



# Kinnikinnick Journal

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

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

## Upcoming Programs & Events

*The September program will be available to both in-person and Zoom audiences. In-person attendance will be in the large meeting room B at the East Bonner County Library's main branch, located at 1407 Cedar Street in Sandpoint. The program will begin at 10:00 a.m. for both in-person and Zoom. For in-person attendees, coffee, tea and treats will be available beginning at 9:30 a.m. Programs are co-sponsored by the East Bonner County Library District and Sandpoint Parks & Recreation, and are open to the public. For those wishing to view the program on Zoom, please register in advance at <https://bit.ly/3q5bDLA>.*

### Saturday September 17

*Brad Smith & Jennifer Ekstrom, Idaho Conservation League  
North Idaho Lakes Conservation Program*

The Idaho Conservation League's North Idaho Lakes Conservation Program focuses on protecting the waters of Idaho's Panhandle from degradation, pollution, and poor land-use management. North Idaho staff work with partner organizations and Tribes to ensure that places like Lake Pend Oreille, Lake Coeur d'Alene, Priest Lake, the Kootenai River and more are protected for now and future generations. Learn more about this critical advocacy program to preserve the precious water resources of North Idaho.



drinks were also welcome on a cool, cloudy day.

And a very big thank you goes to Robin Campbell who headed up the cashiering table ably assisted by Marilyn George and Vicky Johnson who also oversaw the book sales. This is a crucial job, one which was not made any easier by how I laid out the tally sheets. Nonetheless, they kept good track of the purchases and helped everything run smoothly that day.

Lastly, a round of thanks to all those who brought canopies (much needed that day) and got there early to set up and pitched in to take everything down afterwards.

## KNPS Plant Sale

*By Bob Wilson*

Our annual Native Plant Sale was held this past June. Attendance was good and steady throughout the day despite a grey sky and occasional rain. We moved our sales area from its previous location along the side of the Bonner County Historical Museum, to the lawn area in front of the train



car since the museum had activities planned at the cabin that day. This location gave us more room to spread out and gave the shoppers better access since we were situated along a concrete sidewalk. Plant sales went exceptionally well and I think we sold more than 80% of what we brought thanks in no small part to the expert advice provided by Molly O'Reilly, Gail Bolin and Jill Wilson. Preston Andrews, and Irv & Carol Jenkins pitched in to take care of the essential job of tallying the plant purchases. I also want to thank Mark Stockwell for creating a very attractive set of bee houses for our native mason bees. The railroad stake ants made a reappearance this year thanks to the craftsmanship of Dennis Rieger. Marilyn George brought our collection of notecards for sale to round out the craft offerings.

Cindy Hayes headed up the bake sale and was again able to round up enough people to fill up a large table with baked goods. I think the people who were helping with the sale that day were as thankful for the availability some delicious confections as were our shoppers. Hot

## President's Message

**Shawna Parry**

### SHARING TIME, TALENTS & ENERGY

Sharing one's time, talents & energy with friends, family & community gives dimension to our lives, refreshes our souls, and springs us forward to do more.

For me, holing up with a good book on a shaded deck in the hot summer or under an awning in refreshing rain or cozying up to a warm fireplace in the cool of autumn is a good way to refresh my inner self. I also realize that sharing my time & energy with others is a way to refresh my soul and recharge my interests. This was demonstrated to me as I was mixing it up with old and new friends at the KNPS picnic on a perfect-temperature afternoon. What a delight to watch & listen to 56 people chatting, eating & sharing time together.



Sharing is a large part of what KNPS does as an organization.

Sharing time together at meetings, picnics, activities, projects, etc.

Sharing talents/knowledge with programs, field trips, articles, pamphlets, Tree Tours, plant sale, Landscape books, helping with technology, guitar playing, etc.

Sharing energy by maintaining the Arboretum, creating informative materials for the community, participating on the board & committees, cleaning up the Museum's border beds, etc.

And let's not forget the sharing of delicious food at picnics, meetings, plant sale, etc.

