

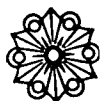


NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY OF NEW MEXICO

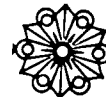
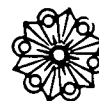
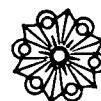
NEWSLETTER

November/December 1988

Vol. XII No. 6



CALENDAR



Several NPS-NM chapters go dormant until February or March. If uncertain about your chapter, call your chapter contact person listed elsewhere in this newsletter.

Albuquerque: First Wednesday of the month, Albuquerque Museum on Mountain Rd. in Old Town. 7:30 p.m.

December Pot Luck Dinner, 6:30 p.m. Entree supplied by the chapter. Meeting to follow.

January meeting to be announced.

Santa Fe: Third Wednesdays of the month, St. John's college, Laboratory Building Room 122

November 16, 1988, 7:30 p.m. Carol Underhill, Director of the Talavaya Center, and Mr. Emigdio Ballon, Research director, will present a program on the Talavaya Center's research with native

seed.

No meeting in December, but call Mimi about a possible weekend outing and potluck. (983-1658)

January meeting, Wednesday, Jan. 19th, 7:30 p.m. Speaker to be announced.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Albuquerque
Paul and June Moore, Los Lunas
Otero Chapter
Mike and Ann Hooser
Gila Chapter
Bob Abercrombie
Roger Larson
Frank and Joyce Knaus
Hunter and Barb Ten Broeck
Statewide
Carol Brandt, Zuni
Out of State
James Lockleer, Curator of
Plants, University of
Nebraska





WE NEED THE SEEDS BY FEBRUARY
15th!!

Phase 1 of the landscape master plan for the visitor's center and parking areas at Bosque del Apache Wildlife Refuge is complete (more or less). The plan will be displayed at the Bosque's Fall Festival in Socorro, November 12th at the Old Opera House. Some groundwork and planting is beginning now. The next area of involvement for NPS-NM members is "the Great Meadow Project", a 2 acre (more or less) sweep of open space between the road and the parking areas that is currently the domain of a few cottonwoods and nine million (more or less) tumbleweeds. The area is being cultivated to remove existing weeds and encourage the germination of weed seeds, and will be cultivated repeatedly prior to seeding to further reduce weed competition. NPS-NM will schedule our first Bosque work-study weekend in April, 1989 when the "work" will be seeding the meadow. In order to short cut the establishment of wildflowers and grasses, the flower seed will receive a 30 day cold-moist pretreatment prior to seeding.

HOW CAN YOU GET INVOLVED??!!

I'm glad you asked. Let me recount the ways;

If you wildflower garden has produced bumper seed crops, or you are a compulsive seed collector while hiking, please share your bounty with the Bosque. We need to seed heavily to compensate for the quantity of seeds and sprouts that will become lunch for local wildlife (it is THEIR Refuge).

We need a total of 10 lbs. of flower seed of Ratibida/Coneflower, Gaillardia/Blanketflower, Petalostemon/Purple Prairieclover, Penstemon/various and sundry, Liatris/Gayfeather, Eustoma, Argemone/Prickly Poppy, Rudbeckia/Black-Eyed Susan, Thelosperma/Hopi Tea, Viguiere, Verbesina and other sunflowers, Machaeranthera/Purple Asters, Cleome/Beeweed, Salvia pitcherii syn. azurea grandiflora and other appropriate species you may have.

Any seeds not used in the initial seeding will be retained as the start of the long discussed but previously unrealized NPS-NM Seed Exchange. Bev Grady, 939 Bobcat Blvd. NE, Albuquerque, 87122 has graciously volunteered to handle the seed bank. (but how are we going to keep Gil Grady out of the seed?)

We also need meadow makers to do the seeding in April and periodic selective weeding during the growing season. As part of the agreement with Bosque del Apache, NPS-NM members will be provided bunkhouse accommodation for work-study weekends on a first come/reservation basis. These weekend will be advertised in this newsletter and through you local chapter. None of the work will be backbreaking, the surroundings and company will be exceptional, and there will be plenty of time for socializing, botanizing and birding.

You can also contact me for further information at: 1 Sanchez Road, Veguita, NM 87062



RALLY ROUND THE PETROGLYPHS

Friday, November 18th the public is invited to show support to our legislators for the Petroglyph National Monument. Meeting place is in Albuquerque, Noon, at Civic Plaza.

An expected appropriation of \$6 million is expected to be requested from our legislators for this project.

