

December 14 2010. Skype Conference Call – moderated by Nancy Miller, Jody Hull

Whether it was an upgrade to Skype, bad connections, internet congestion or what Skype was not useable. We switched to a teleconference use for which Helen Yost provided the information.

Current Board Members

Calypso, Janet Benoit (acting – not present)
Calypso, Derek Antonelli (new president - present)
Loasa, Kelvin Jones (president - present)
Pahove, Susan Ziebarth (president - present)
Sah-Wah-Be, Linda Johnson (president - present)
Upper Snake, Sue Braastad (president - present)
White Pine, Helen Yost (outgoing president - present)
White Pine, James Riser (incoming president – not present)
Wood River, Carol Blackburn (president – present)
President, VACANT
Vice-president, VACANT
Secretary, Nancy Miller (present)
Treasurer, Jody Hull (present)
Past-president, Janet Benoit (not present)
Member-at-Large, Mel Nicholls (present)
Sage Notes Editor, Jane Rohling (present)

September 12, 2010 Board Meeting – minutes of the September meeting were sent to board members after the last meeting, corrections were solicited; minutes posted on the state website. Board accepted as posted.

While Jody retrieved some information we introduced Jane Rohling the new editor of *Sage Notes*. Jane has recently retired after working many years in state and federal management agencies; she has considerable experience in publishing, photography and web presentation. We feel very fortunate to have someone with her experience and talents as the new editor. We also discussed the read online only/printed copy option which will be on the new membership form in *Sage Notes*. Reading *Sage Notes* online in color is an option to all with internet access; we hope most of our members will choose this option as opposed to the printed copy, thus reducing the printing costs associated with printing *Sage Notes*. Chapter treasurers and Treasurer Jody Hull will need to capture this information at membership renewal time.

Treasurer's Report – A draft treasurer's report was sent earlier today by Jody Hull, treasurer. It shows actual 2010 figures (through December 13. The 2011 Proposed budget draft was also submitted. Bank statement will be available in the next few days and the corrected documents will be sent by Jody to board members. She will also send information to *Sage Notes* editor. Current figures for 2010 as of December 13 are total income \$5,718.44, current expenses \$6,323.19 netting a negative \$604.75. Current assets are checking account with Key Bank of Idaho \$8,935.79 and 6-mo CD \$2,914.49 for a total of \$11,850.28.

Membership Report – Jody Hull will send current membership report via email to the board. Memberships are down from previous years, partly because of the loss of Kinnikinnick chapter, but also because renewal letters were not sent out in April.

Announcements:

There is no President or Vice President currently. Chapter officers need to canvass their experienced members to get volunteers for these positions on a temporary basis. The president comes up for election next election so a candidate for the next election is needed now. The vice president doesn't come up for election until the next year.

Committee Reports (alpha order)

Annual Meeting Committee: Organizes Annual campout which all members may participate in.

Vice President should be assisting this committee; Valdon Hancock, Kelvin Jones are organizing and report the meeting plans are in good shape. There is currently an announcement for 2011 meeting in the December issue of *Sage Notes*. A Registration form and additional detail will be in next *Sage Notes* (February) as well as posted on the state website. They have reserved 3 group sites for most of the campers; these will not have hookups, etc. Anyone needing an RV site/pad should call and make reservations at the campground which has concrete pads, hookups, utilities and more amenities. There is little shade so campers should be prepared to provide their own. At least three field trips have been identified and descriptions will be in the next *Sage Notes*..

The next annual meeting host chapter would be Calypso under the old schedule. They are considering where to hold it. Wendy had proposed some modifications to the schedule, but at this time these changes are only in the discussion stage. If there is no change, Upper Snake would host the 2014 annual meeting in place of the former Kinnikinnick chapter. If other chapters are taking on other functions, Pahove should perhaps be added into the schedule. They are now not included as they organize the Rare Plant Conference.

