Arizona Native Plant Society Newsletter

Vol. 4, No. 4 Winter 1980-81

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETS

The ANPS Board of Directors met in Tucson 19 December 1980. Included on the agenda were:

Two motions concerning memberships: a committee will study modifications of procedures in handling membership details; and chapters will be responsible for hand delivery of membership packets to new members, who will be advised that a packet awaits them at the next chapter meeting.

Donations which are not specified for a chapter will be deposited to the general statewide ANPS bank account.

Resignation of the newsletter editor was accepted effective after the next newsletter. Search is on for a new editor.

Reports from Education and Endangered Plant Species committees.

Next meeting of the Board will be 20 February at Boyce Thompson Arboretum.

ANPS ANNUAL MEETING SCHEDULED

The annual meeting for the general membership will be Saturday, 25 April 1981, at the Desert Botanical Garden, Phoenix. Program details will be announced in the next newsletter.



ENDANGERED PLANT SPECIES COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Endangered Plant Species Committee agreed that ANPS should cooperate with other institutions that work for the conservation of endangered species. Among those would be: The Nature Conservancy, US Fish and Wildlife Service, Arizona Game and Fish Department, US Bureau of Land Management, Arizona Commission of Agriculture and Horticulture, Museum of Northern Arizona, Natural Resources Defense Council.

The committee summarized its agreement generally on the following items. The committee will:

- 1. operate as the coordinating body in rare plant activities conducted by ANPS.
- 2. cooperate with institutions listed above with respect to field observations, correspondence, and propagation of rare plants.
- 3. call for suggestions from the society and other interested agencies to compile a list of plant species for which more information is needed and those in need of critical attention.
- 4. learn of members who are interested in adopting a plant for the purpose of guarding it and fostering its continued existence.
- 5. suggest the possibility of educating landowners who have rare species on their land so that they may be encouraged to appreciate and preserve the rare plants under their

control.

6. bring the pros and cons of the propagation of endangered species to the Society members for consideration.

The committee, chaired by Howard S. Gentry, also includes M. Butterwick, R. G. Engard, G. P. Nabhan, K. Newland, T. R. Van Devender and P. Williams.

ARID LANDS PLANT FAIR TO BE HELD IN PHOENIX

The Phoenix Chapter of ANPS will sponsor an Arid Lands Plant Fair at the Park Central Shopping Mall 14-15 March.

The fair will be educational in purpose and through it the chapter hopes to disseminate information and solicit support for agencies, institutions, and organizations that specifically deal with arid land plants. Nursery people, horticulturists, botanists, land-scape contractors and others concerned with the preservation of and promotion of native and drought tolerant plants for landscape use are expected to participate.

SPRING PLANT SALES ANNOUNCED

Mark your calendars for the following annual plant sales:

28-29 March: Desert Botanical Gardens, Phoenix

4-5 April: Boyce Thompson Arboretum, Superior

)11-12 April: Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum, Tucson.

TUCSON CHAPTER PLANTS "LOGO" AT 2ND ANNUAL NATIVE AND ARID PLANT WORKSHOP

At its 2nd Annual Native and Arid Plant Workshop, 18 October 1980, the Tucson Chapter planted a five-gallon container specimen of Lysiloma thornberi, the Society's symbol.

The tree, planted in a parking median at Porter Gardens, is a token of appreciation to the Tucson Botanical Garden for its cooperation with the activities of the chapter.

The planting was part of a demonstration by Dr. Paul Bessey, Professor of Horticulture at the University of Arizona.

PHOENIX CHAPTER
DISCUSSES EDUCATION

At its December meeting, Victor Gass led Phoenix Chapter members in a discussion of what ANPS can do to educate developers, contractors, architects, and the general public on the use of and preservation of existing natives in the landscape.

Education is a primary objective and ANPS can act as a source of information. This would include a list of good materials for landscape use, including data on success and availability. A reference map showing examples of mature specimens in the Phoenix valley could be prepared. Data on cultivation can be compiled. Sources of materials and help can also be listed.

This is an ongoing project for the chapter. Information may be sent to N. Holler, 211 W. Howe St., Phoenix, AZ 85281.

