



# Kinnikinnick Journal

Volume XII Number 2

Mar / Apr 2009

Kinnikinnick Chapter of the Idaho Native Plant Society / Sandpoint, Idaho

## Program Schedule

Presentations sponsored by  
Native Plant Society and Sandpoint Parks and Recreation  
Community Hall, First Ave, Sandpoint (across from County  
Courthouse)

### March Program

Saturday, March 28th, 2009 at 9:45 a.m.

### “Repairing the Pack River Flats Using Native Plants”

Kathy Cousins from the Idaho Department of Fish  
and Game will be presenting.

### April Program

Saturday, April 25th, 2009 at 9:45 a.m.

### “Propagation of Native Plants”

Kathy Hutton, manager of *Plants of the Wild*, will  
be speaking.



Indian Blanket Flower Photo by Marilyn George

## Other Events

**April 1:** Mickinnick Work Day. See details on  
page 4.

**April 7:** “Wildflowers and Wildfires of the  
Continental Divide Trail” Page 2.

**April 18:** First field trip. Page 2.

**April 22:** Arboretum Cleanup Day. Page 4.

**April 24:** Arbor Day Celebration. Page 4.

**April 25:** Saturday: Landscaping Demonstration  
with John Hastings (following our general  
meeting) at the Federal/County Building.

**April 26:** Sunday: Sandpoint Earth Day  
Celebration at Sandpoint Community Hall.

**April 26:** Idaho Native Plant Appreciation Week.

**May 6:** Mickinnick Work Day. Page 4.

**May 12:** Native Plant Landscape Consultation.  
Page 5.

**May 16:** Native Plant Sale. See ad below for  
details.

**June 26-28:** State Annual Meeting at Buffalo  
Campground, Island Park, ID.

## Native Plant Sale!!

Saturday, May 16, 2009 9 a.m. to Noon

**Panhandle Special Needs Building  
1424 N. Boyer Ave, Sandpoint**

Native plants can be hard to get; don't miss out! Mark your  
calendar for this half-day-only sale.

25+ varieties of native plants, 350+ plants to choose from!

Trellises, note cards, bookmarks, and baked goodies, too.

**All proceeds benefit KCINPS and Panhandle Special Needs**

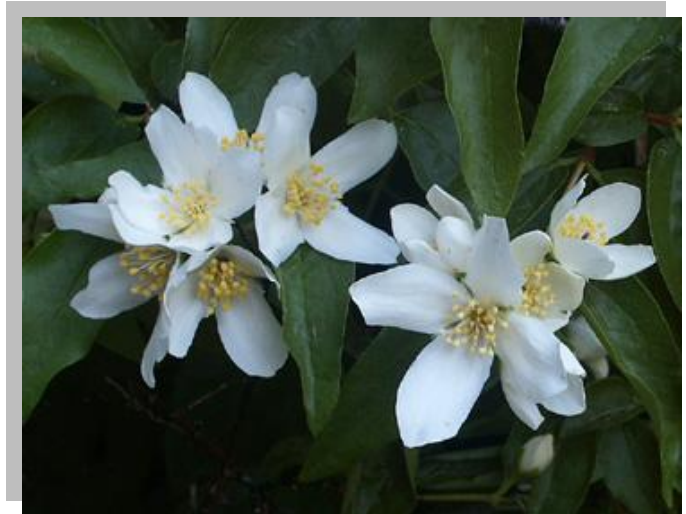
Help needed: plant docents, cashiers, helpers. Contact Dennis Rieger 263-5947

or e-mail [kk5db@hotmail.com](mailto:kk5db@hotmail.com) if you can help.



## "Wildflowers and Wildfires of the Continental Divide Trail"

Come join Phil Hough and Deb Hunsicker for stunning photographs and captivating tales from their 1,000 mile hike of the northern half of the Continental Divide. On this armchair journey we'll enjoy dramatic panoramas, learn about the wildflowers of the northern Rockies, examine the impact of fire on the landscape, see wild animals, and look at gear and navigational strategies unique to this trail. This program is free and open to the public, but donations will be accepted and will benefit the Native Plant Society and Friends of Scotchman Peaks. Tuesday, April 7, 6 to 7 p.m. at Sandpoint Community Hall.



