

## **Santa Fe Chapter NPSNM Annual Report for 2016**

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### **2. Programs**

**January 20 at 6:30 pm.**

**Steven J. Cary**, Community Naturalist, and New Mexico's unofficial Butterfly Guy, entitled:

**“Gardening for Caterpillars: the Whys and Hows.”**

Born and raised in the Upper Midwest, Steve earned his M.S. at the University of Wisconsin. After a 30-year career in environmental protection and natural resource management for the State of New Mexico, Steve worked for almost 5 years in various capacities for Audubon New Mexico. Butterflies have always been Steve's passion and he has published a variety of scientific and popular articles on these amazing creatures. Through countless talks and guided walks, he has become New Mexico's unofficial Butterfly Guy. New Mexico Magazine published his wonderful book, *Butterfly Landscapes of New Mexico*, in 2009. He continues to pursue his passions for butterflies, native pollinators and natural history through travel, writing, research and public presentations.

50 people attended

**February 18, at 6:30 pm**

**Dr. Kathryn Kennedy**

**"Our Vulnerable Flora, Foundations for it's Future."**

Dr. Kennedy is currently the Regional Botanist for the US Forest Service Region 3, serving 11 National Forests and 4 National Grasslands in AZ and NM.

Previously, she served for 14 years as the President and Executive Director of the Center for Plant Conservation (CPC). Prior to that, she spent 20 years working in plant conservation in Texas. She was recovery botanist for the Fish and Wildlife Service in Austin for nearly 10 years, worked for the Heritage Program in the Texas Department of Parks and Wildlife, and was the first employee at the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center. She is the recipient of many plant conservation awards from the Garden Club of America, the Plant Conservation Alliance, Texas Rare Plant Group, and Native Plant Society of Texas. She remains active in conservation committee work with The International Conservation of Nature's Plant Conservation, the Botanical Society of America, and the American Public Garden Association.

45 people attended

**March 23 at 6:30 pm**

**Bob Pennington, owner of Agua Fria Nursery**

**"Why Grow Natives?"**

Bob and his wife, Jeni, were in the very first class of New Mexico Certified Nursery Professionals. Bob teaches classes regularly through the SFCC Continuing Education Department. He was president of the American Penstemon Society, a founding member and past board member of the Santa Fe Botanical Garden, a founding member and current board member of the Eriogonum Society, current co-chair of the New Mexico Chapter of the Colorado Nursery Green-house Association, and instructor for the New Mexico Nursery Professional Certification program. Besides still working at Agua Fria Nursery, Bob is Co-Host of Bob's Botanical Garden Radio show, every Saturday on KTRC, 1260 am 8-9 am 44 people attended

**April 20 at 6:30 pm,**

**Larry Littlefield**

**"Wildflowers of the Northern and Central Mountains of New Mexico."**

This unique reference work describes over 350 wildflowers and flowering shrubs that grow in New Mexico's Sangre de Cristo, Jemez, Sandia, and Manzano Mountains, as well as neighboring ranges, including the Manzanita, San Pedro, Ortiz, and other lower-elevation mountains in central portions of the state. With more than a thousand color photographs accompanied by visual descriptions, the easy-to-use guide organizes plants first by flower color, then alphabetically by family common name, then by scientific name. The authors also include information on traditional uses of the plants by indigenous peoples and an extensive glossary and bibliography. A brief geological history and description of the ranges examines the different life zones and ecosystems and how these relate to elevation and microclimates. Wildflower enthusiasts and hikers will welcome this useful book. 45 people attended

**May 18 at 6:30 pm,**

**Mike Halverson, Nursery Manager of the Santa Ana Native Plant Nursery at the Pueblo of Santa Ana.**

He will discuss their recent expansion and their wide variety of available native plants.  
44 people attended

