

The Canadian Gourder



December 2017

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Merry Christmas!

I am sure you will all have some gourd decorations on your Christmas tree this month; how could you not? The Kawartha Gourders decorated a Christmas Tree last week for the Winterfest tree raffle, with all the money going to Five Counties Children's Centre in Peterborough. Included were decorations from other members of Artisans Centre Peterborough, especially from the Hand Spinners and Weavers, and the Wood Turners. I enjoyed decorating the tree with the help of one of our new gourders, Chris, Charles – woodturner, and Diana – fibre artist. Already this year I have helped to decorated four trees, one at each of 3 sales, and the Winterfest one. Now I am anxious to get my own tree up. Time for tree number 5?

I have looked enviously at Lorraine's photos on Facebook from Mexico, where she has already escaped Canada's winter. The older I get the less attractive going out in the cold and snow seems.

We have begun to plan classes for the New Year. If you are in the area, living or visiting, please feel free to join us any Monday between 10 and 4 at the Artisans Centre. You can soon find the classes on the website www.artisanscentre.ca. We always enjoy having others join us. Brigitte Thompson will be returning in March/April to teach more Powertex classes, as well as pyrography classes. We also have gourd classes scattered over the months.

Even with a boost by being started by a local greenhouse, our gourds did not have a great season this year. It just was too wet for them during the early summer. By September they were happy with the heat, ready to pop out lots of flowers. However, for most it was too late. From my 6 plants I harvested only 2 mature pear sized gourds, and 1 cannonball. Mary Marsden grew some plants for me, adding 3 more small gourds to my collection. I hope next year will be better. Let us know how you did in other parts of the country.

Remember for the majority of us, January is time to renew your membership in the Canadian Gourd Society. Just \$25 gets you all our inspiring newsletters, so you can keep up with what others are doing and making across the county. For Kawartha Gourders, membership is \$50 altogether for both memberships. This year let us see if we can increase our membership across the country. Without members in all provinces, I have no one to refer new gourders to for advice and to get together. Having the support of even one other gourder makes a big difference. Reach out and find a gourding friend!

Enjoy the upcoming Christmas season with your family and friends. Wishing everyone a happy holiday!

Smiles,

Barbara



Decorating for the
Peterborough Winterfest
Tree Raffle.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

EDITOR'S NOTE.....

My apologies to all of our dedicated 'gourd readers' for the delay in getting this newsletter finished.

MEMBERSHIP.....

A Hearty Welcome to our newest members, *Brigitte Thompson, Heather Hagan and Chris Brandon.*

Annual membership fees are due in January, 2018. An e-mail was sent on December 3rd with information on sending it. If you have any questions or concerns, let Barbara or Sharron know.

WEBSITE.....

The [Canadian Gourd Society Web Site](#) is not working at this time. If you are interested in any gourd workshops held by the Kawartha Gourders, they will be listed on the Artisan Centre Peterborough website.

PATCH REPORTS

KAWARTHA GOURDERS

The Kawartha Gourders have had a productive time since the last newsletter. There have been several workshops (all available to the public to join the regular gourders) which have produced some great work. Janet, Julia & Anne participated in 'Colours of Cavendish', a Brushstrokes art show, to show off (and sell) some of their work; Barbara has been involved in several arts and crafts events, making her one of our busiest members; five were involved in Artisanity which was a success and helps fund the Artisans Centre; three participated in the Lakefield Christmas Arts & Crafts sale. Kudos to Pat who successfully participated in Artisanity for the first time.



Barbara Bellchambers &
Elizabeth Gordon

Julia and Diana traveled to Ellensburg, Washington in July to attend gourd art classes and came back with new skills and, of course, 'Julia stories'. We will miss Julia who is off to Florida over the cold, Canadian winter – she always keeps us amused with her many tales of adventure and *misadventure*.



Julia Hayes

Puffy Paint Workshop



Pat Kelly working on her Teneriffe



Embroidery on Gourd Workshop
Beautiful Results!



Chris Brandon receiving Beginner Workshop taught by Anne Carling



MUSKOKA GOURDERS

The Muskoka Gourders are now meeting on the second Wednesday of the month. Judy has successfully completed her bowl with its wrapped rim and did a fantastic job. Sue has a bit more to do on hers. Judy also learned some pyrography techniques and made a great ornament for her tree. Sharron has been hard at work completing (before Christmas) the dog ornaments she has been burning.

Sharron demonstrated gourd carving with the Muskoka Wood Carvers at the Bracebridge Fall Fair. A lot of interest was shown in the gourds as many people had never heard of a hard gourd. They did relate to the humongous pumpkin on display in the next booth though, which would have presented a huge carving challenge!

We are still trying to find a few more members so If anyone knows someone in the Muskoka area who is interested in learning about gourdng just have them e-mail me at sashadow@sympatico.ca.



