

NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY OF NEW MEXICO
Albuquerque Chapter

NEWSLETTER

Winter 2018



- 2018 calendar
- Plant profile
- Deconstructing plants

El Morro National Monument – Indian Paintbrush, *Castilleja* sp. in foreground
Photo © George O. Miller

Presidents Message: Thank You!

George Miller
12/22/2017

As we wrap up the ending year, I want to give a huge thanks to all the members who volunteered their time and energy to make this year one of the chapter's best in a long time. We conducted a pollinator habitat workshop with 100 attendees, five speakers, and the help of dozens of volunteers. Our monthly programs brought in an attendance of 100 or more people on numerous occasions, and our field trips explored New Mexico habitats from the alpine tundra to desert canyons.

And this coming year is shaping up to be just as exciting. Our monthly program roster is almost full with a variety of speakers who'll tell us about subjects that vary from restoration projects to hummingbirds. The upcoming programs will have something of interest for everyone. I hope we all can learn something new about the magic and majesty of backyard biodiversity, pollinator-plant relationships, and the amazing adaptations of the most common plants underfoot.

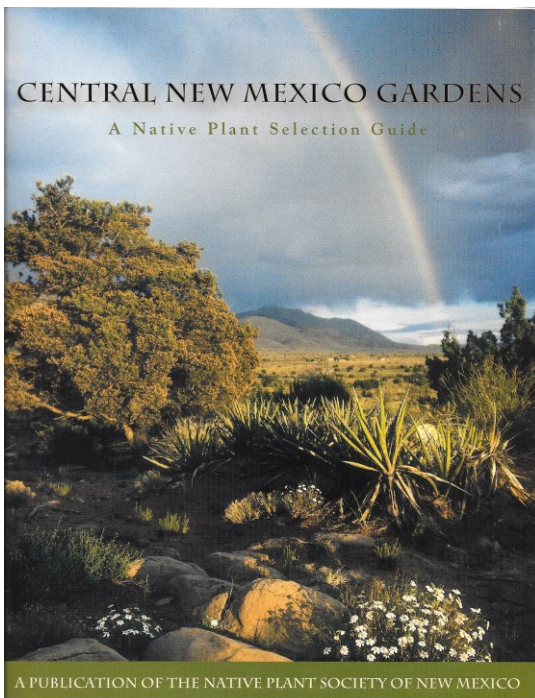
2018 will bring new conservation challenges in Albuquerque, the Zuni Mountains, and in our own back yards. By working together with all our members and with other organizations, we can help educate our neighbors, elected officials, and the general public who suffer from the malady of "plant blindness."



Cirsium ochrocentrum – Hawk Moth on Thistle
photo © George O. Miller

Garden Guide Review

By Diane Stevenson 12/29/2017



Introducing the Native Plant Society of New Mexico's
2017 Central New Mexico Gardens; a Plant Selection Guide
Book pdf available at www.npsnm.org

Since I am designing my new heights area garden in Albuquerque, I took this opportunity to compare the 2005 print edition of Central New Mexico Gardens; a Plant Selection Guide to the new online edition as an integral part of my design process. The 2005 edition was prepared by the Native Plant Society of New Mexico. One of the greatest features is the back cover map of the habitat areas the plants thrive in (with a lot of neglect, once established.)

The 2017 revision of the Central New Mexico Gardens; a Plant Selection Guide is now available as a downloadable pdf file on the Native Plant Society of New Mexico website, www.npsnm.org.

Virginia Burris enthusiastically coordinated the 2017 revision of the Central New Mexico Gardens; a Plant Selection Guide. It contains pollinator information about many of the plants. What I find really amazing is that we still don't know how some plants are pollinated. The pollinators for a few plants are listed in the new guide as 'not yet determined.' Citizen scientists can now use their home native plant gardens as research projects. A very good thing.

*Virginia Burris, Project Coordinator says:
Thank you, NPSNM Board,
for providing funds to update the 2005 book,
Central New Mexico Gardens, a Native Plant Selection Guide.
Thank you, 2005 and 2017 edition production teams!!*

