



Idaho Gourd Society

Best of Show Winner
Corlis Kent



From Our President

Greetings Fellow Gourders!

I can't believe we are getting ready to wrap up another amazing year. Our festival was a great success with all the help and support from our wonderful members and volunteers. We definitely couldn't pull it off without everyone's help. We've already started planning next year's festival since we will be hosting the American Gourd Society as this an is exciting and a great opportunity for the Idaho Gourd Society.

We had several new members join the IDGS this year (especially during our festival)! WELCOME to all of you!!! Let's all make sure to introduce ourselves to all the new faces and make them feel part of our group. We have our Christmas Party coming up next month and I am looking forward to seeing all of you there!

I can never say it enough, but thank you to all of you for everything you do. I hope you all have a wonderful Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!!

President Ron



Terry Noxel Judge Training Class



Below - Terry Noxel instructing our class in the do's and don'ts of judging with both seriousness and humor. There was so much to absorb!!!





IDGS held a AGS judging class with Terry Noxel from New York. She is a certified AGS instructor. We had great participation with 22 attendees who will now be able to judge in Idaho and at other AGS sanctioned Gourd Shows. We learned a lot and as you can see by Terry's picture, she had a good time in Idaho. Thanks to all the new Judges and too Terry for a great class.



Liz Myer



Ed Note: Several of members of this class worked at our 2019 Gourd Festival judging the different categories. With all the considerations to remember and rules to follow, judging is indeed a special talent if

one follows the AGS guidelines. As we often know our friends' styles, this makes it doubly hard not to be prejudiced. However, fairness and strictness is what it takes to be an outstanding judge. We have the best example to follow with our very own Carolyn Spaltro.

Peoples Choice Award- Sue Kostka

IDGS Festival 2019



However -

Before the Winners

Before the Pictures

IDGS board members would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the Gourd Society member contributors- including the donor contributors. We know who you are - and you know who you are, there is no need to mention every name. Quite honestly, I don't believe I could list every name! Your time and energy were the major contributing factor of the overall success of this year's Festival. The ideas, the hours of volunteering, the items you donated to the Silent Auction and the Gourd store, the food you prepared, the time you spent judging your fellow gourder's art works, the hours of helping at the admissions table, in the food area, monitoring stations and the overall care and concern you gave to each other, the efforts involved in being a vendor, everything from opening a door for an entering guest and his family to spending hours removing wrinkles from the table clothes. All of your efforts are appreciated, noticed and respected by all of the friends and members of IDGS. This year was a great success because of you, pat yourself on the back, share a compliment with a fellow member and openly demonstrate the respect we each should display for each other. Congratulations for a job well done to all who helped.

IDGS would now like to give a hearty thank you for the support of our corporate sponsors. We would like to encourage our members and friends to support our sponsors whenever possible. In an effort to be fair and thorough please let us know if we have overlooked any sponsor and we will make corrections. Their names are listed below.

Arizona Gourds
Bettie Lake
Blick Art Materials
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D&B Supply
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Tandy Leather
The Caning Shop
Treeline
Tucanos Brazilian Grill
Turtle Feathers
UPS, Mark &
Elizabeth Uecker
Welburn Gourd Farm
Woodcrafters