Past Annual Meeting Schedule	Future Annual Meeting Schedule – if no change except Upper Snake replaces Kinnikinnick
2004 White Pine, Priest Lake	
2005 Loasa, Challis; (Pahove/Sah-Wah-Be co-hosted)	2011 Loasa, City of Rocks
2006 (Calypso, Farragut SP)	2012 Calypso
2007 (Wood River, Craters of the Moon)	2013 Wood River
2008 (Kinnikinnick, Sam Owen Campground)	2014 Upper Snake
2009 (Sah-Wah-Be, Buffalo Campground)	2015 Sah-Wah-Be
2010 White Pine, Heyburn SP	

Bylaws Committee: Nancy Miller (WP), Allen Perkins (Upper Snake), Linda Johnson (Sah-Wah-Be), Janet Benoit (Calypso), Carol Blackburn (Wood River), Susan Ziebarth (Pahove), Kelvin Jones (Loasa). Nancy Miller reported that they are making slow progress due to other INPS obligations.

Calendar Committee: There is currently no chair or members for the Calendar Committee which is in charge of Calendar design and incorporation of the photos from the Photo contest into the 2012 Calendar.

Conservation Committee: There are currently no conservation committee members. Chris Colson and Juanita Lichthardt were members. It would be helpful to have an active committee especially with the current Lochsa Scenic River Mega-Load issue and the Lochsa Land Exchange issue – both highly controversial issues in northern Idaho.

Helen discussed Upper Lochsa Land Exchange. This would exchange Forest Service land for private land in the Upper Lochsa reach. The private land is in checkerboard from railroad allocations, has been heavily logged, and was purchased by Western Timber from Plum Creek with exchange in mind. The land is desirable from the point of view of Fish & Game because it expands habitat for larger animals such as elk and carnivorous animals such as wolves. With regrowth it might support some rare plants. Much of the land to be exchanged is at lower elevations, sometimes near homesite development, often used by local residents for recreation, and often on the fringe of larger forested areas. Much of it is harder to manage from the Forest Service point of view. Various buy/trade options are in the plan which has been rewritten considerably. The current proposal can be read at http://a123.g.akamai.net/7/123/11558/abc123/forestservic.download.akamai.com/11558/www/nepa/51998_FSPLT2_029741.pdf

Helen also discussed Mega Loads - Conoco Phillips wants to ship 4 mega loads to Montana, ExxonMobil wants to ship many more to the Alberta Tar Sands. The route would be from the Lewiston Port along Hwy 12 to Missoula, then along the Blackfoot River. If the current hearings allow the megaloads (and potentially many more) then there will be suits to try to prevent the transporting along this wild and scenic river with its many coastal disjuncts and inland rainforest especially in the canyons of the tributaries. The megaloads would travel at night and would use the entire road allowing no public transportation during those times. Idaho is making highway changes to accommodate these megaloads.

ERIG Committee: Janet Bala is now the committee coordinator, committee members Jody Hull, Rose Lehman, Michael Mancuso (previous chair). The committee solicits applicants, evaluates, and awards ERIG grants if the state board has allocated funds for this purpose. ERIG funds have primarily had as their source the Rare Plant Conference in the past. ERIG news has been added to the state website. Incorporated are an explanation of the ERIG program, the current 2011 announcement requesting proposals, a table of past recipients and links to the submitted reports (either online or in *Sage Notes*). The table is not yet complete as we are waiting for additional information. Michael and Janet will prepare a summary of awardees, award grants, project completions, reports submitted. There are several who have requested the funds but have not received them.

There are others whose proposals were awarded but who have not indicated that any work was done on the proposal. Do we need an expiration period on the payment of funds? Will there be ERIG money for this next year? Jody will look at funding possibilities and report back.

Membership Committee: Currently there are no membership committee members. The membership renewal form in Sage Notes was revised to include a check box for indicating 'read online only', 'print copy'. Other forms on brochures and websites need to specify this option as well. There are currently no changes in membership categories under discussion. The state website renewal form is not written as some others but is a separate html page according to Jody. The capture of the email address on the membership renewal form becomes crucial so that we can notify members when *Sage Notes* becomes available online. The Treasurer currently provides the mailing address label information to the printer so will need to know who chooses the printed copy option.

Nominating Committee: This Committee needs to be in place now. The President and Secretary positions need nominees for the coming election in 2011. A Vice President needs to be appointed as this position does not appear on the ballot until 2012. The next Sage Notes could have article highlighting the positions and the Committees.

Photo Contest Committee: Linda Johnson, other Saw-Wah-Be members

An announcement needs to be submitted by January 8 to *Sage Notes* giving rules for entering the photo contest and providing an entry form. There will also be a link in the website center announcement blog. The entry form and rules need to be rewritten slightly from the previous contest rules. If Linda needs copies of previous rules and entry form, she should contact Nancy Miller.

