

Remembering "Obie" By Cullen Hallmark



Obie in May 2014 moving rocks that would form the foundation for the volunteer-supported cactus garden at the Eldorado Community Center | Photo by J.E. Newman

I met Obie in 2014 when I was an intern, and I have a very clear memory of our first meeting. I was born and raised in the Southwest, and the deserts of West Texas and New Mexico were my childhood playground. When Obie opened his mouth, New York came bursting out. I remember wondering how anyone with an accent like that could possibly know anything about cactus. But I kept listening, and I'm glad that I did.

Obie's enthusiasm for cactus was infectious. He would describe taking a prickly pear pad, sailing it out into his yard like a frisbee, and checking it months later to see whether it had grown roots. He would be delighted if it had. Not exactly a conventional horticultural technique. Obie freely admitted that he didn't like to grow cactus from seed (it took too long). Instead, he wanted those cactus patches to grow big and menacing as quickly as possible. This was possible partly because Obie had figured out that he could create a win-win situation by rescuing plants from a developer's bulldozer, by pruning them, and by giving them away.

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Save the Date!

Join the Johnson County Master Gardener Program and Kansas State University Research & Extension for the [2023 International Master Gardener Conference](#). [Click here](#) to check out concurrent sessions.

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Did you know?

You don't have to be a Master Gardener to receive our newsletter. If you know someone who might like to receive the newsletter, let them know they can subscribe at no cost and view past issues online [here](#).

Our Mission

Santa Fe Extension Master Gardeners is a nonprofit volunteer organization whose mission is to learn, teach and promote locally sustainable gardening through reliable, current research-based practices.

sfemg.org

SFEMG is one of more than a dozen county-based Master Gardener programs run under the auspices of New Mexico State University's College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences.

aces.nmsu.edu

NMSU is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer and educator.

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From the desk of
Tom Dominguez, Director
Santa Fe County Cooperative Extension Service

Happy New Year everyone! I hope to share a few words of encouragement and let you all in on some new happenings here in and around our office. First, here at the Extension office we began the new year with new initiatives to rekindle our relationships and partnerships within the community, county and city.

Through recent reassignments, promotions and resignations we have experienced a bit of a changing of the guard here at the Santa Fe County Cooperative Extension Service. I have been named county director, and along with this change in title, I am now tasked with supervising all project areas including the Master Gardener program; 4-H youth programming in agriculture, family and consumer sciences, and leadership; our adult family consumer sciences programming; and our esteemed Ideas for Cooking and Nutrition (ICAN) program – plus my usual responsibilities in agriculture and natural resources education.

We are currently in the process of filling the two administrative positions and have conducted interviews for a new family consumer sciences adult educator. We've also received approval to fill our 4-H youth leadership and agriculture programming agent position. Whew! Up until now it's been a lot of filling in to help fill the gaps. Just because we have vacancies doesn't mean the job responsibilities stopped. I'm not sure if my promotion merits congratulations or condolences, but I feel confident that 2023 finds us in a much better position than in the past. Our sincere gratitude goes out to all our volunteers in the 4-H youth and Master Gardener programs. Without you, many of our programming and educational initiatives would fall by the wayside.

As mentioned, my new year will be focused on renewing our presence among our many stakeholders, constituents, partners, nonprofits, nongovernmental agencies, County Commission and any other organizations we need to reach out to for carrying out NMSU's land-grant university mission of outreach education. We hope that you will help us in this effort as well as helping us identify those groups we have mistakenly missed reaching in the past.

As for the Master Gardener program, I would like to congratulate Lynda Garvin, who recently was named NMSU's new Master Gardener state coordinator. Lynda has extensive experience in horticulture sciences and volunteer management and has served at various times as the extension agent for Sandoval and Valencia counties. She even spent time as a Peace Corps

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volunteer in her early years. Lynda has been instrumental in bringing the statewide Master Gardener program into the age of technology and accessibility. NMSU's comprehensive 15-week Master Gardener internship program, which focuses on research-based content, is now conducted primarily online. Thank you, Lynda, for accomplishing this monumental task.

On to the SFEMG. I would like to thank all our members, project leaders and board members – past and present – for leading such an exceptional group of volunteers and seeing us through a new age of programming. We can all agree that the last couple of years have seemed a bit hectic and without direction at times, but because of your collective understanding and flexibility, foresight and stability, we have weathered the storm and now continue in a direction with purpose, drive and focus. Many thanks to all of you for your persistence. The Extension Master Gardeners program is the better for it as are NMSU and the many partners and organizations we serve.

