



GILA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

July 2018

Vol 8 No 3

Helen Shoup, Editor

Bulletin 2018: Quarter 3

This quarterly Bulletin of the Gila Native Plant Society of Silver City, New Mexico, provides the latest communications between the society and the members.

It is delivered via your email unless you request otherwise. The online version allows color photos and for a lower cost (essentially free for GNPS). The Bulletin will continue to be available on the [GNPS website](#).

The Gila Native Plant Society is committed

- To promote education, research, and appreciation of the native flora of the Southwest
 - To encourage the preservation of rare and endangered plant species
 - To support the use of suitable native plants in landscaping
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Field Trips for This Quarter

All field trip participants meet in the south parking lot of the WNMU Fine Arts Center Theater on E Street at 8:00 am for carpooling. The field trips are April through September and are nearly always held on the third Sunday, unless otherwise specified. The leader is Hanna Blood. The trips are free and open to the public. The destination may change, depending on the weather and the state of the plants.

Activity updates and further details are posted on the [website](#). You will also receive an email reminder before the date of each meeting/field trip.

July Field Trip

When: Sunday, July 15, 2018 (meet before 8:00 a.m. in the south parking lot of the WNMU Fine Arts Center Theatre on North Kentucky Street for carpooling)

Where: Sheep Corral in the Pinos Altos Range

Bring a high-clearance vehicle if you have one. It will be a moderate hike, under the shade of conifers and Gambel's oak. Wear sturdy shoes and a hat and carry plenty of water.

Note: Be aware that the destination may change in case of fire, flood, or just more plants popping up elsewhere.

Contact: For further information, contact hannablood@gmail.com

August Field Trip

When: Sunday, August 19, 2018

Where: TBD

September Conference

The NPSNM Conference will occur on September 7-9, 2018, in Silver City, NM, with Gila Native Plant Society as host. Below is the schedule for the Conference and so are the field trips and workshops. You can also get all the info needed on the [NPSNM website](#).

Plant of the Quarter: Desert Willow (*Chilopsis linearis*)

By Keller Suberkropp

General description

Desert willow is a small tree or shrub in the Catalpa family (Bignoniaceae). It exhibits a medium to fast growth rate and reaches 15-35 ft tall. It commonly develops a multi-trunk form but can be trimmed to form a single-trunked small tree. Since they are showy, desert willows are popular as small ornamental trees.



**Name background**

Even though the common name includes “willow,” they are not closely related to willows but rather to catalpas. They are called willows since the leaves are willow shaped (long, 3 to 7 inches, and linear to lanceolate) and bright green.

Location

Desert willows occur in dry washes in southwestern US (southern Texas to southern California) and northern Mexico and are extremely drought tolerant. They occur in well drained soils and require full sun. They typically occur below 6500 feet.

Flowers

Unlike willows, they produce showy flowers in late spring to early summer. The flowers are pink or purple often with white or yellow streaks. They are trumpet- to bell-shaped, are fragrant, and nectar-rich. There have been a number of cultivars produced with flowers of different colors (white to purple). The flowers attract hummingbirds, butterflies, and bees.



Care

Once established, they require little maintenance and are seldom browsed by deer.

Propagation

Recently, a hybrid has been produced between the desert willow and the catalpa, called chitalpa. It is similar in appearance to a desert willow but produces larger flowers that are sterile so it doesn't produce seedpods.

Advantages



The fruits are capsules that are 6-10 inches long and persist on the tree through the winter. Birds feed on the seeds produced in the capsules. Desert willows have also been used for erosion control.

Quilt Raffle for Conference

Here is the quilt created on silk by Elli Sorensen:



It has 44 native plants hand-painted on silk - can you name them all? It is approximately 6"6" x 3'8" in size.

This raffle will have the quilt as the grand prize, and it will be given away at the October 2018 meeting. We also have second- and third-place winners:



This 2nd Place Winner is Rothrock's Basketflower (*Plectocephalus rothrockii*), a photograph taken by Elroy Limmer and float-mounted on metal. It is approximately 11"x14" in size.



This beautiful picture is a signed original poster by Jim Brandenburg from his book *Chased by the Light*. Framed and matted, it is approximately 19" x 25" in size.

