



# Kinnikinnick Journal

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November-December 2016

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

[www.nativeplantsociety.org](http://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 26, 2016**

*Bill Love*

*Inland Forest Management*

**History of the Humbird Mill and Spread of White Pine Blister Rust in North Idaho**

**Saturday, December 10, 2016**

*Christmas Pot Luck*

11:00-2:00

Home of Sylvia Chatburn

1787 E Dufort Road

Sagle, Idaho

(208)-263-2175

*Please bring a dish to share!*

## October Program Summary

Billing herself as a gypsy botanist at one point in her career, Dianne Stutzman shared photos of numerous wildflowers taken during of her visit to Paradise Ridge. Located outside of Genesee, Idaho. This remnant represents 1% of the original Palouse Prairie.



Her hostess, Jaycie Jensen, shared this prairie spectacle with Ms. Stutzman during the month of May in 2008. Jensen also operates an agricultural enterprise that endeavors to share these wondrous wildflowers. She harvests wildflower seeds and raises them commercially in

*(Continued on page 3)*

**Christmas Potluck**  
**At the Home of Sylvia Chatburn**  
**1787 E Dufort Road, Sagle Idaho**  
**(208) 263-2175**  
**11:00 to 2:00**  
**Bring a Dish to Share!**





## September Program Summary

“I am trying to recreate the homeowner’s experience, “ not give the typical U of I research project, Jim Eskins told KNPS members September 24th at the Community Center. Jim touched on several major points in his presentation: Research Topics in Native Plants.

Many of us just assume that storm water will soak into the earth and be of value. Even in North Idaho, this is not always the case. Water hits the earth, saturates the top layer and rushes into streams, carrying the pollutants that may be present along with them. Jim discussed raingarden (residential) and bioswale (industrial) systems, their purpose, and the necessity of employing engineers in areas with a higher than normal slope. The purpose of such systems is to capture storm water over vegetation and have plants absorb the pollutants prior to soaking into the ground. Such Low Impact Development systems mimic nature’s processes. They also protect the riparian zone by slowing runoff into streams and lakes.

As a landowner seeking native plant barriers in the form of bushes and shrubs, I was very interested in Jim’s discussion of his native plant watering project. I came away with a U of I publication to help me interpret his suggestion of which plants to place in the sandy soil around my house.



Jim also discussed the need for soils test kits. In addition, he shared a study that compared the difference between DIY and Idaho Extension soil test kits. One interesting fact that emerged, through audience participation on this topic, was the fact that Washington State not only does not provide such a service, but they recommend that land owners utilize the Extension service provided by the state of Idaho in analyzing soil sample data. Data samples are also sent to local Master Gardener groups to provide assistance in interpreting the data.

Hayden Lake is the site of a floating wetlands experiment in which plants were placed in the lake as floating islands. The results were not what was expected in reducing the amount of total phosphorus uptake in the lake. However, a positive result was the increase of public awareness of water quality via traditional and social media.

Jim’s slide show can be seen on the KNPS web page. He is the Area Water Educator for the University of Idaho Extension Service.

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### *Summer at the Arboretum*

In September during the coffee hour, Vicky Johnson shared a slide show of Summer at the Arboretum. Between weeding, planting, watering and bestowing tender loving care (TLC) to all the plants at the Arboretum, Vicky found time to take dozens of photos during the season. She shared her thumb drive of pictures before the monthly KNPS presentation at Community Hall. People had a choice of visiting with others or sitting quietly and viewing the picture show. It was a nice surprise bonus to the program.

At the October KNPS Board Meeting, we discussed the possibility of playing a short slide show as a regular background feature while people are gathering. It’s in the planning stages, but we welcome input at this time. We’ll be looking for volunteers to submit pictures or short powerpoint slide shows on thumb drives. One of the drawbacks is having a computer available each month that we can use to plug in the thumb drive. Please let Board members know if you think this idea is worth pursuing. *Cindy Hayes* – KNPS Board Member

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## Committee Reports

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### Arboretum News

On October 9, 9 gardeners showed up on a cloudy, drizzly day to put hoses and benches away for the season. The drip system lines were blown out and debris picked up and hauled away. After the work was done we had a nice pot luck lunch and some social time. The gardeners will take a well deserved time out until February when we will start planning and setting goals for next season. For more information about the Arboretum contact:

Sylvia at [arboretum@nativeplantsociety.org](mailto:arboretum@nativeplantsociety.org)

### Conservation Committee

The Conservation Committee will meet over lunch with Sandpoint staff of the Idaho Conservation League on Thursday, November 17, at a reserved table at Tango Cafe. Please purchase your lunch and be seated by noon. We will talk with Brad Smith and Matt Nykiel about the ways in which both organizations work with public lands agencies and areas in which we can partner. All KNPS members are welcome. Please let Molly know if you plan to attend by contacting her at [conservation@nativeplantsociety.org](mailto:conservation@nativeplantsociety.org)

### Landscape Committee

The Landscape Committee is looking for projects for 2017. If you need help with your home landscape or know someone who does, just contact Dennis at [landscape@nativeplantsociety.org](mailto:landscape@nativeplantsociety.org) so I can put you on the schedule for 2017. You need to be a member of KNPS to take advantage of this free (just feed us lunch) service.

