



# HAPPENINGS

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Arizona Native Plant Society  
Our mission is to promote knowledge, appreciation, conservation

## 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:	Lisa Rivera	<a href="mailto:aznpsphoenix@gmail.com">aznpsphoenix@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:	Jack Dash Kara	<a href="mailto:nativeplantstucson@gmail.com">nativeplantstucson@gmail.com</a>
Upper Gila:	Barron Jess	<a href="mailto:uppergilaaznps@gmail.com">uppergilaaznps@gmail.com</a>
White Mountain:	Rollar	<a href="mailto:aznpswhitemountain@gmail.com">aznpswhitemountain@gmail.com</a>



## Plant Press Arizona



Published semiannually in themed issues, *Plant Press Arizona* offers in-depth articles on selected topics, such as rare plant conservation, in addition to regular features, such as book reviews, committee reports, and spotlights on specific native plants. Our current issue highlights Grasses.

You can find most issues of *Plant Press Arizona*, all the way back to the first edition in 1981, in the archive our website as well as its predecessor publication, the *AZNPS Newsletter*, back to the first issue in 1977. We now have a dedicated search box on that page just for the journal. Coming soon, we will have a detailed index of all past issues.

## Certify your Outdoor Space with The Maricopa Pollinator Pathway

The [Maricopa Pollinator Pathway](#) is a new initiative of the [Maricopa Native Seed Library](#) which helps to build interconnected pollinator habitat. The Pathway also offers a free pollinator habitat certification program for Maricopa County and other low and intermediate desert areas of Arizona (under 3000 feet in elevation).

Danielle Carlock, the seed library's founder, recently gave a presentation about the Maricopa Pollinator Pathway to the Phoenix Chapter. The presentation recording is available to watch any time on the [AZNPS YouTube Channel](#). Watch to learn how to create pollinator habitat in your outdoor space using native plants. Then, certify your habitat with the Maricopa Pollinator Pathway!

The Phoenix Chapter assisted in the development of the habitat certification criteria. So, we are excited to help promote the Maricopa Pollinator Pathway and increase the number of pollinator-friendly gardens. We encourage you to spread word about the program with your family, friends, and neighbors!



## Waterman Mountain Restoration Site Activities

Following the official launch of the Waterman Interpretative Site, we made the location visible on Google Earth and Google Maps. Already the map has drawn hundreds of visitors.

### Public Tours of the Waterman Site

AZNPS will conduct public tours on the first Saturday in February, March, April, and May and again August through November. Tours will begin at 8:00 AM.

**Directions:** Proceed exactly 19 miles west of I-10 on Avra Valley Road (exit 242). Turn left at the Pioneer Sign and continue about one mile straight ahead, bearing left the whole way on the surfaced road.

Visit our AZNPS Waterman [website](#) page for updates and additional information.



### A Novel Use for Christmas Castoffs

On September 11, 2022, three and a half inches of rain fell on the Waterman site in just a few hours. Immediately, runoff created downcuts on the east side of the site.

In January, AZNPS volunteers hauled 75 recycled Christmas trees from Tucson to the Waterman site and carefully tucked them into the eroded downcuts, over a distance of about 400 feet. The effort is strictly experimental, as we don't know if the trees will prevent additional erosion and encourage native plant growth. However, prospects look good: the site subsequently received an additional inch of rain, and runoff was blocked by the dense conifer branches and needles. If we continue to see promising results, we'll add more trees to the downcuts next year.





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## In Memoriam

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Ellen Dorn, a longtime member and supporter of the Arizona Native Plant Society, passed away unexpectedly on January 4, 2023, in Tucson. Born in Philadelphia, she graduated from Lower Merion High School in Ardmore, Pennsylvania (1968) and earned a BA from Temple University (1980). Ellen eventually moved west and was employed as a librarian in Seattle, Washington, for several years before moving to Flagstaff, where she was employed as a librarian with the City of Flagstaff library system. As a young woman, she traveled to China, where she worked as an English language teacher.

