

Albuquerque Chapter NPSNM  
Annual Report for 2008

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## PROGRAMS:

**January 2. Carolyn Dodson will talk to us about the new book, *Mountain Wildflowers of the Southern Rockies, Revealing Their Natural History* that she co-authored with Bill Dunmire. And of course, books will be for sale at our usual discount for NPS members. (29 attended)**

**February 6. Ken Heil will talk to us about the Flora of the Four Corners Region.** Ken has been involved in the development of a flora of the region for the past 10 or 11 years, hopefully to be published sometime this year. If you missed the annual meeting in Farmington, now is your chance to enjoy Ken's encyclopedic knowledge of Four Corners flora and see his fabulous photos of selected plants from each state. (30 attended)

**March 5. Paula Rebert will talk on *George Engelmann and the Great Age of Cactus Discovery*.** Nineteenth-century botanist George Engelmann was greatly interested in the exploration of the American West, and is best known for naming many of our cactus species. (25 attended)

**April 2. Gary Runyan, groundskeeper at the Museum of Natural History, will speak to us about Tips for Maintaining Your Garden.** He will bring tools and discuss when and how to use them (28 attended).

**May 7. Al Schneider will give a slide show of Four Corners Flora.** If you missed Al's presentation at the annual meeting, now is your chance to see spectacular photos of the Four Corners region and possibly purchase one of Betty's beautiful beaded lanyards for your hand lens (21 attended).

**September 3. Jim McGrath will speak to us on his field work at Stewart Meadows.** Stewart Meadows is the site of a riparian restoration project on the floodplain of the Rio San Antonio three miles west of San Antonio Mountain. The site is 18 miles northwest of Tres Piedras in Carson National Forest. Jim found more than 200 plant species while doing a botanical inventory and vegetation map of the 333 acre site (21 attended).

**September 25-28. Native Plant Society of New Mexico Annual State Meeting in Las Cruces, NM. At *The Crossroads*.**

**October 1. Don Heinze will talk about his collection of conifer cones.** The cones were collected from sea level to 10,000 feet, from the Oregon Coast to the Sandia Mountains, and from San Diego CA to Redlodge, MT. Each cone has a story to go with it (18 attended).

**November 5. Dr. Tim Lowery, professor of Botany at the University of New Mexico and curator of the Herbarium at the Museum of Southwestern Biology, will speak about the new field guide (which hopefully will be published and available for purchase), *Flora and Fauna of the Middle Rio Grande Bosque* (28 attended).**

**December 6. Annual Christmas potluck at Francis Robertson's house (18 attended).**

## FIELD TRIPS:

**May 4. Meet Al and Betty Schneider at the Zuni-Acoma Trail in the Malpais** between Acoma Pueblo and Grants. Limit 15. (6 attended, from the SW Colorado Chapter and 9 from the Albuquerque Chapter).

**May 10. The Arboretum Tomé Spring Open House**

The Arboretum Tomé is a private project that Michael Melendrez has been developing for over 20 years. He has remediated the awful saline and alkaline clay soils at the site, while testing the humus and microbiology products his company manufactures at Soil Secrets. Today the Arboretum is recognized world wide for having the largest species collection of oaks in the United States as well as having the largest Chihuahuan Desert Region native tree collection of any botanical garden or arboretum in the world. The open house is free, and will offer several speakers on landscaping, organic gardening, etc. in addition to live music in the afternoon.

**Saturday, June 7. Don Heinze will lead a field trip to visit to Steven Garrison's property in the Jemez Mountains.** Steven wants to show us his beautiful property in the pinyon-juniper woodland at an elevation of 6000 feet. We will be able to botanize his property for woody species and hopefully still find some wildflowers. This is an opportunity to see private land that is usually not accessible to the public (7 attended).

**Sunday, June 29. Don Heinze will lead a field trip to the Zuni Mountain Environmental Action League's ("ZEAL") site in the Ramah Navajo Indian Reservation.** We will view the vegetation on the ZEAL archaeological site and make suggestions on what native plants would be desirable to plant for rehabilitation of the site, and how to plant them. (7 attended).

**July 19. Charlie and Connie McDonald Garden tour in Albuquerque** (16 attended).

**July 26. Bill Dodson will lead a field trip to San Gregorio Lakes,** just north of Cuba, New Mexico. Meet at the parking lot in front of the old Bound to Be Read bookstore (the southwest corner of the lot). Wild Oats is in the same shopping center, at the corner of San Mateo and Academy, to leave by 9:00 A.M. (14 attended).

**August 9. Don Heinze will lead a field trip to the Belen Highline Canal.**

**September 6. Field trip to Stewart Meadows** (4 attended).

**September 13. Annual monitoring of the Pecos Sunflower population at the Blue Hole Cienega** in Santa Rosa. Meet on the west side of the Smith's parking lot at Tramway and Central, to leave by 9:00 A.M.

**October 4. Conifer cone collection foray to the Sandias or Monzanos.** Join us for a hike and to collect cones if you wish for use in upcoming holiday decorations.

#### OTHER ACTIVITIES:

**February 22-24. Xeriscape Conference NPS Table, Expo NM, Lujan Building.** Albuquerque Chapter, NPS, Staffed a table with information, new memberships, Sold 23 CNMG books and 1 new member joined NPS. Netted \$93.00

**March 8. Home Gardener's Landscaping Fair, Albuquerque Garden Center, 9-4.** Staffed a table with information on NPS. \$37.43 in book, card, and poster sales. Sold 2 CNMG books.

**March 15. 9:00 until finished. Pole planting day at Whitfield Wildlife Conservation Area in Belen.** The 97 acre tract is owned by the Valencia Soil and Water Conservation District and was once the Curran Dairy. The Conservation District is restoring riparian conditions to the area that was once a dairy. Car-pool location and directions TBA. They will provide a morning snack and lunch (6 participated).

Friday, March 21, Saturday, March 22. Science Fair Judging & Awards. Several members acted as judges on Friday. Announcement of science fair winners at UNM Popejoy Hall by Pam McBride, March 22.

**April 26. Plant Sale at the Albuquerque Garden Center.** Netted \$1,340.71.

**August 23. Native Plant Society Garden Fair and Plant Sale** Jim Brooks from Soilutions will speak to us on Water Conserving Permaculture and Composting in Your Landscape and Getting Away from Toxic Chemical Use at 1:30 P.M. Netted \$1,376.21.

**Open Gardens. August 25-29.** To help celebrate Native Plant Day (August 30) in New Mexico, the Albuquerque chapter has arranged to have the garden of one of its members available for touring each day between 8:30 a.m. and Noon. The open garden schedule with directions to gardens is as follows.

Monday, August 25, 8:30-Noon. Unitarian Church Habitat Garden, SW corner of Carlisle and Comanche, 3701 Carlisle NE, Albuquerque.

Tuesday, August 26, 8:30-Noon. Vivian and DeWitt Ivey's Garden. 9311 Headingly Ct NE, Albuquerque.

Wednesday, August 27, 8:30-Noon. Jim Brown/ Beth Herschman Garden. 121 Arizona Sunset Rd., Rio Rancho.

Thursday, August 28, 8:30-Noon. Jim Nellessen's Garden. 7553 Ottawa Dr. NE, Rio Rancho (nearly in Bernalillo).

Friday, August 29, 8:30-Noon. Margo Murdock's Garden. 5601 Mariola Place NE, Albuquerque.

**October 11. Sevilleta Open House.** Three members of the Albuquerque chapter staffed a table with information on native plants and the NPSNM. Grossed \$250.60 in book and notecard sales. Still working on net amount, but without returning book costs to the state, it's at \$145.60.