The tickets will cost \$5 each or 5 tickets for \$20, so we hope to sell a lot of tickets! The tickets will be available at the next meeting.

Silva Creek Botanical Garden Report

By Elroy Limmer, Garden Chairman

We have gotten a lot accomplished in the last couple of months, thanks to all of those who have volunteered their time and energy. We are getting more and more complements on how great the Garden looks and many thanks for doing all of the work. As one of our visitors said recently, "This is really beginning to look like a garden." I couldn't agree more.

Thanks to Angela Flanders for all of the time she has put in searching for and acquiring new plants, and to all that worked so hard getting them planted in our less than desirable soil. We put new edging around our entrance bed, used the stone that we removed to build a new bench over in the south east corner of the garden.

We are developing a "hidden garden" where if someone would like to be alone they can sit and be by themselves. Most of the plant materials will not go in that area until latter this year or early next. As you all know, it has been very dry so much of our energy has gone into keeping our new plants alive and in good shape. Thanks to all who have stepped forward and helped with the watering.









Garden Bench



New Edging



A Photo of the Garden

Hope to see you in the Garden!

Elroy, Garden Chairman

Conference Introduction

September 7–9, 2018, in Silver City, New Mexico

(See the [website](#) for additional information.)

The Gila Chapter of the Native Plant Society of New Mexico is delighted to welcome you to the 2018 annual state conference, to be held on the campus of Western New Mexico University. Members of the Gila chapter enjoy this beautiful area because of the exceptional diversity of its landscapes, its flora and fauna, and its people. We invite you to join us at the conference and explore both the plant community and the human communities, past and present, that make this a unique place.

Surrounded by 3.3 million acres of national forest, including 3 wilderness areas, Silver City is the perfect base for hiking and botanizing. We are offering a wide variety of field trips to give you the opportunity to do just that. But, as we know, even in wilderness areas people have been interacting with the natural environment here for millennia, and that includes the ancient Mimbres, the Apaches, and all the inhabitants up to the present time. In keeping with our theme, “Plants, People, and Culture of the Gila,” we have also decided to provide opportunities to explore some of those interactions in our presentations, field trips, and workshops.

Conference Location: Registration and presentations will take place in the Besse-Forward Global Resource Center at 12th and Kentucky Streets on the Western New Mexico University campus. Coming from route 90, turn west onto 12th Street and continue up to the WNMU campus. Coming from route 180, turn south onto Alabama Street and right onto 12th. Plenty of parking is available to the left on Kentucky Street on either side of the Fine Arts Center Theatre. For other events we will provide maps and/or directions when you register.

Cost: See the [website](#) for the cost. However, for the best price, ***you must commit before August 1!***

Accommodations: We have arranged for special conference rates at the following hotels, all within 3.5 miles of the conference headquarters on the WNMU campus. Ask for Native Plant Society of New Mexico room block; prices listed are per night and do not include tax. ***Hotel reservations should be made prior to August 23 to ensure conference rates.***

❖ The following motels offer hot breakfasts and wi-fi:

Quality Inn, 1120 Highway 180 East, 575/534-1111: \$79.99.

Comfort Inn, 1060 Highway 180 East, 575/534-1883: \$90.

Holiday Inn Express, 1103 Superior, 575/538-2525: \$109.99.

❖ For something a little different: **Bear Mountain Lodge**, 60 Bear Mountain Ranch Rd., 575/538-2538: offering \$25 off—a beautiful inn in a rural setting (<https://bearmountainlodge.com>). It also offers breakfast and wi-fi.

❖ Two historic locations downtown are offering discounts of 10–15% to conference attendees (Breakfast is not included at these 2 locations):

The Murray Hotel, 200 W. Broadway St., 575/956-9400.

The Palace Hotel, 106 W. Broadway St., 575/388-1811.

❖ **RV Parks:**

Silver City RV Park, 1304 N. Bennett St., 575/538-2239.

Rose Valley RV Ranch, 2040 Memory Lane, 575/534-4277.

Manzano's RV Park, 103 Flury Lane, 575/538-0918.

Silver City KOA, 11824 Highway 180 East, 575/388-3351.

Conference Schedule

All info is available on the [website](#)!

