



# Tuber Times

June 2013

## Monarchs—The Idaho State Insect

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In 1992, the State of Idaho legislature voted to have the monarch butterfly, as it's state insect. This insect migrates from Mexico and travels into Canada using natural resources to travel such a long distance.

lems for the monarch. This along with changes of the climate and increased pesticide use are causing decrease in numbers of this once populous insect.

### Special points of interest:

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The caterpillars of this species of butterfly eat milkweed. This plant provides a toxin that protects the caterpillar and butterfly from being part of the dinner menu of many birds. In other words, milkweeds help monarchs taste bad.

You can help the monarch by planting native plants such as milkweed in your area. Native plants can be located at many nurseries.



**Feed your local butterflies with native plants and avoid pesticides**

Regrettably, loss of habitat for the milkweed is causing prob-

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## Liz Roger's Memorial Resource Library—LRMRL

This year one of our founding members passed away. Her untimely death came as a shock. In order to make sure she is remembered, we have decided to name our resource library after her.

Liz Rogers had ADD and trouble focusing. Despite this she had many achievements and friends. All that were around her knew her delight of reading and sharing books. We miss her.





## Saltwater Emporium Field Trip

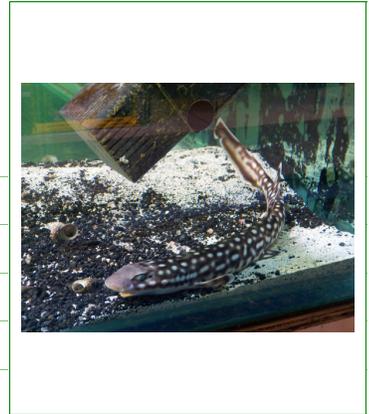
Every Saturday at noon there is the opportunity to see sharks being fed at the Saltwater Emporium at the Silverlake Mall in Coeur d' Alene. We did bring our cameras to film the events in front of a crowd of excited youth.

The store itself has a variety of salt-water creatures not limited to sharks. Corals, anemones, living rock, several varieties of shrimp, clown fish and gobies are just a few of the exciting life there.

The store staff were very informative as we asked questions and took pictures from around the store. As we will have

saltwater tanks at our museum once we have the final place, this information was priceless.

Tank size and what would be best was discussed as we work toward having an invertebrate zoo.



**A Shark**

## Our YouTube Channel



Have you visited our museum YouTube Channel lately? We have organized the channel into Field Trips, Projects, Area Events and other selections to make it easier for you to browse, share and learn.

It is very important to use to make sure that there is easy access to the information for learning and enjoyment. Since we have provisions to add longer videos this will assist with our projects as previously

anything over one minute was difficult to share. With our longer videos, more information is available as we continue our projects. So far we have had butterflies, mantis, sharks, sea monkeys and our ladybug project will begin soon.

**"Our latest and greatest projects are available on YouTube 24 hours a day. The web does not sleep unlike administration."**

## Giveaways and Events

We had our first giveaway and it was a great success. Mr. Palmer won the items from Insect Lore by participating. Every four to six months we are going to do this to promote not only the museum but education as well.

Congratulations to our winner and keep watching online for the next giveaway. Our events are online for right now. You

have the opportunity to celebrate the way you choose as we announce specific details.



**Fire Ant Goggles and Insect DVD**





# Measurement

This year we have been focusing on measurement. On our facebook page we have shared pictures that have included measurement aspects or comparisons this year. In one of our albums we have shared some instruments used to measure the things around us.

As humans we measure items to define the world around us. Items may be small or large, short or tall or near or far. Also temperature, angles, hardness and scale may be included.

To see small things we may use a microscope and things far away may need a

telescope. What items do you use to measure the world around you?

Whether we are cooking or driving we are immersed in measurement. As human beings we rely on this practical methods to determine our ...



**Antique Sextant**



...placement in the world.

For a quick exercise, measure how tall you are and write it down. Then measure a doorway height and write it down. If you would subtract your height from the door height you are able to show the difference.

How many cups of water are in a gallon? How many inches in a mile? What is the

weight of a stick of butter? Go around your home and see what could be measured and what you would use to measure it. Measurement is an application used every day even if you did not realize it.

**Measurement** is an application used every day even if you did not realize it.

# Ladybug Project 2013

The ladybug kit arrived a day early; however, we were able to get it started. Very quickly the small larva grew. In about a week they were almost ten times larger than when they arrived.

The next state was the larva attaching to the side of the container. First they were white and translucent, but very quickly the color changed to a dark black.

Slowly inside they changed to ladybugs and in another week the little beetles were roaming their habitat and were ready to release.

Photos and videos documented this.



**Ladybug larva in their habitat**



~~Spectacular Spud Museum~~

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**A child's education is not small potatoes.**

## Spokes Spud Corner

We have been so busy this past year! The 501(c)3 status is being applied for with some legal help and we are waiting for approval. This is the behind the scenes administrative work that few see but is constantly happening.

There are surprise field trips in the works. Since we are not going to publicize these events until after they happen, what is being planned is not being released to me yet either. Being a Spokes Spud can be difficult at times but I understand. Letting the spud out of the bag too early would spoil the surprise.

The ladybug project will be going on soon and the remainder of the supplies for crystal growing will be bought as well. I

hope everyone is enjoying the museum as it grows.



**What do you think of our  
Celebration and event photos?**