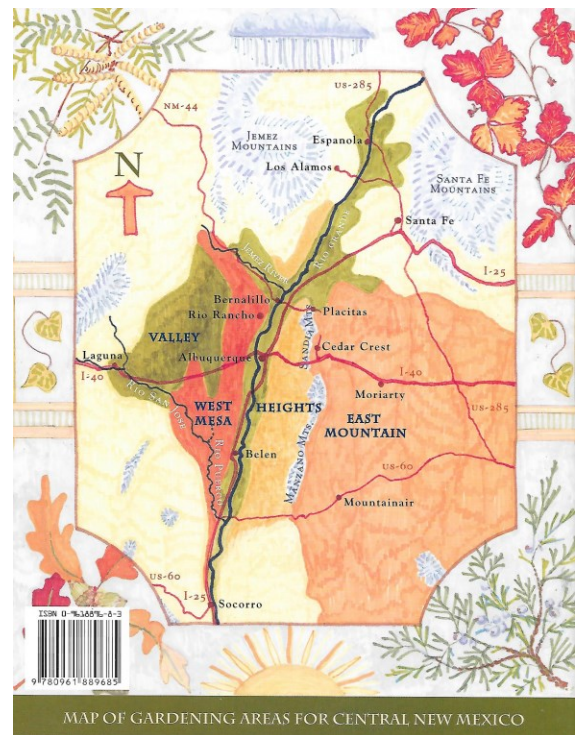
There are newly added natives in the updated plant selection guide. I was especially pleased to find *Achillea millefolium*, the white flowering Western Yarrow. Hybrid yarrow is often erroneously called a 'native plant.' The hybrids available in bright yellow or intense red and other vivid

colors are developed for humans, not insects (e.g. hybrid tomatoes are often developed for their ability to survive shipping, they don't necessarily taste good). Native yarrow serves as winter cover for beneficial insects in your 'other' gardens – fruit, veggies, and other high water use plants. Search the terms 'beneficial insects' and 'insectary' and learn more from The Xerces Society book, Habitat Planning for Beneficial Insects; Guidelines for Conservation Biological Control. http://www.xerces.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/Habitat-Planning-Beneficial-Insects_Feb2017_web.pdf

The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Plants Database also has some good links, including yarrow's role in fire ecology as well as its role as a facultative wetland plant. Explore for yourself:
<https://plants.usda.gov/core/profile?symbol=acmi2>

Other species of new listed New Mexico native plants in the 2017 Central New Mexico Gardens; a Plant Selection Guide include *Aquilegia*, *Asclepias*, *Aster*, *Cercocarpus*, *Clematis*, *Dieteria*, *Echinocereus*, *Erigeron*, *Mammillaria*, more *Penstemon*, *Rudbeckia*, *Sapindus*, *Senecio*, *Solidago*, and the *Symphyotrichum ericoides*, and more.

Over the next few months, this native designer will be planting a number of native plants suggested in this book. My greatest hope is that my neighbors will be inspired to plant a few more native plants in their own yards and gardens.



Climate Change alters Alpine bloom time and flower/pollinator relationship

George Miller

11:34 am 11/30/2017

[Excerpted from National Parks Traveler, <https://www.nationalparkstraveler.org/2017/11/climate-change-driving-changes-wildflowers-mount-rainier-national-park>]

For six summers from 2010 to 2015, researchers at the University of Washington tracked environmental conditions and plant behavior for 48 species at 70 field plots, each one square meter, along the southern slope of Mount Rainier. The plots ranged from 1,490 to 1,901 meters in elevation. Biologists recorded temperature, snowmelt, and soil moisture content.

In 2015, conditions were so warm that, on average, snow began to melt at the study plots 58 days earlier than in 2010-2014. The team recorded major shifts in bloom times. All species flowered earlier and 54 percent lengthened



Early snow melt on Mt. Rainier causes plants like the pasque flower to bloom weeks earlier than normal, upsetting the timing of pollinators.

Photo © George O. Miller

bloom duration by as much as 15 days. The remaining species showed shorter flower duration, in one case by 19 days, possibly due to soil drying, altered pollinator activity, or other factors.

Conditions in 2015 produced new patterns of reassembled wildflower communities, with unknown ecological consequences. Reassembly on the scale that the researchers saw in 2015, which might be common by the end of this century, will change interactions among species. Plants could compete for access to pollinators, which at Mount Rainier include bumblebees, flies and hummingbirds. "We simply don't yet have enough information to know who the 'winners' and 'losers' of reassembly will be, or even what 'winning' or 'losing' in such a scenario would look like," one researcher said.

Deconstructing Flowers

Flower topography reveals the complexity of beauty.

George Miller

What do astrophysics, origami, and flowers have in common? I discovered an unexpected, and most creative interconnection, in the Trout Museum of Art in Appleton, Wisconsin, of all places.

