



Kinnikinnick Journal

Volume XIV Number 3

May / Jun 2011

Kinnikinnick Native Plant Society, Inc. / Sandpoint, Idaho

Program Schedule

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

May Program

Saturday, May 28 9:45 a.m.

*“Thirty Years of Science and the
Environmental Movement in the Forest
Service from a Land Manager’s
Perspective”*

Dick Kramer, USFS Sandpoint District Ranger for the Sandpoint District of the Idaho Panhandle National Forest will look back over the last three decades of his career with an eye toward how the role of science and the environmental movement have co-evolved in land management.

June Program

Saturday, June 25 9:45 a.m.

*“Aquatic Plants
and Why You Should Care”*

Tom Woolf, Aquatic Plant Program Manager for the Idaho State Department of Agriculture, will give a brief overview of aquatic plants and why we should care about them. He will talk about the biology and ecology of aquatic plants, their role in aquatic ecosystems and look at natives vs. invasives. Tom will also provide an overview of some local and regional issues relating to aquatic plants and go over some basics of aquatic plant identification. The demonstration will be “hands on” with live samples for folks to look at and use handouts with additional information. Within his position, Tom is responsible for aquatic plant and invasive species survey and education throughout the state.

For Your Calendars

Native Plant Sale!!

Saturday May 7 (Day before Mother’s Day)
Native Plants Make Wonderful Gifts!
9:00 am to 2:00 pm, or until we run out of plants
Panhandle Special Needs – 1424 N Boyer

Wine Tasting – June 23

The annual Albi wine tasting will be held on June 23, 6 – 8 pm at Pend Oreille Pasta. Cost is \$15 per person. Tickets will be available at the May 28th meeting, or contact Dennis Rieger: 208-610-8362
kk5db@hotmail.com

Upcoming Field Trips

Thursday, 5/5/11, 1:00 pm: Our second KNPS Field Trip will be led by Jim and Cheryl Stern. We’ll be checking out native landscaping in the urban setting of “West Hope.” Wear comfortable shoes, bring water and a field guide if you like. This will be an easy road walk lasting 1-2 hours, including opportunities to stop at local business establishments. This “volkswalk” will be especially suitable for anyone using a cane, or a wheelchair. Meet at 1pm, Community Center in Hope. Questions and reservations: 265-6733 or 266-1107

Monday, 6/6/11, 9 am: Third KNPS Field Trip at Cloudsledge on Howe Mountain. General native plant information will be available from co-leaders/students in the Master Naturalist program, Ann Wimberley and Connie Burkhardt. Jon Burkhardt and Neil Wimberley will co-lead with information on the Ice Age glacial carvings. Meet at the Sam Owen turnoff parking area on the south side of Hwy 200, at Milepost 48, for a moderately-strenuous hike of about three hours. Questions and reservations: 264-5379;
afwim@yahoo.com



Committee Reports

Arboretum News

On Tuesday, April 26, 13 gardeners and 4 members cleaned up the debris that had fallen over the winter, raked the paths and cut back some of the dead material in preparation for Arbor Day on Friday. Everyone enjoyed a potluck lunch before going home. A big thank you to all the folks who are so dedicated, that they came out in spite of the drizzle and clouds. On Monday, May 2, the gardeners will begin regular hours at the Arboretum unless it is raining and cold! Our Coordinator will come on board on June 6. The trillium and kittentails are in full bloom, but a lot of the other plants are just beginning to come up. The dandelions are coming up, but none are blooming yet! From now until October there will always be something in bloom. It is an ever changing palette, so come often for a stroll to enjoy the wildflowers.

Conservation Committee

Meets: Second Tuesday of the month, 6:30pm 401 Euclid Ave. (Molly's house) Not: July and August.

The annual monitoring of a population of lilies is coming next month with spring weather. The terrain is steep, the outing always satisfying and fun. Forest Service personnel lead the trip, so it is a weekday excursion. Please let me know if you are interested, if you haven't come before.



