

Idaho Native Plant Society

White Pine Chapter



Dave Powell, USDA Forest Service, www.forestryimages.org

Pinus monticola Dougl. Ex D. Don
Western White Pine

Late Summer/Fall

2007

Newsletter

White Pine Chapter 2007 Forthcoming Events:

Saturday, July 14: Chapter Field Trip/Workshop

Little North Fork of the Clearwater

Led by Fred Rabe and Pam Brunsfeld

Carpool 6:00 a.m., Rosauer's parking lot, rtn. by 5:30 p.m.

We will study the natural history of Little North Fork Clearwater (LNFC) country. The purpose is to enjoy LNFC as an outdoor laboratory. We will sample plants and invertebrates at Pinchot Marsh and LNFC River. Interest in educational values of the area should help persuade BLM and the Forest Service to protect these sites as Research Natural Areas. The workshop can accommodate 20 people, which includes three or four resource folks. Please no pets. The trip takes about 3 hours. We drive to Clarkia, Idaho then northeast on Road 321 to the St. Joe River; turn right then right again on West Fork Fishhook Creek Road to Breezy Saddle about 20 miles south of Avery, Idaho. From there we'll drive down to the river to collect samples, then gather more at the marsh. **NOTE that this has changed from a two-day to a one-day trip.** There are two primitive campgrounds in the area for those wishing to stay overnight. A map of key resources, roads and trails of the area will be made available as well as handouts. **To register and for additional information, call Fred Rabe 208 882-5794. First come, first served.** Fred will be offering this workshop again on Friday, July 27 for PCEI. There may be spaces available, so contact Fred directly.

Mid July through early September (actual dates tba)

Grass seed collection field trips at McCroskey Park

Led by Jacie Jensen

There will be grass seed collection field trips with Jacie Jensen in McCroskey Park, taking place on several days between mid-July and the first week of September. We are not able to determine the exact dates yet as they depend on the seed maturation and on the weather. If you are interested in participating in one or more collection trips please email Jacie at prairiescapes@starband.net. When the dates are set, Jacie will email those interested with meeting places and times, and also whether there may be cancellation due to rain, etc. The grass seed that is harvested will be grown by the Jensens for planting in McCroskey Park next year.

Wednesday, July 25: Chapter Field Trip/Potluck
Ray and Bettie Hoff's property at 907 E. 7th Street, Moscow
Meet at 6:00 p.m. at their home

Ray and Bettie are redesigning their 2,000 sq. ft. traditional flower garden to incorporate native prairie plants. They are looking for feedback and design ideas, and invite you to a potluck at their home. They will provide beer, wine, coffee and tea, and a BBQ grill will be available also. Contact Nancy Miller at nmiller@moscow.com or the Hoff's at 882-3257 if you plan to attend or for more information.

Saturday, August 18: Chapter Field Trip
Grandmother/Grandfather Mountains
Carpool 8:00 a.m. from Rosauer's parking lot
Led by a representative from Friends of the Clearwater (FOC)

The focus of this trip will be on the trees and ecology of the area. The hike to Grandmother Mountain is a gentle uphill for about 2 miles. Grandfather Mountain is another 2 miles or so from there, if people want to continue further. The trip is cosponsored by INPS and FOC. Bring lunch and water, binoculars and containers for huckleberries, as they should be abundant at this time! Contact Janet Campbell at jnacampbell@adelphia.net for more information.

Saturday, September 15: Chapter Annual Potluck Picnic
Carpool 1:00 p.m. from Rosauer's parking lot, for a 2:00 p.m. rendezvous at Laird Park, Ponderosa picnic area

Come spend an afternoon of relaxation and participation in Chapter business. We will ask you to vote in the slate of officers for 2008 as presented, and discuss possibilities for events. Bring a dish to share, beverage, friends and family. There will be plenty of time for swimming, hiking, bird watching and plant identification, so please come join in the fun!

Directions: Laird Park is situated on Highway 6 north of Potlatch. About 2 miles beyond Harvard, look for the sign to Laird Park on the right. The park is about a mile up this road (after Camp Grizzly), also on the right.

Events under discussion for next year include:

January/February – Jacie Jensen will present on her Palouse Prairie plants
Early April – Field trip to the Grande Ronde near Troy, Oregon

If you have suggestions for meetings or field trips for next year, please send this information to one of the officers. Thank you!

**Annual Meeting of the Idaho Native Plant Society held June 14-16 at Craters of the Moon National Monument
by Nancy Miller**

The Stages and the Millers arrived at Craters of the Moon within minutes of each other – no amount of planning could have achieved that! We and others were soon setting up in the group campground which was a mile or so away from the main campground. Others set up in the main campground or stayed in Arco. The group campground was in sage-rabbit brush-bitterbrush habitat with nearby areas of fine cinder. Buckwheat was a predominant bloom – the list said 28 varieties – and we certainly found many varieties from large sulphur colored balls on 20" plants to 1/2" tall silver-leaved buckwheat with pinkish blooms barely above the leaves. The latter were located in the cinder flats along with beautiful *Lewisia* with 1-1/2" pinkish-whitish blooms and large red buds. Brewers' sparrows trilled from the sage, poorwills announced themselves at night, brilliant blue bluebirds hovered over the sage and landed on the black cinder.

