



# Kinnikinnick Journal

Volume XXVI Number 1

January-February 2022

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

[www.nativeplantsociety.org](http://www.nativeplantsociety.org)

## Upcoming Programs & Events

*The January meeting will be presented both in person and on Zoom, where it will be recorded for later viewing on the Kinnikinnick Native Plant Society's YouTube Channel. In-person attendance will be in the large meeting room at the East Bonner County Library's main branch, located at 1407 Cedar Street in Sandpoint.*

*For those wishing to view the program on Zoom, please register in advance at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tZ0lceitrj8pHdDL4NJmeKd-ehqJqeltbv1f>.*

*This program is co-sponsored by the East Bonner County Library District and Sandpoint Parks & Recreation.*

*COVID-19 protocols for in-person attendance: Please attend only if you are fully vaccinated and feeling well. Please wear a mask, except when eating or drinking.*

**Saturday January 15 at 10 am**

**(Preceded by coffee and treats at 9:15 am and a short meeting and announcements at 9:45 am)**

***Preston Andrews***

**Emeritus Professor of Horticulture, Washington State Univ.**

### **A Simple Invention that Transformed Botany and Changed the World**

This simple invention for conveying plants, based on the astute observations and promotion by an amateur English plantsman, helped build empires, fed their colonies, introduced beloved garden plants, spread invasive species, and then the means to control them.

Preston Andrews is Program Coordinator and Vice-President of the Board of KNPS. He is an Emeritus Professor of Horticulture from Washington State University, and an avid gardener and student of plants.



## State of the Scotchman Peaks Wilderness

Summarized by Rae Charlton

Phil Hough, Executive Director of the Friends of Scotchman Peaks Wilderness, reviewed the organization's 16 ½ year history (!). He spoke via Zoom, and included many excellent photos, which I especially recommend checking out on YouTube (check with Preston Andrews if you need the link).



The Friends of Scotchman Peaks Wilderness now has over 10,000 members. Over one third of the original organizers came from the KNPS Conservation committee, and he singled out Molly O'Reilly for special thanks. The goals of the Friends include saving the wild Scotchmans, building a community that values them and assumes stewardship, and training and motivating leaders. Key concepts in their efforts to build support are Outreach, Education, Advocacy, and Stewardship. People who love wilderness are apt to be willing to work for it, creating a legacy for their children and grandchildren. The concept of wilderness was beautifully expressed by President Lyndon Johnson, who noted that it provides a chance "to experience the world as it was in the beginning". The Wilderness Act was a first step in preserving such opportunities.

The organization realizes that it is important to provide children the opportunity to experience wild places. To that end the Friends include children in trail building (including traditional skills), wildlife education (such as winter tracks), citizen science studies, and going on hikes. They have hired a back country ranger outreach coordinator (summer intern) to demonstrate skills such as using a crosscut saw. They also certify volunteers in wilderness and remote first aid (thanks to Carol Jenkins). Other projects include white pine habitat restoration, and cameras mounted at 41 stations to catch photos of rare

*Continued on page 3*

# President's Message

Shawna Parry



Almost two years ago, KNPS' monthly meetings had to move to Zoom in order to reach you all. On **Saturday, January 15** our first face-to-face [or rather mask-to-mask] **General Meeting with speaker will be held at the Library**. For those unable to attend, **Zoom access** will still be available. Name tags will be provided to help refresh our memories of who-the-heck is behind the mask! Preston Andrews, KNPS Vice-President, will be our speaker - chosen especially to see how these arrangements work - he will also have an interesting presentation, I'm sure! See more info in Upcoming Events.

**9:15 Coffee & treats**

**9:45 Short meeting to give information & answer questions about KNPS**

**10:00 Presentation**

Our fingers are crossed that this will be a good spot for our meetings and that vaccinating & masking will keep us safe from illness.



While the KNPS snow-laced arbor stands beautiful in the Arboretum, Arbor Day racks up 150 years of good tidings this year. Cindy Hayes is creating a display at the library for viewing March 9 - April 20. Nature - we love you!

