



Kinnikinnick Journal

Volume XII Number 3

Sep / Oct 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)

September Program
Saturday, September 26th, 2009 at 9:45 a.m.

"Native Plants in Your Landscape"

Kathy Hutton, Manager of *Plants of the Wild* in Tekoa, Washington, will describe how various native plants behave in the landscape, and will share techniques that *Plants of the Wild* uses to propagate their nursery stock.

October Program
Saturday, October 24th, 2009 at 9:45 a.m.

"David Thompson's Trek"

October's program will be a look at David Thompson's trek into the Northwest looking for the headwaters to the Columbia River and for fur trading opportunities in our area. **Mark Weadick** of Coeur d'Alene will be portraying David Thompson in the first person, at the age of 71, looking back some 29 years as he brought the fur trade over the Rocky Mountains into the Columbia River drainage. He will speak to his relations with the Native Peoples and to the flora and fauna of this area. Following the presentation, "David Thompson" will take questions.

Other Events

BAKE SALE: Saturday, September 12
The next bake sale is Saturday, September 12, 2009, at the Farmer's Market, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Bring your donated homemade goodies by 9 a.m. Please pack goodies in small quantities in small baggies (if possible). Example: 3 or 4 cookies or two brownies in each baggie. This makes it easier for us to sell. Nut breads, cookies, and small sweet rolls sell very well (just suggestions). Or just come and enjoy the delicious treats and coffee! Any questions? Want to volunteer to help at the

sale? Contact Linda Kirchmann at 255-5727. All proceeds go directly to the Kinnikinnick Native Plant Society.
Note: We made \$246.00 on the 7/25/09 bake sale!

WINE TASTING: Thursday, Sept 17
Our annual fund-raising Wine Tasting Party at Pend Oreille Pasta will be Thursday evening, Sept. 17, 6-8 p.m. Tickets are still only \$15, a terrific bargain for sampling five wines and an assortment of tasty hors d'oeuvres prepared by Val and John Albi. They can accommodate up to 40 people, and we have five tickets left to sell.

If you are interested, please either call Rae at 255-7666 or email at raecharlton@earthlink.net ASAP! And remember, if you buy wines on the 17th or during the following week, John credits a portion of each sale to us.

Many thanks to our loyal and generous members, the Albis, for hosting this delightful event each year. **Hope to see you there!**

Native Plant Workshop on Nature Journaling



Photo by Marilyn George



National Trails Day by Marilyn McIntyre

The NPS table at the **National Trails Day** gathering on the lawn of the Pend Oreille Winery on June 6th was a good way to do some community outreach and network with other groups interested in trails, including the Idaho Conservation League and Friends of Scotchman Peaks Wilderness. Don Childress welcomed one new member, and Carol Jenkins handed out

applications. In the afternoon I met 9 other enthusiastic people to take a native plant walk along *the Pend Oreille Bay Trail*. Mother Nature gave us a grand display of Mountain Lady Slipper orchids (*Cypripedium Montanans*), pictured at left, in full bloom. Sue Drumheller of the Idaho Conservation League accompanied us and explained the current status of the trail and the rip-rap work the Corps of Engineers has completed. The participants expressed interest in learning about the native plants, their importance in the various habitats and using them to landscape instead of grass. This is an excellent way to share our knowledge and goals with the community in an active, eyes-on way...and it was **fun**.

Drawing by Marilyn McIntyre



Plant Sale

Wow! What a great plant sale on May 16. Total plant sales were \$2033, and after expenses and taxes our 1/2 of the profits was \$594.68. We also took in \$29 for note cards and \$515 for trellises. For the 2009 plant sale, we purchased plants from Plants of the Wild and the University of Idaho. Over 500 plants were being cared for by PSNI. Dennis has developed a spread sheet to track the plants. We're looking forward to another great sale next year.



Photos by Marilyn George

SCHOLARSHIP

The Lois Wythe Native Plant Scholarship will be offered for its second year to fund one person's fees for the Master Gardeners' class that starts in February 2010. The scholarship honors our founder for her development of the North Idaho Native Plant Arboretum and her contributions to all aspects of gardening in our community. Candidates must be residents of Bonner County who have been accepted into the Master Gardener class and who commit to completing the class and spending ten hours of the required volunteer time on a native plant society project. This scholarship is separate from the one the Master Gardeners offer, and it is not based on financial need.

Application forms will be available later this fall. Completed forms must be received by December 31 and must include a copy of the application required for the Master Gardeners' class. For more information contact Janice DeBaun, 263-8970.



Message from the President

Carol Jenkins

I have observed that this space in our newsletter has become an expression of appreciation. How easy you all make it for me to write something wonderful for each issue!

On April 25, our membership, along with employees of the Bonner County Planning Department, turned out on a chilly Saturday morning to perform the physical labor of transforming hard-packed weedy ground outside the County Building on Hwy 2 into a lovely native plant demonstration garden for the community at large, and more specifically for folks working through the Planning Department on residential and commercial projects. Under the direction of John Hastings of All Seasons Garden and Floral (whose students designed the garden), cardboard, topsoil, and mulch were spread and native plants and hardscaping added. The before-and-after photos are remarkable. Four months later, the garden is lovely. It is the result of the vision and perseverance of Planning Director Clare Marley!

