



Kinnikinnick Journal

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May-June 2021

Kinnikinnick Native Plant Society, Inc. / PO Box 1092 Sandpoint, Idaho 83864

www.nativeplantsociety.org

Upcoming Programs & Events

Due to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, programs will be presented live on Zoom and recorded for later viewing on the Kinnikinnick Native Plant Society's YouTube Channel. When viewed live, there will be opportunities for Q&A. Members will be notified about how to register for the Zoom programs via email. Both presentations will be preceded from 9:00 to 9:45 by a coffee klatch and friendly conversation on zoom. We will not meet at Sandpoint Community Hall.

Saturday May 22 at 10 am

Steve Holt,

Executive Director, Lake Pend Oreille Waterkeeper

The Lake Pend Oreille Waterkeeper (LPOW), founded in 2009, works to protect the water quality of the Pend Oreille/Clark Fork Watershed for future generations through education, community engagement, and advocacy. Its Water Quality Monitoring Program, supported by citizen scientists, has been monitoring the water quality of the lake and river for 10 years. LPOW also offers its Watershed Discovery Camp for kids, Shoreline Clean Up for Earth Day each year, and a Water Summit to communicate to the public the state of this invaluable water resource.

Steve Holt first moved to Sandpoint in 1993, attracted to the incredible beauty of Lake Pend Oreille and the surrounding region. He founded The Eureka Institute, a non-profit whose mission is to support life-long learning by providing unique educational opportunities. Steve Holt is a founding member of the Lake Pend Oreille Waterkeeper and has worked with the organization since its inception.

Thursday, June 10 and Saturday, June 12

Derek Antonelli

Fern-Focused Plant Walks

Following up on his February program on Ferns of North Idaho, Derek is offering two fern-focused plant walks on Thursday, June 10th, and Saturday, June 12th. These plant walks will occur in the Lost Lake and Mineral Point areas near the western shore of Lake Pend Oreille, north of Garfield Bay. There is much plant diversity in these areas, so there should be much to see. The number of participants is limited, so sign up early by contacting Preston Andrews, KNPS Program Coordinator, at programs@nativeplantsociety.org.

April Program Summary

Summarized by Preston Andrews

The April program was presented by George Gehrig and Preston Andrews about the *City Nature Challenge* BioBlitz. (A BioBlitz is a citizen/community science, crowdsourcing effort to record as many species in a designated area and time period as possible.) George explained how *City Nature Challenge* grew in just a few short years from a two-city to an international BioBlitz that now includes several hundred locations around the world. Run by the Community Science teams at the California Academy of Sciences and Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, and using the iNaturalist smartphone app as the platform for observing nature, *City Nature Challenge's* primary goal is to motivate and engage people around the world to find and document as much wildlife as they can. Preston talked about what citizen/community science is and gave some examples of projects, such as, eBird and the Selkirk Grizzly Bear Monitoring Program that uses environmental DNA (eDNA) from fur samples to track grizzly bear recovery in the northern Selkirk Mountains.

The *City Nature Challenge* event took place from April 30 through May 3. Worldwide, over 1 million observations were made, the most ever, comprising nearly 36,000 species – a real tribute to documenting the biodiversity in the major population centers of the world. With the support of numerous local organizations, including Kinnikinnick Native Plant Society, Bonner County also took part, as *City Nature Challenge 2021: Bonner County (CNCBC)*. Given that this is the first time we've participated in the *City Nature Challenge* event, we think we achieved a good deal of success, with 58 observers making 1,313 observations of 353 species over the 4-day event. As part of *CNCBC*, KNPS sponsored a BioBlitz during *City Nature Challenge* at Idaho Department of Fish & Game's (IDFG) Pend Oreille Wildlife Management Area at Trout Creek.

Most of the observations made over the four days by *CNCBC* participants were of plants (62%), with 12% of the observations being birds, 11% insects, 7% fungi, and

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President's Message

Submitted by Shawna Parry

Spring is finally here; we are able to meet friends outside without masks; and the weather has been glorious – although we could use a little more rain to keep the environment healthy.

Take a look at the KNPS display at the Library in the foyer. The Arboretum is the focus of the display to encourage the community to see native plants in their environment. Native plants are such an important part of using resources wisely.

Third graders from local schools will be introduced to native North Idaho tree species at the Arboretum through the annual Tree Tours at the end of May. KNPS docents will guide these youngsters through identification and unusual features.

The building permit has been obtained for the KNPS cabin that will be built by the S Ella Ave entrance. Soon you will see busy volunteer-bees working to create the new KNPS headquarters. May 13th is scheduled to be the first day of construction.

Needing plant inspiration? Join us on Saturday, June 5th, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm for the Native Plant Sale at the Arboretum. 7:30 am is set-up time for tents, tables, baked good, etc. It's been two years since we last erected the tents – hopefully muscle memory will prevent us from being trapped underneath! Bob & Jill Wilson, the knowledgeable, dependable, super growers of native plants at their farm, Cedar Mountain Perennials, are our leaders for the day. Come for new plants for your garden and enjoy the company of other native plant lovers.

