



# Kinnikinnick Journal

Volume XVII Number 1

Jan /Feb 2014

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, Jan 25**

Chris Schnepf, Professor and Area Extension  
Educator in Forestry, University of Idaho  
**Ecology and Silviculture of the Lodgepole  
Pine**

**Saturday, February 22**

Greg Becker, District Conservationist  
with Natural Resources Conservation Service,  
Bonner County  
**Grouse Creek Bull Trout Habitat Restoration**



**Saturday, March 22**

Kathleen St. Clair-McGee  
Founder & Board President of  
American Heritage Wildlife Foundation Inc.  
**Native Flora & Fauna – A Perfect Match**

## 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 \$25
- Student \$15
- Senior \$15

*\*non-voting membership*

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



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## Committee Reports

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### Arboretum News

The arboretum committee is inactive until February. If anyone is interested in volunteering in the Arboretum next summer, please let me know so I can add you to the committee contact information. We will be developing new areas and expanding the established areas. Sylvia Chatburn, Arboretum Manager

### Conservation

Your Conservation Committee closed out 2013 with a review of the Draft Forest Plan for the Idaho Panhandle National Forest. A number of us expressed concerns to the Bonner County Commissioners on the objections they registered in a letter written by their new Natural Resources Committee. The latter appears aimed at extraction and motorized access and not broadly representative of the interests county residents have in their public lands. Several of us signed up to participate in sessions reviewing some of the objections that most impact native plant habitat and the wildlands of the Scotchman Peaks Wilderness Study Area.

Phil Hough's November presentation highlighted the fun we all had botanizing for the Treasured Landscapes project in the Lightening Creek Watershed. We look forward to more summer fun there next year. Please let me know if you want to be on our agenda mailing list: our meetings are occasional and fun!

Molly O'Reilly, Chair 208 610-6642

### Landscape Committee

We had a very successful 2013 and we look forward to a great 2014. We will need some time from several new people to keep the Mickinnick Trailhead in its present good shape. A few summer hours will make a big difference. We will hold a planning meeting in the spring, probably in March, to discuss this and our Landscaping Consultation Program. Watch for our messages.

Eileen Atkisson



Frost...

Photo by Ed  
Cushman



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## President's Message

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*By Gail Bolin*

As my term as your president comes to a close I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your volunteerism! To all the bakers and candy makers that donated goodies for the Arbor Day Bake Sale as well as bringing treats to our general meetings – thanks! Thanks to all of you who contributed baskets to the silent auction, made trellises and volunteered at Earth Day and the Fair. Arboretum gardeners, you do a fantastic job of keeping the Idaho Native Plant Arboretum in tip top shape for all to enjoy! Thanks to Marilyn George and Marilyn McIntyre for their artistic contributions for note cards, book marks and calendars.

Special thanks go to the board of directors, what a great group of people to work with! Don Childress, Bob Wilson, Sylvia Chatburn, Rae Charlton, Cheryl McKee, Konrad Dahlstrom, Lorrie Stockwell and Becky Mills. Don and Cheryl will not be returning to the board and their contributions and enthusiasm will be greatly missed. Becky Mills left the board in November to move to the Boise area; our loss will be their gain. Konrad will be filling Becky's seat beginning in January. I would also like to extend a warm welcome to our new board members; David Stroud, John Albi and Lexie DeFremery.

Thanks to Mary and Doug Toland, our hospitality hosts. Terrific job guys! They always have coffee, tea and treats ready for our members and guests. Another big thank you goes to the committee chairs: Molly O'Reilly, conservation; Eileen Atkinson, landscape; Phil Hough, programs; Becky Mills & Lexie DeFremery, publicity; Dennis Rieger, list serve; Carol Jenkins, landscape book; Sylvia Chatburn, arboretum; Cheryl McKee, fundraising. Our newsletter team, Jill Wilson, Wendy Aeschliman and Marilyn George did an outstanding job of collecting, coordinating, formatting and printing the Kinnikinnick Journal – thanks ladies! Wendy also manages our web page ([www.nativeplantsociety.org](http://www.nativeplantsociety.org)) with speed and accuracy – thanks Wendy! Speaking of our web page, did you know that you can now pay your membership online? Yep, that's right KNPS has made the leap to the age of technology; although, it will cost us a small fee for the added convenience of paying with a PayPal account, debit or credit card. Of course you can still renew your membership the old fashion way by mailing a check to PO Box 1092, Sandpoint, ID 83864, or in person at one of our general meetings.