Thursday, September 6

1:30–3:30 pm NPSNM Board Meeting

3:00–6:00 pm Check-in/Registration

Friday, September 7

8:00 am–noon Check-in/Registration

8:45–9:00 am Welcome & Opening Remarks

Elroy Limmer, President of the Gila Chapter, and Ken Ladner, Mayor of Silver City

Keynote Speakers:

9:00–9:45 am **Renaissance and Revolution: The New World of Citizen Science**

Sharman Apt Russell

Break

10:00–10:45 am **Protecting Wilderness & Wild and Scenic Rivers in the Gila National Forest** Nathan Newcomer

Break

11:00 am–11:45 pm **Edible Ethnobotany of Baja New Mexico** Richard Felger

Noon–1:30 pm Lunch in WNMU cafeteria

Field Trips (1-9) and Workshops (A-D), 1:30–3:30 pm, unless otherwise indicated

5:30–7:00 pm Reception at Gomez Peak Picnic Area

7:00 pm Dinner on your own (we will provide a list of local restaurants)

Saturday, September 8

Saturday Morning Field Trips (10-17) and Workshops (E-G), 8:00 am–noon, unless otherwise indicated.

Noon–1:30 pm Lunch in the WNMU cafeteria

1:30–2:15 pm Olivia J. Messinger Carril, co-author of *The Bees in Your Backyard: A Guide to North America's Bees*

Break

Concurrent sessions:

2:30–3:00 pm

1. A “Special Botanical Area” Proposal for the Gila National Forest Patrice Mutchnick

2. Native Plant Society Outreach Updates Sara Digby

3:00–3:30 pm

1. Oshá (*Ligusticum porteri*), the Most Sacred Medicinal Plant of the Gila Kelly Kindscher

2. The Effects of Reverse Osmosis Concentrate as a Water Source on *Atriplex canescens* and *Atriplex lentiformis* Sarah Cerra

3:30–4:00 pm

1. Adventure Education and Environmental Literacy of the 21st-Century College Student

Kathy Whiteman

2. NPSNM-sponsored student projects Coordinator Sara Digby

4:00–4:30 pm

1. The Trouble with Tamarisk Donna Stevens

2. Local Flora Highlights Russ Kleinman

4:30–5:00 pm

1. The Yerba Mansa Project: Community-Driven Native Plant Restoration and Education in the Bosque Dara Saville

2. Mimbres Exploitation of Native Copper within the Gila National Forest Christopher Adams

6:00–8:00 pm Banquet in WNMU cafeteria

Guest Speaker Jack L. Carter, **A Thank-You Note to So Many New Mexico Friends**

Presentation of Jack & Martha Carter Native Plant Conservation Award

Sunday, September 9

Field Trips (19-26) start 8:00 am unless otherwise indicated. Many of the field trips on Sunday range farther afield, and you may want to pack a lunch or you may want to include it in your trip home.

Conference Field Trips and Workshops

All this information is available on the [website](#)!

Directions and meet-up locations will be in your registration packet. Fee for Field Trips 7 and 13 will be paid on-site (cash or check only). Remember to wear appropriate shoes and a hat and bring plenty of water, sunscreen, snacks, and hiking poles where needed—and don't forget your hand lens. Driving distances given are one-way. Carpooling is encouraged; on longer drives you may be asked to contribute a couple of dollars to your driver for gas.

Field Trips (1-9) Friday afternoon are 1:30–3:30 pm, unless otherwise indicated.

Field Trip	Explanation
FT 1	Planting to Attract Pollinators and People
Leader	Kristi Dunn
Description	A stroll through the garden areas of the Western New Mexico University campus to highlight the plantings that have been created with an eye to attracting pollinators. (And Students!) WNMU has given Kristi a unique opportunity to create different plantings and pairings on this historic campus. The tour starts at the Global Resource Center.
Hiking Distance/Difficulty	All walkways paved with easy access
Limit	15