Paul McDaniel and graduate student **Karen Vaughan** from UI led a field trip on the lava beds on Saturday morning. They explained the organic soil formation – with wind blown minerals first finding a niche in the lava, then seeds being deposited. The resulting plants grow, decompose, and combine with wind blown minerals to gradually form an organic soil for later plants. The group walked out on paths and learned the difference between pahoehoe lava and a'a lava. They were able to visit several lava caves and tubes. There was lots of time for botanizing as well.

In the afternoon there was a field trip to a nearby area off the monument. We walked partly on Goodall's cutoff – an emigrant trail which skirted the lava beds. Many plants were identified in this area, and the group also enjoyed watching a pair of Lewis' woodpeckers in the aspen groves.

In the evening there was a potluck at the group campground (about 50 in attendance) and a presentation by a local historian on the Oregon Trail. Sunday morning there was a state INPS board meeting at the monument office. Most campers headed off for home or other explorations.

INPS White Pine Chapter was well represented at the Craters annual meeting by the Millers, Stages, McDaniel/Lichthardt (including Natalie), Sarah Walker, Bill Phillips, and Marilyn Olson.

Our warmest thanks go to: Brenda Guettler, Jerry Cebula and Terry Gray for leading the field trip to Craig Mountain on June 9; **Jacie and Wayne Jensen** for the tours of their Paradise Ridge property on May 31 and June 5, also thanks to **Brenda Guettler** and **Dave Skinner** for their expert advice and help in identifying plants on both days; **Gerry and Elaine Queener** for inviting us to their property to see native plants on May 19; **Juanita Lichthardt** and **Janice Hill** for their presentation on May 16 on the flora of Craig Mountain; **Al and Marjorie Stage** for taking us on a beautiful spring walk on their property on April 28; and **Jerry Rehfeldt** for broadening our understanding of how global warming will impact our ecosystems in his presentation on April 12.



White Pine Chapter Memorial Fund for Steve Brunfeld

In March 2007, INPS White Pine Chapter presented a check for \$600 to Paul Warnick, Director of the UI Arboretum, to establish a memorial to Steve Brunfeld. Paul has identified the site and will purchase willows and other plants with which Steve was associated for planting this summer and fall. The Chapter allocated \$300 of its budget toward the memorial and this was augmented by member donations. An additional \$115 has been received since then, which has been added to the fund.

Local Items of Interest:

Since Spring 2006, Nancy Miller has been providing handouts describing local native plants at chapter meeting. The following are available: *Erythronium grandiflorum*, *Fritillaria pudica*, *Paeonia brownii*, *Trillium grandiflorum*, *Calypso bulbosa* and *Amelanchier canadense*. Contact Nancy (nmiller@moscow.com) if you would like a copy of any of these beautiful and informative specimens.



Fritillaria pudica

INPS White Pine Chapter has two copies of a video for loan of a presentation by **Steve Brunsfeld** to attendees at the Conference of Northwest Herbaria that was hosted by the UI Stillinger Herbarium in 2005. The video is entitled, "**The History of the Northern Rocky Mountain Mesic Forest Ecosystem: "Museum" or "Overnight Sensation"?**" If you would like to watch this video, contact Al Stage astage@moscow.com to arrange details.

Prints of Herbarium plant specimens are available from the **University of Idaho Stillinger Herbarium**. The prints are being sold as a fundraising project and are very reasonably priced. To purchase matted prints (framed or not), visit the UI Stillinger Herbarium home page (www.sci.uidaho.edu/biosci/herbarium/) for contact information.

Fred Rabe, UI Professor Emeritus of Zoology, has published "**Exploring High Mountain Lakes in the Rockies: A story of their ecology and natural history.**" It is available locally at the UI bookstore and at Bookpeople, or directly from Aquatic Ecosystems, P.O. Box 3281, Moscow, ID 83843. This book covers six Rocky Mountain states extending from Montana's Glacier Park to the Sangre de Cristo Mountains in Colorado and New Mexico, and is richly illustrated with charts, maps and over 200 color photos. Price is \$29.95 (add \$3 for shipping and \$1.50 for Idaho sales tax). Contact Fred Rabe at fredr@uidaho.edu for more information.



