



Kinnikinnick Journal

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

www.nativeplantsociety.org

Upcoming Programs

Programs are available in-person at the East Bonner County Library's main branch in Sandpoint. The program begins at 10:00 AM, with coffee, tea and treats available at 9:30. Programs are co-sponsored by the East Bonner County Library District and Sandpoint Parks & Recreation, and are free and open to the public. The September program will not be offered on Zoom; watch for notices on how to register on Zoom for the October program.

Saturday, September 16

Preston Andrews, KNPS Vice President
Emeritus Professor of Horticulture WSU

The Inland Temperate Rainforest of North America is our Home

Come learn about our unique rainforest habitat, its flora and ecology, how it came to be, and what may become of it in the future. Remarkably, our region is home to the largest inland temperate rainforest in the world, with flora more typical of the coastal rainforests of the Pacific Northwest. Most notably are the iconic tree species, western red cedar and western hemlock. The geographic ranges of these species, as well other disjunct populations of plants and lichens, are spatially separated from their main coastal distributions.

Saturday, October 21

Tony Lewis, Coeur du Deluge Chapter,
Ice Age Floods Institute

Ice Age Mega-Floods: A Regional Phenomenon That Heavily Impacted our Local Landscape

pinecones and plant galls.

Kara talked about how we can encourage and cultivate native bees in our landscapes by creating plant communities that rebuild ecological abundance, and are stable, harmonious and less dependent upon us. Our plantings should be layered and mixed, from ground covers up to the structural framework composed of shrubs and trees, and mixed with flowering plants to create ecologically functional niches for native bees. It is also important to recognize that native bees use stems, leaves, logs, brush and rock piles, and bare soil for their homes, hence these mottos from the Xerces Society, *Save the Stems* <<https://www.xerces.org/publications/brochures/save-the-stems>> and *Leave the Leaves* <<https://xerces.org/blog/leave-the-leaves>>. Their advice includes: 1) leaving stalks of native perennials intact over the

Program Summaries: April and May 2023

The Little Things that Run the World

By Preston Andrews

It's been quite awhile since our spring programs, but April and May were the most recent ones devoted to the topic of native bees and how to encourage their presence in our landscapes. Kara Carleton, who leads the Idaho Master Gardener Program in Kootenai County for the University of Idaho, gave both months' presentations. In April, she spoke about how to create plant communities and habitat for northern native bees, while in May, she spoke about beekeeping with native bees to enhance pollination in our gardens.

Northern Idaho is home to around 600 species of native bees! Surprisingly, 75% of them are ground nesters in the soil, and the rest typically nest in twigs or other wood cavities. Most of our native bees are solitary; just 10% are social and live in family groups, like honeybees do. Among our most familiar native bees are bumblebees (*Bombus*) that nest in pre-formed cavities, like rodent burrows or rock walls. Our ground-nesting bees include mining, digger, chimney, furrow/sweat, squash, and tiny fairy bees. Interestingly, the nests of these bees are dug by the females, and depending upon species, the nests may be less than one inch to over a yard deep. Ground-nesting bees can be easily exposed to harmful pesticides, even organic ones, including vinegar applied to control weeds. Stem-nesting bees common to our area include the more familiar leafcutter and Mason bees, as well as resin, small carpenter, and yellow-faced bees. Depending upon species, these types of bees may nest in hollow or pithy stems, wood cavities,



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President's Message

KNPS' FISCAL YEAR HAS BEGUN

By Shawna Parry

September 23rd is the first day of Fall. Finally, some cooler weather! Fall is always delightful with its intermittent warm then cool weather pattern. The KNPS picnic was on a perfect day with good people, good food, and good music (Bob Wilson & John Hastings, thank you!). It was such a delight to be there!

July 1st was the first day of the KNPS fiscal year. This brings new members to the Board, new forward moving ideas, new programs, and new membership dues.

New members on the Board include Bonnie Jakubos and Phil Hough. Returning members are Preston Andrews, Robin Campbell, Sherry Ennis, Rae Charlton, George Gehrig, John Hastings and Shawna Parry. Thank you to the Board for your time and effort for the benefit of native plants! If you have comments, suggestions or questions, please contact any of us about any KNPS subject.

The Arboretum Brainstorming session at the June meeting was a good start for moving-forward plans. Thank you to Patty Ericsson for guiding us through the process. To have more input from more members, a survey is being developed that will be emailed to you. Please take a few minutes to give us your thoughts no matter how far out, costly, or whiz bang creative. If we don't plan ahead, the city of Sandpoint will plan for us, and who knows what they would create!