Robert J. Lang, an optoelectronic physicist from Caltech, specializes in solar voltaic panel technology used to power satellites. He designs the compact, expandable packages of panels that when launched into orbit, unfurl into a spreading, multi-layer array that maximizes surface area for collecting sunlight. Sound like something we plant lovers see everyday?

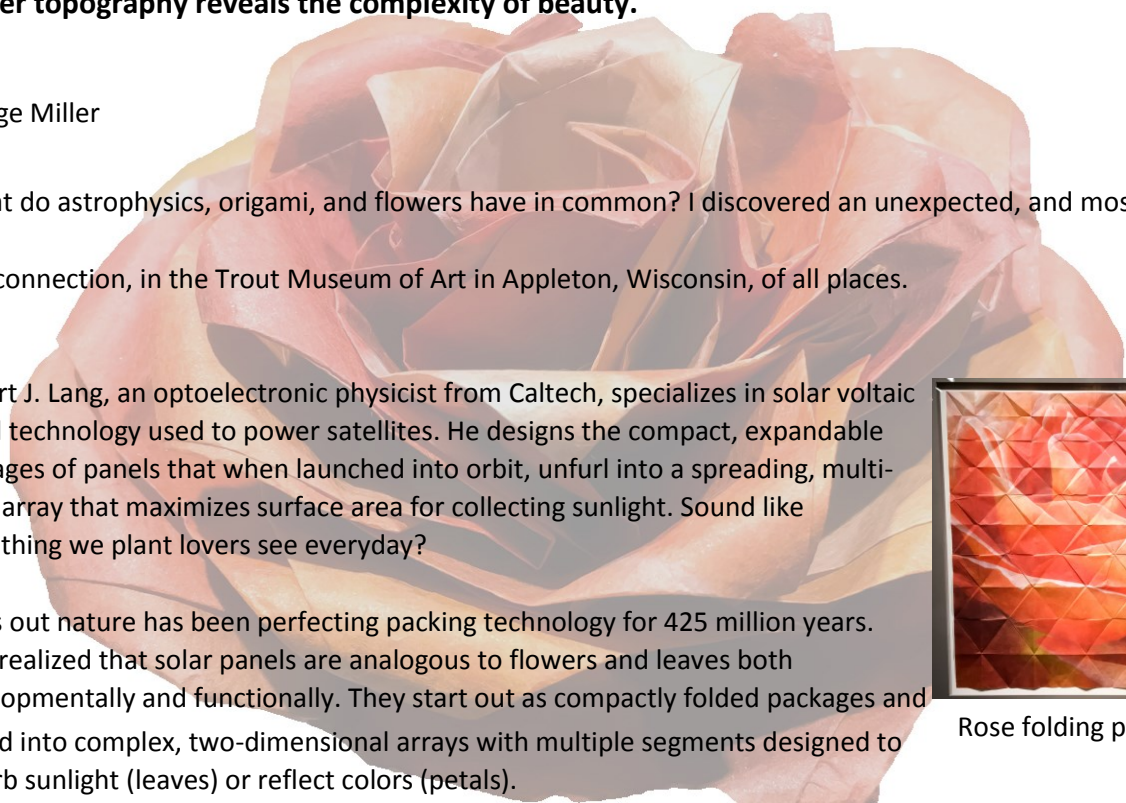
Turns out nature has been perfecting packing technology for 425 million years. Lang realized that solar panels are analogous to flowers and leaves both developmentally and functionally. They start out as compactly folded packages and unfold into complex, two-dimensional arrays with multiple segments designed to absorb sunlight (leaves) or reflect colors (petals).

Lang adapted the computer algorithms he developed for solar panel deployment to model the development of a flower. Then he recreates it on a sheet of paper. In nature a plant start out as a single cell, so in classic origami tradition, he starts out with a single sheet of paper.

He begins with detailed photography of a plant (as well as birds, mammals, reptiles and geometric objects). Then he analyzes the images with his spatial topography programs. A computer converts the 3-D object into 2-D representation, like the Mercator projection of the spherical earth onto a 2-D map. Then he prints out the projection with lines to mark the origami folds. By folding the resulting “map,” he recreates the original 3-D object using a single sheet of paper without cuts or combining multiple sheets.

Lang is obviously a genius, not only in programing, mathematics, and geometry, but also in spatial design and conceptual art. He is considered one of the most prolific “origami masters” in the world. He can turn a four-foot long sheet of paper into a realistic colored and detailed columbine, orchid, rose, or cactus.

I look at his art with wonder and bewilderment. What he does seems physically impossible. But next to the work of art he displays the single sheet of paper with all the fold lines delineated. The mystifying complexity of the deconstructed object only makes the majesty of a “simple” flower more incomprehensible, more magical.