If you are interested in the establishment of the Petroglyph National Monument either come to the rally or contact your legislator concerning this project.



CHAPTER REPORTS



Gila Chapter Report

Our tour of the Luna Ranger district was very pleasant and successful. Our Ranger guide, Ms. Pat Morrison, is an outstanding job of showing us the district's beauty and land use concepts in the District. She emphasized successful flood control measures which have converted eroded land into flourishing upland meadows and wet lands.

Some of the common grasses seen in the area in late summer and early fall are;

Blue grama with its two eyelash-like spikes per stalk. It averages 12-24" tall and is sod-forming.

Side-oats grama is a little taller and has all the spikes arranged on one side of the stalk. This is a common bunch grass.

Silver beardgrass is a bunch grass that has long white hairs at the end of each stalk and grows from 2 1/2 to 3' tall.

Little bluestem forms very dense clumps of green to reddish-brown leaves that are 18-30" tall. In winter it turns a beautiful russet color. It is not common here except between the Tyrone townsite and the mine.

Giant sacaton is a very large clump grass growing up to 6-7' tall. The seed heads are airy panicles (cone shaped) on tall stems. It is plentiful along arroyos.

Redtop is a coarse grass up to 5' tall. The flower is a distinctive red panicle. Redtop was introduced from Europe but is not widely naturalized.

Ron

Otero Chapter

Our meeting place at the turnoff from the highway to the Aguirre springs road turned out to be the most interesting place to see plants. We enjoyed looking at

Datura, Devil's Claw, and a member of the Datura family-Datura quercifolia. All these plants have such large, non-woody stems and large, fleshy leaves that seem out of place in the desert. Sunday we had a lesson in the different shapes of the seed pods for some of these plants. Once again we also saw many buckwheats, the beautiful 4 o'clock, spiderling-Boerhaavia erecta, clammyweed, blackfoot daisy, trailing windmills, wild morning glory vine with red trumpet shaped flowers-see Warnock-Davis-p. 181, and the ubiquitous purple mustard Sisymbrium linearifolium.

When we finally got down in the picnic area, we saw the Mt. Mahogany with their fall covering of fuzzy tails. Quite a sight in the right light. The turpentine bush-Haplopappus laricifolium, characteristic of the area, was blooming bright yellow contrasting with the deep, bright green needlelike leaves. Our first sighting of Salvia pinquifolia blooming in the wild was by chance. (Tom Wootten of Dry Country Plants in Las Cruces sells them). We never did get to the spring. Enjoyed having members Rudy and Clara Griswold from El Paso join us.

Jean

Las Cruces Chapter

The Blue Mesa field trip on September 11 was very interesting because so many plants were still in flower. The place we concentrated in was Silva Canyon in the Sierra de las Uvas. The dominant plant was creosote bush with Juniperus monosperma, Garrya wrightii, Quercus turbinella and Apache plume (flowering) along the arroyo. Other shrubs in flower included Wild marigold and Little golden zinnia.

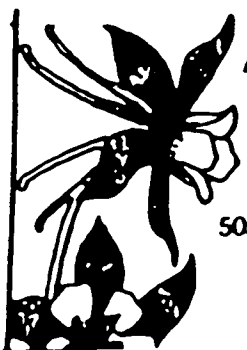
It was interesting to finally see Devil's claw in flower

(beautiful) and Hibiscus denudatus. A total of twenty eight herbaceous species in flower were seen. Also, we saw a Great Horned owl, a Swainson's hawk and a Marsh hawk. That was a totally enjoyable trip.

Our guest speaker on September 14 was Raldan Trujillo from Flores de New Mexico. He talked primarily about the cut flower industry in general but did get into some New Mexico specifics. What was surprising to us was that so much of the cut floral industry is from overseas, primarily Bolivia. The talk was quite interesting, thank you Raldan!

Out last field trip of 1988 was to White Sands National Monument. Not very much was blooming but it was still interesting to see what grows in gypsum sand and what can survive on continuously drifting sand. Poliomentha incana was an amazing example of a shrub that constantly reroots in new sand. We saw healthy cottonwoods with exposed roots because the sand was blown away. The water table is high there which seemed surprising because the vegetation was so spotty. The most actively moving dunes were still bare.

Jan Meissner was our guest speaker for our October 12 meeting. She told us about plants which have been used as medicine over the years. Many of these plants are still in use today as a lot of our medicine is plant based. She emphasized our dependence on plants and discussed how we are losing many every day by destruction of the topical rain forests. She showed slides of some medicinal plants (pictures and photographs). Thank you Jan, we could tell you put in a lot of work.



