



Kinnikinnick Journal

Volume XVI Number 1

Jan /Feb 2013

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 26

Gail Bolin – *“Landscaping for Birds, Bees and Butterflies”*

Saturday, February 23 John Reuter –
Executive Director, Idaho League of Conservation Voters
“Politics and (Native) Plants.”

Saturday, March 23

Derek Antonelli – *“Plants of Hager Lake—A Rare North Idaho Peatland”*

Committee Reports

Landscape Report

Our focus this past season has been on Mickinnick Trailhead maintenance and landscaping advice on public and private projects. We need to discuss 2013 plans and we invite old and new members to join us on Thursday, March 21, for coffee or lunch. We'll announce the actual time and place in the next newsletter as well as at January and February meetings. Please help us choose time and location by emailing Eileen Atkisson at eatkiss1@frontier.com.

Announcements

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, a booth at the county fair, 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

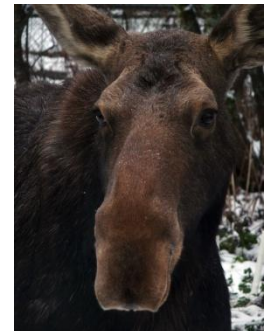
- *Patron* \$100
- *Sustaining* \$50
- *Sponsor (commercial)* \$50
- *Household* \$25
- *Individual* \$20
- *Student* \$15
- *Senior* \$15

You can renew by mail by sending a check to **PO Box 1092, Sandpoint, ID 83864**; or at any of the general meetings.

David Douglas Exhibit

Naturalist David Douglas traveled the Columbia River and interior Northwest (1825-1833), identifying and collecting over two hundred species of animals, birds and plants, including his namesake, the Douglas fir. Now through August 24, 2013.
Northwest Museum of Arts and Culture
2316 W. First Avenue, Spokane, WA 99201
(509) 456-3931

Look who was looking at us through the window at our KNPS Holiday Party at Gretchen Hellar's! This young cow is a frequent visitor to the native plant garden in her yard.





President's Message

Gail Bolin

Happy 2013 Kinnikinnick Native Plant Society!

In November the following KNPS members were elected to serve on the Board of Directors: Bob Wilson, Lorrie Stockwell, Rae Charlton and Becky Mills. Becky is new to the board while the others are returning for another two-year term. Election of officers will take place at the January Board Meeting. Just a reminder, Board Meetings are held the third Friday of the month, 9:00 AM, Sandpoint Library and are open to all members. As I reflect over the past year, I just want to say, I'm greatly honored to be president of such an amazing organization, full of so many hard-working individuals who cheerfully give their time and talent - thank you all! I'm looking forward to another fantastic year.

2013 KNPS Grant Awarded

Kootenai School fourth and fifth grade students are the recipients of the Lois Wythe Native Plant Grant for 2013. Under the direction of teachers Kyla Pincher and Karen Lamb students will landscape the planting area surrounding the school's flag pole. Their application expresses pride in their new school but acknowledges that the community is now welcomed by an overgrown flower bed when arriving at the parking lot. Their plan will involve members of the school's Garden Club who will clean out the present bed and prepare the area for planting.

The fourth and fifth grade students will choose the plants, design the layout, and plant the selected native plants. One of their primary resources for selecting plants will be the *KNPS Landscaping with Native Plants in the Idaho Panhandle*. This project is designed to educate more than 400 students as well as community members about native plants. The application states that possibly the greatest benefit from this project will be the sense of community that is created while the students work cooperatively with their classmates, their teachers and local businesses.

The Kootenai students and teachers can look for inspiration from the native plant landscape project completed at the Panhandle Animal Shelter, the 2012 grant winner. The Shelter used the seed money from the grant to turn their "weed-infested" planting area into a "thing of beauty." More than 90 volunteers worked over 400 hours on their project.

Past Programs

Nov 24 Camile McKitrick, and Elisa Tuma, Special Collection Management, East Bonner County Library, "*Sandpoint Seed Library*"

Camile described the development of the Sandpoint Seed Library, which she and Elisa undertook in spring 2012. The Library is not a Seed Bank (a seed storage facility designed to ensure genetic diversity); rather, a Seed Library is designed to increase the capacity of local communities to produce food, and landscaping, from locally adapted plants. Using a repurposed/recycled Card Catalogue to store the seeds, the Sandpoint Seed Library will facilitate the exchange of seeds and offer education that will help to leave a heritage of healthy plants.