Rare Plant Conference Committee: The consensus among Pahove members is that the Rare Plant Conference will not happen in February. The room is still reserved but no members have stepped up as chairpersons to organize the event. Fish and Game has cut the number of professionals who did much of the data collection/entry in the past and only have one full time employee left to do the technical ranking and writing. Many professionals are members of INPS and rely on the conference for rare plant information. The Society will lose a considerable amount of income and possibly respect by not holding the conference.

Lifetime Achievement Membership was to be presented at RPC to Dr. Roger Rosentreter and Ann DeBolt. Cyndi was working on the documentation. Probably this will happen now at a retirement function as Roger is retiring shortly. Other recognitions planned for RPC have been discussed in the past but were not discussed at this time.

Sage Notes Committee: Jane Rohling (editor), Nancy Miller, Jody Hull committee members.

Introduction of Jane Rohling. She has submitted some information which Susan Ziebarth will distribute to board members.

We want to move toward reducing the printing of paper copies and providing electronic delivery via a website with notification via email of the link. All membership forms need to give the option. Chapter treasurers need to help collect this information.

The state website eventually needs a full repository of *Sage Notes*. Sarah Walker passed off her collection to the next editor (Mark Shumar) when she ceased being editor. Cyndi Coulter, Steve Rust also were editors before Dylan Levy-Boyd. Nancy has an inventory of issues, and a partial excel cross reference. She has back issues to '93; Susan Ziebarth has assembled other back issues and inventoried them from 1977 through 1993. Nancy also has received some disks from Jody and from Dylan which may have some of the electronic versions which are not posted on the state website. The UI Herbarium apparently does not have a set after their last move according to Pam Brunfeld. Nancy has scanned several issues which required a lot of storage space as scanning produces images; she is looking for a possible way to store them using less space. Jane thought she would have some suggestions for procedures which would store them more efficiently so will work with Susan and Nancy on this. There are also some historical articles and artwork which are not time-sensitive which could possibly be republished in Sage Notes.

The next Sage Notes deadline is January 8. Because it is a short month for submittal, we need to be prompt with submissions. Jane will be doing her first one and will need the full time to set up the format in the publishing software she uses. Chapter presidents should encourage researchers, botanists, artists, etc to submit work to maintain *Sage Notes* as a scholarly publication. Jane is comfortable with receiving Word documents with or without images, however images should also be sent separately. Large files are okay as her system can handle them. She also suggested a free ftp product from yousendit.com. Jane will also write a short piece on formatting input for *Sage Notes*. This will be posted on the *Sage Notes* web page.

Native Plant Appreciation Week: Letter was to be sent to the Governor in October but this was not done. We may need a list of local representatives who will champion this with the Governor's office for a proclamation – Janet Benoit thought this very helpful. Others did not. Kinnikinnick NPS is interested in showing support for INPS requesting NPAW. Last meeting we selected April 24-30, 2011. Janet Benoit has sent prior documents for assistance.

New Business:

State website: Paul Shaffer wants to have chapters do more editing of appropriate information on the website. We think he is agreeable to working on the more technical aspects, but Jody will check with him. Chapters should let Nancy know who in each chapter has some web development experience. If pdfs or other documents need to be uploaded then they can be sent to Nancy and she will upload them to the appropriate directory. We will be looking for others members to help maintain this valuable resource. Susan suggested that it was time to rethink a redesigned state website but at this point there are no people to take on this task.

Nancy set up **FLICKR groups** for Idaho Native Plants and Idaho Native Plant Society. The groups were announced in the December *Sage Notes*. Please encourage the photographers in your chapters to link their photos to the appropriate groups.

Idaho Academy of Science – Carol reported that the IAS wanted to know if INPS wanted to collaborate again relative to some issues. Carol will send an email with more information for follow-up.

Susan asked if the organization was doing anything for Wendy as past president. Nancy replied that she and Jody had included a short thank you in *Sage Notes*, and that individual members had sent their own cards and messages. Susan will send a card on behalf of the Society.

Helen Yost thanked the group as outgoing president of White Pine for the work they had done. James Riser will be the new president of White Pine chapter. Another new president present was Derek Antonelli, president of Calypso chapter.

The next conference call would normally be at the Rare Plant Conference but now will probably be held in late February or first week of March.

Sue Braasted moved that the meeting be adjourned . This motion passed.