Division Winners

Youth Division I



Emilynn Hobbs



Youth Division II



Caleb Carter



Individuals with Disabilities



Veletta Murphey



Novice



Vickie McIntyre



Intermediate



Diane Laputz



Advanced



Jan Miller



Expert



Corlis Kent



Masters



Sue Kostka



Jim Story Award



Carla Arnold

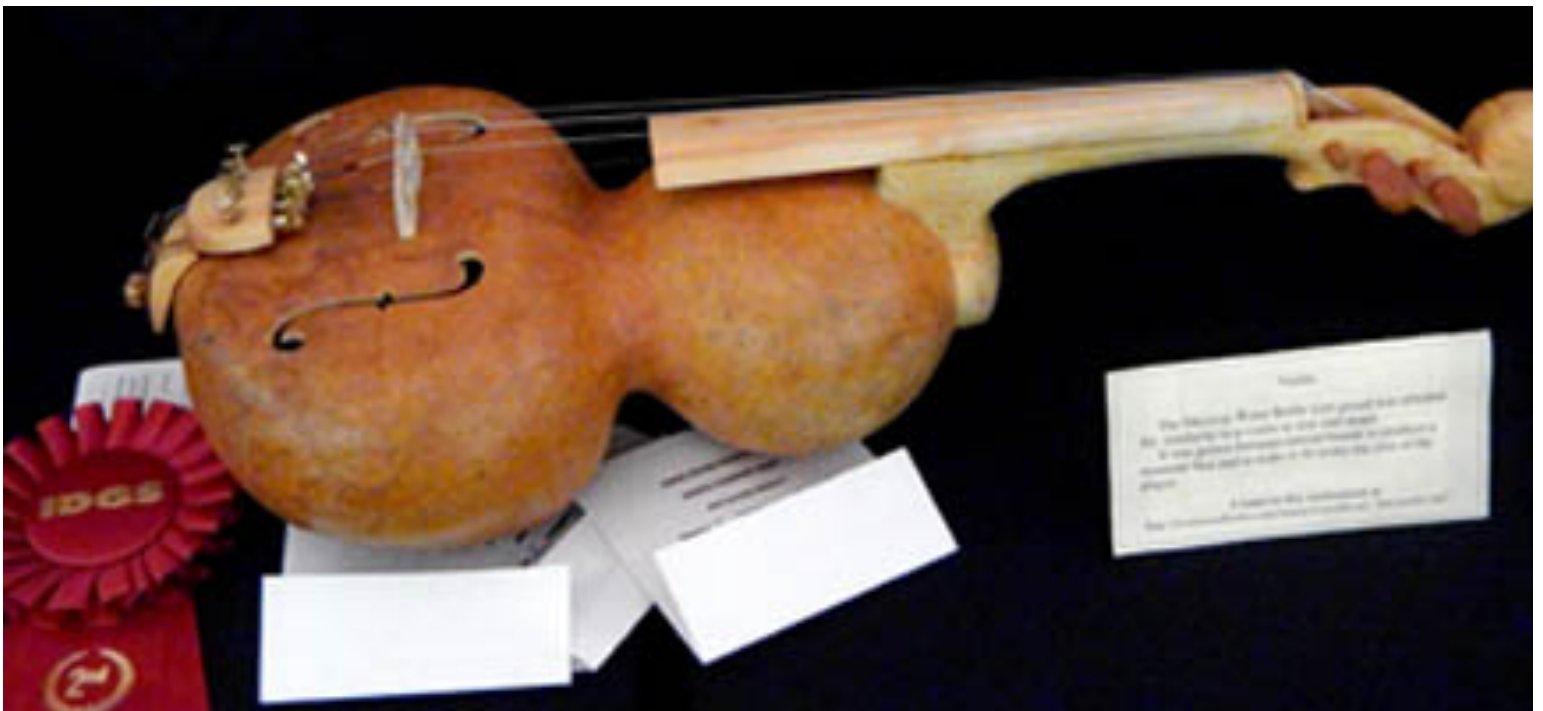


Best of Theme



Chris Peters

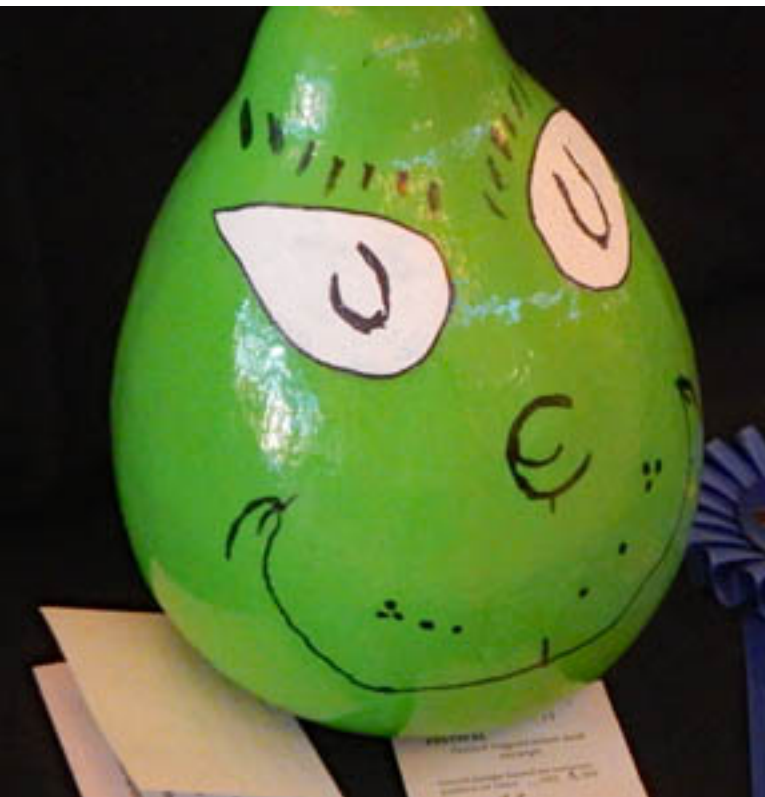




Award

Throughout these pages you will see several of the seventy seven IDGS gourd competition entries.









Robin Bryson and Vickie Echols return to Idaho to teach three classes. Liz Meyer generously offered the use of her workshop for this event. Great turn-out!!





Corlis Kent was teaching this amazing alcohol ink class. You will see we all were concentrating so hard whilst she kept telling us to relax and have fun with it! It was fun and we did learn so much.



SPW - SUNSHINE PROJECT WEDNESDAY
2nd Wednesday monthly, 11 AM to 2 PM. Cost to attend: \$2 (you are welcome to donate more). Location: 72 N. Boundary, Nampa. The SPW is organized in order to learn and create a project. Each month will be something new. Announcement of each project is sent by email. Sign up to be on the email list by contacting Liz Meyer. Please park on Boundary or Wedgwood streets or in Liz's driveway. Please do not block the access road for the neighbors. Want to be one of the teachers? Contact Liz at sunshinegourds@hotmail.com



IDGS Member Lorrie Ferris

Intending to write a more in-depth article about Lorrie during breaks at the 2019 IDGS Gourd Festival, I found myself popping over to her store several times a day throughout the two day event, only to find her constantly occupied with her customers. It seemed there always were people gathered round her talking. I laughingly told her, "Not only are you an active IDGS member, an AGS member, a Patch Leader (Dancing Dog Patch in Boise), a donor to the Silent Auction but you also are a Festival Vendor AND you are Crazy busy!"

Lorrie seems to be active in so many areas, I wondered how she finds time to create those beautiful pieces of gourd art.