In closing I would like to say that I've enjoyed my time as president of the Kinnikinnick Native Plant Society; I'm so proud of all that this organization has accomplished and its members who so freely give of their time and talents! I've always thought that *Plant People* were special, and now I know that it is true!

Wishing you all a happy and prosperous 2014!

*Message from Cheryl McKee*

**HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

**THANK YOU** for your support of KNPS fundraising efforts throughout 2013. Because of your participation and commitment we have added nearly two thousand dollars to our treasury while sharing some fun activities as an organization.



## Past Programs

*November 23, 2013*

### **Lightning Creek—Treasured Landscape's Whitebark Pine/Alpine Botanical and Weeds Projects**

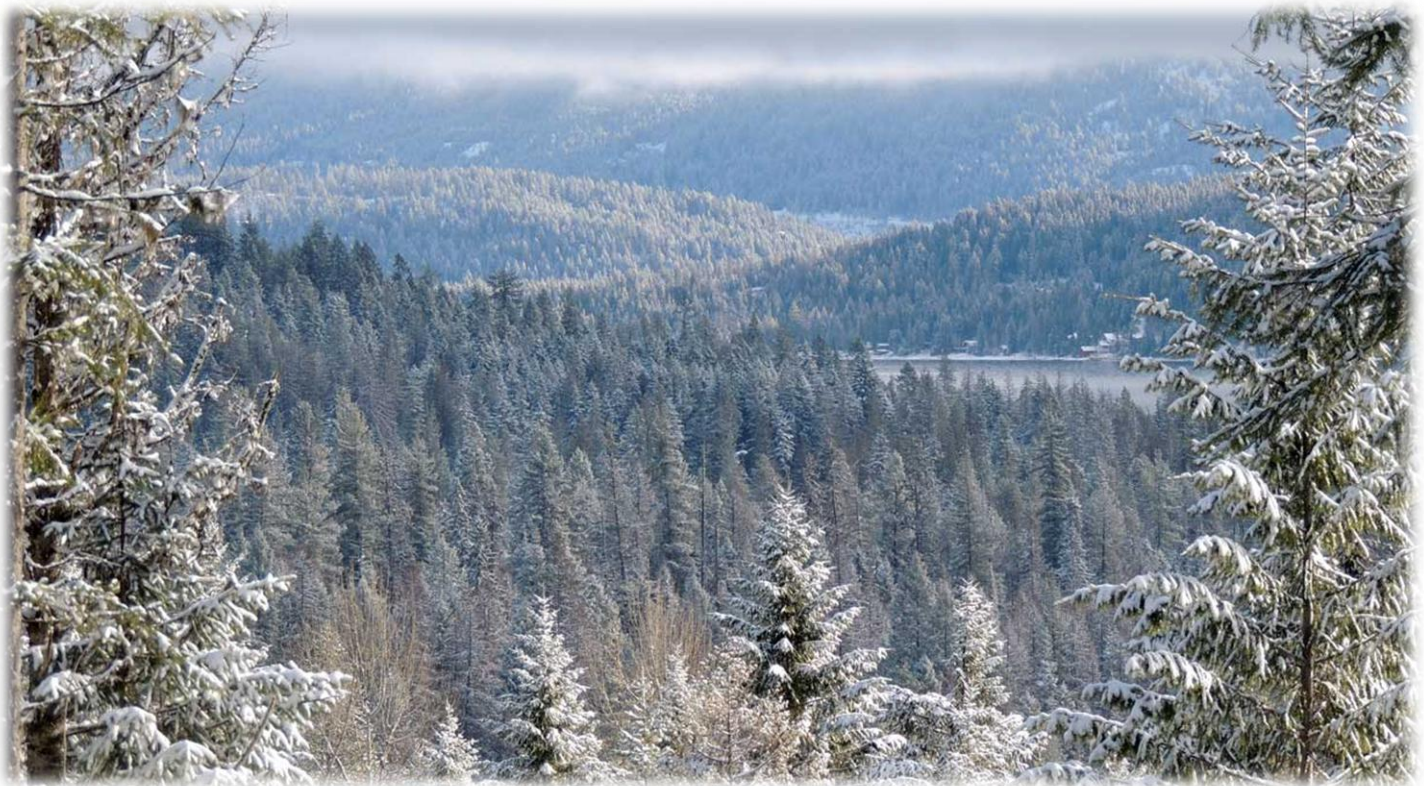
On November 23, 2013, Phil Hough, Executive Director, and Kristen Nowicki, Program and Projects Assistant, of Friends of Scotchman Peaks Wilderness spoke of the 88,000-acre Scotchman Peaks area currently managed for backcountry and wilderness activities. Using a Power Point slide show, Phil listed some of the unique characteristics of the Scotchman Peaks proposed wilderness qualifying it for such protection, noting that as a former chapter of the Native Plant Society, our KNPS formally supported and endorsed it. In addition to sensitive, threatened, and endangered animal species, Scotchman Peaks contains rare or sensitive plant species such as Whitebark Pine.

