

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 Chapter: Doug Ripley jdougripley@gmail.com

Flagstaff Chapter: Susan Holiday naris123@cs.com

Phoenix Chapter: Lisa Rivera aznpsphoenix@gmail.com

Prescott Chapter: Sue Arnold PrescottAZNPS@gmail.com

Santa Cruz Chapter: Francesca Claverie Santacruz.aznps@gmail.com

Tucson Chapter: Lyn Loveless lyndloveless@gmail.com

Upper Gila: Kara Barron karabarron26@gmail.com

Yuma Chapter: Valerie Morrill aznpsyuma@yahoo.com



Chapter News



Cochise Chapter

We have monthly programs on the **third Friday** of each month from **September through May** at **5:00 PM** in the **Cochise County Community Development Office** conference room, 4001 Foothills Dr. (corner of Highway 92 and E. Foothills Drive), Sierra Vista. The chapter has established a Facebook website (http://www.facebook.com/AZNPSCochise) where much useful information about the chapter and its members is posted.

Chapter Offices

President: Douglas Ripley (jdougripley@gmail.com); Vice President: Elliott Hendricks (emhndrks@yahoo.com); Secretary: Deann Sanner (longeyesone@gmail.com); Treasurer: Pat Sullivan

Meetings

Friday, March 20: To be Announced

Friday, April 17: To be Announced

Friday, May 15: Doug Ripley, Cochise Chapter, Arizona Native Plant Society. Plants and Animals of New Zealand as Seen by an Amateur Naturalist

Cochise County Chapter President Doug Ripley will give a presentation on a trip he and his wife Arlene took to New Zealand, where they were able to observe and photograph many native New Zealand plants and animals.







From left to right: Arthur Pass, Orakei Korako Park, Ruakuri. Photo credit: Doug Ripley

Flagstaff Chapter



Regular evening programs are presented on the **third Tuesday** of the month, except for March, which will be held on the fourth Tuesday of the month, **March through October**, at **7:00 PM**. These take place at **Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church**, 1601 North San Francisco St. Monthly field trips are usually scheduled for the following weekend, and are announced via e-mail and the Arizona Daily Sun. These events are free and open to the public. Unless otherwise announced, meet for carpooling to field trips at 8:30 AM., at the OneAZ Credit Union parking lot at the southwest corner of Beaver and Butler. Bring sun and/or rain protection, water, snacks, lunch, and a car or gas money for carpooling. For more information, email Barbara Phillips at bagphillips@yahoo.com or call her at (928) 853-3355. The Chapter has established a Facebook website (http://www.facebook.com/AZNPSFlagstaff) where much useful information about the chapter and its members is posted.

Please check the website <u>aznps.com</u> and the Facebook page <u>www.facebook.com/</u> <u>AZNPSFlagstaff</u> for updated information or sign up to be on the email distribution list by contacting <u>naris123@cs.com</u>.

Upcoming Meetings

Tuesday, March 24: Nicholas Wilhelmi. Common Pathogens of Arizona's Forests



Pineland dwarf mistletoe (Arceuthobium vaginatum). Photo credit: Max Licher

There are a variety of pathogens that influence forest health in Arizona, ranging from fungi to parasitic plants, both native and introduced. This presentation will focus on some of the common pathogens which affect Arizona's forests. Topics covered will include basic biology, effects on host tree species, as well as management.

Nicholas Wilhelmi studied forestry at the University of Missouri and Forest Pathology at Oregon State University. He has worked as a forest pathologist with Forest Health Protection, Arizona Zone since 2017.

Tuesday, April 21: Ellie Becklund.



Round-leaf dune-broom (*Errazurizia rotundata*). Photo credit: Daniela Roth

In just a few pockets along the LCR, the imperiled *Errazurizia* rotundata quietly sits in sandstone outcroppings. It is one of four legumes in the genus *Errazurizia*, which has a disjunct distribution across the New World tropics. The other errazurizias live in narrow ranges in the deserts of Chile, Baja California, and northern Mexico. This talk will outline the historical focus on this genus and its evolutionary relationships, and the present-day work that clarified generic boundaries of this group.

Ellie Becklund is a master's student in Dr. Tina Ayers' lab at NAU studying plant systematics and evolution.

Tuesday, May 19: Sheila Murray and Kirstin Phillips. Citizen Science Rare Plant Monitoring Program



Perennial fringed-gentian (*Gentianopsis barbellata*). Photo credit: Max Licher

Come learn about 10 rare plants growing on the San Francisco Peaks and Mt. Elden that haven't been collected in decades. The Museum of Northern Arizona and The Arboretum at Flagstaff are starting a program to train citizen scientists to search for and monitor rare plants that haven't been found in years. You can help land managers safeguard these rare plants by finding them in the wild and checking on their condition.