Backtracking a bit, several months ago I went to Lorrie's Dancing Dog Patch with my Auntie (93) who had never experienced gourd art up close. Auntie was curious about a "Patch" and she readily accepted my invitation to go with me. Happily, she met all the members and watched what each person was doing. She was enthralled. Lorrie took Auntie under her wing showing her several of her own pieces, and patiently answering the many questions she had. We took up a great deal of her time that day but Lorrie patiently took it all in stride. Auntie was thrilled to experience such a pleasurable visit. What a gift for a 93-year-old! Thank you so much, Lorrie!



Now back to Lorrie's work! Originally, she never intended to work with gourds, she explained to me, rather she wanted to throw pots! But the pots wouldn't throw! When she finally met gourds, she thought to herself, "These gourds are just big pots!" When you think about it..... pots... gourds.... H'mmmm!

Lorrie began gourd experimenting with different art forms; painting, clay, woodburning, etc. When she took a carving class from Bonnie Gibson she claims, "Carving cemented my gourd addiction! I love it when there is that one moment you can pinpoint in time that changes your outlook. " Carving was it for Lorrie!

She has continued to educate herself in attending classes in Arizona ,as well as local classes, and will always be experimenting with different media for her gourd art. Meanwhile, she shows her gourd art many places throughout the country.





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Pictured left: Co-Founder Doug Welburn, inspecting gourds for shipment in 1996.

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The Cat House

Some of you have expressed interest in the Cat House, an ongoing project which started at the Rochester Patch and traveled many places before completion. The Giant Blue Gourd patiently waited in my home until my sister-in-law finished her radiation treatments and was able to have some family descend upon her. Both she and my Bro, facing such tremendous health problems, are such a part of my heart that I hoped this Cat House would bring moments of laughter. I cannot cure cancer. I cannot cure Parkinson's. I surely would do anything I could, if it would help. I can bring some silliness to a day. That I am good at!

