



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: | Doug Ripley | aznpscochise@gmail.com |
| Flagstaff: | Susan Holiday | naris123@cs.com |
| Phoenix: | Lisa Rivera | aznpsphoenix@gmail.com |
| Santa Cruz: | Robin Kulibert | Santacruz.aznps@gmail.com |
| Tucson: | Lyn Loveless | lyndloveless@gmail.com |
| Upper Gila: | Kara Barron | uppergilaaznps@gmail.com |
| White Mountain: | Anita Thompson | doubletbarfarm@gmail.com |
| Yuma: | Deirdre MacDonald | yumanativeplant@gmail.com |



Chapter News

Cochise Chapter



In normal circumstances, 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 Covid-19 pandemic, we held our monthly meetings virtually via Zoom Conferencing on Friday of each month at 7:00 PM. However, in the latter part of 2021 we were unable to schedule monthly meetings. Instead we invited Cochise Chapter members to attend excellent remote meetings held by other Society chapters. Please note that most of our monthly virtual meetings, as well as those of other chapters, and the entire Botany 2021 Conference held in November 2021, are recorded and that you can access them on the YouTube Channel link: <http://vew.me/aznpsyt>

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

Upcoming Field Trip

We are pleased to announce that the annual fall fieldtrip/workshop to the **Chiricahua Mountains** will be offered this summer after a two year hiatus due to the Covid pandemic. The dates are September 17 - 19, 2022, at the Southwestern Research Station in Portal. We will prepare detailed registration information well in advance of the event. We also anticipate conducting field trips in Cochise County in the summer which will be announced on the Chapter Facebook website and the Chapter's listserve.



Orange caltrop (*Kallstroemia grandiflora*), Dragoon Mountains. Summer 2021

Activities

BioBlitz in Sulphur Springs Valley: Saturday, July 23, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Come celebrate the monsoon season with a BioBlitz to document wildflower and pollinator species in and around the Elfrida Library's new raised bed garden and send off the end of our Summer Reading Program with a bang. (What is a BioBlitz? Find out at www.nationalgeographic.org/projects/bioblitz/). Learn more about native plants and pollinators in southeastern Arizona and about the Elfrida Seed Library. This will be a fun free event for all ages. Bring the family! Join with representatives from the Arizona Native Plant Society Cochise Chapter and Appleton-Whittell Audubon Research Ranch.

Recap: Earth Day Native Plant Celebration in the Sulphur Springs Valley

The Cochise County Elfrida Library, in cooperation with the Valley Union High School Agriscience Class of 2022, the Borderlands Restoration Network, and the Arizona Native Plant Society hosted an enjoyable and educational event on this year's Earth Day (April 22). The activity encouraged participants to celebrate and help seed a new library garden, learn about the new Elfrida Seed Library, get free seeds and plants, and learn about native plants and pollinator restoration in southeastern Arizona. The event was organized and conducted by Ms. Rebekah Wilce, Branch Manager, Elfrida Library with the assistance of staff members from the Borderlands Restoration Network and the Appleton-Whittell Research Ranch of the National Audubon Society.



Photos: A. Francesca Claverie Cantú, Borderlands Restoration Network

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 (naris123@cs.com), Facebook page, or AZNPS.com.

Meetings

Tuesday, June 21, 7:00 PM: Kara Barron. *Farming Wild Seed*



Photo: Brooke Curley

Increases in wildfires, climate change, and continued land degradation are increasing the need for ecological restoration in the desert southwest. Strictly wild collecting seeds for this purpose is not practical and has the potential to cause further harm to the land we are trying to protect. One way to fill this need is to begin farming for conservation. Desert Seed Resource Center was formed to address this need.

Kara Barron has a Masters of Science in Plant Biology and Conservation from Arizona State University and is currently the Program Director for Restoration and Native Plant Materials at Gila Watershed Partnership in Safford, AZ. She is also one of the founders, and Deputy Director of, the Desert Seed Resource Center which has a mission to increase the availability of native plant materials for conservation of the Desert Southwest through education, research, and collaboration.

Tuesday, July 19, 7:00 PM: Susie Smith. *Pollen, Archaeobotany, and Ethnobotany: Glimpses of Traditional Ecological Knowledge*



Susie Smith with horse pelvis "mask," 2017

Join Susie Smith for some cool microphotography images of pollen and insights into the life ways of the prehistoric cultures who lived in our region. The ethnographic accounts of Native Americans lives are a treasure for understanding the web of relationships between people and the landscapes that supported them. And this archive provides a lens into understanding the archaeobotanical materials recovered at archaeological sites.

Tuesday, August 16, 7:00 PM: Kat Alicia Thompson. *Food Sovereignty of the Laguna and Navajo Nations*



This presentation will provide examples of ancestral and current Indigenous farming practices that have sustained communities and cultures in the Southwest for thousands of years. These agricultural practices can revitalize a local landscape into an edible landscape that is reflective of our bioregion and our diets. This includes exploring traditional uses of native plants and trees, and how to utilize them in a local food system.

