

Santa Fe Chapter NPSNM ANNUAL REPORT- 2013

1. Officers:

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2. Programs:

January 16- Dr. Chick Keller, "San Pedro Park Wilderness Flora and what it means"
One of the wettest areas in New Mexico, San Pedro Parks Wilderness is located in the Jemez Mountains. Vegetation on the plateau consists of grassy meadows, called "parks," interspaced with forests of Engleman Spruce, other conifers, and Quaking Aspen. Wildflowers of many species abound.

February 20 - Bob Pennington, owner of Agua Fria Nursery in Santa Fe "Eriogonum (Buckwheats) amazing plants of the American West"

March 20th - Kelly Washburn, Urban & Community Forestry Program Manager, New Mexico State Forestry "New Mexico Big Tree Program and the Urban & Community Forestry Program"

April 17th - Scott Woodall, Rangeland Ecologist for the Natural Resources Conservation Service "Ecological Site Descriptions of the Guadalupe Mountains and Ridge Land Resource Unit"

May 22, Wednesday - Dr. Mary O'Connell- NMSU professor and world expert on New Mexico chili peppers will present a talk entitled “Red or Green: That is the Question” 6:30 PM at the NM State Land office auditorium 310 Old Santa Fe Trail
<http://aces.nmsu.edu/academics/pes/mary-oconnell.html>

The Santa Fe Chapter of the Native Plant Society of New Mexico changed meeting locations , we now meet the 3rd Wednesday of each month at **Christ Lutheran Church**, located in the triangle of Old Pecos Trail, St Michael’s Drive and Arroyo Chamiso @ **1701 Arroyo Chamiso**. It is directly across the street from Fire Station #4.

Since moving to our new location, we have averaged between 45-50 people at each meeting!

September 17, Wednesday program: “Birding and Planting Together”

Author Priyanka Kumar will discuss her new novel TAKE WING AND FLY HERE, which was released last month. It explores our changing relationship with the outdoors in the American West. She will read a brief excerpt from her and then present a slide show of her bird and plant photography, while speaking about how her interest in native plants and bird life evolved, each feeding the other, and how this influenced her storytelling

October 16, Wednesday 6:30 PM “Not Your Mama’s Nopalitos”

El Paso Chapter’s Gringo Gourmet, Jim Hastings takes cooking prickly pear to a new level with non-traditional recipes. This work- shop will demonstrate cooking techniques and provide opportunities to taste creative takes on cactus dining from soup to dessert.

November 20, Wednesday 6:30 PM “New Mexico Forests: Past, Present, and Future”

Craig D. Allen, Research Ecologist, U.S. Geological Survey, Jemez Mountains Field Station, Los Alamos. By the early 1990s many forests likely were near maximum potential levels of tree density and had reached unsustainable conditions. New research is showing how the drier, warmer climate since 1996 has triggered tree mortality, insect outbreaks, and increased fire size and severity. Dr. Allen presents the ecological drivers and effects of these landscape changes, along with adaptation strategies.

December 8, 2013 – 5 PM Holiday Potluck at the home of Joan & Truel West

3. FIELD TRIPS:

June 1, Saturday - Tour of Joan & Truel West’s Garden- 10:00 AM tour this beautiful garden full of native and xeric plants. Enjoy delicious cookies, and cold drinks.

June 8, Saturday - Geologic Tour of Cerrillos Hills State Park – meet at the Cerrillos, NM post office parking lot at 9:00 AM. Renowned geologist Dr. Kirt Kempter will lead this trip. Afterward you are invited to enjoy your packed lunch at the off-grid rural home of Tom Antonio, located 20 minutes away. To get to his house you need high clearance

and/or 4-wheel drive vehicles. Cool drinks and dessert provided.

<http://www.nationalgeographicexpeditions.com/experts/kirt-kempton/detail>

<http://www.emnrd.state.nm.us/spd/cerrilloshillsstatepark.html>

June 15-16, Saturday & Sunday- Pagosa Springs field trip with Charlie King, for details and to sign-up go to <http://www.npsnm.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/Pagosa-Field-Trip.pdf>

IN PAGOSA SPRINGS COUNTRY, COLORADO

Difficulty: Easy to Moderate

Elevation: 7,000 to 11,000 ft.

Location: Pagosa Springs is 160 miles from Santa Fe

Time: Saturday June 15 - 8 AM to Sunday June 16 - 1 PM

Leaders: Charlie and Anita King 505/ 466-6851

We will focus on four endemics of Pagosa Springs Country: *Ipomopsis polyantha* (Pagosa skyrocket, a federally listed endangered species), *Lesquerella pruinoso* (Frosty Bladderpod), *Phlox caryophylla* (Pagosa Phlox), and *Castilleja lineata* (Long-leaved Paintbrush). A possible Colorado endemic, *Draba smithii* (Smith whitlow-wort) is also in the area. All of these species can be seen in drive-by populations.

Anticipated sites to be visited, depending on floral displays and weather conditions, include montane forests on the west flanks of the South San Juan Mountains, subalpine communities in the environs of Wolf Creek Pass, and various habitats within the Piedra River gorge. This latter location will be for the more adventurous and will finish up one of the two days. It will be a 2-mile roundtrip hike along the Piedra River into the gorge on a moderate trail, about 15 miles northwest of Pagosa Springs.

Pagosa Springs has numerous accommodations for lodging, camping, and food. Contact the Chamber of Commerce: 1-800-252-2204 or 970-264-2360 or www.pagosaspringschamber.com

Our starting point in Santa Fe is the northwest part of the parking lot of DeVargas Mall near Five Star burgers, and we will leave at 8 AM Saturday. Some stops are planned enroute to Pagosa Springs on US Route 84, so we will attempt to keep the group together. BRING LUNCH AND WATER! We plan to be done botanizing and in Pagosa Springs by 6 PM. You will be on your own until 9 AM Sunday when we will rendezvous in Pagosa Springs at a place to be announced. We will do more botanizing and plan to conclude the field trip by 1 PM.

For more details and to sign up, contact the leaders at 505/466-6851.

July 20, Saturday - Chick Keller will lead a trip to field trip to San Gregoria Lake, in the San Pedro Parks Wilderness. We will meet in Los Alamos at 9:00 AM

<http://www.wilderness.net/NWPS/wildView?WID=525>

Interesting Summer Workshops offered by the Native Plant Society

<http://www.npsnm.org/2013/03/10/npsnm-announces-2013-workshops/>

August 9-11 Annual meeting of the Native Plant Society of NM in Albuquerque, NM
“Ecosystems in a Changing Climate”

<http://www.npsnm.org/events/2013-annual-conference/>

4: Other Activities

August 17, 2013

Responsible for getting the Native Plant Day Proclamation from Governor Martinez signed by the Governor and the Secretary of State. This was announced in local publications of Santa Fe and published on the NPSNM website.

Garden tours: Two gardens of contrasting natures were on tour featuring native plants and drought tolerant plants of similar climate from around the world. The tours were free and open to the public. Bob Pennington’s personal garden of sturdy native garden superstars that get very little to no supplemental water was held at Agua Fria Nursery. It was a big hit, especially because of the 18’ agave there. Jeannie Dodson-Edgars’ Garden on 9 Lluvia De Oro in Santa Fe was the host of the 2nd garden. Dodson-Edgars’ garden filled 3 acres with groups of blooming and fruiting plants from around the world. She used captured rainwater and drip irrigation in 3 watering zones.