So on the right day I took ole Blue and left Boise heading west. Off I went across the Blues, and, at some point, turned northward toward to Yakima. I had every intention of Crossing Hwy 12 the next morning after an overnight in Yakima. I love driving that curvy, twisted mountain road, crossing White's Pass, and watching all the beautiful landscape. Somehow my GPS and I disagreed and I found myself heading towards Ellensburg. Oh well, I thought, I haven't been this way before so I might as well try a new road. WRONG! By the time I got outside Tacoma (32 lanes wide at least) it was raining so hard I could barely see the road in front of me and the road construction was everywhere. "Old Blue" and I were in a heap o' trouble. That darned GPS had us going every which-a-way. (You know the usual- "Take the next right, Take the next right-

NOW and in 30 feet get into the fourth left lane and turn left.")

On a bridge I couldn't decide whether to take lane number 1 or lane number 2, I settled the problem by taking a bit of both until I saw a sign. Get thee in the right lane! Somehow Blue and I found I-5 S without shots being fired or obscene gestures being exchanged. Perhaps it was the Idaho plates??

My "angel" was working overtime on that drive and "Ole Blue" and I arrived safely to Shelton, WA. The following photos show my Bro unwrapping the giant Blue and the the kitties exploring. Adding a bit of catnip was so naughty because only one kitty could fit inside the gourd! This drove the "oversized " kitties batty. Most of the cats now weigh 23 plus pounds! Blue Eyes tops 25 or is it 26 pounds? The Bengal mix , Rajah, was the only one that got inside and enjoyed the catnip! We had a marvelous time watching their antics. Since returning to Boise, my Bro has reported Rajah has gone into the gourd on his own and Ole Blue is his!





Blue Eyes only could put his head in. He is enormous!



Three of the five cats inspecting the new object that appeared suddenly in their world! The feathers had to go after about 20 minutes. We got tired of picking up floating feathers!!!



Rajah taking a snooze in his new home- The Cat House. Thanks to everyone (Rochester Patch, Sunshine Patch, Ron Swank, and many others who helped me! HUGS to you!



Remember when this started back in May with my 10 lb. Shih Tzu, Daisy, laughing at the idea of a Cat House? She fit in it then. The cats are more than double her size! Should've doubled the size of the entrance! However, a larger hole meant there wouldn't have been much left of one side of the gourd!



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With swollen fingers I am trying to end this newsletter, but it just won't end. I keep finding more pictures to share with you. I, sadly, missed the last Woodcraft meeting due to surgery for a couple trigger fingers on me right hand. They remain swollen because I keep slipping in here to the computer to type a wee bit more and add more pictures. A few minutes turn into, well, let's say too much time!. Thus, the fingers swell up again. Pres. Ron got his letter to me pronto and I was the late one this time! LOL

Memories, words, or feelings I seem to think of when reminded of the Festival:

1. Norma Batt - Her smile every time I went into the Hospitality Room. HUGS to you lady. You are awesome!

2. Happiness I felt seeing Veletta Murphey at the Festival this year. It was so good to see you and Peggy Jarred too. I loved both your displays and hope to always find you here. That happiness also includes - Lorrie Ferris, Bill and Madlen Tarlton, Himself the ThunderDrum/Flute man- Ron Swank and Ruth Thayer also. The combination of all their talents, combined with the competitive gourd entries, leaves the visitors amazed. One of our sponsors, who did not know about gourd art, came up to me truly overwhelmed. She had supported the Festival because the company was local, as we are. However, upon seeing what the company had sponsored, she was in awe! I loved that!