Rose folding pattern



Origami cactus



Origami cactus folds

Book Review

Forget Flower Power, Seeds Rule the World

George Miller

The Triumph of Seeds: How Grains, Nuts, Kernels, Pulses, & Pips Conquered the Plant Kingdom and Shaped Human History by Thor Hanson

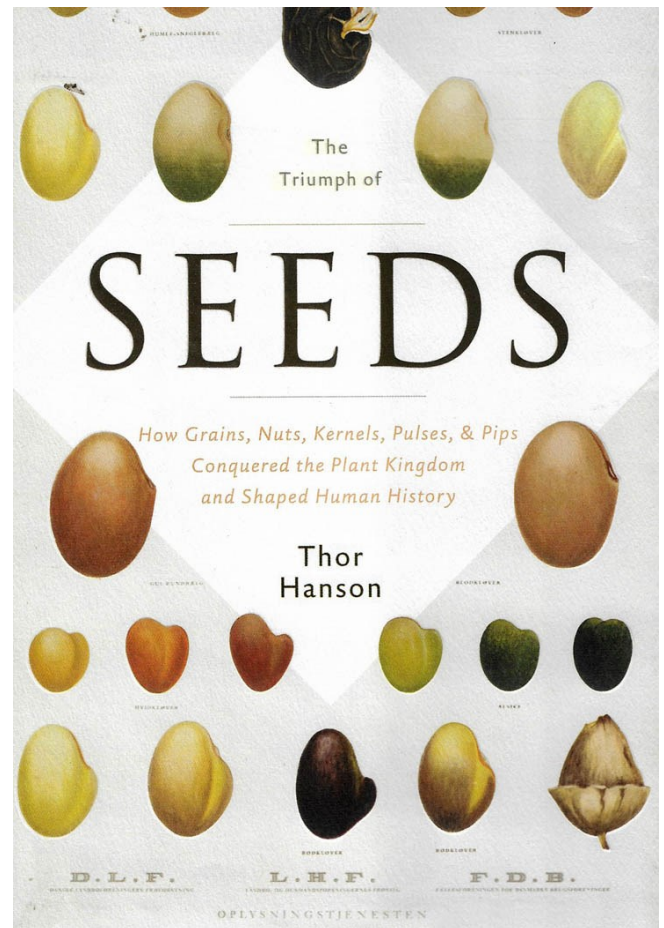
At the NPSNM meeting in Taos last September, the keynote speaker Thor Hanson entranced us all with his lively description of how seeds first evolved to dominate the plant world, then became the major driving force in the evolution of humanity. Instead of a data dense presentation on seed metrics, he described how seeds are “lunch pails” filled with nutrients, and how our daily life, industry, and global commerce and economy depend on seeds. After the talk, he sold out all the books he brought.

As power-packed nuggets, seeds developed for one obvious reason – to enable the plant to regenerate. But in the battle royal for survival, seeds developed incredible, and often not so obvious, characteristics. The magic comes with the discovery of the mystery within even the simplest seed.

Like his talk, chapters in the book describe how seeds evolved from spores, packed their “children’s lunch box” with sugars, fats, oils, and proteins, and evolved ingenious ways both to protect their delectable morsels from the ravages of hungry predators, and to disperse their progeny onto favorable habitats near and far.

The compelling narrative bypasses hypothetical and statistical analysis and highlights the impact of seeds on both human history and our individual lives. Chapters relate how caffeine forever changed Western life and culture (starting with revolutions in Europe), how cotton jump-started the industrial revolution (and fueled the plantation culture of slavery), how peppers reigns the preferred spice worldwide, and how chocolate became the darling of our diet.

But the mystery we overlook with our morning coffee is why seeds developed powerful stimulates and poisons, why chocolate is packed with such flavorful fats, why peppers burn, and why grains became the staple of civilization. Chapter by chapter the fascination and wonderment of seeds opens our eyes to these tiny miracles sequestered in the plant kingdom that we inevitably take for granted.



Plant Profile

Showy Milkweed, *Asclepias speciosa*

By Carolyn Dodson (cdodson "at" unm.edu)



Asclepias speciosa Torr. © Max Licher,
SEINet - Arizona Chapter
www.swbiodiversity.org/seinet/

SHOWY MILKWEED

Pink star-shaped flower clusters define this tall coarse plant seen on roadsides and other disturbed sites. Late in the summer spiny plump seedpods split open liberating numerous seeds attached to long silky hairs. Large oval leaves are paired along the woolly white stems.