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3% mammals. The most observations (16 each) were of Pacific trillium (*Trillium ovatum*), serviceberry (*Amelanchier alnifolia*), and Oregon grape (*Berberis aquifolium*). Two mountain lion (*Puma concolor*) sightings were also made using wildlife cameras, one west of Sagle and the other north of the Wrenco Loop. To see all of the observations made during CNCBC, go to: <https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/city-nature-challenge-2021-bonner-county-id>

Ultimately, *City Nature Challenge 2021: Bonner County* can be a springboard to other citizen/community science efforts to document the rich biodiversity of north Idaho. Using iNaturalist, we can contribute to the *Idaho Flora* project, hosted by the Ray J. Davis Herbarium at the Idaho Museum of Natural History in Pocatello. This is a project for anyone to contribute to and learn about plant diversity, distribution, and phenology of the flora of Idaho. Through the *Idaho Flora* project, over 25,000 observations have been made of almost 1,600 species by 1,165 people.



Not all citizen/community science involves using a smartphone app, like iNaturalist, to document biodiversity. Other local citizen/community science projects include the Bees to Bears Climate Adaptation Project <<https://idfg.idaho.gov/bees2bears>> and the PNW Bumblebee Atlas <<https://www.pnwbumblebeeatlas.org/>>, both of which are administered by IDFG. Plus, there are numerous other opportunities for participation in citizen/community science projects at CitSci.org, SciStarter.org, CitizenScience.gov, and Zooniverse.org.

2021 Arboretum Celebration and Native Plant Sale

Kinnikinnick Native Plant Society

Saturday, June 5 - 9 am - 1 pm

Lakeview Park

After missing the last year due to the coronavirus pandemic, we are bringing back the KNPS Native Plant Sale. Mark your calendars for Saturday, June 5 for this year's annual sale at the Native Plant Arboretum in Lakeview Park in Sandpoint. This event is co-sponsored by the City of Sandpoint and the Bonner County Historical Museum. We will be kicking things off at 9:00 AM (no early sales). We plan to offer a wide selection of native trees, shrubs and perennials that are perfectly suited to our local climate grown by Cedar Mountain Perennials. New this year we will have native seeds available from Snake River Seeds. In addition to the plants, we will have a variety of hand-crafted items as well as notecards and landscape books. There will also be a delicious assortment of baked goods freshly made by our dedicated volunteers. If you would like to do some baking for the sale, contact Bake Sale Chairman Cindy Hayes (cmhayes63@gmail.com). Baked goods need to be individually wrapped or bagged and noted whether they contain nuts or are gluten-free. These are donation only, so no prices are needed.

Canopies Needed: We are also looking for a few more pop-up canopies. Let me know if you have one you can bring.

Volunteers Needed:

As always, an event like this wouldn't happen if not for the help of many people. If you can assist in any of the following ways, please contact Bob Wilson (botanybob@frontier.com) or at 208-683-2387.

- Set-up from 7:30 - 9:00: Set up tents, canopies, tables, move plants to sale area
- Talliers, 2 per shift - 2 shifts: 9:00-11:00 & 11:00-1:00 - Total up purchases
- Cashiers, 2 per shift - 2 shifts: 9:00-11:00 & 11:00-1:00 - Take payment for purchases
- Take-down - 1:00-2:00: Take down canopies & tents, put everything away, clean up area

While you are there, be sure to stop in the Bonner County History Museum to see their latest exhibits. It is the first Saturday of the month which means it is a Free Day - no admission charged.



Report from the Arb

What a wonderful beginning to Spring we had when 20+ people showed up to help at our first work party. It really felt like a party with so many friendships and smiles and jokes. And from what I've gleaned reading the log books kept by Lois and Sylvia, the arboretum often felt like that. Most days of the season you could find several friends merrily working together to make the arboretum a beautiful and interesting space for all. As of late, most days of the season have felt quite void of the chatter of friendship and collaboration, with just a scattered few gardeners working solo over the season. It's due to many factors, including that old march of time and an unprecedented pandemic doesn't help. The good cheer at the Spring Cleanup party was a welcome event for all. And it inspired 5 new volunteers to join the arboretum gardeners this year! Friends made pacts to volunteer together and even non-members made commitments to the arb. It is very rewarding to create beautiful, intentional spaces for the public, together.

Speaking of inspired volunteers, our all-volunteer crew will begin construction mid-May on the new KNPS Arboretum Headquarters building! We have also received incredible support on this project from John Elsa - electrician, Steve Johnson-contractor and Three Amigos Plumbing. Jeff Dunwoody is building a "Little Library" that will be attached to our new building when it's finished, so hold on to your surplus books! (especially plant books) You can donate them to kick off the KNPS little library's first stock.