Sheila Murray is the Research Botanist at The Arboretum at Flagstaff. Kirstin Olmon Phillips is the Botany Collections Manager at the Museum of Northern Arizona. Both are avid professional and recreational botanists with an interest in rare and endangered plants who enjoy hiking and spending time outdoors.

Phoenix Chapter



Our season runs from **September to May.** For the remainder of this season, the dates and locations of our Chapter meetings and events will vary. So please take note of the date, time, and location when events are announced.

You can keep up with us throughout the season on Facebook (<u>facebook.com/aznpsphoenix</u>), our webpage (<u>aznps.com/chapters/phoenix</u>), and Instagram. Follow us at <u>@aznpsphoenix</u> and use the hashtags #aznativeplants and #aznpsphoenix in your plant posts to help us showcase the beauty and importance of Arizona native plants!

Chapter Offices

President: Lisa Rivera; Vice President: Natalie Melkonoff; Secretary: Danielle Carlock; Treasurer: Steve Blackwell. We look forward to leading our Chapter with an enjoyable and productive season! Please feel free to contact us at aznpsphoenix@gmail.com.

Recent Meetings

By popular demand, we've been promoting native plant and seed swapping at all of our Chapter meetings! If you have extra potted plants or seeds, share the goodness with others by bringing them to an upcoming meeting. If possible, please label the items with their scientific name.

In November, our guest speaker was Brittney Monus, an ASU graduate student studying soil microbes in dryland ecosystems. She presented an overview of Arizona native soils and her research on soil responses to changes in precipitation.





Left: Seed swap at our November Chapter meeting. Right: Guest speaker Brittney Monus sharing her soil research with us. Photo credits: Lisa Rivera

In December, we had a potluck holiday celebration at the South Mountain Environmental Education Center (SMEEC). Also, members began collaborating on several projects to support and increase SMEEC's outreach regarding native plants. This includes the planning of a pollinator demonstration garden and a guided nature walk.

In January, our guest speaker was Annia Quiroz, Engagement Coordinator of the Central Arizona Conservation Alliance (CAZCA). We learn about CAZCA's work throughout our region and how AZNPS collaborates on some on these projects, including the new Sonoran Seed Collaborative. We encourage everyone to visit CAZCA's webpage at <u>cazca.org</u> for details about their various volunteer projects and educational events this spring. For more information about the Sonoran Seed Collaborative, please visit <u>sonoranseed.org</u>.

Upcoming Meetings

In lieu of a Chapter meeting in March, we are having at least one special event. On **Sunday, March 15 from 10:00 to 11:30 AM**, join us on a **guided nature walk at South Mountain** led by Chapter members! *The Plant-astic Sonoran Desert* will be easy 1-hour walk on a paved trail. Along the way, learn about the amazing plants that call South Mountain home and get ideas for incorporating native plants into your own landscaping. This event is open to the public, so feel free to invite others or bring a friend.

Directions to SMEEC (10409 S. Central Ave. Phoenix, AZ 85042):

- Take Central Ave south to South Mountain Park.
- Take the first left immediately after the Park entrance gate house.
- The SMEEC Visitor Center is up the hill to the right. There are a few parking spots there (including accessible parking). If full, please park in the large lot below to the left and walk the paved trail to the SMEEC facility.

Chapter Elections for 2020 - 2021 Offices

Starting this season, we will hold our annual Chapter Elections in May rather than October. Therefore, **Chapter elections will take place at our May Chapter meeting** (date TBD). We encourage all interested AZNPS members to run for one of our offices! For more details on office responsibilities or to make a nomination, please email aznpsphoenix@gmail.com.

Volunteer Opportunities

Various volunteer opportunities are available this season with our Chapter and our partners. These are announced at Chapter meetings and to our email list as details become available. Please contact us if you are interested in learning more.

Prescott Chapter



To stay up to date on all of our chapter events, you can be added to our email list and/or follow our Facebook page. Send an email to PrescottAZNPS@gmail.com to join our mailing list or for any other contact. Follow us at www.facebook.com/AZNPSPrescott to keep up-to-date on chapter events.

Chapter Offices

Secretary: Patricia Hils, p.hils@q.com; Treasurer: Sue Arnold

Outings

Saturday, March 28: Steve Miller. Geology and Blooms

Steve Miller will lead his annual geology and bloom trip. The location, time, and meeting place will be set as we get closer to March 28, as it is very hard to anticipate blooms in advance. This will be an all-day trip, so bring lunch and enough water for the day. Please email PrescottAZNPS@gmail.com or call 408-507-7706 to participate and get a time and meeting place. Carpooling is needed so please let us know if you are willing to drive and how many passengers you can take.