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(Continued from page 1) November Program Summary

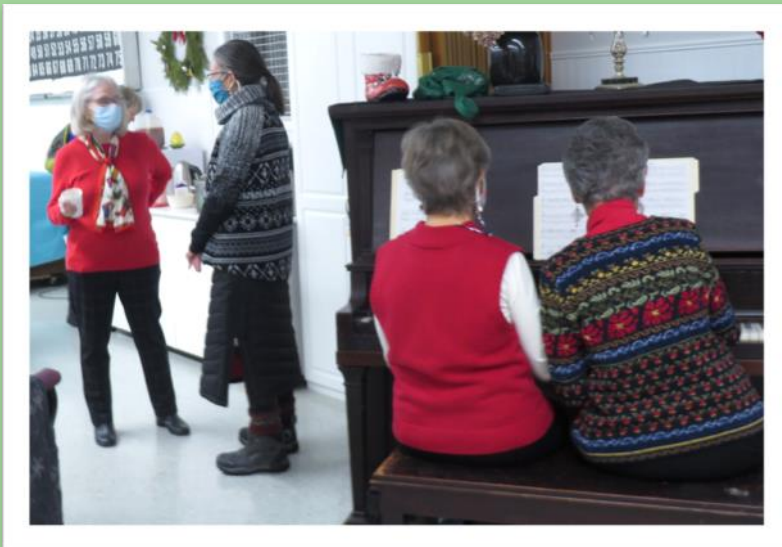
forest carnivores (martens, lynx, fishers, and wolverines). The photos benefitted IDFG wildlife and land management efforts. Many high school students in Sandpoint and Clark Fork have enjoyed “hands on” learning opportunities.

The necessity of educating people about mountain goats led to the Trail Ambassador program, which posts trained volunteers at strategic spots to talk with hikers (over 1,000 hikers over a summer). The Friends participated in the Lightning Creek Treasured Landscapes project, with 25 volunteers, over four years, surveying 25 square miles of habitat (looking for Whitebark Pines resistant to blister rust). They also participated in noxious weed monitoring.

Phil stressed that collaboration is vital in getting Senator Risch to re-introduce the bill designating Scotchman Peaks as wilderness. The Panhandle Forest Collaborative and Kootenai Forest Stakeholders Coalition are part of the effort to create a new bill, attesting to even broader support from individuals and organizations. A new feature is a podcast “Your Wild Place”, which can be accessed via the website ([Scotchmanpeaks.org/podcast](http://Scotchmanpeaks.org/podcast)) or wherever you access podcasts.

## Holiday Party 2021

**Despite the snowy weather 30 brave souls turned out for the KNPS Christmas Party held at the Sandpoint Senior Center.**



## Arboretum News

*Submitted by Rae Charlton*

The Arb is blanketed in snow, plants are dormant, and the Arb Leadership Team is looking forward to the season ahead. With our new KNPS World Headquarters building tucked snugly into the landscape, we're planning a number of activities, such as a much-needed plant inventory. The newly formed Education committee (thanks to Bonnie Jakubos, the driving force behind it) is discussing educational outreach programs, many of them to take place in the Arb in collaboration with the museum. It will be exciting to see our old cabin transformed by museum staff into a display of its original role, as a homesteader's cabin. The opening of that exhibit will provide us with an educational opportunity to showcase the plants around the cabin, many of them used for medicinal purposes by early settlers. This area, planted and cared for by our founder Lois Wythe, is unique in focusing on what she called "pioneer plants", nurtured for their hardiness and usefulness.

Despite being locked into a real winter, we can dream of the spring and summer to come. The Arb is a living demonstration of our mission to educate the public about native plants, work for their preservation, and exhibit their uses in landscaping. As always, we welcome volunteers!



### **The Beginning of the Kinnikinnick Chapter as Described by its Founder, Lois Wythe**

"In 1997, a very strong interest in the native plants of north Idaho region was beginning to be noticeable in the Master Gardener classes, in my own gardening classes, and in inquiries to local nurseries from people who wanted to learn more about our native plants and how they might be incorporated into home landscape habitats as well as enjoyed in the wild. More than 60 people responded with interest in the formation of the Sandpoint Chapter of the Idaho Native Plant Society.