A CROWN OF NECTAR CUPS

A crown of five nectar cups perches atop each milkweed flower. In the center of this crown pollen is packaged in pairs of waxy balls. When a foraging butterfly lands on a nectar cup, a leg will slip into the tiny slit between the cups and hook onto a pair of pollen balls. Then, after partaking of the nectar, the visitor, with pollen attached, flies onto the next flower where it deposits the pollen balls.

This ingenious method of pollen transfer, so beneficial to the plant, is not always advantageous to the insect. Occasionally one comes across the pathetic sight of an insect leg in a milkweed flower—one that has become stuck in the pollen slit and then detached as the insect flew off.

MILKWEEDS AND MONARCHS

Monarch butterflies, with their ability to manage the complicated pollination procedure, are principal milkweed pollinators. And they are rewarded for their service: only monarch caterpillars can safely deposit their eggs on milkweed leaves.

This is because milkweed leaves store milky latex under pressure in canals. Injure a leaf or stem, and white sap oozes out. Exposure to air quickly converts the latex into glue that will gum up the mouth parts of plant-feeding insects. Not surprisingly, most plant eaters give milkweeds a wide berth, simply because the sticky sap makes it impossible to consume the foliage. But caterpillars of the monarch butterfly will snip the main vein to lower the pressure in the system, preventing the sticky fluid from welling out when the caterpillar chews on a leaf.



Asclepias speciosa patch © Tony Frates
[http://www.intermountainbiota.org/imglib/intermt/SEINet/201606/Asclepias speciosa patch with 1467168736.jpg](http://www.intermountainbiota.org/imglib/intermt/SEINet/201606/Asclepias_speciosa_patch_with_1467168736.jpg)

Having solved the sticky latex problem the caterpillar then overcomes the poisons in milkweed tissues. Unlike other caterpillars, milkweeds seal off the poisons in specialized cells, thus making themselves unpalatable to predators throughout their life span. The first time a bird devours a monarch caterpillar or butterfly, it suffers violent vomiting and rarely is tempted to try another one. Birds also pass up viceroy butterflies because they mimic the monarch's color pattern.



Asclepias speciosa seed pods
Photo © Patrick Alexander – swbiodiversity.org
[http://hasbrouck.asu.edu/imglib/seinet/genfield/palexander/set001/Asclepias spec 7Aug11 6551.jpg](http://hasbrouck.asu.edu/imglib/seinet/genfield/palexander/set001/Asclepias_spec_7Aug11_6551.jpg)

FROM WEED TO CASH CROP

Traditionally considered a nuisance by farmers, milkweed has many potential uses, indeed, in referring to the long silky hairs of the seedpod, a colonial botanist noted in 1772 that "the poor collect it and with it fill their beds, especially their children's." During World War II our government used milkweed floss, which is more buoyant than cork, in life jackets obtaining it by recruiting children to gather the pods from roadside plants.

CONSERVATION CORNER

A Hopeful Climate Conference

By Sue Small

Three members of the Albuquerque Chapter of the Native Plant Society of New Mexico attended an all-day state-wide conference October 28, 2017, at the Bosque School. The conference was also hosted by the Citizens' Climate Lobby, <https://citizensclimatelobby.org>. The purpose of the conference was to investigate real solutions to climate change in New Mexico.

The morning session included a live feed of Mark Reynolds, Executive Director of Citizens' Climate Lobby, speaking to Albuquerque, Taos, Santa Fe, and Las Cruces attendees. We also got a live-streamed greeting from Senator Tom Udall who encouraged us to be active in climate change solutions. Presenting panels included University of New Mexico's Dr. David Gutzler, a climatologist and professor in the Earth & Planetary Sciences; John Fleck, (UNM); Dagmar Llewellyn, Bureau of Reclamation; Viola Sanchez, Bureau of Indian Affairs; and Dr. D. Groenfeldt.



L to R: Bill Blassi, Sue Small, Virginia Burris, Steve Poland

Lunch was provided on site to facilitate networking and further discussion of the topics presented. As we ate, we considered that our planet is not close to the Carbon Dioxide, CO₂, threshold of 350 ppm (parts per million); instead, we are now at 410 ppm. See <https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/we-just-breached-the-410-ppm-threshold-for-co2/>

But, this was a conference titled 'Climate of Hope.' The afternoon workshops were numerous and billed as 'Plugging into Solutions.' I attended the Ethics and Climate Justice, the 100% Renewables in New Mexico; is it Possible?, and the Oil & Gas Panels. Each of these hour-long panels gave ideas for steps citizens may take as we confront climate change.