Sharing is a part of what gives dimension to each one of us as individuals as we take on new and old projects. I am ready to spring forward in our lovely landscape of native plants.

Come share with us as we begin the 2022-23 year at KNPS  
on  
Saturday, September 17th  
East Bonner County Library

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## More Plant Sale Photos



## **2022 Summer Hikes**

***By John Harbuck***

Field trips are a good way to refresh your recall of native plants with people who are knowledgeable and friendly. John Harbuck led two trips this summer: one to Wyman Wildlife Refuge just north of MacArthur Lake and one through last summer's Trestle Creek fire area.

The former had thirteen participants who wandered slowly along one of the many trails in the refuge, spending much time pondering the many smaller plants in the understory and trying to figure them out—mostly successfully. Then we enjoyed lunch in the ample shade.

The “fire hike” was on Trail 120, the “Alpine Trail,” along the divide between Lake Pend Oreille and Lightning Creek. The eight participants braved some steep drop-offs to observe the results of last summer's primary local fire. Some areas were only burned in patches and some areas were totally blackened. In most areas, however, the beargrass was sprouting; and the flat ridgetop just north of Trestle Peak was mostly unburned, though the slopes on either side were charred. We helped each other to identify the many plants we came across, and we were introduced to the sweet flavor of the Fool's Huckleberry flowers. Shawna says it's her new favorite native plant, though many foresters might disagree if they've spent hours fighting through thickets of the plant. (And disagreements may abound, foresters referring to it as “Mefe,” from its scientific name *Menziesia ferruginea*, while its scientific name may have been changed to *Rhodendron menziesii*). Does nothing stay the same?



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## **Summer Barbecue**

***Submitted by Gail Bolin and Jill Wilson***

KNPS held its annual summer BBQ and picnic at the Waterlife Discovery Center on August 28th. Attendees enjoyed burgers, thanks to Phil Hough for cooking, and full potluck of delectable side dishes provided by members. Bob Wilson brought his guitar and serenaded the group during Happy Hour! Here are a few photos of our celebration!



## Plant Notes From the Arboretum

*By Robin Campbell and Cindy Hayes*

Its graceful plumes of golden yellow flowers in pyramid-shaped clusters nod in the breeze from mid-July to October. Canada Goldenrod (*Solidago canadensis*), a native, long-lived perennial forming large, dense patches. This rugged survivor tolerates a variety of well-drained soils and loves the sun. Lance-shaped leaves with sharply toothed edges alternate along a stem that can reach up to 6 feet tall.

First described in Canada, Canada Goldenrod is named in honor of the many medicinal uses indigenous tribes found for the plant. Its genus name “*Solidago*,” originates from the Latin word “solidare” which means “to make whole.”

Handy in the medicine cabinet, Goldenrod has plenty of other uses, too. It is a source of natural mustard yellow, orange and brown dyes. Honey bees collect large amounts of goldenrod nectar prior to winter creating a delicious, dark-colored honey prized by beekeepers. Goldenrod pollen provides sustenance for other types of bees in their winter nests.

Goldenrods have been wrongfully accused of causing hay fever. The real culprit is ragweed pollen. Both plants bloom at the same time and grow in similar habitats.

Canada Goldenrod can be a bit unruly in a landscaped setting due to its spreading rhizomatous growth. However, planting it in a submerged pot keeps it contained. Placed near a vegetable garden, Goldenrod can draw harmful bugs away from valuable food plants and attract beneficial insects.

Mature specimens grow in the Dry Meadow Habitat of the North Idaho Native Plant Arboretum. Open to the public, parking for the Arboretum is at 611 S. Ella Ave. or on the street.

Canada Goldenrod is found on page 155 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).



Photo credit [www.bio.brandeis.edu](http://www.bio.brandeis.edu)

## Arboretum “little” Library

*By Ann Torpie*

The Arboretum now has a beautiful handmade Little Free Library perched on an old stump adjacent to our new cabin HQ. It was designed, hand built and donated by Jeff Dunwoody. **We will be continually seeking donations of gardening-related or natural world-focused books or publications to keep our new Little Library stocked**—now and on an ongoing basis throughout the year. Children’s books on the same subjects are most welcome.

