

Washington State Gourd Society
2nd Annual Gourd Retreat
July 16-18, 2025
Historical Mineral Lake Lodge Conference Center

Carving Basics

July 17th 9 am – 3 or 4 pm?

Instructor: Claudia Herber

Maximum Class Size: 30

Cost: \$80

Description: In this class we will cover the basics of gourd selection, carvers and power bits, hand tools and, of course, safety issues. Each of these topics will be discussed in depth, thus ensuring your successful career. For those that have been carving a while this discussion will be a good review and can hopefully include some new information, especially with the conversation around burrs and their use. The class was originally created by Bonnie Gibson and I have her permission to share this information with you.



What to bring: Each person needs to bring a nice, cleaned and opened gourd of at least 1/4 thickness and preferably 6 to 8" in diameter. This gourd will become your practice gourd. We'll try out 2 to 3 carving techniques that you'll have fun incorporating into your own designs. Bring your carver and all your burrs, dust mask, pencil and apron is a good idea.