

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

For probably the last time this year, I am sitting out in the backyard writing my report on a lovely warm day. Actually, it is much warmer outdoors than in, and I prefer comfortable warmth than cold. Could that be why Arizona is such a draw for me in February?

I imagine that many of you are waiting for a frost so you can harvest your gourds, anxious for them to start drying. Any interesting shapes grown this year? You should send a report on your success (or lack of) growing gourds to Sharron. We Canadians would love to hear how well our Gourders across the country succeed with their gourd gardens.

I have my Christmas decorations finished for this year. After 15 years I finally worked out if I do a different design each year, they sell well, and I am busy making slight variations of one design rather than working on many. They are often my stress release at the middle or end of a busy day, heading up to the studio to relax working on decorations. Painting smiles help! They are ready a whole month in advance of my first Christmas show.



Barbara – demonstrating in the Penguin workshop!

I still have some gourds I would like to make before the end of the year. Of course that means a major cleanup in my studio. I do not know how I manage to make such a mess of my space, but it does seem to happen on a regular basis. It is when I can only carve a tiny spot out on the table to work on that I realize, or admit, the time has come to buckle down and put everything away. Oh dear, there goes the rest of my day.



Barbara – working diligently at the Creative Hands-On Festival

I hope you all have your own messy creative spaces where you let the rules fly and do wonderful things with gourds. I have a new idea I want to try

Happy Gourding!

Barbara

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEMBERSHIP.....

A warm welcome to our newest member, Linda Devine. Linda attended the *Creative Hands-On Festival*, became interested in gourds and took the beginner gourd class last week with two others. We hope to see her frequently at our Kawartha Gourder activities.

Just a reminder that if any of your personal information (address, phone number, email address) has changed, please let us know. *Thank you.*

If you wish to communicate via *snail-mail* the address is: Canadian Gourd Society, c/o Artisans Centre Peterborough, Unit 3, 360 George St. N., Peterborough Square, Peterborough ON, K9H 7E7 (Phone: 705-775-1797). If you are in the area, drop in and visit. Gourd workshops are posted on the CGS website (www.canadiangourdsociety.ca), the Kawartha Gourder Facebook page (www.facebook.com/kawartha.gourders) and, along with word-turning and fibre workshops, on the ACP website (www.acp35.wildapricot.org) or (info@artisanscentre.ca).

We are still looking for creative ways to maintain and increase the membership and welcome any suggestions/ideas that would involve the entire CGS membership. *If you have any ideas for a project/challenge for society members across the country, please email your thoughts and ideas to sharron.anstey19@gmail.com.*

WEBSITE.....

Don't forget, If you have a website and/or gallery and would like to advertise it on the CGS website, send the web address to canadiangourders@gmail.com for consideration.

CREATIVE HANDS-ON FESTIVAL...

A couple of years ago, Barbara and Anne began thinking about applying for a federal grant. After much discussion the decision was made to focus primarily on senior retirees – individuals who are interested in finding a hobby/activity to occupy some free time. And so, the idea of a Creative Hands-On Festival was born!! They worked long and hard on the necessary application paper work and it paid off with a substantial grant.

In the spring of 2019, the two of them started planning, organizing, advertising, recruiting and, with great determination and a lot of time, energy, and some frustration, put together a very successful event the second weekend of September.

Over 700 people attended the three-day event. 22% of them were identified as seniors and this reflects only those who filled in the questionnaire. 55 individuals found a guild to join and over 200 said they tried something new. Over 80 took one or more classes. There were classes and hands-on activities in: painting, felting, doll making, carving, powertex masks, embroidery, knitting, card making, scrapbooking, rug hooking, quilting, wood turning, pottery, gourds, glass fusion, spinning, weaving, beading, basketry, paddle carving, drawing, and zentangle.

The gourd hands-on table was a popular place for all age groups – male, female, young & old. People were able to make gourd ornaments decorated with alcohol ink – a fun activity for festival goers and the Kawartha Gourders (Patti, Janet, Michelle, Marilyn & Sharron) who manned the table. Janet demonstrated some rimming techniques and Anne worked on pine needles and raffia.

