

Pennsylvania Gourd Society
Spring Business Meeting
March 16th, 2019
Smucker's Gourd Farm

Meeting called to order at 10:20 a.m.

In attendance: Mariellen Hittner, Reagan Bitler, Sue Meyers, Claudia Hill, Lucy Konupka, Joe Konupka, Jim Anspach, Charlene Anspach, Darl Cadwallader, Lisa Hudson, Sylvia Bisker, Betsy Murphy, Chrissy Pompper, Diane Conrad, Bob Shatto, Crystal Lemmon, Ed Shirk, William Peoples, Beth Craver, Jeanie Dierwechter, Sue Weise, David Welsh, Eli and Linda Smucker.

I. October 2018 Business Meeting and Treasurer's report approved

II. President's Report, Sharing and Correspondence:

1. Board of Directors meeting was held at 9AM prior to this meeting. The 2019 Operating Budget was set, 2019 PAGS Event Calendar was set, and discussions had regarding the PA Farm Show and the 2019 PA Gourd Gathering.
2. AGS – discussions taking place on a revised Constitution and By-laws. Members will have an opportunity to vote. Notification and method will be announced once it passes through the committees and board. A post will be made on the PA Gourd Society Website and via Group Works.
3. Thank-you to Jim and Charlene Anspach for their efforts in organizing the PA Farm Show.
4. Thank-you to Jenn Avery for organizing the PAGS booth for the Lancaster County Woodcarvers Show being held today and tomorrow at Millersville University.
5. Spring PAGS Workshop – May 18th – “Basics of Chipping Gourds with William Peoples.” York Town Craft Guild – 639 N. Franklin St., York, PA. Register via group works event page or email Reagan at godahavom_gourds@yahoo.com
6. 2019 PA Gourd Gathering Class Registration opens April 1st.
 - Banquet will remain the same on Friday night however, there will be no band in order to save costs. In place of the band, there will be time to socialize and play games plus karaoke. If anyone has a karaoke machine, please notify someone in the board.
 - Membership dues and paying for the banquet will be available at the same time as signing up for classes just like last year.

III. Committee Reports:

1. **Membership:** Claudia Hill reporting that we are now at 118 members. Reminder to renew your membership at the gourd gathering or when signing up for classes.
2. **Education/Farm Show:** Report given by Jim and Charlene Anspach. Lots of interest at the booth this year partially due to the advertisement through T.V.,

articles, social media, demos done at booth as well as the talks on stage. Booth location was also better this year with all artisans being together. It was suggested that a tool kit be assembled in order to show the interested public the “tools of the trade.” A December gathering will take place this year in order to create new gourds to display different techniques specifically for the farm show booth.

3. 2019 Gourd Gathering

- A. Link will be sent via email to all current PAG Members and will be able to be accessed via the PA Gourd Gathering website. Binders and paper registration forms will be available at the gourd farms today and the paper registration form has been available at www.pagourdgathering.com
- B. You can renew PAGES membership, order your banquet tickets, and register for classes on the registration program.
- C. You will receive a confirmation email within 48 hours (probably sooner) with instructions on how to make a payment within a 10 day time period. If payment is not received by the date on the confirmation letter, your classes will no longer be held and they will be dropped from your schedule. Check your SPAM folder for the confirmation email if you do not see it in your regular email.
- D. Corrections and changes need to be emailed to Reagan at the email in the confirmation letter. DO NOT FILL OUT THE REGISTRATION FORM A SECOND TIME. It will override your previous submission and all classes will be lost.
- E. Competition information, guidelines, and entry forms are available online at www.pagourdgathering.com. Paper copies are available in the class binders at the gourd farms. Competition includes the People’s Choice CannonBall Gourd Challenge, the Jim Story Award for Manipulated Gourds, Categories for Gourd Growers and for crafted gourds.
- F. Annual PAGES Banquet will be held at 6PM (6:30 meal begins) at the Pavilion on the grounds of the Lebanon Expo Center. Meal will be a picnic style chicken barbecue with our Taste of PA Desserts. Entertainment this year will be a game night. \$20 per person. Limited to 75.
- G. Silent Auction and Chinese Raffle donations can be dropped off beginning at noon on Wednesday, June 12th but would like them no later than 9AM on Thursday, June 13th. NO RECYCLED GOURDS – we would like to continue with quality over quantity.
- H. Additional PAGES Fundraiser at the 2019 PA Gourd Gathering – Reuse table – donate your leftover odds and ends craft supplies and materials.
- I. VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!! (competition items and silent auction item check-in on Wednesday, June 12th Noon – 5 PM and on Thursday, June 13th 7:30 AM – 9 AM. Need competition clerks for Thursday evening 6-9 PM. Need volunteers to serve as registration desk assistants – check-in with instructors

– “gopher” for registration/front table clerk. Need volunteers for clean-up and road sign pick-up on Saturday, June 15th Noon – 6 PM. Sign-up with Reagan by emailing godahavom_gourds@yahoo.com

4. Ad Hoc Committee Reports:

1. **Newsletter:** Jenn Avery – email news items and photos to jragourd@ptd.net. Deadlines are listed on the PAGS Calendar
2. **Librarian:** Char: everyone please check their name cards and make sure that you don't have any books out from the library.
3. **Historian:** Currently, this position remains open. If anyone is interested in this role, please let someone from the Board know.

Patch Updates:

1. **Tri-County** – Meet on the last Monday of the month at 10AM. Located at the Flower Wearhouse in Blue Ball, PA
2. **Mason-Dixon** – Usually meet the first Saturday on the month but have been stagnant lately. Used to meet in different member's homes, but might start to meet in York, PA.
3. **Pocono** – Haven't met lately, but when active meet at Claudia's gourd cave
4. **Maryland:** Meet the last Wednesday of every month in Bellaire, Maryland.

Old Business: none currently

New Business:

1. Donations of \$40 to AGS for Jim Story and Artistry Award (\$20/each). Approved, Eloise and second by Crystal.
2. Discussion on the what we want to do regarding the holiday luncheon this year in order to increase attendance.
 - a. Location will change to Crystal's church in Harrisburg on the second Saturday of November
 - b. Due to it being a busy time of the year it was decided to make the time 1 pm with just finger foods and desserts with a holiday activity. Further discussion will be needed in an upcoming meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

Next PAGS business meeting: Saturday, August 18th, 2019 – 10 AM; Smucker Gourd Farm

Respectfully submitted,
Mariellen Hittner
Recording Secretary