

Greetings Gourders!

Our next gourd gathering is less than 2 weeks away!

**The date: Sunday, August 12, 2018**

**The time: 1:00 pm**

**The place: [Artesia Community Center](#)** (click to see address and map)

At our last gathering, several people expressed an interest in making gourd Indian rattles. I have made several rattles--they are fun to make and I've found them to be good sellers at arts and craft shows. I contacted Waylan at Wuertz Gourd Farm, and he said he had the gourd size I wanted so I ordered a bunch. I'm anxious now to get them all cleaned and ready for our August gathering.

Note: This project will take 2 gatherings to complete. In August, we will make the holes in the gourd to fit the dowel handle and decorate the gourd. Then in September's workshop, we will wrap the handle in leather and apply the hemp, feathers, and bead embellishments.

Here are a couple of examples of Indian rattles that I have made:



They also look nice with petroglyphs and other southwest designs painted, carved, or wood burned on them. I will bring examples of some designs that you can use for inspiration. Also, in the "Good to Know" section at the bottom of this email, I have put some links to websites with info on Native American Indian Rattles that may interest you. For this workshop, I will provide the following kit of supplies:

- a cleaned gourd
- a dowel for the handle
- a leather strip to cover the handle
- hemp cording
- wire
- dried beans
- toothpicks
- feathers
- beads

I will also bring a few paints, satin spray sealer, and some sand paper

## **What you need to bring:**

The instructor reimbursement for the supplies will be **\$5.00** per rattle kit. (Note that I sell these kits with instructions on my website for \$23.95 each.)

- If you are NOT an NGS member, bring an additional \$5 to the gourd patch for the workshop--or better yet, join NGS for \$15 and your membership will be good through December 2018.
- Your rotary tool and bits - to make holes in the gourd for the handle.
- Your dust mask and eye protection
- If you choose to paint a design, bring your acrylic paints.
- If you choose to wood burn a design, bring your wood burner.
- If you choose to carve a design, bring your carving bits.
- Transparent stain to go over the gourd (I will bring my waterbased leather dyes to share if you don't have anything)
- Your paint brushes
- Your heat tool, if you have one
- Pencil and eraser to draw your design
- Xacto knife
- A tube of "clear" E6000 glue (if you don't have, you can purchase at Walmart craft department)
- A pkg of "wet ones" or some paper towels (because E6000 is very messy)
- Don't forget to wear your name pin/necklace--if you have one. (If you don't have one yet, think about making one.)
- And feel free to bring a friend!

## **Show and Tell**

Don't forget to bring any gourds that you've finished for show and tell!

## **Raffle**

We'll have our usual raffle with great prizes. If you want to participate, raffle tickets are \$1 each, or 6 tickets for \$5.

We can always use items to raffle, so if you have something that you would like to donate to the raffle, please bring it. (Note: Raffle prizes DO NOT have to be gourd related.)

## **Snacks**

Feel free to bring snacks for yourself or to share. I will always provide something to drink (coffee and water). There will also be paper plates, plastic utensils, napkins, and cups.

## **'For Sale' Items**

Also feel free to bring any "gourd-craft related" items that you would like to sell to others in the group. Gourds, handy tools, or whatever you have that you think could be used in gourd crafting.

If you have any questions or concerns send me an email, or give me a call.

Patti Jo

Pahrump Valley Gourd Patch - Director

[pattijonewsom@hotmail.com](mailto:pattijonewsom@hotmail.com)

817-917-7873

## **Good to Know.....**

### **Websites with info about Indian Rattles:**

Native American Rattles:

<http://indians.org/articles/indian-symbols.html>

10 Facts about Native American Rattles:

<https://sinlou.wordpress.com/2011/04/08/10-facts-about-native-american-rattles-history/>

Native American Ceremonial Rattles:

<https://blogs.missouristate.edu/arhistory/native-american-ceremonial-rattles/>

Native American Rattles:

<http://tribaldirectory.com/information/native-american-rattles.html>

Also, use google to search for "**southwest indian symbols**" to see many examples of southwest symbols and their meanings.