



Seedhead News

A Newsletter for Members of Native Seeds/SEARCH

Number 105

Winter 2010

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Coming Up in 2010

FLAVORS OF THE DESERT 2010

*Featuring a keynote address
by Dr. Andrew Weil*

Andrew Weil received an A.B. degree in biology (botany) from Harvard in 1964 and a M.D. from Harvard Medical School in 1968. From 1971-84 he was on the research staff of the Harvard Botanical Museum and conducted investigations of medicinal and psychoactive plants.

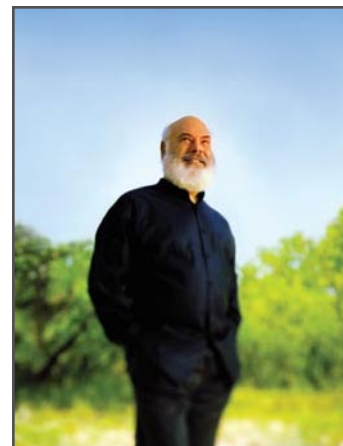
At present Dr. Weil is Director of the Arizona Center for Integrative Medicine at the University of Arizona, where he also holds the Lovell-Jones Endowed Chair in Integrative Rheumatology and is Clinical Professor of Medicine and Professor of Public Health.

The author of many scientific and popular articles and of 11 books, his publications include: *Health and Healing*; *Natural Health*, *Natural Medicine*; and the international bestsellers, *Spontaneous Healing* and *Eight Weeks to Optimum Health*. His most recent book is *Why Our Health Matters: A Vision of Medicine that can Transform our Future*, published in September 2009.

Dr. Weil serves as the Director of Integrative Health and Healing at Miraval Life in Balance Resort in Catalina, Arizona. He is also the Chairman of the Council on Complementary and Alternative Medicine, Dubai Health Care City, UAE. A frequent lecturer and guest on talk shows, he lives near Tucson, Arizona. *For more information, please visit www.drweil.com.*

We envision the Greater Southwest as a place where farms and gardens, kitchens and tables, stores and restaurants are brimming with the full diversity of aridlands-adapted heirloom crops; people are keeping the unique seeds and agricultural heritage alive; and the crops, in turn, are nourishing humankind.

— VISION STATEMENT



**Save the Date:
Sunday, March 7, 2010**

**6–8:30 pm at the historic Manning House
450 W. Paseo Redondo in Tucson**

We're cooking up an extraordinary Flavors this year with a savory menu of heritage foods prepared to perfection at the historic Manning House in downtown Tucson and we want you to join us. This year, we're honored to have Dr. Andrew Weil, an internationally renowned expert of medicinal plants, alternative medicine, and medical education reform, as our keynote speaker.

Your generous support of Flavors in past years has allowed us to preserve and protect genetic diversity and the cultural heritage represented in the more than 1,800 varieties of agricultural seed we steward. Proceeds from the dinner enable us to support farmers and gardeners in our community and throughout the Southwest who work tirelessly to preserve small-scale, local, and healthy agriculture.

Register now to guarantee your place at Flavors of the Desert 2010. Tickets are \$125 per person of which \$76 is tax deductible. Visit www.nativeseeds.org to RSVP online.

From our Board Chair

Growing Forward Together



Fellow Members,

Bryn invited me to reflect on our organization from where I sit—as Chair of the Board of Directors. How *do* I feel about Native Seeds/SEARCH? These are the words that come to mind.

Proud. I joined Native Seeds/SEARCH in 1983 when it was an infant dream of the visionary founders and a tiny collection of seeds stored in an old refrigerator. Attending the groundbreaking in November for our new Conservation Center, I realized that so many members

and partners enthusiastically share this dream twenty-six years later. I am very proud to be part of this stewardship journey with you.

Amazed. Serving on the Board allows me to truly appreciate how *you*, our volunteers and members, make amazing things happen. Without fail, whenever resources are tight, someone always steps up to help, even during this challenging economy. Through board governance, I also have the privilege of experiencing the brilliance of our staff team that continually creates magic on a daily basis through their dedication, creativity, and professionalism. We are profoundly blessed.

Relevant. Our mission becomes more germane each passing day. Our *ex-situ* and *in-situ* conservation work resonates with a diverse audience that shares interest in preservation of agricultural traditions, production of good food, and generates hope for future generations. Now, more than ever, an evolved Native Seeds/SEARCH has much to offer to the quality-of-life equation of our time and for many years to come.

Optimistic. I am convinced that our organization has the support and resilience necessary to continue to grow and adapt, while remaining true to our collective vision. I wish to thank all of you for being an integral ingredient in the process. I look forward to another fruitful year together.

¡Adelante!



Susan Kunz

JANOS HARVEST DINNER BREAKS RECORD!

Thanks to Janos Wilder, board member and chef extraordinaire, for the best ever Harvest Dinner on October 27! An inspirational evening of "food from the past, prepared for the future" delighted more than 90 NS/S friends at Janos Restaurant on the grounds of the Westin La Paloma Resort in Tucson. Janos prepared a remarkable four-course dinner with delectable wine pairings. Thanks to all in the NS/S community for bringing your great support and enthusiasm!

The mission of Native Seeds/SEARCH (Southwestern Endangered Aridland Resources Clearing House) is to conserve, distribute, and document the adapted and diverse varieties of agricultural seeds, their wild relatives and the role these seeds play in cultures of the American Southwest and northwest Mexico.



FOUNDERS

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Mahina Drees
Gary Nabhan
Karen Reichhardt

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Mahina Drees

Sage Goodwin

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Seedhead News

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From groundbreaking to construction: it's happening!



Our Future Home:

NS/S Conservation Center at Brandi Fenton Memorial Park IN THE BINGHAMPTON NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDSCAPE

On November 7, board members, government representatives, and NS/S co-founders turned over shovels of dirt to mark a festive groundbreaking celebration for our new agricultural Conservation Center in the Binghampton National Historic Landscape. The day signified the beginning of construction on a cooperative project between Pima County and Native Seeds/SEARCH. Approximately one hundred volunteers, staff, friends, and members toured the site where our new 5,700-square-foot facility will be built.