TUCSON CHAPTER ANNOUNCES SPRING SCHEDULE



Monthly meetings of the Tucson Chapter are held at Porter Gardens, 2150 N. Alvernon Way, at 7:30 p.m. The following programs are scheduled:

11 February: Dr. Margarita Kay, U of A College of Nursing, will talk about medicinal uses of herbs of the Sonoran Desert.

11 March: Second Annual Botanical Lecture of the Year. Dr. William G. McGinnies, President of ANPS, will talk about flowering seasons.

8 April: Janice Bowers, U of A Office of Arid Lands Studies, will talk about the vegetation of Organ Pipe National Monument.

13 May: Annual Chapter meeting to elect officers for 1981-82. LeMoyne Hogan, U of A Professor of Plant Sciences, will talk about Australian arid plants. Potluck supper at 6 p.m.

Field trips are planned as follows:

7 March: Morning walk on U of A campus to see introduced arid land plants in landscape use. Led by Warren Jones. Meet at 10 a.m. in parking lot west of PAS building (east of Park Ave. on 4th St.).

28 March: Urban weed walk led by Louis Hamilton. Meet 10 a.m. at corner of Bentley and 8th St.

17 April: Nursery & greenhouse operations of Tucson Parks & Recreation Dept. with Joann Dernberger. Meet in front of Reid Park Admin. Office, 900 Randolph Way, at 1 p.m.

29-31 May: Organ Pipe National Monument. More details later.

TUCSON CHAPTER OFFERS CLASSES

The Tucson Chapter has arranged for the following classes:

Introductory Botany: six Thursdays, 29 January to 5 March, on UA campus (Room 321, Agricultural Sciences Building). Taught by George Yatskievych. Cost \$20.

Introductory Plant Taxonomy: eight Tuesdays, 10 March to 28 April, on UA campus (Room 321, Agricultural Sciences Bldg.). Taught by George Yatskievych. Cost about \$30.

Intermediate Plant Taxonomy: eight Thursdays, 12 March to 30 April, UA Campus (Room 321, Agricultural Sciences Bldg.). Taught by Tony Burgess. Cost about \$30.

Cacti: Two series of Saturday field trips, at cost of \$8 per series plus personal or carpool transportation.

Series A, 1ed by Pierre Fischer

31 Jan -- Tumamoc Hill

14 Feb -- Waterman Mts.

28 Feb -- Saguaro Natl. Mon. West

14 March--Gardner Canyon

Series B, led by Gene Joseph

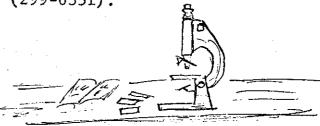
28 March--Places

18 April to be

9 May announced

30 May--Organ Pipe Natl. Mon.

To enroll in any of the above classes call in the evening and as soon as possible either Tim Clark (326-8527) or Don LoBiondo (299-6351).



ANPS HOSTS MEETING OF ASSOCIATION OF WESTERN NATIVE PLANT SOCIETIES

The Association of Western Native Plant Societies met 11-12 October 1980 with representatives from California, Colorado, Oklahoma, Oregon, and Utah in addition to the Arizona hosts.

After touring the Desert Botanical Garden Saturday morning, a business meeting convened to sharpen the bylaws of the association.

On Sunday Frank Crosswhite gave the group a deluxe tour of the Boyce Thompson Arboretum.

DESERT BOTANICAL GARDEN
OFFERS LECTURE SERIES

The Wednesday Evening Lecture Series continues on the topic of "Plants of the Desert and Their Importance to Man."

11 February: Succulent Plants and Their Uses, Joyce L. Tate, Cactus and Succulent Society of America

11 March: Desert Plants and Your Diet, Ruth Greenhouse, DBG

8 April: Ancient Desert Crops for the Twenty-first Century, Richard L. Felger, Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum and U of A Environmental Research Laboratory

13 May: Cacti and Their Uses, Donald Pinkava, Arizona State University Professor of Botany

10 June: Plants of our Deserts in Tomorrow's World--Their Economic Potential Today, Howard S. Gentry, DBG

These lectures start at 7:30 p.m.

in the Webster Auditorium at the Desert Botanical Garden.

