As reported in the previous Seedhead News, the Tarahumara (or Rarámuri) peoples of Mexico’s Sierra Madre region have been facing food shortages after a prolonged drought in combination with unseasonable cold snaps. Native Seeds/SEARCH provided 400 pounds of relief seed to aid Tarahumara farmers whose seed stocks were depleted by the crop failures. Many NS/S members and supporters have generously donated money to support our relief efforts in the Sierra Madre. We are very committed to advancing our work to assist Tarahumara communities in maintaining a sustainable and sovereign agriculture. However, without eyes and ears on the ground in Mexico it is difficult to determine exactly what is needed. Our adventurous Farm Manager Evan Sofro volunteered to spend his winter break exploring the Sierra Madre and visiting with the Tarahumara to understand the current situation and investigate ways NS/S can be of greater help.

The following is an update excerpted from a field report sent by Evan in early January 2013:

Among the pueblos I’ve had the opportunity to visit, the Rarámuri are mostly subsistence farmers (primarily growing food for their families rather than to market), but are better described as campesinos than farmers. Whereas a farmer’s skill set is primarily agricultural production, a campesino is one who lives on and works with the land and is skilled in all fields of work required to maintain a human family.

Rarámuri campesinos are most commonly dryland agriculturalists, planting their crops with the coming of the monsoons in July. Fields are typically plowed by horse and planted with corn, beans and squash (usually each in a separate section of the field), and if seed is available, wheat, sorghum for pasture, peas, garbanzos, fava beans, melon, lentils, tomatoes, etc.

Though I have only spent a month in the Sierra Madre, it has been made very clear that soil degradation, crop pests, diseases, and loss of crop diversity are very real issues. With regards to the soil, the common practice of continually cropping corn or beans year after year in the same field seems to be...
From Our Directors

On January 14th, Native Seeds/SEARCH recognized a momentous occasion: our 30th birthday. The festive event gave us an opportunity to reflect on the journey and legacy of this organization since it began all these years ago. You may know the story. Two of our visionary founders, Gary Paul Nabhan and Mahina Drees, were working on a Meals for Millions project to assist the Tohono O’odham Nation in setting up community gardens. They offered to plant broccoli and radish seeds, but the tribal elders had a different request. “What we are really looking for,” they said, “are the seeds for the foods our grandparents used to grow.”

This revelatory remark inspired the formation of Native Seeds/SEARCH. Together with co-founders Barney Burns and Karen Reichhardt, the quest began to collect and preserve the disappearing crop diversity of the Greater Southwest. Corner Barney or Gary at the next NS/S gathering and you’re liable to hear colorful tales of donkey rides through Sonora on a hunt for the elusive Panic Grass (once thought to be extinct) or some rare and ancient chile pepper. Through their adventures, and because of their incredible foresight to find and save these disappearing seeds, our priceless collection came to be.

We have a remarkable story. But what is just as extraordinary is the story unfolding right now. Around the world, a profound change is taking place. Perceptions are shifting and entire communities are waking up to the vital importance of locally adapted food systems. Take for example the University of Montana, which just crossed the $1 million mark for purchasing local foods to supply their campus-wide food services. In Boulder County, Colorado the Local Food Shift campaign is working to transition 25% of their food economy to locally grown crops over the next decade. Perhaps most inspirational is the Bauta Family Initiative, a seed security effort just launched in Canada that is building a truly impressive network of regional seed systems across the country fueled by a $5 million infusion of funding.

This is not an isolated movement; it is taking off globally. We just hosted our first official National Seed School at the University of Montana. Thirty-nine students packed the classroom, completely lit up about seed saving and biodiversity. Like many of the now more than 250 Seed School graduates, they will go on to create bioregional seed companies, start local seed libraries, and found community seed banks. The potential impacts from this work are huge, and this is just the beginning.

For 30 years, Native Seeds/SEARCH has been dedicated to preserving and sharing the traditional crop diversity of our abundant Southwestern region. Now people everywhere are looking to us as a model of regional seed sovereignty. The tide is turning. The seeds of a diverse and sustainable new world are sprouting before our eyes. As always, we are deeply appreciative for your continued support in making this vibrant new world a reality.

Bill McDorman, Executive Director

Belle Starr, Deputy Director
NS/S Salons Move to Conservation Center

With so many visionary and sustainably minded people in our Tucson community, it’s no wonder that our monthly Salon series has been such a success. Featuring talks on everything from fermentation to wildflowers, these free gatherings offer a chance for Tucsonans to explore fascinating ideas while networking with their neighbors and new friends.