May brought our first plant sale and it was a huge success and great fun! Long a vision of past president Molly O'Reilly, the plant sale requires a lot of advance planning and work, but Dennis Rieger and his committee made it look easy. This summer Dennis has been ordering plants for the 2010 sale and many are potted up and growing well. This effort was a wonderful collaboration with Panhandle Special Needs, Inc., and we were so pleased when both their board and ours agreed to continue and double the size of the sale next year. Also, thanks go to Jim Stern for the huge contribution his trellises made to the success of the plant sale.

In May our chapter voted on separation from the state NPS. You will be pleased to know that 50% of our total membership voted, with 92% of the vote for separation. Members of your board worked diligently to insure a smooth transitional process. New bylaws are ready for membership approval at our November general meeting.

Congratulations Kinnikinnick Native Plant Society!

Our June program by Don Childress on landscaping with native plants was a stunning demonstration of practical, beautiful, low maintenance and nature-friendly ways to enhance and enjoy the grounds around our homes. Don also participates on the Landscaping Committee, which, under the leadership of Eileen Atkisson, has hit the ball out of the park with monthly landscaping consultations for members of our chapter. This is a marvelous benefit of membership, and I believe, unique in the state. Thank you Landscaping Committee for providing this expanded level of service to our membership!

The Arboretum Committee has also gone above and beyond. Sylvia Chatburn offered to have plants left from the plant sale heeled in to grow and become best sellers next spring. Also, as Arboretum plants need to be thinned, our gardeners are potting them for the sale. And the Arboretum itself is another year more beautiful!

A true joy of being our president is having folks step up and offer something valuable. Joanna Fuchs is writing the interview series we now enjoy in our newsletter while Wendy Aeschliman is writing the plant of the month series for the website. And Valle Novak continues advocating use of native plants in her *Daily Bee* column.

Our "Grow Native" campaign has flourished this summer with the strong participation of our membership at Trails Day, Dover Home and Garden Show, and the Bonner County Fair. Our organization is not just about plants, it is about people. The folks who turn out to meet and greet and share the enthusiasm and mission of our membership with the public are essential to assure continuing new membership and organizational vitality.

Thank you all for your many and varied contributions to our mission! From weeding to field trips, from bake sales to agency collaborations, it is all working so well.

Notes from the June Program



For the June program, entitled "Landscaping with Native Plants, a Practical Example," NPS chapter member Don Childress detailed the work he and his wife Roxann did in starting from scratch to landscape their yard in rural North Idaho. Don showed both successes and failures in an easy-to-understand, lighthearted style. He showed the specific plants that worked in different locations and micro-climates around the yard and how to deal with the ever-present wildlife and the problem of having minimal irrigation water.

Photo by Wendy Aeschliman

Committee Reports

The Arboretum Committee

We have been busy all summer keeping the weeds down and fighting the bugs that want to dine on the shrubs. In an attempt to get more of the old lawn grass out we are using several different methods. In the riparian area, by the water wheel, we have put down cardboard between the roses and the dry streambed, lined the area with rock and covered it with cedar bark. In the dry forest, the grass is being pulled and left to dry to add to the duff under the trees. For some undulation in the new shade garden we are digging sod from surrounding areas and stacking it. Later this fall and in the spring, plants will be dug from private forest land and transplanted on these mounds of sod. The Hooker's Fairy Bells are really pretty right now with their bright red berries; the asters are in full bloom and the blue berry on the Queen's cup is quite different.

Our coordinators have finished their jobs at the end of August. They were a great help with weeding, watering, talking to visitors and helping the gardeners wherever help was needed. We have several more areas to develop and would like to have some new people come out and help develop those areas. If you would like to help, please call Sylvia at 263-2175. We will be putting the arboretum to bed in October.
Sylvia Chatburn, Chair

Conservation Committee

The Conservation Committee has sprung to life after its traditional summer break. This group provides a positive voice for native plants and their habitats in our area. Outreach to agencies, field trips, and lively discussions characterize this committee. The first meeting was held September 8. Watch for an interesting report at the Program meeting on the 23rd. The Conservation Committee gathers on the second Tuesday of the month, 6:30pm at Molly O'Reilly's home, 401 Euclid Ave. Call Molly for directions or more information. 255-7336. **Molly O'Reilly, Chair**

Landscape Committee

Landscape Committee members have had a summer of varied and interesting activities. Following the

first landscape consultation at the Fuchs' home we moved on to the Sourdough Development off Bottle Bay Road. Arranged by Jackie Nordling, who gave over her own consultation to the community project, we helped plan the return of native planting to the Association's recently revamped water pump system. Molly McCahon, our Lake Pend d'Oreille specialist, and Gail Bolin, working a similar project at Dover Bay, joined Sylvia Chatburn, Don Childress, Bob Wilson, Sylvia Eisele and Nancy and Dennis Rieger to this beautiful "secret" spot.