Saturday, April 25: Sue Smith. Lower Ash Creek

We will explore the plants south and east of Prescott along lower Ash Creek. We will not be driving on rough dirt roads. Walking will be off trail along the creek. Carpooling may be needed, so please let us know if you are willing to drive and how many passengers you can take. We will hike about 2 miles one-way. Meet at the Frontier shopping center in the parking lot above Einstein Brothers Bagels at 7:30 AM. Please contact Sue Smith at 408-507-7706 or PrescottAZNPS@gmail.com to participate. Bring water and a lunch. It is expected to return to our carpool area by 2:00 P.M.

Saturday, May 9: Sue Smith. Grapevine Botanical Area

We will explore and collect plant specimens in the Grapevine Botanical Area. We may hike up to 6 miles with an elevation change that is steep in a few locations. The trail is rough and damaged after the Goodwin fire, so wear hiking boots and bring poles if needed. Meet at the Frontier shopping center in the parking lot above Einstein Brothers Bagels at 7:30 AM. The last mile or so is a very rough dirt road, which usually produces Arizona pin-striping and high-clearance is necessary. If we have more interest than vehicles, we can walk from the parking area that does not require a tough high clearance vehicle (will add 1.25 miles one way). Please contact PrescottAZNPS@gmail.com to participate. Bring water and lunch. It is expected we will to return to Einsteins by 4:00 P.M, maybe 5:00 PM if we walk the extra mileage. Contact Sue Smith at 408-507-7706 or PrescottAZNPS@gmail.com to participate.

Volunteer Opportunities

Thursday, April 16: Sue Smith. Seed Packing for Earth Day

The Prescott chapter plans to have a table at the annual Earth Day Event in downtown Prescott. We have been successful providing native seeds at the event and will need help getting seeds packed and ready for our booth. We will meet at the home of Sue Smith, 766 Grapevine Lane, Prescott, AZ from 4 to 6PM. If you are interested in participating, please contact Sue Smith at 408-507-7706 or PrescottAZNPS@gmail.com.

Saturday, April 18: Earth Day

The Prescott chapter plans to have a table at the annual Earth Day Event in downtown Prescott. Tables will be set up on Cortez Street next to the Courthouse square and will be shaded. We will need volunteers to assist at our table and with setup and take down. Two-hour shift sign-ups are needed between 10AM to 3PM. If you are interested in setup or take down or volunteering for our booth, please contact Sue Smith at 408-507-7706 or PrescottAZNPS@gmail.com.

Friday, May 1: Sue Smith. Walnut Meadow Volunteer Opportunity

We will continue our work to maintain the lovely Walnut Meadow at the Highland Center for Natural History (HCNH). We will be removing and bagging non-native plants. The work parties are typically around 2 to 2-1/2 hours. Meet at Walnut Meadows at 8:00 AM. Bring gloves and water; shovels and some clippers will be provided. Not all jobs require digging; bagging and clipping of plant material is typically needed.

You will be asked to sign a waiver for the Highlands Center for Natural History, as the work is being done in their special use area. If interested in helping, please contact Sue Smith at suejsoi@yahoo.com or call 408-507-7706.

Santa Cruz Chapter



The Santa Cruz chapter meets the **first Thursday** of **every month** at **6:00 PM**, alternating between Sonoita (at the fire station) and Patagonia (at the BRN offices on I School St).

Chapter Offices

President: Francesca Claverie (afclaver@gmail.com); Secretary: Ariana Raley (ariraley@protonmail.com);

Treasurer: Perin McNelis

Events

Friday, March 20, 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM. Native Plant Nursery Open House with tours and music at BRN Nursery, Patagonia

Friday, April 17, 10:00 AM - Noon. Agave Phenology Workshop, Patagonia

Saturday, May 2. Native Plant Nursery Management and Propagation Class at BRN Nursery in Patagonia

Email <u>santacruz.aznps@gmail.com</u> for more information and to sign up for events.

Tucson Chapter



The Tucson Chapter meets the 2nd Thursday of each month, at 7:00 PM in the Environment and Natural Resources Building, 1064 E. Lowell Street, Tucson, on the University of Arizona campus. The adjacent parking garage costs \$1.00 per hour (credit cards only) and there is free parking across from the building on 6th Street. The meeting room will change in each of these three months, but all rooms are in the ENR Building on the U of A campus. Access to upper levels is by elevator or by stairway.