Sharron at the Bracebridge Fall Fair

MEMBERS HAVING FUN



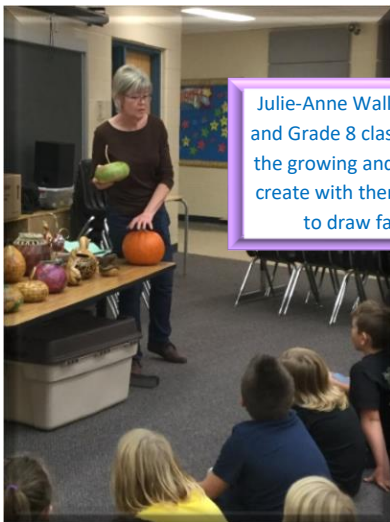
Pat Kelly giving Julia's colourful hair a 'spike' job



Julia Hayes on vacation in Britain



Julie-Anne Wallewin's booth, 'Burnt Leaf Gourds', at the local craft show



Julie-Anne Wallewin says: "I did a presentation to a Grade 3 and Grade 8 class at a local public school. I explained gourds, the growing and maturing process and showed them the art I create with them. We also did a project where they learned to draw facial features on an ornamental gourd."



Lorraine Hodges held a gourd workshop where she taught alcohol inks and sea grass rim treatment. In her back yard. Everyone enjoyed themselves and all went home with a lovely and completed piece of gourd art.



TUTORIAL

Julie-Anne Wallewin



Sorry there is no Tutorial in this issue!

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Read on.

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FEATURED ARTIST:

Sorry there is no Featured Artist in this issue!

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Read on and enjoy the wonderful work in the Gallery.

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Julia Hayes

MEMBER GALLERY



Anne Carling



Chris Brandon

Beginner Gourd Workshop



Judy Simmonds

First-time Coiling



Anne Carling
Puffy Paint Workshop



Pat Kelly
Puffy Paint Workshop

Janet Bisset



Pat Kelly

Judy Simmonds



Janet Bisset



Sharron Anstey



Julia Hayes



Janet Bisset



Julia Hayes

Patchwork reworked. Image 1 is how I originally finished it with weeping birch branches and blue inside. Image 2 is its new look. It now has a dark brown interior and thanks to my Grade 7 teacher, Mrs. Doreen McKecknie, I was able to do macramé around the top. It was a great skill to learn and am happy to be able to use it on my gourd after all those years.

Certainly beats the purple belt I made in Grade 7, which I believe is still hidden in my treasures.



Julie-Anne Wallewin

Anne Carling
Thunder Drum



Barbara Bellchambers

Both gourds are rimmed with zippers – a technique Barbara developed



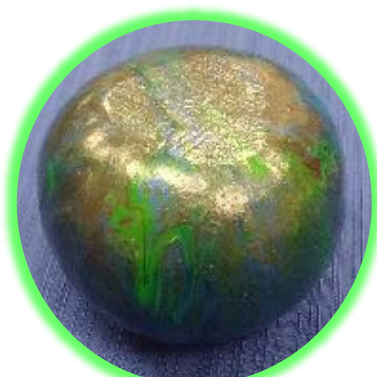
Julia Hayes &
Barbara Bellchambers



Julie-Anne Wallewin



Janet Bisset
Carved Emu Eggs



Janet Bisset



Barbara Bellchambers



Julia Hayes
Pyrography Workshop
taught By Brigitte Thompson



Lorraine Hodges



Julia Hayes



Julie-Anne Wallewin: "Here is Vines, which are pyrographed and black ink dye is applied to the negative space. Hole in top is offset for a different effect."



Anne Carling



Julie-Anne Wallewin



Anne Carling



Pat Kelly



Julie-Anne Wallewin: "Three Sisters" is an apple gourd with three maple leaves carved on the surface with brown tones of alcohol ink dabbed at the bottom. This piece is inspired by my two sisters and I. We are each very independent women but still very in touch with one another



"Comet" is a dipper gourd with an extremely long handle. I have carved the entire handle and the end of the bulb together with wisps into the green representing the speed it is flying through space. Kinda like our lives sometimes. Various colors were combined to create the green ink dye that was sponged on the surface of the bulb.



Julia Hayes
Crayon Workshop



Julie-Anne Wallewin



Julie-Anne Wallewin



Sharron Anstey



Lorraine Hodges



Julia Hayes
'All 3 sides'



Pat Kelly
'Our Tenerife Specialist'



Anne Carling



Julia Hayes



Janet Bisset



Julie-Anne Wallewin's gourds: So happy with these gourds that I grew this year. I believe they should be mature with the heat we had this summer. Will be interested to see the markings they have after being outside all winter.



Anne Carling



Julia Hayes

Many Thanks to everyone who contributed to the Newsletter and to all the CGS Members who read it. The creativity and quality of the gourd art is both inspiring and beautiful to look at.

Happy Gourding Everyone and keep the pictures and stories coming!!!!

Happy Holiday!

Sharron Anstey

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