The 34th Annual Cactus Show will be held 21 February to 1 March.

BOOKS TO BE PUBLISHED

Two volumes of interest will be released by the University of Arizona Press later this spring.

The long awaited 3rd edition of Benson and Darrow's TREES AND SHRUBS OF THE SOUTHWESTERN DESERTS should be out in May. It will cost \$49.50.

A new book of particular import is DISCOVERING THE DESERT: THE LEGACY OF THE CARNEGIE DESERT BOTANICAL LABORATORY, by William G. McGinnies. This is a history of the Carnegie Desert Laboratory on Tumamoc Hill in Tucson, as well as a survey of the critical research done there. It will be \$21.95 in cloth; \$9.50 in paper.

SPECIAL PLANTS OF ARIZONA

In this issue of the ANPS Newsletter I wish to tell you about some more special plants for the Arizona Natural Heritage Program. This program gathers information on all of the rarer and more unusual Arizona plants and animals. The information is used in protection planning activities working with state and government agencies, universities and private individuals and companies

In a recent public hearing, the Arizona Commission on Agriculture and Horticulture proposed adding Agave parviflora (Santa Cruz striped agave), Lilium parryi (lemon lily), Echinocactus horizonthalonius (Nichol

rk's head cactus), and Echinoreus triglochidiatus arizonicus
(Arizona claret cup cactus) to the
list of plants protected under the
Arizona Native Plant Law. These
plants can be collected only under
a scientific or educational permit
and not for commercial purposes.
The two cacti are already officially listed as endangered by the U.S.
Fish and Wildlife Service.

Agave parviflora is a beautiful small agave with prominent stripes on its leaves. It is prized by collectors. It enters the U.S. only in Santa Cruz County. Lilium parryi is a spectacular showy lily that was first described from the mountains of southern California. In Arizona it is found in several canyons in the Huachuca Mts. in Cochise County. One population in Carr Canyon has recently disappeared following a devastating forest fire and subsequent floods. Fortunately, e population of Lilium parryi is protected on the Ramsey Canyon Preserve owned by the Nature Conservancy. Both Agave parviflora and Lilium parryi are protected by the U.S. Forest Service and will be considered for protection by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in 1981.

We are to congratulate Richard Coun-

tryman and James Carter of the Ari-

zona Agriculture and Horticulture

Commission for protecting these

plants in Arizona.

Rumex orthoneurus Rech. (Chiricahua dock) is a three-foot tall herbaceous perennial with broad, bright green leaves that is found only in the mountains of southern Arizona. It grows along streams in meadows from 5700 to 8500 feet elevation. It was originally described from Barfoot Park in the Chiricahua Mts. in 1939. Due to the efforts of Reggie Fletcher, Regional Botanist, S. Forest Service, the plant is ing protected by Coronado Nationa

S. Forest Service, the plant is ing protected by Coronado National Forest. In Rustler Park, a log enclosure has been constructed around

a population and cattle have been removed from the area, although breaks in the fences have allowed some stock back in. Another population of Rumex orthoneurus in the Sierra Ancha on Tonto National Forest is threatened by grazing, recreation and mining activities. The earliest collection of Rumex orthoneurus I know of was by J. G. Lemmon, presumably with Sarah Plummer, his wife, in 1882 from Ramsey Canyon in the Huachuca Mts. In Larry Toolin's recent survey of Ramsey Canyon for The Nature Conservancy he did not find the plant. It probably was extirpated from Ramsey Canyon during the mining activities at Hamburg Mine.

> Thomas R. Van Devender Arizona Natural Heritage Program

SPECIAL PLANT COMMUNITIES OF ARIZONA--Granite Mountains in the Desert

In extreme southwestern Yuma County on the Mexican border a fascinating mixture of three floras occurs. Three rugged and nearly barren mountain ranges in the area that the Heritage Program has explored come to mind as particularly good examples of this phenomenon—Tinajas Altas, Cabeza Prieta and Sierra Pinta mountains (the last two lie in the Cabeza Prieta National Wildlife Refuge and the first would be included within a proposed addition to the refuge).