Chapter Offices

President: vacant; Vice-President: Andrew Cordery (ecotrot@gmail.com); Treasurer: Jackie Taylor; Secretary: Lyn Loveless (lyndloveless@gmail.com).

Meetings

Thursday, March 12 - ENR Room N595: Daniel McNair. Tips for Growing Native Mallows in Tucson Gardens and Other Malvaceous miscellany

The diversity of native mallows (family Malvaceae) in southern Arizona is incredible. Dan will review that diversity and talk about what species do well in cultivation, especially in Tucson. He will share his successes and failures in cultivating over 20 different native mallow species, including globemallows, velvetleaf mallows, hibiscus, and wild cotton.

Daniel is biologist at WestLand Resources in Tucson. His obsession with growing and photographing native mallows began when he started writing an identification guide for *Abutilon parishii*, a species of conservation concern that is endemic to Arizona and Sonora. That paper is available here: http://www.phytoneuron.net/2018Phytoneuron/84PhytoN-AbutilonIDs.pdf. Before moving to Arizona in 2017, Daniel was an Assistant Curator at the UC Davis Center for Plant Diversity in California.

Thursday, April 9 - ENR Room S215: Nate Ritchie. Think Like A Landscape Architect: How, When, and Where Wheat Design Group Uses Native Plants

In his talk, Nate will discuss the use of native plants in landscape architecture and design.

Nate Ritchie is a Landscape Designer at Wheat Design Group, a local Landscape Architecture Firm. He has worked on designs for small parks to miles-long infrastructure projects. Nate has a passion for the Sonoran Desert and works to include native trees, shrubs, and cacti in his projects.

Thursday, May 14 - ENR Room S107. John Scheuring, Patty Estes, and Chuck LeFevre. Bringing Back Mother Nature from Fountaingrass Strangulation in Alamo and Cargodera Canyons

Since 2016, volunteers from the Arizona Native Plant Society and Catalina State Park Buffelslayer volunteers have repeatedly spot-sprayed Fountaingrass (*Pennisetum setaceum*), which was choking the Cargodera and Alamo riparian canyons on the west side of the Santa Catalina Mountains. After the fountaingrass canopy opened up, there were heavy infestations of Natalgass (*Melinus repens*), Bermudagrass (*Cynodon dactylon*) and Red Brome (*Bromus rubens*). Those opportunistic, invasive plants were then repeatedly sprayed out to allow the unfettered growth of native vegetation.

Water flow and duration, the appearance and numbers of amphibians, and native plant recruitment and growth has been remarkable in both canyons. The speakers will discuss the recovery of the native flora in these two Santa Catalina canyons.

Field Trip and Events

The chapter is planning several field trips for AZNPS members in March to appreciate the anticipated spring annual bloom of our deserts and mountains. Watch the webpage for further details.

With the prodigious winter rains continuous since Thanksgiving, the desert floor is now a carpet of young emerging winter annuals. We expect a lovely and prolonged Spring wildflower and cactus bloom season. We are now organizing as many wildflower field trips as we can for the months of March and April. Field trips will be announced at the monthly meetings and followed up in our monthly AZNPS chapter eBlast announcements.

Friday, March 6 - Monday, March 9: AZNPS Botany Camping Trip to the Goldwater Range



Following abundant November and December rains, we anticipate abundant spring plant emergence and flowering in even the driest areas of Arizona. This year we will camp at the base of the Hat Mountains on the Barry Goldwater range and make day trips to sample diverse habitats in the vicinity. The Hat Mt area is known for great wildflower displays set against a background of dramatic rocky outcrops. In this dry desert, the washes here support a surprisingly lush array of dense trees, shrubs, and other vegetation, along with plentiful wildlife and birds (and good tracking). We'll explore some

other nameless but beautiful and seldom visited spots and if the roads permit; we might visit Tule Tank Canyon or the archaic petroglyph site at Charlie Bell Road.

This trip will be led by botanists Tom Van Devender and Ana Lilia Reina, and naturalist Pinau Merlin.

We will leave from Tucson early in the morning on Friday, March 6 and return to Tucson on Monday, March 9. We will do primitive camping for three nights and carry in all our water. Additional details will be forthcoming.

A \$100 fee per person will be required to cover group expenses and honorariums. Details will be forthcoming for those signing up.

Meet: Friday 6 March at 8 am at the IHOP on Grant Road just west of I-10.

High clearance vehicles only, and vehicle numbers will be limited

AZNPS current members only.