Located at Tucson's Brandi Fenton Memorial Park, this site is listed on the National Register of Historic Landscapes as an historical agricultural area. Our new center will house a 600 + square-foot walk-in temperature and humidity controlled cold room and a 150-square-foot walk-in temperature and humidity controlled freezer. State-of-the-art equipment and more usable space will greatly

enhance our ability to both manage the collection and make more of it available to a wider public. By entering into a collaborative partnership with Pima County, we benefit from their plans to develop demonstration gardens and heirloom orchards, community classroom space, and a commercial kitchen, increasing our visibility and opportunities to educate the community about the region's rich agricultural legacy, traditions, and resources.

Thanks to generous gifts from our partners, members, and supporters (listed below) we're well on our way to our permanent education and conservation center. If you have not yet had the opportunity to support this innovative project and would like to, please visit our website at www.nativeseeds.org or contact **Julie Evans** at 520.622.0830 or jevans@nativeseeds.org.



Update on Our Capital Campaign

\$50,000 and above

Anonymous (1)
Peter Q. Lawson
Giles W. & Elise G. Mead Foundation
Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust
Tohono O'odham Nation
Tucson Electric Power (in-kind)

\$25,000 and above

Anonymous (2)
Amy P. Goldman
Gila River Development Authority
Dr. William & Ann Horst
Darline Martin/Edward K. Martin Family Trust
Quitobaquito Fund

\$10,000 — \$24,999

Anonymous (2)
Colleen Crombie
DeGrazia Foundation
Nancy Evans
Vernon & Diane Kliever
Cesar Mazier
Charles McKittrick, Jr.
John & Jan Rickert-Mueller

F. Peter Rose
Sherman Scurry, M.D. & Chris O'Neill, M.D.
Sheraton Wild Horse Pass
Southwestern Foundation for Educational and Historical Preservation
Technicians for Sustainability (in-kind)
Richard Fe & Nancy Tom
Laurel Wilkening & Godfrey Sill

\$5,000 — \$9,999

Anonymous (1)
Kerstin & Spencer Block
Barney Burns & Mahina Drees
Mary Ann Clark
James & Faria V. Dretler
Robert Garner & Robin Beresford
Gary & Mary Irish
Robert Martin & Luci Tapahonso
Marcy Olajos
Roland Pesch & Kathleen Russkoppf
Wendy & Bill Ring
Bill & Alice Roe
Ronald & Karen Wells
Janos & Rebecca Wilder

\$1,000—\$4,999

Anonymous (2)
Billie Jane Baguley
James Benedict
Jacob Bernal
Aleta & Daniel Bloch
Georgiana & John Boyer
Anne & Arthur Britt
Jane Brown
Jenny & Leo Carrillo
Margaret Gay Chanler
Kevin Dahl & Barbara Miller
Andrew Dalton
William Doolittle
Mary Peace Douglas
Julie Evans & Susan McMahon
Elizabeth Frautschi
Rayna Green
Edward HacsKaylo
Diana Hadley & Peter Marshall
Todd & Suzie Horst
Bryn Jones & Ken Hedrick
Gurumeet & Nirvair Khalsa
Nance Klehm
Donald & Edith Kunz
Susan Kunz & t. kay Estes
Alice McKittrick

Linda McKittrick & Charles DeConcini
Gary Nabhan
Suzanne Nelson & Rob Robichaux
Barbara Roastingear & Henry Oliver III Family Foundation
Pitt Family Foundation
Charles & Suzanne Peters
Ken Porter
Pat & Mimi Reid
Roger Riggs
David Tiers & Sue Ann Breems
Cheryl Toth
Robert Traub
Lindsay Werth
Susan & David Wirshup
Constance & Jeffrey Woodman
Ofelia Zepeda

\$500 — \$999

John & Christine Augustine
Patricia Bender
Susan Buffer
Dora & Barry Bursey
Crecencio Elenes
Kate & LeRoy Ellison

continued next page

Program Accomplishments: October 1, 2008 – September 30, 2009

For more detailed Program Accomplishments, please visit our website www.nativeseeds.org

Because of your generous contributions, Native Seeds/SEARCH celebrated many successes in 2009. The past year evidenced the great local, regional, national, and global needs that Native Seeds/SEARCH fulfills. People were motivated to grow their own food in their backyards as a result, in part, of a struggling economy. New gardeners and experienced farmers alike secured high-quality seeds from NS/S that are adapted to the challenging growing conditions of the Southwest. This growing movement was not limited to people in the Southwest; people from Asia and Africa also sought crops that will prosper in changing climates and turned to NS/S for the precious resources we conserve. In difficult times, we're proud our mission positively impacts people's lives around the world. Thank you for your continued commitment to preserving and protecting the unique genetic diversity and cultural heritage represented in the more than 1,800 varieties of agricultural seed we steward. Here's just a sampling of what we accomplished in our last fiscal year.

Conservation

☛ Conservation staff creatively spaced "garden plots" across the farm at distances that minimized the possibility of crossing. This strategy allowed us to grow a mix of corn, squash, melon, beans, cowpea, gourd, and tobacco to add approximately forty-eight accessions to the year's grow-out. Our summer grow-out totaled 111 varieties, including all six tomato varieties, which will be available in our 2010 *Seedlisting*.

☛ A cowpea and a sunflower that had never regenerated, despite multiple efforts in previous years, both produced seed in 2009.

☛ Community members fenced in eighteen additional garden and orchard plots and grew out nine native maize varieties in the Tarahumara communities of the Sierra Madres.

☛ Conservation staff conducted GMO tests of eighteen varieties of maize, at the request of the Tarahumara communities, and found no evidence of any GMOs.

☛ NS/S hired a curator to provide leadership for the organization regarding cataloging, documentation, and research of our entire collection. One of his most exciting accomplishments to date is the production of Google Earth maps showing the origination of NS/S collections.

Native American Outreach

☛ Our Native American Committee convened an Advisory Panel to assist staff in assessing our work with Native communities.

