Volume X / Number 3

May/ Jun 2007

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

Program Schedule

May Program

Saturday, May 26th 9:45a.m.

LOCATION: Community Hall (Log Building)
First Avenue - across from County Courthouse, Sandpoint

"KIPZ Forest Plan and District Updates."

Recently the Bush 2005 planning rule was challenged in court, leaving the forest planning process up in the air. Dick Kramer, Sandpoint District Ranger, US Forest Service, will discuss the latest on the Forest Plan, provide us with district updates, and answer our questions regarding the Idaho Panhandle National Forest.

June Program

Saturday, Jun 23rd 9:45a.m.

LOCATION: Community Hall (Log Building)
First Avenue - across from County Courthouse, Sandpoint

"Native Plants and Butterflies" will be our topic in June, presented by the always popular speaker, WSU Agriculture Extension Office Coordinator, Carol Mack. Carol has many credits to her name including coordinating the WSU Master Gardner program and contributing editor to Mother Earth News Magazine. Many of the over 100 species of butterflies in our region have developed a co-evolutionary dependence on particular native plants - to the point that their very survival depends on continued presence of these plants. Join us to learn how to identify these beautiful creatures, how to attract them to your garden, and explore the fascinating relationships between these herbivores and their floral hosts.

Other Events

Annual INPS Meeting June 15-17, 2007: Craters of the Moon National Monument and Preserve. Don't miss it; check out the next issue of Sage Notes for more details.

Field Trips for May & June: Mineral Point on Thurs., May 24th; Q'melin Trail on Sun., May 20th; Twete/Scout Trail on Sat. June 9th; Mickinnick Trail Tues. June 19th; and Gamlin Lake Sun., June 24th. See page 6 for full details.

Edible & Medicinal Identification July 7, 2007: With Linda Kingsbury Ph.D. Herbalist, Author, Educator. See page 6 for full details.

Bake Sales July 28 & August 18, 2007: During the summer, come enjoy baked goods and coffee these two Saturdays at the Farmer's Market from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm.

Twig furniture/arbor classes: If you missed sign-ups contact Sylvia at 263-2175.

Chapter Board: meets the third Friday of the month at 9:00 am in the Rude Girls Room at the Sandpoint library. Open to all members.

Arboretum Committee: Busy back in the gardens and on duty at the Arboretum from 9:00 to 12:00, Monday through Friday, please contact Sylvia Chatburn at 263-2175 or email Sylvia@televar.com if interested.

Conservation Committee: Members are actively advocating for native plants and their habitats. We meet September through June, on the 2nd Tuesday evening of the month. For more information contact Carol Jenkins at 265-9204.

Landscape Committee: May 16th, June 6th, and June 20th are the next meeting days for weeding at the Mickinnick Trail. Contact Eileen Atkisson with any inquiries at 263-3835 or by email at eatkiss1@verizon.net.

These committees and their activities are open to all members.

Postal & Website Addresses for the

Xinnikinnick Chapter of the INPS 206 N. 4th Ave PMB 162 Sandpoint, ID 83864-1424

www.nativeplantsociety.org

CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR EVEN MORE on CHAPTER ACTIVITIES, ARCHIVED NEWSLETTERS, and EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION!

Kinnikinnick Chapter Receives State Grant For Milfoil Signage

Last summer our local chapter of the Idaho **Native Plant Society** applied for and received a grant from the Idaho State Department of Agriculture Eurasian Watermilfoil Control Program to design and construct an educational sign for display at the Idaho Fish and Game WaterLife Discovery Center on Pend Oreille River, Sandpoint. This effort, initiated by the chapter's Conservation Committee, was in cooperation with the **Bonner County Weed** Control, Idaho Department of Agriculture, and Mark Taylor, Coordinator of the WaterLife Discovery Center. The WaterLife Discovery Center was designed as a self-guided



educational facility for students and families of North Idaho, a place for people to understand the role waterways play in shaping our environment and how responsible use increases the health of this aquatic ecosystem and our enjoyment of it. With the dramatic infestation of noxious Eurasian Watermilfoil into this system it seemed like the perfect time and the perfect place to provide this educational outreach to our community. Under the guidance of Mark Taylor, graphic design for the 4x4-foot sign is being completed by Fish and Game, with installation this summer. It is our goal that this educational sign, at this location, will provide an ongoing opportunity to promote responsible recreational water weed control not only on the Pend Oreille system, but throughout our western waterways.