CREATIVE HANDS-ON FESTIVAL...CONT'D

The guilds, individual artisans who demonstrated, volunteers, donators of silent auction items and door prizes, individuals who taught classes, Gerri's art store that donated *kids corner* colouring supplies – so many people made this a huge success – all deserve a **thank-you!** Without Barbara and Anne, this event would never have happened so..... **a huge thank-you** and **KUDOs to them!**



PATCH REPORTS

KAWARTHA GOURDERS

The Kawartha Gourders have again had a very busy three months. We have had a lot of fun doing various workshops. Most of us took the Rain stick class in June but didn't finish until later in the summer. We also made Ocean Drums in August and Anne taught a beginner carving class for several of the newer members who hadn't carved before. The new facility with its special area for *dirty/dusty* work is great. Not only does it keep the dust out of the paint and ink, but it keeps the noise at a minimum as well.

A good number of people made penguins, and Barbara with her experience showed everyone a wonderful way to paint the penguin wings and make the beak and feet. The resulting colony had lots of variation and creativity – two penguins even have fish in their beaks. Working with hot glue to draw trees produced several great looking gourds and generated a new interesting technique for a few people.



Barbara, Anne and Chris also did two children's workshops (rattles and masks) during the potters' camp week. The kids had lots of fun and, of course, the teachers did as well.



Several of the group volunteered at the Hands-On Festival and a few had booths at different craft shows/fairs and area studio tours.



We have a few excellent workshops lined up for the rest of the year in addition to preparing for ARTISANity the first weekend in November and making ornaments to decorate a tree for the Five Counties Children's Centre fundraiser.

Everyone is looking forward to a fun Christmas get-together and of course, there is always time for socializing and *eating chocolate!*

MUSKOKA GOURDERS

The Muskoka Gourders didn't meet during the summer but started again in September with 2 of the 3 members getting together. Judy won ribbons for two gourds at the local Bracebridge Fall Fair. Way to go Judy! She recently decorated a lovely ornament and is always keen to learn something new.



WORKSHOPS (COMPLETED)



Ocean Drums

Penguins

Hot Glue

Beginner Gourding

Beginner Carving

HOT GLUE TREE ON GOURD

This tutorial is a variation of the original *Faux Metallic Tree* workshop taught by Betty Bloomfield at 2019 Pennsylvania Gourd Gathering

MATERIALS: Gourd (Cleaned on outside) – If cut open, cleaned and sealed on inside as well as outside
Pencil
Hot Glue Gun and Glue Sticks (If you have a glue gun on which you can change tips, have a fine tip available)
Acrylic Paint (your choice of colours) or Memory Ink
Metallic Paint, Metallic Rubs, Micro Powders
Paint Brushes, Cosmetic Pads (for applying the memory ink), Sea Sponge (for applying paint)
Wax paper squares, water container
Toothpicks/popsicle sticks
Scissors
Varnish

DIRECTIONS:

Preparing Gourd:

- Clean outside of gourd. Condition with Formula 49 if necessary.
- If you wish, remove top of gourd, clean inside, sand smooth and paint/seal the inside with varnish.
- Draw a light, rough outline of a tree on outside of gourd with pencil. This will give you a guideline for the placement of the hot glue. If you wish you may transfer a tree of life design to the gourd using tracing paper.
- I like to put a light coat of memory ink on the gourd before applying the glue but this is optional.

Applying the Glue:

- Plug in the glue gun. Be sure to position it over a piece of paper so when the glue drips it does so on the paper, not the table.
- When the glue starts to drip, practice using the glue gun on a gourd shard or a piece of paper to make limbs and a little trunk. If using different tips, test the various sizes.
- When comfortable, start applying the glue to your tree trunk. Build it up in layers until you are happy with the thickness. Don't be afraid to have ridges and bumps – bark is not smooth. Bring the roots out the bottom making them a bit ragged and crooked. Then do the limbs.
- If you wish you can make grass, clouds, leaves, birds or whatever your imagination can come up with.

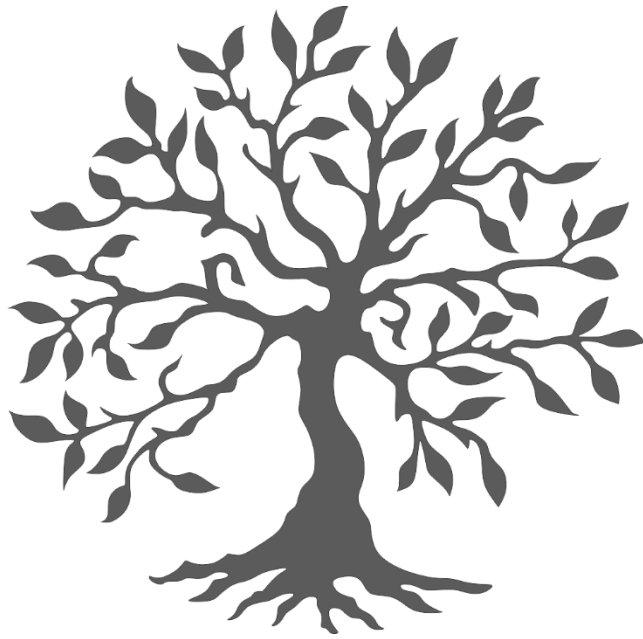
Adding Colour:

