



Kinnikinnick Journal

Volume XXII Number 1

January-February 2018

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, January 27, 2017

Jack Nisbet

A Taste for Roots

Biscuitroots of the genus *Lomatium* have confused naturalists and ethnobotanists ever since the Corp of Discovery first tasted shap-el-lel bread in the fall of 1805. This slide presentation will explore some of the many aspects of the genus, with a particular focus on Plateau tribal use and north Idaho species collected by John Leiberger in the late 1800s.

Saturday, February 24, 2017

Cheryl Moody

**Selkirk Mountain Caribou Recovery,
Arboreal Lichen Collection Project**

The South Selkirk Caribou International Technical Working Group is working to bring the mountain caribou herd back from the edge of extinction.

November Program Summary

Presented by Eric Grace

Summarized by Cindy Hayes

Our November program, “The Kaniksu Land Trust”, was presented by its Executive Director, Eric Grace. He began with a brief history: the trust, a 501C3 non-profit, works with private individuals to permanently protect land, and was formed in 2002 as part of the Avista/Clark Fork Settlement Agreement. Avista was particularly concerned with riparian and wetland areas.

No longer attached to Avista, the Trust’s vision has three major components: to protect large tracts of land, to create permanent land bases to sustain vibrant communities, and to provide community access for recreation. An important tool is a conservation easement, which is a voluntary legal agreement. Under this agreement, the owner retains and manages the land. But he has no development rights, he can’t chop it up and sell off lots. The land is managed for conservation values. The Trust receives land by donation or by purchasing it. They currently protect 3,250 acres in 25 projects in Bonner County and W. Montana. They have a Board of Directors, six staff members, and volunteers.

Current initiatives include a 4,000 acre parcel at Schweitzer, waiting for federal support through the Forest Legacy Program, and “Judy’s Place”, 75 acres between Clark Fork and Heron. There is also a working ranch on the Pack River. Educational outreach is a major focus, and the Trust is working with Clark Fork Junior and Senior High Schools, getting students engaged in outdoor projects. Storywalk is a very popular Sandpoint outreach effort, in partnership with East Bonner County Library District. The idea is to get people outside, especially when the CDC notes that 50% of Americans are stricken with one or more chronic diseases. ParkRX, where patients are issued a prescription to exercise, are afforded the chance to partner with Sandpoint Parks and Recreation.

A project of intense local interest is Pine Street Woods, 160 acres of woods and meadows with great recreational possibilities. They are fund-raising and still need \$500,000 to meet the purchase price. If they’re successful, Kaniksu Land Trust will put trails through the rolling terrain, and protect it for access by the community. It could be used for educational purposes as well as the most basic one: getting people out to enjoy na-

From the President

By Ken Thacker

2017 was another successful year for KNPS and was a mixed bag of both business as usual, and surprises and challenges. The year began with dual announcements of retirement or slowing down by two of our longest serving and reliable volunteers, Sylvia Chatburn and Marilyn George. As everyone has heard by now, replacing these two has proven to be exceedingly difficult and remains on the To-Do list for 2018. In the interim, a committee consisting of Rae Charlton, Mary Fraser, Mary Jo Haag and Sue Gervais has taken over the Arboretum Manager position from Sylvia.

The Board bit the bullet and spent some money last year that was beyond our routine operating expenses. Marilyn George has been doing the KNPS print jobs with a laser printer which, due to her efforts, has survived well beyond its expected lifespan. We have really gotten our money's worth out of that printer. In October we approved \$300 for purchase of an inkjet printer that Marilyn had recommended as a replacement. The untold story that was a part of our motivation for the purchase was to attract our next printer person and/or to encourage Marilyn to stay on longer. KNPS was to be a winner either way. Would anyone be interested in babysitting our newest state-of-the-art printer (and doing a little work for KNPS)?

We also bought KNPS a computer for the first time. Our primary motivation for this was our continued dependency on our Program speakers to bring their own computers for the PowerPoint presentations. While this has worked well for many years, there had been times in the past when someone had to make an emergency run for a computer when stuff happened. When one of our speakers this Fall did not bring a computer, it was the last straw and we decided to finally pull the string and spent about \$650 on a laptop with software. The computer will also eventually be used for document storage, compiling a library of KNPS photos and potentially many other uses.