As the Salons have grown more popular, they’ve also outgrown the cozy space in our Retail Store. So in 2013, we have begun hosting the Salons at our beautiful Conservation Center off River Road. The series will continue to be held on the third Monday of the month at the new time of 6-8 pm. Come see what all the buzz is about! Join us for an evening of mind-watering ideas at the next NS/S Salon.

Don’t Miss These Upcoming Salons!

March 18  Garlic, the People’s Medicine  
with John Slattery — Desert Tortoise Botanicals

April 15  Pima 60-day Corn — Demo and Tasting  
with Ramona Farms

Feast Your Eyes!
The 2013 NS/S Catalog is Here

It’s a new year, which means gardeners everywhere are beginning to plan their spring plantings. But before you start plotting, make sure you’ve dug deep into the latest Native Seeds/SEARCH seed listing. Page after page of rare and remarkable heirlooms await you in this lush, full-color catalog featuring traditional Southwestern varieties available nowhere else. From a rainbow of native beans, corn, and squash to popular garden veggies like the delectable Red Cored Chantenay carrot, the selection we offer is beyond compare. Visit our website (nativeseeds.org) to order a printed copy or download it as a PDF. Happy growing!

There are hundreds more seed varieties and food products available. Our website has a full listing — nativeseeds.org.
taking its toll on soil health. Campesinos are most commonly addressing this issue by introducing chemical fertilizer to their practice, which has created a widespread dependence on external inputs. As crop health is in decline, a number of agricultural pests and diseases are on the rise, and so, too, is the use of chemical fumigation for their control. This increase in the use of agricultural chemicals is creating an increasingly less productive dependence on industrial chemicals that is wreaking havoc on the health of the soil, the campesino communities, and the quality of their produce.

In order to reintegrate sustainable agricultural practices among the campesinos of the Sierra Madre, it seems most appropriate to discover what has changed in the practices that have sustained the Rarámuri for at least 400 years. I have been fortunate enough to meet a number of campesinos that maintain a sustainable practice and have not succumbed to the temptation of yield increase through chemical use.

The 2012 growing season marked the first year in the last five where the rains returned in a quantity for a sufficient dryland harvest. However, with the long-awaited rains came plagues of insects that devastated many campesino bean fields, marking for some the fifth consecutive year of insufficient harvest. Many a campesino would tell me that they had “no harvest” when in fact they had some, but it was in quantities that were seemingly insignificant to them. Still, these insignificant harvests have become the seed stock for the following year. Unfortunately, there have been many complete crop failures, which has led not only to shortages of food, but also to the loss of crucial seed stocks.

During my time here I’ve spoken in depth with at least 25 different campesinos both from the upland and lowland regions in ten different pueblos. It is from these conversations that I base the following observations.

All campesinos I have spoken with have land that is ready to plant. With many having lost their seed stocks, they look to neighbors and the government for seed to plant. More so than a lack of seed, the issue here is a lack of diversity among crop varieties. And more problematic than the lack of diversity is the overall lack of access to the diversity that exists. On one end of a pueblo, a campesino will tell me that he lost a variety of cow peas, common beans, or corn, and that no one around has any. Yet on the other end of the pueblo, or in another nearby, I’ll find a campesino that does. Most campesinos travel very little; some venture to the next pueblo over, but rarely farther.

In the short time I’ve spent in the Sierras, it has been made clear that a wide diversity of crop varieties still exist, but most campesinos are restricted to those varieties that have survived the droughts in their own pueblos. Unlike most campesinos, I (or another who could be funded to make the trips) have the opportunity to travel pueblo to pueblo and investigate the crop diversity available. By this approach, it could be determined what varieties are being grown and which campesinos have sufficient quantities to share or sell. With many successful harvests this year, the time is ripe for a “seed search” of sorts to collect and document the many regionally adapted varieties that exist in the Sierra Madre.

A potential project worth exploring would be the establishment of a seed lending initiative to distribute this important seed diversity among the campesinos throughout the region.

**

Thanks to Evan for this illuminating report. We will use this information to develop future projects to aid Tarahumara communities and ensure that their traditional farming practices and unique crop diversity live on. Please considering donating to our Tarahumara efforts online: nativeseeds.org.
Volunteer Salute

Meet Susan Andersen and Bob Fernandez

Native Seeds/SEARCH has a knack for attracting some colorful characters. Our star volunteers Susan Andersen and Bob Fernandez are no exceptions. Sit down with them as they pack seeds in the NS/S Conservation Center and you’re liable to be regaled with stories of how they once took first prize at a Denver costume party by painting themselves from head-to-toe in abstract representations of local dignitaries and waterways. Exciting? For sure! A bit unconventional? Perhaps. But off-the-beaten-path seems to be par for the course for these two extraordinary humans.

