



IDAHO GOURD

SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Greetings fellow gourders! This year is going by pretty quick for me. Can't believe summer is almost over. I keep watering my plants and watching the gourds grow.

I'm not going to lie though. Earlier I came close to calling it quits with this whole gourding thing between everything I've got going on. The plants weren't doing so well at the beginning with fighting the weeds, the watering schedules, and spending a lot of money and energy. I about had it! Growing gourds in a field, where nothing but weeds had grown on it for the last several years, made it a challenge. Today, looking through the plants and seeing the fruits of my labors, made it all worthwhile. Seeing those babies grow, all my hard work and frustration have paid off.

I know I'm not the only member who gets overwhelmed during the summer! There are many of you that do so much and still manage to stay involved with our gourd society. Our Festival is right around the corner and there already has been a lot of work and effort. We are always looking for more volunteers if you are interested. I appreciate every one of you that has taken on different responsibilities and volunteered with various tasks year after year. I know I've said it before, but we do have an amazing group of people in our gourd society. Getting ready for the festival is hard work, but I'm always amazed how it all comes together in the end and it's always a success thanks to YOU!

ED Note: Ron's message caused me to think of Festival committee members who have been meeting/working since May, of the volunteers in Nampa Farmers Market in June, of those who have volunteered for the Idaho Fair, Library exhibits, Patches, and the many, who have donated time to help other members throughout the year. We, at the IDGS, are tireless educators and volunteers! Give us a chance to teach and we'll be there!



Chocolate confections for the gourd enthusiast are finally a reality! The base mold is first dipped in creamy white chocolate to remove mold imperfections. Next thinned, tinted chocolate is hand dripped in layer upon layer, over the base form, creating a shiny, realistic appearance. Hold onto your wallets though, as these Chocolate Confections cost the earth!



Your IGS Officers

President - Ron Swank

**Vice President - Dr. LaRae
Palmanteer**

Treasurer - LindaLee Huntley

Secretary - Sue Kosta

**Directors - Liz Meyer, Corlis,
Kent, Amy Halladay**

**Facebook Curator - Chris
Peters**

**Website Manager - Chris
Peters**

**Newsletter Editor - Carolyn
Frazier**

PATCHES LEADERS & LIAISONS

**Kuna Veletta Murphey &
Liaison - Bill Tarlton**

Sunshine Liz Meyer

Dancing Dog Gourdin'

Lorrie Ferris

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IDGS VOLUNTEERS

I. BY-LAWS

ARTICLE 1 OBJECTIVE

THE OBJECTIVES OF THE IDGS ARE:

(A) TO PROMOTE THE CULTURE AND CRAFTING OF GOURDS.

(B) TO PROVIDE INFORMATIONAL AND EDUCATIONAL SERVICE TO ITS MEMBERS AND THE COMMUNITY; AND (C) TO PROVIDE AN ANNUAL FESTIVAL FOR THE PROMOTION OF GOURDS AND GOURD CRAFTING.

Since 2002 I have been privileged to see our organization grow and flourish due to individuals willing to volunteer their time, talents, and assets. They have promoted IDGS by distributing Festival flyers and informational folders at art galleries and art and craft venues, at Farmers Markets and Church Bazaars. They've gone to area motels and restaurants, craft stores, libraries, and public facilities that post current events. They've contacted television stations and worked with many individuals to publicly promote IDGS. Many uncompensated miles and hours have been clocked to keep our great group viable. My many "THANKS "to you all.

A volunteer-as defined in the dictionary- "is one who enters into service of their own free will". It is a noun but it is also a verb meaning an action to offer to "do", to contribute, or to step into service where you are needed. It doesn't require that you be asked specifically but that you

do so willingly because the need is there and you are capable.

