest.

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Wuz Happening?

Upcoming Classes

5/31 Carving with Gary Kvalheim – Blue Mounds
6/28 Corkscrew carving with Deb Ready – Stoughton
7/12 Color Concepts with terri schmit – Blue Mounds
7/14 Closed Coiling with terri – Slinger, WI
7/19 Intro to Woodburning with terri – Omro
8/8 Coiling Alternatives with Barb Rothwell – Fitchburg
8/16 Gourd Masks with terri – Omro
8/30 Carving with Gary Kvalheim – Blue Mounds
10/10 Carving with Andrea Schneeberg – Fall Gathering, Blue Mounds

September 11-13 - Illinois Gourd Festival, Chicago Botanical Gardens. www.americangourdsociety.org/ILGS for more info.

September 25-27 - Ohio Gourd Show. www.americangourdsociety.org/ohiochapter for more info.

October 10 - Wisconsin Gourd Society Fall Gathering/ Membership meeting/Potluck. The Gourd Guy Farm in Blue Mounds. Classes from 9am-noon; meeting/potluck at noon; open house from 1pm-4pm. Classes, demonstrations, kids events, music and more. Come and share the day in a relaxed setting and get to know each other! www.wisconsin gourdsociety.org for more info.

Sept. 12-13 North Carolina's festival

North Carolina Gourd Society 's 68th annual Gourd Arts and Crafts Festival, Sept. 12-13, 9 am – 5 pm Saturday, 10 am – 4pm Sunday. Theme "By The Seashore". Historic gourds from around the world, workshops, kids' craft tble, vendors of gourds, gourd craft, craft supplies. Kerr Scott Building, North Carolina fairgrounds, Raleigh, NC Adults \$4, ages 12-17 \$2. Younger than 12 – free. Seniors - \$3. Information: Festival Chair: Kate Mahony at tolecat@nc.rr.com, (910) 639-4577. www.ncgourdsociety.org/festival.htm

Oct. 16-18, 2009 Lone Star Gourd Festival

14th Annual Lone Star Gourd Festival in Fredericksburg, Texas. Held at the Gillespie Country Fairground in the Pedernales River Valley of the Texas Hill Country. Workshops, Demonstrations, Judged Competition & a Kids Kraft Korner. Visit www.TexasGourdSociety.org for further details and updates. Rebecca Wise, 2009 Show Chair
Texas Gourd Society
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Volunteer Opportunities

FESTIVAL VOLUNTEER POSITIONS

Here's Your Chance To Get Involved!

Volunteer Coordinator will recruit and schedule volunteers in order to meet required festival needs.

Meet and Greet

- 1 Direct vendors to their festival booth space
- 2 Greet the public at the festival
- 3 Hand out festival brochures and questionnaires

Competition assistance (Minimum 4 people)

- A1 Intake – sign up artist and record item information
- A2 Placement – place item in appropriate category as stated on contest tag, making sure only info on contest tag shown is category# and entry # of that category
- B1 Competition Clerk oversees intake (A1) and placement (A2)
- B2 Assists judges in recording judging info and is available to answer questions
- C1 Helps to ensure crowd is kept away from judging area during judging
- D1&2 Assists Judging Clerk in ribbon placement and if judging is done in a separate area away from the public viewing area, places pieces in public viewing area at the completion of judging.
- E Arrange to have winning entries photographed for publications

Raffle and Silent Auction

- 1 Collect donations from vendors and sponsors
- 2 Set up Raffle area
- 3 Delegate items for Silent Auction (3-5), Raffle (one prize about every 20 minutes) and dinner door prizes
- 4 Arrange Raffle items for viewing (not touching)
- 5 SELL, SELL, SELL those Raffle tickets
- 6 Pick and post Raffle prize winners
- 7 Include any unclaimed Raffle items with dinner prizes and transport to dinner
- 8 After the festival, with the assistance of the Clean-up Committee, take down membership items for storage until next festival
- 9 Set up and monitor Silent Auction area
- 10 List winners of Silent Auction items
- 11 Take down Silent Auction area
- 12 You are responsible to mail out any prizes to winners who were not present at time of drawing.

Dinner Coordinator

1. Find and reserve restaurant facility large enough to accommodate festival dinner and membership meeting.
2. Provide dinner cost to Festival Committee for budget and publicity purposes
3. Collect dinner reservations and provide list of attendees to Festival Committee
4. Send reservation funds to WGS Treasurer for deposit along with attendee list
5. Provide dinner prize drawing slips, (one for each attendee), for door prize drawing at dinner.

