

**NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY OF NEW MEXICO
TAOS CHAPTER
2016 Annual Report**

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STANDING COMMITTEES:

Chapter Rep to State NPS: Jan Martenson
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Membership: vacant

AD HOC COMMITTEES:

Field Botany: John Ubelaker
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Field Botany: David Witt
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Publicity: Charlene Rose Johnson
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Greenhouse: vacant

*** 2016 Programs ***

All our talks were videographed by the Digital Media Arts Department of UNM-Taos; links to the videos are given.

Attendance ranged from 8 to 35 people.

March 16 “Cotton Farming in New Mexico before Columbus” -- Glenna Dean, PhD, Abiquiu.
[youtube.com/watch?v=ki7SUao1ha0&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ki7SUao1ha0&feature=youtu.be)

April 20 “Gardening for Caterpillars” -- Steven J. Cary, Community Naturalist & Volunteer
Coordinator Randall Davey Audubon Center & Wildlife Sanctuary, Santa Fe.
[youtube.com/watch?v=aK_HSwuIrC8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aK_HSwuIrC8)

May 18 “What are Siberian Elms Doing in New Mexico?” – Ben Wright, ISA Certified Arborist and
Taos Tree Board chair. youtu.be/M03C7NwEhpA

Sept. 28 “Riparian Restoration and Citizen Science” – Valerie Williams, BLM
youtu.be/cMKjrEW65fY

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Oct. 19 “New Conservation Programs for New Mexico’s Native Plants” -- Melanie Gisler, director, Southwest Program of the Institute for Applied Ecology (IAE), Santa Fe. youtu.be/A7irPFiPEv4

Nov. 16 “Paleoethnobotany: What We Do and How We Do It” – Pam McBride, director of the Paleoethnobotany Lab in the Office of Archaeological Studies, Museum of New Mexico, Albuquerque. youtu.be/EpiSRYjiPYM

• **2016 Field Trips/Hikes/Activities ***

Attendance on field trips and hikes ranged from 6-24.

April 23 Home & Garden Expo, sponsored by Taos Chamber of Commerce. Board members manned a table to share information and sell books and plants to the public. We netted \$252 in sales and talked with about 75 people.

April 30 Field Trip to Santa Fe for plant shopping at Agua Fria Nursery and Plants of the Southwest, led by Jan Martenson

May 21 Field Trip: Trees of Taos, SMU / Ft. Burgwin, led by Dr. John Ubelaker

June 18 Taos Canyon Hike, below Flechado Pass, led by David Witt

June 23 Gardens in Progress Tour for MEMBERS only. About 20 members toured three member homes with diverse landscapes and gardens.

July 6 Santa Fe Gardens Tour of a private rock garden and the Santa Fe Botanical Garden, led by Jan Martenson

July 16 Pedernal hike in the upper Sonoran zone, followed by visit to Ghost Ranch Paleontology Museum, led by Dr. John Ubelaker

Aug. 18, New Mexico Native Plant Day. Eight member volunteers took part in this public outreach with information, native plants & books sales at Cid’s Supermarket in Taos. Over 50 people stopped by and we sold almost \$400 worth of books and plants.

Aug. 20 Williams Lake Hike, led by Dr. John Ubelaker

Oct. 14 Field Trip with hike to Pajarito Environmental Education Center (PEEC) in Los Alamos, with Chick Keller as our guide.

* **NPSNM-Taos Projects ***

1. Demonstration Gardens:

- a. In front of Brodsky’s bookstore: Cleaned up and signs installed, paid for with grant from Los Jardineros, the Garden Club of Taos
- b. The front and courtyard gardens at Millicent Rogers Museum were cleaned up in the spring, old plantings inventoried, and new wildflowers planted (some purchased, others from our

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- greenhouse). Permanent plant identification signage was installed, purchased with a grant from Los Jardineros, the Garden Club of Taos.
2. **A Herbarium** established about 12 years ago by NPS members and colleagues (for the serious botanists and students) is housed at the SMU-Fort Burgwin Campus south of Taos, where it is overseen by Dr. John Ubelaker, SMU professor emeritus.
 3. **Publicity:** “The Wonderful World of Native Plants,” a **monthly column** is written by Charlene Rose Johnson (since September, replacing Bev Haldiman) appears in the House & Garden section of the Taos News. Articles cover upcoming meetings and other activities and often feature a native plant. In addition, we maintain a Facebook page, Native Plant Society New Mexico Taos Chapter (<http://tinyurl.com/mnfq8g>), and post news of upcoming events, links to articles of interest, and photographs.
 4. **Greenhouse:** Our greenhouse has been inactive for the past year. As there is little circulation within the greenhouse, seedlings were being lost at a high rate starting in May due to high temperatures. The only way to resolve this is by installing a solar-powered fan, for which we hope to raise money in 2017.

- Submitted by Jan Martenson, President