

El Paso Native Plant Society
2011 Annual Report

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CHAPTER ACTIVITIES FOR 2011

Thursday, January 13, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. (Centennial Museum - UTEP)

Program: "Not Your Mama's Napolitos" by Jim Hastings, the Gringo Gourmet
Jim prepared modern recipes based on prickly pear pads were prepared in non-traditional ways; shared and tasted.

Thursday, February 10, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. (Centennial Museum - UTEP)

Program: "Six Penstemons from Western Chihuahua" by Richard Spellenberg, Professor Emeritus of Biology at New Mexico State
The program featured six penstemons in the state of Western Chihuahua, along with other Chihuahuan Desert flowers. These plant species were observed on a recent American Penstemon Society field trip.

Thursday, March 10, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. (El Paso Garden Center, 3105 Grant)

Program: "Botany in a Buick: Identifying Grasses at 50 mph" by Dr. Kelly Allred, retired Professor of Range Science (plant taxonomy and grasses of the Southwest) at New Mexico State University
Dr. Allred discussed grasses of the Southwest.

Thursday, April 14, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. (El Paso Garden Center, 3105 Grant)

Program: "FloraFest Preview" by John White, Botanical Curator for the Chihuahuan Desert Gardens at the UTEP Centennial Museum
John gave a preview of the native plants offered at the plant sale held at the Centennial Museum on April 16 and 17, 2011.

Saturday, April 16 and Sunday, April 17, 2011 from 8:00 a.m to 4:00 p.m. (Centennial Museum – UTEP)
Annual Native Plant Sale

Thursday, May 12, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. (El Paso Garden Center, 3105 Grant)

Program: "Success with Succulents" by Virginia Morris
Following a video on succulents and their identification, care and propagation; participants propagated their own succulents from a wide variety of donated plants. All materials were provided and potted succulents were taken home by the participants.

Thursday, June 9, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. (El Paso Garden Center, 3105 Grant)

Program: "What is Ethnobotany and Why is it Important?" by Dr. Bill Wood, Director of the Centennial Museum and Chihuahuan Desert Gardens
Dr. Wood discussed the concept of ethnobotany which is the study of how and why people use and conceptualize plants in their local environments.

Thursday, July 14, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. (El Paso Garden Center, 3105 Grant)

Program: "Wildflower Identification" by Cheryl Garing, President of the El Paso Native Plant Society

Cheryl discussed wildflowers common to the El Paso area and methods of identifying them.

Saturday, July 16, 2011, 8:00 a.m. (Chihuahuan Desert Gardens at UTEP)

Field Trip: Tour of the Chihuahuan Desert Gardens by John White, Assistant Curator of the Chihuahuan Desert Gardens at UTEP and Cheryl Garing, President of the EPNPS.

Thursday, August 11, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. (El Paso Garden Center, 3105 Grant)

Program: "What About This Weather?" by John Fawcett, National Weather Service Station at Santa Teresa, NM.

Mr. Fawcett discussed climate change and the unusual weather events that have occurred in the last few years.

Thursday, September 8, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. (El Paso Garden Center, 3105 Grant)

Program: "E-Harmony.com" by Eric Metzler, retired Entomologist

Mr. Metzler gave a humorous presentation of natural plant propagation and fertilization.

Saturday, September 10, 2011 at 8:00 a.m. (Tulie Gate at the White Sands Missile Range "WSMR")

Field Trip: Tour of the Oscurra Mountains and the Malpais within the WSMR, lead by David Anderson, Land Manager in the Environmental Stewardship Branch of the Garrison Public Works at White Sands Missile Range.

Thursday, October 13, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. (El Paso Garden Center, 3105 Grant)

Program: Native Plant Seed Exchange

Participants brought plant seeds and extra plants and plant volunteers to the meeting to exchange for others. The featured speaker was John White, Assistant Curator of the Chihuahuan Desert Gardens at UTEP. John spoke on methods to propagate native plants from seeds and cuttings.

November 12, 2011 at 8:00 a.m. (Lowe's Home Improvement Center, 12100 Montana Avenue)

Field Trip: McKittrick Canyon in the Guadalupe Mountains, lead by Cheryl Garing, President of EPNPS.

Thursday, November 10, 2011, 6:30 p.m. (El Paso Garden Center, 3105 Grant)

Program: Rainwater Harvesting for Your Landscape by Doc Stalker, El Paso County Master Gardener

Presentation on the different rain water collection methods, including planning for new building designs.

December 3, 2011 at 10: 00 a.m. (El Paso Garden Center, 3105 Grant)

Potluck Holiday Party with EPNPS and the El Paso Cactus and Rock Club.

CHAPTER HIGHLIGHTS FOR 2011

**March 20, 2011 (El Paso Museum of Archeology, 4301 Transmountain Road)
Franklin Mountain Celebration of the Poppies**

EPNPS manned a booth showing EPNPS activities and brochures, conducted plant identification tours and provided other volunteer support for the celebration.

April 15 through 17, 2011 (Centennial Museum – UTEP)

Native Plant Sale

EPNPS members assisted with the preparations and sales at annual plant sale. EPNPS also co-sponsored Greg Starr (author of “Cool Plants for Hot Gardens”), who was the opening night speaker.

September 17, 2011 (Tom Mays Unit of the Franklin Mountain State Park)

Chihuahuan Desert Fiesta

EPNPS manned a booth with chapter information and activities, also guided plant identification tours.

October 15, 2011 from 9:00 a.m. through 2:00 p.m. (Centennial Museum - UTEP)

Native Plant Appreciation Day

Various speakers from the EPNPS and the El Paso Cactus and Rock Club gave presentations, tours of the Chihuahuan Desert Garden and assisted with a set-up for children’s activities.

We made a donation of 250.00 to the UTEP Herbarium to help support Dr. Worthington’s work on local area native plants.

2012 PROJECTIONS

Assist Dave Anderson with a plant survey of the Bear Canyon and Bennet Mountain area of the WSMR

Assist Peter Beste with plant rescues

Participate in the Celebration of the Poppies by leading native plant tours and manning a booth

Participate in the Chihuahuan Desert Fiesta