☛ Staff represented NS/S at the newly formed Gila River Farmers' Market at Wild Horse Pass on the Gila River Reservation.

☛ NS/S attended a Hiaki Medicine information session at Pascua Yaqui that included a talk on "Traditional Food and Healing Plants and Herbs in the Sonoran Desert" by Angela Martinez.

☛ Members of the Natwani Coalition, a group of Jemez elders, Walatowa Elderly Program staff, a group from Traditional Native American Farmers Association (TNAFA), and Guatemalan farmers from Qachuu Aloom toured the Seed Bank.

Update on Our Capital Campaign *continued*

George & Linda Griffin
Sanjeev Pandey
Barbara Radwan-Kuzelewski & Joseph Durnell
Karen Reichhardt & Jim Heard
Stephen Shetron
Jessica Smith
John Peter Wilhite

\$250—\$499

Briggs & Pat Ackert
Betsy Armstrong
Kathy Altman & Ivy Schwartz
Mary Barsony
Joyce Boyle
Lydia Breuning & Brian Stark
Ronilee Clark & Brian Arnold
Wayne & Bernice Clouser
Janet Darby
Albert & Kimber Delorenzo
Ruth Eckert
Jane Evans & Gene Joseph
Donald & Mima Falk
Damian Fleming

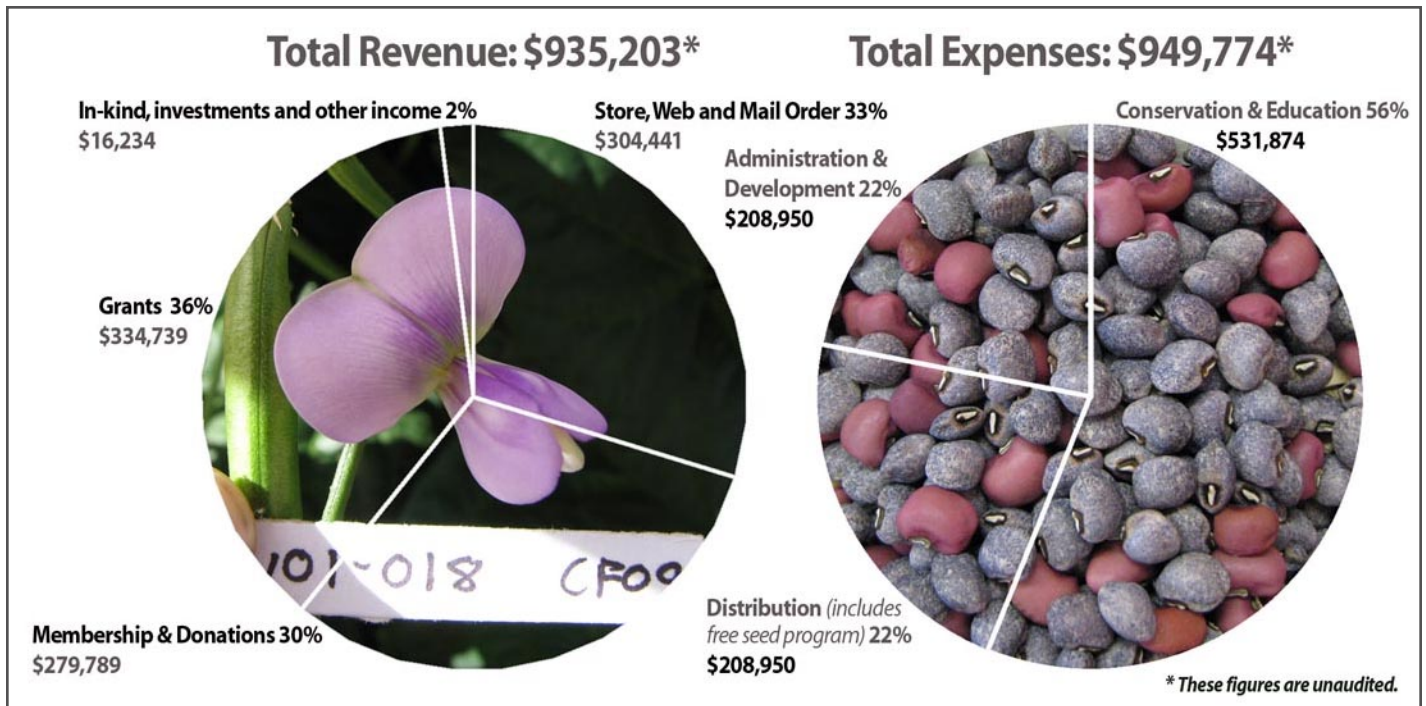
Connie & Bob Foster
Joan Hood & David Davis
Daniel Gordon
Beth & Frank Guldseth
Peter Hubbell
Christina Husted
Nancy Jackson & Mustafa Alahwel
Julie & Richard Kornmeyer
Bill & Beth Krumbein
Orme & Elizabeth Lewis Jr.
Roy Lowenstein
Chris Lowen
Marty & Audrey Lowen
Peter McCrohan
Johann & Chris McKee
Sandra Nemeth
Sandy Paris & Lou Bright
Richard Pratt & Lois Grant
Laurinda Queen
Bea & German Quiroga
Evelyn Rens
Ariel Swartley
Marie Tymrak
Damian Fleming

John & Mary Lou Winder
John Wood & Shirley Powell
Sherrie Zeitlin & Ron Landon

\$100—\$249

Albert & Alan Adler
Gary Bachman & Joanne Basta
Susan Breckenridge
Richard & Debbie Crawford
Nancy Curriden
Lyle & Vera Dethlefsen
Pete Duarte
Betty Eldon
Jane Elins
Linda Finke
Dody Fugate
Cassandra Gaines
Tom & Sara Gibbs
Linda, Wally, & Aaron Goodwillie
Kathy Graaff
Jeff & Jody Kosanke
Delight & Timothy Lane
Susanne Lane & Yahya Sadowski
Mary Kay LeFevour & Laura Markowitz

Susan Lobo
Elizabeth Vance Mattfield
Sharon & James McKenzie
John & Barbara McLean
William Miller
Miriam Moore
Jonathan Myers
P.S. Osborne
Margaret Pope & Norman Epstein
Linda Restifo
Theresa & Michael Rigney
Alex & Marilyn Sando
Inga Simmonds
Robert & Helga Small
Southern Horticuture
K. Martin Stevenson
Cary & Nicolette Stubbs
Bob & Joan Tweit
Carol Townsend & Charles Cole
Edna & Dave Weigel
Gabe Vega
Gwinn & Pat Vivian
Glenda Zahner



FY 2009 told through photos of a cowpea variety (flower and peas) which was regenerated at the Conservation Farm for the first time!

