



# HAPPENINGS

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Arizona Native Plant Society  
Our mission is to promote knowledge, appreciation, conservation  
and restoration of Arizona's native plants and their habitats

## Join Any Chapter E-List

The best way to keep up with the latest AZNPS events is to join the chapter e-list, which notifies members about meetings, events, conferences, field trips, workshops, and volunteer opportunities in the area. Don't forget to keep us updated on e-mail address changes. To be added to any chapter e-list, send your name and e-mail address to:

Cochise	Doug Ripley	<a href="mailto:aznpscochise@gmail.com">aznpscochise@gmail.com</a>
Flagstaff	Susan Holiday	<a href="mailto:naris123@cs.com">naris123@cs.com</a>
Peach Springs	Carrie Cannon	<a href="mailto:Carrie.Cannon@hualapai-nsn.gov">Carrie.Cannon@hualapai-nsn.gov</a>
Phoenix	Vacant	
Prescott	Sue Smith	<a href="mailto:PrescottNativePlantSociety@gmail.com">PrescottNativePlantSociety@gmail.com</a>
Santa Cruz	Robin Kulibert	<a href="mailto:santacruz.aznps@gmail.com">santacruz.aznps@gmail.com</a>
Tonto Basin	Becky Settje	<a href="mailto:tontobasinnativeplants@gmail.com">tontobasinnativeplants@gmail.com</a>
Tucson	Lyn Loveless	<a href="mailto:nativeplantstucson@gmail.com">nativeplantstucson@gmail.com</a>
Upper Gila	Vacant	<a href="mailto:uppergilaaznps@gmail.com">uppergilaaznps@gmail.com</a>
White Mountain	Jess Rollar	<a href="mailto:aznpswhitemountain@gmail.com">aznpswhitemountain@gmail.com</a>
Yuma	Valerie Morrill	<a href="mailto:yumaaznps@gmail.com">yumaaznps@gmail.com</a>



## AZ Native Plant Society Botany 2025 Meeting Desert Botanical Garden, Phoenix, AZ

**March 1 – 2, 2025**

Approximately 160 Arizona native-plant enthusiasts attended the 21<sup>st</sup> annual Arizona Native Plant Society's Botany 2025 Meeting, held on March 1 – 2, 2025 at the nationally famous Desert Botanical Garden in Phoenix.

On the afternoon of the first day, the Garden provided guided tours of recently completed botanical research facilities and other “behind the scenes” areas such as the Garden's Lois Porter Earle Herbarium.

The second day of the meeting consisted of a series of interesting presentations on a variety of native plant subjects offered by AZNPS members, as well as academic researchers invited to share the results of their work on several distinct aspects of native plant ecology, distribution, and evolution.

Breaks during the day afforded participants the opportunity to observe several poster presentations along with beautiful botanical artwork contributed by members, or to visit other parts of the Garden.

The final hour of the meeting was devoted to a spectacular botanical art program by the gifted artist Dyana Hesson, who presented images of many of her remarkable botanical paintings along with descriptions of how and where she encountered the plants during her many trips throughout Arizona.

Early plans are now being made for the Botany 2026 meeting, but no specific details have yet been developed. All AZNPS members are invited to offer their ideas for the Botany 2026 meeting to include possible venues, meeting themes, and potential speakers. Doug Ripley would appreciate hearing from anyone with ideas for the Botany 2026 meeting. He can be contacted at [jdougripley@gmail.com](mailto:jdougripley@gmail.com).



# Chapter News

## Cochise Chapter



Unfortunately, the Cochise Chapter remains in an inactive status, as explained in previous “Happenings” reports. Chapter president Doug Ripley has continued to try and find a way to return the Chapter to an active status but without success. The principal need is for volunteers to serve in the various officer positions, especially the president. Doug Ripley has been the chapter president since its inception in 2010 and now finds it extremely difficult to continue in that role single-handedly. Furthermore, he has now moved from Cochise County. However, one interested individual has come forward with an interest in reviving the chapter and Doug and she met to discuss revitalization strategies. Doug will continue collaborating with her and keep the chapter members informed of any progress. However, for the time being the Cochise Chapter will remain in an inactive status. Individuals who would like to help restore the Cochise Chapter to an active status should contact Doug. Phone: 520-909-3132, email: [jdougripley@gmail.com](mailto:jdougripley@gmail.com).