Again, hope your holidays were restful and blessed with family and friends. We look forward to seeing and serving you in the new year and as always, my door and mind remain open to you and your ideas and suggestions. See you all in this new year!

2023 SFEMG Volunteer Requirements and Contributions 10 CE | 14 OS | 6 PE

Under guidelines set forth by NMSU and the SFEMG, all Master Gardeners are required to complete at least 30 hours of volunteer service in their respective communities each year to maintain their credentials. This includes 10 hours of continuing education (CE), 14 hours of operational support (OS) and 6 hours of public education (PE). Interns are required to successfully complete the educational requirements of the SFEMG training program as well as the required 20 OS and PE hours before becoming Master Gardeners.

There currently are 146 Master Gardeners in the SFEMG along with 52 individuals taking part in the 2023 internship program. If all complete the required minimum number of hours by the end of the calendar year, these individuals will have donated more than 5,400 volunteer hours to Santa Fe County this year. That's quite something when you consider that as of April 2022, the organization [Independent Sector](#) valued each hour of volunteer labor at \$29.95!

More importantly, the SFEMG enhances local gardening practices by sharing research- and experience-based knowledge specific to Santa Fe's arid, high-altitude environment.

Note to our interns and Master Gardeners: Remember to report your hours in Track It Forward to ensure your eligibility to become Master Gardeners and to retain that certification in future years. Keep posting, even after you've completed the requirements. By doing so, you are helping to demonstrate the SFEMG's value to the community.





A Message from SFEMG Board President Anne Rivas

I'd like to begin by thanking Wendy Wilson for serving as the SFEMG board president and steering the organization through three very challenging years. As president she often went above and beyond, taking on additional responsibilities as necessary and being an effective ambassador to the community. Wendy, we salute you.

I am honored to be the new board president, having served as board secretary last year. Though I was considering running for president in another couple of years, the opportunity presented itself earlier than I had planned, and I am grateful. I am still a newcomer to Santa Fe and have lived here only about four years. I've been a Master Gardener since 2021.

I gardened and composted in the Midwest for over 40 years. In 2009 I moved next door to a Master Gardener and was blown away by her gardens, her planting process and her kindness in sharing her knowledge (and her plants). It wasn't until I retired and moved here that I was able to take the SFEMG intern course and become a Master Gardener myself. Gardening in Santa Fe presents unique challenges, as the environment ranges from forest to arid plain.

Having observed several different boards throughout my working life, I believe the first priority of any board is to discern the vision of the organization through communication with its membership. This vision will drive how we carry out the mission of education that we signed up for when we took the intern course through the NMSU Cooperative Extension Service. We have a working board, which means board members take on administrative tasks necessary to the day-to-day functioning of the organization. We are all volunteers.

I'm particularly looking forward to working with Cyd Strickland, our new intern coordinator. She, too, graduated from the Master Gardener training program in 2021. She is a 26-year New Mexico resident and lives among ponderosa pines in Pecos, near La Cueva Canyon. Her greatest challenge has been cultivating tomatoes in a mixed shade environment.

As the new SFEMG president, I'm eager to work with our dedicated member-volunteers; Tom Dominguez, recently promoted to director of the Santa Fe County Cooperative Extension Service; and other colleagues at NMSU. With the help of our dedicated membership, Tom and others, it is my hope that we can continue to build on our solid mission of research-based education and strengthen our community outreach.

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It is well known that Obie had a soft spot in his heart for the Santa Fe Cholla, a local endangered species. He wasn't alone. What made Obie, Joe and Nancy stand out was the hard work that they did in order to save the last of these plants. When Cactus Rescue Project made a presentation, Obie was the showman (with that unforgettable accent). Joe was in the background, taking lots of photos. Nancy could be even more inconspicuous, but her contribution was also unmistakable. Together, they made quite the team. They taught people how to recognize the cactus, they provided cuttings and advice, and they took steps to see that the cholla would be re-established in widely separated places. This made it less likely that a disease, bad weather or bad luck would eliminate them from the earth.