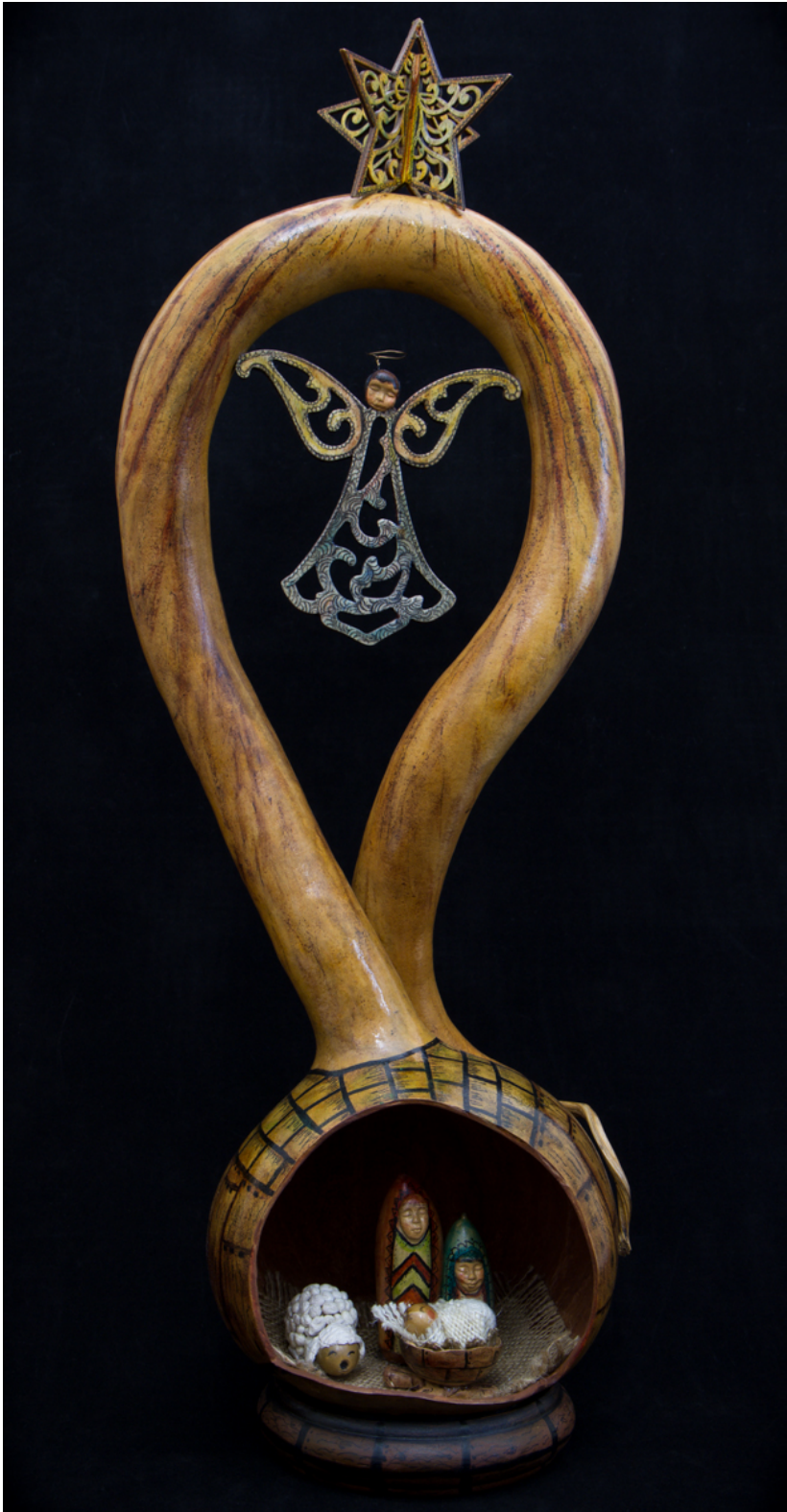
3. Finally, I cannot describe the kindness displayed amongst the members. If you weren't here at either the set-up or the take-down, you can't imagine how people would simply jump in and offer to help with whatever needed to be done. Members may quarrel, but when there is a need they are there to help

I shall end this with a gourd photograph I treasure, that of a gourd which Corlis Kent created sometime ago. Following it will be more pictures from the Festival.

Whatever your beliefs (or not) about the holiday seasons, tis a fun time. See you at the December party!! Dig out those ugly Holiday sweaters. Can't wait to see Mrs. Claus.....