Local and Regional Organizations

For information and events for other local organizations, visit the Palouse Calendar at www.palousecalendar.info, or check their websites:

Palouse Prairie Foundation www.palouseprairie.org

Palouse Audubon Society www.palouseaudubon.org

Palouse-Clearwater Environmental Institute www.pcei.org

Friends of the Clearwater www.friendsoftheclearwater.org

King County Native Plant website <http://dnr.metrokc.gov/wlr/pi/go-native/index.aspx>

Websites of interest:

Tools for Plant Identification updated website: <http://utc.usu.edu/keys/>

Giant Palouse Earthworm: www.pacificbio.org/ESIN/OtherInvertebrates/GiantPalouseEarthworm/GiantEarthworm.html

Online Winter Twig Identification Key developed by Ben Leler and posted on the UW Herbarium website:

http://biology.burke.washington.edu/herbarium/image_collection.php

Plants of the Lewis & Clark Trail, a guide to local forests, U.S. Forest Service website: [www.fs.fed.us/r1/clearwater/LewisClark/lewis clark plants/lcindex.htm](http://www.fs.fed.us/r1/clearwater/LewisClark/lewis_clark_plants/lcindex.htm)



Online Plant Lists

The new **Forest Service Botany: Celebrating Wildflowers** web site is now viewable at www.fs.fed.us/wildflowers/.

WNPS has plant lists for various locations listed by county on their state website www.wnps.org/plant_lists/exploring_native_plants.html.

Other online resources promoting native plant landscaping for our region are:

(1) "**Native Plants of Northern Idaho for Landscaping and Restoration**" prepared by the White Pine Chapter is available on the INPS website at www.idahonativeplants.org/guides/NorthIdahoGuide.aspx.

(2) **Landscaping with Native Plants of the Intermountain Region**, a BLM technical paper, at www.id.blm.gov/publications/TR1730-3/index.htm.

(3) **Native Plants for Aquatic Gardens and Aquariums: A guide for using plants native to the Northwestern U.S. in decorative ponds and aquariums** at www.ecy.wa.gov/biblio/0603004.html

****Upcoming events for other INPS chapter meetings and trips are listed on the Idaho Native Plant Society web site (www.idahonativeplants.org). Please check this and also Sage Notes for all the available listings and other information****

Items of Interest from non-local sources:

For information about existing and proposed **Northwest region RNAs**, go to <http://rna.nris.state.mt.us/> and follow the links for states or for research opportunities. The state list shows proposed RNA sites as well (“proposed” follows the name, i.e., Fenn Mountain Proposed).

The National Wildlife Federation has announced that its new **Native Plant Posters** are now available. Two versions of the poster exist; one for East Cascadia and one for West Cascadia. The posters have handy charts showing which native trees, shrubs, groundcovers and perennials are best for attracting hummingbirds, butterflies, bees and more. The posters show salmon-friendly gardening tips and steps for having your yard certified as a Backyard Wildlife Habitat. Cost is \$5 per poster. To order, contact NWF, 6 Nickerson St., Suite 200, Seattle, WA 98109; (206) 285-8707; FAX (206) 285-8698; www.nwf.org.

The slate of officers for 2008 is as follows. Please take the time to vote by attending the annual fall meeting on September 15th or by returning this ballot before then to the return address on the newsletter. Thank you!

For / Against:

Co-Presidents	Nancy Miller/Janet Campbell
Vice president	David Pierce
Secretary	Sonja Lewis
Treasurer	Nancy Sprague



Native grasses in the UI Arboretum

The current slate of officers consists of the following:

Officers:

Co-Presidents:	Janet Campbell	jnacampbell@adelphia.net	882-6409
	Nancy Miller	nmiller@moscow.com	882-2877
Past President:	Al Stage	astage@moscow.com	882-7492
Vice President:	David Pierce	doctor_david@verizon.net	882-3148
Secretary	Sonja Lewis	sonjalewis@turbonet.com	883-2638
Treasurer	Nancy Sprague	nrsprague@verizon.net	882-8142

Committees

Publicity:	Merrill Conitz	mconitz@turbonet.com	883-9799
Email contact:	Nancy Miller	nmiller@moscow.com	882-2877
Newsletter:	Rosemary Streatfeild	streatf@uidaho.edu	882-2314

Landscaping & Restoration Plant Lists:	Juanita Lichthardt	juanital@clearwire.net	882-4803
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We are always excited to see new faces on the Board and Committees, and invite you to join us! If you are interested in serving as an officer or on a committee yourself, or know of someone else who might, please contact Sonja Lewis (contact info above). We would especially welcome **nominations for Publicity Chair** at this time.

Membership in INPS White Pine Chapter is open to all who wish to join. Membership dues may be sent to the address listed on the form in the adjacent page or given to **Nancy Sprague** at a meeting. Alternatively, you may pay your dues to the State organization using the form in Sage Notes. You need only pay once - either the chapter or the State organization. The receiving treasurer will ensure that the other organization receives its share of the dues. (Currently the State organization receives 75% and the local chapter 25%.) In past years it has proved more effective and timely to pay the dues to the chapter so that chapter records can be updated quickly for newsletters, etc.

Many thanks to all who have recently renewed your membership for 2007. We appreciate your support.

Renewal reminder: If you are a renewing member, please check the membership expiration date on your mailing label to ensure that it is correct (e.g. if your label says 12/06, your membership expired in December last year). If you do not think the information is correct, please contact Nancy Sprague at nrsprague@verizon.net.