Kindly bring your donation(s) to any of our upcoming public monthly presentations, restarting this month (September). Someone will transport them to the shed periodically throughout the off season. The Friends of the Library are also helping us with donations; so far during the one month the Little Library has been up, almost 4 dozen books have been “borrowed”! Thank you!



## Arboretum News

**By Ann Torpie**

Heavy rains and a prolonged cool spring seemed to give a nice boost to the naturalistic environment that is our Native Plant Arboretum. While Cara Johnson, our arboretum coordinator, and her generous-spirited father continued work on the in-ground sprinkler system to help with the important task of keeping the Arboretum green over the hot, dry summer months, there are still areas that need to be hand watered by hauling the hose around. And while we did have some rain events, it was really more of a typical dry summer. Thank you Cara and Craig!

Donna Johnson, Cara's mother, is one of our rock star Arboretum volunteers, working many dozens of hours over the summer doing what for most of us is the hardest task in the garden: weeding. We owe Donna deep and abiding appreciation for her steadfast attendance and extremely generous efforts!

Cookie Tree Tuesdays throughout the month of July, an effort put together by the newly-formed education committee, was a huge success and you can find some photos of it on another page in this newsletter. Cindy Hayes, Bonnie Jakubos and other volunteers brought children and families into the Arb to play and learn. This endeavor successfully put the KNPS Mission into action. Thank you to everyone involved!

This summer we presented a KNPS table twice at our Farmers Market—in July with Sue Gervais and myself; and in August with Cindy Hayes and Rae Charlton. The latter team was able to take a spot reserved for a vendor who was absent on that day—right behind the clamshell stage. And thanks to having extra tree cookies to hand out to children, and mason bee houses that attracted the eyes, Cindy & Rae touched base with over 60 people—that's the number they reached and then stopped counting as their table was very well attended!

The ALT will plan this coming winter to have 2 more sessions tabled at the 2023 Farmers Market, and we will be seeking volunteers who would like to help 'man' the table. Non profits are allowed to have a table once per month at the market for no charge. Please do step forward for it's a fun and vital connection we can make with the greater community and there are always 2 people manning the table so you won't be alone!

Stay tuned for details in coming newsletters this winter.



## Landscape Committee News

The KNPS Landscape Committee has had a busy and fun summer. We did two consultations, one at Marilyn George's new house in mid-July and the other one at Mary Wikosz's home at the end of August. We have one more scheduled for Vicky Johnson later this month.

The KNPS Landscape Committee provides landscape consultations for members during the summer months. For more information or to request a consultation email: [landscape@nativeplantsociety.org](mailto:landscape@nativeplantsociety.org)

Gail Bolin & Jason Smith - co-chairs



Membership  
for 2022-23

### **Don't Forget!**

It's time to Renew your membership!

Don't miss out on a single event!

Your membership dollars help support our broad array of activities and keep you informed on them!

See Page 8 for more information



## Steven's Peak Botanical Survey

By Bob Wilson



Rocky Ledge Penstemon  
*Penstemon ellipticus*

This past month, on August 16, an intrepid group of citizen scientists set out to scale Steven's Peak (elev. 6838'; Shoshone Co., Idaho), in the Bitterroot Mountains, to survey the flora above timberline. This was part of a 25 Mountain Peaks of Idaho survey being conducted by the Idaho Native Plant Society. This project plans to survey 25 of Idaho's tallest peaks in 3 years (2022-2024). The result will be a complete checklist of each peak's vascular flora. Native plant-related goals of the project are to (1) obtain a more comprehensive baseline on Idaho's high elevation plant biodiversity; (2) obtain a better understanding of the distribution of Idaho's high elevation plant species; and (3) look for rare plant species.

Our group was bravely lead by Derek Antonelli, known to many here as the Master Naturalist Program Coordinator, and ably assisted by John Harbuck and myself. Darryl Stiegemeier also joined us on the hike and brought a GPS unit that was helpful in guiding our way, and who was also responsible for letting us know when we were lost.