**June 22 at 6:30 PM**

Ben Wright

**“ WHAT ARE SIBERIAN ELMS DOING IN NEW MEXICO? ”**

He is an ISA Certified Arborist and Taos Tree Board chair. Currently a Masters of Natural Resources candidate at Oregon State University focusing on urban forestry. Much of his studies are focused on exploring and integrating the dynamic relationship between natural communities and communities of people. 47 people attended

**September 21 at 6:30 PM**

**Jennifer Dann**

**Urban and Community Forestry Program Manager for NM State Forestry**

“The Management Challenge of New Mexico’s Historic Community Forests”  
40 people attended

**October 19 at 6:30 PM**

**Panayoti Kelaidis, <sup>[1]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub> Director of Outreach, Denver Botanic Gardens.**

“Cacti & Succulents for the Rock Garden”

This meeting is in collaboration with the Santa Fe Cactus and Succulent Club. Panayoti Kelaidis is a plant explorer, gardener and public garden administrator associated with Denver Botanic Gardens where he is now Senior Curator and Director of Outreach. He has designed plantings for many of the gardens at DBG, he is particularly noted for the plantings of the Rock Alpine Garden. He has introduced hundreds of native ornamentals from throughout the Western United States to general horticulture. He has taken seven collecting trips to Southern Africa researching the high mountain flora there, as well as travels to the Andes, the Himalaya (from both Pakistan and China) as well as travels throughout much of Europe, and Turkey. Many of his plant introductions are available through Plant Select<sup>®</sup>, (a plant introduction program he helped launch along with staff from Colorado State University and nurseries across America). He has lectured in over 130 cities in seven countries, and has been featured in dozens of television, newspaper and magazine pieces. He has published widely in popular and technical horticultural journals. In recent years Panayoti has been honored with the Boulder History Museum’s 60 Year Living History award in 2004, in 2003 by being inducted into the Garden Club of America as Member-at-Large, in 2002 he received the National Garden Clubs Medal of Honor and in 2000 he received the Arthur Hoyt Scott Medal from the Scott Arboretum at Swarthmore College. He has received four awards from the North American Rock Garden Society. In 2004 he was inducted into the Colorado Nursery and Greenhouse Association’s Hall of Fame. In 2009 he received the Liberty Hyde Bailey Award of the American Horticultural Society. 65 people attended

**November 16, 2016 at 6:30 PM**

## **George Miller “Save a Place for Wildlife.”**

Human housing disrupts the complex web of life from soil microorganisms to the butterflies, bees, birds, and small mammals that once lived here. By purposefully landscaping with native plants we can repair the habitat one yard at a time. He will discuss the back yard basics and plants that will create an oasis for wildlife in a desert of gravel lawns, alien plants, pavement and parking lots.

George Miller is an environmental photojournalist and naturalist and author of “Landscaping with Native Plants of the Southwest.” He has written field guides and smartphone apps for wildflowers of New Mexico, Texas, Colorado, and Southern California. Currently he is president of the Albuquerque Chapter of the Native Plant Society of New Mexico. 45 people attended

**December 11 at 4:00 PM**  
**Annual Holiday Potluck at the home of:**  
**Truel and Joan West**  
**1050 Camino Rancheros**

### **3. Field Trips**

**Saturday July 2<sup>nd</sup>** Bob Sivinski lead a trip to the Simon’s Ranch at La Cienega. We be joined members of the Santa Fe Botanical Garden for this trip. 25 people attended

**Sunday July 10<sup>th</sup>** Chick Keller lead a trip to Holy Ghost Canyon in Pecos. 17 people attended

**Sunday July 17<sup>th</sup>** Dr. Larry Littlefield lead a trip to the Santa Fe Ski Basin  
16 people attended

### **4: Other Activities**

#### **12<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Garden Fair 2016**

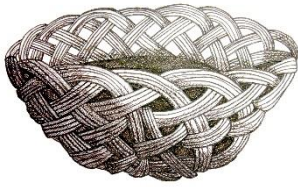
**Saturday, May 7, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm at the County Fairgrounds, 3229 Rodeo Rd.**