A slightly bedraggled wetland at the Sandpoint Middle School caught our eye awhile ago.

The Committee learned that it is protected as a mitigation wetland for a highway project. But, it is very weedy, and some grounds keeping materials have been pushed into a part of it. The blackbirds and spring frogs thrive though, and John Hastings' classes have been monitoring water quality and wildlife. There is hope! Idaho Fish and Game and the school district are interested in working with Kinnikinnick Native Plant Society to improve the habitat for plants and animals and use it as a hands-on educational resource for

students. We are still gathering ideas, sifting out what matters to each of our potential partners, and what each can contribute. It's an exciting project!

Molly O'Reilly 255-7336

Past Programs



March Program

Bob Boeh, VP of Government Affairs and Strategic Outreach for Idaho Forest Group gave a presentation about how they manage their private timber lands for the goal of ecologically sound and

sustainable production goal with selective harvest practices. The result is a mixed age stand resistant to disease with beneficial wildlife habitat and higher production capability. The multimedia presentation included information slides and a video showing timber mill mechanization which offered a glimpse into the working world of the modern mill.

April Program

Doug Scott, Policy and Research Director of the Campaign for America's Wilderness at the Pew Environment Group helped us to celebrate Earth Day! Serving with U.S. Sen. Gaylord Nelson on the board of the group



that organized the original Earth Day, Doug offered us a unique look at the emergence of the environmental and conservation movements. He spoke about the excitement of the first Earth Day and momentum of conservation interest which led to the passage of many landmark environmental protection laws in the 1970s including the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act, the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA), and the Endangered Species Act among other landmark legislation. Doug, who has been involved in every major piece of wilderness legislation in the last four decades, gave an extended look at how Wilderness Designation comes about with a focus on the prospects for the Scotchman Peaks. Phil Hough

Continued on Page 3...



Past Programs, continued



Special Presentation

On April 13, Phil Hough and Deb Hunsicker presented a pictorial compilation of their past three summers hiking along the 3,100 mile Continental Divide Trail. The program, co-sponsored by the KNPS, City of Sandpoint Parks and Recreation Department and Friends of Scotchman's Peak Wilderness, gave the Wednesday night crowd a look at the whole length of the mountain range and its diversity of flora and fauna. Many familiar and lesser know native plants were among the 14,000 photographs taken on the adventure. Phil's sparkling narrative and Deb's background information were a perfect complement to the stunning photography. Of the crowd, many have been to all three of the CDT in the past couple of years. That alone speaks to the quality of the evening presentation. KNPS thanks Phil and Deb for the program and their contribution to our mission.

Don Childress

promote native plants. Applications will be judged for originality, effectiveness, planning, budgeting and community involvement. The winning project must be fully underway by the end of 2012 at which time a progress report outlining the accomplishments must be submitted to KNPS.

At this time the grant committee is collecting names and contact information of individuals and groups that may have a special interest in this chance to further native plant awareness. Any suggestion of names that should be included in our direct contact efforts should be given to one of the committee members (Janice DeBaun, Nancy Low, Pat Ramsey or Pat Stevens.)

Grant Recipient 2011: Lauren Gonsalves is the recipient of the Lois Wythe grant for this year. She used the money to help with tuition to a week-long seed saving course. Lauren is offering a series of classes on saving and using native plant seeds. For more information contact Lauren at: living.legacy.seeds@gmail.com

May 21, 2011 Noon - 2 pm at the Grouse Creek Gardens: 310 Grouse Creek Rd.