Distribution

☛ Seed sales *increased twenty-seven percent* over last year and *forty-two percent* from two years earlier.

☛ Various farmers' markets, grocery stores, restaurants, and retail outlets in Patagonia, Sonoita, Tucson, and beyond purchased produce from our Conservation Farm such as P'itoni onions, tomatoes, basil, and wheat berries.

Outreach and Education

☛ Conservation staff conducted a two-day workshop, *Growing Your Own Seed 'Library' (Bank): Seed Production, Storage and Conservation*, at the NS/S Seed Bank and Conservation Farm for participants from Hopi, Gila River, and New Mexico who were brought together by TNAFA.

☛ Three Heirloom Fruit/Orchard Restoration Workshops were held in Traverse City, Michigan; Madison, Wisconsin; and Chicago, Illinois.

☛ NS/S hosted the annual San Juan's Day at the Conservation Farm which included a blessing of the fields, a performance of traditional Aztec harvest songs and dances, farm tours, work groups, and the famous heritage foods potluck for approximately seventy community members.

☛ The Santa Cruz Valley Heritage Alliance and the Mountain Empire Trail Association collaborated with us for the annual Harvest Celebration at the Conservation Farm. Guests stomped beans, learned how to save seeds, watched planting demonstrations, toured the farm, listened to live bluegrass music, and enjoyed a guided walk along a portion of the new Patagonia Train Track Trail created through a partnership between the town of Patagonia, the Nature Conservancy, and NS/S.

☛ Pat Kenny, former instructor for the USDA Graduate School Summer Session and past coordinator of the National Library of

Medicine Herb Garden in Maryland, presented a week-long workshop, *The World of Herbs*, as a benefit for NS/S.

Membership

☛ In 2009, more than two hundred individuals became new members of NS/S. A plan is underway to increase our membership program and involve our supporters in different ways to help us succeed in our mission.

Volunteers

☛ During the fiscal year, more than 140 volunteers contributed 4507 hours of time to Native Seeds/SEARCH, the equivalent of approximately two full-time staff.

☛ On average, sixty volunteers helped at our Seed Bank, retail store, administrative office, and Conservation Farm each month.

☛ In August, we conducted our first Ambassador Training session to create a corps of volunteer leaders who will represent NS/S at outreach and community events.



Another 2009 grow-out from the Conservation Farm.

Your Generosity Keeps Us Growing!

MANY THANKS TO ALL OUR MEMBERS & FRIENDS FOR SOWING & GROWING THE SEEDS OF SUPPORT

All donations and membership listed were received between October 1, 2008, and September 30, 2009. Thousands of supporters made gifts under \$100. We wish we had the space to acknowledge each and every one of you and deeply appreciate your contributions.

\$25,000 and more

CS Fund/Walsh-Mott Legacy
Lillian Goldman Charitable
Trust
The Christensen Fund
Wallace Genetic Foundation
Wallace Research Foundation

\$10,000-\$24,999

Alice H. Brown Trust
Steve Leuthold Family
Foundation
Slow Food USA/Ceres
Foundation

\$5,000-\$9,999

Anonymous (2)
George Binney
Tom & Cande Grogan
Alice McKittrick
Roland Pesch & Kathy Roskopf
Dr. Scholl Foundation
The Walton Family Foundation,
Inc.
Met Foundation

\$1,000-\$4,999

Anonymous (2)
Eric Biderman
Dora & Barry Bursey
Mary Ann Clark
Patricia Dewitt
Dr. Frances Dickman
William Doolittle
Mary Peace Douglas
Mahina Drees & Barney Burns
Environmental Fund of Arizona
Nancy Evans
Rayna Green
John & Terri Groth
Edward Hackskaylo
Greg Hook
Dr. William & Ann Horst
Gary & Mary Irish
Ohio State University
Wendy & Bill Ring
Bill & Alice Roe
Jim & Alice Roth
Linda Serna
Slow Food Tucson
Laurel Wilkening

\$500-\$999

Anonymous (4)
John & Christine Augustine
Billie Jane Baguley
Patricia Bender
James Benedict
Peter Bretting & Kim Lewers
Casino del Sol
Kitty Collins

Colleen Crombie
Susan Curtis
Kevin Dahl & Barbara Miller
Anthony & Laurie Dean
Desert Garden Club
Ralph & Mary Dwan
Julie Evans & Sue McMahon
Flowering Tree Permaculture
Elizabeth Frautschi
Elizabeth Jo Higgins
Gus & Sue Hiller
George Jacques
Frederick & Gayle Jandrey
Bob & Katy Jones
Deborah Knight
Beth Malasky & John Chesley
David Maren & Nita Garland
Michael & DeAnna McDonald
Susan Murchie
Barbara Roastingear & Henry
Oliver III Family Foundation
Bill & Carol Owens
Jane Ragle & John Smith M.D.
William J. & Priscilla Robinson
Philanthropic Fund
Pat & Jennifer Roche
Henry Roe
Joaquin & Bernadette Ruiz
Heidi Schlitt
Sear Family Foundation
Laine Seaton
Conrad Shumaker
Jim & Debbie Spaide
Vasilios Family
Elaine West & Kevin Sharp
Williams & Associates
Marilyn & William Young
Charitable Foundation
David Zamarin & Valerie Diaz