Class Coordinator

1. Recruit instructors for festival classes
2. Provide class registration info to Publicity Committee, Festival Committee, and Signage Committee
3. If facility is not handling registration –
4. Provide instructors with the number of registrations 2 weeks prior to festival with an update 2 days prior to festival.
5. Inform instructor info on class handouts, (facility may duplicate info for them or they may need to provide handouts)
6. Handle any last minute on site registration
7. In coordination with WGS Treasurer provide for deposit of registration
8. Notify members and Education Committee when classes are filled.
9. Work with Set Up Committee to ensure that classrooms are set correctly to meet festival class needs.
10. In coordination with Signage Committee, provide signage for classes
11. Make sure all on-site needs of instructors are met in relationship to class instruction (This does not include class materials).
12. issues should be settled by the Festival Committee and/or WGS President.

Vendor Coordinator

1. Recruit vendors (starts 6 months prior to festival)
2. Work with Festival Committee to ensure vendor space needs are met.
3. Handle all vendor permits required by site
4. Collect vendor fees and coordinate with WGS Treasurer for deposit of fees.
5. Work with Set up Committee to ensure requested tables and chairs are provided for vendors spaces
6. Send out vendor packet one month prior to festival, indicating assigned vendor space at the festival
7. Provide list of vendor and space allocation to Festival Committee for floor plans and festival brochure
8. Work with Meet and Greet persons during set up to ensure vendor needs have been met
9. Any issues should be settled by Festival Committee and WGS President.

Signage Committee

- 1 Create all festival signage in public spaces
- 2 Requests for signage should be made no later than 2 weeks prior to festival
- 3 Signs should be laminated in order to be used for current and any future festivals or classes.

Set Up Committee

- 1 The day prior to the festival or as soon as allocated space is available –
 - a. Assist in marking floors for vendor and classroom space
 - b. Set up required tables and chairs in vendor, classroom, membership, competition, and other areas as needed
- 2 Day of Festival
 - a. Place WGS signage in public areas
 - b. Place sandwich and hanging signs
 - c. Set up kitchen area for provided refreshments
 - d. Attend to classroom signage changes

Clean Up – Post- Festival

- 1 Clean up kitchen/refreshment area (~3pm)
- 2 Remove signage in classrooms, public areas, save for reuse
- 3 Take down sandwich boards, hanging signs for storage (with Gourd Guy)
- 4 Take down and put away classroom tables and chairs
- 5 Assist with Membership take down, removal of tables
- 6 Take down and store vendor tables
- 7 Sweep floors as needed

Festival Organizing Committee

- 1 Oversee festival preparation and activities
- 2 Prepare festival floor plans
- 3 Prepare festival brochure/flyer
- 4 Provide information to Publicity Chair to promote festival
 1. Radio
 2. TV
 3. Print
 4. Community Calendars – On line
 5. Newspapers
- 5 Recruit Festival sponsors
- 6 Recruit Vendors
- 7 Provide registration materials as needed
- 8 Provide Competition rules
- 9 Arrange to have camera available for festival photos
- 10 Resolve all issues
- 11 Secure facility, complete all necessary paperwork, insurance requirements, etc.
- 12 Prep questionnaires, compile final report.
- 13 Make sure everyone's having FUN!



Debriefing

- 1 Volunteers debriefed, evaluations, pros/cons/, things to change, etc.
- 2 Festival Committee – meet, debrief Volunteers debriefed, evaluations, pros/cons/, things to change, etc. Festival Committee – meet, debrief

UPCOMING FALL ELECTIONS

Get Involved!! Coming in the fall - elections for board members. Open positions available (and waiting for you!) are:

Vice-President, Recording Secretary, Membership Secretary and one Director.

See the Constitution at www.wisconsinourgourdssociety.org for descriptions of these positions or contact any board member for more information, **contact Patti Stiles at jptstiles@aol.com to nominate yourself or someone else for any position.**

Per our Constitution:

Terms of office are two years. Officers and Directors may run for re-election.

Elections shall be held at the Fall Meeting. President, Treasurer and two (2) Directors shall be elected on even numbered years; Vice-President, Recording Secretary, Membership Secretary and one (1) Director shall be elected on odd numbered years.

Vice President Position:

The Executive Board meeting unanimously voted to have the Past President fill the Vice President position if non-elected. Now this needs to be put before the membership for a vote – which shall be in October 2009.

Per our Constitution:

“The Past President shall be an active member of the Executive Board as a Director. This position is rotational; upon seating of a new President, the current Past President shall automatically rotate out and the previous President shall become Past President. In the absence of a Vice-President, the Past President shall act as Vice-President when required. The Past President shall aid in the smooth transition to a new President, and shall share the expertise gained from having served term(s) as President with the new President.”



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Join today by going to

www.americangourdsociety.org.