

Newsletter of the Arizona Native Plant Society

Vol. 3, No. 2
Fall 1979

ANPS PRESIDENT MOVES

Larry Holzworth, who was elected president of ANPS last January, has been transferred to Montana and consequently has had to resign from the ANPS presidency.

Holzworth was one of the ANPS incorporators and has been active on the board since the society started. He also served as corresponding secretary.

Tucson-area board members honored Holzworth at an informal luncheon before he left and presented him the society's Distinguished Fellow citation.

While in Tucson, Holzworth was the manager of the Tucson Plant Materials Center (USDA Soil Conservation Service), which serves Arizona, southern and western Nevada, and southern Utah. In Montana, he will be SCS plant materials specialist, based in Bozeman, and serving Montana and Wyoming.

ANPS Vice-president Bill McGinnies will carry on the society's activities for the rest of the year.

SELECTING A LOGO

The selection of a logo representative of the Arizona Native Plant Society was a major item on the agenda at several meetings of the Board of Directors. Various approaches were made to obtain a suitable logo. A contest for student participation resulted in a few entries, none considered

satisfactory. Professional help was also solicited.

The Board of Directors agreed that the logo should be a motif of a plant that would represent all of Arizona. This ruled out saguaro, agaves, paloverde trees and similar species. It was also decided that the native plant should be endemic to Arizona and not found in bordering states and should represent one of the larger plant families. With all this in mind, it was decided that Lysiloma thornberi Britt and Rose would be an ideal choice. Mrs. Lucretia Hamilton was requested to prepare a sketch. The logo printed on our stationery and on the new society brochure is the result.

Systematic botanists do not agree that Lysiloma thornberi is a valid species, but all agree that it deserves at least sub-species rank, that it is endemic, and is reasonably distinct from other members of the genus. Lysiloma thornberi, commonly called featherbush or fernbush, is a large shrub or small tree that reaches a height of 15 feet and a spread of 10 to 15 feet. It is a member of the legume family --one of the largest and most typical families in Arizona represented by trees, shrubs, and herbs at all elevations. The type specimen was collected in 1926 in the Rincon Mts. by J. J. Thornber, who for many years was a professor of botany at the University of Arizona, and who was known for his intimate knowledge of Arizona plants. The fine-textured foliage on many slender branches makes this an attractive plant for landscape uses.

W. G. McGinnies

ELECTION OF ANPS DIRECTORS

According to our By-laws: "An election of directors who are not ex officio shall occur annually at the meeting of the Board for elections, the time and place to be called by the President." The time for the next election has tentatively been set for January 19, 1980. The place is yet to be determined. A nominating committee consisting of past presidents Charles Sacamano and Frank Crosswhite will prepare a slate of three or more candidates for presentation to the members of the society. Any member of the society is eligible to be nominated. Three directors shall be elected by the general membership each year.

Directors may also be nominated by petition signed by not less than fifteen members. Such nominations are to be filed with the Nominating Committee not less than forty-five days before the meeting of the Board for elections.

The names of all nominees will be included on a ballot mailed to each member twenty days before the meeting of the Board for elections. All ballots must be received by the corresponding secretary 72 hours before the announced time of the meeting of the Board for elections. A plurality of all votes cast shall be sufficient to elect. The tenure of directors elected in this manner is two years. Present directors with one more year to serve are: Frank Crosswhite, Ron Gass, and Charles Hanson. Ex officio directors presently holding office are W. G. McGinnies, Vice-president; Eileen B. Ferguson, Recording Secretary; LeRoy Brady, Corresponding Secretary; Wayne Marx, Treasurer; and Irving Vincent, State Agent.

Tim Clark, as president of the Tucson chapter is also a director.

The new Board of Directors will consist of six elected directors, officers of the society, the president of active chapters with fifteen or more members, and committee chairmen appointed by the president subject to approval by the Board of Directors.

Officers of the Society are elected at the annual meeting of the Board for elections. Any member of the society is eligible to be nominated for office and need not be a member of the Board of Directors. Nominations are made by a nominating committee of three members appointed at a meeting prior to the annual meeting. An officer may succeed himself.



DESERT PLANTS

A new quarterly, DESERT PLANTS, is being published by the Boyce Thompson Southwestern Arboretum and the University of Arizona. The first issue is dated August 1979.

