

# *Karo's Gourd Shard's*

July, 2022



***Busy months ahead for Idaho gourders!***

## **Happenings Ahead For Gourders!**

These past months and months seem like time has just slowed down to a crawl. After so long a time, one starts to forget the pleasure and excitement of the Idaho Gourd Society. One becomes adjusted to the NEW LIFE of separation and masking.

The IAW Show brought that absence to me with a jolt! All at once we were in a building again, together looking at Gourd members entries at the festival. People had turned out to see the entries but not enough to keep tabs on those visitors who wanted more information on the Society! We had let the remembrances of the previous fun slide away to where participation was not great!.



Then there came, for me, the grand awakening! The announcement of the Iris and Spring Flower Show and Gourd Art Display held in Caldwell on May 21st. YEP I went!

Having a M.S. degree in Ornamental Horticulture, this show was sheer candy to me! It is always a pleasure to see what gardeners do - both with ornamentals and gourds! People hide in my neighborhood when I walk Miss Daisy (my Shih Tzu) as I am always up for a good pruning lesson! LOL

The Idaho Gourd Society was a “presence” there with tons of visitors flocking in to see and talk to the gourd artists who were tightly squeezed into a smallish area. Chatter and laughter were just like the old Festival Days.

In addition to displayed champion Iris blooms of every color that were being judged, Ron Swank was outside the building passing out gourd plants. After seeing the gourds on sale or display inside, people would be inspired to turn right around, go outside and snatch up Ron’s gourd plants.

If a picture can say a thousand words, check out this photograph.

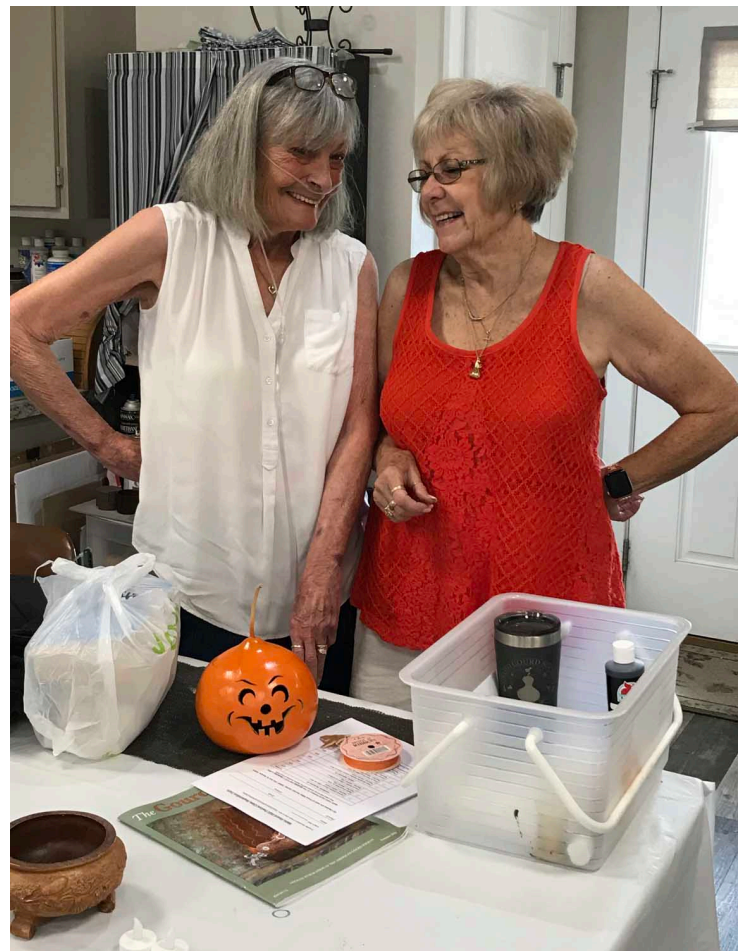
A fairly new gourd Board member and avid Iris grower, Ken Gordy won Best of Show for his iris entry. The winning Iris does not look real. Congratulations to our Ken Gordy!



All my rambling brings me to the IDAHO SOCIETY's Gourd Festival. Things are getting busier now that September is closing in. The 'Halloween Pumpkin' contest is happening next week and folks are talking about their entry into the competition. This past Wednesday at the Sunshine patch, members were getting gourds ready either for competition or the Gourd Store.

There was conversation, laughter and a lot of gourders concentrating on finishing their gourds! Alan Sweeney had donated gourds for those who wanted to enter the competition. My Halloween pumpkin won't make it to the competition as Alan did the intricate cutting of the eyes and mouth. It will, however, be in The Gourd Store.

Right: Liz Meyer and Sue Koska discussing something silly. Could it be that silly Halloween gourd that's making them laugh.



Here's a puzzle for you! What's going on in this picture?

Madlen Tarlton is really watching the paint dry! LOL! She was concentrating so hard, I had to ask her what was happening. I had to laugh at myself when she answered!



Finally, Vicki McIntyre finished her gourd! It is precious. The Gourd Store is going to be a very busy place. I'm already thinking Christmas gifts! And then there are the Festival vendors tempting me. **Shopping will be fun.**

If you paid your dues in advance of December 31,2021 SIGN UP for a FESTIVAL GOURD CLASS. (State Members only- Remember you have a \$30.00 credit if you paid your dues in advance of December 31,2021.) I made it a point last week to get my registration form copied off the IDGS website and wrote the described prepaid check for Sue Kostka to register me. Please don't miss out and lose your class rebate! All the classes look like great fun!

Lastly, get on the schtick and sign up to participate as a Gourd member at the Festival. Time's a-wasting. Get back in the loop! Again, check out the IDGS website for all information you will need. Chris Peters keeps all the IDGS info up to date and it is a joy to use this site. The competition should be amazing with having no Festival for 2 years. I shall enjoy seeing all your entries and might, a first for me, enter one myself!

See you there. I'll be in The Gourd Store, overseen by Alan Sweeney. Contact him to donate those incredible items!

Karo Frazier