In 2010, Ellen relocated to Tucson, where the center of her life was either directly or indirectly associated with the University of Arizona. As someone deeply interested in medieval and ancient history, she was a frequent patron of the UA libraries. Her other major interests were rooted in the biological sciences. She devoted much of her time as a valuable volunteer with the University Turf Farm operation and Desert Legume Program. At the UA Herbarium, she volunteered two days a week engaged in various activities, such as mounting plant specimens (over 10,000), helping to maintain the collection's records, and assisting with plant identifications for herbarium visitors. Ellen was also an extremely able and valuable teaching assistant for various general botany and plant identification courses sponsored by the Arizona Native Plant Society and the UA Herbarium. As a member of the Tucson chapter, Ellen provided articles and performed other services for the Society's journal, *Plant Press Arizona*.

Ellen was predeceased by her parents, Albert and Anna Dorn, and by her brother, Michael Dorn. She is survived by a cousin in Philadelphia and her beloved dog, Bahar, who has been adopted by a friend. Ellen will be remembered as a gentle, intelligent, and scholarly friend.



From left to right: Ellen with Bahar; Sycamore Canyon; Palisade Trail plant walk

# Chapter News

## Cochise Chapter



Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, we held 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. With the start of the pandemic we cancelled all in-person meetings but resumed them on September 18, 2020 via Zoom Conferencing. Currently it does not appear that we will be able to meet in our previous meeting room for the foreseeable future. Fortunately, meeting remotely remains a viable option; however, we are exploring the possibility of holding meetings at different times and frequencies than in the pre-pandemic times. Consequently, we are not announcing any new meetings at this time. Members may learn of upcoming meetings, field trips, and other activities from the Chapter Facebook website. Also, we will inform members of all future activities in advance via the Chapter email roster. We would appreciate suggestions for future meeting topics and speakers. Please contact Chapter President Douglas Ripley by [email](#) for any questions you may have regarding future activities.

The Chapter has established a [Facebook website](#), where much useful information about the chapter and its members is posted.

## Chapter Offices

President: Douglas Ripley; Vice President: Elliott Hendricks; Secretary: Deann Sanner; Treasurer: Pat Sullivan



Gila monster (*Heloderma suspectum*), Superstition Mountains. Photo: Shelley Silva



## Flagstaff Chapter



In normal circumstances, regular evening programs are presented on the **third Tuesday** of the month, **March through October**, at 7:00 PM. These take place at the Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church, 1601 N San Francisco St. With the onset of the COVID pandemic, chapter meetings have been shifted to the Zoom platform. 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](#), Facebook page, or The Arizona Native Plant Society.

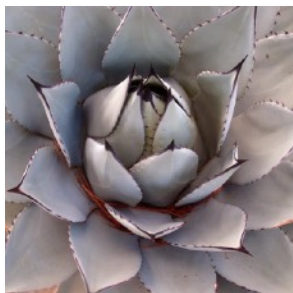
### Meetings

**Tuesday, March 21, 7:00 PM: Carrie Cannon. *Plants of the Mojave Desert and Traditional Tribal Uses***



Although the desert may seem devoid of life, it is actually home to hundreds of unique species. Some are only visible or appear alive for a short time, while others grow for hundreds of years; many are found nowhere else on Earth. Participants will learn about many traditional tribal plant uses, plant life that makes North American Deserts unique, and how the Mojave Desert stands apart from the rest of America.

Carrie Cannon is a member of the Kiowa tribe of Oklahoma and is also of Oglala Lakota descent. She has a B.S. in Wildlife Biology and an M.S. in Resource Management. She began working for the Hualapai Tribe of Peach Springs, Arizona, in 2005, where she began the creation of an intergenerational ethnobotany program for the Hualapai community. She is currently employed as an ethnobotanist for the Hualapai Department of Cultural Resources. She administers a number of projects promoting the intergenerational teaching of Hualapai ethnobotanical knowledge, working towards preservation and revitalization to ensure tribal ethnobotanical knowledge persists as a living practice and tradition.