The contents of the first number include articles on jojoba, Indian sunflowers, an "extinct" wire-lettuce, plant selection, 1978 freeze effects, the plant explorers J. G. Lemmon and wife, and landscape transition from bermudagrass to rock or gravel.

Annual subscription is \$10. To subscribe, or for further information, contact the Boyce Thompson Southwestern Arboretum, Box AB, Superior, AZ 85273

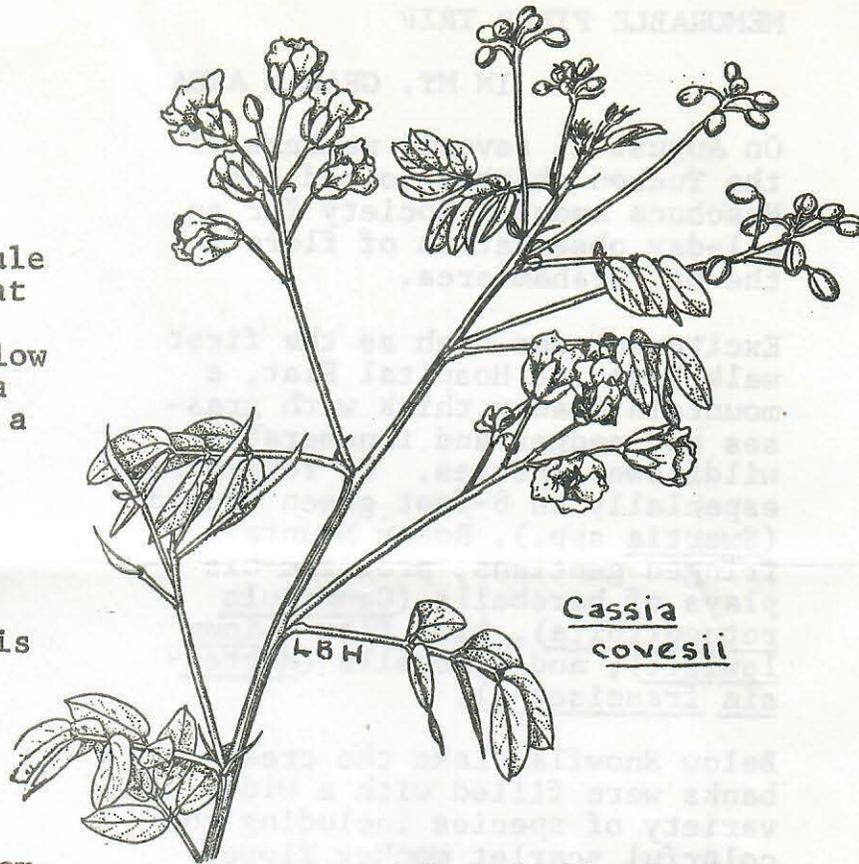
NATURE LOVES YELLOW

by Louis P. Hamilton

In the Native Plant Society we take advantage of nature's schedule of color. We accept the fact that no one or two plants will be in flower from spring to fall. Yellow predominates in summer. Within a few blocks of my place in Tucson a number of yellow flowered shrubs of varied size give a pleasing landscape.

The most showy since the rain is a many flowered Cassia from the Bisbee hills, C. wislizeni. It is making up now for its habit of leafing out later in the spring than most shrubs. Rivaling the Cassia for beauty and standing tall with trumpet flowers is the native yellow flowered trumpet bush, Tecoma stans. It comes from a plateau above Peppersauce Canyon on the north side of the Catalinas above Oracle. This attractive shrub is tender to frost. It should be planted early in the spring so it is well established before winter. South exposure is preferable. The shrub tends to be viny in its infancy, but mine have developed strong straight stems the second year. Expect it to be frosted back to ground level each winter.