## Chapter Offices

President: Douglas Ripley ([jdougripley@gmail.com](mailto:jdougripley@gmail.com)); Vice President: vacant; Secretary: Deann Sanner ([longeyesone@gmail.com](mailto:longeyesone@gmail.com)), Treasurer: Pat Sullivan.



Superstition Mountains. Photo: Shelley Silva



## Flagstaff Chapter



The Flagstaff Chapter will offer in-person meetings this year with the option to watch from home via Zoom. The meetings will still take place on the third Tuesday of the month, March through October, at 7:00 PM. We have a new location for 2025! The meetings are now being held at the Northern Arizona University Biology Sciences Building, Room 328. Street parking is available nearby. The doors will be locked in the evening, so please meet at the southern door (the end with the NAU herbarium) to be let in.

Some of the meetings have been recorded and can be viewed the Flagstaff Chapter's Facebook or at The Arizona Native Plant Society. For details about upcoming meetings, please see our email distribution list ([naris123@cs.com](mailto:naris123@cs.com)), Facebook page, or [AZNPS.com](http://AZNPS.com).

Register in advance once in order to attend any of the meetings virtually:  
[https://uso2web.zoom.us/join/fCOeo-qlSZmMeGZNsNfV\\_A](https://uso2web.zoom.us/join/fCOeo-qlSZmMeGZNsNfV_A)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. Use the link Zoom sends or the passcode 242464 to join the meeting.

## Chapter Offices

President: Kirstin Phillips ([flagstaffAZNPS@gmail.com](mailto:flagstaffAZNPS@gmail.com)); Chapter Contact: Melissa Amberson ([azmelissa@yahoo.com](mailto:azmelissa@yahoo.com)); Email Distribution: Sue Holiday ([naris123@cs.com](mailto:naris123@cs.com)); Hike Information: Barbara Phillips ([bagphillips@yahoo.com](mailto:bagphillips@yahoo.com))



Buffalo Park, Flagstaff. Photo: Shelley Silva



## Meetings

### Tuesday, June 17, 7:00 PM: Becky Hardy. *Butterflies: How To Attract Them To Your Garden*



Have you ever wondered how to attract more butterflies to your garden? Join Becky Hardy to find out. She will share tips on how to create a successful butterfly habitat as well as information about the different families of butterflies. Along with this information, she will share photos of some of the high-elevation species one can expect to find in the Flagstaff area.

Becky is first and foremost a butterfly enthusiast. She has had a lifelong passion, interaction, and observation of butterflies. Over the years, she has reared thousands of butterflies across multiple species. Becky shares her passion for butterflies with others by presenting to member-based organizations and at various nature festivals, as well as leading butterfly walks, garden talks and citizen science events. She also shares her enthusiasm for birds, butterflies, and native plants by facilitating adult, youth and school events. She is Northern Arizona Audubon Society's education chair and most recently co-founded a local chapter of the nationally recognized North American Butterfly Association. The local chapter, Butterfly Enthusiasts of Northern Arizona (BENA), is a member-based wildlife conservation and education nonprofit working to create a world where butterflies thrive, for the benefit of nature and people throughout Sedona, Flagstaff and the Verde Valley. For more information, visit [Butterfly Enthusiasts of Northern Arizona](#). **Hybrid meeting: In person and via Zoom.**

### Tuesday, July 15, 7:00 PM: Adair Patterson. *Nursery Restoration Efforts of an Isolated Population of Bebb's Willow (*Salix bebbiana*) in Northern Arizona*