\$250-\$499

Anonymous (2)
Kathy Altman & Ivy Schwartz
Kathleen Anderock
Cyndi Andrews
Betsy Armstrong
Joan Atkinson
Deborah & Dorian Bezanis
Barbara & William Bickel
Peter Bigot
Aleta & Daniel Bloch
Georgiana & John Boyer
Lindy & Steve Brigham
Arch & Laura Brown
Ethalinda Cannon
Duane & Arleta Carr
Charles Corfield
Steve & Faye Cover
Barba Crista & Robert Goldman
Susan & Nicole Curtis

Nina Dambra
Lyle & Vera Dethlefsen
Joan Donnelly
Michael Elsner & Peggy
Hutchison
Bette & Gerard Ervin
Elizabeth Evans & Stephen
Reitz
Larry Evers & Barbara Grygutis
Audrey & John Finley
P. Douglas Folk & Cynthia Lasko
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Barbara & Floyd Miller
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John Mitchel
Karen Moriah
Julie Morton
Elizabeth Naylor
Robert Peters
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Michael & Linda Powers
R. Cynthia Pruett
Janet & Ted Ranney
Darren Rhodes
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Waterman
F. Peter Rose
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Travis & Leigh Sebera
Curtis Scribner
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Terry Shreve
Bob Skaggs & Kathleen
Anderock
Jed Staley
Vera Studer
Annette Sutura
Carol Thompson
David Tiers & Sue Breems
Truckee Tahoe Community
Foundation

John Wahl & Mary Lou Forier
Anne Watson
Edna & Dave Weigel
Lindsay Werth
Whole Foods Market
Janos & Rebecca Wilder
Alison & Weston Wilson
Margaret & Michael Woodhouse

\$100-\$249

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Briggs & Pat Ackert
Lyle Ackman
Lori Adkison
David Allen & Mark Sammons
William Allen
Scott & Jerri Altendorf
Virginia Ames
Megan Anderson
James Aufderhaar
Bank of America Matching Gifts
Jehanna Balzer & Thomas Good
Maria Bartelt
Gayle Basso
Deron Beal & Jennifer Columbus
Dinah Bear & Roger McManus
Eric & Christine Behling
James Belin
Debra & Norman Bell
C. Diane Bell
Carol Bell
Barbara & George Birmingham
Jonathan Black
Frank Boccio
Elaine Bolding
Charles Bouril
Elizabeth Boyd & Andy Roth
Joyce Boyle
Susan Breckenridge
Anne & Arthur Britt
Dan & Cindy Brocious
Jeanne & Robert Broome
Gregory Brown
Julia Brown & DeWitt Daggett III
Alan Brubaker
Karen Bruhns & Tom Weller
Susan Buffler
Helen & Dick Bulinski
Chandler Bullion
Martha Burgess
Jeff Bursey
Laurie & Bill Buss
Logan Campbell
Duane & Arleta Carr
Lynn Chapman
Alice Chesley
Henry Christensen
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Nyberg
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Barbara Cobb
Susan Codega & George
Howard
Ric & Sue Conway
Robin Coon
Randy Coons
Will Creach
Amy & David Crown
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Jonae Delong
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Sharon Gilbert
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Linda, Wally & Aaron
Goodwillie
Edith Greene
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Maura Grogan & Steve Cornell
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Ynez Haase
Margaret Hacskaylo
Karen Halderson
David Hall
Elaine Hallgarth
Dane Hannum
Maggie Hanus
Patty Hardy
Roy Harris
Jim Harrison
Jim & Lori Hartman
Dr. Loline Hathaway
Loren & Jan Haury
Susan Hausser
Stan & Jeanie Haye
Christopher Heller
James Henson
George Herlihy
Robert & Chandra Hershey-
Lear
Cayce Hill
Robert Himmerich y Valencia
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William Kemling
Karen Kennedy
Jenny & Gary Kennedy
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Arline Lemeshevsky

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Joan Metzger
Christine Michalowski
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Elizabeth Mize
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Sasfy
Sharon Moore & Larry Pierce
Miriam Moore
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Lou & Robert Murphy
Suraiya Murray
Diego & Elena Navarrette, Jr.
Jennifer Nelson
Jay Newburgh
Sue & Maurice Nieland
Wendell & Rosemary Niemann
Jasper & Beth Norris
Fred & Ann Norton
Bob Nuss
Joyce & Roger Nussbaum
Ann O'Connell
Katharine Olmstead
Diane & Michael O'Meagher
P.S. Osborne
Michael Palmer & Suzanne
McAlister
Louise & William Pape
Allen Parleir & Ella Woods
John Parodi
Josephine Parrish
Sam & Mary Perry
James Person

Jo Ann & Richard Peter
Mari Petti
Shirley Pfeifer
John Pfersdorf & Pam Boyer
Shelly Phipps
Steve Pilon Theresa Dunn
Margaret Pope & Norman
Epstein
Kenneth Porter
Vincent & Nancy Price
Herb Puffer
Harriet Purtell
Donald Pusateri
Carol & Thomas Quijada
Bea & German Quiroga
David Randall
Kathleen Randolph
Pat & Mimi Reid
Janice Rickert-Mueller & John
Mueller
Theresa & Michael Rigney
Bob & Lisa Rimsza
Michelle Rivera
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Lucia Robinson
Karin Rodes
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Paul & Mary Ross
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Sarah Ross
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Lindianne Sarno
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Drs. John & Helen Schaefer
Stephen Schmidt
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Suzanne Seay
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Bill Worthey
Mary Wright
Michael Yeatts & Nina Swidler
Penelope Yeoman
David Yetman
Russ & April Young

Any donor whose name appeared in this issue and wished to remain anonymous or whose name did not appear on the list and should have, please let us know. Thanks!

Many thanks to those who donated goods or services...

