



NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY OF NEW MEXICO *NEWSLETTER*

September 1999

Volume XXIV Number 4

NPSNM Editor Needed

From the Editor: Farewell

I have enjoyed editing the *Newsletter* since 1991. Paul and Betty Shelford were with me nearly from the start. The Shelfords faithfully placed labels on each of your *Newsletters* and delivered them to the bulk mailing section of the post office. This can be a tedious job (especially when the postal clerk or the regulations change) but Paul and Betty never complained. Robert DeWitt Ivey generously allowed the use of his superb artwork in the *Newsletter*. Bob Sivinski contributed a number of great articles which raised the quality of the *Newsletter*. Many others too numerous to name have also been kind enough to send articles. I thank our chapter contacts who regularly sent chapter information on meetings and field trips, particularly Jean Dodd from Alamogordo. Alice Anderson searched NPSNM files to recreate the history of the conservation fund and sent her findings. Ms. Anderson also shared her ideas on how the NPSNM Board of Directors can better communicate with its membership. Her summary of minutes (page 4) is one example. Finally I thank readers such as Ralph Fisher who have written or talked to me over the years. I appreciate your feedback and comments.

Recently the NPSNM Board of Directors discussed the *Newsletter* and several Directors now wish to take a more active role regarding its content, perhaps forming an editorial committee. Rather than begin this new process, I have decided to hand over the editorship to someone else. Besides the adage that you can't teach an old dog new tricks, I feel that organizations should not rely on single individuals for long. Editing the *Newsletter* has been a great experience but we need some fresh ideas. I hope that someone will accept this challenge and come forward to volunteer (see adjacent article). Thanks to all of you who have helped make our *Newsletter* what it is.

I encourage people to get involved in other ways. Conservation and education are two ways that we can help protect native plants. *Chihuahuan Desert Gardens*, which NPSNM recently produced, has been a smashing success and we need books for other parts of the state. The NPSNM is a wealthy organization with more than \$75,000 in assets and is in a position to fund a wide variety of projects. Member involvement is needed to provide direction, leadership, and ideas.

Tim McKimmie, Publications Chair and Editor

The NPSNM needs a new editor for its *Newsletter*. The job is not difficult but takes a fair amount of time learning the ins and outs of editing, deadlines, etc. A prospective editor should have knowledge of desktop publishing software such as Pagemaker. The primary duties are to receive materials from members such as articles, calendars, conference items, chapter reports, etc. and to design the *Newsletter*. For graphics, Dewitt Ivey generously allows us to use drawings from his *Flowering Plants of New Mexico*. A few ads are also used but selling advertising space is not necessary.

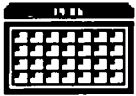
There are many **benefits** to being editor such as getting to know folks from all over the state, following chapter activities, and learning of potential authors and experts on native plants from the southwest. There are exciting workshops, new books, as well as activities of other native plant societies around the United States. You have freedom to be creative and it may be possible to work with another person as co-editors. You should also present the news fairly and clearly and resist censorship. Contact Editor Tim McKimmie or another board member if you wish to discuss the duties of editor or have other questions.

Board Member Resigns

Greg Magee, NPSNM board member since 1996, has resigned from the Board of Directors. Greg cites personal pressures and an increasingly busy landscaping business. Greg was co-author with Tim McKimmie of the recently published *Chihuahuan Desert Gardens*.

Associate Editor Resigns

Terry Peterson, who joined the editorial staff in April, has resigned. Terry states that he needs more time to enjoy his retirement.



CALENDAR

LAS CRUCES

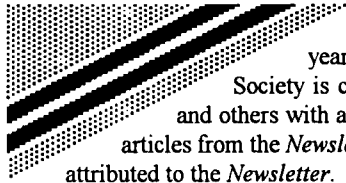
- Sept. 8 "Orchids of New Mexico" by Tom Todson. 7 pm. SW Environmental Center, 1494 S. Solano
- Sept. 12 Field Trip to Valley of Fires State Park. 7 am Kmart/Hwy 70
- Oct. 13 "Creosote Mesquite Scrublands" by Dave Anderson
- Oct. 17 Field Trip to Rope Springs 8am. Kmart/Hwy 70
- Nov. 10 Potluck SW Environmental Center 6:30
- Dec. 8 2000 Planning Meeting 7 pm. SW Env. Center

OTERO

- Sept. 11 Field trip to Rhodes Canyon John Stockert 585-2546
- Sept. 25 Edible Potluck. 2 pm. Jack and Linda Green home.
- Oct. 14 Field trip to Winder Ranch.
- Nov. 6 Potluck at John and Bethanne Gordon home

ALBUQUERQUE

- September 2 "Natural History of the Sunflower" by Sandra Lynn
- September 12 Field trip to El Malpais
- October 7 "Explorations of Edwin James" by Mary Whitmore
- November 4 Juanita Ladyman
- December 9 "The Landscaping Revolution" by Andy Wasowski and pot-luck dinner. 6:30.