As we all know, KNPS struck gold at the Arboretum this Spring when we hired Mary Fraser as our Arboretum Coordinator. Along with an impressive resume, Mary brought IDEAS! The job calls for someone to basically look after the Arboretum during the busy summer months, interact with visitors and coordinate volunteer efforts. Mary took it much further when she came up with an idea that will begin to take the Arboretum to the next level. Thanks to Mary, we now have a plan to add three state-of-the-art interpretive signs at strategic locations that will mark visitor entry into the Arboretum, give them information about the facility and spread the word about KNPS. The total cost for these will be about \$4,000 which is probably the largest KNPS expenditure ever. This will cover the costs of design, production and installation of the signs. We are now looking forward to their dedication at our annual Arbor Day plant sale in June. Here is a conceptual picture of one of the signs.



When I started looking back at our accomplishments for the year, I was immediately reminded of our continued tradition of successful KNPS volunteer involvement. Here is a summary:

First and foremost, we have the Board: Jan Geren, Carol Robinson, Lexie DeFremery, Mary Fraser, Cindy Hayes, Steve Lockwood, Shawna Parry, Marilyn George, Sylvia Chatburn, David Stroud and Donald Kass. Along with the monthly Board meetings, all of them were first in line when we started looking for someone to step-up and take care of something.

And then there are the standing committees: Conservation (Molly O'Reilly), Landscape (Dennis Rieger), Arboretum (it's complicated), Hospitality (Jackie Earle), Printing (Marilyn George), Newsletter (Jill Wilson) and Grant committee

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(Janice DeBaun). With the exception of the Arboretum committee, as discussed above, these were the 'business as usual' portion of last year's accomplishments and they all quietly worked under the radar and just got it done.

As for the unique events, we had the "Replant your Refund" fundraiser at Baxters (Jan Garen), we conducted our Arbor Day plant sale (Bob Wilson), we entered a basket in the Rotary Club's "A Novel Night" fundraiser for the library and won a category which made \$140 for the library (Sylvia Eisele), we had our Summer Picnic (Gail Bolin), we worked as guides for the Spokane to Sandpoint Relay (Ann Torpie), we created a display about KNPS at the library (Cindy Hayes), we celebrated our 20th anniversary (Rae Charlton), we produced 5 Newsletters (Jill Wilson), we provided 10 community Programs (I did that), and the Arboretum hosted hundreds of visitors and several school groups (Sylvia Chatburn)

Of course, we must note that the names in parenthesis got it done with help from lots of others in most cases. The list of names of volunteers (you know who you are) who also helped is long, so to all of you: THANK YOU, from KNPS!

Committee Reports

Conservation Committee

During the last months of 2017, the Conservation Committee monitored the county process of adopting a Natural Resource Plan that generally ignores the value of native plants. KNPS submitted a letter outlining concerns (it is posted on the website). The document is largely an extractive one, and will likely be adopted by the County Commission in January.

KNPS succeeded in having the City of Sandpoint change the designation of a portion of the University of Idaho property from "industrial" to "park." This change starts the process of protecting several rare, wetland plants found on this corner of the property. A letter and personal testimony got the city enthused about the plants.

To learn more about the Conservation Committee contact Molly at conservation-at-nativeplantsociety.org.

Lois Wythe Native Plant Grant

The tenth Lois Wythe Native Plant Grant has been awarded to the Monarch Butterfly Habitat Enhancement Project submitted by Clark Fork Junior and Senior High School students. In addition to our funds, the group has received a \$2300 STEM Action Committee grant from the State of Idaho. The Kaniksu Land Trust and the Idaho Department of Fish and Game will provide advice. Their project incorporates the use of a remote-control drone to identify acceptable habitat. The follow-up planting will be directed by wildlife biologists and land specialists. Finally, students will conduct surveys to determine how beneficial the project has been for Monarch Butterflies and other insects.

The Grant Committee received a number of top-notch applications this year. Limiting the choice to one winner was difficult. The positive note is that interest in native plants appears to be growing.

Anyone who has questions or needs more information about the Lois Wythe Native Plant Grant may contact Janice DeBaun at grant@nativeplantsociety.org.



KNPS 20th Year Anniversary Window Display East Bonner County Library

Everyone is invited to stop by the East Bonner County Library to view KNPS 20th year anniversary window display exhibit ending January 16, 2018. Lois Wythe, as founder of Kinnikinnick Native Plant Society, gets top billing, but the Arboretum, Marilyn McIntire's birch bark bound book and KNPS Landscaping book are also showcased.

Committee members, Cindy Hayes, Gail Bolin, Rae Charlton and Mary Jo Haag, with valuable input from Mary Fraser, spearheaded the effort. Many hours were spent reviewing pictures, brainstorming ideas and condensing pages of written material into the final display. A large canvas photo of phlox (donated by Val Burgess) and original native plant photos by Marilyn George add visual interest. Special recognition goes to Gail Bolin for the monumental task of preparing the final formatted text and digital pictures to take to GII2 to be processed and laminated.



