

November's Program:

"Flowers Fungus and Fun Along the Pacific Crest Trail"

During November we had the opportunity to join chapter members Deb Hunsicker and Phil Hough as they showed slides and recounted tales from their trip – a thru hike of the 2,658 mile long Pacific Crest Trail. Along the way we experienced vicariously the dry desert with cactus and chaparral, fire scarred landscape rejuvenating with green grass and pioneer plants, wildflower blooms from the foothills and mountains of the Sierras and Cascades as well as a bumper crop of fungus from our persistent fall rains. Our views of the trail shifted from panoramic vistas to the details of the forest yet always stayed focused on the wonders of nature. We were introduced to many of the interesting people they met along the way and shared in the hardships and joys of their experience.

NEW OFFICERS

The Nominating Committee, Linda Drayton, Eileen Atkisson and Mary Jo Haag, met during the fall. They brought the names of the nominees to the Kinnikinnick members in October at the general meeting.

President	Molly O'Reilly
Vice President	Phil Hough
Secretary	Annette Fraser-Runnalls
Treasurer	Marilyn George

At the November meeting, no nominations were made from the floor and the slate was unanimously elected. Congratulations to the new officers.

Annual Holiday Party

The Holiday Party was held on Dec. 11th at Gretchen Hellar's home. Thank you, Gretchen, for "taking" us all in. There were probably around 40-50 people coming in a steady stream, bringing all kinds of delicious fingerfoods, salads, hot dishes and dessert. Truly a culinary moment to enjoy!



We also enjoyed the Xmas spirit indoors with chitchatting with a lot of people. Don't know if everyone had the chance to say "Hello" to everyone; there was a lot of talking and laughing among the members & spouses. Fun to see some youngsters too!

The sun was out and the grass was green instead of white and some people took a tour out in Gretchen's beautiful garden.

We saw the beautiful bench & armchair she had built in Arlis Harvey's classes--spring is soon here and hopefully you'll get a chance to build a bench if you want to.

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Program Schedule

JANUARY PROGRAM

Saturday, January 29, 9:45 a.m.

East Bonner County Library
Division at Cedar Street in Sandpoint

"Special Forest Products"

Chris Schnepf – University of Idaho Area
Extension Educator

FEBRUARY PROGRAM

Saturday, February 26, 9:45a.m.

Community Hall (Log Building)
First Avenue (across from Bonner County
Courthouse)

"Huckleberries"

Dr. Dan Barney

Other Events

Committee Meetings

Conservation Committee: The Conservation Committee will next meet on Tuesday February 8th at 6pm at 401 Euclid Street in Sandpoint. Bring your conservation curiosity or concerns. All chapter members are encouraged to attend. For more information or an agenda please contact Phil Hough at conservation@nativeplantsociety.org

Landscape Committee: Contact Eileen Atkisson for meeting date (263-3835).

Arboretum Committee: Will meet January 20, 2005 at 10:00a.m. in the Library. We will be discussing activities for the coming season. Contact Sylvia Chatburn (263-2175).

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 and
EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION

Holiday Potluck, continued from pg 1...

This picture is taken on Gretchen's deck:



*Kneeling: Gretchen Hellar, Cheryl Stern
2nd row: Ty Whitley, Mike Franklin, Sally Lowry, Janet Rogers, Annette Fraser-Runnals, Phil Hough, Parise Whitley
3rd row: Jim Runnalls, Konrad Dahlstrom, Jim Stern, Wanita Willinger, Linda Drayton, Phil Franklin*

Sincere Thanks

At the annual meeting the chapter took time to recognize the contributions of five outstanding members whose hard work has resulted in the vibrant organization we have today. Special plaques were presented to Lois Wythe, Phil Franklin, Mike Franklin, Arlis Harvey, and Sylvia Chatburn - all of whom have been key in providing the motivation and commitment that characterizes our chapter.



L to R: Arlis Harvey, Lois Wythe (front), Michael Franklin, Phil Franklin, and Sylvia Chatburn.

Those recipients would be the first to say that they could not have accomplished all that they have without the dedication of many other chapter members. In recognition of the widespread enthusiasm and efforts of those other members,

Sincere Thanks, continued....

special certificates were presented to other leaders of the chapter. For their willingness to share their expertise and energy special recognition was given to Fields Cobb and Betsy Hammet.

For their commitment to furthering educational activities not only for chapter members but also for the larger community Phil Hough, Joyce Pence, Eileen Atkinson, Jim Stern and Cheryl Stern were awarded special certificates for their efforts. The Arboretum gardeners, many of whom have worked since its inception, were recognized for their hard work. They included Mary Jo Haag, Dorothy Modafferi, Gretchen Albrecht-Hellar, Bruce Vogelsinger, Bill Lamson, Parise Whitley, Linda Kirchmann, Arlis Harvey, Margie Gibson, Sherry Metz, Rae Charlton, Sherry Redd, and, of course, Sylvia Chatburn.

For their efforts in keeping the chapter running smoothly, the following members were thanked for their diligence and commitment: Mary Jo Haag, Gretchen Ward, Pat Stevens, Isabel Hollriegel, Linda Drayton, Parise Whitley, Marilyn George, Annette Fraser-Runnells, Connie Horton, and our president, Molly O'Reilly.



1st row: Phil Franklin, Gretchen Hellar, Cheryl Stern, Joyce Pence, Sylvia Chatburn, Gretchen Ward, Linda Drayton, Rae Charlton.

2nd row: Phil Hough, Linda Kirchmann, Parise Whitley, Molly O'Reilly, Annette Fraser-Runnalls, Jim Stern, Marilyn George, Fields Cobb, Margie Gibson, Pat Stevens, Isabel Hollriegel, Mike Franklin.

