

# *Karo's Gourd Shard's*

September, 2023  
Idaho Gourd Society



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This September 9 is the last monthly meeting before our Gourd festival! That is this coming Saturday!! We have had recent emails from Pres. Alan Sweeney and Chris Peters regarding upcoming activities and requests. Wednesday is our final Festival Committee meeting before the Event. This is Chris's recent email just in case you missed it.

Hi Member,

The Silent Auction is in need of empty baskets or containers to fill for Gift Baskets. Pam Froom is collecting them so if you have something suitable you can donate please bring it to the next board meeting (September 6) or the next monthly meeting (September 9).

Keep an eye on IDGS Facebook because we will start showing the many items that will be in the festival's Silent Auction. It is amazing the wonderful items and the generosity of sponsors.

Pam can be reached at [pfrom1955@gmail.com](mailto:pfrom1955@gmail.com) or 208-971-4743.

Pres. Alan Sweeney's additional information for Festival Donations

If you have donations for the Gourd Store or Silent Auction please bring them to this meeting as our subcommittee chairs need time to process them and get them ready for our festival. You can also bring them to our next festival planning meeting that will be held on September 6th, at the Sunshine Patch location starting at 9:30 a.m. You can also contact the subcommittee chairs to arrange for drop off.

Silent Auction chair, Pam Froom 208-971-4743

Gourd Store chair, Janet Melligh 1-971-285-1776



IDGS Gourd Festival Committee at one of it's monthly meetings. It takes the hard work of many members to organize, plan and volunteer to make this a successful event Thank you, Bill Tarlton, for the pics!



While working on the Make 'n Take Committee, I have been able to take a few photos our activities. What a journey this has been along with LaRae Palmanteer, Carol Joyce, Leslie Bonney and Barb Gamel. We decided what we wanted to do and thought it would be a snap to pull the project together! Indeed, all it would take was one meeting, finalizing all the plans and it would be done. WRONG! Three meetings later and hours of frustrating work later, we now hope we have it organized. Maybe!

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Working outside in LaRae's garden in the June, July and August heat was sometimes brutal. Our paint would not adhere to the gourds so then we painted everything with gesso. Our combined brain cells dictated this would be the perfect stabilizing base for the paints.

Once again our attempts failed miserably, with the tempera paints streaking and coverage was most unsatisfactory. Terrible. There went to idea of having the Festival participant paint their own gourd. GONE!

As a final attempt, we tried Alan's spray paint method used in the Pumpkin Carving Party at Alan's. It may not be beautiful as we once desired but our Make 'n Take participants will have a little gourd to take that is painted. Hopefully, pictures of this event will follow.

Maybe!

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## Ken Gordy and Alan Sweeney's Pumpkin Gourd Carving Day

Ken came up with the idea to have a day on their farm for anyone to carve a gourd for the August Monthly Member Pumpkin Competition. He and Alan invited all IDGS members to come out and work together making gourds for the Gourd Store. What a riot it was watching all the animal activity, enjoying the amazing gardens- gourds, flowers and vegetables and working like mad to create goods for the competition. We cut gourds and spray painted, decorated, and laughed and thoroughly enjoyed the day! A huge thank you to Ken and Alan for hosting this. All proceeds from the Gourd Store go to fund IDGS activities (Think Christmas party).



Ken Gordy and Alan Sweeney demonstrating the fine art of pumpkin carving/decoration.



Leslie Bonney and Barb Gamel watch the creative skills (eyebrow attachment) of Ken Gordy.



Left: Mike Ciulla  
Above: Robi Hathorn

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Some of the final pumpkins for the Competition and Gourd Store.



Finally, the Winner of the IDGS 2023 Gourd Competition was simply a “shoe In”!

The “Shoe”  
by Sharon Jozwik won  
first place in August  
IDGs Pumpkin the  
competition.



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Other gourds in the competition included the second place winner: Black Cat by Dee Smart. Congratulations to both Sharon and Dee!!



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## Painting Tips From Lorrie Ferris

It was interesting watching Lorrie painting minuscule lines on her Owl Gourd with the finest of brushes. Takes a steady hand, as well as, great eyesight. Lorrie uses lids from bottles for the small amount of paint needed for her project. This is a inexpensive paint saving tip to keep in mind.



You can see the owl 's wings are actually pulled away from the main body of the gourd. Steve Kiser has perfected this manipulation technique which I hope to have him explain in another Gourd Shard!





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Finally This beautiful quilt, handmade by Patsy Reynolds, was gifted to Steve Kiser. You can see from his smile that this is a once in a lifetime gift! I took a close-up of the deep blue squares in order for the detail to be seen. I asked Patsy for an explanation for the quilt and here is what she wrote. "We were talking about quilts at gourds one day and Steve said he would like to have a denim quilt. He and his wife had saved jeans from their kids, but when it came time to give the jeans to me for the quilt, he couldn't find them. Apparently, he had accidentally tossed them out when he cleaned the closet to recarpet the bedrooms. I simply mentioned I have plenty of denim and could probably put together enough for a quilt. That was kind of the end of the conversation. That was a year or so ago. He had no idea - I don't think - that I was working on the quilt until he saw it on Friday. I think he was surprised and pleased." I know he was Patsy!

See You At The Gourd Festival!