Over numerous lunches at Tango, all the pieces finally fell into place. We hope you enjoy it as much as we enjoyed bringing this KNPS special 20 year anniversary tribute to you and the larger community.

KNPS Christmas Party



Member Profile: Mark Stockwell

By Cindy Hayes

Mark spent his youth and young adulthood in the Badger State of Wisconsin. He and his 4 siblings were fortunate to grow up in an area surrounded by lakes and nature. Mark lost his father while in elementary school. His mother eventually remarried and they moved to Stoughton located south of Madison, Wisconsin.

Mark's first job at the age of 11 was to refinish bowling pins. His job consisted of stripping and painting used pins for pin money and cocoa. While in high school he worked nights and on the weekends at a local service station, to save up for a car and college. It wasn't all work. He found time to serve on the student council and was also voted Prom King.

After high school Mark enrolled as a student at the University of Wisconsin and graduated with a BA in Criminal Justice. Before settling down into a mainstream job, Mark headed to Europe to backpack. For the first few weeks he worked at a hotel in London for room and board, and then hooked up with some college friends to tour Greece and Portugal. Because of their shoestring budget, they often slept on the beaches, stayed in hostels or in local homes for a few dollars a night. Eventually he'd like to return with Lorrie, and revisit sites where Lorrie previously lived while in Germany.

When Mark returned to the States he accepted a demanding job in private security at Oscar Mayer's corporate headquarters. After serving a few years as a security guard, he accepted a job with Pinkertons to gain managerial experience. As branch manager with uniformed security contracts, he had the responsibility for over 600 employees in the Twin Cities region. After a while he traded in the crushing responsibilities and headaches of the job for a stint in graduate school. While pursuing his new career, he taught a couple undergraduate courses and worked night shift stacking shelves at Safeway. He received his Masters degree from Central Missouri State in Industrial Safety with an emphasis in Industrial Hygiene and headed for the west coast.

He settled in the Bay Area and began his career in environmental consulting. Asbestos regulations were just taking off nationally. He traveled the west coast to work with 5 different companies as a certified asbestos, lead and mold industrial hygienist consultant. He is now a freelance environmental consultant whose work has included cleanup of the Libby Super Fund site in Troy, Montana, and numerous jobs in California.

During his travels on the west coast his path crossed with a microscopist/chemist by the name of Lorrie. Cupid's arrow found its mark (no pun intended) and Lorrie and Mark tied the knot in 1993. In 1995 they moved from the San Francisco Bay area and resided in Salt Lake City for the next 8 years. During this time their separate careers kept them on the road living out of suitcases. They were looking to simplify their lives when they visited Sandpoint in 1999, for the 4th of July celebration. The area caught their attention. They soon bought property and began designing and building their home. They officially moved here in 2003 and began to put down roots.

Their desire to be good stewards of their land led them to KNPS where they found friendships and community involvement. In turn, Mark volunteered his talents to write entertaining Profiles of KNPS members. A number of his Profiles have been published in past KNPS newsletters. His career still keeps him on the road, but when he has downtime he's outdoors skiing, snowboarding, hiking, cross country running, kayaking or helping in the garden. Eventually he'd like to travel throughout the U.S. and enjoy these recreational pursuits with Lorrie.