Volunteers sat at the Native Plant Society table, promote memberships and sale books and posters etc. Volunteers included: Barbara Fix, Carol Johnson, Tom Antonio

#### **Native Plant Garden:**

After dealing with landscape erosion and irrigation problems on their grounds, Christ Lutheran church asked the Santa Fe chapter for advice. We have been meeting at the church for a few years. Members Barbara Fix and Carol Johnson (also a member of the congregation) met with the church's landscape team several times throughout the year. Barbara's expert advice was greatly admired and appreciated by the team. Recapturing and redirecting rainwater off the roof to the landscape was initiated in the spring. Also, one rock dams, Zuni bowls and other rock placements were built to hold the rainwater in the landscape. Carol and Barbara labored with the team in rock installation. The chapter donated \$300 for the planting of native plants and seeds. Carol and Barbara chose appropriate plants and seeds for planting. They also helped dig up the beds, amend the soil, and plant the plants and seeds. More native plants will be added to the landscape in the spring with the funds remaining.

## August 20, 2015 New Mexico Native Plant Day



Carol Johnson –Vice-President of the Santa Fe Chapter of the NPSNM again worked with the NM Governor’s office Native Plant Day Proclamation from the office of Governor Martinez. It was signed by the Governor and the Secretary of State. This was announced in local publications of Santa Fe and published on the NPSNM website.

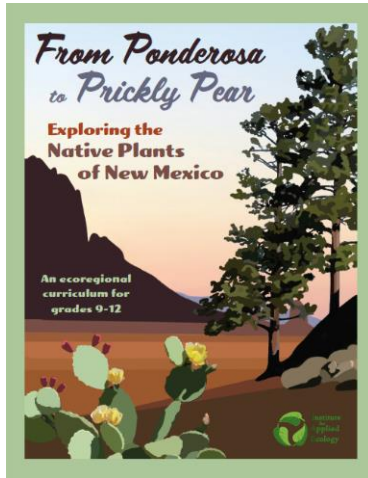


### Native Plant Curriculum

In 2016, the Native Plant Society of New Mexico (NPSNM) and the Bureau of Land Management awarded funding to the Southwest Program of the Institute for Applied Ecology (IAE) to produce an ecoregional curriculum that offers place-based learning for high school-level students, called “*From Ponderosa to Prickly Pear, Exploring the Native Plants of New Mexico*”. The curriculum aligns with NPSNM’s mission to promote the knowledge of plant identification and ecology and foster plant conservation and the preservation of natural habitats. By working with local native plant experts and by researching the botanical literature, IAE adapted their existing curriculum for Oregon to New Mexico’s unique landscape and flora. The document was reviewed by local science teachers, ecologists, and native plant society volunteers for accuracy and relevance. Lessons within engage students with hands-on, interdisciplinary activities covering wide range of topics including: basic botany, plant identification, ecoregions of New Mexico, invasive species, ethnobotany, rare plants, restoration, and climate change.

### Milestones and Accomplishments

**Research, Review, and Editing:** Over the past year, the IAE has made major improvements to the native plant curriculum template and customized the content for the state of New Mexico. Several sections, including Ecoregions of New Mexico, Ethnobotany, Future of Native Plants, and Appendices required substantial changes and rewriting. The 306-page document also underwent a thorough review, critique, and technical editing process by IAE staff, resource experts, NPSNM volunteers, and local educators. Every effort was made to ensure concepts and lessons met national teaching and instruction standards.



**Publishing:** Staff from IAE’s Ecological Education Program in the Corvallis, Oregon office converted the content to an InDesign Publisher format and worked with a professional printer in Corvallis to print 100 copies of the curriculum. A PDF of the curriculum can be found at:

<http://appliedeco.org/programs/education/about-project-botany/project-botany-new-mexico/> .

