Volume XI / Number 2

Mar/ Apr 2008

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 22nd, 2008 at 9:45 a.m.

"Landscaping with Native Plants"

Pat Munts, small farms and acreage coordinator for WSU Spokane County Extension, is a freelance writer and editor based in Spokane, Washington. She has a weekly column in the Spokesman-Review and is eastern Washington's editor for Master Gardener Magazine. Along with her husband, they maintain a certified wildlife habitat in Spokane Valley where they have integrated native vegetation into their landscaping and created space for wildlife. Pat will present native plants that truly work in the North Idaho landscape.

April Program

Saturday, April 26th, 2008 at 9:45 a.m.

"Spring Fungi in North Idaho"

Tim Gerlitz, past president and current member of the North Idaho Mycological Association, has taught introduction to mycology classes through the North Idaho College continuing education program. Although the presentation is titled *Spring Fungi in North Idaho*, he will spend most of the time discussing the interesting characteristics and habitat of the elusive black morel, select corals and Boletus edulis. He promises to give away at least one black morel picking spot that has been annually productive over the past 15 years.

Other Events

Think Green-Sustainable Building and Landscaping - Mon. March 17th at 6pm: Presentations by Bruce Millard, Architect

and John Hastings, All Seasons Nursery at Sandpoint High School Auditorium. Sponsored by ClimateCAN.

Earth Day Celebration - Sun. April 20, 11 to 5 pm, Sandpoint Community Hall. At 3 pm, Landscaping Committee member Don Childress will present "Landscaping with Native Plants".

Arbor Day Celebration – Fri. April 25th, **2008**: "*Trees are Terrific – Inside* & *Out!*" Our annual Arbor Day celebration at Lakeview Park from 10:30am -1:00 pm. See committee reports for more details.

Native Plant Appreciation Week: April 27 -May 3rd.

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: Next meeting March 26th, contact Sylvia Chatburn at 263-2175 or by email Sylvia@televar.com.

Conservation Committee: Members are actively advocating for native plants and their habitats. Meetings are on the 2nd Tuesday evening of the month. Contact Molly O'Reilly at 255-7336. Landscape Committee: Field work starts April 2nd; 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.

2008 IDAHO NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING

Annual Meeting for the Idaho Native Plant Society: Sam Owen Park near Hope, June 20 -22, 2008. Tom Wolfe, an aquatic plant specialist with the Idaho State Department of Agriculture, is scheduled to do a presentation on aquatic plants. We are in the process of securing other speakers and field trip leaders. Campsites have been reserved so you can spend the weekend.

Postal & Website Addresses for the

Kinnikinnick 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!



Mar / Apr 2008

Page 2

Kinnikinnick Chapter gratefully receives this thoughtful gift:

To my husband Irv for your persistence and dedication as a Family Forester.

• Carol Jenkins (\$50)

You can honor a special person with a gift to Kinnikinnick Chapter. Your gift will help us as we work to inspire our neighbors to love and protect our native plants. Call or write Molly at 255-7336; yachthalo@yahoo.com.

Committee Reports

The **Arboretum Committee** had its first meeting of the year on Feb. 27. We have several projects that we are working on: putting together a written history of the arboretum that can easily be added to each year; working with the Museum to create a panel for the new kiosk at the Chamber of Commerce; and planning the development of a couple more areas that still have old sod and weeds. Our goal is to get rid of all the weeds and non native grasses. Anyone who is interested in helping with any of these projects is invited to attend the next meeting which will be March 26 at the Museum at 1:30.

We will be having a workday in March to put together all the plant labels for the various habitats. In April, we will probably have to have two work days, one to place all these labels, providing the snow is gone and the plants are visible, and another to do a final cleanup before Arbor Day. The Arbor Day ceremony officially opens the Arboretum season when gardeners will be on duty each morning, Monday through Friday. We encourage anyone who is interested in learning more about native plants to come join our dedicated group. If you have any questions, please call Sylvia at 263-2175.

Conservation Committee: Conservation was the theme of February's lively monthly presentation

at the Community Hall. We reported a number of successes and ongoing activities. Wide ranging discussions enliven our meetings. The committee is actively following a number of projects and will probably arrange for a field visit or two this spring. We would welcome your joining us on Tuesday March 11 or April 8 at 6:30pm. Molly O'Reilly, Chair: 255-7336.

The **Education Committee** announces we will again host the Annual Arbor Day celebration to be held at the North Idaho Plant Arboretum located at Lakeview Park on Friday, April 25, 2008 from 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The theme this year is "Trees Are Terrific...Inside and Out!"