As we set out from the parking area it quickly became apparent that the path marked on our maps was not obvious on the ground. We took a couple of false starts up logging spurs, then started bush-whacking uphill on the theory that if we kept going uphill, we would eventually get to the top. About half way up we came to a road with fresh tire tracks. "I suppose we could have driven here", I thought. We continued on up the road which lead to near the top of Steven's Peak.

A clear day afforded some great views, but we quickly got to work taking samples of all of the species we could find in the survey area. Samples would be pressed as herbarium specimens and some kept for DNA analysis. In all, 46 species were catalogued including Tweedy's ivesia (*Ivesia tweedyi*), an S2 imperiled species known in Idaho only from 14 sites. I am also happy to report that everyone survived and made it back safely unharmed.



Three daring explorers ponder their fate with Steven's Peak in the background

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Once you've made KNPS your AmazonSmile choice, automatic donations will be directed to the KNPS checking account at no extra cost to you.

This really does work!

Questions? Contact Shawna, 208-290-8433 or [shawna.parry@gmail.com](mailto:shawna.parry@gmail.com).

## Tree Cookie Tuesdays

*By Cindy Hayes*

The newly formed KNPS Education Committee was busy this summer. During July a new outreach children's program, called Tree Cookie Tuesdays, was initiated. The activities were geared for Elementary age children to introduce them to native trees, butterflies, solitary bees and hummingbirds.

Each Tuesday morning there was a new clue and new mystery to solve at the Arboretum. Three informational posters, designed around that week's theme, were posted somewhere along the paved path. The students/adults read each poster until they found the answer to the mystery clue. When they solved the mystery, they returned to the Arboretum shed to receive a wooden cookie. They decorated their tree cookie using the ink stamps provided while enjoy eating one of the baked cookies.

At the end of the short mystery activity the adults commented they learned as much as the kids. We had many who returned the next week. There was a grand tally of 70 youth /adults who participated in the July Tree Cookie Tuesday activity.



## Arboretum Tree Tours 2022

*By Judy Lyding*

Once again KNPS sponsored 3rd Grade Arboretum Tree Tours on May 24, 25, and 26, 2022. 154 students attended from 5 schools (Southside, Northside, Farmin Stidwell, Washington and Hope). It was a lively group of students, with lots of interest and questions. They learned all about what may be learned from "tree cookies," which are cross sections of the bole of a tree, cut by saw.

The tours would not have gone so well were it not for the efforts of all of these volunteers:

Docents - John Dvorsek, Mary Toland, Irv and Carol Jenkins, Judy Lyding, Jane Fritz, Rae Charlton, Jan Geren, Molly O'Reilly, Randi Schuh, Ken Thacker and Cindy Hayes.

Cindy Hayes created an age appropriate dialogue to talk about the trees with the students.

Bob Blair created stands for the educational posters to elevate them and keep them out of the dirt and rain.

Carl Hanson took care of set up and take down every day.

Finally, Judy Lyding created the "prompting" posters for the 10 native trees, based on the booklet "Trees of North Idaho" by the Forest Service.



## Board of Directors 2022

Shawna Parry, President  
 Preston Andrews, Vice President  
 Carol Jenkins, Secretary  
 Shawna Parry, Treasurer  
 Sherry Ennis, Event Chair  
 Robin Campbell, Publicity  
 John Harbuck, Field Trips  
 George Gehrig, 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  
 Gail Bolin, Jason Smith, Landscape  
 Vacant, Conservation  
 Judy Lyding, Lois Wythe Grant  
 Vacant, Historian  
 Isabel Hollriegel, Vicky Johnson, Hospitality  
 Jill Wilson, Newsletter Editor  
 Preston Andrews, Programs  
 Vacant, Website Administrator

## **Upcoming Events:**

- September 17: September Meeting and Program, Sandpoint Library
- October 26: Putting the “Arb” to bed for the winter and help spruce up the plants next to the Museum building.
- October 15th: October Meeting and Program, Sandpoint Library.



## **Join or Renew 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 KNPS or  
 Kinnikinnick Native Plant Society)

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).