
Program Schedule

March Program

Saturday, Mar 25 9:45a.m.

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

"The Gertie Hanson Memorial Bluebird Trail"

Kris Buchler will present a program documenting the adoption of this bluebird trail created over 25 years ago by Gertie Hanson, a local birder and environmental activist. Located in the scenic Hoo Doo Valley, Audubon members maintain the trail of 50 bird houses as well as document all bird species, nesting activity, and nesting success rates. They also band the pre-fledglings. A video titled, "Bluebirds Inside the Nestbox," gives viewers a close-up look at bluebirds' hidden life from nest building to fledglings taking their first flight.

Kris is a member of the Coeur d'Alene Audubon Society where she has served as Education Chair, Vice President, and President. She currently does all of the chapter's educational presentations. She teaches three Elderhostel classes for North Idaho College and works for Idaho Fish and Game, giving wildlife presentations, curriculum development, and raptor rehabilitation. She loves field work and continues to do Breeding Bird Surveys for USGS and monitors Important Bird Areas for BLM and Fish and Game. Kris serves on the boards of two non-profits that promote wildlife education, research, and conservation.

April ~ Two Events

Saturday, April 22: Half day event, time to be announced

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

"Take Back Our Lakes-Eurasian Milfoil Forum" (Information and Photo on Page Two....)

Friday, April 28: 10:30 am to 1 pm

Location: Arboretum next to Museum in Lakeview Park,

"Celebrate Trees Together: Arbor Day 2006"

We invite all Kinnikinnick Chapter members and the public to join us in a variety of activities to celebrate Arbor Day 2006. We will include the ever popular "tour of trees," tree ring counting, tree boring demonstrations, compost demonstrations, and a distribution of free tree seedlings.

Other Events

Chapter Board: meets the third Friday each month, March 17 and April 21, 9 am in the Rude Girls Room at the Sandpoint library. Open to all members.

Arboretum Committee: meets Wednesday, March 15, 1 pm in the Sandpoint Museum conference room. For April meeting place or more information, call Sylvia Chatburn: 263-2175. Open to all members.

Conservation Committee: meets the second Tuesday each month. The March 14 meeting will be at 6:30 pm at Molly O'Reilly's house, 410 S. Euclid Ave, Sandpoint. For April meeting place or more information/agenda contact Jim DuBuisson at 263-8241 or conservation@nativeplantsociety.org Open to all members.

Education Committee: To join call Mary or Doug Toland, 265-2674, or talk to them at the next general membership meeting. Open to all members.

Landscape Committee: meets Thursday, March 9, 9:30 am at the 5th Ave. Restaurant and Thursday, April 13 at the Waterlife Discovery Center. Open to all members.

June 23-25 Idaho Native Plant Society Annual Gathering and Meeting: Register now for the Farragut State Park weekend. Half and full day botanic field trips, Dr. Fred Rabe speaking on "Rocky Mountain Lake Ecology" and INPS members from around the state will make this an outstanding weekend. Campground fees are paid by INPS; Saturday's catered dinner is 'no host.' Register early for space in the big campground: Janet Benoit, P.O. Box 331, Careywood, ID 83809 or jebenoit@sisna.com.

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!



~Take Back Our Lakes~ Eurasian Milfoil Forum
April 22: Earth Day 2006



Long Bridge Photo by Brad Bluemer, Noxious Weed Control, Bonner County Public Works

Eurasian watermilfoil is an invasive noxious weed which is rapidly spreading through the waterways of North Idaho. Lake Pend Oreille, the Clark Fork and Pend Oreille Rivers, and Cocollala, Gamlin, Shepherd and several other lakes in North Idaho are infected. Milfoil chokes out native aquatic plants, and impacts fish and wildlife habitat and recreational activities. Established colonies are difficult and costly to control. Prevention efforts are crucial.

Our Chapter has supported increased state funding to combat this threat. We are presenting this workshop to update our membership and the community on prevention, control, and recent advances. Experts in the field who will be speaking include Leslie Marshall, Bonner County Public Works, presenting an aerial photo survey of infestations on Lake Pend Oreille. Nina Eckberg, Noxious Weed Superintendent in Kootenai County and Chair of the Inland Empire Cooperative Weed Management Area, will describe what goes into a control and prevention program, drawing on her experiences with milfoil in Hayden Lake. Timothy S. Prather, PhD, Associate Professor, Department of Plant, Soils and Entomological Sciences, College of Agricultural and Life Sciences at the University of Idaho will explain how to identify Eurasian milfoil and distinguish it from native milfoil, and discuss the variety of control options, including current research on innovative controls. Eurasian watermilfoil is one of the areas of his research activity.