### Grant Committee

November 30th is an important day. It is the deadline for all applications for the 2017 Lois Wythe Native Plant Grant. KNPS has set aside \$300 to assist a Bonner County resident, group or class who presents a viable plan to promote the appreciation of native plants, encourage them to download an application form from our website and submit their creative ideas. Proposals will be judged on potential effectiveness as well as originality. For more information, call Janice DeBaun, 263-8970. Even better, if you would like to join us in this worthwhile project as a committee member, let her know.

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### ***October Program Diane Stutzman (Continued from page 1)***

the rich soil adjacent to the natural ridge. According to Stutzman, this helps to promote wildlife diversity by offering floral diversity to the public.

Among other flowers shown, I was struck by the names Hairy Albert, Sticky Purple Geranium, and Wavy Leaf Thistle. Our resident weed expert noted that it bore a strong resemblance to the invasive bull thistle. Yet another participant indicated that the sap from this thistle is good for one's liver.

Paradise Ridge is open to the public, though Stutzman suggested KNPS members might best view this land through the able guidance of her contact, Jensen. One can access this land at Kamiak Butte, Steptoe Butte and Rose Creek Nature Preserve. Benefactors who intend to add this land to public availability have recently purchased an additional 437 acres adjacent to the Ridge.

Native plant species have no protection except on Federal land. As such, geo data information, similar to huckleberry patch location, is not published so that plants continue to thrive. One restoration project benefiting the *Silene spaldingii* fly catcher is currently under way.

Dianne Stutzman, in addition to her work for the BLM, operates a Spokane Valley nursery specializing in drought tolerant plants.

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## **Member Profile: Carol Robinson**

*By Ken Thacker*

Carol grew up on a cattle ranch outside of Merced, California at a time when the area was much more rural than it is today. Back then, the city had around 18,000 people which is less than one fourth of its population now. Carol's dad ran the Robinson Cattle Ranch with his brother and he enjoyed photographing nature, and had a backyard bird feeder. She vividly remembers him bringing injured birds home, nursing them back to health and photographing them. The ranch is still in the family, but now produces almond and walnuts.

After high school, Carol first went to the University of Redlands near San Bernardino, CA. and then graduate school at Northwestern University in Chicago. (Yes, she did see a Cubs game!). Both undergraduate and Master's degrees were in Communicative Disorders, but after 5 years of teaching, Carol decided that she was in the wrong career field. She then went on to work in a variety of professions that included jobs in hotels, telecommunications, banking and credit unions around the San Luis Obispo area of central California.

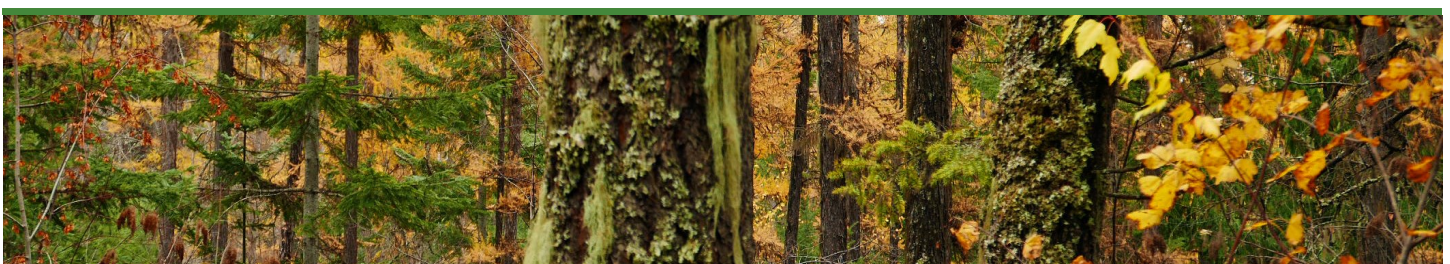
During her time in "SLO" Carol became involved with the San Luis Obispo Botanical Garden which specializes in Mediterranean zone plants. She later bought a home in Arroyo Grande with a large back yard which she converted to her Mediterranean "too large for one person to manage" garden. She always shared the garden with her 4 cats.