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CALL FOR PLANT LIST FROM SILVER CITY TRIP


Several of the participants in the Silver City trip have asked for plant lists from both the Tres Hermanes and garden tours. If you assembled one, please send a copy to Lisa Johnston, (831 W. 19th st., Portales, NM 88130). A master list will be combined and published in the newsletter.

BEAR MOUNTAIN GUEST RANCH

Guided Tours :

Wildflowers, Birlds,

Ghost Towns



Myra McCormick (505) 538-2538

Silver City, N.M. 88061

CHAPTER CONTACTS

Albuquerque: Waiter Graf, 4735 W. Lea SW. 87105.
(877-6469)

Las Cruces: Melanie Florence, R.T. 1 Box 711,
Las Mesa. 88044. (525-3529)

Otero County: Jean Dodd, 1302 Canyon Rd.,
Alamogordo. 88310. (434-3041)

Santa Fe: Mimi Hubby, 525 Camino Cabra. Santa Fe. 87501.
(983-1658)

Silver City: Beck Smith. (538-5350)

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Membership Chairman: Jean Heflin, 443 Live Oak Loop NE,
Albuquerque, 87112
Editor: Susan Wachter, 2500 Norment Rd. SW. Albuquerque,
87105
Vice President: Tom Wooten
Recording Secretary: Dovie Thomas
Treasurer: Jean Dodd
Board of Directors: Bob Reeves, Mimi Hubby
Conservation Chairman: Ted Hodoba

STATE MEETING REPORT

Silver City was the place to be when September turned October this year. The new Gila Chapter, less than a year old, hosted a Great Weekend. Myra McCormick's Bear Mountain Guest Ranch provided the perfect launching pint for two day of visiting, botanizing and idea gathering. The first sign of the weekend's serendipity was running into the Santa Fe contingent along the road just west of Caballo. We made fair progress until we reached the foothills glinting silver, the afternoon sun slanting through Mt. Mahogany's feathery seed heads. Mile upon mile of silver hillsides- this obviously was the right road. A bit of slope scrambling, seed gathering and shutter clicking and we were on our way again, no a caravan including the Curtin's of Albuquerque.

Saturday Myra led us to the Tres Hermanes for a day in the field, an interesting mix of low desert vegetation including Sapindus drummondii, Carlowrightia linearifolia, Aloysia wrightii, Cassia lindheimeriana and C. bauhinoides, a colony of Neolloydia and three species of Penstemon (identified in the field by Ellen Wilde with handlens and Tom Wootten with the necessary volume of Martin & Hutchin's FLORA in his backpack-service above and beyond!).

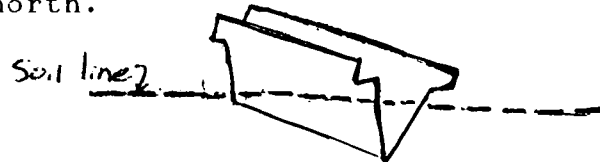
That evening the Gila Chapter orchestrated a terrific program. Meeting at the Big Ditch, a city disaster turned asset, we were given a brief history of the Ditch and a perspective on future improvements by Susan Berry. The Gila chapter is compiling a botanical survey and has also compiled a list of preferred species to further beautify and control erosion. The barbecue that followed combined good food and a lot of teamwork. Not only did the Gila group prepare a feast of splendid proportions, they carted it, including grills for a final culinary flourish and chairs and picnic tables to seat 50 people, down to the Big Ditch. On the promenade above the stream we dined under antique street lamps. Bravo to our newest chapter!! Thank you

all for a great party.

Meanwhile, back at the Ranch, Sunday morning the sun rose on most of Myra's guests wandering the hills and meadows of Bear Mountain. We found several Penstemon linearoides still in bloom-the flowers a rich rose pink rather than the usual pale lavender. We could have spend a morning in the field at the Ranch, but the Gila folks had plans for us- a garden tour of local homes. Although we toured four very different gardens, three cultivated to different tastes and one of Mother Nature's whose beauty the owners have the wisdom to protect, we all came away from Anita Morton's with a bounty of ideas, seeds and cuttings. A steep hillside lot stabilized with manzanita/Arctostaphylos pungens, Ceanothus greggii, Incense Cedar and Cotoneasters as well as seasonal drifts of wildflowers, Desert Willow and Apache Plume. Anita is a innovator and as generous with ideas as well as starts of plant material. She brought an interesting gadget home from Taos awhile ago-a condensation collector, a piece of sheet metal approximately 44" long by 12" wide bent as shown



and insulated with spray-on foam on the underside. The collector is pushed into the soil about 10" on the south side of a plant facing north.