Photos: Red Columbine (L), Syringa (R) by Marilyn George

## 2009 Field Trips

Calypso Chapter Field Trips (Additional info regarding field trips will be posted on webpage as available.)

**April 18, Saturday:** Tubbs Hill in Coeur d'Alene: Meet at the 11<sup>th</sup> Street parking lot and trail head, east side of park.

**May 2, Saturday:** Liberty Lake

**June 13, Saturday:** Blossom Mountain

Kinnikinnick Chapter Field Trips

**May 2, Saturday, 9 a.m.** Denton Road with Joyce Pence, between Hope and Clark Fork. Native Plant Appreciation Week. Meet at Bonner County Courthouse parking lot.

**May 8, Friday, 9 a.m.** Mineral Point 1/2 day, wildflowers, led by FS botanist Jennifer Costich-Thompson. Meet at Sagle Conoco/Travel America.

**May 23, Saturday, 12:30 p.m.** N Idaho Native Plant Arboretum, Lakeview Park. 1/2 day (after NPS meeting at Community Hall).

Please join a carpool whenever possible, as parking at destinations may be limited. Times given are when carpools **leave**. Please be early. Dress for the weather and conditions. Bring water, snacks/lunch, native plant field guides, hand lens, etc. **Note:** Field trips are subject to rescheduling due to weather. Make sure the chapter has your current e-mail address. If you need a phone call rather than e-mail, let Molly know: [yachthalo@yahoo.com](mailto:yachthalo@yahoo.com) or 255-7336. Trips may be added if turnout and enthusiasm are high.

Molly O'Reilly & Marilyn McIntyre



*Message from the President*

*Carol Jenkins*

In February I attended the 24th Idaho Rare Plant Conference with Molly O'Reilly and Jennifer Costich-Thompson, recently appointed botanist for the Panhandle National Forest. This was Molly's 4th RPC and a first for Jennifer and me. The first day was spent listening to agency botanists update and rank designated species, a bit over my head, and all plants were from the southern part of the state, but it was very interesting to observe, and wonderful to know these folks are so conscientious about protecting our native plants. The second day was right up my alley—"Success Stories"—and we were on the agenda! Our chapter was asked to present "The Development of the North Idaho Native Plant Arboretum," which Molly did beautifully. Heartfelt thanks to Phil Hough and Sylvia Chatburn for helping us prepare! Many of you were part of the presentation, through photos, stories, or accomplishments, and we were proud to show you off. We received many compliments on the Arboretum, which we bring back to you!

Folks, please remember to thank our committee chairs and board members for all they do to support our work. Thanks to Cheryl Stern for taking over as Hospitality Chair from Linda Kirchmann and her sweet Mom, Jackie Earle. They welcomed us with coffee and treats for three years. Nancy Fontaine is busy with all the prep work required for a successful Arbor Day. Sylvia Chatburn and Eileen Atkisson can hardly wait for spring to get outside with their crews.

Dennis Rieger is working out the details of our first native plant sale. Jim Stern is looking for trellis material while Joanna Fuchs is getting her first newsletter behind her. Bob Wilson is spreading his expertise in multiple directions. Marilyn George is designing "Grow Native" buttons which we will wear at our events to further our outreach. Ken Haag keeps us within budget and up to speed on the Invasive Species Task Force. Janice DeBaun is increasing our publicity.

Molly O'Reilly and Marilyn McIntyre have our field trips planned, and the conservation committee works hard during these winter months reviewing and commenting on agency projects in our region. Nancy Rodgers is keeping our history alive while Wendy Aeschliman keeps our Web site vibrant. Gary and Janet Rogers take care of e-mail alerts and membership. It is a joy to work with them all. I invite and encourage you to read the Annual Report which is now on our Web site. It was a very good year!

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## **Notes from the January Program**

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**John Hastings**, co-owner of All Seasons Nursery, presented "*Converting Lawns into a Native Landscape*".

Americans fertilize and mow 31 million acres of lawn per year. It is estimated that 50% of all fertilizer used ends up in our waterways and is a major pollutant in the U.S. The goals of a native landscape are density and diversity, with 40-75% canopy cover and 0% exposed soil. Natural succession goes from bare ground, to weeds, to perennials, to shrubs, to small trees, to larger trees, to conifers. By promoting this, we protect the soil, filter air and water, improve transpiration, and buffer wind and temperature extremes.