- Basic Seed Saving - Gaia as a Wild Garden: An introductory overview of the what, why, and how of seeds – wild, domestic, and exotic. Please bring finger-snacks to share after class and whatever you need to feel comfortable in a tipi.
- Mid-summer field trip to harvest seeds from native plants (Date & Time TBA)
- Cleaning and storing seeds and propagating wild plants (Date & Time TBA)

Grant Announcement

Lois Wythe Grant 2012

It is not too soon to start thinking about the Lois Wythe Native Plant Grant for 2012. The grant recognizes Lois Wythe as founder of our organization and developer of the Native Plant Arboretum in Lakeview Park. Grant application forms will be available in September at our website as well as at our meetings. Deadline for applications is November 30, 2011.

The grant of \$200 is open to individuals, classes and organizations who present a project proposal that will

KNPS Display at Bonner County Library





The View from the Moist Montaine

Story and Artwork by Marilyn McIntyre

Subnivian Vole:



Well, it is “springtime in the northern Rockies”, or at least the calendar, the Old Farmer’s Almanac and my friends in Sandpoint and Bonners Ferry tell me it is. The only way you would know it here at 3,200’ would be by digging down 2’ to the *subnivean* layer, that place where the snow meets the ground and the place that wakes up first in the spring while the snow is slowly melting. The *subnivean* world, under even a moderately deep snow pack (18”), has stable temperatures right at 32° F. much of the winter and

remains so until the last snow melts. This provides a perfect place for plants and small mammals to ride out the deep winter in virtual darkness. When spring comes, the freezing and thawing and refreezing of the dense snow pack allow for light transmission that gets everything going. The plants grow and provide food for the voles, the ermines eat the voles and the reproductive cycles begin again. By the time the snow actually melts, cycles are well underway. It is amazing to see the flowers bloom and the leaves green in those spots under the biggest trees where the melting happens first. Today, it is snowing, but I can rest assured that under that big block of ice out there spring really is happening. And even on the surface, the service berries are beginning to burst forth with leaf buds. In some of the melted patches there is twin flower, kinnikinnick, wintergreen and wild ginger already green and ready to flower, which is a story in itself. I am longing for that last snow to melt and to see the trilliums bloom. Then I will know it is spring.

April 22, 2011, Grouse Creek

KNPS at Earth Day



Members of KNPS enjoyed sharing information about our organization as we do every spring at Sandpoint's Earth Day celebration. Our table was particularly magical this year due to the beautiful blooming native plants Bob Wilson brought from Cedar Mountain Perennials. Another feature was the free raffle for a native plant from our May 7 plant sale. 65 folks put their name in for the drawing! We signed up one new member. Thanks to Bob, Ken Haag, Don Childress, and Dennis Rieger for their participation at our table.

Carol Jenkins



Presidential Ramblings

by Don Childress

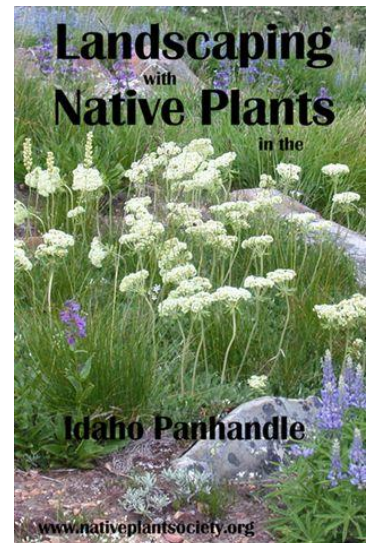
Is it spring yet? Where we live at 2,800 ft. the buds have not yet begun to swell. But, I'm still hopeful. This is an active time of year for the Native Plant Society. Earth Day and Arbor Day celebrations are done. We all need to thank Carol Jenkins and Mary Toland, respectively, and their crews for the hours they have donated to their causes. Our library display was well received again this year. Thanks to Lorrie Stockwell for helping me set it up, and for removing it.

The nominating committee has been formed under the leadership of Konrad Dahlstrom. If you think you might like to get more involved in KNPS, serving on the board is a great way to begin. Give Konrad or me a call and we can talk about it. Lastly, the 2011 dues are now past due. If you have a 2010 on the address label of this news letter, you need to pay your 2011 dues. This will be the last newsletter sent out to those who aren't current on their dues. Enjoy spring!

