

Manzanita

Newsletter of the Kane County Chapter
of the Utah Native Plant Society

February 2007 News



February Meeting: Monday, 12 February - Plant Propagation Workshop – Cheryl Decker (horticulturist and restoration biologist for Zion National Park) and Holly Beck (botanist for Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument) will lead hands-on workshop on growing native plants from southern Utah and the western US. Cheryl and Holly will discuss and demonstrate techniques for successfully germinating seeds. Participants will be able to plant their own seeds or those we have provided (see list below) in soil media and starter pots that we have available. There is no charge for the program, though we are asking for a voluntary contribution of \$5 to help defray costs of seed, soil, and pots. The workshop is free and open to the public, though we ask that you rsvp with Jana de Peyer (jana@bestfriends.org) so we can get an idea of how much material to provide. The workshop will be held at 7 PM in the public meeting room of the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument visitor center, located on scenic highway 89 east of downtown Kanab, between Walker's truck stop and the Holiday Inn.

We have seed available for the following species: fourwing saltbush (*Atriplex canescens*), green-eyes (*Berlandiera lyrata*), sacred datura (*Datura meteloides*), blanketflower (*Gaillardia pulchella*), tufted evening-primrose (*Oenothera cespitosa*), Hooker's evening-primrose (*Oe. elata*), pale evening-primrose (*Oe. pallida*), sand dropseed (*Sporobolus airoides* var. *wrightii*), spiderwort (*Tradescantia occidentalis*), and at least one mystery *Penstemon*. If you have extra seed to share, please bring it!

Upcoming: Our March speaker will be the ever-popular Carolyn Z. Shelton who will entertain us with a talk about creating a personal nature journal. This meeting will be on Monday, 12 March at 7 PM in the public meeting room of the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument visitor center.

Cedar Breaks National Monument is currently planning its second annual wildflower festival for late June or early July (depending on snowfall levels on Cedar Mountain). Festival organizers are seeking plant-savvy individuals to help lead one-hour wildflower hikes to observe the floral displays. If you would like to help out, contact Doug Reynolds at pinyon51@yahoo.com.

January Meeting Recap: Becky Mann of the USGS-Biological Resources Division (stationed here in the Queen City of Kane County) entertained a throng of 20+ with a discussion of techniques and case studies of plant monitoring in Chicago and southern Utah.

This edition of Manzanita was written by Walter Fertig and Carolyn Shelton. Reader submissions are always welcome. For more information on upcoming events, contact Walt Fertig at 689-0224 or walt@kanab.net. Chapter events and an archive of past Manzanita newsletters are also posted on the Utah Native Plant Society website at www.unps.org