Parry's Century-Plant (*Agave parryi*). Photos: Thomas Van Devender

**Tuesday, April 18, 7:00 PM: Gayle Gratop, Susan Holiday, and Patti Van Tuyl.**  
***Gardening with High Elevation Native Plants***

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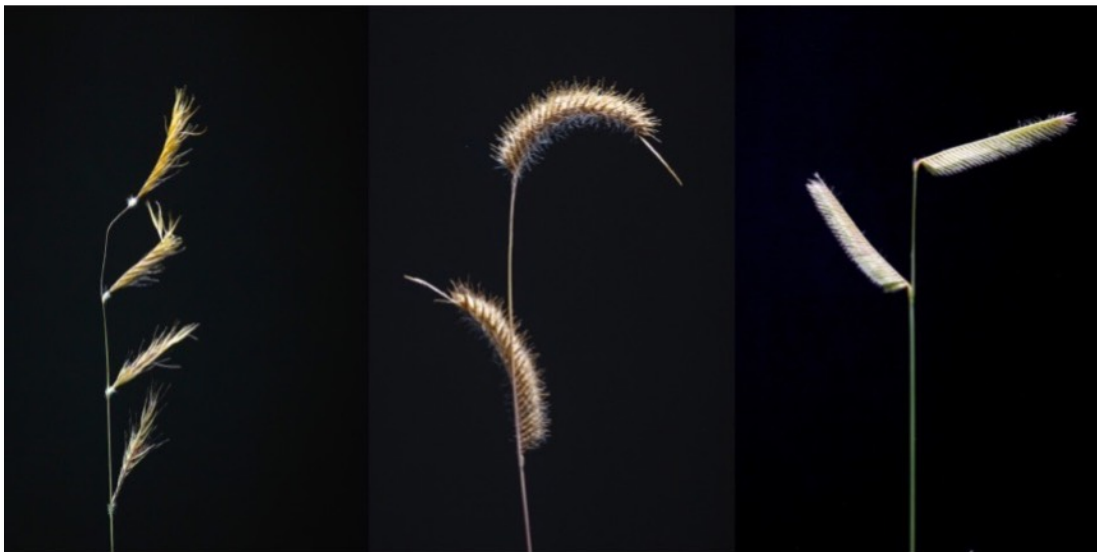
There are many benefits to gardening with native plants, including increasing biodiversity in your yard, conserving water, and providing food and habitat for local pollinators. This presentation will cover the basics of incorporating native plants into your garden. Learn how to choose the best plants for your environment, find out where to get them, and hear some expert tips on how to become a successful native plant gardener from Gayle Gratop of UA Coconino County Cooperative Extension and Master Gardeners Sue Holiday and Patti Van Tuyl.

**Tuesday, May 16, 7:00 PM: Debbie DeWolf Allen. *The Brothers Boutelou and the Grass They Barely Knew: A Journey into Botany, History, Exploration, and Two Remarkable Men***

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Botanical names can be challenging to pronounce and to spell, yet they hold a treasure trove of meaning. Latin plant names often describe a distinctive characteristic of the plant, but sometimes they honor a person: some mysterious, unknown figure from the past who must have some importance in the botanical world.

In this talk by Debbie Allen, we delve into the origin of the name Blue Grama Grass, *Bouteloua gracilis*. Blue grama is native to the Southwest, and it is charming, distinctive, and easy to identify. The origin of the genus name, *Bouteloua*, takes us back to a tale that intertwines two Spanish gardeners from the late 1700s, an enlightened king of Spain, an expedition to explore the New World, and some remarkable botanical drawings that were lost for almost 200 years. Come take a fascinating journey that encompasses botany, history, exploration, and a tale of two exceptional men.