Our day ended with a panel introduced and facilitated by journalist Laura Paskus. Three Albuquerque City Councilors, Diane Gibson, Isaac Benton, and Pat Davis, along with Mayor Tim Keller, spoke on the effort to get solar on all city buildings. These councilors worked with Senator Heinrich's office and Environment New Mexico to plan goal setting for the city to go 25% solar by 2025, getting the Bush era left over Federal Clean Renewable Energy Bonds, and voila, the city is moving toward renewables. This is a start. Now, let's see what else we can do about climate change and learn how it will affect our New Mexico native plants and people.

The season for thanks– to the pollinators

George Miller

From Thanksgiving to Christmas, we gather around the dining table with family and friends and give thanks for good food, good health, and good fortune. As we fill our plates, we savor the turkey and dressing and giblet gravy, a cornucopia of vegetables and fruit, and of course, dessert. If we're particularly sensitive, we even give thanks for all the hard workers who make our dinner possible. That would be the insect pollinators.

First, let's thank the alfalfa leafcutter bees who pollinate alfalfa, which feeds the cows that give us milk for the gravy, butter for the rolls, and whipped cream, or ice cream, for the pumpkin pie.

We can also thank the bumblebees that buzz pollinate the cranberry flowers that give us our favorite holiday condiment. Honey bees just can't get the job done efficiently. A cranberry flower needs at least eight grains of pollen to set fruit, and honey bees are more interested in nectar than pollen. A hairy bumble is active for longer and on average transfers 60 grains of pollen to each flower stigma it visits.



Whether it's squash in the casserole or pumpkin pie for dessert, we thank the squash bee. Pumpkin and squash, both native Americans, rely on native squash bees (about three dozen species) for pollination. The ground nesting bees are hairy and slightly smaller than honey bees. Females make a foot-long tunnel in the soil to lay her eggs. Only the females collect pollen from the male plants and transfer it to the female plants enabling fruit to set. The female mixes pollen with the nectar to form a food mass for the larva to eat when the eggs hatch.

If your holiday traditions includes fruit or berry pies, thank the European and native bees who make it all possible. And if margaritas are your thing, lift a toast to the bats that pollinate agaves. If your desserts includes that favorite American native, chocolate, we have to thank the tiny chocolate midge for its tireless work in the tropics.

For the turkey, which is fattened up on wind-pollinated grains, we must thank the corn and milo farmers, who get their hybrid seeds from Monsanto and spray the fields with Roundup. That's enough to make me want tofu turkey this year.

See photos of squash bees: <http://www.discoverlife.org/mp/20q?search=Peponapis+pruinosa>



Save the Date!
Native Plant Society of New Mexico Annual Conference

etcetera

Valle de Oro National Wildlife Refuge

https://www.fws.gov/refuge/valle_de_oro/

It is not too late for students in grades K to 12 to enter the Junior Duck Stamp Contest. Deadline is March 15, 2018. See the website for more information.

The Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge is hosting their Annual Meeting in January and is hosting programs during the winter. For additional information: <https://www.fws.gov/refuge/sevilleta/>
Amigos de la Sevilleta (Friends group)

<https://www.amigosdelasevilleta.org/>

The Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation always has some good reading.

- The Fall 2017 edition of *Wings; Essays on Invertebrate Conservation* is out and available at their website: <http://www.xerces.org/>
- An article on why cultivars (cultivated varieties) often do not benefit pollinators called 'Picking Plants for Pollinators: The Cultivar Conundrum': <https://xerces.org/2017/11/21/picking-plants-for-pollinators-the-cultivar-conundrum/>

Monarch Joint Venture has an informative article titled 'Estimating the Number of Overwintering Monarchs in Mexico': <https://monarchjointventure.org/news-events/news/estimating-the-number-of-overwintering-monarchs-in-mexico>

Tom Stewart provided this Native Plant Podcast link. Tom says "Some down-homey good old boys produce the closest thing to a radio program about native plants."

<https://www.nativeplantpodcast.com/podcasts-1/2016/1/20/john-and-mike-plant-party-1>

Make Nature's Handiwork your Own



Meredith McClure, a biologist living in Albuquerque, New Mexico, seeks to use embroidery to educate and engage people in the beautiful natural world. Native plants are essential to the fabric of life. With her help we can weave our appreciation of wildflowers into the fabrics of our everyday lives!