Her sister moved to North Idaho in 1998 and Carol visited several times over the years. She particularly enjoyed the relaxation here, the deer, turkeys and elk on her sister's property, and trips to other areas within the region. She particularly enjoyed seeing the large numbers of swans and geese at Calispell Lake during the spring migration.

Moving to Sandpoint in 2013 marked a significant turning point for Carol. It gave her a chance to downsize yard-wise and purchase a new house "with a dishwasher and pantry" for the first time. She selected her new location with an eye toward avoiding many of the problems her sister had experienced when living in rural Sagle. She particularly wanted to avoid having a private well, using propane as a source of heat, hauling her own trash and plowing snow. These guided her toward South Sandpoint where she still shares her home with her cats. However, the best thing about Carol's new house is her neighbor Lee, who is a long-time resident and who has introduced Carol to many of the features of our wonderful area.

Since moving to Sandpoint, Carol has become an active volunteer and is always looking for new ways to enjoy what our area offers. Besides the Kinnikinnick Native Plant Society, she also belongs to the Community Assistance League (often working at Bizarre Bazaar), the Panida Theater and the Monday Hikers. Her involvement with botanical gardens in the past made becoming a member of KNPS a natural. She also does water aerobics at SWAC and is usually up for "lunch out" given the wide variety of wonderful restaurants here. Experiencing the lake with Lake Pend d'Oreille Cruises and enjoying the Festival at Sandpoint rounds out her summers.

Living in North Idaho has allowed Carol to continue and expand her life-long joy of watching wildlife. Her favorite critters here are the ospreys and she follows several osprey webcams during their nesting season. She also enjoys just watching all kinds of wildlife, even the moose that munch on her landscaping.



## A Voice From the Moist Montane

*"When it rains it pours"....*

*Story and Art by Marilyn McIntyre*

I have always enjoyed commonly used expressions that include natural references, so I can't pass up the chance to describe our watershed, following days of rain. The creek is running well, though not in flood stage – yet. The beavers are building a new dam across one of the oxbow flows left behind when the creek straightened out in last December's flood. The pond behind the lovely curved feat of engineering by the beavers is growing daily, reaching back towards the main flow. Beavers are amazing manifestation engineers and their dams and ponds function like snow pack, allowing the water to settle into the ground more slowly, instead of rushing downstream leaving the ground in the riparian zone too dry. Of course those of us who live or work in the backwoods will attest to the damage impounded water in the wrong place can do to roads when it overflows or bursts the dam and moves the earth beneath them. Mostly though the beavers are restoration magicians.

Thanks to the Western Larch, I am walking around in a world of gold leaf. There is so much food in the forest that the songbirds aren't interested in our feeder yet. The abundance of cones in all of the tree species this year is providing food for so many creatures. Eagles pass over, Red tail hawks soar in ever-rising spirals and the Ravens announce where something has died. In the creek, the water ouzels are dipping around and jumping in, while the kingfisher rattles his way down creek.

As for the rain, I remember Octobers in the days of colder winters when it started snowing at our 3,200' elevation on October 10th and didn't stop until the fourth of April with a last hurrah of 14 inches! The final tally was 27', which settled to a very slow to melt 8' on the ground. Ah, 8 months with snow on the ground.

So in a spirit of welcome, we will face the experiences that this winter will bring our way.



P.S: Be sure to check out The Beaver Believers film online.



**Last chance to order Holiday Cards!**

Order must be in to Marilyn George by November 18th. Please go the KNPS website for more information and to view the images that are on the cards. The insides are blank so you can write your own greetings or message.

So fill out an order form or send an email to [iluv2photo@gmail.com](mailto:iluv2photo@gmail.com) or call Marilyn at 263-9470 with your order or questions.

Payment is to be made at time of delivery. All orders can be picked up at the Nov 26th meeting or by special arrangements to be made with Marilyn at 263-9470.



**Membership Rates**

January 1st through December 31st  
(Please check appropriate box)

- Individual \$20 per year
- Household\*\* \$25 per year
- Student/Senior (65+) \$15 per year
- Sustaining\*\* \$50 per year
- Patron\*\* \$100 per year
- Sponsor \$50 per year

\*\*These memberships are entitled to two votes

Membership dues and additional donations may be tax deductible.

**Membership Information**

(Make check payable to Kinnikinnick Native Plant Society or KNPS)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Newsletter Options:

Electronic Copy

Paper Copy



Mail to:

**Kinnikinnick Native Plant Society**  
**PO Box 1092**  
**Sandpoint, Idaho 83864**