Following the presentations, the speakers will remain for a question and answer session from the audience. April 22 is Earth Day, and this should be a rewarding way to celebrate this beautiful part of the planet we are fortunate to live in and protect.

Committee Reports

Arboretum Committee

The Arboretum Committee held its first meeting of the year on February 15. We discussed nominations for this year's officers; the job description for the paid employee; brainstormed fundraiser ideas; discussed ways to conserve on water usage; suggested ways to communicate with the neighbors, and started the process of putting together a program on the history of the arboretum.

We are currently seeking paid Arboretum Coordinator, Mon-Fri, May-Sept. For details contact Sylvia 263-2175.

Sylvia Chatburn, Chair

Conservation Corner

On February 23rd, USFS District Ranger Dick Kramer and his staff gave a presentation to our committee on the planned Rising Cougar project. This project may include timber harvest from over 3,000 acres facing the lake between Trestle Creek and the Clark Fork River. The goals are to reduce the amount of fuel near dwellings and the reestablishment of historic tree diversity and stand density. Our committee is concerned about the impact of this project on possible sensitive plants within the cut boundary, introduction of weeds, and the project's possible impact on adjacent Bee Top roadless areas and the Scotchman's Peak Wilderness. A number of questions were asked and raised. We will continue this dialogue.

The US Forest Service is currently considering the sale of public forest lands throughout the United States; in Idaho this might exceed 26,000 acres. The Idaho Native Plant Society has already issued a statement opposing these sales. Our Conservation Committee is looking at this issue carefully as sale and development of local parcels may further divide already struggling natural plant communities. One close parcel considered lies just off the southwest side of Gold Mountain and provides a connection between separated BLM properties. The timelines for comments on this federal proposal are very short.

On February 9th, a number of our committee members attended a BLM presentation outlining their draft proposals for management practices on BLM lands for the next 15 years. The BLM oversees a number of small parcels scattered throughout North Idaho, two of the most obvious close by are located on the crest of Gold

Mountain and at Gamlin Lake. Some of these properties contain interesting and important wetlands. Comments on this draft will end March 15th.

Our committee focuses on topics of conservation, relating to native plant habitats. The discussions are lively. We also have a discussion group at our yahoo "home":

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/conservation_KCINPS/

Jim DuBuisson, Chair

Education Committee

Plans for Arbor Day are underway. With expert and gracious guidance from Jim and Cheryl Stern, the Tolands will be sending out letters of invitation to area schools, Sandpoint City and Bonner County officials, Historical Society members and all of you.

Volunteers will be needed to help with:

- Docents for "Tour of Trees" (11 needed)
- Tour Guides for school classes
- Greeters to hand out programs and direct guests (at least 2)
- Facilitators for demonstrations (tree ring counting, tree boring, composting)
- Labels for seedlings
- Publicity and photos
- Set up and take down

Please call Mary or Doug Toland, 265-2674, if you can help. There will also be sign-up sheets at the March and April Meetings. Let's get ready to celebrate trees together.

Mary and Doug Toland, Co-Chairs

Hospitality Committee

Many thanks to all our past and future treat suppliers: Rae Charlton for January; Mary Jo Haag & Marilyn George for February; Eileen Atkisson for March; Joyce Pence for April; and Linda Kirchmann for May...and Jackie Earle filled in for me, setting up the coffee and bringing some treats, while I was on vacation.

Come enjoy yummy bake sale goodies and coffee at our Kinnikinnick Chapter Bake Sales! All proceeds support the Kinnikinnick Chapter of the Idaho Native Plant Society.

Two Bake Sales are planned this year.

When: 5/20/2006 (Saturday) and 6/17/2006 (Saturday)

Where: Sandpoint Farmer's Market

Time: 9am to 1pm

If you would like to donate bake sale goodies, volunteer to help at the bake sale, or need additional information... please contact me at 255-5727.

Linda Kirchmann, Chair

Landscape Committee

Committee members met on February 9 to plan for the season. The Mickinnick Trailhead is our first commitment and we've planned weeding and watering workdays for the first Wednesday of each month, 9 to noon, April through October. The committee invites all Kinnikinnick members to participate. Sign up at a general membership meeting or contact Eileen Akisson. Bring snacks. The company is great.