Married for 34 years, Bob and Susan met while working in a Houston hospital where he was a general surgeon, and she, a registered nurse. Little did they know they would be embarking on a lifelong journey that would span the globe and eventually land them in our quirky desert burg of Tucson. The pair had known of Native Seeds/SEARCH for years through Susan’s sister, a plant pathologist and Tucsonan who would regularly send gifts of seeds, beans, and bake mixes from her favorite local nonprofit.

Susan began volunteering four years ago at the old NS/S retail store location on 4th Avenue. After a brief hiatus, she returned—this time with her husband in tow. “I missed her,” offers Bob with a smile. “We make a good team. There are some things she’s better at than I am, and she explains things to me that I don’t understand.” Now an integral part of the NS/S operations, Bob has found his niche as a “premier heat sealer” for the bulk products packed by volunteer extraordinaire Sam Michael. For her part, Susan enjoys seed packaging the most. “I love having my hands in the seeds and learning about them from reading the packets,” she says.

Now retired, Bob and Susan are enjoying the simple pleasures of life: desert hikes, quality time with family, and sunny bike rides to Native Seeds/SEARCH every Tuesday morning. Everyone at NS/S hugely appreciates their dedication and upbeat energy. In our eyes, they are an indispensable part of the team. And of course, they are on top of our guest list for all future costume parties!

Want to Volunteer with NS/S? Visit our website for details or contact our Volunteer Coordinator: volunteer@nativeseeds.org, 520.622.0830 x107.

Celebrating 30 Years of Diversity with NS/S

Happy birthday to us! That’s right—Native Seeds/SEARCH turns 30 this year. It’s been an incredible journey these past three decades, and we’re thrilled to say that the organization is stronger than ever. To commemorate this momentous occasion and our remarkable legacy, we’re cooking up a plan to invite some friends over for an intimate soiree. Full details will be announced in the coming weeks. We would love to celebrate this milestone with you under the stars in our beautiful Conservation Center and newly renovated courtyard.

Here’s to another 30!
Program Accomplishments (October 1, 2011 — September 30, 2012)

The past year has been a very busy time at Native Seeds/SEARCH with many exciting accomplishments to note. From our pioneering Seed School courses to the incredible work happening on our Conservation Farm, NS/S is making great strides in our mission to conserve, share, and educate people about the unique crop diversity of the arid Southwest. Your dedicated support has made these impressive achievements possible. Thank you!

Conservation

The 2012 growout on our Conservation Farm in Patagonia, Arizona was an ambitious endeavor with over 100 accessions regenerated, involving massive amounts of hand-pollination and documentation. Yet thanks to the commendable efforts of our farm staff, this year’s growout was an overall success. Between the regenerations, growing several dozen additional varieties for seed distribution and/or evaluation, experimentation with new cover crop varieties, special projects and research collaborations, the farm has been a place of constant and exciting activities.

The first season of our residential farm internship program contributed greatly to this success with 5 farm apprentices spending an average of five months living and working on-site. Their assistance was indispensable for our growout during the labor-intensive pollination season. In return, they gained a wealth of experience in all the processes and techniques at play in native crop conservation, from seed to seed. Their enthusiasm for this work infused the organization with an inspiring energy while establishing a welcome sense of community at the Farm and in the small town of Patagonia.

Reorganization of our seed bank collection has been taking place over the past year to improve its security and accessibility. Many of the 20,000 samples in the collection have been processed, with the remainder to be completed during 2013.

Distribution

Our Native American Free Seed Program continues to grow. We provided more than 5,000 packets of seed to Native American gardeners, farmers, and community projects in the Southwestern United States. Additionally, our Community Seed Grant Program saw increased activity in 2012. Over the past year, the program distributed 1,086 seed packets to 56 organizations working to enhance food security, nutrition, education or community development in the Southwest region. Some of these organizations include: Zuni Youth Enrichment Project, Summit KinderGarden, Oracle State Park, Hopi Tutskwa Permaculture, La Mujer Obrera, Rio Salado Seedshed Library, and Pistor Middle School.

Colorful new seed packet designs and heritage and heirloom garden seeds were added to our distribution offerings this the past year. Both were well received, and net distribution income increased 5.6% overall for the year. New energy and offerings in our retail store helped increase its sales more than 5.8%. Beginning in September 2012, we began developing a new wholesale program. We now service 5 wholesale accounts for seed and 3 for food. This includes Phoenix-area retailers such as Root Phoenix and with local Tucson retailers Harlow Gardens and Civano Nursery. We are excited to announce the addition of 6 Whole Foods stores across Tucson and Phoenix as new outlets for Native Seeds/SEARCH seeds as well.
**Education/Outreach**

Foremost among our accomplishments in education has been the success of our pioneering Seed School training courses. We are endlessly inspired and encouraged by the praise this groundbreaking program has been garnering from students, as well as by the amazing projects they go on to launch. Over the last year, we held six sessions of Seed School including a Seed Keepers (Native American Seed School), graduating more than 90 students from across the Southwest and as far away as Norway. We are thrilled to begin taking this course into a national focus in the next year under the guidance of our new Director of National Seed School and Special Projects, Joy Hought. As this information reaches more people, awareness of and support for our work at NS/S grows exponentially.