## Peach Springs Chapter



AZNPS is pleased to welcome the Peach Springs Chapter of Mojave County. Meetings are held the **second Wednesday** of each month from 5:00 - 7:00 PM. For location and additional information, contact [Carrie Cannon](#).

### Chapter Offices

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

## Phoenix Chapter



To stay up to date on Chapter activities and announcements, please subscribe to our **email list** by writing to our [chapter email](#).

We also share a variety of native plant news and information on our [Facebook page](#) and our [Chapter web page](#).

Follow our chapter on [Instagram](#) and use the hashtag #aznativeplants on your plant photos to help us showcase the beauty and importance of Arizona native plants!

### Chapter Offices

President: Lisa Rivera, Treasurer: Danielle Carlock. We can be reached at [aznpsphoenix@gmail.com](mailto:aznpsphoenix@gmail.com).

### Upcoming Activities

The Phoenix Chapter hosts events periodically throughout the year. **Chapter events will be announced to our email list subscribers at least 2 weeks in advance.** Please be on the lookout for messages from us with details about these events.

### Volunteer Opportunities

Please see the Volunteering Opportunities section at the bottom of the [Phoenix Chapter web page](#) for information about the following volunteer activities.

**Local Fieldwork:** If you are interested in helping with invasive plant control, restoration, native plant gardening, or scientific research, we've compiled a list of recommend organizations that regularly lead volunteer events related to these activities.

**Citizen Science:** There are a variety of environmental citizen/community science projects that you can participate in on your own at home, during a walk in your neighborhood, or while exploring Arizona's public lands.



## Santa Cruz Chapter



Monthly presentations are held on the **third Thursday** of the month from 6:00 - 7:30 PM. Our presentations at this time are all virtual via Zoom.

The URL is [zoom.us](https://zoom.us) (not zoom.com). The meeting ID is 874 9175 9629 and the “waiting room” security function will be used.

To stay up to date on chapter events, you can be added to our email list and/or follow our [Facebook page](#). Send an [email](#) to join our mailing list or for any other contact.

### 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.

**First Friday Field Trips** will continue thru May, as will **Chapter Meetings**. We will not meet during the summer months of June, July and August.

### Chapter Offices

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

### Meeting

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**Friday, April 21, 10:00 - 12:00 PM. Chris Jones, Gila County Extension Agent.**  
***A Noxious Problem: Nonnative Invasive Plants of the Tonto Basin***

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Tonto Basin Chamber of Commerce, 45675 N Arizona Highway 188, Tonto Basin

### Upcoming Events

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**Friday, March 3, 1:00 - 3:00 PM. First Friday Field Trip. *Sentinels of the Sonoran Desert***

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Mills Ridge parking area on FS Road 429 and Highway 188 (Roosevelt Lake).

## March 23 - 29. Tonto National Monument Community Service Project

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We will be volunteering at Tonto National Monument to assist with plant revegetation and nonnative invasive plant pulls.

Snake gaiters, gloves, and tools will be provided. Participants will be required to complete a release of liability. Dates will be determined by the Tonto National Monument resource staff and announced on our social media and email list.

## Friday, April 14, 1:00 - 3:00 PM. (Second) Friday Field Trip. *Plants of Higher Elevation*

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Tonto Natural Bridge. Please arrive early, as all participants must register at the Visitor Center.

## Friday, May 5, First Friday Field Trip. *Botany, Burgers, and Brews!*

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Time and location to be determined.

## Tucson Chapter



The Tucson Chapter meets on the **second Thursday of each month**, from **September to May**. We resumed in-person meetings in September, in a hybrid format that allows folks to join us on a Zoom interface if they prefer. Watch our [chapter page](#) on the website for more information.

If you are not on our mailing list and would like the link for a meeting, [email](#) us the week before the meeting requesting the zoom link. Videos of past meetings can be viewed on our [YouTube channel](#).

