

January's Program



"Special Forest Products"

Chris Schnepf of the University of Idaho, Extension Education, told the Kinnikinnick Chapter about forest products that are harvested from public lands. Because Idaho and the Inland Northwest have a vast amount of land owned by the Forest Service, it is available to those that wish to use these products, be it for commercial or personal use.

Often in the case of wood gathering, a permit is required.

Chris reported on the harvest of wild mushrooms done by commercial pickers and private individuals. Morels, chanterelles, boletes, and matsutake mushrooms brought in \$20,267,080 to pickers in 1992. Other products such as floral greens, moss, western red cedar, western white pine, subalpine fir and pinecones were amassed for a total of \$42,520,319, given as the value in 1989.

Chris presented slides of these products along with figures that proved very interesting to the audience. Participants had a long question and answer period with him at the end of the talk.

February's Program

"Huckleberries"

Dr. Dan Barney from the University of Idaho spoke to us at our new meeting location, Sandpoint's Community Hall. Dr. Barney, who grew up in Idaho, reported on developing cultivated Huckleberries and Bilberries and Whortleberries of the Northwest. All fall under *Vaccinium*, appealing for both taste and health. His slide presentation was very interesting. Dr. Barney is an excellent speaker with humorous insights and great knowledge.



Program Schedule

MARCH PROGRAM

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

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

"An Overview of the Kootenai National Refuge"

Dianna Ellis – Manager of the Kootenai National Refuge

APRIL PROGRAM

Saturday, April 23, 9:45a.m.

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

"Understanding Conservation Easements as Tools for Protecting Natural Resources"

Suzanne Sawyer, Executive Director of the Clark Fork - Pend Oreille Conservancy

Other Events

Conservation Committee: Meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month at Molly O'Reilly's, 6pm at 401 Euclid Street in Sandpoint. For more information or an agenda please contact Phil Hough at conservation@nativeplantsociety.org

Landscape Committee: meets the 2nd Thursday of the month at Wigleys, 315 Church Street, Sandpoint. Contact Eileen Atkisson at eatkiss@bossig.com

Arboretum Committee: Meets Friday April 1, 10:00am at the Arboretum, and Friday May 6th, 10:00am at the Arboretum. Contact Sylvia Chatburn: Sylvia@televar.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 and EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION!

Committee Reports

Arboretum Committee

Sylvia Chatburn reports that new officers have been elected for the coming year. Sylvia is the Arboretum Manager; Myrna Garside, Assistant Manager; and Rae Charlton is the Scribe.

Three subcommittees were appointed to address the design details for the Commemorative Display, the design of a new brochure for the Arboretum and the duties of an arboretum coordinator. The Committee will meet on **March 4**, and then on **April 1**. Both meetings are in the Arboretum at 10am.

Conservation Committee

The **Conservation Committee** meets monthly on the second Tuesday, 6pm, at 401 Euclid Street, Sandpoint. On **April 12** we will feature a presentation from Mark Sprengel, Executive Director of the Selkirk Conservation Alliance, on habitat preservation efforts in the Priest Lake/Selkirk Crest area. We encourage all chapter members to attend as active participants. Contact Phil Hough at conservation@nativeplantsociety.org

Yahoo Discussion Group for Conservation

We have set up a "**Yahoo Discussion Group**" to facilitate communication and information exchange on issues related to the conservation of native plants and their habitats. To sign up, go to:
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/conservation_KCINPS/

At the **February Conservation Committee Meeting** Diane Williams (Executive Director of the Tri States Water Quality Council) made an excellent presentation about the riparian buffer zones along the Pack River. We are exploring common educational goals regarding the use of native plants in the riparian zone to improve and maintain water quality.

Busy Landscapers

The **Landscape Committee** continues work on Waterlife Discovery Center, Healing Garden and Hazel Hall property. We'll soon begin planting the Mickinnick Trailhead. If you want to help us on any of these projects, contact Eileen Atkisson, 263-3835, eatkiss@bossig.com. You need not join the committee in order to join its members at work and play. After the March meeting we will drive to the Mickinnick trailhead to scope out our project site.~

BAKE SALE

Joyce Pence, Bake Sale Facilitator, has announced two bake sales at the Sandpoint Farmer's Market, scheduled for **Saturday, May 21, 8:30am** and **Saturday, June 21, 8:30am**. Please mark your calendar and bring baked goods. Also we will need workers to staff the sale. Proceeds from the bake sales will go toward Arboretum projects.