Another striking yellow flowered bush is the Cassia leptocarpa which used to be plentiful through Texas Canyon en route to Willcox. Experience has taught us to keep it slightly stressed for water. A good rain will then bring it out in its full glory. Overwatered, it becomes a rank bush very subject to red spiders. Among the shorter-lived yellow flowered plants is the tall growing wild tobacco, Nicotiana glauca. The hummingbirds prefer it to any feeder. Closer to the ground are the Cassia covesii, the yel-



Cassia covesii

low paper daisy, Psilostrophe cooperi, and the Bahia. Haplopappus spinulosus is a common yellow flowered low weed. Earlier in the spring we enjoyed the yellow flower clusters of the now naturalized bird of paradise, Caesalpinia gilliesii, with its striking long red anther filaments. The desert marigold, Baileya multiradiata, gave beauty to the ground. It is often associated with Dyssodia with its trim fine growth. We must not overlook the flowers of the barrel cactus, opuntia, or the greasewood, Covillea tridentata. Dominating all these were the three species of palo verde.

In another issue we will point out some exceptions to yellow flowered plants with which we can balance nature.

If you wish to learn more about these and many other arid land plants, attend the Tucson chapter's workshop September 22, or write for information.

MEMORABLE FIELD TRIP

RESEARCH RANCH

IN MT. GRAHAM AREA

On August 11 several members of the Tucson chapter joined the Huachuca Audubon Society for an all-day observation of flora in the Mt. Graham area.

Excitement was high as the first walk began at Hospital Flat, a mountain meadow thick with grasses and sedges and innumerable wildflower species. We remember especially an 8-foot green orchid (Swertia spp.), Rocky Mountain fringed gentians, prolific displays of harebells (Campanula rotundifolia), blue Flax (Linum lewisii), and bluebells (Mertensia franciscana).

Below Snowflat Lake the creek banks were filled with a wide variety of species including the colorful scarlet monkey flower (Mimulus cardinalis). The creek forms a ravine abruptly and offers an unforgettable panorama.

After a picnic under the pines we went back up to Shannon Park to hike along a shelf trail with many varieties of trees, shrubs, and wildflowers, including several species of orchids and the brilliant Mexican campion (Silene laciniata).

Our deep thanks to Dr. Charles McMoran, ANPS member who led the field trip. His knowledge and enthusiasm captivated our hearts. And to the members of the Huachuca Audubon Society, we express our hope to meet again soon so that we may share with one another our love and knowledge of Arizona flora.

Tim Clark

Almost forty members of the Tucson chapter climbed aboard "tough" vehicles and criss-crossed on primitive roads the mile-high, 8,000-acre Research Ranch on August 18.

This natural laboratory, located southeast of Elgin, is an experiment in regeneration of soil, plant and animal life on grasslands once grazed by domestic animals. For most of us it was an exhilarating day, a celebration of sky, expanse of land, and an extraordinary variety of flora. A picnic was enjoyed under an unusually large Arizona ash. The largest recorded specimen of Juglans major, Arizona walnut, was also observed.

Our sincere appreciation to Mrs. Ariel Appleton for her kind and gracious hospitality, and to all those who participate in the ranch research projects, our admiration.

For those who wish to know more about the land-use history of the Research Ranch and the general area, we recommend "Land-use history of the Research Ranch, Elgin, Arizona," by Conrad J. Bahre, published as Supplement 2, Journal of the Arizona Academy of Science, Volume 12, August 1977.

Tim Clark

RAMSEY CANYON

A small group of Tucson Chapter members enjoyed a special tour of Ramsey Canyon June 16th, and were fortunate to see lemon lilies (L. parryi) in bloom.

EBF

TUCSON CHAPTER NEWS

At their annual meeting last May the Tucson chapter elected the following officers for 1979-80:

President: Tim Clark
Vice-president: Don LoBiondo
Secretary: Vicki Lanphier
Treasurer: Barbara Olson

A calendar of activities for the year includes:

September 12: Pot-luck supper at home of Marjorie and Ned Shrigley. For details, phone Barbara Olson, 883-0179, evenings.

September 22: Native Plant Workshop
Learn about seed collecting, seed treatment and germination techniques, planting and care, design and availability. For details call Tim Clark, 326-8527, evenings. Workshop will be at Tucson Botanical Gardens, 9 am to 1 pm.

October 10: Lucretia Hamilton, noted plant illustrator, will share her creativity. Tucson Botanical Gardens (TBG), 7:30 pm.

October 20: Field trip. "How old is it?" will be the question at various stops along the Mt. Lemmon road. Answers will be provided by C. W. Ferguson, UA Professor of Dendrochronology. Meet at TBG at 8 am. Bring box lunch. Carpooling.