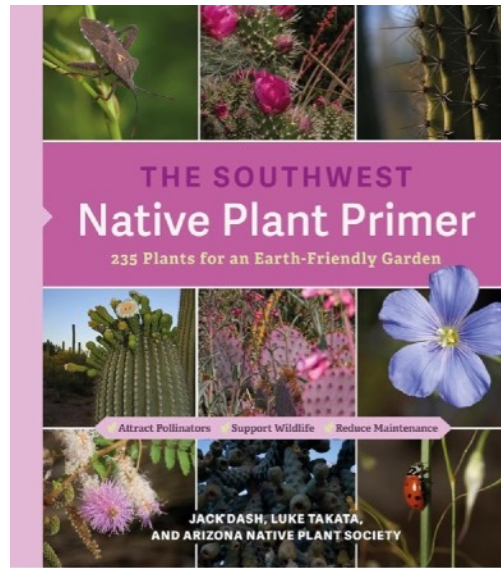
Bebb's Willow. Photo: Max Licher

Bebb's Willow (*Salix bebbiana*) populations in the lower Four Corners states are rare and isolated due to a number of climatic factors including global warming and glacial retreat. Located on the San Francisco Peaks, Arizona's largest stand of Bebb's Willow has historically flourished, but is currently at risk of extirpation. Due to a lack of reproductive success, prevalence of stand replacing fire and inconsistent precipitation, there has been very little seedling recruitment over the past century and 0% recruitment recorded in the past three decades. The NAU Research Greenhouse in collaboration with The Nature Conservancy are taking steps to help preserve the existing Bebb's trees and restore fresh seedling to the area.

Adair is the manager of the NAU Research Greenhouse, a master gardener, and a botanical enthusiast in Flagstaff. **Hybrid meeting: in-person and via Zoom.**

## August: Jack Dash. *The Native Plant Primer: 235 Plants for an Earth-Friendly Garden*

**In-person meeting only.** Date and location TBD



## Field Trips

### Saturday, June 21: Becky Hardy. Aspen Corner, San Francisco Peaks

Becky will lead a butterfly walk at Aspen Corner, Snowbowl Rd.

Field trips generally leave from south end of the Walmart parking lot on Woodlands Boulevard on Saturday following the talk, April-October. Carpooling is usually available. Please watch for specific details.

## Hakdagwi:va Peach Springs Chapter



For information on chapter activities, contact Carrie Cannon ([Carrie.Cannon@hualapai-nsn.gov](mailto:Carrie.Cannon@hualapai-nsn.gov)).

### Chapter Offices

President: Carrie Cannon; Secretary: Shaileen Gonzalez; Treasurer: Alicia Cesspooch

## Phoenix Chapter



We are in need of members to help plan our activities. If you are interested in assisting with the planning, organizing, or facilitation of Phoenix Chapter events, or would like to learn more, please contact Doug Ripley, [jdougripley@gmail.com](mailto:jdougripley@gmail.com)

## Prescott Chapter



The chapter continues to manage species growing in Walnut Meadow at the Highlands Center for Natural History, to provide workshops on plant families, to make seed balls to help with Prescott National Forest restoration, and to schedule evening programs.

### Chapter Offices

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President: Sue Smith; Steering Committee: Jeannie Tutone and Sara Vincent. We can be reached at [PrescottNativePlantSociety@gmail.com](mailto:PrescottNativePlantSociety@gmail.com).

## Santa Cruz Chapter



For information on chapter events, you can be added to our email list and/or follow our Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/aznpssantacruz>). Send an email ([santacruz.aznps@gmail.com](mailto:santacruz.aznps@gmail.com)) to join our mailing list or for any other questions.

### Chapter Offices

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President: Robin Kulibert; Vice President: Rick Kulibert



## Tonto Basin Chapter



The AZ Native Plant Society Tonto Basin Chapter invites anyone interested in learning about native plants in Gila County to join us for chapter meetings, botany walks, and conservation activities.