An astounding number of local cactus gardens are here because of Obie, Joe, Nancy and the Cactus Rescue Project. One of those is the garden that I manage near the Santa Fe Cooperative Extension Service office on Rodeo Road. Frequently, people will come up to me and ask if I knew Obie. I've always been delighted to say that I do. We will miss him.

John "Obie" Oberhausen June 13, 1959 - December 24, 2022

John "Obie" Oberhausen – perhaps best known to the Santa Fe gardening community as one of founders of the Cactus Rescue Project – passed away Dec. 24 at his home after a long battle with cancer. He was 63.

A Long Island native, Obie retired from the Navy as a chief petty officer after 20 years of service. Upon his retirement, he hiked all 2,000 miles of the Appalachian Trail and landed in northwest New Mexico while hiking the Continental Divide. He worked as a caretaker for a retreat in Cuba before meeting his wife, Nancy Lehrhaupt, at a sweat lodge in Nambé. The couple married during a major thunderstorm in 2013 at Hyde Memorial State Park.

Obie is survived by his wife and best friend Joe Newman, both co-founders of the Cactus Rescue Project; sons, David and Michael Oberhausen; daughter-in-law Jacquelyn; grandsons Lincoln, Lucas and Samuel; and siblings Hank, Billy, Patty and Kurt, and their families.

Obie was known for his generous, outgoing nature as well as the organizational skills that inspired a legion of followers to employ cold-hardy cacti in their own gardens to conserve precious water. The Cactus Rescue Project initially was launched in 2002 to raise awareness about the [Endangered Santa Fe cholla](#) (*Cylindropuntia viridiflora*), a rare cactus found only in the wild in three areas between Santa Fe and Chimayo. Obie has been credited for dedicating more than two decades on preserving the plant and helping to ensure that it did not become extinct.

The organization expanded its work to promote the use of cacti as a plant of choice in xeric gardens in and around Santa Fe. Working with dozens of volunteers, Obie helped create and establish cactus demonstration gardens like those found in Eldorado, the Santa Fe Institute, the New Mexico Wildlife Center, Habitat for Humanity, the Santa Fe Water Conservation District Office and a special installation at the Christus St. Vincent Regional Cancer Center on Zia Road where Obie was a patient, volunteer and employee.

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Obie was featured as one of the “People We Love” in the April/May 2017 issue of the now-defunct *Santa Fean* magazine. The piece discussed his work with the Cactus Rescue Project but also his important work as a massage therapist at Christus St. Vincent Regional Medical Center, where he provided foot massage and reflexology for cancer patients receiving treatment and awaiting surgery. The magazine’s editors concluded: “Whether gingerly pruning a spiky claret cup cactus or easing a patient’s fears through a simple foot rub, Oberhausen is clearly a man meant to work with his hands. And Santa Fe is a better place for it.”

The Cactus Rescue Project will host a celebration of Obie’s life on June 4 when the cacti are blooming at the Eldorado Community Center, one of the largest community volunteer cactus gardens in New Mexico. Keep an eye on the [organization’s Facebook page](#) for more information. Those unfamiliar with the organization may want to listen to the Nov. 12, 2022, edition of *The Garden Journal* radio show featuring host Alexa Bradford’s discussion with volunteer Catherine Williamson. The [30-minute broadcast](#) covers the history and evolution of the Cactus Rescue Project, its demonstration gardens and current projects.

“The Cactus Rescue Project remains committed to continuing the important work of preventing the extinction of the Santa Fe Cholla and promoting cactus as a xeric alternative in the drought prone southwest,” Nancy says.

Those wishing to honor Obie can donate to the Cancer Foundation for New Mexico, P.O. Box 5038, Santa Fe, NM 87502. – KH



From left to right: Obie Oberhausen, Catherine Williamson, Nancy Lehrhaupt and Rande and Jeff Cross
Photo by J.E. Newman

In Praise of Seeds

Story and photo by Peggy Rudberg

We collect or buy them, put them in the ground, tend them and call ourselves gardeners or farmers, but really it is the seeds themselves that do most of the work. From the origin of life on a dynamic watery Earth over 3 billion years ago, one single cell of green algae somehow acquired the ability to photosynthesize, leading to the evolution of the first plant. About 450 million years ago (mya) plants moved to Earth's newly emerging rocky crust. Today land plants represent 80 percent of the planet's biomass.