Kat Alicia Thompson grew up in Flagstaff, Arizona. She received her graduate degree from Northern Arizona University in Forestry and Applied Indigenous Studies. Her studies focused on how tribes can secure food sovereignty through environmental land management practices. Currently, Kat is located in New Mexico and coordinating with Indigenous farmers in creating edible landscapes.

Phoenix Chapter



To stay up to date on Chapter activities and announcements, please subscribe to our **email list** by contacting aznpsphoenix@gmail.com.

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

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

Upcoming Activities

Summer Chapter Meeting

Later this summer, we'll host a virtual book discussion of *The Hidden Life of Trees: What they Feel, How they Communicate* by Peter Wohlleben. This book was among those recommended and voted upon by members last year. In a few weeks, Phoenix Chapter members will be invited to participate in a survey to help us select the date of our virtual book discussion.

If you would like to discuss the book, please obtain a copy and read it in the coming weeks. It is available at some local library districts, though you may need to request a hold. It is also available through online retailers and some local bookstores.

Additional Upcoming Activities

The Phoenix Chapter plans activities 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.



Cactus blooms are one of the best things about the start of summer! Photo: Lisa Rivera

Outreach Committee – Volunteer Opportunity

Earlier this year, we formed an Outreach Committee to help the Phoenix Chapter develop an educational presentation about the benefits of native plants, with an emphasis on landscaping. In the coming months, the committee will begin training members to conduct the presentation for audiences such as garden clubs and local residents.

If you are interested in becoming one of our trained presenters, or would like to learn more about the Outreach Committee, please email aznpsphoenix@gmail.com. Please note that participation in committees is only open to AZNPS members.

Additional Volunteer Opportunities

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

Local Fieldwork: If you are interested in helping with invasive species control, restoration, 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 science and 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.

March Meeting Recap

Our feature presentation was given by Cass Blodgett, former Phoenix Chapter President. Cass shared his experiences growing a wide variety of Arizona native plants at home, essentially creating a backyard nursery. He also provided tips and encouragement for those who want to give home horticulture a try.

The presentation recording is available to watch any time on the [AZNPS YouTube Channel](#). We hope you'll watch the presentation and be inspired to grow more plants at home!

May Meeting Recap

Our guest speaker was Kellie Tharp, Education Branch Chief of the Arizona Game and Fish Department (AGFD). In this presentation, we learned about the desert tortoise, including its habitat needs and diet of Sonoran Desert native plants. We also heard about the AGFD desert tortoise adoption program, which is seeking Arizona homes for this year's adoptees.

The presentation recording will be made available on the [AZNPS YouTube Channel](#). We invite you to take a look and consider creating habitat at home for a desert tortoise!

To learn more about the desert tortoise adoption program, please visit the [AGFD website](#). Also, for a list of native plants ideal for desert tortoises, please see the [Native Plants for Desert Tortoises pamphlet](#) and the [Grow Native section of the AZNPS website](#).

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](#) (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 santacruz.aznps@gmail.com to join our mailing list or for any other contact.

Chapter Offices

President: Robin Kulibert (crobint60@gmail.com); Vice President: Rick Kulibert (santacruz.AZNPS@gmail.com)

Tucson Chapter



The Tucson Chapter meets on the **second Thursday of each month**, from **September to May**. We will resume monthly meetings in September and hope to meet in person, in a hybrid format that allows folks to join us on a Zoom interface. Watch our chapter page on the website ([aznps.com](#)) 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 (nativeplantstucson@gmail.com). Videos of past meetings can be viewed on our [YouTube channel](#).

Chapter Offices

President: Jack Dash; Vice-President: vacant; Treasurer: Jackie Taylor; Secretary: Matthew Lutheran

To communicate with the chapter officers, write to nativeplantstucson@gmail.com.

Upcoming Activity

This summer, we plan to resume our **Monsoon Mixer**, which has traditionally been held in mid-August on a lovely monsoon evening at La Cocina restaurant in downtown Tucson. Watch our website for details. We will mail cards to our members to alert them to this not-to-be missed event.

Spring Recap

We have had several recent field trips in the Tucson area, and although the flowering this year was rather limited, it was surprising how much diversity we found along the trails. In early March, incoming chapter president Jack Dash led an enthusiastic group along the trail bordering **Peña Blanca Lake**.



Also in March, Paul and Susie Fish, archaeologists from the Arizona State Museum, led a group of us to an agave cultivation site at the base of **Tumamoc Hill**, where we could see the remnants of terracing and rock piles and could imagine Hohokam cultivators 1,000 years ago growing *Agave murphyi* for its food and fiber. Other Tucson-area trips were led by Lyn Loveless and Sue Rutman.



John Scheuring and his colleagues convened several trips throughout April at **Catalina State Park**, where they examined the outcomes of the Big Horn fire on the landscape and the impacts of selective invasive species control on native plants. In sum, Tucson members have had a pleasant spring season appreciating the native plants of the area. We look forward to greater diversity with the arrival of the monsoon season.