**Benefits of natives:**

- Best adapted to local conditions.
- Won't escape and harm natural areas.
- Restore ecological balance of the natural system.
- Require no fertilizer.
- High habitat and wildlife value.
- Generally more drought tolerant.



Photo by Wendy Aeschliman

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## Committee Reports

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The **Arbor Day Committee**: Our chapter will host the annual City of Sandpoint **Arbor Day Celebration** at the North Idaho Plant Arboretum, Lakeview Park, corner of Ontario and Ella, on Friday, April 24, 2009, from 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The national theme this year is **“Trees Are Terrific...In Cities and Towns!”**

A variety of educational activities will be provided by the Sandpoint Tree Committee, the Kinnikinnick Chapter, the U.S. Forest Service and other organizations, for area school children and community members. We will also be sponsoring poetry and poster contests for the children, and we will distribute free tree seedlings.

Questions? Want to help with Arbor Day? E-mail Nancy Fontaine, [nancye.fontaine@verizon.net](mailto:nancye.fontaine@verizon.net) or call 255-7748.

The hard working **Arboretum Committee** met on February 3. This year's officers, Manager Sylvia Chatburn, Assistant Manager Mary Jo Haag, and Scribe Linda Kirchmann welcomed new members Jackie Earle and Nancy Guttry.

**Arboretum Cleanup Day** will be Wednesday, April 22 at 10:00 a.m., in preparation for Arbor Day on April 24. Enjoy a potluck lunch at noon to celebrate the opening of the Arboretum for this 11th season. Bring a rake, if possible.

With funds from last year's Idaho Community Foundation grant, we purchased a sign to describe the history of the cabin and new plant labels for the areas outside the habitats. We're working on a demonstration shade garden, and our two new gardeners have volunteered to oversee its development. We also plan to remove more of the old grass between the water wheel and the dry stream bed, using the cardboard and mulch method.

At the February Rare Plant Conference, Molly O'Reilly did a well-received PowerPoint presentation on the development of the arboretum.

If you have any questions or would like to help out at the arboretum, please call Sylvia Chatburn at 263-2175 or e-mail [sylvia@televar.com](mailto:sylvia@televar.com).

**Board Meeting**: The KCNPS board meets on the third Friday of the month at 9:00 am in the Rude Girls Room at the Sandpoint library. Open to all members.

The **Conservation Committee** will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesdays, March 17, April 14, and May 12, at 401 Euclid (corner of Michigan). This lively committee is following several interesting issues in Bonner County, involving several agencies. We plan two field trips in the spring, including one to the Priest Lake area to check on some timber sales and a proposed campground. The other day will be spent assisting the Forest Service in monitoring a sensitive plant population. Interested? Call Molly at 255-7336 or come to a meeting. If you want to receive agendas and information, e-mail Molly at [yachthalo@yahoo.com](mailto:yachthalo@yahoo.com).

The **Landscape Committee** will hold a planning meeting on Monday, March 23, noon, at Ivano's. There will be volunteer signup sheets for the committee at the April and May membership meetings.

This year the Committee will do consultations to help residents identify their native plants and discuss ways to enhance their landscape with more natives. We'll practice at Joanna Fuchs' place, 11 Lakeview Drive, Cocolalla, May 12, from 9 a.m. till noon. Join us to get comfortable with the activity. Lunch will be provided. Call Joanna for directions: 265-4839.

We continue our relaxing, rewarding weeding projects at Mickinnick and WaterLife Discovery Center, adding natives for those who prefer planting to pulling. Wednesdays, April 1 and May 6, 9 a.m. to noon, are the first two **Mickinnick work days**. You can give as little as one hour or up to unlimited hours. We appreciate all the help we can get!

*(Continued on page 5)*



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## Committee Reports, Continued

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### Landscaping Committee, Continued:

We are planning a landscape project at the new Bonner County (old Federal) building on Highway 2. On Saturday, April 25, after the NPS general meeting, the Kinnikinnick Chapter will team with the County Planning Department and SHS teacher and landscaper John Hastings to create a native plant plot on the southwest corner of the property.

Questions? Interested in the Landscape Committee? Contact Eileen Atkisson at 263-3835 or by e-mail at [eatkiss1@verizon.net](mailto:eatkiss1@verizon.net).