The Waterlife Discovery Center requires similar care and we'll be doing lots of nursery stock planting as well. Check the chapter website and the next newsletter for our plans. We guarantee good times.

Eileen Akisson, Chair

Board Passes Scotchman Peaks Wilderness Area Resolution at the January Meeting

The resolution of support for the **Scotchman Peaks Wilderness**, which was recommended by the Conservation Committee, reads as follows:

"The Kinnikinnick chapter of the Idaho Native Plant Society recognizes the need to protect contiguous and intact ecosystems, retaining their natural state, in order to ensure the continued health and survival of native flora. Therefore we encourage and support local, state and federal representatives to act in favor of the proposed Scotchman Peaks Wilderness. Designating the Scotchman Peaks as wilderness protects the natural beauty, the unique qualities and the biodiversity of this special place, offering safe harbor for many rare and endangered species and their habitats."



Rae Charlton at the meeting membership and information table. (Photo by Margareta Larson)

Winter Presentations

January Program

Bill Love presented a treasure trove of old photos and anecdotes from the early days of timber operations in Sandpoint, focusing on the social and economic impact during its "heyday" from 1900 to 1930. Bill also talked about how this early logging and land use has influenced our current forest and timber conditions.



(Photo by Phil Hough)

February Program



Jerry Pavia presented a series of garden and plant photographs on February 25th. Jerry, who calls Bonners Ferry his home for the past 30 years, had many interesting insights into his 20-year photography

business. "Organization is the key to success," he said. He and his two assistants spend most of their time in the office, filing and arranging his photo archive. Each photograph, using film instead of digital, is stored on slides and triple cross-referenced for easy access. Jerry eschews the new digital cameras and much prefers the old ways of photography.

(Photo by Margareta Larson)

Message from the President

Phil Hough

The February Rare Plant Conference in Boise was a true "eye-opener." I last attended the RPC, sponsored by the Idaho Native Plant Society, in 2004. I must confess, Latin names generally make my eyes glaze over. And discussions of plants whose native desert habitats are hundreds of miles removed from north Idaho don't always seem significant. Probably from the "handles" view the wide outer end of the "pan" seems so far away. But at some point, probably after a third cup of coffee, I realized that in the last 2 years I have grown to appreciate more and more the significance of this conference. Even though I may never encounter most of these rare plants, there is comfort in knowing that others are actively engaged in the welfare of their habitat.

The knowledge and understanding that these botanists and land managers bring to the conference are the foundation of why the Idaho Native Plant Society is important. Updates on rare plants of Idaho, from general conditions to specific information are vital to conservation efforts. And there is much work to be done. Range land in southern Idaho is under threat of being over grazed; elsewhere housing development, business expansion or increased motorized recreation all infringe on rare and sensitive plant habitat. The current and anticipated threats from noxious weeds remain very high. Education is a key component of conservation.

Botanists with detailed knowledge of rare plant populations and the threats they face help us understand which conservation efforts will be the most effective. Education and conservation really go hand in hand. Educating land management agencies, private property owners and the general public about specific rare plants and the threats to them is important; helping people understand the significance of native plant habitat to our ecosystem is vital.

By joining as members, and working as volunteers, we support the Idaho Native Plant Society and our chapter in these important efforts. Our monthly presentations, the arboretum, the projects that our landscape committee adopts, the advocacy of our conservation committee and the outreach of our education committee through arbor day and other events all help to create a better Idaho for now and for the future!

Quote of the Month:

"Eighty-two percent of the woody noxious weeds in North America were introduced as garden ornamentals. Be careful what you plant."

Ann DeBolt, (botanist and gardener), Idaho Rare Plant Conference, Feb. 2006

Kinnikinnick Chapter Members Attend the 2006 Idaho Rare Plant Conference

Sponsored by the INPS, the Rare Plant conference gives botanists statewide an annual opportunity to review news of protected plant species. As populations decline or thrive, their status and protection priorities are adjusted during this gathering. Several North Idaho moonworts (*Botrychium*) were one focus.