FIELD TRIPS 2005

* Sat. afternoon, 3/26

Birding with Earl Chapin
at Kootenai Wildlife Refuge

*Sat., 4/30

Mushrooming with Lori Carris
at Round Lake

* Sat. afternoon, 5/28

Weeds with Rich Old at Waterlife
Discovery Center

* Sat. afternoon, 6/25

Shade gardening talk & Mosses video
rerun at Lois Wythe's

* Sat, 7/23 EARLY start

Wet forest habitat up Spar Creek to
Little Spar Lake - Randy Beacham

* Sat, 8/13

Roman Nose annual outing with
Calypso and Spokane chapters

*Sat. afternoon, 9/24

Applied Forest Ecology/Succession
with Chris Schnepf

* Mon. 10/10 at 10 a.m.

Surprise field trip with Phil Hough

*To reserve field trip space, contact
Joyce Pence, Co-chair: joycepence@hotmail.com
(208) 266-1107 or,
Margareta Larson, Co-chair: natmeta@hotmail.com
(208) 263-2253

- Message from the President

Molly O'Reilly

February 15-16, I had the pleasure of attending the 21st Idaho Rare Plant Conference in Boise. INPS (Idaho Native Plant Society) and Idaho Fish and Game's Conservation Data Center jointly present the conference. It is mainly a gathering of agency botanists statewide reviewing the status of rare plants – are the populations thriving or sinking, are there new discoveries, do particular populations need more or less protection? It's also an educational opportunity – sagebrush was the topic this year. I had expected to be bored but was anything but. It's a misunderstood ecology under siege by ranchers and the agencies that serve them. I had not appreciated the abundance of wildlife and other plants sheltered and nourished by the Artemesia.

The botanic profession benefits from the young women who have taken to field work. One of my favorites looks up at her slide and comments, "Isn't this a cute plant? Aren't those flowers adorable?" It's catching, and the warmth lasts even as she launches into botanic Latin and rangeland management talk. There's also the drama of botanists fighting for fences to protect small, tasty populations, federal agencies suppressing research they disagree with, and now at my third conference, friends statewide to catch up with. I recommend it highly.

At this meeting, a special honor was bestowed by the Board of INPS at the recommendation of President Steve Rust. Kinnikinnick founder, Lois Wythe, was named a "Life Member" of INPS for her outstanding, long-term service. Three other life members were also approved, bringing the statewide total to eight. We are grateful that Lois's exceptional contribution in founding our chapter has been so widely honored!

As your chapter president, I serve on the INPS statewide board. It meets quarterly, including at the Annual Meeting in midsummer and at the Rare Plant Conference. Getting Sage Notes published regularly again was a big topic for the board – and a committee is forming to accomplish that with President Steve Rust overseeing. We continue to be the chapter with the best member involvement, but Pahove Chapter in Boise contributes the most help at the state level. Be sure to check out the INPS website at IdahoNativePlants.org for some stunning photos (under gallery). To check out the plants discussed at the Rare Plant Conference, visit <http://fishandgame.idaho.gov/tech/CDC/> and click on "plants" in the green strip in the middle.

Twig Bench Classes: April 9 & 16... May 7 & 14... June 4 & 11...



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, housemate, etc. – at no additional charge. Be sure to pick up instructions when you sign up. All classes will be at Sylvia Chatburn's (East Dufort Road). Bring lunch. Make checks payable to: INPS Kinnikinnick Chapter. Contact Sylvia or Arlis Harvey for more information.

*****THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS!*****

The Board of Directors takes this opportunity to express the Chapter's sincere appreciation to the people, organizations and businesses who have donated funds or merchandise to the Kinnikinnick Chapter and its North Idaho Native Plant Arboretum for 2004.