### *Scholarship Winner*

Congratulations to **Natalie Larson**, recipient of the first *Lois Wythe Native Plant Scholarship*, who was chosen from seven outstanding applicants. The scholarship funds tuition for one person to take the Master Gardeners' class each year. It honors our founder Lois Wythe as a teacher extraordinaire in the love of

gardening and for her efforts to preserve and promote native plants.

Natalie is interested in volunteering at the arboretum and plans to use the knowledge gained to teach in the 4-H program. She has taken classes from Lois and has also participated in Tuesday gatherings with Lois.

Thanks go to the Master Gardeners for their gracious cooperation in the first year of this program. In the fall, applications will be available for the 2010 scholarship.

Oregon Grape photo by Marilyn George



## *Honorarium*



*Kinnikinnick Chapter gratefully receives this thoughtful gift:*

A donation by *Carol Jenkins* to honor **Valle Novak**, in appreciation of the wonderful “**Grow Native**” articles she is writing for the *Bonner County Daily Bee*. Gratitude is also extended to **David Keyes** for granting us permission to put these educational and interesting articles on our Web site!

*NPS appreciates very much your donations in honor of special people or occasions, including but not limited to graduation, birthdays, anniversaries, volunteers, people who provide consistent support and encouragement—whomever or whatever you want to honor! We will acknowledge donors in the newsletter. Contribution amounts are confidential. Send donations to Native Plant Society, P.O. Box 1092, Sandpoint, Idaho 83864.*

## Membership Renewal Reminder

If the number on your newsletter mailing label reads 08, please renew your membership ASAP so you'll continue to get our newsletter with info on activities. Don't deprive yourself of the many benefits of NPS membership: programs, field trips, events, parties, making new friends! Your Chapter renewal automatically renews your Idaho Native Plant Society state membership. Please send your renewal to: [Kinnikinnick Chapter INPS, P.O. Box 1092, Sandpoint, ID 83864](#). Questions? Call Janet Rogers, 263-4240.

**Categories of membership:** Individual \$25; Household \$30; Student/Senior \$20; Sustaining \*45; Patron \$100\*; \* (\*Sustaining and Patron members may affiliate with additional chapters of INPS).

## Native Plants Species Information

is featured on our website!

Check out:

[www.nativeplantsociety.org](http://www.nativeplantsociety.org)



Kinnikinnick Photo by Marilyn George

## Member Profile

The purpose of the member profile is to get to know each other, share common interests, and perhaps make new friends, so...



### Say Hello to Linda Kirchmann!

Master Gardener Linda Kirchmann and her husband, Bill, live in Sandpoint, "in the middle of nowhere," off the

grid. They use mostly solar and a little hydroelectric power. "In winter we run the generator to charge storage batteries," she says, "and we park a mile away and snowmobile our groceries in on a sled."

Five years ago Linda and Bill fled stressful jobs in Southern California, landing in Sandpoint, where Linda's mother, NPS member Jackie Earle, lives. Jackie introduced Linda to NPS founder Lois Wythe, who invited Linda to work in the Wythe garden. Linda took classes from Lois, whom she still visits weekly, gardening in the summer and chatting in the winter.

Linda's garden includes wild ginger, ferns, spirea, twinflower and more. She loves "watching things pop up after the snow" and even likes pulling weeds.

The Kirchmanns enjoy cross country skiing, snowshoeing, hiking, kayaking and backpacking. One of Linda's favorite vacations is the time she and Bill backpacked in and hiked to the top of Mt. Whitney, at 14,400 feet.

The Kirchmanns have two "mutt" cats, Minxie and Matty. They have two grandchildren in California, twins, a boy and a girl, "who keep trying to hand me things through the Web cam," Linda says. Linda reads nonfiction, mysteries and science fiction, enjoys classical, jazz and rock music, and says her favorite food types are Mexican and Japanese, especially the sushi at Dishii Sushi in Sandpoint.

Linda enjoys weaving on her big four-harness floor loom. She uses wool, alpaca, bamboo and other yarns to make table runners, a wall hanging, and gifts.

Linda has been our Hospitality Chairperson until recently, so if you enjoyed the coffee and goodies at meetings, let Linda and her helper, Jackie, know. And at meetings and events, say "Hello" to Linda Kirchmann!

Photo by Joanna Fuchs