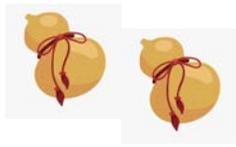
We all have busy lives and it can be difficult to set aside time to prepare for and teach a class or technique, commit to work at the Festival, tackle the responsibilities of holding an office, handing out gift card tickets or running the raffle at our meetings or any of the other small or big tasks that go unseen by most of our members.

Let's all strive to do our part, support those who do the work, and be a much-needed VOLUNTEER. I think you will find it an opportunity to grow, get to know other great "Gourders", expand your talents, and have a rewarding and enjoyable time. Liz Meyer

Ed.Note. This was written by one of our most dedicated and generous volunteers in the Society. She offers her workshop as a teaching place for the Sunshine Patch, the new SPW class, out of town classes, in addition to her service in so many areas of the Society. She would be embarrassed if I were to begin to list them. Think County Fair, Festival, Woodcraft Day, and the list goes on.

Although a member might work during the week/weekend or not be physically able to go out, etc., you will find there are opportunities for everyone! In addition to weekend events, there are preparation activities for events that could possibly be done at home or indoors. Other members can always help with transportation, if needed. Transporting members in itself is volunteering! Volunteering is a multifaceted endeavor! Certainly, it helps the organization. However, I believe it helps the member in many different ways and it would make for a happier person. As I write this, my other self is reminding me that the setting up activity for the IDGS festival and the tearing down process is probably not considered fun. OK! I admit, everything is not always fun. It just has to be done!

If you have not yet volunteered for a Festival position, we need your help!- Contact LaRae Palmanteer and tell her you'd like to volunteer a couple hours at the Silent Auction table! Wanda Walker also needs help with volunteers at the Gourd Store. You will certainly enjoy these FUN volunteer jobs (assignment/work).



!DGS Dates for Your Calendar



SUNSHINE PROJECT WEDNESDAY

August 14th, 2019, 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Liz Meyer's shop at 72 N. Boundary, Nampa

Beginning in August there will be a monthly project class with instructions at the Sunshine Patch location. This will be on the 2nd Wednesday monthly from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and called "**SUNSHINE PROJECT WEDNESDAY**" (SPW). It is held in Liz Meyer's shop at 72 N. Boundary, Nampa (do not park in the cul-de-sac). The first SPW will be August 14 and will be taught by Corlis Kent. Full details for this will follow later after several announcements..

IMPORTANT: Contact Chris Peters if you want to be added to the SPW email list as she will be creating a mailing list with the names of those who reply—otherwise, no further SPW emails will be sent.

- **I HOPE TO LIST THE UPCOMING MONTHS SPW LIST EACH NEWSLETTER.**
- **AUGUST IS ALCOHOL INKS - CORLIS KENT - INFO FOLLOWING!**
- **SEPTEMBER IS SCHEDULED TO BE PYROGRAPHY WITH CHRIS PETERS**
- **OCTOBER IS SCHEDULED TO BE GAUZE TEXTURE TREATMENT ON GOURDS WITH NANI KATIHOFF. BRING YOUR WHOLE 8-10" GOURD.**

IDGS FESTIVAL - October 26 - Are you getting your competition gourds ready?



2019 Gourd Festival Dinner Announced

When: Saturday, October 26, 2019 PM

Where: China Grand Restaurant

10498 W Fairview Ave, Boise, ID 83704

(208)321-9888

Cost : \$13.50 per person (Drink, dinner, dessert, tax and tip included in price)

Your dinner needs to be reserved in advance.

How to Reserve - Mail a check or give check, for however many will be attending the dinner, to Sue Kosta at IDGS meeting.

Sue's mailing address is 13362 Chicken Dinner Road, Caldwell, ID 83607

The FIRST SPW

Corlis Kent's SPW CLASS

ALCOHOL INKS: What you can do with them and how to organize the product for usage.

This should be a fun class..... the sky is the limit when you use alcohol inks ...
Come and learn techniques for application and how to store and organize your inks for usage.....