The new website is looking good thanks to Patty Ericsson, Robin Campbell and Dana from Modern Masters. Tweaks are ongoing as are more areas of information. Keep checking back to see what's up. If you find something awkward to use, incorrect, or missing, please let us know.

See you at the first program meeting on September 16 at the Library, 9:30 AM for coffee/tea and treats and 10:00 AM for the program.

Lois Wythe Grant: The Re-wilding Project

By Patty Ericsson

The Kaniksu Land Trust (KLT), supported by the KNPS Lois Wythe Grant, is embarking on a Re-wilding project at Kootenai School. In late July, a team from the Lois Wythe Grant committee visited the 10-acre site adjacent to the Kootenai School with KLT's Regan Plumb. The team toured a portion of the site and was happy to see two outdoor classrooms already in place. The classroom for older students is ringed by black hawthorn and the classroom for younger students has an aspen canopy. Both of the classrooms provide welcome shade on a hot July day.

Regan explained the re-wilding plans as the team strolled around the site. Although there is much work needed to fully implement the project as a whole, the Lois Wythe Grant will be used to help pay for native plant identification signs. In a unique community effort, KLT plans to partner with the Kalispell Tribe's metal-works shop and a local graphic designer to create these signs.

Kootenai School was the recipient of a 2013 Lois Wythe Grant to landscape their flagpole bed. Grant team members noted that the results of this project are flourishing. Celebrating this successful project are team members Nancy Low and Janice Debaun.

A few days after the team visit, two KNPS volunteers walked the site and tagged 13 existing native plants. Particularly impressive is the number of western white pine on site as well as numerous snowberry and service berry shrubs. The Grant team will keep KNPS members updated on the progress of this impressive re-wilding project, which will be open to the public as well used by Kootenai School staff and students.



Arboretum Report

Summer in the Arboretum: Hazy and crazy but not lazy!

By Sue Gervais

It has been a busy summer at the Arboretum! Our beloved Arboretum coordinator for the last three years, Cara Johnson, decided it was time to move on. The Arboretum Leadership Team (ALT) met early last spring to begin the search for her replacement. We were fortunate to find Riley Chapin, an energetic young man who, apparently, never met a project he didn't like! We are all so glad to have been able to work alongside him and wish him the best of luck as he continues his education at the University of Idaho this fall.

We held the spring clean-up on May 28th, in advance of the third grade tree tours and the native plant sale. The yearly tree tours took place at the end of May. Bonnie Jakobus and Pam Duquette took the helm for organizing tours, recruiting 37 volunteers and hosting 208 third grade students from five elementary schools. Thank you, Bonnie and Pam, for the many hours it took to put on this event.

The native plant sale, held in early June, was a huge success, with most of the plants sold by mid-morning. Thank you Bob and Jill Wilson, and all of the other vendors supporting KNPS.

An addition to the Arboretum is a beautiful, welded steel Moon Gate, which was designed, built and generously donated by Kass Larson. It can be found on the path east of the new cabin. Moon gates are architectural elements often found in Chinese gardens which frame a view, create a passageway, and offer good fortune to those who walk through them. Unfortunately, many Arboretum visitors miss the spiritual meaning and, instead, look at it as a climbing gym! We hope the new sign will discourage climbing! Clematis and honeysuckle will be planted at the base of the Moon Gate. Thanks to both Kass and Ken Thacker for helping with the installation.

Another program designed to educate our youth and increase awareness of KNPS and the Arboretum was Tree Cookie Tuesdays. Please see Cindy Hayes' summary of the program in this edition of the Journal.

Arboretum Leadership Team member, Ann Torpie, proposed holding three educational gardening demonstrations for members and the general public to be held on Saturdays. Ken Thacker demonstrated composting; Sue Gervais presented how to make hypertufa; and Ann Torpie explained how to grow moss. If anyone has a crafty gardening related project they would like to share, the Arb team would love to hear from you so more demonstrations can be offered next summer.

Mark your calendars for the Arboretum fall clean-up on Sunday, October 1, 10:00 AM to noon, weather permitting. Bring a brown bag lunch to enjoy with fellow gardeners. We hope you'll be visiting the Arboretum soon!

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winter, 2) pruning branches of shrubs a few inches above a node to simulate deer damage, and 3) leaving a thin layer or piles of unshredded leaves. These practices promote overwintering habitat for our native bees.

For more information on how to encourage and cultivate northern Idaho's native bees and pollinators, go to the University of Idaho's The pollination Project and U of I Demonstration Garden.