- Message from the President

Molly O'Reilly

Our Kinnikinnick chapter grew dramatically in 2004 from 100 to 130 members, and meeting attendance soared. The board is delighted to have so many new and returning people appreciating the native flora of our area, and involved in the many activities with us that are part of that enjoyment.

The size of our meetings has created a dilemma. There are times we turn away people from "the rude girl's room" at the library, but it is a familiar, central space. It is also a space that subjects us to being "bumped" for library events. This has happened for both January and February, 2005. We moved our January meeting back one week to the 29th, still at the library.

February does not have a fifth Saturday. So, with our February 26 meeting, we will move to the more spacious Sandpoint Community Hall on S. First and enter a partnership with the city's Recreation Department. The Recreation Department will "cosponsor" and publicize our presentations and thus encourage even more people to attend. In exchange, the presentation will be the first item on our agenda, and our membership meeting will follow. With this bold (and slightly scary) step we hope to involve even more people in native plants.

As our members assemble from a wide area, parking is always a consideration. At the Community Hall, ample parking is available across First Ave., for the fleet-footed. At the back door are spots for those who can walk only a short distance. Along Second Ave., on-street parking is available. We hope everybody will come to meetings at our new location and enjoy the extra interior space. Please feel free to let me, or any board member, know the advantages and disadvantages you perceive to this new arrangement. We hope it will be a very constructive one for our burgeoning chapter. See you January 29, at the library!

2005 CHAPTER CONTACTS

OFFICERS

President: Molly O'Reilly (208) 255-7336
Vice-President Phil Hough (208) 255-2780
Secretary Annette Fraser-Runnalls (208) 263-9234
Treasurer Marilyn George (208) 263-9470
Founder Lois Wythe (208) 263-8038

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Arboretum Sylvia M. Chatburn (208) 263-2175
Conservation Phil Hough (208) 255-2780
Education Jim & Cheryl Stern (208) 265-6733
Field Trip Joyce Pence (208) 266-1107
Historian Parise Whitley (208) 683-6048
Hospitality Linda Kirchmann (208) 255-5727
Landscape Eileen Atkisson (208) 263-3835
Membership Rae Charlton (208) 255-7666
Newsletter Coordinator Mary Jo Haag (208) 255-4413
Program Linda Drayton (208) 267-4459

Friends of the Mickinnick Request Help from the Native Plant Society



The Forest Service, with support from the City of Sandpoint and Bonner County, has begun construction of the Mickinnick Trail on Greenhorn Mountain above the Fairgrounds. The trail is being built on land donated by Nicky Pleass. It will be the closest hiking trail to Sandpoint and will open in the summer of 2005. It offers panoramic views (shown at left) of the city, Lake Pend Oreille, the Selle Valley and the Cabinet Mountains from various altitudes. A variety of native plants can be found along the trail. The city has begun building the trailhead, including a berm, on Woodland Drive. Woodland Drive is a left turn off Schweitzer Mountain Road one half mile past the railroad track. The Friends of the Mickinnick will aid in maintaining the trail. They have requested help from the Landscape Committee of the Native Plant Society and the Master Gardeners in planting the trailhead area with native plants. Planting will begin in the spring of 2005.

IMPORTANT MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

*A Friendly Reminder About Dues... Memberships for 2005 are due and payable now. The last Newsletter included a form to complete and mail in, along with your check. If you don't have the form, you can write a note confirming your name, address, phone, email, and type of membership (Individual \$25; Household \$30; Senior or Student \$18). Please make checks payable to Kinnikinnick Chapter, INPS. Mail to: Kinnikinnick Chapter, INPS, PMB 162, 206 N. 4th, Sandpoint 83864. Or, you can find me at the January meeting! Thanks.
Rae Charlton, Membership Chair, phone 255-7666*

HISTORIAN'S REQUEST

Parise Whitely, Kinnikinnick Historian, is looking for any and all information regarding activities of the Kinnikinnick Chapter specifically for the last two years. Please contact Parise directly if you have any information for her.

CALENDARS, MAGNETS, BOOKMARKS

The Chapter's treasury has been the beneficiary of Marilyn George's craft skills. She has produced beautiful calendars, refrigerator magnets and bookmarks

decorated with her photographs of wildflowers of Idaho. Her beautiful creations are available at the Kinnikinnick Chapter meetings. Thank you, Marilyn!



Plants of the Month
January **Great Sundew** *Drosera angelica*
February **Paper or White Birch**
Betula papyrifera

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Arlis Harvey



We would like to take time to salute another original arboretum volunteer – Arlis Harvey. Her hard work and dedication have, literally, put the “arbor” in the arboretum. Arlis built by hand the wonderful arbor structure which graces the area she gardens. Arlis also has built the alder benches found in several places around our arboretum grounds. And by building other

benches for individuals, in return for their donations, Arlis has contributed significantly to the arboretum funding. Recently Arlis has shared her skill with others by offering workshops on bench building.

Teaching comes naturally to Arlis, a former high school math instructor. But her dedication to sculpting young minds extends beyond the classroom. Arlis has managed the Bonner County Youth Accountability program, setting youngsters back onto a path where they can redeem and improve themselves. Compared to bending the direction of a troubled youth, bending Alder for benches would seem easy.

Arlis embodies our own mission of education and outreach, of creating and nurturing a habitat where our native species can grow strong. With her lifetime devotion to teaching, sharing, guiding and sculpting lives as well as her skill in crafting wonderful works of art from wood, Arlis sets a high standard for the rest of us to follow. By bringing skill and passion to her work Arlis inspires us all to become our best.

Conservation Thought of the Month:

“We abuse land because we regard it as a commodity belonging to us. When we see land as a community to which we belong, we may begin to use it with love and respect.”

Aldo Leopold, A Sand County Almanac, 1949