Please bring:

1. Alcohol inks

(If you don't have any don't worry, I'll have some you can use...)

2. 90% or higher Rubbing Alcohol

3. Gloves

(If you want... I don't use themthat's why my hands are a mess)

4: A gourd or shards

(Make sure it isn't a prize gourd, this is a technical class to learn)

(If you need a gourd let me know by text or call 208 283-0659)

5. A small angle paint brush

6. Apron or wear an old shirt....you don't care if you ruin it

7. Paper towels

8. Lunch or snacks (optional)

Idaho Gourd Society is celebrating its 20th festival!



IDAHO GOURD FESTIVAL

Gourd Art Competition, Make & Take for all ages, Gifts, Vendors, Demonstrations, Exhibits, and more!

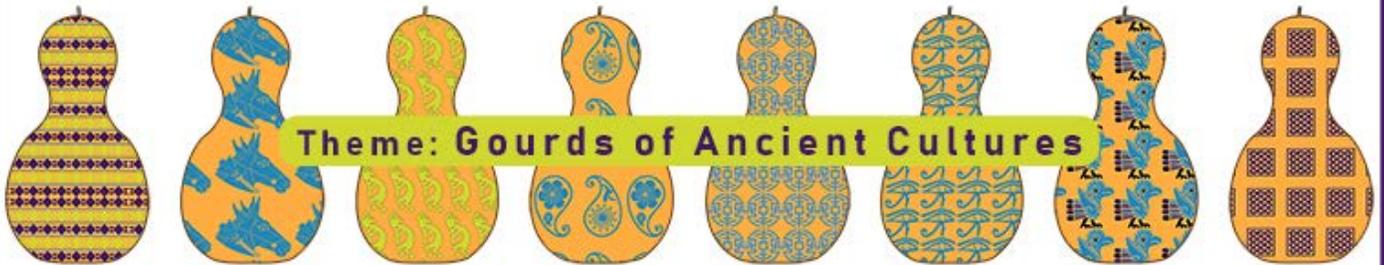
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26 9-5

AND

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27 10-4

\$4 Admission, Kids 9 & Under FREE!
7311 W. POTOMAC DR., BOISE, IDAHO

Potomac Manor
formerly The Clubhouse Event Center



Theme: Gourds of Ancient Cultures

idahogourdsociety.org/2019-festival

© 2019 Chris Peters

The Silent Auction depends on individual gourd donations, unlike other events where Patches are asked to contribute. Therefore, you might start thinking of a special gourd project if you want to make a donation to the Silent Auction for our 2019 IDGS Gourd

Festival. Be sure to contact LaRae



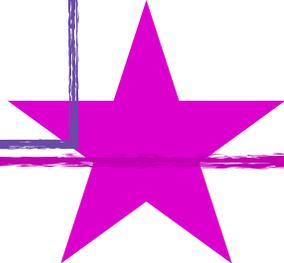
August 10
WoodCraft
Meeting-
Bring containers for
Silent Auction-
ie. baskets, decorative
boxes,
gourds, etc,





IDAHO WESTERN FAIR
5610 N GLENWOOD ST BOISE ID
83714
FRIDAY AUGUST 16 - FRIDAY 23, 2019

Stars who help make the IDGS shine
 Volunteers at this year's
 Idaho Western Fair



Ron Swank
 Carolyn Spaltro
 Amy Halladay
 Donna Kirk
 Diane Laputz
 LIZ MEYER
 Carol Joyce
 Caro Frazier



Steve Kiser and Peggy Jarred working on their gourds in Bonnie Gibson's Gourd sculpture class.



If you quit looking at her, she'll go away!



I'm gonna stare her down!



How many LaRae's can you find?



THE FOOD TABLE Nothing more needs to be said except to notice that it is absolutely glorious! IDGS knows how to throw a party!

My desert plate- Chef Liz's Rhubarb Crisp and Chef Madlen's Tiramisu They are desserts to dream about!