LANDSCAPING BOOK NEARING COMPLETION



Pictured (clockwise from back) are Bob Wilson, Joyce Pence, Carol Jenkins, Marilyn George, Ken Haag, Dennis Rieger, Marilyn McIntyre, Don Childress, and Sylvia Chatburn, members of the KNPS "Book Club" who have been working more than a year and a half to prepare *Landscaping with Native Plants in the Idaho Panhandle*. The book will be going to press soon. It will be sold to KNPS



members at cost. Carol promises the book will be a joy to use. The photos are stunning, many by well-known member Marilyn George. The information hits just the right note-not too technical, but what a gardener needs to know to get the right plant in the right place and be successful gardening with natives. As Sylvia said, "This book is a masterpiece!"

Business Sponsor

Cedar Mountain Perennials

- Sandpoint Farmer's Market - Wednesdays starting May 11
- Spokane Garden Expo - Saturday May 14
- Open House - Fri./Sat. June 10-11

Please join us!

www.cedarmountainperennials.com

email: botanybob@frontier.com

(208) 683-2387

Postal & Website Addresses for the

Kinnikinnick Native Plant Society

PO Box 1092 Sandpoint, ID 83864

www.nativeplantsociety.org

CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR EVEN MORE on CHAPTER ACTIVITIES, ARCHIVED NEWSLETTERS, SPECIES PROFILES (PLANTS OF THE MONTH) and EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION!



Arbor Day Celebration 2011



The Kinnikinnick Native Plant Society's 13th annual **Arbor Day Celebration** was held at Lakeview Park and North Idaho Native Plant Arboretum on April 29, 2011. Teamwork and the finest examples of cooperation went into providing educational activities for school students and community members. This year's theme was "Look To The Forest." Invitations were sent to area public and private schools, city and county officials, Museum staff, the Mayor of Sandpoint and City of Sandpoint Parks and Recreation Department. Approximately 150 students from area schools participated in the tree tours, Forest Service demonstrations and other educational activities.

KNP volunteers, arboretum gardeners, U S Forest Service staff, and John Hastings SHS Forestry class set up activities prior to 10 a.m. Between 10a.m.- noon, students and community members had the opportunity to join Arboretum tree tours, Forest Service demonstrations related to fire/ecology, tree coring, and stream/watershed ecology. The High School students assisted with tree tours and tree ring exploration/counting. Kathy Hutton, owner of Plants of the Wild, provided a lovely selection of seedlings that were handed out during the celebration. Her generosity provided: western white pine, mockorange, shiny leaf spirea, quaking aspen, and serviceberry.



The official Arbor Day ceremony began at 12:20 p.m.; Rae Charlton, KNPS Vice-President welcomed everyone to Arbor Day. Mayor Gretchen Hellar read the official Arbor Day Proclamation, followed by the Tree City USA banner presentation by Bill Love from Idaho Dept of Lands.



Arbor Day Celebration 2011...



Arbor Day committee members would like to extend our special thanks to Lois Wythe. Her vision of a Native Plant Arboretum and her efforts to make it a reality are the center of every Arbor Day.

In addition, we thank **U S Forest Service staff:** Dave Cobb, Luke Hixon, AJ Helgenberg, and Kevin Davis. **City of Sandpoint:** Stephen Drinkard, Kim Woodruff, and Mayor Hellar. **Idaho Department of Lands:** Bill Love. **Sandpoint High School:** John Hastings and Forestry class students. **Bonner County Museum staff,** and **Kathy Hutton, Plants of the Wild.** And, last but not least, we thank the **WONDERFUL KNPS members**

who volunteered to help with all the parts of Arbor Day planning, preparation, set up/clean up and presentations! Mary Toland





Member Profile:

Say Hello to Carol Jenkins

Article and Photo by Joanna Fuchs



When asked what her favorite vacation would be, former KNPS president Carol Jenkins replied, "We live it, right here in North Idaho." On 11 acres at Elliot Bay on Lake Pend Oreille, Carol and her husband, Irv, have no lawn but have created extensive gardens that include peonies, roses, bleeding heart, delphiniums, coneflower, and cosmos. "I love cosmos!" she says. Numerous native plants include Kinnikinnick, choke cherry, syringa and ninebark. Her 50 x 130-foot vegetable beds, fruit trees and her raspberry, blueberry and marionberry bushes are protected from deer and moose by a stout seven-foot fence. Irv planted about 1000 superstock trees, "mostly white pine, Ponderosa pine, larch and some cedar." "It's difficult to garden here because we have so little soil," she says. "We live on gravel, so we had to bring in garden soil in order to be able to plant." It's obviously working. "I'm going to have to trim my foundation plants, Mugo pines," she said, "because they're growing too fast."

Born in Indianapolis, Carol has lived "coast to coast and everywhere in between." "Three different schools for first grade," she adds. "The longest I lived anywhere was four years in high school in New Jersey." Favorite cities are Seattle, where her father, a major in the army, and mother, and grandparents lived, and Portland, where her daughter and grandson live.

Carol attended the University of Massachusetts, and then moved to Sacramento State to finish her nursing degree. She obtained her graduate degree from the University of California, San Francisco and returned to Sacramento State to become an assistant professor of nursing. She was education coordinator at Samuel Merritt Hospital in Oakland, and was offered the position of Director of Nursing, but "Irv was offered a job in Southern California and I promptly got pregnant with Jessica, and I didn't work again until she was in Junior High." Never tiring of travel, they took Jessica to Europe, Washington D.C., Williamsburg, Gettysburg, and other historical locations. After a stint in Wyoming for Irv's job, the Jenkins moved to Houston, where they lived for 28 years! Carol worked there for 20 years as an elementary school nurse, serving children with special needs, and Irv, a specialist in environmental remediation, worked for Shell Oil. Before retiring in 2003, they spent seven years looking for a place to settle down, camping as they traveled. "Irv wanted forest and land, and I wanted water," she says. They came to Idaho on an Elderhostel trip to Schweitzer, looked at Coeur d'Alene, ("too much development"), found their heart's desire in Sagle, and quickly became part of the local community.

In 2004, Carol saw an ad for KNPS in the Bee, went to a meeting, and the rest is history. Carol is one of our most active members. She is also very active in the Scotchman's Peak organization and she does some work with Community Assistance League. She has been for five years an art teacher with the Kaleidoscope volunteer art education program. "I started a similar program in Texas," she says, "and I was delighted to find one already in operation here." In 2008, when Carol became president of KNPS, Bonner County land use codes were 30 years old. For the new code, Carol pressed for the inclusion of native plants in new construction and restoration projects. As a result, the "Grow Native" education effort was developed, including such projects as the KNPS native plant sale and the forthcoming book about native plants. Under Carol's guidance, KNPS is preparing the book, "Landscaping with Native Plants in the Idaho Panhandle," with information about and photos of native plants—how to plant and maintain and be successful with a native plant garden. It's not a fundraiser—many copies will be given free to universities, libraries, agencies, city and county government departments. The book will be sold to KNPS members at cost.

Carol and Irv don't watch much TV, except garden, nature and home improvement shows. Carol designed their house using CAD software, "all but the roof," she says, "and I once built a patio cover." They also view videos from Netflix—documentaries, foreign films, classics. She reads local authors, such as Marianne Love and Patrick McManus. "We have an extensive McManus collection," she says. Her favorite book is *To Kill a Mockingbird*, and she also reads biographies and natural history and about anything friends loan her.

Asked what she would wish for if she could have anything she wanted, Carol replied: "I'm very happy, blessed and content. I would be happy to pass that wish on to someone else."