The *Newsletter* is published six times per year by the Native Plant Society of New Mexico. The Society is composed of professional and amateur botanists and others with an interest in the flora of New Mexico. Original articles from the *Newsletter* may be reprinted if fully cited to author and attributed to the *Newsletter*.

Membership in the Native Plant Society of New Mexico is open to anyone supporting our goals. We are dedicated to promoting a greater appreciation of native plants and their environment, and to the preservation of endangered species. We encourage the use of suitable native plants in landscaping to preserve the state's unique character and as a water conservation measure. Members benefit from chapter meetings, field trips, publications, plant and seed exchanges, and educational forums. A wide selection of books is available at discount. The society has also produced two New Mexico wildflower posters by artist Niki Threlkeld. Contact our Poster Chair or Book Sales representative for more information. Call chapter contacts for local information.

Advertising Schedule

Approved advertisements will cost \$50 per year.

Membership Fees

Dues are \$12.00 annually for individuals or families. "Friends of the Society" include organizations, businesses, and individuals, whose dues of \$25.00 or more provide support for long range goals. To join us, send your dues to Membership Secretary, NPSNM, POB 5917, Santa Fe, NM 87502-5917

Newsletter Contributions

Please direct all contributions for the newsletter to Tim McKimmie, editor. See address below or email to tmckimmi@lib.nmsu.edu

Deadline for the next newsletter is October 15.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| President | Jack Carter 388-9221 jmcarter@zianet.com
POB 1244, Silver City 88062 |
| Vice-President | Robert Sivinski 827-7865 bsivinski@state.nm.us
144 Cedar St. Santa Fe 87501 |
| Recording Secretary | Robert Hilton 587-1609
Vadito, NM 87579 |
| Membership Secretary | Mary Goodman 474-7996 jimgoodman@aol.com
20 Via Brisa, Santa Fe 87501 |
| Treasurer | Babs Peck 466-1348 twopecks@aol.com
1 Herrada Terrace, Santa Fe 87505 |
| Editor/Publications Chair | Tim McKimmie 524-0401 tmckimmi@lib.nmsu.edu
1105 Circle Dr., Las Cruces 88005 |
| Conservation Chair | Grace Mason 982-0659
POB 2936, Santa Fe 87504 |

DIRECTORS AT LARGE

- | | | |
|-----------------|----------|--|
| Carolyn Dodson | 268-7889 | 1400 Dartmouth Dr. NE Abq. 87106
cdodson@unm.edu |
| John Freyermuth | 523-8413 | 734 N. Reymond, Las Cruces 88005
jfreyerm@lib.nmsu.edu |
| Dean Ricer | 887-5292 | 1506 Monroe, Carlsbad 88220
dwricer@caverns.com |
| Deb Swetnam | 388-3086 | 406 E. 21st, Silver City 88061 |
| Don Tribble | 585-9017 | 79 Papago Rd, Alamogordo, 88310 |

Book Sales: Lisa Johnston 748-1046
1814 West Currier, Artesia 88210
cityhall@artesia.net

Poster Chair: Mary Whitmore 454-0683
whitmore@nmhu.campuscw.net

CHAPTER CONTACTS

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| Albuquerque | Carolyn Dodson 268-7889
Beth Hershman 296-0763 |
| Las Cruces | John Freyermuth 523-8413
jfreyerm@lib.nmsu.edu
Lisa Mandelkern 526-0917 |
| Otero | Jean Dodd 434-3041
Don Tribble 585-9017 |
| Santa Fe | Bob Sivinski 982-0616
Barbara Fix 989-8654 |
| Gila | Martha Carter 388-9221
Caroline Baldwin |
| Carlsbad | Mary Helen Brunt 885-4532
Dean Ricer 887-5292 |
| Taos | Andy Wasowski 776-1498
Sandra Ross 751-9605
rossart@laplaza.org |

SOCIETY CORRESPONDENCE: Our main address is: NPSNM, POB 5917, Santa Fe NM 87502-5917. See above for membership and newsletter correspondence.



