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	Amy Metz	amy13jsa@gmail.com
Flagstaff	Susan Holiday	naris123@cs.com
Peach Springs	Carrie Cannon	Carrie.Cannon@hualapai-nsn.gov
Phoenix	Mark Cirillo	markecirillo@gmail.com
Prescott	Sue Smith	PrescottNativePlantSociety@gmail.com
Santa Cruz	Robin Kulibert	santacruz.aznps@gmail.com
Tonto Basin	Becky Settje	tontobasinnativeplants@gmail.com
Tucson	Lyn Loveless	nativeplantstucson@gmail.com
White Mountain	Jess Rollar	aznpswhitemountain@gmail.com
Yuma	Valerie Morrill	yumaaznps@gmail.com



Arizona Native Plant Society Botany 2027 Symposium

Plans are underway for the Botany 2027 Symposium, which will be held on Saturday and Sunday, March 6 and 7, at the beautiful Desert Botanical Garden, Phoenix. This will be a special meeting as it will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Arizona Native Plant Society! Presentations and posters will be presented on Saturday followed by a catered buffet dinner and an after-dinner speaker/program. On Sunday, guided field trips to several of the Garden's research facilities will be offered as well as trips to various areas of botanical interest in the Phoenix area. Specific registration details will be forthcoming soon. Please make plans to attend this special event.







Phoenix Botanical Garden. Photos: Doug Ripley

Chapter News

Cochise Chapter



After the last year's kick-off meeting, we had one additional meeting during which Doug Ripley gave a presentation about the Cochise Stronghold. Now Amy is seeking help from both new and longtime Cochise Chapter members to get the chapter better organized. She needs volunteers to help with the following: locate a permanent place for regular meetings and presentations, line up speakers who can come to Sierra Vista, and plan upcoming field trips. We also need to choose a regular meeting day and time, and weekend afternoons are one option. No one should take on everything; if a few helpers share the work, this will make it easier for everyone. If you can help with any of these tasks, please contact Amy Metz (amy13jsa@gmail.com).

Flagstaff Chapter



The Flagstaff Chapter is on hiatus from November through February. Kirstin Phillips will be stepping down as President of the Flagstaff Chapter. We are looking for members to step up to serve as President and to serve on the statewide board of directors. We are also looking for members to participate in the Flagstaff Chapter planning committee. If you are interested in participating, please contact Kirstin (FlagstaffAZNPS@gmail.com). The status of the presentations for 2027 is unknown at this point. Please watch the email distribution list for updates in the new year. I encourage everyone to participate in the upcoming Flagstaff botany lunches and happy hours.

Chapter Offices

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

Upcoming Botany Lunch

Friday, December 11, 11:45 AM: Golden Dragon Chinese on Lakin Drive

Hakđagwi:va Peach Springs Chapter



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

Chapter Offices

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

Phoenix Chapter



The Phoenix chapter has a virtual meeting on the first Monday of each month from 6:00 to 7:00 PM with a presentation by an invited speaker, followed by an optional business meeting from 7:00 to 8:00 PM. Both members and non-members are welcome! Find the link to RSVP and the Zoom link on the events page (https://aznps.com/events/). We will have another in-person chapter meeting on Sunday, January 10, at the South Mountain Visitor Center; more information forthcoming.

Our chapter has started to put out a monthly newsletter. Please sign up to the email list using this form (https://tinyurl.com/4z6tpphw)! The newsletter includes chapter news, information on upcoming events, a plant spotlight article, various recommended readings and videos, and highlights on projects going on in the valley by other conservation and nature groups. Past newsletters can be seen on our chapter website. Please reach out to Kathleen McCoy (Kathleen.McCoy@asu.edu) if you have anything you would like to include in our newsletter! Anything involving native plants is welcome, from recommended readings, youtube videos that you found interesting, articles on native plants, events you've heard of from other groups, art, poems or even just photos of your garden are welcome. Share your love of plants with the community!

Chapter Offices

President: Daniela Howe (imdanielahowe@gmail.com); Vice President: Peter Pawliuk; Treasurer: Kevin Brown; Secretary: Kathleen McCoy. Social Media Manager: Carly Mendoza

Field Trips

We offer a monthly hike at rotating locations in the valley. We provide a field guide on local plants and magnification tools. Please check the Events page on the AZNPS website for more details. Hikes are easy to moderate and about 2.5 miles long.

In December, we have another Boyce Thompson Arboretum Nature Walk led by our wonderful Secretary Kathleen McCoy. Walk along the trail and learn about native plants while enjoying the gorgeous park. More information forthcoming.

