

Secretary's Report on Members Meeting February 23, 2019 in Melbourne Florida.

Larry Sherman reported that on Saturday, Feb. 23, Raymond Konan and he attended the FL Gourd Show in Melbourne, FL, and at the Annual AGS Members Meeting presented an overview of what the American Gourd Society intends to do in 2019. Attendance was 18 interested individuals from around the world, including the United States, Canada, and Jamaica.

Two AGS Chapter Presidents from Florida (Therese Ferguson) and Ohio (Nelson Litzenberg) and one past OGS Chapter President (Larry Sherman from Ohio) were there. Raymond introduced his "Gourd: Most Important Plant in All of Human History" initiative, and then Larry added some related humorous comments. Larry believes music is the magic that ignites.

Larry and Raymond brought a warm sense of humor to our 'gourdgeous' mission. We discussed our proposed revision of the Constitution and Bylaws, as well as the 2019 budget that we are considering. We also talked about some of our AGS activities that support Chapter affairs, including providing AGS Certified Judges to Chapter Shows, Jim Story and Artistry Awards, production of our quarterly The Gourd Magazine, expansion of membership, and other related issues. We thanked the Florida Chapter for providing the space, time, and friendly hospitality for our American Gourd Society meeting.

At this Florida AGS meeting there were no Motions and no Voting, because the proposals discussed had not yet been reviewed by the AGS Elected Officers and our Board of Directors. In this sense this was primarily an information-sharing meeting and we were only reporting works in progress.