CHAPTER REPORTS

OTERO

Friday, 18 June Otero Chapter presented a Symposium on Landscaping in the Desert. Andy Wasowski of Arroyo Seco spoke about the Building Envelope. Hildy Reiser showed slides of a variety of native plants commenting on their suitability for various environments. She and her husband Ranger bought 5 acres with more land bare than not so she speaks from lots of experience selecting and planting nearly a new landscape. Parla Rathgeber of the Soil and Water Conservation Office spoke about noxious weeds both locally and nationally. President Clinton has signed an executive order directing Federal agencies to expand and coordinate their efforts to combat a serious environmental threat-the introduction and spread of plants and animals not native to this country. Take time to go to your local Soil and Water Conservation office to pick up a variety of good information about this serious problem.

Sat. morning we visited a home built by the Martinez Brothers in an isolated area between Alamogordo and Tularosa. The Martinez Brothers clear no more than absolutely necessary. Back to Alamogordo-Jean Dodd's passive solar home fits right in with the building envelope concept. In spite of the drought it is amazing to see how well the native plants are doing. This has even been an excellent year for birds to come by. That is one of the benefits of not clearing much. Mature plants, especially old yuccas, seem to house or host a large variety of birds. At Hildy and Ranger's place you could see the large amount of thought, hard work, and TLC they had put into their land. They have explored the native plant markets as far away as Tucson (good place to buy). Now all the effort is beginning to show results. The latest at their house is trying to bring back a grassland area.

24 July Joe Duft led a fieldtrip in the Sacramento Lake area in the local mountains. The weather had changed from dry to almost daily showers so the wildflowers were beautiful especially the large drifts of purple penstemons. The "lake" is more like a marsh now. In 1976 the rocks on the bottom cracked and the water pretty much disappeared. Joe made a plant list for us with categories for wetlands, forest, lichens, and uplands. Pretty different for Otero to have wetlands, at least not very often. Participants ranged in age from less than 2 years old to over 70.

On **July 31** eight members of the Otero Chapter continued the annual event of hiking one trail as a group in the Sacramento District of the Lincoln National Forest. This year it was down 4.5 miles of the five mile long Lucas Canyon Trail. There was unbelievable variety of exquisite canyon and forest scenery including several mountain meadows with tall grass dotted with wildflowers in full bloom. There were more than 55 species of wildflowers in bloom.

Many thanks to Robert Dewitt Ivey for permission to use the wonderful drawings from his book *Flowering Plants of New Mexico*, in our *Newsletter*.

LAS CRUCES

Corrections to reports in July/August issue, March 10: the donation to Forest Guardians was unrestricted. May 12: the sentence "Alice Anderson read and commented on a letter from Conservation Chair Grace Mason" should read, "John Freyermuth distributed copies of Mason's reply to our letter."

Wed. June 9 Greg Magee announced that he had resigned as our Member-at-Large to the Board of Directors. Terry Peterson will write a petition from the LC chapter to the Directors, asking them to name John Freyermuth as our Member-at-Large. Terry moved that Tim McKimmie be given an honorary life membership in recognition of his long service to the Society as *Newsletter* editor. By-laws and minutes relating to life membership were read. The motion was passed unanimously. Terry agreed to a) prepare a draft resolution for the Directors' consideration granting Tim an honorary life membership, b) write a less-than-5-minute speech praising Tim that Terry would read at the August annual meeting banquet and c) bring both documents to our July meeting for review and approval. Consv. Chair Alice Anderson reported on the Conservation Fund. It was moved, seconded, and unanimously approved that Alice will a) write a draft resolution for the Directors' consideration about disbursing the Conservation Fund and b) bring the draft to our July meeting for review and approval. Paul Shelford volunteered to help Alice write the draft. NPS member Bob Reeves showed slides of "Oddities, Anomalies, and a Few Weirdos," beginning with cristate cacti and ending with unintentionally funny roadside signs.

Wed. July 14 Pres. Lisa Mandelkern asked to hear a motion to donate \$100 to the SW Environmental Center where we meet. The motion was passed. Lisa then said she was going to read a statement, after which there would be no discussion. A. Anderson objected to the "no discussion" rule. Lisa read a statement from herself and 5 other members rescinding their approval of the conservation motion from the June 9 meeting. Ms. Anderson said that Greg Magee had told her she would not be allowed to speak. She did not attempt to speak except to announce her resignation as Chair of the 2000 Annual Meeting Committee. Will Beattie, reading from a typescript, moved to limit debate at this and all future meetings. The motion said that henceforth only chapter business would be discussed. Carolyn Gressitt seconded. A heated discussion followed with many members objecting to any type of censorship and no one able to define "chapter business". Mr. Beattie finally withdrew his motion. NPS member Jackie Meinecke spoke of "Blooming Plants," and showed slides of natives and non-natives suitable for Las Cruces gardens.