Seeds come in all sizes, from dust seeds of orchids weighing a few micrograms to the largest known seed, the palm Coco de Mer (*Lodoicea maldivica*), that weighs up to 40 pounds.

To see inside a seed, divide the two halves of a hulled peanut. Nestled in the endosperm you can see the embryo with the root forming at the bottom and two leaf shoots (peanuts are dicotyledons) at the top. The endosperm of stored energy is what makes peanuts and other seeds good food sources.

Primitive land plants proliferated using spores, tiny units of themselves released by the mother plant. While spore-reproducing plants, such as ferns, exist today they still only produce clones.

The precise development and stages of evolution are complex and uncertain, but some land plants came up with an intricate reproductive cycle to create separate female and male cells with different genes. When these combine they create a unique entity, able to respond to shifting environments.

The first seed-bearing plants appeared 360 mya. Eggs and sperm originally were exposed, thus gymnosperms, from Greek *gymnos* (naked), and were located at tips of branches and on leaf margins. Around 140 mya, due to continuing improvements in plant reproductive systems, angiosperms, from Greek *angio* (case or vessel), emerged with an ovule surrounding the egg and pollen holding sperm cells. When fertilized the ovule develops into a seed.

Seeds, which are embryos inside protective seed coats, are the most common method of plant reproduction. Most seeds store proteins and carbohydrates in an endosperm to provide energy during germination and stamina to remain dormant until the seed senses that

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conditions are appropriate for survival. When conditions are met, germination begins; water is absorbed, the embryo begins growth and a leaf shoot and root emerge. In Siberia in 2012 the frozen seeds of a native plant, *Silene stenophylla*, were uncovered and determined by radiocarbon dating to be 32,000 years old. Its tissue was successfully germinated and able to reproduce.

The evolutionary innovations of plants to improve the scattering of fertilized seeds have resulted in an amazing variety of strategies to give plants more mobility. Seeds built like helicopters (elm trees) or parachutes (dandelions) expand wind's dispersal capability. Seeds that are buoyant or water resistant can float to new locations. Some plants such as marsh marigolds use rain to open and flush out their seed cups.

Dwarf mistletoes (*Arceuthobium* spp.) self propel their seeds. Water pressure is built up in its fruit to the point of explosion at the slightest disturbance, sending seeds for distances up to 50 feet at 60 mph.

And, of course, angiosperms have created appealing fruits and colorful flowers to attract pollinators who often fortuitously act as seed carriers.

When the first *Homo sapiens* evolved around 300,000 years ago the plant kingdom was already flourishing. Indications are that some 23,000 years ago, sedentary peoples began experimenting with cultivation. Thus began a relationship that would enable humans to dominate the Earth.

References:

Andersen, Robert A. and Ralph A. Lewin. "[Algae: Reproduction and Life Histories.](#)" Britannica.

Kessler, Rob, and Wolfgang Stuppy. *Seeds: time capsules of life*. Buffalo, NY: Firefly Books, 2006.

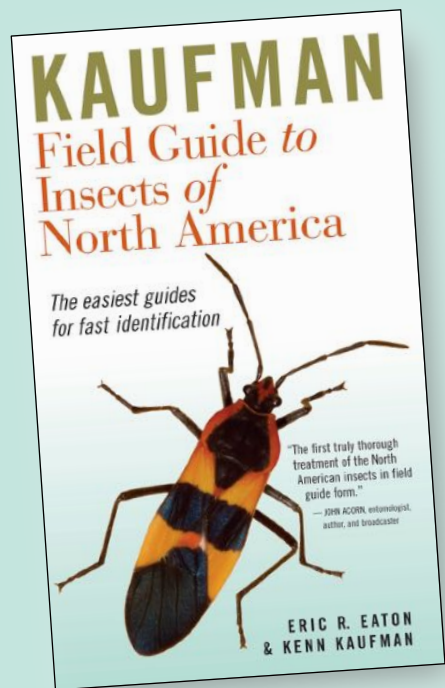
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"A cactus is a desert's rose."

— Matshona Dhliwayo, a Zimbabwean-born and Canadian-based philosopher, entrepreneur and author.



A Book Review

By Pam Wolfe

What do you look for in a field guide? That it be light enough to actually carry into the field? That it provide both scientific and common names? That it have a clear image of everything you're likely to encounter? Given that there are more than 90,000 species of insects in North America alone, no single volume will be all encompassing; complete and compact are mutually exclusive. However, the promotional blurb for this compact field guide boasts "more than 2,350 images based on photos by more than 120 top photographers." The book won me over when on a preliminary search I looked for a dozen of my recently collected species and found them all nicely illustrated with a brief narrative on lifestyle.