Group size limit: 28

Please RSVP to Andrew Cordery at <u>AZNPS.Tucson.trips@gmail.com</u>

Yuma Chapter



Judith Hillarie

We have meetings on the **third Thursday** of each **month** at **7pm** at Arizona Game and Fish Department office, located on Ave 9E and 28th Street

Chapter Offices

President: Valerie Morrill (bebbia@hotmail.com); Vice President: Karen

Reichhardt (ayekarina52@gmail.com); Secretary: Erv Barnes

(aznpsyuma@yahoo.com); Treasurer: Tom Fox.

"The leaves of the world comprise countless billion elaborations of a single, simple machine designed for one job only—a job upon which hinges humankind. Leaves make sugar. Plants are the only things in the universe that can make sugar out of nonliving inorganic matter. All the sugar that you have ever eaten was first made within a leaf. Without a constant supply of glucose to your brain, you will die. Period. Under duress, your liver can make glucose out of protein or fat—but that protein or fat was originally constructed from a plant sugar within some other animal. It's inescapable: at this very moment, within the synapses of your brain, leaves are fueling thoughts of leaves."

Hope Jahren, Lab Girl



Image credit: Andrew Z. Colvin

Welcome New Chapter and New Members!

Cochise: Brad Clemens

Flagstaff: Doug Bowen, Lee Dittmann

Phoenix: Thom Berger, Marilyn Cooper, Sydney Files, Linda Fiske, Casey Harris, Lisa Hegarty, Margaret

Hutchinson, Elena Ortiz, Rebecca Schexnayder,, Suzanne Starr, Ed Taylor, Sydney Files

Prescott: Karen Wechsung

Tucson: Peggy Allen, Dave Bertelsen, Carmen Bria Jr, John and Kathy Burley, Alyssa Cochran, Janice Coons, Suzanne Fish, Jennifer Godwin, Colin Guiley, Sallie Herman, Janice Johnson, Randolph Nesse, Dale Vanderwerff, Alyssa Cochran, Karen Vandergrift, Loraine Yeatts

Upper Gila: Julie Davis, Clara Gauna, Bea Lancaster, Jean Reynolds, Alton Whitmer, Bonnie Woods

Yuma: Linda Johnson

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FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT AZNPS, CONTACT THE CHAPTER OFFICERS

Or visit the AZNPS website: www.aznativeplantsociety.org

AZNPS Headquarters

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Cochise Chapter

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Vice President: Elliott Hendricks emhndrks@yahoo.com Secretary: Deanna Sanner longeyesone@gmail.com

Treasurer: Pat Sullivan

Flagstaff Chapter

Contact: Melissa Amberson azmelissa@yahoo.com

Treasurer: Tina Ayers

Presentations/Field Trips: Barbara Phillips bagphillips@yahoo.com 928-853-3355

Phoenix Chapter

President: Lisa Rivera aznpsphoenix@gmail.com

Vice President: Natalie Melkonoff Treasurer: Steve Blackwell Secretary: Danielle Carlock

Prescott Chapter

Secretary: Patricia Hils p.hils@q.com

Treasurer: Sue Arnold mazearnold@gmail.com

Santa Cruz Chapter

President: Francesca Claverie afclaver@gmail.com
Secretary: Ariana Raley ariraley@protonmail.com

Treasurer: Perin McNelis

Tucson Chapter

President: vacant

Vice-President: Andrew Cordery ecotrot@gmail.com

Treasurer: Jackie Taylor

Secretary: Lyn Loveless lyndloveless@gmail.com

Upper Gila Chapter

Contact: Kara Barron karabarron26@gmail.com

Yuma Chapter

President: Valerie Morrill bebbia@hotmail.com Vice President: Karen Reichhardt ayekarina52@gmail.com Secretary: Erv Barnes aznpsyuma@yahoo.com

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 e-mail the *Happenings* editor, Shelley Silva, at shelley.a.silva@gmail.com. Photos are always welcome!

Please send information for the newsletter by:

February 1st for March - May events

August 1st for September - November events

November 1st for December - February events May 1st for June - August events



ARIZONA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY P.O. Box 41206 Tucson, AZ 85717

Address Service Requested

Arizona Native Plant Society AZNPS is a 501 (C) (3) organization Your membership is tax-deductible, minus \$12 for Plant Press

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Membership Level:	New\$15 Student\$35 Family\$75 Commercia\$500 Patron	∘ \$30 ∘ \$50 ul ∘ \$10	newal 0 Individual 0 Organization 00 Plant Lover ,000 Lifetime		
Preferred Chapter:		FlagstaffTucson	PhoenixUpper Gila	○ Prescott○ Yuma	○ Non AZ

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

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