



Kinnikinnick Journal

Volume XVIII Number 5

Nov/Dec 2014

Kinnikinnick Native Plant Society, Inc. / PO Box 1092 Sandpoint, Idaho 83864 www.nativeplantsociety.org

Upcoming Programs

Presentations Sponsored by
Kinnikinnick Native Plant Society
and Sandpoint Parks and Recreation
Community Hall, First Ave, Sandpoint
(Across from County Courthouse)

All meetings begin at 9:45 and are held at the Community Hall unless otherwise indicated.

Saturday, November 22, 2014

Stephen Augustine

Pollinators, predators, and plant grazers: The role of insects in home gardens

Saturday, December 13, 2014

Holiday Potluck

11:00 to 1:00

At the home of Sylvia Chatburn

1787 Dufort Road, in Sagle (E. side of Hwy 95).

Bring Finger Foods to share and Holiday Cheer!!



Past Programs

September 27, 2014
An Introduction to Aquatic Plants

Tom Woolf, Aquatic Plant Program Manager, Idaho State Department of Agriculture Invasive Species Program, discussed native and invasive aquatic plants. Native aquatic plants are the building blocks for aquatic ecosystems, providing habitat and food for invertebrates, fish, amphibians, and fowl, and naturally improving water quality. Invasives not only degrade natural ecosystems but they outcompete native plants.



Eurasian Milfoil, an invasive with 12+ pairs of leaflets and a limp quality, differs from our native milfoil which is more robust and forms winter buds. A hybrid, found in Mica Bay and Hayden Lake, is more aggressive and tolerant to herbicides, but dies from a hard freeze. Treatments in Hayden Lake have successfully targeted the hybrid without harming native milfoil.

Perhaps an even more formidable invasive is flowering rush. With a slide photo, Tom showed Flathead Lake with a massive infestation of flowering rush in full pink glory. Since 2007, it has spread vigorously between Missoula and Canada and is seen locally in the Clark Fork log yard. Other invasive aquatic plants are yellow-flag iris, a prolific seed producer, and purple loosestrife which has been controlled successfully with a biological agent.

Though not in the plant category, invasive zebra and quagga mussels rapidly spread and cause serious harm, unlike native mussels. They were introduced to the Great Lakes and Lake Mead and have been transported by boats. Though the states of Idaho, Washington, Oregon, and Montana have boat inspections, there are no containment efforts from Lake Mead. National leadership toward prevention is needed.

Tom suggested the public can help by staying informed, keeping an eye out, and educating neighbors.

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Committee Reports

Arboretum News

Thirteen volunteers put in almost 400 hours in the arboretum this summer. As a result the arboretum is looking good. Most of the plants that we planted last fall came up this spring and are thriving. The volunteers are taking a rest from the arboretum until February, when we will start talking about the goals for next season. If anyone is interested in learning about native plants, working at the arboretum is a good way to learn first hand. We still have a lot of area to develop. Contact Sylvia at smchatburn@gmail.com, if you are interested.

Conservation Committee

Conservation committee members were active outdoors this summer! From weed surveys for Treasured Landscapes, White Bark Pine surveying to seed gathering for the Clark Fork Delta restoration effort and more, this was a time to move our efforts outdoors and enjoy the plants we love.

Forest Plan update: final approval has been set back with a personnel change at the Regional top in the USFS. We will stay tuned for this document that will guide our local decision makers.

If you are interested in learning more about the Conservation Committee, please let Molly know. conservation@nativeplants.org. Submitted by Molly O'Reilly

Landscape Committee

In late September, Landscape committee members Sylvia Chatburn, Bob Wilson and Gail Bolin gathered at Southside Elementary School for a native plant consultation for the school's outdoor classroom. This unique classroom is located up the hill from the school yard and provides students an opportunity to study nature up close and personal. A large pavilion is



located at the top where students and teachers gather to study and observe plants, insects, birds and other wildlife. In the spring, a follow up visit is planned in order to identify the existing plants along the trails and around the pavilion. Submitted by Gail Bolin.



Lois Wythe Native Plant Grant

The November 30th deadline for applications for the Lois Wythe Native Plant Grant is fast approaching. KNPS has \$300 to award to the group, class or resident of Bonner County who presents the best thought-out project that achieves the goal of promoting the appreciation and use of native plants.

If you are aware of an interested group or person who may not have not had access to an application form or has questions, suggest they call Janice DeBaun 263-8970 for more information.

Completed applications should be sent to KNPS, Grant Committee, PO Box 1092, Sandpoint, ID. 83864 by the end of November.