### Artwork

Thirty additional drawings were developed for the New Mexico curriculum. The Santa Fe Chapter of NPSNM sponsored a student artist from the Institute of American Indian Arts to create fresh, New Mexico-appropriate drawings for the curriculum. Additional artwork was provided by volunteer artists and IAE staff.

### Outreach

### Poster Presentations

May 24, 2016, Santa Fe NM. IAE staff Ecologist, Yvonne Hickerson, showcased a poster for the curriculum during a well-attended **IAE Open House** event for the Southwest Program that reached a diverse audience of environmental professionals and other interested parties.

October 14-15, 2016, Socorro, NM. IAE staff (Yvonne Hickerson and Melanie Gisler) hosted a table and exhibited a poster for the native plant curriculum at the **New Mexico Environmental Educator's Conference Soar to Greater Heights STEM** that generated significant interest from teachers and educators from across the state. IAE provided a sign-up sheet for teachers to request a copy of the curriculum and more than 50 educators signed-up. These teachers will be among the first to receive and start integrating the curriculum into their natural science programs. Photo: Yvonne and educator at STEM 2016 conference, Socorro NM.



### Oral Presentations

The following oral presentations by Melanie Gisler, IAE Southwest Program Director, included a 5-10 minute discussion of the native plant curriculum *From Ponderosa to Prickly Pear*: August 11, 2016, Albuquerque, NM. **Albuquerque Wildlife Federation Meeting.**

September 17, 2016, Santa Fe, NM. **State Master Gardener Conference.**  
October 19, 2016, Taos, NM. **Native Plant**

**Society Meeting Taos Chapter.**

November 2, 2016, Albuquerque, NM. **Native Plant Society Meeting Albuquerque Chapter.**

### Environmental Education Working Groups

**Desert Oasis Teaching Gardens (DOT) Working Group.** IAE is part of an on-going collaborative effort with DOT gardens, ABQ School Gardens, Holistic Management International, Bernalillo County Extension, and Farm to Table New Mexico to assess and develop environmental curricula as well as provide training throughout the state of New Mexico. IAE has kept the working group informed and up to date on the progress of the native plant curriculum. This working group has a wealth of connections to environmental educators in NM, which should further facilitate getting the curriculum into the hands of educators.

### Grant Provisions

IAE is pleased that the curriculum project has created many opportunities to help promote and market the good work of the Native Plant Society of New Mexico. The NPSNM logo is displayed on the inside cover of *From Ponderosa to Prickly Pear, Exploring the Native Plants of New Mexico* and on IAE's Project Botany webpage at <http://appliedeco.org/programs/education/about-project-botany/project-botany-new-mexico/>. In addition, NPSNM is acknowledged in all poster and oral presentations. A newsletter article has been provided to NPSNM that further acknowledges support of the curriculum.

### Financial Disclosure

A \$1,000 grant from the 2016 NPSNM Grant Program funded the printing of 67 of the 100 copies of the curriculum (\$1,000 of NPSNM funding went entirely to the printing costs @ \$15.00 per copy). Note that we opted not to go with the printer that gave us an original lower estimate for this work since they have since been determined to be unreliable. **The Santa Fe Chapter of the Native Plant Society sponsored a student artist for \$330** (10 of the 30 drawings). The Bureau of Land Management contributed more than \$12,000 for writing, review, editing, coordination, professional formatting, and conference fees. Volunteer reviewers and volunteer artists contributed hundreds of hours of In-Kind labor. Private donations covered travel costs for various outreach venues. IAE contributed more than \$3,000 to the project for travel, supplies, coordination, and outreach.

#### Acknowledgements

We would like to express our gratitude to the Native Plant Society of New Mexico for funding this valuable project. We are also truly grateful to NPSNM members that participated as reviewers and advisors, contributing time and effort to make the native plant curriculum for New Mexico possible. A complete list of contributors is provided on the inside cover in the acknowledgements section of the curriculum for New Mexico.