November 14: Dr. Raymond Turner, USGS and UA Adjunct Professor of Geosciences, will speak on a topic still to be announced. TBG, 7:30 pm.

November 17: Field trip. Morning walk on a new trail on Tumamoc Hill, westside Tucson. Meet at west end of St. Mary's Hospital parking lot at corner of Anklam and Silverbell. 9 am.

December 8: Field trip. Louis Hamilton, agronomist and horticulturist will lead an afternoon walk to observe fall flowers and weeds. Meet at corner of 8th Street and Bentley (one block west of Country Club) at 1:30 pm.

December 12: The Nature Conservancy, preservers of our natural diversity, will be the subject of a slide talk. TBG, 7:30 pm.

January 9: Carole Jenkins, UA graduate student will share her study of "Plants of the Rincon Mts." TBG, 7:30 pm.

January 19: Annual meeting of statewide ANPS. Location to be announced.

February 13: Dr. Howard Scott Gentry, Research Botanist at Desert Botanical Garden, Phoenix, and world authority on Agavaceae, will give a slide talk on yucca. Tentatively at TBG, 7:30 pm. Open to public.

February 23: Field trip. Afternoon walk on UA campus to observe some old and new plantings of arid species being used in the landscape. Meet at north side of new tennis courts just north of 6th St. at Campbell and south of McKale swimming pool at 2 pm.

March 12: "Empire-Sonoita Grassland Area" is the subject of a talk to be given by Dr. Phil Reed Ogden, UA Professor of Range Management. TBG, 7:30 pm.

March 22: Field trip. Joining members from the Phoenix area on an all day hike in Peralta Canyon in the Superstition Mts. to observe wildflowers. Also view wildflowers along Pinal Pioneer Parkway. Meet at TBG, 8 am. Carpooling. Bring box lunch. Wear comfortable shoes.

March 29: ARBOR DAY celebration: planting of a native tree in Tucson. Charles M. Sacamano, UA Professor of Horticulture will be guest speaker. Place and time to be announced.

April 5-6: Annual plant sale at Boyce Thompson Southwestern Arboretum. Announcement for volunteers in March.

April 26: Field trip: all day walk and picnic from the other side of Queen Creek and a surprise trail near Boyce Thompson Southwestern Arboretum to observe high desert vegetation. Frank Crosswhite, Curator and Research Scientist of the Arboretum will be leader. Meet at TBG, 8 am. Carpooling. Bring lunch.

May 10: Field trip: Peppersauce Canyon in the Santa Catalinas. Detailed announcement in the spring.

May 14: Annual chapter meeting to elect new officers for 1980-81. TBG, 7:30 pm.

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ATTENTION ALL TUCSON CHAPTER MEMBERS!

Your officers have been working hard to arrange a continued and ambitious program for the next several months. Additionally, they hope to implement a few special projects during 1979-80 which will be introduced to you at the opening party September 12. Also, there seems to be renewed interest from the community to join the chapter. These facts indicate a great need for our members to contribute their time and ideas to our committee work. Please volunteer to help the chapter. Call Tim Clark at 326-8527, evenings.

NOTES AND NEWS

The 1979 Arizona Jojoba Conference will be held October 15 and 16 at the University of Arizona. Panel discussions will be concerned with site selection, establishment, maintenance, harvest and processing, markets and commercialization. Further information may be requested from: University of Arizona, Division of Continuing Education, 1717 East Speedway, Room 1201, Tucson, AZ 85719.

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The Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum has named Dr. Mark Dimmitt as its new Curator of Plants. Dimmitt has most recently been Wildlife Ecologist in the Riverside, California, District of the Bureau of Land Management.

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The Office of Arid Lands Studies, University of Arizona, and the Midwest Research Institute, Kansas City, Missouri, jointly conduct a Technology Assessment of the Commercialization of Guayule (Parthenium argentatum). To solicit comments about guayule commercialization, these agencies held two public meetings in August--in Kansas City on August 20 and in Tucson on August 28. Guayule is a rubber producing field crop that could be grown in Texas, New Mexico, Arizona and California. It has been grown commercially in the past, especially during World War 2 in the Emergency Rubber Project.