Field Trip	Explanation
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FT 2	One Million Bones Project
Leaders	Bear Mountain Lodge staff
Description	One Million Bones is a large-scale social arts practice combining education, hands-on art making, and public installations to raise awareness of ongoing genocides and mass atrocities in places around the world. A permanent installation of 300,000 of the bones is at the Bear Mountain Lodge north of Silver City. Hike through a pinyon/juniper forest with great views of surrounding mountains. If there are any bones left at the lodge, you can help move some to their permanent resting site in a meadow. Learn about the project at the website about it.
Driving Distance	4 miles
Hiking Distance/Difficulty	Relatively flat 2-mile loop but will climb 160 ft in some steep sections and cross 2 arroyos
Limit	15

Field Trip	Explanation
FT 3	Saddle Rock Riparian Restoration Area
Leader	Russ Kleinman
Description	This area is where much of the runoff from the northern Burro Mountains channels in the summer monsoons, hence the nickname the “Throughs.” It is a riparian area in an otherwise arid locality, providing for interesting flora and fauna.
Driving Distance	30 miles, but the last few miles requiring carpooling in high-clearance 4WD vehicles
Hiking Distance/Difficulty	Less than a mile, some wet ground/streambed, one or two places where we scramble a few feet over rocks, but generally flat
Limit	15

Field Trip	Explanation
FT 4	Ethnobotany Tour
Leaders	Richard Felger and Kelly Kindscher
Description	A short, local ethnobotany tour provides a great opportunity to learn cultural significances of local native plants. Exact location to be determined, but the drive will be less than 10 miles and the hike less than 1 mile over moderate terrain.
Limit	15

Field Trip	Explanation
FT 5	History and Hydrology of the Big Ditch
Leader	David Menzie
Description	Walk along the Big Ditch on walkways and trails in the cool

	shade of riparian trees.
Driving Distance	½ mile
Hiking Distance/Difficulty	Under 2 miles total on relatively flat terrain
Limit	15

Field Trip	Explanation
FT 6	The Gila's Bees
Leader	Olivia Messinger Carril
Description	Take a walk through pollinator habitat and learn about the requirements and ecological connectedness of native bees in New Mexico. Use a net to nab a bee and look at it up close, and learn how to identify a handful of the more than 1000 species that live here. Olivia will also give suggestions on the best ways to take photos of a bee for later identification.
Driving Distance	6 miles on paved roads
Hiking Distance/Difficulty	Easy walk of less than a mile on relatively flat trail
Limit	15

Field Trip	Explanation
FT 7 (1:30–4:30 pm)	Chiricahua Apache Ride
Leader	Joe Saenz
Description	On a half-day horseback ride from a base in Arenas Valley, experience traditional Apache territory and hear stories of the land with Joe Saenz, Warm Springs Apache and Huichol Indian and wilderness guide and outfitter.
Driving Distance	6 miles
Cost	\$95 per person
Limit	3

Field Trip	Explanation
FT 8 (1:30–2:30 pm)	Silva Creek Botanical Garden #1
FT 9 (2:30–3:30 pm)	Silva Creek Botanical Garden #2
Leader	Elroy Limmer
Description	The Gila Chapter created this native plant garden on an empty lot that was once a railroad bed, later a storage yard for heavy equipment. Four years ago, the chapter began a major expansion of the garden, thanks to some generous grants and many hundreds of hours of volunteer labor. It is still a work in progress but in early September should be looking its best.
Driving Distance	½ mile

Hiking	A stroll on gravel paths
Distance/Difficulty	
Limit	20

Field Trips (10-17) Saturday morning, 8:00 am–noon, unless otherwise indicated.

Field Trip	Explanation
FT 10	Birds and Botany on the Gila River
Leaders	Roland Shook and William Norris
Description	Participants will visit several ornithological and botanical hot spots along the Gila River and associated drainages. The first stop will be Mangas Springs, one of the very few accessible sedge meadows in southwestern New Mexico. The second stop will be Iron Bridge near Cliff, which provides a great vantage point from which to observe the meandering Gila River, a diverse avifauna, and proximity to a narrow riparian forest community.
Driving Distance	30 miles
Hiking	
Distance/Difficulty	Easy stroll at both stops
Limit	15