All odd pages consist of full-color photos and include one species with a silhouette at its actual size; the remainder are in correct relative scale. Some photo pages are devoted to adults, but others, for example Lady Beetles on page 157, include all life stages – eggs, larva and pupa, along with nine adult species.

The narratives accompanying each order, genus and species are well written and dense with useful information on the animals' habits and habitats that will help the beginning enthusiast not only to identify the insects found but also to find interesting insects. We discover that "tiger beetles work mostly days, ground beetles the graveyard shift", "The Checkered Beetles (family Cleridae) are agile predators of other insects. Some are important pollinators", and the endangered American Burying Beetle has been found "only in a few sites in Oklahoma, Arkansas, Kansas and Rhode Island."

The 15-page introduction takes the reader on a whirlwind tour of the basics including two full pages devoted to insect anatomy and one full page to conservation. The paragraph on insect photography delivers this delightful bit of advice for fast-moving animals: "most of them will slow down if they're cold. A number of the individuals pictured in this guide spent a few minutes in KK's refrigerator before being photographed ... and released outdoors." This practical information is immediately followed by a suggestion you check with whomever you share a refrigerator before trying this at home.

The introductory material includes this succinct definition of IPM (Integrated Pest Management): it is "both a philosophy and a strategic action plan for solving the dilemma of troublesome species." The narratives are dense with information on how these animals make a living in their various stages of development, fascinating on its own, but vital to practical management of troublesome insect populations. A section on beneficial insects cites their environmental services, medical uses and the inspiration they provide.

Kaufman acknowledges that professional entomologists have their own technical references, and "this book is for everyone else." Overall, the guide focuses on observable behaviors and features that can be seen with the naked eye. Kaufman and Eaton encourage us to look.

For in-depth articles on insects visit [Eric Eaton's blog](#).



Scrub Oak (*Quercus turbinella*)

By Mark Chalfant



Courtesy Sue Carnahan,
Seinet portal network CC BY-SA

Scrub oak is a white oak native to the American Southwest, including northern New Mexico. Valued as a keystone* pollinator-friendly plant, it is considered the hardest of all oaks. Commonly called scrub oak, *Quercus turbinella* is also called encino, gray oak, shrub oak, shrub live oak, Sonoran scrub oak, turbinella oak, and turbinella. Beautiful specimens may be found at the [Santa Fe Botanical Garden](#).

The genus, *Quercus*, means “oak” in Latin. The species epithet, “turbinella,” is attributed to the word, “turbinanta,” which, in its diminutive form, means shaped like a spinning top, referring to the acorn.

In the November 2022 issue of this newsletter we featured the Gambel oak and pointed out that Douglas W. Tallamy has singled out oaks as the most productive genus of trees in 84 percent of American counties, which is almost every county in which they grow. No other genus supports so much life. An impressive 187 species of butterflies and moths use oaks as a caterpillar host plant in Santa Fe County’s ecoregion. Oaks are an ecologically important species throughout their range, providing habitat, cover and food for numerous wildlife and insect species. [Southwest Desert Flora](#) reports that shrub oak is of special value to native insects; it is a known host for Osler’s oakworm moth (*Anisota osleri*) and Grote’s buckmoth (*Hemileuca grotei*).

* The National Wildlife Federation’s online [Native Plant Finder](#) defines keystone plants as those that are native to an ecoregion and host large numbers of butterfly and moth larvae.

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Landscape use: Scrub oak is an attractive species suitable for planting in cold, dry areas and is well adapted to arid hillside habitat. The attractive holly-like foliage is evergreen in much of its range.

Propagation and care: Scrub oak reproduces vegetatively and rarely from acorns. Colonies form with sprouts from rhizomes. Scrub and Gambel oaks may hybridize in habitats where both grow. There are no serious pest or disease issues.

Plant type: clump-forming shrub or, less commonly, a small tree

Bloom time: March to June with fruiting from July to September

Size: 3-8 feet in height but can reach 15 feet or more

Sun: full sun

Soil and habitat: Dry or moist sandy areas, dry hillsides and mesas. It is found in piñon-juniper woodland and ponderosa pine forest as well as in chaparral and transition areas between grasslands and desert. Tolerates a wide range of soil types, but growth is best on sandy to clay loams with slightly acidic soil.