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A recent publication of the Southwest Parks and Monuments Association is Flowering Plants of the Lake Mead Region. Brief descriptions are given of plant groups and plant communities. Plant descriptions are organized by main color of flower with a good color photograph, common and scientific names, family designation and a brief descriptive paragraph for

nearly 120 plants. The index includes both scientific and common names. Special symbols indicate the presence of the plant in Death Valley and Joshua Tree national monuments as well. Price at the Lake Mead Visitor Center was \$3. Or contact Southwest Parks and Monuments Association, P.O. Box 1562, Globe, AZ 85501.

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A 1976 SPMA publication may also still be mentioned: Shrubs and Trees of the Southwest Uplands, written by Francis H. Elmore, with drawings by Jeanne R. Janish. In this volume plants are presented by zones: pinyon-juniper, pine-oak, fir-aspen, and spruce-fir. Each section is printed on different colored paper for easy reference. Some color photos supplement the many line drawings.

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An all-day workshop on the identification of native plants was included in the Yavapai range field day events organized in Prescott by the UA Cooperative Extension Service August 21-22.

HELP! HELP! HELP!

If the Newsletter is to be successful, it must have support from the members of the society. Support means contributions--news, notes, articles about native plants, book reviews, drawings, sketches, maps or descriptions of interesting plant communities, use of plants for conservation, beautification, food, fiber and fuel; needs for protection and a world of other things that might be of interest to members of the society. One contribution might be an article entitled "My favorite native plant" covering all or at least some of the following points: common and scientific name, life form (tree, shrub, herb), description with drawings, where it grows,

possibilities of cultivation, flowering time, economic uses, historical data, future possibilities, and finally the most interesting thing you know about the plant.

W.G.McG.

Send your Newsletter contributions to the editor: Mrs. Eileen B. Ferguson, 6602 North Cibola Av., Tucson, AZ 85718.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The ANPS Board of Directors will meet October 17. Suggestions for the agenda may be sent to the Corresponding Secretary, LeRoy Brady, ADOT, Roadside Development Services, 205 S. 17th Av., Room 228E, Phoenix, AZ 85007.

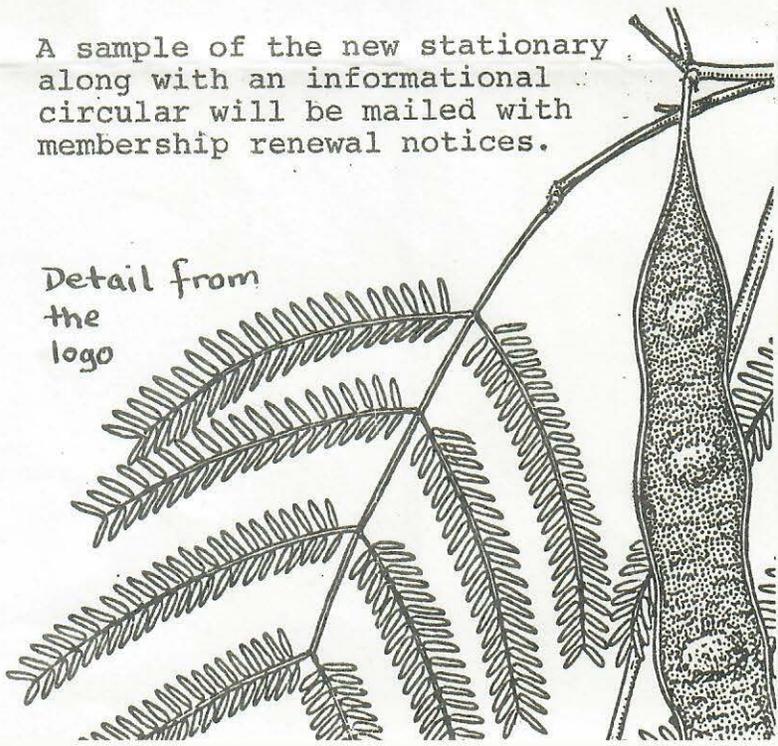
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The annual statewide ANPS meeting has been scheduled tentatively for January 19, 1980. If anyone is aware of any major conflicts on this date, please notify the Corresponding Secretary (address above). If you have any suggestions for a meeting place and for the program, please send them also to LeRoy Brady.

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A sample of the new stationary along with an informational circular will be mailed with membership renewal notices.

Detail from the logo



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