Field Trip	Explanation
FT 11	Apache Plant Use in Times of War and Peace
Leader	Alex Mares
Description	A short walk in City of Rocks State Park to look at plants that were and are used traditionally by Apache Peoples for medicine, food, and warfare
Driving Distance	33 miles on paved roads
Hiking	
Distance/Difficulty	1.5–2 miles on level ground, easy to moderate
Limit	20

Field Trip	Explanation
FT 12	Old Fort Bayard: From the Apache Wars to Premier Tuberculosis Treatment Center
Leader	Doug Dinwiddie
Description	The Fort Bayard Historic Preservation Society has for the last 20 years sought to preserve and interpret the history of this former frontier fort and Army/Veterans hospital, which served the nation from 1866 to 2010. Dr. Dinwiddie, retired history professor, will give an orientation

	and lead a tour of the Parade Ground and the museum in the former Commanding Doctor's residence.
Driving Distance	9 miles on paved roads
Hiking Distance/Difficulty	A ¼-mile level walking tour on gravel paths
Cost	No fee, donations welcome
Limit	25

Field Trip	Explanation
FT 13	Chiricahua Apache Ride
Leader	Joe Saenz
Description	On a half-day horseback ride from a base in Arenas Valley, experience traditional Apache territory and hear stories of the land with Joe Saenz, Warm Springs Apache and Huichol Indian and wilderness guide and outfitter.
Driving Distance	6 miles
Cost	\$95 per person
Limit	3

Field Trip	Explanation
FT 14	Butterfly Way Restoration Project at Gila River Farm
Leader	Patrice Mutchnick
Description	Join this field trip to The Nature Conservancy's Lichty Center in the verdant Gila River Valley. Have a chance to visit 2 habitat restoration projects: one focused on restoring native plant communities and pollinators and the other on wetland, riverine restoration. Expect blooming wildflowers and a chance to visit Gila River floodplain forest. The Butterfly Way Project honors the lives of 3 teens who died in 2014 surveying the Gila National Forest: Michael Mahl, Ella Myers, and Ella Kirk.
Driving Distance	40 miles
Hiking Distance/Difficulty	1 mile or less on flat trails
Limit	20

Field Trip	Explanation
FT 15	Signal Peak Aspen Grove
Leaders	Russ Kleinman and Scott Zager
Description	Aspen Grove is a mountain meadow alongside a seasonal creek among pines and aspens. The habitat supports a diverse flora with several rare species.
Driving Distance	20 miles, carpooling in high-clearance 4WD vehicles

Hiking Distance	Wandering around the area, less than a mile total, easy, though at 8000-foot elevation
Limit	15

Field Trip	Explanation
FT 16	Bear Mountain Ocean Sediment Deposits and Associated Fossils
Leader	Sylveen Robinson Cook
Description	We will walk along a creekside gravel road for the first leg to see large ammonite fossils along the road cut. We will then walk uphill along a trail to observe ocean sediments and associated coral and bivalve fossils. The elevation vantage will allow regional geology observations and discussions.
Driving Distance	6 miles on paved and graded gravel/dirt roads
Hiking Distance/Difficulty	1–2 miles, moderate
Limit	15

Field Trip	Explanation
FT 17	Cheery Cherry Creek
Leader	Donna Stevens
Description	At 6800 feet in elevation, cool and shady Cherry Creek Campground is home to both riparian and uplands trees, shrubs, and vines, including Arizona Walnut, Narrowleaf Cottonwood, 2 or 3 species of oaks and pines, Arizona Honeysuckle, Velvet Ash, Smooth Sumac, and many more. An uncommon tree found in this area is Hawthorn. With any luck (read: rain), there will be numerous wildflowers along Cherry Creek. Plant list is provided.
Driving Distance	14 miles
Hiking Distance/Difficulty	Less than 2 miles round-trip; moderate, some uneven terrain, some small stream crossings
Limit	15

Field Trips (18-26) Sunday morning start 8:00 am unless otherwise indicated. Many of the field trips on Sunday range farther afield, and you may want to pack a lunch or consider including one on your trip home.