- When you are finished with the glue gun, paint the entire gourd in the colour(s) of your choice, including over the glue.
- Paint the trunks and limbs gold or colour of your choice (I like to use copper & highlight with gold). Paint the grass and other glued areas in colours of your choice. Metallic paint will result in a glow.
- If you want, rub micro powder around the tree to give it a shimmering effect.

Finishing:

- Spray varnish over the entire gourd.
- Leave to dry.

Page 2 of the tutorial has examples of *Trees of Life*. I would suggest looking on the internet if you require ideas for different trees.



**TREE OF
LIFE**



HELPFUL HINTS

In the last CGS newsletter, Barb Powell in Victoria, B.C. received some helpful hints from Barbara B., on how to camouflage the crack in a gourd. Here is the result of that help. How beautiful is this!!!

Wood-burned, transparent acrylics, dyed pine needle trim. Thanks to Barbara for giving me some valuable tips on how to save a creation with a crack.

BEFORE



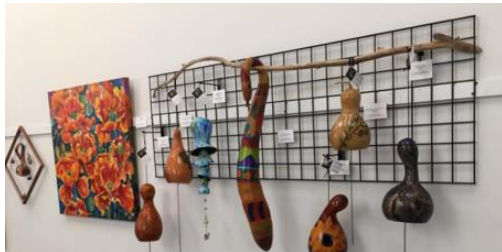
AFTER



Barb Powell

MEMBER SPECIALS

Three Gourders show their gourd creations in different venues and two other Gourders create a different type of art!



Lorraine Hodges "and three friends had an amazing art display at the Rotary Centre for the Arts in Kelowna for the month of August."



Marilyn Van Gerven's booth at the Lindsay Ex Craft Show



Julie-Anne Wallewin is "a juried member of the Saskatchewan Craft Council and with that comes some benefits. They have entered a booth in ART NOW, which is a gallery art show and sale, and posted a request for entries. They have selected 3 pieces of my gourd art to be included in their display. I am very honoured that they are including my art in this show. We all need as much exposure as we can get."

4TH ANNUAL
ART•NOW
SASKATCHEWAN FINE ART FAIR

SEPT 20-22, 2019
THE SOUNDSTAGE
REGINA

FREE ADMISSION

WWW.ARTNOW.CA

creative SASK•GALLERIES

Sept. 19 (Opening Reception) • 7-10pm

Sept. 20 • 11am - 8pm

Sept. 21 • 11am - 6pm

Sept. 22 • 11am - 6pm

View my work at the Saskatchewan Craft Council booth in the centre of the hall



SASKATCHEWAN CRAFT COUNCIL



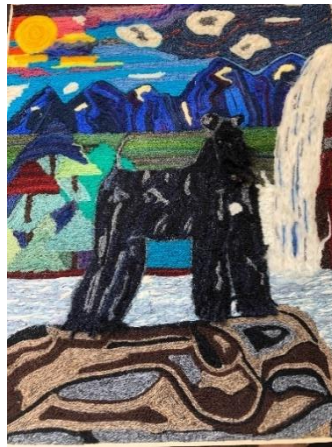
Reflections of Cherries, oil on canvas, 2018

Lois Shaw's studio is located near the Warsaw Caves and is part of the **Kawartha Autumn Studio Tour**



Lois Shaw

Two paintings done by Lois at the **Creative Hands-On Festival**



Len De Graaf is a fibre artist who creates beautiful art with wool.



