

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

Chip Carved Sunburst Gourd Box

July 16th 9 am – 3 or 4 pm

Instructor: Alan Sweeney

Maximum Class Size: 12

Cost: \$80

Description: In this fun class you will learn to use a palm Gouge (wood carving hand tool) to safely make a series of two step cuts. The cuts will form a unique S-shaped pattern on the gourd shell. The same technique will be used on the lid of the gourd to create a sunburst pattern. You will use wood dyes to add color and bring your masterpiece to life. A spray-on sealer will be used to finish the piece. You will be able to finish this project in class.



Tools we will be using in class are:

1. Palm Gouges (Wood Carving tools)
2. Mini Jug Saw to cut open the gourd.
3. Drill with cleaning balls to clean out the inside of the gourd.
4. Woodburners with skew tips and spoon shaders for line work.

What to bring:

Everything will be provided by the teacher. Alan will provide N-95 dust masks. If you have another type of mask you use, please bring it along. Woodburners will be available to use in class. If you have a favorite burner, bring it with you.