If you are heading on your way home...	Then consider Field Trip(s)...
East on I-10 or route 26	Nos. <u>19</u> , <u>20</u> , or <u>21</u>
Northwest on route 180	No. <u>22</u>
East over the mountains on route 152	Nos. <u>23</u> , <u>24</u> , <u>25</u> , or <u>26</u>

Field Trip	Explanation
FT 18	Plant Diversity in the Pinos Alto Range
Leader	Patrice Mutchnick
Description	This field trip focuses on the diversity of species found just north of Silver City, in the Pinos Altos Range. From mosses to ferns and juniper to fir, this shaded walk along one of the Gila's perennial waterways offers a chance to see the beauty and range of vegetation in the Gila.
Driving Distance	11 miles
Hiking Distance/Difficulty	2.5 miles, rocky road bed, established trail, some incline
Limit	12

Field Trip	Explanation
FT 19	Birds and Botany at the City of Rocks State Park
Leaders	Tony Godfrey, William Norris, and Tim Geddes
Description	Participants will visit a relatively new acquisition to City of Rocks State Park: a cienega. This low, wet basin contains open wetlands (one dominated by chairmaker's bulrush, the other by saltgrass, rush, and other graminoids) as well as a Goodding's willow grove. This wetland oasis, surrounded on all sides by dry desert vegetation, is the home of owls, red-tailed hawks, sora rails, blackbirds, and many other bird species.
Driving Distance	30 miles
Hiking Distance/Difficulty	2 miles along a well-maintained but occasionally rough loop trail
Limit	20

Field Trip	Explanation
FT 20	Chihuahuan Summer: Mahoney Park in the Florida Mountains
Leader	Gene Jercinovic
Description	This field trip is a botanical foray into Mahoney Park in the foothills of the Florida Mountains. The leader Gene Jercinovic lives in Deming and has spent the last 15 years studying, collecting, and photographing the plants of the Floridas and surrounding areas.
Driving Distance	67 miles (15 miles south of Deming) [The last 4 miles are on a dirt road with a few rough spots, but high-clearance vehicles are not required.]
Hiking Distance/Difficulty	3-4 miles round-trip, easy to moderate
Limit	25

Field Trip	Explanation
<u>FT 21</u>	Pony Hills Petroglyphs
Leaders	Edwin and Beth Leuck
Description	A trip to a large array of readily accessible sandstone petroglyphs on BLM land off route 26. The site is on the Butterfield Trail of the late 1850s and early 1860s and is about 8 miles west of old Fort Cummings. Really good photo opportunities. The petroglyphs are of varying degrees of complexity and date primarily from 600 to 1200 AD, with perhaps some as recent as 300 years ago.
Driving Distance	50 miles of good pavement, 4 miles of decent gravel, and 3 miles of heavily eroded but topographically flat road requiring carpooling in high-clearance vehicles for that stretch
Hiking Distance/Difficulty	Only a hundred yards up a moderate grade on a semblance of a trail, then scrambling around rocks to look at petroglyphs
Limit	20

Field Trip	Explanation
<u>FT 22</u>	Mogollon Box Hike along the Gila
Leader	Martha S. Cooper
Description	We will hike in the shade of cottonwoods and willows along the river and adjacent floodplain terraces, stopping to look at plants and discussing how vegetation along the river corridor has changed over the past 30 years.
Driving Distance	40 miles, the last 1.5 miles on gravel
Hiking Distance/Difficulty	2–3 miles, the trail mostly flat, uneven in places, with one hill to climb that has loose rocks
Limit	15

Field Trip	Explanation
<u>FT 23</u>	Plants of Historic Fort Bayard and Grounds
Leader	Richard Felger
Description	The historic Fort Bayard and grounds preserves a substantial sample of native Gila Forest region fauna and flora. Also of interest is a diversity of trees planted on the grounds, including Coulter and Arizona cypress that are even reproducing. We will also see a broad range of native flora and explore ethnobotanical and future agronomic uses.
Driving Distance	9 miles on paved roads
Hiking Distance/Difficulty	Less than 2 miles along paved and unpaved roads and some trails, all nearly level

Limit	20
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Field Trip	Explanation
<u>FT 24</u>	Mimbres Culture Heritage Site (MCHS)
Leader	Marilyn Markel
Description	You will see a presentation about Mimbres Archaeology, pottery, and the Mattocks Ruin Archaeological Site with an emphasis on plants used by the ancient Mimbres People, followed by a tour of the site. If there is time, she will also tell the story of the historic houses and the archaeologists that have used, and still use, MCHS as their base camp while working on sites in the Mimbres.
Driving Distance	26 miles on paved roads
Hiking Distance/Difficulty	A little less than ½ mile, easy walking on an interpretive trail
Limit	20