## Chapter Offices

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President: Jack Dash; Vice-President: vacant; Treasurer: Andrew Gourevitch; Secretary: Matthew Lutheran.



Ocotillo (*Fouquieria splendens*), Tortolita Mountains. Photo: Ries Lindley

## Upper Gila Chapter



Monthly meetings are held the **third Thursday** of each month at 7:00 PM at Eastern Arizona College, Discovery Park Campus, South Campus, in Safford. To keep up-to-date on activity dates, please contact us at our [chapter email](#).

### Chapter Offices

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President: Kara Barron; 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.

### Chapter Offices

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

## Upcoming Events

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### Saturday, March 4, 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM. Sustainability Fair

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The chapter will have a table with some native plants. Show Low Elks Lodge, 805 E Whipple.

### Saturday, March 25, 10:15 AM - 12:00 PM. *Starting Native Plants*

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Snowflake Library.

### Saturday, April 8, 9:00 - 10:30 AM. Spring Art Journal and Photo Walk

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Show Low Creek Park.



## Also in April: *Botany of Mogollon Rim, Transplanting Native Plants, and iNaturalist Day at Fools Hollow Park in Show Low.*

Dates and times to be determined.

### Saturday, May 13. *Annual Native Plants Sale*

Show Low Nature Center.

## 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](#) 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!

**Cochise:** Laura White, Jennie Towne

**Flagstaff:** Hattie Braun, Peggy Ahola, Gayle Gatrop, Laura Rose, Zach Ventrella

**Peach Springs:** Sharon Preston, Carrie Cannon, Alicia Cesspooch, Missy Craynon, Sharon Honga-Munoz, Jorigine Paya, Laveena Watahomigie

**Phoenix:** Jeff Adams, Lisa Booth, Wanda Casady, Linda Hairston-Sartuche, Brendon Kahn, Nancy Messnick, Michelle Neumann, Tammy Teegardin, Alexis Thurber, Kayla Vronoski, Isaiah DeRoseWilson, Sarah Maitland, Helen Hilts, Merrie Rheingans, Beth Magee

**Tonto Basin:** Teri Balaska, Joe Bowman, Karen Cai, Leslie Cook, Deborah Deal, Richard Harrington, Leona Hassler, Rebekah Sopeland, Ram Khalsa

**Tucson:** Janice Baltzell, Joey Barbee, Don and Wendy Graves, Lia Griesser, Nadene Johnson, Lisa Peacock, Marty Eberhardt, Carol Schneiderman, Sarah Silva, Juliana Ahumada, Leora Wristen, Mary Jane Henley, George Van Ess, Diana Harrington, Hannah Lee

**For More Information, Contact the Chapter Officers**Or visit the AZNPS [website](#).**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: Elliott Hendricks

Secretary Deanna Sanner

Treasurer: Pat Sullivan

**Flagstaff Chapter**Contact: [Susan Holiday](#)[naris123@cs.com](mailto:naris123@cs.com)

Treasurer: Tina Ayers

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: [Lisa Rivera](#)[aznpsphoenix@gmail.com](mailto:aznpsphoenix@gmail.com)

Treasurer: Danielle Carlock

**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: [Jack Dash](#)[nativeplantstucson@gmail.com](mailto:nativeplantstucson@gmail.com)

Vice President: vacant

Treasurer: Andrew Gourevitch

Secretary: Matthew Lutheran

**Upper Gila Chapter**Contact: [Kara Barron](#)[uppergilaaznps@gmail.com](mailto:uppergilaaznps@gmail.com)

Vice President: Diane Drobka

Secretaries: Julie Plath and Clara Gauna

Treasurer: Julie Davis

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

Vice President: vacant

Education Coordinator: Anita Thompson

Treasurer: Bob Rollar

Master Gardener: Michelle Straight

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



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

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