Almost as hidden, the Rieger property was our next destination. Dennis and Nancy had lots of ideas, and Bob, Don, Sylvia Chatburn and Eileen worked to pull them all together around their patio and pond. Our last consultation is with the Parrys in September. Meanwhile, Larry Blakey and I laid down cardboard over our lawn in town and fashioned a real garden. We expect that all of these projects will be worthy of Sunset articles next summer.

Mickinnick has held its own, with lots of members contributing. Master Gardeners pitched in. We abandoned irrigation, and both natives and weeds thrived. We reduced our workdays and still maintained control, receiving lots of compliments and thanks. The last workday is October 7.
Eileen Atkisson, Chair

Bonner County Fair

Thanks to Marilyn George, Pat Stevens, Phil Hough, Jackie Earle, Molly O'Reilly, Nancy Fontaine, Ken Haag, Konrad Dahlstrom, Janet Rogers, Bob Wilson, Janice DeBaun, Dennis and Nancy Rieger and Irv Jenkins for staffing our booth at the Bonner County Fair. A white ribbon was awarded for our education and outreach!



Proposed By-Laws

At our May meeting, the membership of the Kinnikinnick Chapter overwhelmingly approved becoming independent of the Idaho Native Plant Society. The separation becomes effective January 1, 2010. We are presently operating under by-laws which were adopted November 27, 2004, with many references and restrictions associated with our affiliation with the Idaho Native Plant Society.

Thus, we need to revise our by-laws. Proposed by-laws are included in this newsletter mailing. Additionally, copies will be available at the September, October and November meetings, and they are posted on our web site www.nativeplantsociety.org.

Deleted wording is indicated by ~~strike-throughs~~ and revised wording is in *italics*. Most changes delete references to the Idaho Native Plant Society and insert the name of our new organization – Kinnikinnick Native Plant Society. Other proposed changes allow the Board of Directors to act based on circumstances that may occur in the future which are not envisioned now.

The membership votes on acceptance of the revised by-laws at the annual meeting on Saturday, November 28, 2009. Please plan to attend the meeting, since the quorum and approval margin requirements when voting on by-laws changes are greater than for normal business transactions. Our separation is not complete until we adopt new by-laws.

Native Plant Riparian Buffer Demonstration Site Update Dover, Idaho

The Dover project is coming along very nicely. The end of May, I met with Sylvia Chatburn and Don Childress from KCNPS, and Molly McCahon (Lake *A*Syst) at the Dover site. We identified most of the existing vegetation, compiled a plant list, and Molly measured the area and sketched a design. John Hastings and his students will do most of the site preparation and planting, probably in early to mid-October. Molly and I presented the final design to the Dover City Council on August 13, and we were given the okay to proceed with the project. I have enough grant money for plants but am looking for donations for signage. Volunteers are needed for maintenance (weeding, etc.). John and his students can do a day next year, and Molly (Lake*A*Syst) can do a day, and hopefully some KCNPS members will also volunteer for a day as well. Gail Bolin

INPS Annual Meeting, Yellowstone...

Photos by Marilyn George



Membership

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).

Please send your membership fee to:
Kinnikinnick Chapter INPS, P.O. Box 1092, Sandpoint, ID 83864. Questions? Call Janet Rogers, 263-4240.

New: *Plants of the Month*
now featured on our website!!
www.nativeplantsociety.org

Latest entries: Orange Honeysuckle, Douglas Spirea, Pearly Everlasting

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 Konrad Dahlstrom and Joyce Pence



Sitting in dappled shade on a hand-crafted wooden bench at the Arboretum, Konrad Dahlstrom and Joyce Pence relaxed after three hours of work. Every Thursday from 9 till noon, they come to maintain the beauty of this place. Joyce is responsible for the dry, rocky section at the main entrance. Konrad works on the adjacent riparian area.

Joyce was on the Arboretum committee in the beginning after becoming a charter member of the Kinnikinnick Chapter. Both Konrad and Joyce have served on the NPS board. Also members of Monday Hikers, they don't stop in winter; they just strap on their snowshoes and go.

A Master Gardener, Joyce is the gardener in the family. When she's not out working in the yard, she enjoys working on Su-Do-Ku puzzles. She also tends a vegetable garden and the raspberry/ blueberry/ strawberry patches. Grafting fruit trees is one of her favorite hobbies, and she likes to collect river rock to build retaining walls around flower beds. Konrad is a crossword puzzle nut. They both enjoy cooking and baking.

Married 30 years and now retired, Konrad and Joyce met in Chicago—he flying a kite, she riding a bike. They lived in a variety of cities, including Pittsburgh, Chicago, Boston and San Francisco, before landing in North Idaho. Joyce's career was in advertising, as a media buyer. Konrad was an ER nurse.

Joyce is also a member of a knitting group that makes hats for newborns in developing countries, and blankets for youngsters at Bonner General Hospital. They have three cats—Cisco, Blackie, and Gary.

Their travels include criss-crossing the U.S. and Canada, Sweden, Southern France, New Zealand, and St. John.

Photo by Joanna Fuchs