

Gourd Happenings

For A Gourd-geous Day—Come to Castle Valley!

By Tricia A. Ogilvy

The leaves turn colors, the chill is in the air, pumpkins abound. It's fall—and what better way to celebrate than in Castle Valley at the annual Gourd Festival on Saturday, October 20th! Time: 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

If you love gourds and gourd art OR if you just want to have some out of the ordinary fun—we're just upstream a few beautiful miles. Give the kids a special day out of town.

Our Gourd Festival is a treat for the senses:



HEAR great music all day.

SEE the ever-popular puppet show- always an original play. The playwright loves the challenge of writing on two levels at once. So adults enjoy the show as much as children. There will be two shows at 11:00 and 1:30.

CREATE your own gourd artwork. There is a children's cabana for painting and a separate adult section for woodburning. Take your memento home with you—at no charge. In other words: FREE! FREE! FREE! In fact, the whole festival is free.

TASTE authentic mate, the South American drink out of, what else?- a GOURD!

CHEER for "Gourdy", the gargantuan gourd man and Grand Marshall of the parade at NOON.

DELIGHT in the unveiling of this year's "Gourdess" or Gourd Goddess. Her identity is a secret till she walks the festival parade! Each year our Gourdess creates her own costume out of gourds! Who will she be wearing?

WONDER at the inner sanctum of our mystical teepee. Gourd Mystics will reveal your fortune or inner potential using special gourd cards.

LEARN about gourds, their many types and their long history of uses and art. The History Tent has many examples

from around the world.

Our Gourd Festival's own history is also featured. It is fun to look at items from previous Gourdess costumes.

THRILL at your children's happiness upon having their faces painted by artist, Carol Delaney. Choose from her many animal pictures or bring an animal picture of your own and watch your kid transform into a lion, tiger, kitty, reptile or guinea pig! No kidding, this is the best face painting in the West!

BUY raw gourds from our vendors or TREAT yourself to a finished gourd art piece. The craftsmanship of our artist vendors is second to none. Artisans from many states come to sell their work. If you've never seen gourd art, it will amaze you. OR buy any shape of gourd and try your hand at your own masterpiece. Raw Gourds make great fall decorations!

EAT Redcliff's chili and a potluck meal made by all our visitors and you! Just bring your favorite potluck dish to the firehouse and then you can join the feast. *But please, if you want to have lunch- we need you to bring food so there will be enough for everyone.

Our fire department will be on hand to teach people about "firewise safety."

FREE – our festival is free to everyone. We would love to see you here on Saturday, October 20th. ** Note--Please leave your furry friends at home. Dogs are not allowed on the town lot.



DONATE – Please - The Castle Valley Gourd Festival cannot go on without your donations. Thank you!

And be sure to mention that you read about it in *Moab Happenings*.



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