Volunteer Opportunity

The Phoenix Chapter has taken over restocking duties at the South Mountain branch of the Maricopa Native Seed Library (https://libguides.maricopa.edu/seed) while its founder is out of the country on a Fulbright scholarship. Once a week, we meet to take stock of the seed library inventory and refill it. We also build and fill seed packets with native seeds for the library to distribute. We meet on Wednesdays at 12:00 PM at the South Mountain Community Library. All materials are provided; just show up and bring a friend! All community members can have three seed packets a month for free, so check it out even if you can't help restock; there are branches throughout the city (https://libguides.maricopa.edu/seed).

Please reach out to our chapter (phoenixaznps@gmail.com) if you are interested in volunteering, or if you know someone who would be willing to speak at one of our monthly meetings.

Follow us on Facebook (facebook.com/aznpsphoenix) and Instagram (https://www.instagram.com/aznpsphoenix/). Contact (phoenixaznps@gmail.com).
The chapter has a Discord! Members are encouraged to join and collaborate (https://discord.gg/cMAhVQw6MR).

Prescott Chapter



For the past few years, members of the Prescott chapter have worked on various projects to rehabilitate two meadows at the Highlands Center for Natural History. Many hours have been spent removing invasive plants and dispersing seeds of native plant species. It's been rewarding to see the improvements, and we are grateful that this year's improved monsoon rains helped things along. As a capstone to our 2026 efforts, volunteers took advantage of a break in the late October rains to plant approximately 80 young native plants in Walnut Meadow.

Looking ahead to 2027, a small steering committee has started a monthly meeting to plan future activities. If you are interested in participating in our planning efforts, please contact Julia Elias (julia.a.elias@gmail.com). We will be contacting all Prescott chapter members in the new year.

Chapter Offices

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







Highlands Center for Natural History

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) to join our mailing list or for any other questions.

Chapter Offices

President: Robin Kulibert; Vice President: Rick Kulibert

Tonto Basin Chapter



The 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) to receive up-to-date information and meeting reminders. You can also visit our Facebook and Instagram accounts for additional information.

Chapter Offices

President: Becky Settje; Vice President: Teri Balaska; Lead Botanist: Eric Sjoden. We can be reached at (tontobasinnativeplants@gmail.com).

Field Trips

Friday, December 4, 10:00 - 11:30 AM. iNaturalist Botany Walk

Join us for a botany walk and learn how to use the iNaturalist app for plant identification and observations on your smartphone. Location: Deer Creek Trailhead (located at Highways 87 and 188).

Friday, January 8, 10:00 - 11:30 AM. Ethnobotany Walk: Braiding Sonoran Wisdom: Indigenous Stewardship and Desert Plants

Karen Bennett will share how ancient cultures utilized the plants of the Sonoran Desert. Location to be determined.

Friday, February 5, 10:00 - 11:30 AM: Smartphone Photography

Learn tips and tricks from Veronika Countryman on how to take amazing plants photos with a smartphone. Location to be determined.

Upcoming Projects

- Propagating native Arizona raspberries for the Dude Creek restoration project.
- Seed collecting for the Native and Urban Wildlife Center, Scottsdale Community College
- Tonto Basin Stinknet Patrol with Friends of the Tonto National Forest

For updates on these projects and monthly meetings, please contact us with your email to insure that you receive up-to-date information.





Stinknet Patrol at work

Tucson Chapter



Monthly programs are held at 7:00 PM on the second Thursday of the month at the Environmental and Natural Resources Building (ENR2) on the University of Arizona Campus, 1064 E. Lowell St.

The 6th Street parking garage is available for a fee, and there is a surface lot at W. 6th St. and N. Fremont Ave., which is free. You do not need to be a member to join these programs.

Chapter events are advertised via email. You may be added to the mailing list by sending a message with your name and email address to NativePlantsTucson@gmail.com.

Check our chapter page on the AZNPS website for more information (https://aznps.com/chapters/tucson/).

Chapter Offices

President: Lyn Loveless; Treasurer: Andrew Gourevitch; Secretary: Georgette Mehalik. We can be reached at (nativeplantstucson@gmail.com).