The **SIDE FOOD TABLE** with the **FRIED CHICKEN** plus extras!!!!!!!



RON SWANK

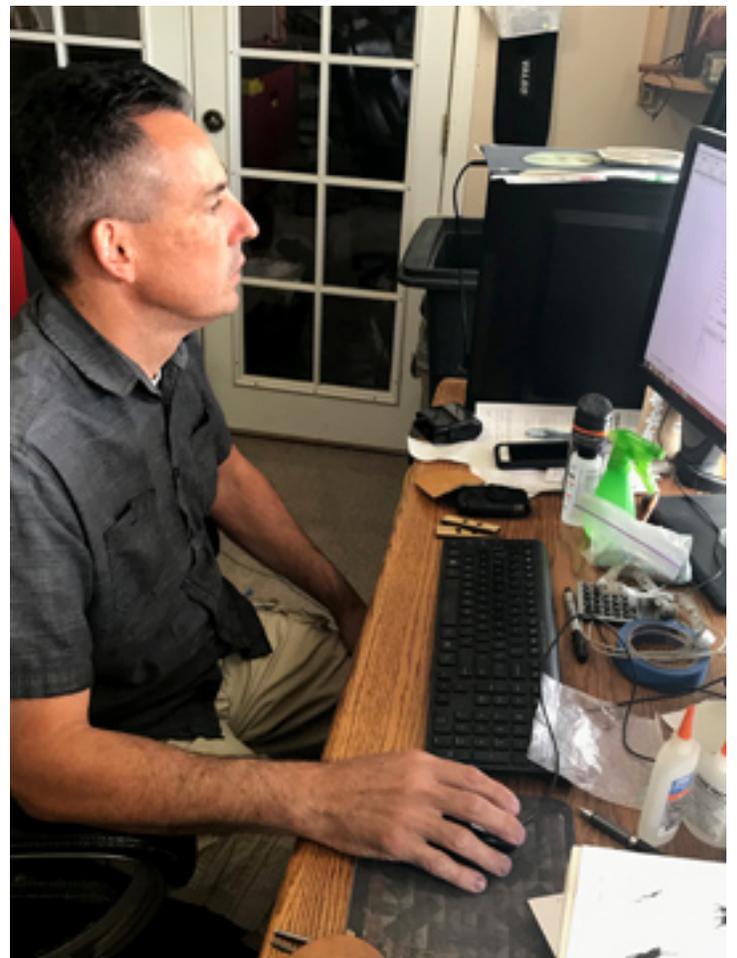
While continuing work on the "Cat House", I decided I wanted the words 'The Cat House' themselves cut out and attached to the gourd. Mr Laser, himself, Ron Swank, said he would be glad to help me. So, armed with the my monster gourd, I went to Ron's office/shop and was introduced to his laser operation.

Amazing! This laser operation is something you must have a look-see for yourself, as it has so many practical applications. I have heard the - "It isn't an art because it is a machine" statement. You need to go check Ron's work out for yourself, ye naysayers!

Taking time, patience and skill with the computer and the laser, itself, is impressive. However, I compare Ron's mosaics to the most detailed watercolor quilt you will see at a juried show. The finished mosaic is so intricate, yet so beautifully designed, that it tells its own story. As each piece of the quilt is sewn together, each piece of the mosaic is hand designed crafted and pieced together.



Above, you can see Ron with a gourd piece, getting ready to demonstrate the laser cutting a leaf. In this same photo is part of the enormous laser machine. All is connected to the complex computer system you see to in the picture on the right.





The four photos on the left show the laser cutting process. In the second picture down you can actually see the flame that flared up from the laser burning the gourd.

The photo, below right, is Ron's first attempt at working with gourd tiles in laser art. He does not use this technique now.