Dec 15th **Holiday Potluck** at Gretchen Hellar's 11am-1pm – festive food and fun for all!





From the Moist Montane

Story and Artwork by Marilyn McIntyre

*Snow has obliterated all from sight:
Mountain and moor are now a world of white. -Joso*

White and lumpy is the view and the cross-country skiing is fabulous. A Gray Jay's white head looks like part of the tree's cape until he flies and the mountains look as if they were sculpted from porcelain against a momentary blue sky. That blue sky soon disappears into proof of H. Wayne Phillip's description of the Northern Rockies habitat in his book "Northern Rocky Mountain Wildflowers":

"Northern Idaho is one of the cloudiest places in the United States in the winter. It is overcast 70% of the time on average, and some winters it is cloudy close to 90% of the time. The moist climate of the Northern Rocky Mountains is also influenced by its narrow canyons, which milk the moisture from the clouds."



Three days of sticky snow that fell onto the trees whose roots were in unfrozen, saturated ground resulted in lots of dangerous work for those who had to cut their way out of their roads last week. Being the only human

residents up here this winter, JD was obliged to pack and cut open 6 miles of snowmobile trail to get to our car. He stopped counting at 50 trees about half way down the road and I am really glad JD is experienced with a chainsaw in difficult circumstances. I know from talking to friends that he wasn't the only one.

Tracks are very important now because they tell the ongoing story of the animals that live here, as well as where the wolf trappers are putting their baited snares – sure to catch my Alaskan Husky if we go near. Fortunately I have a vast upper drainage behind me, protected by the main creek on one side and a private road on the other, so I can continue my 30 year long winter tracking and journaling. And just take note: when the skies are clear be on the lookout for displays of the *Aurora Borealis* because we are near the peak of the 11 year sunspot cycle. Get out and enjoy winter, it's the only one we've got.



Member Profile: *Say Hello to Lorrie Stockwell*

Article by Rae Charlton

Photo by Marilyn George



Curiosity about native plants noticed while hiking led Lorrie and her husband Mark to attend several KNPS meetings. And although plants got them to us, it was "how welcoming and friendly everyone was" that induced them to become members. They both turn out regularly to help with KNPS functions, and Lorrie serves as Secretary of the Board. She also volunteers at the Arboretum.

Lorrie was born in Ephrata, WA, where her Dad served in the Navy. They moved frequently, stateside, and when she was nine they moved to Germany (her Dad was then working for Lockheed). She remembers whining about "having to go see another castle"! But on the plus side, she learned to ski there, and was delighted that school shut down for a week in mid-winter so everyone could ski!

Her family then moved to California. She completed high school and college in the Bay Area. Although she was accepted into a graduate program leading to a PhD in Genetics, the prospect of spending seven to ten additional years as a "starving student" led her to take a year-long leave of absence from education. She loved doing research in environmental science, and worked for several companies in N. California. As it happened, future husband Mark was also working in environmental science, and they met at a job site (Carson City, Nevada).

Lorrie's work focused on the safe disposal of hazardous waste on military bases. There were protocols for each kind of waste, and her company took care of the disposal. One site was a chemical weapons incinerator in Utah, near Salt Lake City, where she managed the contract for correct disposal of by-products, according to EPA standards. She eventually became a full-time trainer of new employees and customers in this highly regulated field. For eight years, Lorrie spent 75% of her time traveling, mentoring and teaching in about 100 locations throughout the western United States. She and Mark enjoyed week-ends together!

The traveling life became tedious, and Lorrie was glad that her company had a generous severance package. She and Mark had been looking for a place to live, with proximity to mountains and water being essential. When they came to Sandpoint, it "immediately felt like home". They bought property, moved here in 2003, and built their own home. A great reader, she enjoys volunteering at the library on a regular basis. In the summer, she has a huge vegetable garden to tend, which helps fill her time while Mark is away, working as manager of an asbestos clean-up project in Troy, MT. Winter activities include Nordic skiing and trail running, two or three times a week. On the days not spent outdoors, she curls up with a good book, such as Abbey's *The Monkey Wrench Gang*, a long-time favorite.

Thank you, both Stockwells, for your commitment and support!

KNPS Business Sponsors:

Cedar Mountain Perennials

Specializing in Native Plants
for Inland Northwest Gardens

www.cedarmountainperennials.com

Email: botanybob@frontier.com

Earth Wise Gail Bolin

Native Plant Landscaping and Consulting

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