Our chapter meets on the first Friday of each month, October through May, and includes guest speakers, botany walks, and field trips. Please join our email list ([tontobasinnativeplants@gmail.com](mailto:tontobasinnativeplants@gmail.com)) to receive up-to-date information and meeting reminders. You can also visit our [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) accounts for additional information.

### Chapter Offices

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President: Becky Settje; Vice President: Teri Balaska; Lead Botanist: Eric Sjoden.



South Rim, Grand Canyon. Photo: Shelley Silva

## Tucson Chapter



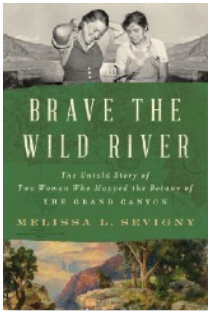
The Tucson Chapter meets on the second Thursday of each month, from September to May. The monthly meetings of the Tucson Chapter will be on summer break and will resume in September. Our meetings are in a hybrid format with in-person meetings held at the ENR2 (Environmental Natural Resources 2) building on the University of Arizona campus. A zoom option is available and details will be given when the monthly meetings resume.

Watch our [chapter page \(https://aznps.com/chapters/tucson/\)](https://aznps.com/chapters/tucson/) on the website for more information.

## Chapter Offices

President: Lyn Loveless; Treasurer: Andrew Gourevitch; Secretary: Georgette Mehalik

## Spring Highlights



In March, we were fortunate to host a program by Melissa Sevigny, author of *Brave the Wild River: The Untold Story of Two Women Who Mapped the Botany of the Grand Canyon*. It is always exciting to hear authors talk about their books, the challenges and successes of their experiences. The inspiration for Melissa's book came from a display at NAU's Cline Library and the ensuing conversation and encouragement of the Special Collections librarian.



Pima County is unusual, and fortunate, in having a native plant nursery where plants are grown for restoration projects and mature plants are temporarily housed during construction projects. Amy Belk, manager of the Pima County Native Plant Nursery, was our April speaker, sharing some of the key differences between growing for restoration and growing for production or retail markets. Through education, they are also helping to bridge the botanical gaps between community development and conservation of our natural and cultural resources.

## Upcoming

Plans are underway for our chapter's annual Monsoon Mixer, held in July or August. This event is a way for members and plant enthusiasts to enjoy a social evening, highlighted by plant give-aways, raffles, and in some years a silent auction. Some years the event has even been blessed with a monsoon rain.

## Upper Gila Chapter



To keep up-to-date on chapter activities, please contact us at our [chapter email](mailto:uppergilaaaznps@gmail.com) ([uppergilaaaznps@gmail.com](mailto:uppergilaaaznps@gmail.com)).

### Chapter Offices

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President: Vacant; Vice President: Diane Drobka; Secretaries: Julie Plath and Clara Gauna; Treasurer: Julie Davis.

## White Mountain Chapter



Our chapter covers all of Navajo and Apache counties, but welcomes native plant enthusiasts from Greenlee and northern Gila Counties also. For more information, contact the [chapter](mailto:aznpswhitemountain@gmail.com) ([aznpswhitemountain@gmail.com](mailto:aznpswhitemountain@gmail.com)).

### Chapter Offices

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President: Jess Rollar; Education Coordinator: Anita Thompson; Treasurer: Bob Rollar; Master Gardener: Michelle Straight.

## Yuma Chapter



Yuma will forgo regular monthly, in-person meetings for the foreseeable future. Instead, we will focus on outdoor activities, such as field trips and work projects, with a virtual format for meetings and similar indoor activities.

Announcements of these events and other news updates will be posted via email. If you would like to receive updates, please contact us at our [chapter email](mailto:yumaaznps@gmail.com) ([yumaaznps@gmail.com](mailto:yumaaznps@gmail.com)) and ask to be put on our list.

### Chapter Offices

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President: Valerie Morrill; Vice President: Karen Reichhardt; Secretary: Deirdre MacDonald; Treasurer: Tom Fox



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## Welcome New Chapter Members!