A 4 hour session on invasives was outstanding. DNA testing of weeds is helping locate originating populations in Europe and Asia, giving hope that biological controls can be found from these home grounds. When a weed is introduced from multiple home populations, control is much more difficult because of DNA diversity and possible combining here. Land restoration and prevention should concentrate on below-ground competition for nutrients and moisture. To prevent weeds, plant communities with widely varied root structures and diverse growth timings should be seeded or planted. Knowing the rooting and growth habits of the weeds you want to prevent assists in selecting the natives that will best out-compete them.

By Molly O'Reilly

Last Call for Membership RENEWALS!!

To continue receiving the newsletter, you need to send in your renewal by March 30. Hope we're not going to lose you. Questions? Contact Membership Chair Rae Charlton, at 255-7666 or membership@nativeplantsociety.org. Thanks so much for taking care of this promptly!

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.

Plant of the Month

March *Letharia vulpina* (The Wolf Lichen)
To be presented by Adrienne Lilly

Kinnikinnick Chapter 2006 Field Trips

See www.nativeplantsociety.org for latest information or call Joyce Pence with any questions: 266-1107.

Saturday, March 25, 12 Noon, meet at Sandpoint Community Hall after KCINPS meeting to carpool to DENTON SLOUGH for WATERFOWL BIRDING with leaders Earl and Bev Chapin. Bring telescope or binoculars and a lunch. To reserve space call Cheryl Stern: 265-6733.

Saturday, May 6, 9 am, meet behind Sandpoint Community Hall to carpool to HANNAH FLATS, near Priest Lake, to see OLD GROWTH FOREST with leaders Dave and Fields Cobb. Bring your lunch. We will return to Sandpoint by 5 pm.

Saturday, May 20, 9 am, meet at Rude Girl's Room in the Sandpoint library for overview of NATIVE PLANT LANDSCAPING and then carpool to CLOUD'S LEDGE, near Hope. Led by Eva Lusk, Master Gardener.

Saturday, May 27, 12 Noon, meet at Sandpoint Community Center for meeting followed by trip to the SANDPOINT ARBORETUM with arboretum gardeners led by Sylvia Chatburn.

Saturday, June 10, 7:15 am Idaho time, meet at Bonner Mall next to the movie theater to carpool to SPAR CREEK, near Troy, Mt., to see WILDFLOWERS AND WET HABITAT. This will be a moderately strenuous hike led by Mike Arvidson, Troy Ranger District Botanist. We will return to Sandpoint by 5 pm.

Saturday, September 23, 12 Noon, meet at Community Hall after KCINPS meeting to carpool to SHEPHERD LAKE to IDENTIFY WILDFLOWERS and DEVELOP A PLANT LIST with Janet Benoit.

Saturday, August 26, 9 am, meet at Bonner Mall near the movie theater to carpool to SCHWEITZER for HUCKLEBERRY PICKING in WILDFLOWERS with Cheryl Stern.

Calypso Chapter (Coeur d'Alene INPS) 2006 Field Trips

Kinnikinnick members are invited to join the Calypso Chapter on any or all of their '06 outings."

Saturday, March 18, 8:30 am meet at CdA K-Mart to carpool. Dishman Hills Natural Area, Spokane Valley, (joint field trip with Cd'A Audubon Chapter).

Saturday, April 15, 10 am, meet at east entrance on 11th St. Tubbs Hill

Sunday, May 21, 1 pm, meet at trailhead next to parking lot. Q'melin Trails

Saturday, June 3, 9 am, meet at Gamlin Lake. Gamlin Lake

Saturday, July 15, 9 am, meet at Mt. Spokane State Park or at Walgreen's, Cd'A, Idaho at 7:30 am to carpool.

Saturday, August 12, 7:30 am at Bonner Mall to carpool. Roman Nose.

Twig Bench Classes

April 1 & 8... Apr 29 & May 6... May 13 & 20...



Classes are two days in length - one week apart - and cost \$150. There is a non-refundable deposit of \$50 due at sign-up. The remaining \$100 is due when you complete your bench. If for any reason you are unable to attend the class you signed for, you may select someone else to participate. That person would take your place, paying the \$100 remainder upon completion of the bench. We encourage you to bring a companion to help - spouse, close relative, or housemate - at no additional charge. Be sure to pick up instructions when you sign up. All classes will be at Sylvia Chatburn's (1787 E Dufort Rd). Bring lunch. Make checks payable to: INPS Kinnikinnick Chapter. Contact Sylvia at 263-2175 or Arlis Harvey at 263-9470 for more information. One class of trellis/arbors will be offered sometime in June.