With Ron's art, he designs his project as a whole image. Then, each tile in the project is individually programmed and created. My photos do not begin to show the intricate detail of the tiles. For instance, look at the photograph above right, of the mosaic with the turquoise sun in the center of the picture. Immediately above that picture is a close-up photo of the turquoise center, which shows the individual tiles. Locate one tile and study the detail. That tile has to be individually programmed and created. The whole project is not mass produced as one might think. Hour after hour, tile after tile, each one is programmed and lasered. Afterwards, the work of compiling the gourd tiles begins. Ron says a project can take several years because he cannot keep on one project too long. It just is too tedious.

Ron told me he loves to explain his laser work to visitors and IDGS members so why not give him a call and go check out his laser art! It truly is exciting!



A special note to our IDGS members who know Sid and Betty Freeburg. Today Carla and I drove to their home in Payette. We had a wonderful visit with them sharing news and enjoying seeing their new home. Sid gave me his email to share with you. You might know that Miss Betty has had health issues, however, now Sid himself, is battling some serious health problems. He probably would appreciate some humor, as laughter always seems to bring light!

His email is hellmerzeth@outlook.com.



Pictures from the latest Bonnie Gibson Class, which was held at Liz's workshop in Nampa. It is always a privilege to be able to take classes from instructors of such standing as Ms. Gibson.





Volunteering is a great way to meet people and foster friendships and connections. There are many jobs to do before, during and after the festival. Please consider volunteering. Here is a list of the Committee Chairs and their responsibility for the festival. Contact any of them or Ron Swank to volunteer.

Ron Swank—Overall Chair and Advertising

Chris Peters—Room Set-up; Vendors; Exhibits; Extras & Signs

Liz Meyer—Demonstrations

Amy Halladay—Make It and Take It

Wanda Walker—Gourd Store

La-Rae Palmanteer—Silent Auction. Also Judges and Winners Records in coordination with Carolyn Spaltro

Carolyn Spaltro is our Head Judge and handles Winners Records

Carolyn Frazier—People's Choice Award and Advertising (with Amy Brasley)

Corlis Kent—Admissions; Member & Visitor Support; Gourd Retrieval; Hospitality Room

Patricia McRae—Registration; Prospectus; Show Staging (we need someone to help with Staging)

Membership Table—Linda Lee Huntley





Class on Gourd Judging

Interested in becoming a Gourd Judge? **TERRY NOXEL** will be coming from New York to teach a class on Wednesday, **SEPTEMBER 25**, from 9:00 AM until 5:00PM at Liz Meyer's Workshop in Nampa, ID. Bring your own lunch! **You MUST register with Corlis Kent if you want to participate in the class.** The latest registration date is **September 14th** the IDGS Woodcraft meeting. If you want to become a judge or if you have taken judging classes previously, but haven't judged yet, you will need to take this class to maintain your judging certification. If you commit to be an IDGS judge, the course cost will be paid by the IDGS. Since there are only two competitions per year, the chances are slim you would be asked to judge more than once or twice. Judges' names would be put in a hat and drawn for judging. Once your name is drawn, it would be removed until all judges' names have been drawn. However, if you don't wish to commit to IDGS judging competitions, there is a cost \$20.00 for the course. Corlis Kent has been responsible for arranging for this much requested course. Contact Corlis at cdcent66@gmail.com or (208)283-0659

Sorry it really isn't chocolate!

Chris Peters was so accommodating when I asked a favor. I told her I loved a picture I had taken during a technique she was demonstrating at the Sunshine Patch. I asked her to digitally cut the gourd away from the background.

"Please leave only the gourd itself, " I asked, "As that picture reminds me of a large, white chocolate candy gourd." So she did. Thus, you have that 'whale of a tale' on the front page. What did you think? Doesn't it look like a chocolate gourd?