Arizona Sonora Desert Museum	Brenna Lacey
Betts Printing	Greg Mason
BIO5 Institute/The University of Arizona	Linda & Michael McNulty, Lewis & Roca
Jenny Carrillo	Betsy McGee
Gay Chanler	Alice McKittrick
Mary Ann Clark	Kate McMillan, LTD
Nancy Evans	F. Peter Rose
Tom & Cande Grogan	Santa Cruz Valley Heritage Alliance
Edward Hacskaylo	Julie St. John
Todd Horst	Stephen Thoommes
Jeff Hursh, Snell & Wilmer	Tohono Chul Park
Bryn Jones & Ken Hedrick	Trader Joes
Laurie Kostelecky	Janos Wilder
Susan Kunz & t. kay Estes	Ward VI City Council Office

Leave Your Legacy: Remember NS/S in Your Will

Please consider supporting Native Seed/SEARCH by including us in your estate planning. A planned gift will continue your legacy and further NS/S's efforts to conserve the agricultural heritage of this region. If you would like to learn more about how to designate NS/S in your will, please contact Julie Evans at jevans@nativeseeds.org or 520.622.0830.

From our friends...

NS/S friends are widespread around the globe. Our website has tracked log-ins from visitors in countries as far away as the Czech Republic, Vietnam, Liberia, Mexico, Greece, Singapore, Dominican Republic, India, Argentina, Ireland, and Taiwan.

Thank you for sharing the following with us:

In October, Food Conspiracy Co-op held our most successful membership drive in recent history. As an incentive for new members to join, we pledged to donate \$5 to a local non-profit for every new member we signed up. Twenty-three new members selected Native Seeds/SEARCH as their favorite non-profit on our list. This check is evidence of the important work you are doing in this community.

*Tori Ligon, Outreach Coordinator,
Food Conspiracy Co-op, Tucson AZ*

Thank you very much for your generous donation of seeds to the City High Garden. Because of you, the students are planting fall and winter crops! Thanks for all you do.

*Angela Bennett-Castle, AmeriCorps Volunteer
City High School, Tucson AZ*

Last week I served my annual 'Indigenous foods' feast to my botany lab classes after we watched the classic NOVA program, *Seeds of Tomorrow*, featuring a very young Gary Nabhan seeking out tepary beans in really dry terrain. We enjoyed your blue-speckled teparies, cornbread made with your blue cornmeal, and chili chocolate brownies. One of the satisfied eaters asked: "How did you make these beans? I don't think I've ever eaten beans by themselves before, only in chili." This from a college senior, so I figured the investment of time and effort was worthwhile! This lab is always a high point of the semester. With gratitude for the work you all do,

*Linda R. Finke, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Biology
Xavier University, Cincinnati OH*

Thank you to everybody at Native Seeds/SEARCH from Sierra Dove for your contribution of seeds for our summer program at the Mescalero Apache Reservation. We appreciate your support.

*Julia Price, Executive Director, Sierra Dove
Mescalero Apache Reservation, Alto NM*

SHARE YOUR EXPERIENCE!

Have you had fun and success growing NS/S seeds? We love hearing your stories and would like to highlight them in our newsletter. Please email your experience and photos to membership@nativeseeds.org



Mescalero Apache children with corn harvested from their summer program.

Volunteer Highlight

Fania Bevill: Unlocking Mysteries

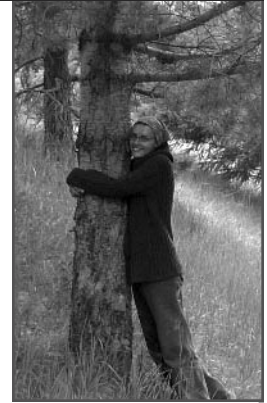
by Jules Richelson,
Volunteer Coordinator

In a few short months, Fania Bevill already has managed to integrate herself into many different roles at Native Seeds/SEARCH. A volunteer since September 2009, Fania dedicates every other Monday to the Seed Bank—processing chilies, conducting germination tests, and providing general assistance. On other days, she's also joined Chris Lowen at the Conservation Farm to put in some hard labor. However, Fania's commitment to NS/S doesn't stop there. Fania was invaluable at the Harvest Fest, setting up tarps, tables, and tossing beans in the air to separate the chafe. She also assisted at the Conservation Center groundbreaking in November. She steps up to any request for help, always sharing a beautiful smile.

Fania's housemate when she was in midwifery school first introduced her to NS/S. "I was amazed by the magical transformation of our dirt 'parking lot' front yard to a wild, lush garden" with seeds ordered from Native Seeds/SEARCH. Fania became a gardener and is learning the ropes of cultivating a Southwestern garden. This past summer she planted popcorn, beans, squash, and wild flowers. Her winter crops include amaranth, arugula, bok choy, garlic, onions, leeks, and flax. In the spring, she'll try tomatoes and cotton. Food autonomy is a significant part of Fania's value system and she believes that it's an essential part of cultural and political sovereignty for many groups of people.

Having survived her first summer in the desert, Fania fell in love with Tucson and calls it a "quirky, laid-back town." She cites the talented artists, musicians, street festivals, and friendly, open-minded residents as her favorite things about the Old Pueblo. Aside from her volunteer work, Fania loves anything to do with food: growing it, cooking it, eating it, or reading about it. She is an outdoors type and often hikes with her field biologist brother to wonderful locations, abundant with wildlife and bikes to work in the accommodating Tucson weather.

Volunteering with NS/S encourages Fania to learn about plants and unlock the mysteries of the seeds that produce them. Thank you, Fania, for sharing your time with NS/S.



NS/S Staff Highlights

Meet 3rd Quarter's 2009 Seed SEARCHers of the Month!

Each month, NS/S employees select one of their peers as the Seed SEARCHer of the Month. This award is presented in recognition of their achievements and accomplishments for the organization. Meet our Seed SEARCHers for the third quarter of 2009.

NS/S staff voted Director of Finance and Operations **Tracey Martineau** as our September 2009 Seed SEARCHer. Tracey moved to Tucson from her native Rhode Island this past summer and quickly became enamored with the combination of mountains and desert landscape. She has been involved in finance and bookkeeping for more than twenty years, much of the time working exclusively with non-profit organizations. The Loft Cinema and Native Seeds/SEARCH are two of the things Tracey loves best about Tucson.



