

2012

ACTIVITIES OF THE LAS CRUCES CHAPTER OF THE NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY OF NEW MEXICO

Meetings:

Meetings are on the 2nd **Wednesday** of the month (unless otherwise noted) at 7 p.m., in the Conference Room of the Social Center at the University Terrace Good Samaritan Village, 3011 Buena Vida Circle, Las Cruces. (The Social Center is on the right, when traveling east on Buena Vida from Telshor.)

Field Trips:

Field trips are always on a **Saturday**. Where and when we meet to carpool varies with each field trip; please check each listing. Most field trips extend into the afternoon. Bring lunch, water, sun protection, plant field guides, and wear good walking shoes. Participants must sign a release of liability form. Children must be accompanied by their parents. Programs and field trips are free, and non-members are always welcome.

Contacts:

President:	Carolyn Gressitt	575-523-8413
Vice-President:	Al Krueger	575-532-1036
Membership Secretary:	John Freyermuth	575-523-8413
Treasurer:	Tom Williams	575-522-2783
Chapter Representative:	Joan Woodward	575-527-4640

2012

[January & February meeting 2012 are on 2011 Report]

February

◆ Field Trip:

Sat. Feb. 11, 8:00 a.m.

Joe Kane, horticulturalist, gave us a tour of the Sierra Vista Nursery in La Union, pointing out all the "green" practices they have put in place for plant propagation and giving us tips for our own native gardening.

March

◆ Meeting:

Wed. March 14, 7:00 p.m.

Dr. Armando Gonzalez-Stuart, Doctor of Alternative Medicine, spoke on Traditional Uses of Native Plants along the Border Area.

◆ Field Trip:

Sat. March 17, 8:45 a.m. We toured the Prehistoric Trackways National Monument, and did some hiking in the Robledo Mts.

Michael Downs, the PTNM ranger who led the trip, asked us to help him create a plant list for the monument. We began the list on this trip, with the assistance of Patrick Alexander, Gregory Penn, Jeanne Tenorio, Rich Spellenberg, Carolyn Gressitt, and John Freyermuth. On several other dates through April 2012, John, Carolyn, Patrick, & Lisa Mandelkern assisted further with the list. So far, we have 119 species.

April

◆ Meeting:

Wed. April 11, 7:00 p.m.

Lisa Mandelkern presented "A Stroll Through the Botanical Garden in Tuebingen, Germany." We all delighted in her excellent photography, as well as thorough knowledge of the botany.

◆ Field Trip:

Sat. April 14, 8:00 a.m.

Lisa will lead a hike in the Jarilla Mts. [*Cancelled due to very early bloom.*]

May

◆ Meeting:

Wed. May 9, 7:00 p.m. Steve Cary gave a very thorough account of progress in the development Broad Canyon Ranch State Park.

◆ Field Trip:

Sat. May 12, 8:00 a.m.

Beth Bardwell, of Audubon, with the assistance of Ray Bowers, led us on a walk at Broad Canyon Ranch (soon to become state park) – over 40 species identified, just on a small portion of the upland (S of the ranch).

June

◆ Meeting:

Wed. June 13, 7:00 p.m.

Richard Quick, of the Las Cruces Museum of Natural History, gave a talk on Desert Pollinators.

◆ Field Trip:

Sat. June 16, 8:00 a.m.

We went to Mesilla Bosque State Park. Not ideal conditions – quite dry.

July

◆ Meeting:

Wed. July 11, 7:00 p.m.

Mckinney Briske, park ranger for the Prehistoric Trackways National Monument, spoke on “Paleo-Botany of the Trackways,” and very generously provided each attendee with a copy of their beautiful publication *Traces of a Permian Seacoast*.

◆ Field Trip:

Sat. July 14, 8:00 a.m.

Bernd Maier gave us an interesting and thorough introduction to the process of viticulture at the NMSU Ag College farm.

August

◆ Planning Meeting for 2013

Wed. Aug. 8, 7:00 p.m.

At this meeting we (re-) elected our officers, determined a preliminary 2013 Program, and assigned tasks with regard to speakers/field trips, as well as assigning a member to look into Chapter By-laws.

◆ Field Trip:

Sat., Aug. 25, 8:00 a.m.

We traveled with Dave Anderson to the Oscura Mts. on WSMR; viewed many species and saw the Trinity Site from our near 9,000-foot elevation. We identified over 71 species over a large swathe of land that included the Oscuras.

September

◆ Meeting:

Wed. Sept. 12, 7:00 p.m.

Oscar Mestas, Texas Forest Service with Texas A & M, gave a very helpful talk on appropriate trees for our area, including many NM & TX natives. He also gave great tips on their placement and care.

◆ Field Trip:

Sat. Sept. 15, 8:00 a.m.

Kelly Allred led us on a trip to the Summerford Mts. He kindly gave us each a copy of his *Pocket Guide to the Flora of the Jornada Plain*, guiding us in its use. We ended up identifying 91 species.

October

◆ Meeting:

Wed. October 10, 7:00 p.m. Jim McGrath, NPS State Conservation Chair, presented "Conservation and The Native Plant Society of New Mexico." We are grateful for his thorough and enthusiastic presentation.

◆ Field Trip:

Sat. October 13, 8:00 a.m. We traveled to the Guadalupe Mts., where Renée and Steve West lead us on a beautiful hike in Slaughter Canyon, Carlsbad Caverns N. P., where we identified over 60 species using the list that Renée helped create/revise for the park.

November

Special Project:

Sat. November 4, 4:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Chapter members Lisa Mandelkern, Al Krueger, and Joan Woodward, participated in the first of several "plant parties" at Bosque Nova, a private bosque restoration project along the Rio Grande sponsored by USFWS Partners for Wildlife program. Volunteers from several groups, including the Dona Ana County Master Gardeners, the DAC Photography Club, and the NPS transplanted NM Dept. of Forestry native plant seedlings into 17" and 30" plant pots to better facilitate roots in reaching the capillary fringe of the restoration site. Future stages include pole planting, seeding, and container planting.

◆ Field Trip:

Sat. November 17, 8:00 a.m.

Tom Packard lead us on a hike on the North Sierra Vista Trail a wonderful new portion of this trail that extends from the bajada of the mid-Organ Mts. all the way south to the Franklin Mts.