Webpage: <https://www.uidaho.edu/extension/county/kootenai/garden/demo>

Photos Courtesy Kara Carleton



Arboretum Planning **Follow-up Survey to June Program**

By Patty Ericsson

The June KNPS meeting was focused on brainstorming about the future of the Arboretum. The session was introduced with this overview from our President Shawna Parry.

Twenty five years ago, the development of the Arboretum was started by some very energetic and creative people. Over the years more and more KNPS members have contributed to and worked on our present-day Arboretum.

During most of those 25 years, Kim Woodruff was the Parks & Recreation Director for the City of Sandpoint. When he retired, Maeve Nevins-Lavtar was hired as the Parks Planning & Development Manager: a slightly different job description. One of her first projects (one that she inherited) is Travers Park, which is an ongoing project for her right now.

Maeve has met with our board several times, and she has told us that Lakeview Park (where the Arboretum is located) is her next project. She hopes to begin creating a plan later this year and into next year, and she has asked us to present to her our ideas for the Arboretum.

The brainstorming session began by breaking into small groups. Each group was provided with an initial question and was asked to record the ideas that developed from that question. After compiling and removing overlaps, the takeaways of the KNPS June Arboretum brainstorming session resulted in eight major categories.

Arboretum Guides: plant labels, maps, QR codes

Additional seating

Outdoor classroom for ongoing education activities

Arboretum entry points

Re-evaluation of habitats

Arboretum purpose—passive habitat

Improved paths

Enlarged Arboretum area and new habitats

Since the June meeting did not have a large attendance, additional input from more KNPS members is needed. Based on the eight categories from the June meeting, a member survey is being developed and will be sent out via email. Please stay tuned for this survey. Your input is vital to the future of the North Idaho Native Plant Arboretum.

Landscape Committee Report

In a hot and smoky summer our landscape committee managed two beautiful site visits. The first, in early May, was to Mary Donovan's property. She bought a KNPS landscape consultation as a Friends of Scotchman Peak silent auction item. Our second, in mid-August, was to member Mary Jo Haag's home. Both were north facing properties, with one a lake front and the other an in-town home. A third was canceled.

Committee members Gail, Jason, Vicky, Dave and Nancy visited Mary's lake front property in Hope with a gentle slope down to the lake. Mary was looking for planting ideas to create privacy along the western property line, to reduce visual access to neighbor's buildings, and to enhance sight lines. Mary was sent a report that included site conditions, existing plants, a list of recommended species, and a sketch showing the placement of new species.

Mary Jo's focus was the small front yard of her recently built, in-town property. She had concerns about the placement and health of the plants her landscapers had put in and wanted ideas to direct future landscaping. Dennis and Nancy, Jason, Bob, and Dave and Nancy B. also toured Mary Jo's side yards and rear yard. The range of environments varied from full sun to a seasonal creek and included issues with trees that the developers had left behind as well as soil conditions. A consultation report containing the site conditions, existing plants, list of suggested species, and a sketch of the property is being prepared and will be sent to Mary Jo.

Our visits this summer were enjoyable and friendly with a large dose of knowledgeable exchanges and creativity.

KNPS members can request a home landscape consultation. Several committee members will tour your property with you and make suggestions for appropriate plants. All they request in payment is lunch, which allows more time for you to ask questions and discuss your landscape plans. To arrange a consultation, email landscape@nativeplantsociety.org

Written by Nancy Britton

Edited by Gail Bolin, Landscape committee co-chair.

Education Committee News

By Bonnie Jacobus

Education is the core of the KNPS mission and message. While the Education Committee has certainly been busy, our vision is to increase KNPS involvement with local schools AND provide education opportunities for ALL ages. At present, there are only five committee members, and we could use more help to accomplish our goals.

You don't have the knowledge, energy, or interest for working with children? No matter – you all have skills and knowledge. For example, we need at least one other person to focus on adult education. If you are good at planning and organizing but want to stay in the background, speak up. Contact Bonnie at idahocritters56@gmail.com if you have any interest in joining our team.