**John & Valerie Albi Pend Oreille Pasta Anonymous Eileen Atkisson Fields & Octavia Cobb
Geraldine Davis Jackie Earle Ken Fischman & Lanie Johnson Phil & Mike Franklin Marilyn
George Margie Gibson Arlis Harvey Lichen Workshop Dorothy Modafferi Phyllis Mott Molly
O'Reilly & Steve Lockwood Joyce Pence City of Sandpoint Kathy Stone Lois Wythe**

Note: Should a donor's name be missing, please accept our apology and advise us at 255-4413, so the record can be corrected.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Just a reminder: dues for 2005 are now in the grace period. If you wish to continue receiving the Newsletter, please send your dues payment to: Kinnikinnick Chapter INPS, PMB 162, 206 N. 4th Ave., Sandpoint, ID 83864. Categories of membership are: Individual, \$25; Senior/Student, \$18; and Household, \$30. If your name on the address label is highlighted in yellow, you need to take action. Questions? Rae Charlton, Membership, 255-7666. Thanks!

DOCENT TRAINING TO BE SCHEDULED FOR EARLY APRIL AND EARLY MAY

We need escort/docents for the upcoming year, especially for Arbor Day. Two training sessions to be held at the Arboretum are being planned to familiarize prospective docents with the trees and plants in the Arboretum. The first training session will be held in early April and will emphasize basic tree identification. The second training session will focus on the plants and their habitats.

The role of the docent on Arbor Day is to keep students moving from one area to another and to help with tree identification. Docents will also be on call to give 2 or 3 tours to various groups at the Arboretum from May through October. Training and informational packets will be made available to the docents. Please contact Jim and Cheryl Stern at 265-6733 or Sylvia Chatburn at 263-2175 if you are interested in being a docent.

In Memoriam

Mary Shackelford, a long-time member of our Kinnikinnick Chapter, passed away on February 8, 2005. We will remember Mary for her many contributions to our chapter with her floral artwork, her knowledge and guidance on field trips, her enthusiasm for nature, and her loving kindness for all around her. ~



ARBOR DAY -- APRIL 29, 2005

Arbor Day will be celebrated at the North Idaho Native Plant Arboretum located at the southwest corner of Lakeview Park on South Ella Avenue next to the Bonner County Historical Museum between 11:00 and 1:00 on Friday, April 29, 2005. Elementary school children and the general public are invited to attend the events of the day. The Native Plant Society will be hosting Arbor Day for the 7th year.



Pictured at left: Jim and Cheryl Stern, Education Chairpersons.

"Trees are Terrific... and Energy Wise!" is this year's National Arbor Day theme. Activities planned for the day include: guided tours of the arboretum with an emphasis on tree identification; tree coring demonstrations by Fields Cobb and composting demonstrations by Pat Van Volkinburg. The members of the Kinnikinnick Chapter of the Idaho Native Plant Society will also be planting a Yew tree within the Arboretum during the day. We are adding a tree identification game for the children and we hope to involve the school children in a contest making posters and writing poetry related to this year's theme. At noon an Arbor Day proclamation will be presented by the Mayor of Sandpoint and a Tree City USA proclamation will be presented by Bill Love representing the Idaho Department of Lands. At the conclusion of the speeches, the winners of this year's poster and poetry contest will be acknowledged. Throughout the day over a thousand seedlings will be given away to those seeking native trees and shrubs to plant on their own property. The species we expect to offer this year include: **Chokecherry, Serviceberry, Red-osier Dogwood, Aspen, Ponderosa Pine, Paper Birch, Western Larch, and Douglas Fir.** Members of the Kinnikinnick Chapter of the INPS are encouraged to participate in the Arbor Day celebration by attending the events and volunteering to be escort/docents and to help with the activities. Habitat managers, teachers and high school forestry students will also be on hand to help out. Members interested in helping may contact Jim and Cheryl Stern at 265-6733 or Rae Charlton at 255-7666.

Plants of the Month

March **Goldthread** *Coptis trifolia*

April **Arrow-leaved Balsamroot**
Balsamorhiza sagittata