A variety of educational activities will be provided by the Sandpoint Tree Committee, our local chapter, US Forest Service and others for school children and community members. Free tree seedlings will be distributed. If you are interested in participating or have questions please contact Nancy Fontaine (nancye.fontaine@verizon.net)

The **Hospitality Committee** sends thanks again to Jackie Earle for helping with coffee setup at February's meeting. Sylvia Chatburn and Sylvia Eisele brought the goodies in February, thanks! We appreciate Rae Charlton for signing up for March and also Konrad Dahlstrom for signing up for April. It would be wonderful to have two treat bringers per month so if anyone would like to volunteer to bring for March, April or for any other month... please contact Linda Kirchmann at 255-5727 (email bkpkrlinda@aol.com).

The **Landscape Committee** met on March 5 to begin planning for their 2008 activities. Work at the Mickinnick Trailhead begins on April 2nd, weather & snow-pack permitting. Contact Eileen at 263-3835 or eather: eather: 263-3835 or eather: eather: eather: 263-3835 or eather: eather: e

Michael Franklin and Mary Jo Haag added color to a recent winter meeting!

> Photo by Wendy Aeschliman



Winter Presentations

January's program was initiated by Bonner County Commissioner, Joe Young (photo at right), a member of the Idaho Invasive Species Council. Joe talked about invasive species as well as funding to address the issue through prevention and education.



Chris Schnepf (photo at left), Area Extension Educator of the University of Idaho, presented an indepth look at White Pine Blister Rust. He began with a history of Idaho's state tree, the White Pine, and then an explanation of the life cycle of the Blister Rust fungi and its introduction to our forests. Chris went on to discuss the measures we can take to promote healthy White Pine in our own forests.

Our February program was a multiple issue production. Molly O'Reilly began with an explanation of the mission and projects of the Conservation Committee. Phil Hough (photo at right) gave an overview of the Bonner County

Aguatic Invasive Species Task Force with emphasis on milfoil.



Brad Bluemer (photo at left), Bonner County Weed Superintendent, discussed the difference between our native milfoil and the invasive Eurasian milfoil and showed aerial pictures of before and after treatment in Lake Pend Oreille.

Clare Marley (photo at right), Bonner County Planning Director, talked about the county landscaping codes, specifically the proposed waterfront setback and requirements for wetlands. Carol Jenkins concluded by explaining the chapter's role in helping the county by identifying native plants that can be used in the buffer zone and are available locally.







Quote of the Month:

"Gardening is the only unquestionably useful job."

- George Bernard Shaw

Winter Presentations, cont'd





Clare with County Landscaping Standards Posters

> Photos by Marilyn George

Thanks Jeane!

Our best wishes are extended to Jeane Fontaine as he recovers from recent illness. Jeane has been a true friend to our chapter as he has donated our mailbox for our use. Please continue using the fine services of *Packages Plus* and extend our welcome to Sheryl Bohrn.



Phil Hough with Knapsack Presented by KC-INPS - Photo by Wendy Aeschliman

Happy Trails, Phill

At the January meeting I had the great pleasure of thanking Phil Hough for the two years he served as our President. We have all seen his many contributions, from weeding at the Arboretum to being on standby when we have a need for a monthly program. One of our best attended and well received programs was "Photographing Native Plants" that Phil, Marilyn George and Deb Hunsicker put together when a speaker cancelled. Phil has been our resident "techie" and rescued more than one A-V presentation with his trouble-shooting abilities.

Phil has served as a resource for many of us. For example, in the Conservation Committee, Phil has provided wise council and the depth of knowledge that comes from really working a problem-extensive reading, asking questions, and on-the-ground research. Phil has interacted with agency folks and the public in a way that has increased awareness of and respect for our chapter. You know that if there is one word that his tenure will be remembered for, it is "milfoil". Phil has chaired the Bonner County Aquatic Invasive Species Task Force in a calm, studied, and focused manner, all the while managing folks with opposing views and varying levels of expertise, working on a huge problem with no easy solution. His focus has consistently been aligned with the mission of our chapter-

education and the protection of native plants and their habitats. Phil remains active in our chapter's activities as he prepares for a long distance hike on the Continental Divide Trail. As much as

we'll miss him, I know we can count on a great presentation from him on his return! So, Happy Trails Phil, both here in Sandpoint and beyond! -Carol Jenkins

Message from the President

While participating in the activities of this chapter and working with the finest group of folks I've ever had the pleasure to know has been a true joy, being the president of this organization is a distinct honor. Every member of this board is talented in ways that present anew at each meeting. It is exciting to see the enthusiasm and exuberance of ideas and commitment. The very same thing is happening at our committee meetings! People solving problems, stepping up to contribute, inspiring others through distinguished service. This is, quite simply, a rewarding and deeply satisfying organization to be a part of, and a great lot of fun too.

