



CALYPSO CHAPTER
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

Calypso Companion

February 25, 2013, Vol. 22.1

Newsletter yearly subscription: Members -- \$6, Non-members--\$8

Editor:

President: Derek Antonelli antonelli8@frontier.com

Vice President: Vacant

Secretary: Karen Williams karenjwilliams@yahoo.com

Treasurer: Janet Benoit e-mail: jebenoit@sisna.com

mail: P.O. Box 331, Careywood, ID 83809

phone: (208) 683-2407

The Calypso Chapter of the Idaho Native Plant Society meets on the first Wednesday of March, April, May and October. The Chapter schedules field trips during the Spring, Summer, and Fall. The Calypso Chapter of the INPS was founded in 1991. We continue our efforts in promoting interest in native plants and native plant communities, collecting and sharing information on all phases of botany concerning this flora. Membership is open to all interested in the native plant community.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is **Wednesday, March 6, 2013**, at 7:00 p.m. at the **Idaho Fish and Game Building** at 2885 W Kathleen, Coeur d'Alene, directly across from US Forest Service Nursery on the west end of Kathleen near Atlas Road

Agenda

Agenda for the meeting:

Call to order

Agenda additions or corrections

Approval of minutes as submitted in the Calypso Companion

Treasurer's report/membership status

Old Business

Field Trip Reports

Field trip to the Northwest Museum of Arts & Culture for the "David Douglas: A

Naturalist at Work” exhibition
New Business
2013 Field trips

Presentation by Derek Antonelli about Hagar Lake.

COME AND BRING A FRIEND!!

Meeting Notes for October 3, 2012

The meeting was opened shortly after 7 pm by President Derek Antonelli. Treasurer Janet Benoit reported a new monthly fee by our current bank Washington Trust. She said she would investigate other banks and report her findings at the March meeting.

The annual meeting was held June 22-24 at the Fish and Game Clark Fork Drift Yard site near Clark Fork, Idaho. This year the host chapter was our Calypso chapter. Forty- seven people signed up to attend with forty- six meals being paid for and forty- three actual attendees. Activities included field trips up Morris Creek, and boat tours of the restoration project at the Pack River Delta led by Kathy Cousins of the Idaho Fish and Game Dept. Phil Hough of the Friends of Scotchman Peaks organization gave a campfire talk which inspired several hikers for the Saturday hike up Scotchman Peak, an arduous nearly eight miles of steep terrain. A catered dinner was provided by the Clark Fork Senior Center on Saturday night. Following the dinner Kathy Cousins gave a spirited Pack River Delta restoration presentation. Lessons learned will be applied when they undertake the next project at the Clark Fork River Delta.

Next, Derek showed highlights of the newest Sage Notes newsletter. The group discussed having a joint field trip with the Spokane Native Plant Society.

Janet announced the dates for Native Plant Appreciation Week as the first week of May and suggested a Tubbs Hill field trip.

The group discussed the upcoming David Douglas exhibit at the NW Museum of Art and Culture in Spokane, Washington. The date of November 9, 2012, was chosen as a tentative field trip date for this event.

Derek Antonelli gave a presentation on three wind pollinated families of plants— birch family, maple family, and willow family. The introduction described the advantages of wind pollination for certain types of plants, particularly those living in high wind environments. The basic characteristics of the three families were presented and local examples of each family were covered. Birches, alders, and hazelnuts were illustrated for the birch family. The Rocky Mountain maple is the only local example of the maple family. Cottonwood, aspen and a few willows were covered for the willow family. Mounted specimens of these families were available for the audience to examine.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen Williams, Secretary

Other Meetings of interest

North Idaho Mycological Association -- Meetings are held the first Thursday of the month in March, April, May, June, September, October and November. Visit their website for details.

Spokane Chapter Washington Native Plant Society --meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday of each month at Manito Gardens. They don't meet in the summer, June through August, and in December.

Featured Plant:

By: Karen Williams

Ocean Spray: *Holodiscus discolor*, Rose Family-Rosaceae.

General: Erect deciduous shrub 1-4 meters tall. The clustered arching stems are ridged and angled at each leaf base.

Leaves: Broadly triangular with lobed or coarsely toothed edges, hairy on both sides, dull green, tinged with red in fall.

Flowers: White to cream colored, in dense pyramidal clusters at branch tips. The clusters turn brown in winter and remain on the plant over the winter.

Fruits: Tiny, light brown, hairy achenes (small, dry, one-seeded, nut-like fruit).

Notes: Holo, from Greek meaning 'whole', and diskos, 'disc', referring to the unlobed disc surrounding the ovary. The extremely hard wood was used by some indian tribes to make breast-plates and other parts for armor as well as bows, arrows, digging sticks, tipi pins, and drum hoops. Not surprisingly another name used for the plant is 'ironwood'. Pioneers used the plant to make wooden nails.

One Thompson tribe name for ocean spray is 'disappearing plant', referring to the fast appearance and disappearance of the flowers.

The small dry, flattened seeds were eaten raw or cooked by some tribes. The roots were also used to make a tea. The seeds were boiled to make a medicinal tea to treat influenza. Some tribes used the flowers to relieve diarrhea.

References upon request.