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**Flagstaff:** Rita Greenwell

**Cochise:** Vincent Goetz, Kai Stewart

**Peach Springs:** Jesse Duff Woodruff

**Phoenix:** Corinna Benson, Kelsey Eglinton, Joyce Hall, Kevin Hammelev, Malina Higgins, Annie Jensen, Jeff Reich, Rick Bondesor, Mickey Galbraith

**Prescott:** Zakiyah Harrison, Margaret Menache, Scott Webb

**Tucson:** Jim Reveno, Susana Almuina, Donna Dalton, Nicole Grady, Joy Hartnett, Bernadette Jilka, Constance Rapp, Gail Rottman, Tohono Chul Park, Steve Watts

**Yuma:** Graciela Garcia, Karla Morgan



Woodhouse's phlox (*Phlox woodhousei*). Photo: Shelley Silva

**For More Information, Contact the Chapter Officers**Or visit the AZNPS [website \(www.aznativeplantsociety.org\)](http://www.aznativeplantsociety.org).**AZNPS Headquarters**Administrator: Pat Sanchez[arizonanativeplantsociety@gmail.com](mailto:arizonanativeplantsociety@gmail.com)**Cochise Chapter**President: Douglas Ripley[aznpscochise@gmail.com](mailto:aznpscochise@gmail.com)

Vice President: Vacant

Secretary Deanna Sanner

Treasurer: Pat Sullivan

**Flagstaff Chapter**President: Kirstin Phillips[flagstaffaznps@gmail.com](mailto:flagstaffaznps@gmail.com)Contact: Susan Holiday[naris123@cs.com](mailto:naris123@cs.com)

Treasurer: Patti Van Tuyl

Presentations/Field Trips: Barbara Phillips

**Peach Springs Chapter**President: Carrie Cannon[Carrie.Cannon@hualapai-nsn.gov](mailto:Carrie.Cannon@hualapai-nsn.gov)

Secretary: Shaileen Gonzalez

Treasurer: Alicia Cesspooch

**Phoenix Chapter**

President: Vacant

Treasurer: Vacant

**Prescott Chapter**President: Sue Smith[PrescottNativePlantSociety@gmail.com](mailto:PrescottNativePlantSociety@gmail.com)**Santa Cruz Chapter**President: Robin Kulibert[santacruz.AZNPS@gmail.com](mailto:santacruz.AZNPS@gmail.com)

Vice President: Rick Kulibert

**Tonto Basin Chapter**President: Becky Settje[tontobasinnativeplants@gmail.com](mailto:tontobasinnativeplants@gmail.com)

Vice President: Teri Balaska

Lead Botanist: Eric Sjoden

**Tucson Chapter**

President: Lyn Loveless

[nativeplantstucson@gmail.com](mailto:nativeplantstucson@gmail.com)

Treasurer: Andrew Gourevitch

**Upper Gila Chapter**

Vice President: Diane Drobka

[uppergilaaznps@gmail.com](mailto:uppergilaaznps@gmail.com)

Secretaries: Julie Plath and Clara Gauna

Treasurer: Julie Davis

**White Mountain Chapter**President: Jess Rollar[aznpswhitemountain@gmail.com](mailto:aznpswhitemountain@gmail.com)

Education Coordinator: Anita Thompson

Treasurer: Bob Rollar

Master Gardener: Michelle Straight

**Yuma Chapter**President: Valerie Morrill[yumaaznps@gmail.com](mailto:yumaaznps@gmail.com)

Vice President: Karen Reichhardt

Secretary: Deidre MacDonald

Treasurer: Tom Fox

**AZNPS Happenings** is a forum to promote chapter news and activities throughout the state. Please contact your chapter president or program coordinator to contribute information, or email the *Happenings* editor, Shelley Silva ([shelley.a.silva@gmail.com](mailto:shelley.a.silva@gmail.com)).



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P.O. Box 41206  
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### Arizona Native Plant Society

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