Quote of the Month:

"Flowers are words even a baby can understand." -- Quentin Crisp



Committee Reports

Arboretum Committee

The Arboretum gardeners are back on duty from 9:00 to 12:00 Monday through Friday. We had our first workday down there on April 25 to get it ready for Arbor Day on April 27. Everything is looking good. There are a lot of things blooming such as Oregon Grape and Clematis. The serviceberry and choke cherry should be blooming soon. The lungwort and colt's foot in the Wild Medicinal garden are in full bloom. There is always something blooming in some area of the arboretum.

Unfortunately our Larch trees are not looking good because of an infestation of Larch case borer. We have sprayed them with *Bacillus Thuringiensis* (BT). That should take care of the tiny caterpillars that are living on the needles of the larch.

In the month of May we are holding our bench making workshops once again. These are benches made from Alder. At the end of a 2-day workshop everyone goes home with a completed bench. We may do a trellis and arbor workshop in June. This is the big fund raiser for the arboretum that helps pay for the coordinator who is on duty from mid June to late August. This year Rochelle Chatburn and Linda Kirchmann will be sharing the position. If anyone is interested in helping at the arboretum, just show up any weekday morning and the gardener on duty can show you what needs to be done. Working at the arboretum is a good way to learn more about the native plants of this area. If you have any questions, call Sylvia at 263-2175.

The major goal of the **Conservation Committee** is to advocate for our native plants and their habitats. This month the committee drafted and received board approval for a comment letter to the US forest Service Sandpoint Ranger District regarding the Selkirk Winter Mountain Range Travel Plan. The purpose of this response was to emphasize potential impacts of snowmobiling on native plants and their habitats when developing a travel plan. In May, members of the committee will join rangers from the Priest Lake State Forest to assess the habitat in proposed timber harvest areas. The milfoil signage developed by the committee for the WaterLife Discovery Center is nearing completion and should be installed this summer. This committee meets September through June, on the 2nd Tuesday evening of the month. Guests and new

members are heartily welcomed. Please call Carol Jenkins, 265-9204 for information.

A thank you from the **Education Committee** for **Arbor Day 2007** "Trees are terrific and forests are too, But they can't compare to this Arbor Day spent with all of you!" Arbor Day is truly the absolute dedication and generosity of so many folks. Again this year many wonderful volunteers created the time and space for celebrating trees and planting a few seeds of stewardship for this wonderful world around us. We thank you all!! Over 230 students attended Arbor Day this year. We were delighted to have staff and students from the following schools: Washington, Farmin-Stidwell, Kootenai, Southside, and several private schools as well.

Our expert tree docents shared their knowledge (and love) of coniferous and deciduous trees during Tree Tours while our guests from Priest River and Sandpoint Ranger Stations demonstrated tree coring and shared information on Forest Ecology. Fields Cobbs stimulated our thinking with information on the importance of trees in our lives and the affects of climate change. Tree cookies offered up their lessons in how trees grow. (Thanks to Sandpoint Ranger District staff). Pat VanVolkinburg inspired us to get that compost bin going. Student poetry was on display, tree seedlings were distributed to community members throughout the morning, and everyone appreciated the information shared by Climate Change Action Network (CCAN) and the Lake-A-Syst Program. With the assistance from the Sandpoint Community Forest Committee, demonstrations of tree pruning and tree planting were a wonderful addition to this year's educational offerings. And 13 students from Mr. Hastings Advanced Forestry Class from the High School provided a Tree Cruising station, helped as tour guides and shared information as the Grand Fir docents.

The Arbor Day ceremony began with a welcome message by our president, Phil Hough. Mayor Ray Miller read the "Arbor Day" Proclamation" and Ed Robinson from the Idaho Dept. of Lands presented the city of Sandpoint with a special "Tree City USA" banner, marking the 10th year that we have met the criteria for being a "tree city". Several students read their poems and the Toland's extended their thanks and appreciation to over 50 volunteers that made this Arbor Day possible.

Arbor Day is truly all of you. And we extend our heartfelt thanks for such wonderful support and participation. Special thanks to: Mike Fortney and the Clifty View Nursery of Bonners Ferry for tree seedlings; John Hastings and his Advanced Forestry students; The Bonner County Daily Bee for donating seedling bags; Safeway for donating twist-ties; Sue Ferguson, Vern and the Bonner County Historical Society/Museum staff; ...continued on pg 4.

Committee Reports, continued

Dave Cobb from the Priest Lake and Sandpoint Ranger Station and his crew of volunteers (Luke Hixson, Kevin Davis and AJ Helgenberg); Arbor Day set up/ cleanup crew; Arboretum cleanup crew; Rich Del Carlo and Bob Wilson of the Sandpoint Community Forest Committee; and Sandpoint Parks and Recreation.