Water: Low, drought tolerant once established.

USDA zones: 5-8

Elevation: 2,000 to 7,600 feet

Reference:

The Nature of Oaks: The Rich Ecology of Our Most Essential Native Trees, Douglas W. Tallamy (Timber Press, 2021).



Courtesy Wynn Anderson, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center

Calendar

Please read the fine print!

- Master Gardeners must complete 10 hours of continuing education (CE) by Nov. 30 and are encouraged to record CE credit hours in [Track It Forward](#) as soon as possible after completing the activity.
- If there is a dollar sign, there is a fee.
- **Many of these courses require pre-registration.**
- The acronym "phc" means Master Gardeners can earn 1 credit hour of continuing education for each hour attended.
- If there are other opportunities, suggestions, or questions please send them to Stephanie Deutsch: deutsch.stephanie@gmail.com

Wednesday, Feb. 1

["Backyard Birds" with Ken Bunkowski](#)

Santa Fe Botanical Garden's Horticulture Happenings series / \$ / 1 CE

Thursday, Feb. 2

[Encouraging Beneficial Insects, Spiders & Mini-Creatures](#)

Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation / 1 CE

Wednesday, Feb. 8

["Blooming Houseplants" with Michael Clark](#)

Santa Fe Botanical Garden's Horticulture Happenings series / \$ / 1 CE

Thursday, Feb. 9

[Pollinator and Beneficial Insect Habitat: Small Urban Farms and Community Spaces](#)

Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation / 1 CE

Tuesday, Feb. 14

["Fossil Plants in New Mexico" with Dr. William DiMichele](#)

Santa Fe Chapter of the New Mexico Native Plant Society / 1 CE

Tuesday, Feb. 14

["Pruning Fruit & Nut Trees" with Dr. Richard Heerema, NMSU Extension Pecan Specialist](#)

NMSU Ready, Set, GROW! webinar series / 1 CE

Thursday, Feb. 23

["An Ode to the Land" with Estudio Ome](#)

New York Botanical Garden 23rd Annual Winter Lecture Series / \$ / 1 CE

Saturday, Feb. 25

["Pruning Basics Workshop" with Director of Horticulture Linda Churchill](#)

Santa Fe Botanical Garden / \$ / 1.5 CE

Tuesday, Feb. 28

["A Rose by Any Name is Easy to Grow" with Bob Pennington](#)

Santa Fe Community College / \$ / 2 CE

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Thursday, March 2

Ecologically-Sound Mosquito Management at Home
Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation / 1 CE

Friday, March 3

2023 Annual Fruit Growers Workshop

NMSU Rio Arriba County Cooperative Extension Service Office in Abiquiu / \$ / 1 phc

Tuesday, March 7

"Gardening Good Enough to Eat" with Bob Pennington
Santa Fe Community College / \$ / 2 CE

Wednesday, March 8

Beaver Reintroduction at Bandelier National Monument (in-person and livestreamed)
Pajarito Environmental Education Center / 1 CE

Saturday, March 11

"Santa Fe Landscaping from the Ground Up" with Tracy Neal (session 1)
Santa Fe Botanical Garden / \$ / 2 CE

Tuesday, March 14

A Brief History of Pines
Santa Fe Chapter of the New Mexico Native Plant Society / 1 CE

Wednesday, March 15

"Seed Propagation, Transplanting, & Seed Storage" with Danise Coon,
Senior Research Specialist, NMSU Chile Pepper Institute
NMSU Ready, Set, GROW! webinar series / 1 CE

Saturday, March 18

"Santa Fe Landscaping from the Ground Up" with Tracy Neal (session 2)
Santa Fe Botanical Garden / \$ / 2 CE

Thursday, March 30

"Respecting the Spirit of Place" with the Harris Bugg Studio
New York Botanical Garden 23rd Annual Winter Lecture Series / \$ / 1 CE

Monday-Thursday, March 27-30

Native Seed Network's
2023 National Native Seed Conference
Cultivating the Restoration Supply Chain
The Westin Alexandria Old Town, Alexandria, VA