If that isn't enough, the stars are aligned for our contributions and expertise. Native plants in our waterways are still threatened and continue to need advocates for healthy aquatic ecosystems. Ken Haag has attended the Bonner County Aquatic Invasive Species Task Force meetings since their inception and will continue to do so, replacing Phil Hough as our representative. The Bonner County Planning Department has proposed changes to the Land Use Regulations which need our ongoing support and encouragement until they are finalized and accepted. Recommendations include a preference for using native plants for commercial and residential landscaping, and buffer zones requiring native plant vegetation for new development near shorelines and wetlands. Representatives from our landscaping, arboretum and conservation committees are working on compiling a list of native plants for landscape use in Bonner County. This will be available to the public, developers, landscapers, and local retail and wholesale nurseries. This list will be included in the revised planning regulations.

With this exciting emphasis on using native plants for landscaping comes an extraordinary opportunity for outreach and education. The Arboretum and community areas landscaped by this chapter showcase the benefits and beauty of native plant landscaping. We expect these areas to be increasingly used as a resource with the implementation of the new planning regulations. In addition to our April 25 annual Arbor Day Celebration, we will have tables at the March 17 "Think Green: Sustainable Building and Landscaping," and at the April 20 Earth Day Celebration, where Don Childress will make a presentation on landscaping with native plants. And Don has arranged for Pat Munts to speak on landscaping with native plants at our March 22 general meeting. Finally, watch for former KCINPS president Valle Novak's April 27 column kicking off Native Plant Appreciation Week. You can guess the topic!

So much more is happening! Marilyn George is busy printing note cards as we are gearing up to sell them at Pend Oreille Pasta, All Seasons Nursery, and the Museum. Ken Haag is constructing display stands for them. Sylvia Chatburn is preparing for the installation of new plant labels in the Arboretum. Dennis Rieger is planning fundraising to insure our ability to meet outreach and education needs. Nancy Fontaine is preparing for another outstanding Arbor Day while Molly O'Reilly is scheduling field trips. The list goes on and on! I am reminded of a wonderful quotation attributed to a French Revolutionary leader: "There go the people. I must follow them, for I am their leader." Ha! In fact, following you folks may just wear me out!

Carol Jenkins

2008 Membership Note

Attention! If your address label has a yellow line through it, you need to send in your dues for 2008 right away (please!). To continue receiving this wonderful newsletter, you must be a paid-up member. Rates haven't changed: 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, 206 N. 4th Ave., PMB 162, Sandpoint, ID 83864. (Any questions please call Rae Charlton at 255-7666).



Mar / Apr 2008

Page 6

Plants of the Month

are now featured on our website!
Check out:
www.nativeplantsociety.org

Proposed 2008 Field Trips.....

If weather is truly awful or the snow has not melted, 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. More trips may be added if turnout and enthusiasm are high. We will add Calypso Chapter's schedule when it is available. Put these trips on your calendars! We look forward to enjoying them with you.

Sat. May 3, 2008: Half a day at Mineral Point for early wildflowers during Native Plant Appreciation Week. Carpooling - meet at Sagle Conoco/ Travel America to leave at 9am.

Sat. May 10, 2008: Denton Road, between Hope & Clark Fork, with Joyce Pence. Carpooling - meet at Bonner County Courthouse parking lot to leave at 9am.

Sat. May 16, 2008: Half a day at Mineral Point for a wildflower update led by Betsy Hammet, our local USFS Botanist. Carpooling - meet at Sagle Conoco/ Travel America to leave at 9am.

Sat. May 24, 2008: Half day hike on the Pend Oreille Bay Trail (Hall property). Carpooling - meet at Bonner County Courthouse parking lot after the general meeting, approx. 12:30pm.

Sat. June 14, 2008: Half a day at Mineral Point for a wildflower update. Carpooling - meet at Sagle Conoco/Travel America to leave at 9am.

Sat. July 5, 2008: Hike the Mickinnick Trail and check out the native plant landscaping at the trailhead. Meet at trailhead parking lot at 9am.

TBA: Gold Hill (from Sagle Rd.)

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. Please contact Molly O'Reilly with questions (255-7336).

Announcing Note Cards on Sale!

In addition to purchasing our popular Native Plant Note Cards at the monthly meetings, they are now available at the following three locations: Bonner County Historical Society Museum, 611 S Ella (next to the Arboretum); All Seasons Garden and Floral, 31831 Highway 200; and Pend Oreille Pasta, 476534 Highway 95. We thank the Historical Society and the businesses for their cooperation in providing these outlets.

Project Budburst

Do you remember Project Budburst? This national citizen science field campaign targets native tree and flower species across the country. 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. It is not too late to be a part of this project. Check out www.Budburst.org to see how you can participate.