

The January 16, 2016 meeting of the M.C.G.A was called to order by president Glenda Damm at 11:04 with 12 members and two guests present. Glenda told members it would be a short meeting, followed by the potluck and a presentation on Judging by Shari Zabroski. Members were told that the annual election of officers would be held at our February meeting. At that time she only had two people willing to run for office; Diane Surridge, president and Lou White, secretary. She sent a sheet around and asked members to please sign up for an office, since we need member participation to continue as a patch. Al Harnage stated he would be willing to continue as treasurer. By the end of the meeting, there was a full roster of volunteers for offices, except Program Chairman.

Glenda reminded members that their dues for Florida Gourd Society are now due, and that in order for our patch to continue with the FGS we need to have 74 per cent of our active members also belonging to FGS. The fees for our patch, the FGS and the American Gourd Society were reviewed. The meeting was adjourned.

The potluck, which was enjoyed by all, was followed by the judging presentation by Shari. She handed out copies of the AGS judging program. She then went over details on basic and advanced carving, filigree, fretwork and chip carving. Several members had brought their gourds to be used as examples. Shari explained the judges looked for a gourd that catches the eye, has clean finished lines and holes, etc. spaced in a unified pattern. Members were then split into two groups, asked to look carefully at the six gourds and decide which ones should take first, second or third place. Surprisingly both groups picked the same three gourds, in the same order.

Shari was asked about the class for a patch traveling gourd. She said the gourd goes from member to member, with each one doing a little work on the gourd, It can then be entered for judging. Anyone wishing to contact Shari with questions on what division to enter a gourd in or judging can e-mail her at SAZ0501@Cox.net

Respectively submitted;

Lou White