As it cools down and heats up it collects enough moisture to sustain a young plant until it becomes established on a site. Anita's test was with several spruce seedlings- only the condensation fed seedling was alive and no watering other than condensation!

Thanks again to the Gila Chapter and Myra McCormick for another State meeting to write home about.

Judith

BOOKS AND SHIRTS

	<u>Retail</u>	<u>NPS-NM Member Price</u>
Agaves of Continental North America (Gentry)	49.50	39.60
Amateur Botany in New Mexico (Schoenwetter)	.75*	.75*
Audubon Guide to Wildflowers, Western (Spellenberg)	13.50	10.80
Botanical Latin (Stearns)	38.95	31.20
Cacti of Arizona (Benson)	12.50	10.00
Cacti of Texas & Neighboring States (Weinger)	17.95	15.40
Classified Bibliography on Native Plants of Arizona (Schmutz)	6.50	5.25
Colorado Flora: Western Slope (Weber)	19.50	15.60
Edible Native Plants of the Rocky Mts. (Harrington)	9.95	7.95
Fall Wildflowers of New Mexico (Martin)	14.95	12.00
Field Guide to Rocky Mountain Wildflowers (Craighead)	10.95	8.80
Field Guide to SW & Texas Plants (Niehaus, etal.)	12.95	10.40
Flora of the Great Plains	55.00	44.00
Flora of New Mexico - reprint (Wooton & Standley)	44.00	37.00
A Flora of New Mexico (Martin & Hutchins)	write for current price	
Flowering Plants of New Mexico Second Ed. (Ivey)	19.95	16.00
Flowers of the Southwest Deserts	9.95	7.95
Flowers of the Southwest Mountains	9.95	7.95
Flowers of the Southwestern Forests and Woodlands (Foxx)	12.95	10.40
A Garden of Wildflowers (Art)	12.95	10.40
Gathering the Desert (Nabhan)	14.95	12.00
Grasses of Southwestern United States (Gould)	8.95	7.20
Grow Native: Landscaping with Native & Apt Plants of Rocky Mts. (Huddleston)	8.95	7.20
Growing Wildflowers: A Cultivator's Guide (Sperka)	10.95	8.80
How to Grow Native Plants of TX & SW (Nokes)	26.95	21.60
How to Photograph Flowers, Plants and Landscapes (Fell)	9.95	7.95
An Illustrated Guide to Arizona Weeds (Parker)	12.50	10.00
Jewels of the Plains (Barr)	19.95	16.00
Landscaping for Water Conservation (Johnson)	8.95	7.20
Landscaping for Wildlife (Henderson)	7.95	6.40
Landscaping with Texas Native Plants (Wasowski & Ryan)	23.95	19.40
Landscaping with Wildflowers & Native Plants (Ortho)	5.95	4.80
Management of SW Desert Soils (Fuller)	7.50	6.00
Medicinal Plants of the Mountain West (Moore)	8.95	7.20
Meet the Natives Eighth ed. (Pesman)	14.95	12.00
Mexican Roadside Flora (Mason & Mason)	19.95	16.00
New Mexico Grasses, A Vegetative Key (Potter)	8.95	7.20
New Mexico Range Plants (NMSU Circular #374)	3.00	2.80
100 Desert Wildflowers in Color (Dodge)	3.50	2.80
100 Roadside Wildflowers of Southwest Woodlands (Bowers)	3.95	3.20
Peyote: The Divine Cactus (Anderson)	9.95	7.95
Plants for Dry Climates (Duffield)	12.95	10.40
Photographing Wildflowers (Blacklock)	9.95	7.95
A Practical Guide to Edible & Useful Plants (Tull)	23.95	19.20
Prairie Propagation (Rock)	3.50	3.25
Rare & Endemic Plants of New Mexico (NM NPPAC)	12.95	10.40
Roadside Geology of New Mexico (Chronic)	9.95	7.95
Roadside Plants of Northern New Mexico (Tierney)	9.95	7.95
Roadside Wildflowers of Texas (Wills)	12.95	10.40
Rocky Mountain Alpines (Williams, editor)	35.00	28.75
Rocky Mountain Flora (Weber)	14.50	11.70
Rocky Mountain Wildflowers (Dannen)	3.95	3.20
Seeds of Wildland Plants (Young)	24.95	21.50
Shrubs of the Great Basins (Mozingo)	19.95	16.00
Shrubs & Trees of the Uplands (Elmore)	9.95	7.95

* = postage paid

More items and ordering information on the other side.