From left to right: *Crossosoma bigelovii*, *Dryopetalon runcinatum*, *Calliandra eriophylla*, *Oenothera primaveris*

Upper Gila Chapter



Chapter activities, including meetings, have not been finalized. To keep up to date on activity dates, please contact us at uppergilaaznps@gmail.com.

Chapter Offices

President: Kara Barron; Vice President: Diane Drobka; Secretaries: Julie Plath & Clara Gauna; Treasurer: Julie Davis. Contact: uppergilaaznps@gmail.com

White Mountain Chapter



The White Mountain Chapter is excited to kick off 2022 as a brand new chapter of AZNPS! The chapter covers all of Navajo and Apache counties, but welcomes native plant enthusiasts from Greenlee and northern Gila counties also. Meetings will start in a couple months. Stay tuned for further information.

Chapter Offices

President: Anita Thompson (doubletbarfarm@gmail.com); Vice President: Michelle Straight; Social Media/Email: Jess Roller; Treasurer: Bob Roller; Event Planning: Kira Russell.

Yuma Chapter



Yuma will forgo regular monthly, in-person meetings for the foreseeable future. Instead, we will focus on outdoor activities—field trips and work projects—and virtual for meetings and similar indoor activities.

Announcements of these events and other news updates will be posted via email. Follow us at yumanativeplant@gmail.com by requesting to be on our email list.

Chapter Offices

President: Valerie Morrill; Vice President: Karen Reichhardt; Secretary: Deirdre MacDonald (yumanativeplant@gmail.com); Treasurer: Tom Fox

With this issue, *Happenings* is now the primary medium for receiving quarterly news of the statewide society, in addition to each of the eight regional chapters. Members new to the website are encouraged to take some time to discover the wide selection of timely and relevant information available online at aznps.com.

The AZNPS website is useful to members to see [EVENTS](#), [VIDEOS](#) of past events, and the [BLOG](#) with native plant news. We invite you to check out the [SUE RUTMAN IMAGE](#) collection documenting hundreds of Arizona plants. We also reach out to nonmembers to refer to the [PLANT LIST](#) while deciding on plants for the garden. There is even help for young students doing essays on [THE ARIZONA STATE TREE](#).

Welcome New Chapter Members!

Cochise: Gordon Schuett, Douglas Spurdens, Catharine Wuster, Gregory Shultz

Flagstaff: Fennel Blythe, Andrea Hazelton, Megan Mattioni, Robert Rollar, Janice Sather

Phoenix: Renee Barnett, Megan Bartlett, Julie Boston, Cindy Doyle, Steve Ganley, Alandon Joe, Jerilynne Michaels, Richard Michlik, Rowan Rosier, Kathy Salisbury, Charles Wallace, Caroline Wise, Esther Florsheim

Tucson: Freda Blake, Wendy Campbell, Susan Cover, Mary Ann Feist, Katy Gierlach, Rose Hobot, Kathleen Howard, Breck Jacoby, Kristine Klewin, Dan Kozlak, Don LaBree, Dana Lawson, Bob McComb, Melody Peters, Ilona Roudy, Tracey Till, Kunyu Zhang

White Mountain: Jana Horst, Kira Russell, Steve Hickert

Yuma: Jillian Attaway

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT AZNPS, CONTACT THE CHAPTER OFFICERSOr visit the AZNPS website: www.aznativeplantsociety.org**AZNPS Headquarters**

AZNPS Administrator: Pat Sanchez

arizonanativeplantsociety@gmail.com**Cochise Chapter**

President: Douglas Ripley

aznpscochise@gmail.com

Vice President: Elliott Hendricks

Secretary: Deanna Sanner

Treasurer: Pat Sullivan

Flagstaff Chapter

Contact: Melissa Amberson

Treasurer: Tina Ayers

Presentations/Field Trips: Barbara Phillips

Phoenix Chapter

President: Lisa Rivera

aznpsphoenix@gmail.com

Vice President: Pam McMillie

Treasurer: Danielle Carlock

Secretary: Kathy Balman

Santa Cruz Chapter

President: Robin Kulibert

Vice President: Rick Kulibert

santacruz.AZNPS@gmail.com**Tucson Chapter**

President: Jack Dash

nativeplantstucson@gmail.com

Vice-President: vacant

Treasurer: Jackie Taylor

Secretary: Matthew Lutheran

Upper Gila Chapter

Contact: Kara Barron

uppergilaaaznps@gmail.com

Vice President: Diane Drobka

Secretaries: Julie Plath & Clara Gauna

Treasurer: Julie Davis

White Mountain Chapter

President: Anita Thompson

doubletbarfarm@gmail.com

Vice President: Michelle Straight

Social Media/Email: Jess Roller

Treasurer: Bob Roller

Event Planning: Kira Russell

Yuma Chapter

President: Valerie Morrill

yumanativeplant@gmail.com

Vice President: Karen Reichhardt

Secretary: Deirdre MacDonald

yumanativeplant@gmail.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

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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 *Plant Press Arizona* via postal mail.**

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Arizona Native Plant Society
PO Box 41206
Tucson, AZ. 85717

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www.aznativeplantsociety.org