Field Trip	Explanation
<u>FT 25</u>	The Flora of Lake Roberts and Mimbres Ethnobotany
Leader	Kelly Kindscher
Description	We will walk along the trail on the south side of Lake Roberts, along and among rocky cliffs and small meadows and the edge of Lake Roberts, a 70-acre lake created in the Sapillo Creek valley of the Gila National Forest. The area is rich in plant species, with a provided list of almost 500 species in the immediate area. With Mimbres ruins around the area (Vista Village and many others), we will also talk about the wild plants that the Mimbres used, or likely used, for food and medicine.
Driving Distance	47 miles on paved roads
Hiking Distance/Difficulty	1.5–2 miles round-trip; fairly level, with some rocky areas, no water crossings
Limit	15

Field Trip	Explanation
<u>FT 26</u>	Railroad Canyon in the Black Range
Leaders	Russ Kleinman and Bob Sivinski
Description	Railroad Canyon is a recovering upper-elevation riparian area in the Black Range off route 152 that was scoured by floodwaters a couple of years ago after the Silver Fire burned the surrounding forest. Along the way there, we will visit the Nun Lookout with great views but also some very interesting plants to see.
Driving Distance	25 miles on paved roads

Hiking Distance/Difficulty	Several miles, depth of creek permitting, some stream crossings, some loose rock but generally not steep
Limit	15

Workshops (A-D) Friday afternoon are 1:30–3:30 pm, unless otherwise indicated.

Workshop	Explanation
WS A	Plant Specimen Mounting and Tour of Dale A. Zimmerman Herbarium
Facilitators	Angela Flanders and Jane Spinti
Description	The workshop will begin with a demonstration and instruction on the basics of mounting plant specimens. Each participant will then mount 1–2 specimens. We will also tour the herbarium, which has 4 distinct areas and currently houses over 27,000 specimens. Finally, participants will check their specimens for any needed adjustments and complete the process. Materials provided.
Limit	10

Workshop	Explanation
WS B	Sedgucation 101
Facilitators	William Norris, Jim McGrath, and Scott Zager
Description	Participants will learn the ins and outs of sedges in this hands-on classroom workshop. Topics to be addressed are how to distinguish sedges from rushes and grasses, how to recognize common sedge genera (<i>Bolboschoenus</i> , <i>Carex</i> , <i>Cyperus</i> , <i>Eleocharis</i> , <i>Schoenoplectus</i> , <i>Scirpus</i>) that occur in New Mexico, and strategies for learning how to identify sedge species. The instructors will bring fresh material of all the above plant groups for use by participants. Bring a hand lens, a cheap spiral bound notebook, and transparent tape for creation of a sedge reference collection.
Limit	20

Workshop	Explanation
WS C	Woodcarving Workshop
Facilitator	Keller Suberkropp
Description	Types of woodcarving and woods (particularly from native plants) will be discussed. Participants can start a carving in native cottonwood bark. Bring a knife or pocketknife if you can.
Limit	10

Workshop	Explanation
WS D	Herbal Allies for the Body from a Bioregional Perspective
Facilitator	Sara Digby
Description	This class will explore many of the common and some not so common plants that are bioregionally available from the high mountains to low desert in New Mexico (both native and non-native). We will look at how they can be incorporated into our daily lives through food and medicine following the systems in the body, touching on some specific herbs that can generally be used to aid us in many of the common ailments we experience, and together we'll make some of our own herbal potions.
Limit	20

Workshops (E-G) Saturday morning are 8:00 am–noon, unless otherwise indicated.