This "poured gourd" story began when Chris Peters and Liz Meyer attended the Nevada Gourd Society Retreat at Lake Tahoe May 31 and June 1, 2019. The retreat was set at Lake Tahoe. Chris was teaching three classes at the retreat and Liz provided backup for Chris! You can see the tranquil beauty of the retreat in left picture below. What a beautiful place to hold a retreat! The two pictures on the top and lower right are of Chris' "Drawing With Fire" woodburning class and the bottom left photo is the gourd pottery class 'Ancient Pottery of the Mimbres'.



© 2019 Chris Peters



Gourd Class- "Ancient Pottery of the Mimbres"

Gourd Woodburning-
"Drawing With Fire"



These are the pictures of the “Pouring with Unicorn Spit” class. It looks like lots of fun, although everyone is seriously concentrating. Liz is smiling, encouraging everyone to enjoy!





**That
infamous
"Chocolate"
gourd**



Utilizing leftover paints from the Nevada retreat class, Chris held an impromptu class at Sunshine Patch on Unicorn Spit Gourd Pouring.

In the pictures on the previous page you see the demo pour gourds that Chris Peters created. I wasn't particularly a fan of this until I saw the pictures enlarged. Tres magnifique! To me, they looked edible, especially with the background removed! Topping off the most beautiful, edible looking gourd, Ms. Peters donated a tutorial for us. Yes! It is right here! - a tutorial was most graciously donated by Chris for IDGS member use. Chris uses this tutorial with the classes she teaches, and for which there is a charge. The material is copyright protected. You are welcome to use this for your own use. You do not have permission to use it for any other purpose, particularly as teaching material in a class you teach or to sell.

Tutorial: Acrylic Pouring on Gourds ©2019 Chris Peters

SUPPLIES

Optional: Gesso

Acrylic Paint

Pouring Medium—we are using Floetrol

Autumn Wing ornamental gourd with dowel for a stem, gourd stem for a beak

Wooden base

Plastic sheeting, painters cloth or coverings

Plastic cups

Wood stir sticks

Optional: Pipettes, squeeze bottles

Disposable gloves

Disposable aluminum cake pan or low-sided cardboard box

Aluminum foil to cover bottom of cardboard box

Paper towels

Blue or Green tape

Sand Paper (about 180 to 320grit)

Smock, apron or work shirt

Spray top coat

No silicone is used in this project. Silicone is often used on flat surfaces to create cells.

For this class there are two basic materials—paint and medium. Paint pouring uses acrylic paint to which a medium is added to make a runny consistency. The paint can be selected from any number of brands but it is usually best to stay with one brand—at least during the learning stage. Great success can be had simply using craft paints (I like Apple Barrel brand) but if you are serious and want long lasting art use professional grade fluid acrylics (Golden Fluid Acrylic and Liquitex Soft Body Acrylics are two great choices). There are a number of pouring mediums on the market for this technique from glue to specialized products. I like to use Floetrol.

ABOUT POURING MEDIUM

To the paint we need to add something that will make the paint thinner so it moves with less friction (increase the paint's viscosity). Paint consist of 2 main ingredients - dry pigment that determines the color, and binder - the substance that "binds" all pigment particles in a creamy liquid consistency. Can we just add water to thin the paint? Adding a little bit of water to your paint is okay. Too much water breaks the binder. The paint loses its strength to bind the pigment together which weakens its ability to stick to the surface and too much water will dilute the color. Floetrol used as the pouring medium provides fluid dynamics while making sure the paint retains its integrity and vibrancy. Start by trying a 1:1 ratio, paint to Floetrol, and adjust as needed.

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Floetrol is generally used in house painting and often for spraying paint since it makes paint smoother, more consistent and less viscous, exactly what is needed for acrylic pouring. I buy Floetrol at Home Depot. Side note: another inexpensive medium/alternative to Floetrol is Elmer's Glue-All (not, Elmer's School Glue).