The creation of an Arboretum of North Idaho native plants began when the City Council 'enthusiastically approved' our request for space in Lakeview Park in December of 1998."

In January of 2010 the Chapter officially became Kinnikinnick Native Plant Society, Inc.

Source: KNPS Website [www.nativeplantsociety.org](http://www.nativeplantsociety.org)



## Plant Notes from the Arboretum

By Robin Campbell and Cindy Hayes

Winter is a time of repose in the plant world and showy displays are few and far between. Red osier dogwood (*Cornus sericea*) is a notable exception. Growing in moist ground, this multi-stemmed shrub's ruby red stems stand out brightly against a snowy white or dun-colored winter background.

Native throughout North America, except the southern states from Texas to the Atlantic coast, Red osier dogwood is favored by landscapers and gardeners because it is hardy and versatile. It grows naturally in thickets up to 15 feet tall and lends itself well to hedges, while its fibrous root system helps stabilize soil on banks and slopes.

Spring brings bright green, oval leaves and flat-topped clusters of four to five-petaled frothy white flowers. Later in the summer off-white berries with a light blue cast appear. The foliage turns golden to red in the fall. Red osier dogwood is interesting in every season, and it provides cover and food for local birds.

Native Americans used Red osier dogwood to augment their tobacco stores. Scraped threads of the inner bark of young stems were toasted over a fire then mixed with real tobacco. Older stems were also gathered to make baskets and roasting skewers. The name "dogwood" has no relation to our furry canine friends. It is a corruption of the Scandinavian word "dag" which means skewer. But that doesn't stop one from riddling, "How do you tell if it is a dogwood?" And the answer is: "By its bark, of course."

One of the easiest places to see Red osier dogwood in the Sandpoint area is along the Sand Creek trail from City Beach north. As you leave downtown, the burgundy-colored stems of Red osier dogwood on both sides of the trail are hard to miss. You'll also find it in the Interior Rain Forest habitat at the North Idaho Native Plant Arboretum. Open to the public, parking for the Arboretum is at 611 S. Ella Ave. or on the street.

Red osier dogwood is found on page 83 of the KNPS publication, *Landscaping with Native Plants in the Idaho Panhandle*, available at local bookstores and the Bonner County History Museum. Native Plant Notes are created by the Kinnikinnick Native Plant Society. To learn more about KNPS and the North Idaho Native Plant Arboretum, visit [www.nativeplantsociety.org](http://www.nativeplantsociety.org).



File:2020-06-16 19 59 33 Red Osier Dogwood flowers along a walking path in the Franklin Farm section of Oak Hill, Fairfax County, Virginia.jpg. From Wikimedia Commons, the free media repository



File:Cornus sericea (5257605411).jpg. From Wikimedia Commons, the free media repository.

## **Board of Directors 2022**

Shawna Parry, President  
Preston Andrews, Vice President  
Carol Jenkins, Secretary  
Shawna Parry, Treasurer  
Cindy Hayes, Event Chair  
Robin Campbell, Publicity  
Sherry Ennis, Board Member  
Mark Stockwell, Board Member  
Rae Charlton, Arboretum & Membership

### **Additional Committee Chairs and Positions**

Sue Gervais, Rae Charlton, Cara Johnson,  
Ann Torpie, Mary Jo Haag, Ken Thacker, Arboretum  
Bonnie Jakubos, Education  
Dennis Rieger, Landscape  
Vacant, Conservation  
Judy Lyding, Lois Wythe Grant  
Vacant, Historian  
Becky Eames, Hospitality  
Jill Wilson, Marilyn George, Newsletter Committee  
Jill Wilson, Newsletter Editor  
Robin Campbell, Publicity  
Preston Andrews, Programs  
Dennis Rieger, Website Administrator, Listserve

## **Upcoming Events:**

January 15: KNPS Program (see page 1)



## **Join KNPS**

### **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 \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_



*Mail to:*

Kinnikinnick Native Plant Society  
PO Box 1092  
Sandpoint, Idaho 83864

**OR**

Payment by credit card is available on our website, [nativeplantsociety.org](http://nativeplantsociety.org).