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October 25, 2014

In-Town Landscaping with Native Plants

The October program featured our own Molly O'Reilly, who presented a summary of her experience with "In-Town Landscaping With Native Plants." Their brand new house came with a brand new landscape to develop (the only plants on site were two large Norway Maples, in the parking strip.) The KNPS Landscape committee visited and made recommendations which were helpful. Molly carefully analyzed important factors such as wet/dry areas, when the sun hit certain areas, soil, mulch, and more, before deciding on plants. Of particular interest to many was the swale created in the front garden, three feet deep, to filter pollutants out of rain water before it travels into the city system (if it goes that far). A number of plants are thriving in it, including mountain hollyhock. She documented the entire process through careful notes and photos, presenting the chronology of developing a garden with blooms and interest throughout the seasons. Audience members had many questions, and appreciated her practical, helpful responses.



Sip and Shop

"We had an attendance of about 40 people at our Sip N' Shop event at the Pend Oreille Winery held on Tuesday, October 14, 2014. Most commented that they liked the new format where all sales were subject to a 10% donation to our society. The restaurant menu was well designed and the prices were reasonable; many people, about 16 stayed for dinner after the happy hour. The board was very happy about our share of the revenue, which was \$143 from the basket raffle and \$325 from the sales sharing. Bob and Jill Wilson were the lucky winners of the raffle basket. The total amounting to \$468. We are sure that when word gets out about the success of this event, that we will have even better attendance next year."



It's Time to Renew!

Memberships expire at the end of the year. Your continuing support helps make possible the development and maintenance of the Native Plant Arboretum, the Lois Wythe Scholarship, Arbor Day participation, and monthly programs at the Community Center. The KNPS continues to be a strong voice for plant conservation in the region. Please help us by supporting these many fine efforts.

Membership Categories

- Patron* \$100**
- Sustaining* \$50**
- Sponsor (commercial)** \$50**
- Household* \$25**
- Individual* \$20**
- Student* \$15**
- Senior* \$15**

**non-voting membership*

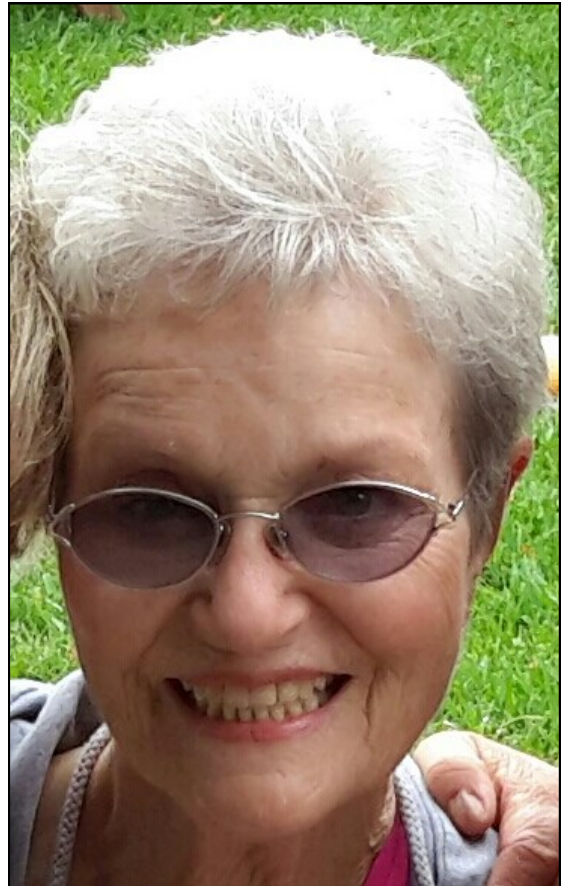
Renew By:

- Mail - send a check to PO Box 1092, Sandpoint, ID 83864**
- Online using PayPal at www.nativeplantsociety.org/membershippaypal.htm**
- Or in person at any of the general meetings**

Member Profile: Jackie Earle

Article and Photo by Mark Stockwell

You learn to make friends quickly when you move around a lot as a kid. It takes an adventurous spirit and an embracing nature, attributes that warm you quickly when you first meet Jackie Earle. Adventurism must be inherited because Jackie's parents sure shared it. A quarter century before Alaska gained statehood her parents met and married in Ketchikan, still a remote and rowdy fishing town in the mid 1930's. Jackie's dad, a Midwestern farm kid and World War I veteran, went on to attain a master's degree in education administration from UC Berkeley before accepting a position in Juneau as Commissioner of Education for the Alaskan Territory. Her mother was equally courageous. Raised in a conservative family, she achieved a college teaching degree and in the midst of the Great Depression possessed enough courage as a young single lady to venture to Ketchikan for her first teaching job!