And more thanks to friends and members of the Kinnikinnick Chapter: Eileen Atkisson, Margareta Larson, Molly O'Reilly, Nancy Rodgers, Bill Brill, Michael and Phil Franklin, Gary Rogers, Nancy Rodgers, Adrienne Lilly, Carol and Irv Jenkins, Jim and Cheryl Stern, Pat Ramsey, Marilyn George, Phil Hough, Pat Ramsey, Gail Lyster, , Karen Lamb, Jean Maryborn, Pat and Paul VanVolkinburg, Bruce Vogelsinger, Gary Parker, Joe Wythe, and Stephen Drinkard. Arboretum Gardeners and Assistants not only prepared the Arboretum, they participated as docents and volunteers in so many ways: Lois Wythe, Sylvia Chatburn, Valle Novak, Phil Hough, Rae Charlton, Michael Franklin, Margie Gibson, Mary Jo Haag, Arlis Harvey, Gretchen Hellar, Linda Kirchmann, Myrna Garside, Bill Lamson, Sherry Metz, Parise Whitley, Joyce Pence, Konrad Dahlstrom, and Jeff Rich. And dear Lois Wythe, your vision and efforts to establish this treasured Arboretum at Lakeview Park have given us all a gathering place for education, celebration and fellowship. Thank you so very much! -Mary and Doug Toland

The **Hospitality Committee** has taken care of us through May with thanks to the Toland's for April and Nancy Rodgers who will be bringing treats in May. We need you to sign up for June or perhaps you can help out at this year's bake sales. Two Bake Sales are planned this year: Saturdays July 28th and August 18th. Please come join us for goodies and coffee at the Sandpoint Farmer's Market from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. If you would like to donate or volunteer to help at the sale please contact Linda Kirchmann at 255-5727 (email bkpkrlinda@aol.com). And remember, all the proceeds go to support the Kinnikinnick Chapter.

Update on the Mickinnick Trail from the **Landscape Committee** – It's spring and the plants look good after winter, but it is time to weed once again. If you are interested or know someone that might be, please contact us. If you can't go on the scheduled days you are welcome to go at anytime, just call us to see what needs to be done. Right now we meet the first and third Wednesdays of the month. Thank you all so much for your continued support of this project. See you on the trail. For more information contact Eileen Atkisson at 263-3835 or email eatkiss1@verizon.net.



Spring Presentations

MARCH

March turned out to be a double-header! Gary Parker presented the Lake*A*Syst Program which guides landowners in minimizing impact on the water quality of Lake Pend Oreille and its tributaries. Scott Daily described a shoreline remediation project he is currently implementing to reduce pollution runoff into the lake.

APRIL



Photo by Marilyn George

Botanist Marian
Fuller (pictured at
left) shared the
wonder of plant
adaptability,
illustrated by her
recent study of
plants of the
Galapagos Islands.
This program
brought a widened
audience to our
meeting, and we
hope these folks
will join us again.

PROJECT BUDBURST

thave you heard of Project Budburst? This national citizen science field campaign targets native tree and flower species across the country. You can join others in collecting important climate change data on the timing of leafing and flowering of trees and flowers in your area through Project BudBurst. By recording the timing of the leafing and flowering of native species each year, scientists can learn about the prevailing climatic characteristics in a region over time. With your help, we will be compiling valuable environmental information that can be compared to historical records to illustrate the effects of climate change. It is not too late to be a part of this project. Check out www.Budburst.org from April 1 - June 15, 2007. In 2008, we will begin Project BudBurst in January.

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Message from the President Phil Hough Trees are Terrific and Forests are Too

The theme for this year's Arbor Day still rings fresh in my ears. Trees are Terrific and Forests Are Too is a terrific metaphor, one that we can all learn from, not just the 200+ school age children who participated in Arbor Day activities. It's simple: the potential of an individual tree is amplified by being part of a forest. A forest becomes more, much more, than just a collection of individual trees. A forest provides benefits and creates habitats that individual trees cannot. From stunning swathes of fall color, to watershed protection, to habitat for woodland creatures, to offering the different canopies needed by plants whose tolerance of sun or shade vary greatly. Then there is the mythical draw of deep dark woods, with many secrets known only to those willing to explore its depths. The forest becomes a spiritual place. Trees talk to us, forests listen.