October's Seed SEARCHer was **Kieran Conner**, Retail and Distribution Assistant who packages "thousands of pounds" of product for our store and online sales. Kieran joined NS/S in December 2008 and spends her days at our retail store breaking down "big bags of seeds into little bags." Much more complicated than that, Kieran oversees volunteers who help repackage beans, chilies, and other products for distribution and sale. Originally from Virginia, Kieran

has lived in Tucson for almost twenty years. She cites gardening, urban farming, cooking, and hiking as her favorite pastime activities.

Development Director **Julie Evans** was the November Seed SEARCHer. She holds a Master's of Social Work and has an extensive background in non-profit work. Julie began volunteering with NS/S in 2003 and became a staff member in 2004. One of her favorite responsibilities is building relations with the community, donors, and other like-minded organizations. When not on the job, Julie can be found playing ultimate frisbee, hiking, or enjoying a plate of delicious food.



NS/S named Membership & Events Coordinator **Suzanne Jameson** as December's Seed SEARCHer. A native Tucsonan, Suzanne has a BA and a MFA from the University of Arizona. Suzanne loves animals of all kinds, warm summer days, and writing fiction. This is Suzanne's second award.



On the Road with Alex: Building Partnerships with Native American Communities

For more than twenty-five years, Native Seeds/SEARCH has worked with Indigenous farmers, gardeners, and community organizations to conserve agricultural diversity within the Southwest U.S. and northwest Mexico. During the next twenty-five years, we look forward to building upon these relationships and developing new ones with Native American communities in order to make a greater impact within the geographical region.

We are proud to announce, and extend our sincere gratitude to, the following members of our newly created advisory panel to assist staff and the Board's Native American Committee in our efforts to assess our work with Native communities. Our ultimate goal is to develop a Code of Ethics that describes how we approach working with Indigenous communities, as well as policies on intellectual property rights (IPR) and benefits sharing. The Advisory Panel includes:

☛ **Paul Buseck** — *Coordinator of Tohono O'odham Community College Sustainable Agriculture Program*

☛ **Joe Graham** — *Director of the Indian Resource Development Program at New Mexico State University, from Pueblo of Laguna*

☛ **Robert Hershey** — *Director of Clinical Education for the University of Arizona Indigenous Peoples Law and Policy Program*

☛ **Vincent Knight** — *Attorney*

☛ **Ed Mendoza** — *Traditional Native American Farmer and educator*

☛ **Felipe Molina** — *Former NS/S Education staff member, Yoeme cultural consultant, and TUSD educator*

☛ **Rebecca Tsosie** — *Executive Director for the Indian Legal Program in the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law at Arizona State University*

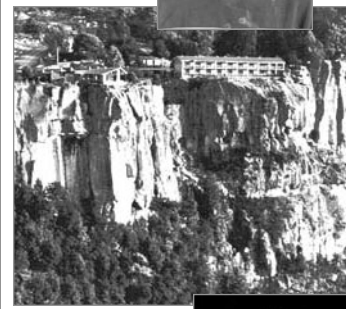
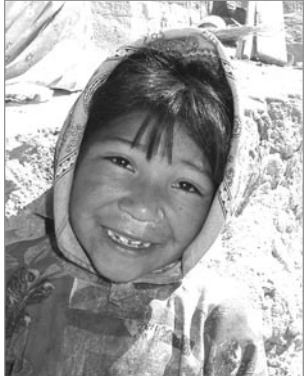
In addition, we seek to learn from stakeholders who receive NS/S seeds, or have interactions with NS/S. We're in the process of creating a series of community dialogues that will help us understand these issues in a more meaningful way than what we could learn by a formal survey. **Stay tuned for more.**

Alex Sando, NS/S Native American Program Coordinator, travels primarily in Arizona and New Mexico and occasionally to Mexico visiting farmers with small family gardens, community gardens, and larger scale farms. On the Road with Alex is a regular feature in Seedhead News.

Tour the famous Copper Canyon with NS/S founders: Cultural anthropologist Dr. Barney T. Burns and Mahina Drees



April 17–25, 2010
Reserving now...
Don't miss it!



Copper Canyon: Land of the Tarahumara

Copper Canyon in Mexico's northern Sierra Madre is known for its vast breathtaking beauty, rugged canyons, impressive railroad and for the people who call it home, the Tarahumara. You may have *been* to Copper Canyon before, but you don't *know* the place and its people until you've traveled there with Dr. Barney T. Burns, who, with Mahina Drees, has worked and traded with the Tarahumara for more than three decades.

This unique learning vacation begins in Tucson as we board our rolling classroom, a luxury U.S. motorcoach, to travel the scenic route between Tucson and El Fuerte, Sinaloa. En route, we'll overnight on the Sea of Cortez at San Carlos, Sonora. That world-class train ride will take us up into the Sierra Madre, where we'll overnight *right at* canyon's edge! Then enjoy three nights at Creel, where we'll venture out to Tarahumara villages and discuss NS/S projects. Our coach will meet us again at Creel and return us to Tucson along the east side of the Sierra Madre, via Casas Grandes. Barney will discuss the Tarahumara culture in detail, plus the Yaqui, Mayo, Mennonite and Mormon people as we pass through Sonora, Sinaloa, and Chihuahua. You will be *amazed* by Barney's knowledge of Apache history in Mexico! What sets this program apart is the quality of your learning experience, Barney and Mahina's personal connection with this land and its people, and the professionalism and affability of our leaders and interpreters. *Don't miss this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity!*

Features:

- Eight nights of comfortable hotel accommodations
- Roundtrip from Tucson in luxury U.S. motor coach rolling classroom
- Train and local transportation in Copper Canyon
- Many enjoyable meals included
- Tarahumara, Yaqui and Mayo cultural anthropology
- Apache, Mormon, and Mennonite history in Chihuahua
- Archaeological tour of Paquime ruins and museum
- Outstanding* shopping for quality folk arts and crafts
- Support for Native Seeds/SEARCH

The cost of \$3395 per person, double occupancy, includes your \$500 donation to NS/S.

Reserve Now!