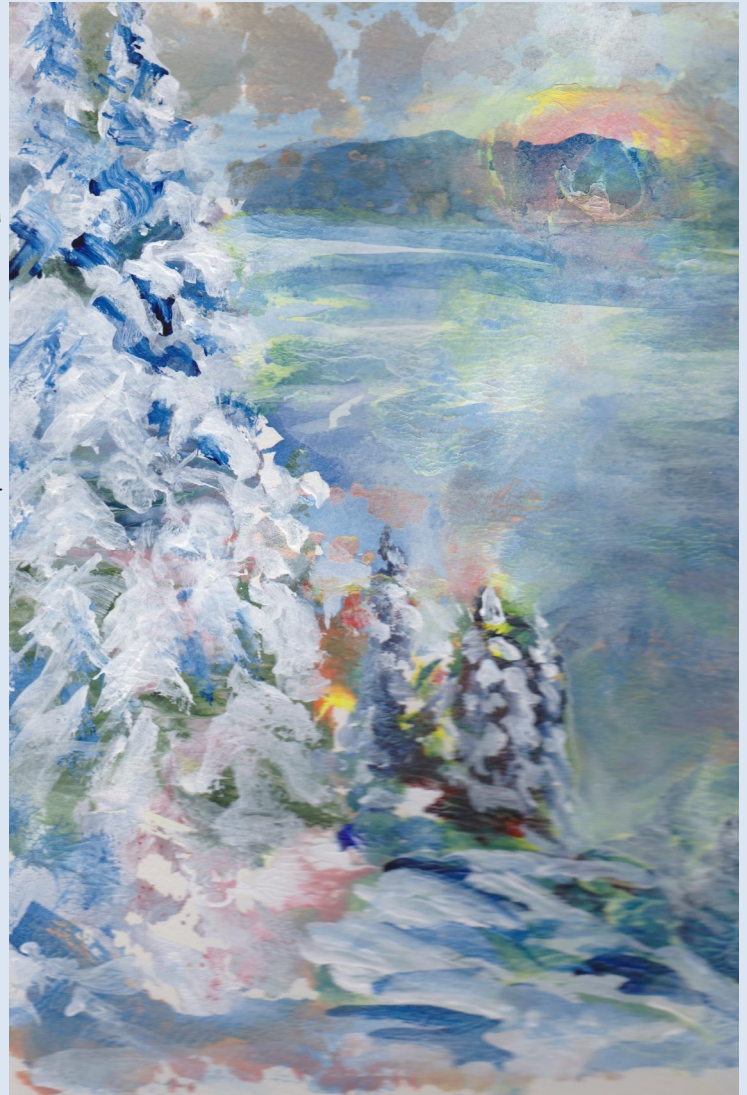
A Voice From the Moist Montane Forest

Diversity

Story and Art by Marilyn McIntyre

My friend in Alaska says that they have finally gotten enough snow for a white Christmas. Another friend in Ventura was evacuated for a week from her ultimately surviving home and a third friend was participating in a well planned prescription burn on the mid Klamath River watershed in California in the midst of the Mega-fires in Sonoma County and Ventura County. A Consortium of agencies including the USFS, Cal Fire, The Nature Conservancy and 3 local tribes (The Mid Klamath Watershed Council) put together a successful plan to prevent future large burns by using fire in prescribed ways. The Native Americans have done this for years.

Meanwhile, back at the ranch, the Grouse Creek watershed is buried under 5' of snow and it is still snowing. At 3200' the snow is light, but down in the valleys it was wet and heavy enough to take down trees and take out power. Even more amazing, there was an inversion that caused more snow to fall in Sandpoint than it did up here. The trees look as if they had been blobbed with snow by La Nina's brush, while she is bringing more droughts to the Southwest including the Sierra Nevada Mountains.



The new wave of forest management with fire prevention in mind includes prescription burning, mimicking the “pyro diversity” (biodiversity created by natural fire) of Western ecosystems. By limiting the natural path of fire for the last 100 years, we have created dangerous undergrowth situations that have led to rapid fire growth, larger, hotter fires, and seriously unhealthy smoke when there is a “flash drought” like we experienced following the spring rains.

There is certainly no shortage of things to think about but in the end I strap on my skis and I will follow the advice of John Muir:

“Climb the mountains and get their good tidings. Nature’s peace will flow into you as sunshine flows into trees. The winds will blow their own freshness into you, and the storms their energy, while cares will drop off like the autumn leaves.”



Board of Directors 2018

Ken Thacker, President, Programs
 Jan Geren, Vice President
 Carol Robinson, Secretary
 Shawna Parry, Treasurer
 Julie Kallemeyn, Publicity
 Cindy Hayes, Board Member
 Steve Lockwood, Board Member
 Carol Jenkins, Board Member

Additional Committee Chairs and Positions

Mary Jo Haag, Sue Gervais, Mary Fraser,
 Rae Charlton, Arboretum
 Dennis Rieger, Landscape
 Molly O'Reilly, Conservation
 Janice DeBaun, Lois Wythe Grant
 Mary Jo Haag, Historian
 Jackie Earle, Hospitality
 Marilyn George, Printer/ Photographer
 Jill Wilson, Marilyn George, Newsletter Committee
 Jill Wilson, Newsletter Editor
 Dennis Rieger, Website Administrator, List serve



Photo by Jill Wilson.

Membership Rates

January 1st through December 31st

___ Individual	\$25.00
___ Household**	\$30.00
___ Student/Senior (65+)	\$15.00
___ Sustaining**	\$50.00
___ Patron**	\$100.00
___ Sponsor	\$50/00

***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

OR

Payment by credit card is available on our website,
nativeplantsociety.org.

Please note: A small increase [\$5] in KNPS membership dues was deemed a practical [and hopefully affordable] move for the 2018 year by the Board. Membership dues in other non-profit organizations in the area are in alignment with this increase. Let us know if this is difficult for you. *The KNPS Board*