Our community and our chapter are both a lot like that forest. It's true for any winning team: "the whole is greater that the sum of the individual parts." We have many individuals who are doing great things, but when join together in their efforts – well, magic happens. An Arbor Day happens. Doug and Mary deserve great applause – a huge "thank you"! But the real magic of Arbor Day is found in the 50 volunteers who came together to pull it off! Arboretum regulars joined with other Native Plant Society members (past and present) and other volunteers from across our community. Arbor Day activities included volunteers or representatives from the Forest Service, John Hasting's high school forestry class, the Sandpoint Community Forest Committee, and Bonner Soil and Water Conservation District, the Idaho Dept. of Lands and Mayor Ray Miller. And, of course, the schools - students and teachers alike - by fully engaging in the Arbor Day activities, fulfilled the promise of Arbor Day. Together, as a group, our chapter and our community put on an event far more significant than the collection of individual learning stations.

Our entire chapter and community are like this. For example, the Arboretum continues to be a community gem because of a strong core group of Arboretum volunteers. Our Landscape Committee could never maintain projects such as the Mickinnick Trailhead, the Waterlife Discovery Center and the Healing Garden without help from many people. Our Conservation Committee takes on many issues, because we have individuals dedicated to specific interest who can use the rest of the committee as eyes, ears, and a sounding board. This newsletter would never happen if one person had to do it all (unless we could bring back the Franklins to do it, who even themselves are a

team of two.) In our community, many volunteer groups work diligently on a wide variety of issues to make North Idaho a better place. But, by now you get the idea. You are part of something bigger than yourself. You are a member of the Native Plant Society, and a part of the large community. Be proud! Be involved! And remember, together we can move mountains, or forests, or fields, or even the dreams of several hundred school kids, who are our future.

Photos by Marilyn George L to R: Arrowleaf Balsam; Yellowbells (Fritillaria pudica); Mixed Wildflowers







Membership Information

Categories of membership are: Individual \$25 per year; Household \$30 per year; Student/ Senior \$20 per year; Patron \$75*, Life \$1000* *Patron and Life members may affiliate with additional chapters of INPS. Send payment to: Kinnikinnick Chapter INPS, PMB 162, 206 N. 4th Ave., Sandpoint, ID 83864.



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Plant of the Month

May: Rock brake *Cryptogramma sp.*To be presented by Adrienne Lilly

2007 Field Trips.....

Photo by Sylvia Chatburn



Sun. May 20, 2007: Q'melin Trail, Post Falls with the Calypso Chapter. Dress for the weather and conditions and bring water, snacks/lunch, native plant field guides. Carpooling - meet at Sagle Conoco/Travel America to leave at 11:30 am.

Thurs. May 24, 2007: Half a day to Mineral Point to see another show of spring wildflowers. Carpooling - meet at Sagle Conoco/ Travel America to leave at 8 am.

Sat. June 9, 2007: Twete-Scout trail, Farragut State Park with the Calypso Chapter. Everyone enjoyed this trail at the 2006 INPS Annual Meeting. Dress for the weather and conditions and bring water, snacks/lunch, native plant field guides. Carpooling - meet at Sagle Conoco/ Travel America to leave at 8 am.

Tues. June 19, 2007: Hike the Mickinnick Trail and check out the native plant landscaping at the trailhead. Carpooling - meet at the trailhead at 9 am.

Sun, June 24, 2007: Gamlin Lake, Sagle with the Calypso Chapter. Carpooling - meet at Sagle Conoco/ Travel America to leave at 8 am.

Sun. September 16, 2007: Fall Mushrooms with Friends of Scotchman Peaks, led by renowned mycologist Larry Evans. (details tba)

Please join a carpool whenever possible, as many of our destinations have limited parking. Carpools will LEAVE at stated times; please be early. Of course we want everyone to enjoy the day so please dress for the weather and prepare for conditions. Be sure to bring water, snacks/lunch, and native plant field guides, etc. If weather is truly awful, we may reschedule at the last minute. The chapter email list will be used for this. Be sure we have your updated email. If you would require a telephone call, please let me know. Please contact Molly O'Reilly with questions (255-7336). (Also see website www.nativeplantsociety.org for updates.)

Edible and Medicinal Identification Walk

Have you ever wondered about which weeds and local herbs are safe to use for food and healing? Learn to identify and harvest edible wild weeds and common first aide plants. Please dress appropriately for the weather. Families welcome. Linda Kingsbury Ph.D. Herbalist, Author, Educator, brings her experience and passion for plants to our walk today. She has a Natural Healing practice in Moscow, ID and has been making herbal medicines for more than 20 years for people around the world. For information or to sign up please contact Sandpoint Parks & Recreation at (208) 263-3613 or by email at recreation@ci.sandpoint.id.us

LOCATION: Lakeview Park (Native Plant Arboretum)

DATES: Saturday, July 7th, 2007

TIME: 9:30-11:30am

FEE: \$10/person \$20/family

MIN/MAX: 10/25