Meredith will teach a few stitches to recreate nature's designs in colors that do not fade with the seasons. We are considering a 90-minute class, asking only \$5 for materials. The class will focus on one species. Several additional wildflower motifs will be provided to try

on our own.

Time and date of the class will be decided after receiving input from interested people. If you are interested, please e-mail your preference of either Saturday or Sunday and AM or PM to tstewart@newmexico.com. Your email will not be considered a promise to attend but will be valued only for planning purposes.



**NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY OF NEW MEXICO – ALBUQUERQUE CHAPTER
2018 ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS CALENDAR**

Scheduled monthly meetings are normally the first Wednesday of every month at 7pm in the New Mexico Museum of Natural History, 1801 Mountain Rd. NW. For more info on programs, contact Jim McGrath at 505-286-8745 or email: sedges “at” swcp.com. Meeting places for field trips (codes A through H) are described in detail at the end of the schedule. Field trip participants should bring water, hat, sunscreen, snacks or lunch, rain gear and appropriate clothing to deal with poor weather conditions.

Some field trips may be announced with only 1 week to a month notice. Spring field trips depend upon good winter and spring precipitation; therefore, such field trips may be scheduled when we know wildflowers will be present.

Please be aware that all field trip participants must sign the NPSNM liability release form before departure. Leaders should have forms available on site for those who have not signed one previously this year.

January 3. Meeting. “Beyond Automobiles: Native Plant Stewardship, Revegetation, and Highway Ecology at the New Mexico Department of Transportation.” Steven Gisler, New Mexico DOT’s environmental coordinator and newly appointed liaison with the Native Plant Society of New Mexico, will provide an overview of the Department’s programs for encouraging native plants and pollinators along our state’s vast network of highways. He will describe current practices and challenges of planting and maintaining native species along roadsides, new initiatives for using native plants for dust control and water quality protection, and how the DOT handles endangered plants. Steven is eager to share his ideas and receive your suggestions for improved communication and collaboration between NPSNM and the DOT.

February 7. Meeting. “Cactus Chronicles: The joy of finding, identifying and photographing cacti in the Las Cruces area.” Naturalist and award-winning photographer Lisa Mandelkern takes us to the desert to show us blooming cactus species in their natural habitats. From claret cups to prickly pears - there are more than 30 different species of cacti in the desert near Las Cruces. Many of the cacti are small plants, easily overlooked, but all beg to be observed. It is an unforgettable experience to chance upon a glorious, flowering cactus! This talk will include information on identifying individual members of the cactus clan. We will also talk about some of the unique adaptations that have enabled cacti to live and thrive in our arid lands.

March 7. Meeting. “Landscape scale forest restoration in the Zuni Mountains: Restoring what, to what?” For more than a decade the Forest Stewards Guild has been working with a diverse group of partners to restore resilience to forests in the Zuni Mountains of western New Mexico. What does a resilient forest look like and why might it have needed restoring to begin with? These are some of the questions that Matt Piccarello, Southwest Assistant Director for the Forest Stewards Guild, will answer in a presentation that will explore the history of land use in the Zuni Mountains and recent efforts to restore resilience to forests and the communities that depend upon them.

April 4. Meeting. “Living with Native Plants.” Michael Eustacio Chavez, a native New Mexican, whose ancestry dates to 1600, tells about how native plants were used when he was growing up on what is now Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge. Some plants were medicinal and/or edible while others were used for tool making and many other uses.

April 7. Saturday Field Trip. "A Walking Tour with Michael Eustacio Chavez at Sevilleta NWR." 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon. Michael points out plants and their uses. During the tour Michael demonstrates how to weave rope from yucca and how to start a fire by only using yucca. Meet at G (SW corner of Saver's lot on Carlisle at Menaul) at 8:45 to depart 9:00 am in order to arrive at Sevilleta NWR parking lot at 10:00 am.

May 2. Meeting. Mike Halverson (Santa Ana Nursery)

June 6. Meeting. "Insects (You Never Heard Of) on Native Plants (You Know So Well)." Dr. Carol Sutherland, Extension Entomologist at New Mexico State University and State Entomologist, New Mexico Department of Agriculture, has identified thousands of New Mexico's insects for multitudes of clients all over the state. She takes us on a 'virtual field trip' around our ecologically and botanically diverse state to sample some odd-ball creatures and often unique plant-insect interactions you may encounter. Superficially, some relationships look rather benign while others appear destructive; some are not easily detected. But, in the end, it's all about survival---and it may not be what it seems. Determining just the names of some insects can open a fascinating look into the interactions insects can have with plants---more complicated than you might expect.