The vegetation on the weathered, comparatively rich, granitic soils of these low ranges shelters a flora that is far richer than that of the surrounding plains or nearby mountains. The region is in the heart of the Lower Colorado subdivision of the Sonoran Desert as described by Forrest Shreve (Car-

regie Institute of Washington, fucson Desert Research Laboratory). Many of the dominant perennial plant species are familiar to most Arizonans, including creosote bush (Larrea divaricata), white bursage (Ambrosia dumosa), foothill paloverde (Cercidium microphylla), saguaro (Carnegiea gigantea), ocotillo (Fouquieria splendens), brittlebush (Encelia farinosa), desert lavender (Hyptis emoryi), and many other of our typical Sonoran Desert plants.

In addition to these are several species which barely enter the U. S. from the Gulf of California coastal deserts. A distinctive vegetation type which occurs within fifty miles of the Gulf Coast in Baja and Sonora, it is composed of such botanical oddities as boojum (<u>Idria columnaris</u>). Shreve termed this the Central Gulf Coast subdivision of the Sonoran Desert. bur representatives of the Central Gulf Coast Desert are limberbush (<u>Jatropha cuneata</u>), elephant tree (<u>Bursera microphylla</u>), feltmallow (Horsfordia alata), flor de la piedra (Eucnide rupestris), senita (Lophocereus schottii), and gray thorn (Condalia globosa).

A third floral element is distinctively Lower Coloradoan. A great many species are mostly or entirely restricted to extreme southeastern California, southern Nevada, and southwestern Arizona as well as adjacent Baja and Sonora. These species include Bigelow nolina (Nolina bigelovii), desert milkweed (Asclepias albicans), chuparosa (Belloperone californica), holly-leaved bursage (Ambrosia ilicifolia), many-headed barrel cactus (Echinocactus polycephalus), Nevada tea (Ephedra nevadensis), and others.

So, in the granite mountains of Yuma County on the Mexican border a barren, naked landscape belies the richness of the sparse vegetation. Three major floral elements meet here, represented by a fascinating diversity of plants, from two different subdivisions of our Sonoran Desert and an interesting assemblage mostly endemic to the area.

Frank W. Reichenbacher, Jr. Arizona Natural
Heritage Program

NOTES, NEWS, BOOKS

The Arizona Native Plant Society was featured in a half-page article in The Arizona Daily Star 13 December. A discussion of ANPS history, purposes and activities also included a photo of founder William G. McGinnies and Tucson Chapter president Tim Clark.

THE SONORAN DESERT, by Christopher L. Helms, Public Affairs Officer, Arizona-Bonora Desert Museum, is a new KC Publications release. With numerous color photos by well known southwestern photographers and an informative text, it provides an introduction to the Sonoran Desert. It is available from the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum, Rt. 9, Box 900, Tucson, AZ 85704, for \$5.00, which includes postage.

Southwest Parks and Monuments Association has published SAGUAROS, an elegant little book by Doris Evans. It also includes quite a few color photos. At Saguaro National Monument East it was priced at \$8.00.

Subscribers to DESERT PLANTS re-

redeemable for \$1.00 at the Boyce Thompson Arboretum gift shop.

The Winter 1980-81 number of DESERT PLANTS, due late in January, will contain a special booklet entitled "Living With Desert Plants Through the Year."

Annual subscriptions to DESERT PLANTS are \$10 (two years for \$19.50). Send checks to Boyce Thompson Southwestern Arboretum, Box AB, Superior, AZ 85273.

TUCSON PRESERVATION PRIMER, a class project of the College of Architecture published by the U of A College of Architecture in 1979, includes a list of plant materials used in Tucson before 1930. The list, prepared by Ian Davidson, is arranged according to trees, shrubs, bedding, vines, ground covers. Scientific and common names are given as well as rough dates of introduction, when known. Native species are indicated with an asterisk.

ANPS dues for 1981 are due and may be mailed to:

Arizona Native Plant Society P. O. Box 18519 Tucson, AZ 85731

Membership classes are:

Patron	\$100
Sponsor	50
Family	15
Institution (including	15
clubs and societies)	
Individual	10
Student	5
Senior Citizen	5
Commercial Enterprises	
(special application	
request required)	

If you wish to affiliate with a chapter, please include that information:

Phoenix Chapter Tucson Chapter Other