POURING METHOD

There are two basic techniques for pouring paint—dirty pouring and straight pouring. With the dirty pour technique, all the paint colors are placed into one cup prior to being poured over the surface. Dirty pours may seem simple but much can go wrong—muddy color being one. (If you try the dirty pour ensure all paint colors have the same consistency, and are not too runny.) For best success use the straight pouring method. Each of the paint colors will be applied to the gourd individually in a random order, repeating as desired until the gourd has been covered.

Obviously, this is an art form that can get messy, so plastic sheeting to keep your table and floor clean is critical.

GOURD TYPE

An 'Autumn Wing' ornamental gourd provides many places for the paints to run and the natural grooves are ideal for this technique. I prepared these by attaching a stem (dowel) and painting gesso on it. Although not necessary, prime the gourds with gesso before beginning.

STEPS

Mask the bottom of the wooden base with blue or green tape.
Glue the dowel to the wooden base, allow to dry. Sand the base well.
Beak—pick out a gourd stem for the beak
Shape the stem by sanding and/or cutting
Test fit the stem, sanding the gourd and the stem, as needed
Glue the beak to the gourd, allow to dry.

COLORS

White plus two colors

Combinations to try:

Yellow with medium blue-green

Red with medium blue-green

Yellow with dark turquoise

Yellow with purplish-red (magenta)

Yellow with purple

Set out three 4 oz. plastic cups (one for each of your three paints)

Add 1 ounce Floetrol (pouring medium) and 1 ounce paint into each cup (1:1 ratio)

Stir thoroughly.

Let set 10 to 20 minutes for air bubbles to surface.

Lay a piece of aluminum foil into the box. Position the box so the next step collects the dripping paint. Place a cup upside down in the center raise the base off the surface.

TIME TO POUR

Cover everything with the white paint. This helps the paints to flow.

Starting upside down (from the bottom of the gourd) drip paint with stir stick; invert when done Holding the gourd sideways drip/pour with the stir stick as you wish

In the upright position continue dripping/pouring to finish covering the gourd

Allow the paint to drip down the stem, helping it with a stir stick, if needed

To spread paint on the base tip it in various directions

Let dry naturally which will take from 2 to 3 days.

Spray a finish of your preferred sheen.

Chocolate Gourds and all. This has been a fun and complicated newsletter to compile. Lots of activity and dates. I go over and over it and find mistakes every time! Ouch! Thanks to some members who read and corrected- HUGS!

Lots happening in our IDGS Society right now. I know you are getting your gourds started for the Festival competition. You simply can't beat the Festival entry price this year!

Members will be interested in the Terry Noxel Judging Class September 25! From time to time

I have heard members mention wanting to learn more about judging and, now, you have the chance! Corlis has really put some time and energy in turning this idea into a reality. Please remember the - THANK YOU's! Does anyone remember when the last judging class was held?

I was excited to learn that we have Peggy Jarred and Veletta Murphey amongst the vendors in the IDGS Festival. It is fun to have more members involved and see what they'll bring! Here's hoping Cole Road will FINALLY be completed. Welcome to all vendors.

Wanda Walker - is the Festival Store Chairman! Make sure you bring her goodies to sell! Help her out by pricing the items. That makes it a lot easier for her. How about contacting any BOD member, saying you want to volunteer at the store for a couple of hours. Only 2 hours and you can meet a lot of new friends and find a few Christmas gifts while you are at it. Afterwards, meander up to the Silent Auction and plunk down some dinero for one of the fab baskets that we are going to have. A little bird told me Lorrie Ferris was donating some of her works to the Silent Auction. H'm??? Bidding wars are sooo nice! Cha-Ching \$\$\$\$\$

Remember, please I would love to hear from you out there. I often think I spend these many hours writing this for myself. My email is lemonsandsangria@gmail.com. I would very much enjoy hearing from you, just a hello would do! While you are writing to me with ideas for the newsletter, drop a line to Sid and Miss Betty, if you know them. Let's keep one another in our thoughts. The IDGS is one grand place to belong, as each of you are very special.

Remind yourself of that
every single day!!