Jackie lived the first few years of her life in Alaska before the family moved to Maricopa, CA where her dad became superintendent of schools. While she was in 1st grade Pearl Harbor was bombed, and the backdrop of her life quickly changed. Her dad was now in charge of recruits at Santa Ana Army Air Base and, as a young girl, Jackie recalls tending a victory garden, lowering black out curtains, and hiding in orange groves while practicing air raids. While she was in 3rd grade, the governor of Alaska asked her dad to return to Juneau to start the Veterans Administration in the territory. The house her parents built sits on a steep hillside overlooking Gastineau Channel and remains on the historical register today. Jackie remembers tossing snowballs down the hill attempting to hit the governor's mansion! She recalls hiking to T-Harbor to spend weekends at the family's secluded coastal cabin, fishing with her dad, scavenging the tide pools with her mom, and finding a pet octopus. Apparently, they make poor house pets!

Jackie's family moved frequently through the rest of her grade school and junior high years, living in Oregon and Idaho. They settled in Lake Elsinore, CA when she began high school. Jackie excelled in school and quickly became quite popular. She discovered swing dancing and boys, was crowned Prom Queen and was even named Most Outstanding Student at graduation.

After high school, Jackie moved to Riverside, CA and enjoyed the freedom of making a living on her own. She got married and began raising her 2 daughters Linda (Kirchmann) and Denise. In college she studied teaching but discovered an interest in real estate, so she became an escrow officer. While a member of the Business and Professional Women's Club, one of her proudest achievements was when she placed 2nd in their national public speaking competition in Boston!

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2015 Kinnikinnick Calendar

The 2015 KNPS Calendars will be available at the November 22nd meeting. Two sizes are available: 8.5 x 11 and 8.5 x 14. The calendars are \$8 for the first one and \$7 for each additional one ordered. Please place your order for standard size or extra large or a mixture, before the November 22nd meeting so that they will be ready for pick up at that meeting. If you cannot attend that meeting, they can be picked up at the December holiday gathering or at an arranged time and place. You can order by calling Marilyn George at 263-9470 (leave a message) or send an email to iluv2photo@gmail.com. Payment is due when you pick up your order. If you wish to have them sent, add \$2 to the bill for each calendar to be mailed. Send your order and check (made out to KNPS) to Marilyn George, 398 Meadowlark Lane, Sandpoint, ID, 83864. Thank you.

2015 Kinnikinnick Calendar



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Jackie met her husband, Ken Earle, back in the mid 70's. They re-kindled their relationship in 1992 and started looking for property outside of southern California. A friend suggested Sandpoint, so in March of 1993 the couple arrived in North Idaho and within 3 days they'd opened a mail box, started a checking account and made an offer on a home north of Ponderay. Jackie and Ken have enjoyed the past 21 years with home improvement projects, square dancing and enjoying their RV. They ran their own custom embroidery business together for 11 years.

Today, Jackie enjoys hiking, the yearly Women's Campouts, gardening, and of course KNPS. She's been an active member of our group for the past 10 years and has volunteered as hospitality host and an arboretum gardener for many years.

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A Voice From the Moist Montane

Story and Picture by Marilyn McIntyre

My drive in to the KNPS meeting on the last Saturday in October was a ride on the river of golden larch that I had been watching flow down the gullies of the mountain and, on reaching the bench above the creek, spread out in both directions, following the water right where my “yellow brick road” winds. It isn’t just the larch either. The birch, aspen, cottonwoods and maples are all at their most vibrant. The whole forest floor is golden now, providing the nutrients and humus that this permeable, glacial soil needs. My artist’s eyes are stunned by the view.

The Western Larch (*Larix occidentalis*) tree is what brought and tied me to North Idaho 35 years



ago and has become my clock to the seasons. Planting thousands of little leafless sticks into the Yaak River clear cuts was my first acquaintance with these deciduous conifers. It didn’t take me long to appreciate the bright green newly needled giants that I saw all around the edges. When the fall came I was a mountain dwelling landowner with golden larch surrounding my cabin. Soon the needles fell in the wind and snow and as Rick Bass says it best from the Yaak in his Orion Magazine article *The Larch*: “If the golden needles had stayed up there against the cerulean October sky forever, surely we would have eventually gotten used to them, taken them for granted.” (Orion Magazine Nov/Dec 2012: an amazing article.)

On a recent trip to the Scottish highlands I saw Larch (*Larix deciduas*) trees with their chartreuse green needles near my original clan land and felt quite at home. If you are here all winter, I hope it is in part because you know that with coming of spring you will see the unsurpassable beauty of the bright green river of trees flowing down the mountains and along the valley floor once again.