Send your \$300 per person deposit, with name, address and phone of each participant to: Baja's Frontier Tours, 6060 E. Calle Ojos Verde, Tucson AZ 85750

Questions and/or Brochure:

Call Mary & Piet Van de Mark in Tucson: 520.887.2340.
Outside Arizona, call 800.726.7231 or email piet@bajasfrontiertours.com
For more information, visit www.bajasfrontiertours.com

To Contact NS/S Staff

Conservation 520.881.4804

Director of Conservation Suzanne Nelson

Curator of Collections Chris Schmidt

Collections Manager Lindsay Werth

Seed Distribution Coordinator

Dawna Gravely

Farm Operations Technician

Benito Gutierrez

Field Coordinator Chris Lowen

Conservation Assistant Ashlie West

Native American Program Coordinator

Alex Sando

Distribution 520.622.5561

Director of Distribution J.P. Wilhite

Distribution Coordinator Betsy Armstrong

Retail Assistants Vivian MacKinnon, Kieran

Connor, Jerry Morgan

Administration 520.622.0830

Executive Director Bryn Jones

Director of Finance & Operations

Tracey Martineau

Director of Development Julie Evans

Membership & Events Coordinator

Suzanne Jameson

Volunteer Coordinator Jules Richelson

Administrative Assistant

Maureen Moynihan

Accounting Intern Kadeon Thomas

Donate Online

Now it's even easier to support Native Seeds/SEARCH on our secure website!

Visit www.nativeseeds.org, click on *Support* and select how you'd like to make a donation. We count on your ongoing support to ensure the precious agrobiodiversity of the Southwestern U.S. and northwest Mexico given to us by past generations remains available to current and future generations. Email donate@nativeseeds.org if you need assistance. *Thank you!*

News & Notes

Welcome!

We are pleased to welcome **Dawna Gravely** as our new Seed Distribution Coordinator. Dawna will work at the Sylvester House and with store staff to process orders for seed, assist with germination testing, and coordinate with volunteers.

NS/S is pleased to introduce our two new board members, **Sage Goodwin** and **Don Luria**, both of whom bring essential skills and backgrounds to our organization.

Sage Goodwin combines his experience and education in cultural anthropology, permaculture, and ethnomusicology and explains his desire to work with NS/S in this way: "Seeds are treasures that came about through an intimacy with the natural world and local context. They are gifts of nature and people. The seeds are a distillation of a relationship to nature and place and history and their stories are enfolded in them. Their stories are rich, their stories bring sanity to our world, nourishment to our bodies, homes, and communities." Sage has traveled extensively throughout Western Europe, Mexico, India, Nepal, Costa Rica, and Mongolia.

Don Luria may be new to the NS/S board, but certainly not to Tucson. Don is the former owner of Café Terra Cotta, and the founder of the Tucson Culinary Festival. He serves as Vice President of Slow Food Arizona and as a board member of the Local First Arizona Foundation. Don's humanitarian awards and honors are many and include UApresents Philanthropist of the Year Award in 1999, one of the 2001 Father's of the Year, and Arizona Theatre Company's Georgie Award in 2002 which he shared with his wife Donna Nordin. In 2004, the Scottsdale Center for the Arts presented Don with their first lifetime achievement award.

Wishlist *Please call 520.622.0830 for details*

Paper cutter with 24" blade

Three computers less than two years old (2.5 GHz CPU, minimum of 1 GB RAM, 80 GB hard drive, Ethernet port) with either Windows XP or Windows version 7 operating system

Three 17" LCD monitors

Wireless broadband (Wi-Fi) router

2005 or newer 4-wheel drive, high-clearance SUV (Nissan Xterra or Pathfinder, Isuzu Trooper or Rodeo, Toyota 4-Runner or Land Cruiser) with low mileage and in good condition

We Were Recognized!

The *Tucson Weekly* ran a story on October 29, 2009, as a feature in their YUM food issue entitled "Native Flavor: Local Heritage Foods are Making a Well-Deserved — and Delicious — Comeback." You can read it online at www.tucsonweekly.com/tucson/native-flavor/Content?oid=1497579

Find us on Facebook!

Become a fan and learn about upcoming events and view photos from recent events.

Going Greener

If you want to receive this newsletter electronically, please send your email address with *Newsletter Request* in the subject line to membership@nativeseeds.org and go green!



Native Seeds/SEARCH
 220 E. Sixth Street
 Tucson, Arizona 85705

Non Profit Org
 US Postage
 PAID
 Tucson, AZ
 Permit #2157

We're Moving!
In-Store Coupon

Members receive **15% discount**

Non-members receive **10% discount**

Only valid after
March 1, 2010* at
 3061 N. Campbell Avenue
 Tucson AZ 85719

*Visit www.nativeseeds.org
 for Opening Date details!
 NO OTHER DISCOUNTS APPLY



After twelve years on Fourth Ave, we're moving our store to 3601 N. Campbell Ave, just south of Ft. Lowell. We hope you'll enjoy the ample parking, high visibility, and wonderful opportunities the new location offers.

We can't wait to move (sometime in January) and look forward to showing you our new home. Watch for news on our website www.nativeseeds.org, our Facebook page, or by snail mail. Come visit us!

And don't worry, the location may change, but the hours and all your favorite NS/S products will remain the same:

Monday–Wednesday, 10am–5pm
Thursday–Saturday, 10am–6pm
and Sunday, 12–4pm

Plus, we're still available at 520.622.5561, info@nativeseeds.org or www.nativeseeds.org

Shop at our store or online for seeds, indigenous arts & crafts, books on southwest gardening, cookbooks, chiles, and more!

We're Moving!

Coming Up
in 2010

January 23
Cooking with Chiltepins Class

January 29
 Volunteer Appreciation
 Breakfast

March 7
 Flavors of the Desert
Spring (dates TBD)
 Spring Plant Sale **and**
 Vermiculture Workshop **and**
 Phoenix Meet & Greet **and**
 Picnic in the Park

June (dates TBD)
 New Conservation Center
 Ribbon-Cutting Celebration
and San Juan's Day
 Celebration

October (dates TBD)
 Harvest Fest **and** 14th Harvest
 Dinner at Janos Restaurant