This Summer, the arboretum will host several more work parties! They are very rewarding, so mark your calendars; every first Tuesday of the month (June, July, August, Sept) 10am-noon. We can use all types of helping hands and abilities. Please bring gardening tools if you have some, and a sack lunch for a picnic following.

The Arb is also offering "Drop-in Wednesdays" 9am-noon, for anyone needing volunteer hours; such as Master Gardeners, Master Naturalists, etc.

You might see posters up around town soon seeking new volunteers. We are working hard to pull in more community members to KNPS and the arboretum. May 19 will be the volunteer welcome party.

Thank you to all the smiling hearts who helped with Spring clean-up. The arb looked great afterwards! Special thanks also to Mary Toland and Cindy Hayes who have been so consistent in volunteering at the arb throughout this wacky year.

Happy Spring everyone! Thanks for all you do.

Cara Johnson



March Program Summary

Kaniksu Land Trust: Education and Conservation

Rae Charlton brings us this program summary from March!!! Katie Cox, Executive Director, and Regan Plumb, Conservation Director, gave an engaging presentation on what KLT is and how it is developing its mission of “Caring for the lands and people of the Kaniksu region today, tomorrow and forever.” Founded in 2002, it is a 501C-3 non-profit serving Bonner and Boundary counties in Idaho and Sanders county in western Montana. As an organization, it is qualified to hold permanent conservation easements. It works with willing private landowners to create voluntary legal agreements, but does not have regulatory power. KLT works with community partners, as they did at Pine St. Woods. They are motivated by a deep commitment to the land.

Conservation easements are legal agreements wherein the property owners have many rights, such as to log, sell, build homes, and recreate on the property. Such easements permanently protect certain values and uses, and may provide tax savings. There are public benefits such as open space, scenic views, clean water and wildlife habitat. The Trust currently has 30 projects on 4,000 acres in 3 counties in 2 states!

Not all projects are easements. KLT may become the land owner, as they did with the Cabinet View Nature area near Clark Fork, which is an essential part of the outdoor learning program for Clark Fork schools. The Pine Street Woods Community Forest (now 180 acres), acquired in 2019, is another example. There is always a compelling public benefit involved in such acquisitions. The community focus at Pine St. Woods, conservation and education, includes supporting children getting outside and involved with nature, to foster the ethic of stewardship. KLT works with LPO School District in scheduling classes at Camp Kaniksu, afternoons from 1-4 pm. Activities there include learning about native plants through projects (e.g., making mandalas, salves, Sun Tea), plant scavenger hunts and relay races. Also popular with children is the restoration effort in the meadow: intensive rotational grazing by goats, sheep, llamas and yaks, to discourage invasives such as rampant hawkweed.

At a “sister” community forest near Old Town (ID), Indian Creek, KLT works with the Kalispel tribe. The Kalispel developed and made interpretive signs for plants, which include the common, Latin, and Salish names, as well as uses. The tribe helps with land management at Pine St. Woods, e.g., with fire mitigation. And they are one of many community partnerships which sustain the Trust (KNPS is also a partner).

A new initiative is a Folk School for adults, led by teacher Dave Kretzschmar. Traditional crafts, taught by talented local folks, began this month (making pack baskets and spoon carving). They will offer two classes each month. Check the website to learn about more ways to connect with and support KLT, such as receiving their e-news, helping with Spring Cleaning Day during Earth Week, or perhaps leading a plant ID walk at Pine St. Woods?

Miscellaneous Photos from the last two months.....

First graders tour the Arb



BioBlitz





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 Julie Kallemeyn, Publicity
 Cindy Hayes, Event Chair
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 Preston Andrews, Programs
 Dennis Rieger, Website Administrator, List serve

2021-2022 MEMBERSHIP

1-year dues for 1 ½-year membership

It's a grand deal!

With the change to a fiscal year (July 1 – June 30), the first six months of 2021 are somewhat of an orphan period for dues.

The Board decided that those who pay dues before July 1st will automatically be credited through June 30, 2022.

To help the budget through the first six months, consider bumping your membership to a higher dollar category.

A year's payment for a year-and-a-half membership.

Not a bad deal!

Join KNPS for 2021

Membership Rates

July 1st through June 30th

___ Individual	\$25.00
___ Household**	\$30.00
___ Student/Senior (65+)	\$20.00
___ Sustaining**	\$50.00
___ Patron**	\$100.00
___ Sponsor	\$50.00

***These memberships are entitled to two votes
 KNPS is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.*

Membership Information

(make check payable to Kinnikinnick Native Plant Society or KNPS)

Name _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____

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Electronic Copy ___ Paper copy ___



Mail to:

Kinnikinnick Native Plant Society
 PO Box 1092
 Sandpoint, Idaho 83864

OR

Payment by credit card is available on our website,
nativeplantsociety.org.