

NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY OF NEW MEXICO

GILA CHAPTER

2007 Annual Report

Part I: Officers and Board of Directors

Angela Flanders, President
Elroy Limmer, Vice President, Program Director
LaVada Montgomery, Treasurer / Lynn Daugherty
Joan Limmer, Secretary
Martha Carter, Membership Chair
Erma Falkler, Chapter Representative
Charles Holmes, Bulletin Editor
Bill Baldwin, Investments
Deming Gustafson, Field Trip Chair
Henri Hovarter and Bill Hovarter, Social
Sharleen Daugherty, Sales
Phoebe Lawrence, Publicity
Janet Gilchrist, Education Chair, with Jack Carter, Martha Schumann
Connie Adler, Conservation Chair, with Donna Stevens, Wayne Buckner

Part II: Programs

All programs are held at Harlan Hall on the campus of WNMU at 7:00 PM.

- ÑJanuary 19: program was canceled due to inclement weather.
- ÑFebruary 16: Dr. Jack Carter "What are the Connections Between the Scientific Contributions of Charles Darwin and the Flora and Fauna That Surrounds Us?"
- ÑMarch 16: Dr. Kelly Kindscher "Cliff Dwellings to Red Rock: The Dynamic Flora of the Gila River"
- ÑApril 20: Kevin Dahl "Mesquite and Other Native Plant Foods and Health"
- ÑSeptember 14: Dr. William Norris, Dr. Kelly Kindscher, Dr. Roland Shook "From the Mountains to the Desert: The Gila River Corridor's Plants, Birds, and Wildlife"
- ÑOctober 19: Dr. Jack Carter "Energy, Earth, and Humankind"
- ÑNovember 16: Dutch Salmon "The Fight to Keep the Gila River Free Flowing"

Part III: Field Trips

Field trips car pool from the parking lot of WNMU's Fine Arts Auditorium.

- ÑApril 15: Tres Hermanas, led by Deming Gustafson
- ÑMay 20: Saddle Rock and Black Hawk Canyons, Big Burro Mountains led by Deming Gustafson
- ÑJune 17: Signal Peak led by Deming Gustafson
- ÑJuly 15 Lake Roberts led by Dr. Kelly Kindscher
- ÑAugust 19: Little Cherry Creek with special attention to fungi, led by Deming Gustafson

ÑSeptember 16: Caves Trail 803 led by Deming Gustafson assisted by Dr. Russ Kleinman

Part IV: Other Activities

Ñ**Native Plant Sale:** This annual event raised over \$1600 of which \$424 came from the sale of Carlsbad Cactus Rescue plants. About 1/3 of the plants usually provided by Mountain States Nursery were not available due to winter conditions in their area. As usual, before our sale, we offered a slide show presentation and professional landscape advice to anyone interested in native plants. Plant sale pick-up was during the Earth Day Celebrations at Penny Park in Silver City, NM.

Ñ**Donations:** Plants were donated to Western New Mexico University's Herbarium and to Silva Creek Botanical Gardens. GNPS members conducted clean up and maintenance of the native garden at the Silver City Museum, twice in 2007. A live Ponderosa Pine was decorated for the Festival of Trees with ornaments made from native plants. The tree sold for \$300, profits go to Gila Institute For Tots To Teens.

Ñ**Sponsorships:** GNPS became a partner with the Grant County Archaeological Society and the Silver City Museum, pledging to provide plant identification and landscaping advice for the Mimbres Cultural Heritage Site in the Mimbres Valley. GNPS also sponsored the Gila River Festival and Earth Day at Penny Park.

Ñ**Educational Outreach:** We expect to finish the Gila Conservation Education Center's plant trunk in the month of January, 2008. A list of GNPS members, willing to provide plant presentations to area schools, along with their contact information, was provided to Gila Conservation Education Center.

CommunityByDesign was provided with a list of native plants for landscaping in the Silver City area, along with suggestions on how to select for your site, plant, and maintain such a landscape. Cactus Rescue brochures were produced, containing information on placement, planting, and care. Jack Carter and Deming Gustafson mentored Aldo Leopold High School student in plant identification.

Ñ**Workshops/Classes:** "Trees and Shrubs of New Mexico" was a two day workshop offered by Dr. Jack Carter and held on July 21 and 22. Students worked in the field, and visited the WNMU Dale Zimmerman Herbarium and the Jack Carter Herbarium. An Asteraceae workshop was conducted by Dr. William Norris, assisted by Dr. Russ Kleinman, with help from Dr. Richard Felger. The workshop met on Wednesday evenings for two and one half hours, for six weeks, August through September. Students worked in the lab at WNMU as well as in the field.

Ñ**Grants:** The Dale Zimmerman Herbarium at Western New Mexico University was granted \$989 for the mounting and maintenance of specimens.

Ñ**Conservation:** Gila Native Plant Society met with a city official and the Grant County Extension Director to evaluate the extent of invasive Spotted Knapweed on the Boston Hill hiking area in Silver City. Members of GNPS removed the

knapweed and will monitor the problem, advising the Extension Director and the Town of Silver City. GNPS members tried unsuccessfully, to locate the endangered Chihuahuan Scurfpea. We will try again in Spring 2008 to assist the State of NM in monitoring its numbers. Wayne Buckner attended a Forest Service Road use and maintenance planing meeting that will present the Forest Service with an alternate plan.

Ñ**Lifetime Membership** was awarded to member, Tom Wootten.

Par V. Treasurer's Report: Will be ready January 22.