MEMBER GALLERY

Anne Carling



Barb Powell

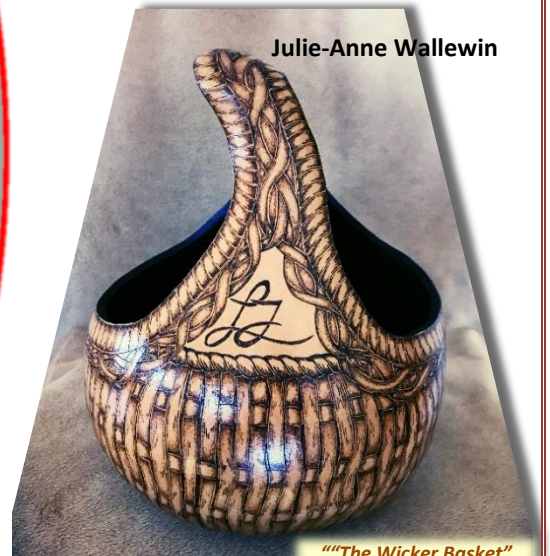


Wood-burned tulip, transparent acrylics, beaded trim

Barbara Bellchambers



Julie-Anne Wallewin



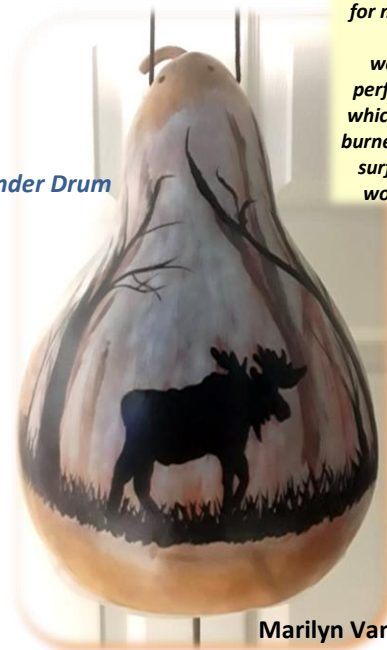
"The Wicker Basket" for my nephew and his wife for their wedding. It was a perfect shaped gourd, which I drew and wood burned the image on the surface. An air plant would complete it."

Carved Hair Barrette



Janet Bisset

Thunder Drum



Marilyn Van Gerven

Judy Simmonds





Rain Stick

Dorothy Hawkins



Chris
Brandon

Barbara
Bellchambers



*Kumihomo
Bracelets*

Beginner Gourding Student



Bev

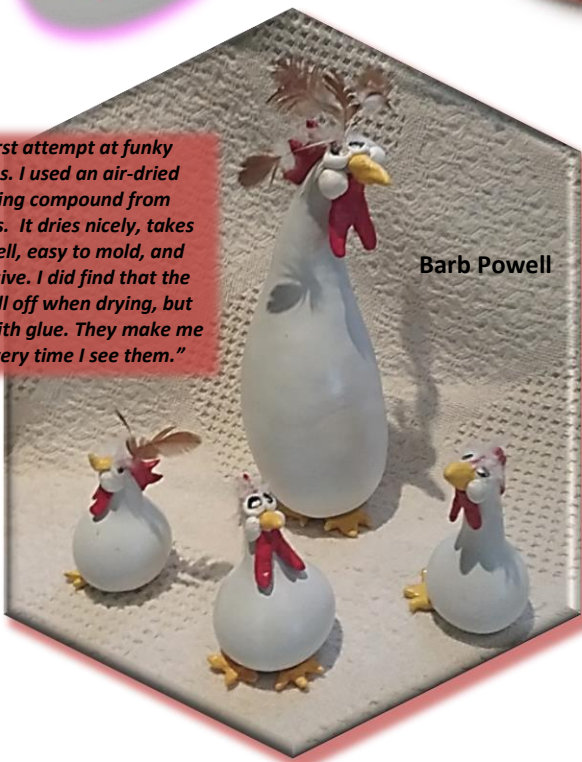
*Carved Hair
Barrette*



Janet Bisset

"my first attempt at funky chickens. I used an air-dried modeling compound from Michael's. It dries nicely, takes paint well, easy to mold, and inexpensive. I did find that the pieces fell off when drying, but easy fix with glue. They make me smile every time I see them."