Workshop	Explanation
WS E	Eat Desert First! Native Edible Plants for Our Diets
Facilitators	Kristen Lundgren and Adrienne Booth
Description	This interactive workshop at the Volunteer Center will cover the basics of native edible plants in the high desert that we can begin to (re)incorporate into our diets. We will start with a lecture-style wild food overview, and then we will bring participants down into Pinos Altos creek by the Volunteer Center to scavenge and potentially harvest. We'll finish back in our kitchen preparing native edible plants into some tasty dishes. Plan for some sitting and talking, a gentle walk through the creek (good shoes and water), and food preparation (hair ties, hats, scarves to pull hair back).
Cost	No fee, donations welcome
Limit	20

Workshop	Explanation
WS F	Grasses Around Town: A Walking Delight
Facilitator	Kelly Allred
Description	A jubilant look at the grasses at our feet and all around us, for the fledgling novice and the skilled expert alike. We will tell captivating grass stories, gleefully dismember spikelet parts, and scrutinize the obscure and esoteric with aplomb. Bring a hand lens and pencil and paper.
Limit	10

Workshop	Explanation
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WS G (9:00 – 11:00 a.m.)	Plant Specimen Mounting and Tour of Dale A. Zimmerman Herbarium
Facilitators	Angela Flanders and Jane Spinti
Description	The workshop will begin with a demonstration and instruction on the basics of mounting plant specimens. Each participant will then mount 1–2 specimens. We will also tour the herbarium, which has 4 distinct areas and currently houses over 27,000 specimens. Finally, participants will check their specimens for any needed adjustments and complete the process. Materials provided.
Limit	10

Sunday morning

Workshop	Explanation
WS H (9:00 am – Noon)	Backyard Yoga
Facilitator	Susie Vanderbeek
Description	A slow peaceful practice for anyBODY on the grass (<i>Bouteloua</i> sp.) among other flowering plants and a soundtrack provided by the birds and bees in the home garden of Jane Kruse. Embrace elements of the Gila and energy of the sun to focus awareness on nature and stabilize our own roots. Botany conversation and refreshments included. Bring your own mat if possible.
Driving Distance	3.5 miles
Limit	15

For additional information, go to the [website](#)!

Programs from Last Quarter

A description of the programs from last quarter follows:

April Meeting

On Friday, April 20, 2018, 7:00 pm, Dr. Manda Clair Jost, WNMU Department of Natural Sciences, presented the program: "Interactions between domesticated, feral, and native bees in the Southwest." The meeting was held in Harlan Hall, WNMU Campus, Room 201.

She explained:

- The different geographic areas where the Physarieae tribe of the mustard family can be found
- Some useful morphological and molecular features to help us recognize species
- About a few species that are locally and traditionally used for medicinal purposes

April Field Trip

On Sunday, April 15, 2018, the group took a field trip to Axel Canyon in the Big Burros. It included a Moderate/Easy hike in sandy, open washes. They saw old oaks, walnuts, and amazing cherry trees, blooming.

May Picnic

On Sunday, May 13, 2018, from Noon until about 3:00 pm, we had a picnic at the Little Walnut Picnic Shelter. It was a joint pot luck picnic for GNPS and SWN Audubon. All had a good time! We had iced tea and lemonade with hot dogs provided by the groups and then all brought pot luck dishes.

May Meeting

On Friday, May 18, 2018, 7:00 pm, the meeting was held Harlan Hall, WNMU Campus, Room 201. Kenneth Sexton presented a talk "Transport and Fate of Plant based and Manmade Chemicals in the Environment." It included air pollution, water pollution, uptake of pollutants by plants, and the negative effects on insects eating the plants in the field. The question obviously was if many different insects have been experimentally documented as dying from eating the plants, bees could also be affected.

May Field Trip

On Sunday, May 20, 2018, we had a field trip to Railroad Canyon. It included a moderate hike along the Gallinas Creek at 7700 feet. They saw pines, oaks,

walnuts, and other canyon-dwelling companions.

June Field Trip

On Sunday, June 17, 2018, the field trip was a trip to Meadow Creek in the Pinos Altos Range. It included a moderate hike along a forest trail with some slope and rocks. They saw mixed conifer, Gambel oak with cool riparian plants that showed themselves needing precipitation, but at least it was cooler up at 7200 ft.



Our mailing address is:

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The Gila Native Plant Society is committed

- To promote education, research, and appreciation of the native flora of the Southwest
- To encourage the preservation of rare and endangered plant species
- To support the use of suitable native plants in landscaping