Phil highlighted the Lightning Creek Treasured Landscape partnership with Idaho Panhandle National Forest and the National Forest Foundation. In fall of 2011, 3,000 trees were planted. Local participants included KNPS, Idaho Master Naturalists, and the Backcountry Horsemen. This year FSPW coordinated projects with citizens and IPNF to mitigate weeds and to help preserve and enhance habitat for Whitebark Pine, which is in decline. Both projects required training and field work in plant and habitat surveying. The weed survey involved 35 miles of trails, not counting roads which are managed by the IPNF. The Whitebark Pine survey area is 3,500 acres, including 140 acres surrounding three lakes. The Morris Creek trail also benefited this year from partnership with NFF and IPNF on National Public Lands Day through trail maintenance. Future projects depend on agency and NFF funding and planning.

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North Idaho Scene

Photo by Ed Cushman





## *From the Moist Montane*

*Story and Artwork by Marilyn McIntyre*

Skiing along a mountain trail in champagne powder snow lets me hear and feel the silence of the winter forest. Color is limited to an occasional alpenglow pink and the chartreuse green of wolf lichen, but my sense of hearing is challenged by the many small murmurings and high-pitched sounds that fill the air. Even the main creeks are making an occasional low roar when they emerge from beneath the ice momentarily through cracks. The birds are always there: the soft sounds of the Gray Jays, the raucous squawks of the Steller Jays and the chirps and squeaks of the small songbirds who spend the winter. For the first time in years, our song sparrow has not stuck around.

During the last full moon I stood for a while in the snow watching the moon shadows and listening to the "sounds of silence."

I offer you this poem by Gary Snyder to accompany my drawing.

*The trees know  
Stars to be sources*

*Like the sun,  
Of their life;*

*But many and tiny  
Sprinkled through the dark*

*When,  
Where has the sun gone*



---- Happy New Year, from my neck of the woods to yours,  
Marilyn



Article by: Rae Charlton

*Member Profile:*  
*Lexie de Fremery*



When I commented that I think her name is beautiful, Lexie provided interesting details. She has an Aunt Lex, her middle name is Alexandra, and Fremery is a town in N E France (the “de” means “of” or “from”).

Despite her last name, she was born and raised in the East Bay, near San Francisco. When her father retired, the family moved to Bend, Oregon, where she finished high school. Life in Oregon agreed with her, especially backpacking into wilderness areas. After living in and around Portland, she moved back to Bend, where she and her husband lived off the grid for six years. Since he traveled frequently, she learned to be self-sufficient, carefully managing use of electricity and water. She managed a horse facility (boarding, training, and showing horses).

At this point in the interview I had to ask: “and when did you learn to do all that?” Turns out she had her first horse at age 12! And each time she moved, her horse(s) accompanied her. Her love of horses led to a trip to Rome, with her mother, to see the 1998 World Equestrian

Championship—a fond memory. Now retired from horse activities, her love of animals is apparent in her pet-sitting business, from which she is only “semi-retired”...

Lexie moved to Sandpoint in 1999. She loves her property, which includes an orchard, a cedar grove, and many wonderful trees. There was already a garden, but she wanted to make some changes. This past summer she had the Landscape committee out for a consultation, and can now move forward, design in hand.

She is clearly an active, outdoorsy person. Her activities include mountain biking, trail running, hiking, and snowshoeing. She also loves reading, gardening, and exploring different parts of the U. S. by car (she might be accompanied by a cat, if he or she is a good traveler). And, luckily for us, she also gets involved with groups and/or causes in which she believes. She served four years on the board of Scotchman Peaks, and is now beginning a term on the KNPS board. We owe her special thanks for hitting the ground running by taking on the job of Publicity (formerly managed by Becky Mills) even before her term officially begins in January. Welcome, and thank you, Lexie!

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