Soils of the Desert Southwest (Fuller)		4.95	3.50
Southwestern Landscaping with Native Plants (Phillips)	HB	27.95	22.40
	SB	17.95	14.40
Spring Wildflowers of New Mexico (Martin)		12.95	10.40
Summer Wildflowers of New Mexico (Martin)		12.95	10.40
Texas Wildflowers: A Field Guide (Lohmiller)		11.95	9.60
Trees & Shrubs of SW Deserts (Benson & Darrow)		49.50	39.60
Trees, Shrubs & Woody Vines of the SW (Vines)		52.50	42.00
The Tumbleweed Gourmet (Niethammer)		20.00	16.00
The Weaver's Garden (Buchanan)		16.95	13.60
Wildflower Folklore (L. Martin)		16.95	13.60
The Wildflower Meadow Book (L. Martin)		12.95	10.40
Wildflowers: A Macmillan Field Guide (Mohlenbrock)		9.95	7.95
Woody Plants of the Southwest (Lamb)		12.95	10.40



Southwestern Wildflower Notecards by Lily Byrd	5.00	4.50
8 card assortment includes: Columbine, Locoweed, Rabbitbrush, Globemallow, Yarrow, Indian Paintbrush, Coneflower and Thistle		
Native Plant Postcards by Beth Dennis (Assorted Black & white designs)	0.25	0.20
	6/1.25	6/1.00

T-Shirts 50/50 poly/cotton. Sizes: S,M,L,XL Price: \$6.00
 Sweatshirts 50/50 poly/cotton. Sizes: M,L,XL Price: \$11.00
 NPS Logo - Coneflower (Tan w/ green ink)
 10th Anniversary Design (Turquoise w/ black ink)
 Some sizes limited.



Postage: Add \$1.00 for each book; \$.50 for each t-shirt or sweatshirt;
 \$.25 for each notecard set or 6 postcards.

Make checks payable to: NPS-NM Books, P.O. Box 1206, Portales NM 88130
 Allow 4-5 weeks for shipping.

NEW BOOK



Fall Wildflowers of New Mexico
 by Martin & Hutchins. This is the
 third book and completes the series
 (Spring, Summer, Fall). Price
 \$14.95, members: \$12.00.

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Annual Dues:
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To better serve our membership, please
 check areas of particular interest.

Conservation:
 Endangered species, Habitats
 Restoring abused areas
 Water conservation
 Propagation Seed Collection
 Landscaping: Residential
 Civic Commercial Highway

How would you describe your level of
 expertise? What areas would you be
 willing to help with?

Are you a member of an organization
 with related purposes (Garden Club,
 NM Wildflower Association, etc.)?

Water Conservation Helping Recharge
Artesian Wells

In the October 17, 1988 El Paso Times newspaper an article appeared describing the conservation efforts by the Pecos Valley Artesian Conservancy District's attempts to recharge the artesian wells used by farmer's in the area. By the 1950's area farmers were concerned about the dropping water tables and subsequent decrease in flow from the artesian wells.


In 1966 meters were put on wells in the Roswell basin to monitor water use and conservation efforts such as concrete lining ditches. Slowly the water table began to recover. Within ten years the water table had risen about 30'.

Unfortunately the shallow water levels in the area are not recovering like the deeper water levels. This is important as it is critical to the court cases between Texas and New Mexico over Pecos River water.

Perhaps the metering and conservation were the most important factors in the artesian wells' recovery, or perhaps unusually wet weather or less farming are also major contributors. None the less, it is interesting to see the underground water levels can be recharged and not continually depleted.

Thank you to Jean Dodd of Alamogordo for the article.

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PLEASE TAKE NOTICE!!!

Please note, do not mail this newsletter without putting appropriate postage OVER the Bulk Rate permit!!! It has been brought to our attention by the US Postal Service that NPS-NM newsletters are appearing in the mails without appropriate postage.

The bulk permit pertains to the one mailing-when the newsletters are sent to individual members. Those newsletters that chapters receive gratis are for HANDOUT PURPOSES ONLY!! If they are to be mailed, add the appropriate postage!!

Your attention to this matter is vital or we loose our bulk mailing privileges!!

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