What HAVE we been doing? Here are a few examples:

- Southside School 4th grade: two days of outreach
- 3rd Grade Tree Tours: three days, five classrooms, 208 students, 28 volunteers
- Tree Cookie Tuesdays: three mornings, 102 children
- Self-guided Arboretum Scavenger Hunts: two - one for early elementary and one for upper elementary
- Forrest Bird Charter School high school gardening class learned about invasive plants as they dug out non-native grasses in the Arboretum.
- East Bonner County Library: Pollinator Program for 4–6-year-olds

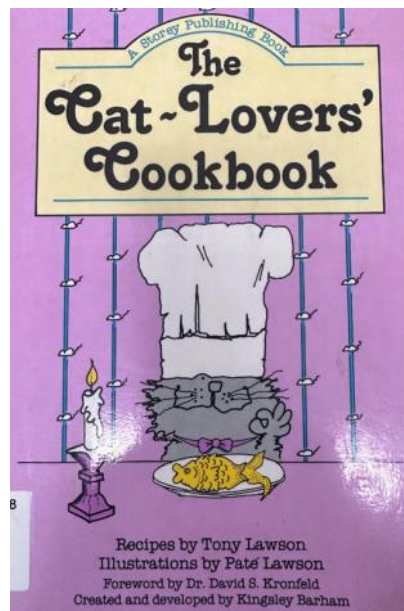
Lois Wythe Book Collection at the East Bonner County Library

By Patty Ericsson

As a fairly recent KNPS member and an even more recent historian, I've been trying to learn about the early days of KNPS and the people who founded it. Lois Wythe's role in the founding is pivotal, so I've been researching her legacy. One long-time KNPS member suggested that I check the East Bonner County Library for some of Wythe's writing. Sadly, I did not find any original work by her, but checking the card catalog led me to a fascinating discovery: the Lois Wythe Book Collection!

Numbering 67 books, the Collection's topics range from container gardens, to herbal remedies, to a cookbook for cats. Of the total Collection, most of the books (58 in all) are non-fiction. Looking at the card catalog wasn't enough, so on a recent (and rare) rainy morning, I headed to the library to peruse the collection. I mistakenly assumed that the entire collection would be in one section, but the Dewey Decimal System revealed that the books are shelved by general topic and author. As I found book after book, I felt like I was on a delightful journey getting to know Lois Wythe just a bit.

Each book in the collection includes an inside-the-cover acknowledgment of it being part of the Lois Wythe Collection. Because I knew a little about Lois, I expected books on gardening and herbs. What surprised and delighted me were titles like *Making Herbal Dream Pillows* and *Love Potions: A Book of Charms and Omens!* Other fascinating titles are *Play With Your Pumpkins* and my favorite, *The Cat-Lovers' Cookbook*. A recent unsuspecting guest in our home picked up *The Cat-Lovers' Cookbook* not realizing the recipes were for felines. She was aghast at the number of recipes including liver and wondered aloud who would ever cook such meals! Thoughtfully, the author includes a few "Tandem Recipes" so the human cook and resident feline can dine on similar fare. Although the cat recipes in this section do include liver, the human variations do not.



The Collection, all donated in 2011, is a wonderful tribute to Lois Wythe. I'm confident that many KNPS members would enjoy the books in the collection whether they are looking to start a container garden, exploring how to make scarecrows, or cooking with fresh herbs. There is something for every plant-lover in this charming collection.

Tree Cookie Tuesdays

Creeping, Crawling Creatures at the Arboretum.

KNPS launched Tree Cookie Tuesdays as a public outreach to encourage all ages to explore the Arboretum and have fun doing it. From 9:00-12:00 AM for three Tuesday mornings in July, there was a mystery to solve. The short activities were geared for elementary age children to introduce them to the world of beetles, spiders and ants.

Three informational posters, designed around a weekly theme, were posted somewhere along the paved path of the Arb. Participants followed the posters to answer the clues and solve the mystery. Following their quest, they returned to the KNPS Shed to enjoy an edible cookie and activity.

In 2022, we tallied a total of 70 visitors for the series. In 2023, we tallied 102 visitors.

A big thank you to the 15 KNPS volunteers who signed up to man the tables during this year's Tree Cookie Tuesdays. From the smiles, I think they had fun doing it too!

By Cindy Hayes –
Chairman for Tree Cookie Tuesdays



2023 KNPS Native Plant Sale

By Bob Wilson

Our annual Native Plant Sale was held this past June in Lakeview park near the Native Plant Arboretum. Attendance was good, though more people came earlier this year so we had quite the rush during the first hour. We also had other events occurring in the park at the same time. The Idaho Master Naturalists led by De Trenbeath had an informative booth about monarch butterfly conservation and distributed a number of seeds of our native milkweed species. The City of Sandpoint held their Arbor Day Celebration, and the Lion's club hosted a huge rummage sale to benefit Angels Over Sandpoint. All in all it was a very busy day in the park. We had our sales area on the lawn area in front of the train car since this area seems to work well for everyone. This location gives us more room to spread out and gave shoppers better access since we were situated along a concrete sidewalk.