Meetings

Thursday, December 10, 7:00 PM: Members Showcase

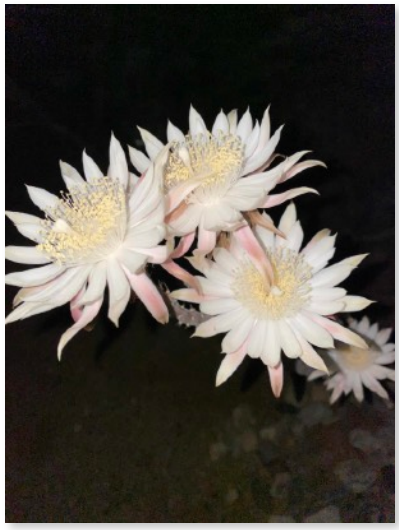
Please consider sharing your adventures in native-gardening in a 10 - 15 minute presentation. Possible topics include ideas for propagation, seed collecting, or enhancement of native gardens, along with interesting observations of favorite plants. For more information contact Susan Husband (suehus12@gmail.com) or 520-327-0405. A potluck of holiday goodies is also featured.

Thursday, January 14, 7:00 PM. John Scheuring: *The Gradual Conversion of a Monoculture Buffelgrass Patch Back to a Saguaro-Palo Verde Bajada Landscape*

John Scheuring will discuss what he has learned (and been surprised by) during 16 years of work at the Waterman Restoration site.

Thursday, February 11, 7:00 PM. Lyn Loveless: *Techniques for Identifying Common Plant Families*

Our chapter president will discuss the unique characteristics of five plant families that are commonly found in our region. An observer can use these clues to identify the family of a mystery plant, which will narrow the focus to further determine the genus and possibly species. A great way to impress your friends on plant walks!





Left to right: Night-blooming cereus (*Peniocereus greggii*), Firecracker-bush (*Bouvardia ternifolia*), Orange caltrop (*Kallstroemia grandiflora*). Photos: Lyn Loveless

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 (aznpswhitemountain@gmail.com). Be sure to follow us on Facebook for updates and weekly native plants reports (https://www.facebook.com/AZNPSwhitemountain).

Chapter Offices

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 (yumaaznps@gmail.com) and ask to be put on our list.

Chapter Offices

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

Welcome New Chapter Members!

Flagstaff: Yvonne Cunningham

Peach Springs: Sharon Baur

Phoenix: Stephanie Caldwell, Dale Linnea, Elizabeth Donaldson, Cathy Gedvilas, Michael Hills, Alina Lucas, Lauren Marks, Roger Prutsman, Galina Quigley, Leslie Russell, Darrel Stephens, Melanie Tluczek, Danielle Babson, John Robbins

Tonto Basin: Connie Soltis, Jane Parent

Tucson: Rebecca Clark, Mollie and Casey Hadland, Nico and Laura Lorenzen, George Tomczyk, Mark Ray, Melanie Babeau



Walkingstick cactus (*Cylindropuntia spinosior*). Photo: Lyn Loveless

For More Information, Contact the Chapter Officers
Or visit the AZNPS website (www.aznativeplantsociety.org).

AZNPS Headquarters
Administrator: Pat Sanchez — arizonanativeplantsociety@gmail.com

Cochise Chapter
Acting President: Amy Metz — amy13jsa@gmail.com
Vice President: Vacant
Secretary: Vacant
Treasurer: Vacant

Flagstaff Chapter
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Contact: Susan Holiday — naris123@cs.com
Treasurer: Patti Van Tuyl
Presentations/Field Trips: Barbara Phillips

Peach Springs Chapter
President: Carrie Cannon — Carrie.Cannon@hualapai-nsn.gov
Secretary: Shaileen Gonzalez
Treasurer: Alicia Cesspooch

Phoenix Chapter
President: Daniela Howe — phoenixaznps@gmail.com
Vice President: Peter Pawliuk
Treasurer: Kevin Brown
Secretary: Kathleen McCoy
Social Media Manager: Carly Mendoza

Prescott Chapter
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Santa Cruz Chapter
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Vice President: Rick Kulibert

Tonto Basin Chapter
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Vice President: Teri Balaska
Lead Botanist: Eric Sjoden

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Treasurer: Andrew Gourevitch

White Mountain Chapter
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Treasurer: Bob Rollar
Master Gardener: Michelle Straight

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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).



ARIZONA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY
P.O. Box 41206
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Arizona Native Plant Society

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- ○ $75 Commercial
- ○ $500 Patron
- ○ Renewal
- ○ $30 Individual, $50 Individual for 2 years
- ○ $50 Organization
- ○ $100 Plant Lover
- ○ $1,000 Lifetime

Preferred Chapter:

- ○ Cochise
- ○ Flagstaff
- ○Peach Springs
- ○ Phoenix
- °Prescott
- ○ Santa Cruz
- ○ Tonto Basin
- ○ Tucson
- ○ Upper Gila
- ○ White Mountain
- ○ Yuma

Members with email access will receive email notice when new *Happenings* newsletter and *Plant Press Arizona* issues are posted online. **Please indicate if you prefer to receive *Plant Press Arizona* via postal mail.**

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