June 13th. Lisa Mandelkern led a group of approximately 15 people to the Trestle Trail in the Sacramento Mountains, near Cloudcroft, NM. Thirty-eight different plants were noted for this trip. The chapter also took a field trip on **July 18, 1999** to the Black Range along the trail from Emory Pass to Hillsboro Peak. This trip was led by John Freyermuth and Carolyn Gressitt

Freyermuth New Director

John Freyermuth of the Las Cruces Chapter, has been appointed by the Board of Directors to fill the term of Greg Magee who resigned.

To the Editor:

At the Sept 1997 Board meeting, the Board resolved unanimously to "print a synopsis of the minutes and the Treasurer's Report in the newsletter after every meeting." I have prepared a synopsis of the Feb 1999 minutes as a sample of what could be done. I will be happy to work with Recording Secretary Robert Hilton to prepare synopses of future minutes for the *Newsletter*. A. Anderson

Summary of minutes of NPSNM Board meeting.

Sun. 13 Feb 1999 at Sevilleta NWR.

Nine directors present, 5 absent, 3 proxies.

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved. All Board members at the meeting signed Affidavit of Director's Consent forms and witnessed each others' signatures. Absent Board members will be sent affidavits to return with their witnessed signatures.

REPORTS

Report for Membership. Mailing list has 590 entries. Treasury balance \$56,299. Reports were given for conservation, publications, book and poster sales, and annual meeting. \$2452 appropriated to print more posters.

OLD BUSINESS

Tribble reported on liability insurance and release of liability forms.

NEW BUSINESS

Carter requested \$300 to hire an accountant to help the Treasurer fill out tax forms. Tabled.

Carter, in for McKimmie, presented a revised Grant Request Form. No action.

Ricer moved to consider republishing E.O. Wooton's *Native Ornamental Plants of New Mexico* (1904). No action.

Ricer moved to appropriate \$800 for a workshop on plant taxonomy, to be called the Sandia Floral Workshop and to be planned by Sivinski. Passed.

Closed session 3:35 pm to 4:00 pm.

Martha Carter presented designs for a new fund-raising T-shirt. Production cost: \$1750 for 250 shirts @ \$7. NPSNM will sell for \$8-10, chapters may sell for \$12-15. Lisa Mandelkern will oversee production and will distribute. Swetnam moved to accept the proposal. Passed.

Sun. Feb. 14

Five directors present, 9 absent, 3 proxies.

Sivinski moved to appropriate \$300 to hire Linda McGee, an accountant, to help Carter and Peck develop a budget. Passed. Sivinski moved to appropriate \$500 for a donation to New Mexico Re-Leaf. Failed.

Sivinski moved to appropriate \$1000 for a donation to the Leopold Education Project, and to request a report describing how the funds were used. Passed.

Ricer moved to appropriate \$1000 for a donation to the NMSU Herbarium. Passed.

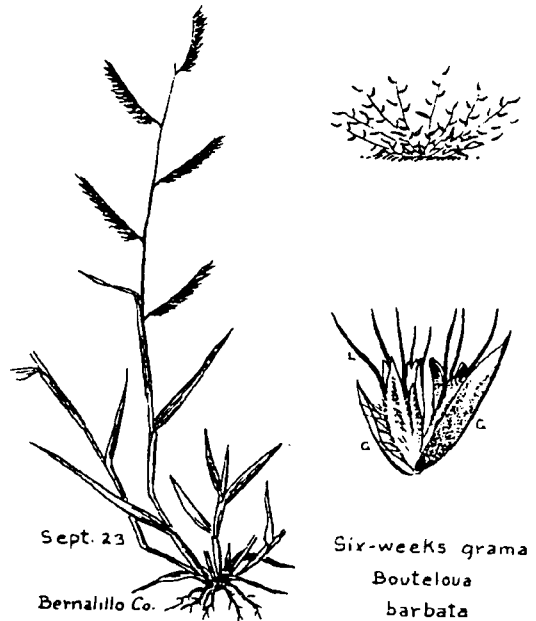
Mason moved to appropriate \$1000 for a donation to the UNM Herbarium. Passed.

Meeting adjourned 11:30 am. No date set for next meeting.

Submitted by Martha Carter

Summarized by Alice Anderson

Editors note: Due to space limitations this summary had to be shortened.



The Native Plant Society of New Mexico
1105 Circle Drive
Las Cruces, New Mexico 88005

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