Note: I am more than happy to share our sponsors' names, although I do not accept any funding for "Ads" of any sort. Our sponsors have helped us in so many ways with our Festival and we can help them by supporting them.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS











Nevada Gourd member, Ken Poole, visiting our 2019 Gourd Festival. He participated in all events from Silent Auction to attending our Evening Banquet! What a fun visitor he was, stating we are all members of the GOURD FAMILY! Glad to have had you with us Ken.

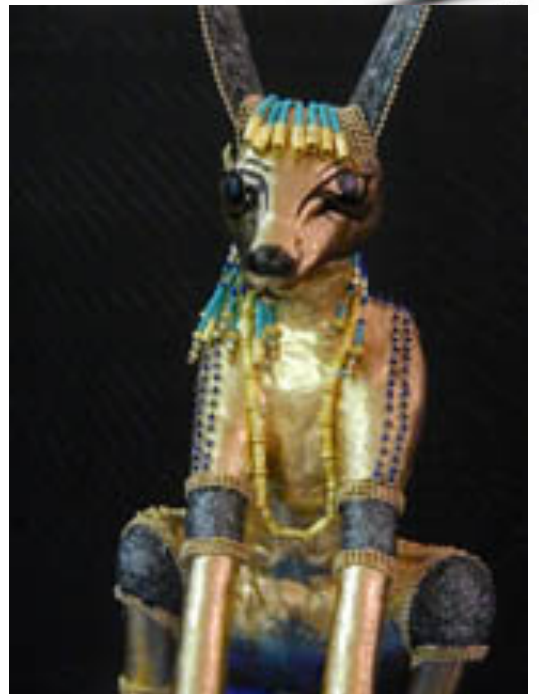


AGAIN THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS - Both IDGS members and Corporate donors. The great success of this Auction was because of your donations!



The Silent Auction, anything but “silent” was perhaps a main source of lively entertainment throughout the Festival.





IDGS Elections for 2020

On November 16, at our Fall Official Membership meeting, the Idaho Gourd Society held elections for members of the Executive Board for the 2020 year. Because some of the officers and directors are elected in even years, and others are elected in odd years, the offices of the Vice-President, Treasurer and Director #3 were up for election this time.

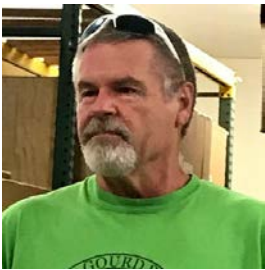
IDGS President Ron Swank asked each of the candidates to speak to the membership before ballots were distributed.



Bill Tarlton, candidate for Vice-President, spoke first. He talked about his 40-year career background with the Air Force, his qualifications for the office, as well as his involvement in gourd work, the Idaho Gourd Society and the American Gourd Society. Bill said that he writes the Idaho Chapter News article for the quarterly AGS magazine, and his latest article dealt with becoming more active in your local organization. He stated that since he was encouraging all of us to become more active, he might very well step up to the plate, and so he to run for Vice-President.



Patricia McRae, candidate for IDGS Treasurer spoke next. She said that she has been fond of gourds and gourd crafting for a long time. She brought a box of gourds with her and showed us gourds that she has collected throughout her adult lifetime. She also spoke of her past experience in education and educational administration, and said she would take good care of our treasury.



Steve Kiser, candidate for the position of director #3, spoke about his enthusiasm for gourds, gourd art and our organization. He spoke of himself as a “Gourd Head,” and said he loves everything about gourds. He said that he wears his gourd T-shirts everywhere he goes and that he gets lots of questions and positive comments on it and gourds. He said he would represent the membership well if elected.

Members cast their ballots and all three candidates were elected.

They will take office on January 1, 2020.

Vacating those positions on January 1, 2020 will be Vice-President, LaRae Palmanteer, Treasurer, Carol Joyce, and Director, Liz Meyer. LaRae has been with the Idaho Gourd Society for a brief time, but hit the ground running and has been deeply involved in helping us be very successful, and well organized. Carol Joyce has served as the IDGS Treasurer for quite a few years. She is efficient and communicative, and our books have been in great shape since she has been doing the job. Liz Meyer has served in many capacities in the IDGS and she has been a member for many years. She has served as President, Vice-President, Director, and Patch Leader. We owe a huge debt of gratitude to Liz , Carol, and LaRae for their contributions to the IDGS!