Institute for
Applied Ecology

New & Noteworthy

Have you recently read a gardening-related article or book, visited a horticultural website or blog, listened to a podcast, or seen a nature show or documentary you think other gardeners would enjoy or find useful? Send a link to the newsletter (news.sfemg@gmail.com) and we'll try to include the information in the next issue. The articles were published in 2023 unless otherwise indicated. **Note that some of these sources may have paywalls.**

["Five gifts for your garden this winter"](#) by Emeritus Master Gardener Laurie McGrath, shared with permission of *HOME/Santa Fe New Mexican* (Jan. 1)

["Nest Co-Creator Wants You to Pay \\$33 a Month Not to Trash Your Food"](#) by Mark Bergen, *Bloomberg* (Jan. 17)

["If plants are so intelligent, should we stop eating them?"](#) by Emma Beddington, *The Guardian* (Jan. 16)

["Seven gardening trends to change your life"](#) by Louise Curley, *The Sunday Times* (Jan. 15)

["See the Largest Flower Ever Found Encased in Amber"](#) by Jack Tamislea, *Scientific American* (Jan. 12)

["A biotech firm says the U.S. has approved its vaccine for honeybees"](#) by Ayana Archie, *NPR* (Jan. 6)

["The scientific reasons you should resolve to start gardening in 2023"](#) by Lisa Marshall, University of Colorado Boulder (Jan. 5)

["I'm a Garden Editor, and I Know All the Big Trends for 2023"](#) by Deanna Kizis, *Sunset* (Dec. 29, 2022)

["Insects and us: a mind-blowing 20 quadrillion ants and what they mean for the planet"](#) by Anna Turns, *The Guardian* (Dec. 28, 2022)

["8 Houseplant Trends on the Rise in 2023, According to Experts"](#) by Nashia Baker, *Martha Stewart* (Dec. 28, 2022)

["Vertical Farming Has Found Its Fatal Flaw"](#) by Matt Reynolds, *Wired* (Dec. 22, 2022)

["NMSU researchers examine history of chile pepper wilt disease in published paper"](#) by Carlos Carrillo López, NSMU press release (Dec. 21, 2022)

["A Museum of Plants: Centuries of Dried Flora and Fungi at the New York Botanical Garden's Herbarium"](#) by Melissa Ozawa, *Gardenista* (Dec. 21, 2022)

["NMSU's forestry research center picks up after brush with New Mexico's largest wildfire"](#) by Carlos Carrillo López, NSMU press release (Dec. 20, 2022)

["People who made an impact in gardening in 2022"](#) by Christopher Woodward, *Gardens Illustrated* (Dec. 20, 2022)

["Rosemary is the secret to long and healthy hair. Here's how to use it to grow luscious locks."](#) by Helen Bradshaw, *Popular Science* (Dec. 4, 2022)

["Extraordinary close-up images show insects as you've never seen them before"](#) by Nell Lewis, *CNN*, (November 2022)

The Garden Journal Radio Show



Every Saturday
10 to 10:30 a.m. on KSFR 101.1 FM

February 4: Slow Food Santa Fe Outloud Edition

Hosts Lissa Johnson and Nina Rosenberg interview *Feasting Wild* author Gina Rae La Cerva about her food writing workshop, and Slow Food Santa Fe Executive Board Member Ellen Lampert about a Renesan Institute course she is teaching on food and legacy.

February 11: SFEMG Edition

Hosts Christine Salem and Alexa Bradford sit down with Ashlee Wulf with the Institute for Applied Ecology and Gwen Wion with the Southwest Seed Partnership. They will discuss the use of native plants by public and private land managers in land restoration projects, and their organizations' work to collect and grow out native grass and forb seeds to support those efforts.

February 18: Soil Stories Edition with Host Carrie Core

In celebration of Black History Month, this month's Soil Story features the panel discussion following the screening of Shirah Dedman's documentary *Follow the Drinking Gourd* presented by New Mexico Healthy Soil Working Group and Slow Food Santa Fe.

February 25: Home Grown New Mexico Edition

Jannine Cabossel, "The Tomato Lady," shares tips and techniques for backyard vegetable gardening and a to-do list for March. See more at [Giant Veggie Gardener](#).

You can find past episodes of The Garden Journal here at sfemg.org.



We are here to help!

If you have gardening questions,
Santa Fe Extension Master Gardeners
are available to help.

You can pose your questions online [here](#).

We'll do some research and get back to you.