Plant sales went exceptionally well and we sold more than 95% of what we brought thanks in no small part to the expert advice provided by Molly O'Reilly, Gail Bolin and Jill Wilson. We wound up selling out of most of our plants early this year and had little to offer the latecomers. Preston Andrews and George Gherig took care of the essential job of tallying the plant purchases. Shawna Parry headed up the cashiering table and was ably assisted by Robin Campbell. Despite most of our sales occurring in the first hour, Shawna and Robin were able to keep up with the rush. Mark Stockwell created a very attractive set of bee nesting sculptures for our native mason bees. Bob Blair created the gnome doors and mushroom mobiles while Dennis Rieger crafted the railroad stake ants that graced our crafts table. Marilyn George brought our collection of notecards for sale to round out the craft offerings. Sherry Ennis headed up the bake sale and with her volunteer bakers, was able to fill up a large table with yummy baked goods. Ken Thacker set out event signs on the road. Finally, Gail Bolin brought extra canopies this year, and we had a great crew of volunteers who arrived early to set up and stayed after to take everything down.



KNPS Website Update

The KNPS website www.nativeplantsociety.org has received a major update, organizing our message in a way that is easy-to-use, fun and informational. There are lots of new photos, an overview of all our activities, upcoming events, and streamlined online membership, renewal and donation capacity.

On the website, you can read Kinnikinnick Journal issues from the latest back to 2021. There are historic articles by Lois Wythe, and Plant Note articles (which have appeared in the Bonner County Daily Bee since 2020) will soon be available in a blog accessed from the site.

The KNPS board took on this project more than a year ago. It was started by member Ann Torpie and completed with technical support from Dana Harvey of Modern Masters Studio. KNPS members Patty Ericsson and Robin Campbell guided the project to its current stage. Because a website is a living document, there is an opportunity for a KNPS member to become Web Administrator, making updates for events and other minor changes as they arise. If you, or someone you know, are interested, please contact our president, Shawna Parry. You can do that at www.nativeplantsociety.com at the bottom of the “About” page under the heading “Contact Us.”

Check it out and let us know what you think!

East Bonner County Library Childrens Program

By Cindy Hayes

On August 23, 2023, at the invitation of Suzanne Davis, the East Bonner County Library Children’s Librarian, Cindy Hayes spoke at the preschool session. The eight children in attendance learned about pollination along with the honey-bee round and waggle dances. This was followed by a story about pollination that summed up the lesson. Everyone (big and small) played with bee and butterfly puppets, flying pollen from flower to flower and having fun, a great way to end the session!



KNPS Picnic

Forty-plus KNPS members enjoyed the afternoon of Aug. 27 at the annual picnic held at the Waterlife Discovery Center. Brats were provided by KNPS and cooked by Laird Parry. Potluck appetizers, sides, and desserts were provided by members and were tip-top! Adding to the pleasant afternoon was a pair of wandering minstrels, John Hastings and Bob Wilson. Thank you, John and Bob, for the entertainment, and thank you, Gail Bolin, for organizing this annual event!



Board of Directors 2023

President: Shawna Parry
Vice President: Preston Andrews
Secretary: Rae Charlton
Treasurer: Robin Campbell
Board Member: Sherry Ennis
Board Member: Bonnie Jakubos
Board Member: George Gehrig
Board Member: John Hastings
Arboretum Liaison: Rae Charlton

Additional Committee Chairs and Positions

Arboretum: Rae Charlton, Sue Gervais,
 Ken Thacker, Ann Torpie
Education: Bonnie Jakubos
Landscape: Gail Bolin, Jason Smith
Conservation: Preston Andrews
Lois Wythe Grant: Patty Ericsson
Historian, mailchimp: Patty Ericsson
Hospitality: Isabel Hollriegel, Vicky Johnson
Newsletter: Jill Wilson, Sherry Ennis
Programs: Preston Andrews
Website Administrator: Vacant

Upcoming Events:

- **Sept 16:** KNPS Program—The Inland Temperate Rainforest of North America is our Home
- **Oct 1:** Arboretum Cleanup
- **Oct 21:** KNPS Program—A Regional Phenomenon That Heavily Impacted our Local Landscape



Join or Renew KNPS

Membership Rates

July 1st through June 30th

___ Individual	\$30.00
___ Household	\$40.00
___ Student/Senior (65+)	\$25.00
___ Patron—Syringa	\$100.00
___ Patron—Lupine	\$200.00
___ Patron—Goldenrod	\$300.00

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 _____

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Mail to:

Kinnikinnick Native Plant Society

PO Box 1092

Sandpoint, Idaho 83864

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 Website: nativeplantsociety.org