Barb Powell



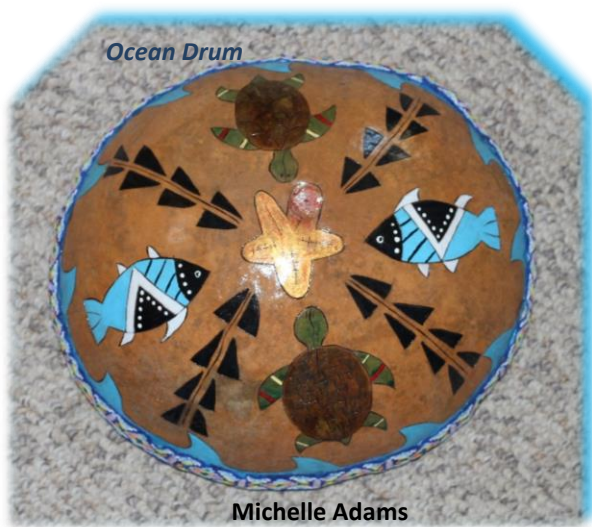
*Mixed Media
Aztec Gourd*



Len De Graaf



Lorraine
Hodges

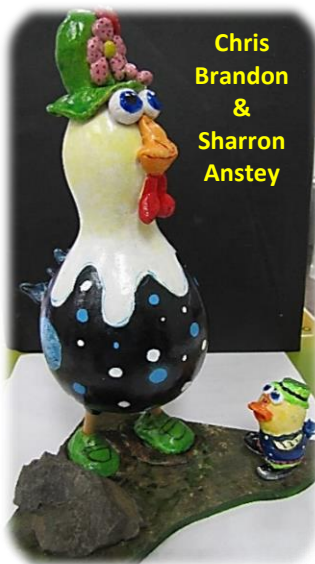


Ocean Drum

Michelle Adams



Julie-Anne Wallewin



Chris
Brandon
&
Sharron
Anstey



Steven
Schrade



Thunder Drum

Janet Bisset



Barbara
Bellchambers

Steam Punk



Thunder Drum

Janet Bisset



Anne Carling



Len De Graaf



Marilyn Van
Gerven



Lorraine
Hodges

"His Touch" is a hand holding onto a sequence of 3 maple leaves, which have been carved into the gourd. It was made for a special family leaving our community."



Julie-Anne Wallewin



Len De Graaf



Barbara
Bellchambers



Julie-Anne Wallewin



Lorraine
Hodges



Marilyn
Van Gerven

Thunder Drum



Thunder Drum

Janet Bisset



Barbara
Bellchambers



Anne Carling



Lorraine
Hodges



Marilyn
Van Gerven



Rain Stick

Michelle
Adams



Barbara
Bellchambers



Marilyn
Van Gerven

"I love the colour on this little Ruby Vase. It stands about 6" tall. Dyed with alcohol ink and I used pine needle coiling for the rim. A couple of little maple leaf gourd cutouts are the finishing touch."



Lorraine
Hodges

Wine Bag Holder



*"a work in progress. Pine
needle basket with stone"*

Barb Powell



Julie-Anne Wallewin

Julie-Anne
Wallewin

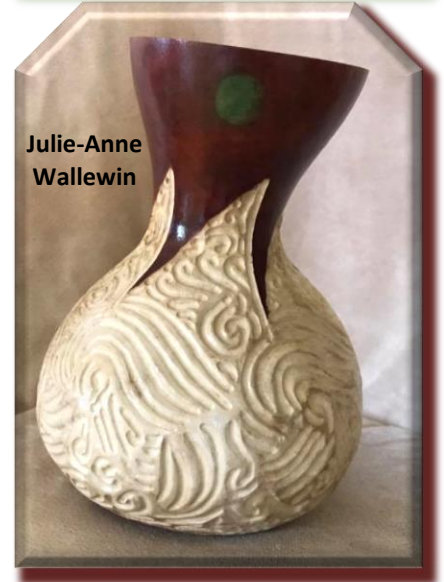


Marilyn Van
Gerven



"I am finally finished Midnight Tsunami. The angry and tormenting waves are carved into this thick-walled Gourd and sanded until smooth. The hazy full moon shines its light on the swirling monster. Let's hope for calmer waters soon."

Julie-Anne
Wallewin



Lorraine
Hodges

Julie-Anne
Wallewin



"This Jade Vase, like the Ruby Vase, has been dyed with alcohol ink and the rim coiled with pine needles. Some beads finish this piece. This vase is the top from another gourd project so got two pieces out of one."

Lorraine
Hodges



Wine Bag Holder

"Remove wine bag from box. I put a frozen gel pack in the bottom of my gourd, bag of wine with spigot out the hole, another frozen gel pack on top and then the lid. Stays ice cold for hours and hours. It really is so neat. People love them."



Michelle Adams



Lorraine
Hodges



Lorraine Hodges



Sharron
Anstey



Sharron
Anstey



"Protect"

Julie-Anne
Wallewin



Lorraine Hodges

Rain
Stick



Thanks to everyone who contributed to the Newsletter and to all the persons who read it. The creativity and quality of the gourd art is both inspiring and beautiful to look at. I hope everyone has a wonderful Thanksgiving weekend with lots of good food, friendship and love. Enjoy the beautiful fall colours while they are here because winter, it is a-coming! Keep the pictures, anecdotes and stories coming!!!!

Sharron Anstey



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