July 11. Meeting.

August 1. Meeting.

September. No monthly meeting.

September 6-9. Annual Meeting of the Native Plant Society of NM in Silver City, NM

October 3. Meeting. "Hummingbirds: Past, Present and Future." Dr. Christopher Witt, UNM Associate Professor of Biology and Director and Curator of Birds at the Museum of Southwestern Biology at UNM, will discuss the evolutionary history of hummingbirds and the present-day ecology of hummingbirds, including those species that occur in New Mexico. He will also discuss the effects of climate warming on hummingbirds in the future.

November 7. Meeting. "Frere Arsene Brouard - New Mexico's Forgotten Botanist." College of Santa Fe Professor Emeritus David Johnson

December 1 or 8. . Annual holiday potluck and officers election. Saturday, 11am-2 pm. Pam McBride's House, 5409 9th St. NW. Pam will provide some vegetarian posole. Everyone bring a dish to share. From I-25 going north, take the Comanche/Griegos exit. Go west to 4th street, turn right, go to the next traffic light at Douglas MacArthur and turn left. Go to 9th street and turn north. Our driveway is just past a small dirt road, Juanita Lane, on the left. The house is straight back. Park on 9th street and walk in.

MEETING PLACES

- A. SW corner of Smith's parking lot at Tramway and Central.
- B. NE corner of Wal-Mart parking lot on the east side of Coors about 0.25 miles north of I-40.
- C. Albertson's parking lot at Tramway and Academy. Park along east wall.
- D. Far North Shopping Center at San Mateo and Academy Park near Wienerschnitzel.

E. Placitas. Parking lot of grocery store in Homesteads Village Shopping Center. Directions: I-25 north from ABQ to exit 242 (second exit at Bernalillo). Turn right and go east on Hwy 165 for approx. 5 miles to shopping center in Placitas on left. To car pool to Placitas, meet at D (Far North Shopping Center site).

F. Michael Emery Trailhead Parking Lot. Go east to the end of Spain Road (east of Tramway). At “T” intersection turn right and go 0.1 mile and turn left into parking lot.

G. Saver's parking lot) on Carlisle on NE side of Carlisle/Menaul intersection. Park behind Mattress Firm in SW corner of lot.

H. Los Lunas. SW corner of Home Depot parking lot by the tool sheds.

Directions: From ABQ drive south on I-25 to Exit 203. Head east through 2 traffic lights. Home Depot is on left.

Articles, photos, and news submissions for the Albuquerque chapter NPSNM Spring Newsletter should be submitted via e-mail to Diane Stevenson by Monday, March 19th, 2018 (distevenson331 “at” hotmail.com). Any mistakes you see in this newsletter are mine. *Thank you*

Become an NPSNM Member:

Join at <http://www.npsnm.org/membership/>

NPSNM is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting the conservation of native New Mexico flora. The Society, and its local chapters, work to educate its members and promote the conservation of our native flora so future generations may enjoy our valuable resource.

Membership Benefits

Members benefit from regional chapter meetings, field trips, an annual meeting, and four issues of the state newsletter each year. Some chapters also hold plant sales and annual seed exchanges and offer discounts on a variety of books providing information on native plant identification and gardening with New Mexico native plants.

Additional benefits to members include discounts on New Mexico Wildflower and Cactus posters.

Albuquerque Chapter Benefits

Members who show a valid NPSNM membership card

- Qualify for Plant World discounts without having to purchase a Plant World membership
- Receive a 10% discount at Plants of the Southwest
- Receive a 10% discount at Santa Ana Garden Center

NPSNM Albuquerque Chapter

Current Board of Directors – 2017

President: George Miller
Vice President: Tom Stewart
Program: Jim McGrath
Secretary: Dara Saville
Outgoing Treasurer: Gary Runyan
Incoming Treasurer: Debbie Conger
Field Trip Coordinator: Carol Conoboy
State Board Rep.: Bettie Hines
Membership: Ann-Marie Yaroslaski
Newsletter Editor: Diane Stevenson
Community Outreach: Vacant
Conservation: Sue Small
Educational Outreach: Vacant

Core Group (essential volunteers)

Books: Carolyn Dodson
Garden Center Chair: Irene Scotillo
Communications: Gary Hoe
Hospitality: Doris Eng
Invasive Weeds Rep.: Don Heinze
New - Publicity: Charlie Jackson
Habitat Gardening: Virginia Burris
Refreshments: Penny Hoe