

2015 and Early 2016

REPORT OF THE LAS CRUCES CHAPTER OF NPSNM

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[2015 January meeting is on 2014 Report; *participant numbers in () after each event*]

Events

Feb. 11 Lillis Urban spoke about her research on *Selenia/Leavenworthia*, in the Brassicaceae (Mustard Family). (14)

Feb. 14 Lillis Urban guided us on collecting and processing a plant specimen, at the NMSU Herbarium. (7)

March 11 Plant and Environmental Sciences Professor Rolston St. Hilaire spoke on garden types in Las Cruces. (19)

March 14 We found lovely spring blooms in the Box Canyon and Picacho Peak area. (15)

April 8 Lisa Mandelkern presented "Agave to zinnia: A brief introduction to scientific plant names for Southern New Mexico wildflower enthusiasts." (15)

April 11 We saw a spectacular show of spring wildflowers the Florida Mts. (6)

April 25 Garden Tour: We took a walking tour of home gardens including native plants, in the historic Alameda Depot District of Las Cruces. (13)

May 13 David Morin presented "Weird Reproduction and Evolution in the genus *Boechera* (Brassicaceae)." (15)

May 16 Lisa Mandelkern took us along Westside Road, in the Sacramentos: many species! (7)

June: *No activities, because of historic low attendance in June at meetings and on field trips.*

July 8 Dr. Kelly Allred presented "Words for Nerds." Dr. Allred promised it would not be too long and boring – and it certainly was not! (24)

July 11, Lisa Hay Canyon, Sacramentos: fabulous wildflowers! (5)

Planning Meeting for 2016: Aug. 12 Officers re-elected. Members helped select speakers and field trips for 2016, and began signing up for tasks at 2016 Annual Meeting. (10)

Aug. 15 Rio Bosque Wetlands Park in Socorro, TX. (Canceled, low interest)

Sept. 9 Ted Hodoba spoke on "Restoration of Wildlife Habitat at the Whitfield Wildlife Conservation Area" in Belen. (16)

Sept. 12 WSMR, Dave Anderson, San Augustin Peak area – great trip, as usual! (30)

Sept. 19 Bio-Blitz at the Chihuahuan Desert Nature Park: we participated and identified 103 species of plants within the park!

Oct. 14 Patrick Alexander, botanist, gave a talk and slide presentation on area lizards. **Oct. 7** Barr Canyon: beautiful fall colors – and still many blooms! (8)

Oct. 10 Potluck at La Cueva; beautiful weather, good company! (7)

Oct. 24: Three of us tabled at Celebrate Sevilleta, with Amigos de la Sevilleta

Nov. 11 Donovan Bailey presented "Plants and Their Amazing Microbes." (18)

We want to commend John Freyermuth for continuing to update plant lists for all our field trips, so you can be assured that we will provide them for the 2016 meeting!