Our popular series of monthly Salons regularly drew packed crowds at our Retail Store throughout the year. Due to its growing popularity, the Salon series has been moved to the NS/S Conservation Center to accommodate more people. NS/S kept an active schedule of public events for outreach and education throughout the year and a variety of workshops and special events.

**Volunteers**

Our amazing and dedicated community of volunteers is an indispensable part of our organization. Over 3,800 hours of volunteer time were logged during this past fiscal year, nearly the equivalent of two full-time employees. This puts us in good standing with funding sources that are always interested in the ways we engage with the community. Volunteers contributed to the following areas: agricultural (farm), bulk packaging, grants support, outreach and events, seed packaging, data and administration.

**FY 2012, October 1, 2011 — September 30, 2012**

**EXPENSES**
- Administration, development, volunteers — 20%
- Distribution — 31%
- Conservation, education, memberships — 49%

**REVENUE**
- Distribution — 36%
- Grants — 24%
- Direct program contributions, memberships, events, realized assets — 40%
Thank You For Your Support!

Many thanks to all our members and friends for your commitment to Native Seeds/SEARCH. You make our work and accomplishments possible. All donations and memberships listed were received between October 1, 2011 and September 30, 2012. Close to 1,800 supporters made gifts under $100. We wish we had the space to acknowledge each one of you, and we deeply appreciate your contributions.

Many people donated to a fund to beautify the courtyard at the NS/S Conservation Center in memory of Marci Donaldson, a dedicated volunteer who sadly passed away last June. While there are too many contributors to list here, we thank you all for your generous and thoughtful gifts. We are touched and invite everyone to visit the Conservation Center courtyard improvements thanks to Marci’s family and friends.

$25,000 and up
Claniel Foundation
CS Fund/Warsh-Mott Legacy
Lillian Goldman Charitable Trust
Steve Leuthold Family Foundation

$10,000-24,999
Anonymous (1)
Arizona Community Foundation
Southwestern Foundation

$5,000-9,999
Desert Diamond Casino & Entertainment
Tom & Candace Grogan
Bess Spiva Timmons Foundation
Village by Village
Janos & Rebecca Wilder

$1,000-4,999
Anonymous (2)
Anson Mills
Barney T. Burns & Mahina Drees
Dora & Barry Bursey
Barney T. Burns & Mahina Drees
Anson Mills
Anonymous (2)

$500-999
Allan Adler
Judith Adler
Joan Armon
David Ayers
C Diane Bell
Patricia Bender
Aleta & Daniel Bloch
John & Patty Brissenden
Anne & Arthur Britt
Arch & Laura Brown
Martha Burgess
Jim Burke & Marian Weaver
Margaret Gay Chanler
Anita Francesca Claverie
Community Food Bank of Southern Arizona
Christine Conte
Eugene Cordes
Jacob Cowgill
Colleen Crambo
Cindy Daniel
Lyle & Vera Dethlefsen
Dr. Frances & Paul Dickman
Mary Dwan
Nancy Evans
Kim & Celestino Fernandez
R.D. Folk & Cynthia Lasko
Linda & Wally & Aaron Goodwillie
Mary & Dennis Gregory
Gene Gumfory
Diana Hadley & Peter Warshall
Trisha Hageman
Martin Hjortso
Danielle Ignace
Gary & Mary Irish
George Jacques
Frederick & Gayle Jandrey
Allan Jones
Meg Keoppen
Dianne Knickerbocker
Sharon Leopardi
Sefra Alexandra Levin

$250-499
Anonymous (1)
Kathy Altman & Ivy Schwartz
Cynthia Andrews
Donald Armstrong
Betsy Armstrong
Keith Ashley
David & Julie Bernard
Barbara & William Bickel
Kerstin Block
Elaine Bolding
Peter Bretting & Kim Lewers
John & Pat Case
William & Sheila Chambers
Geoffrey Clark & Barbara Stark
Patricia & Brian Climer
Barbara Coon
Charles Corfield
Steve Cover
Will Creach
Kevin Dahl & Barbara Miller
Nina & Tim Daldup
Allazondra Dancingwind & Clark Smith
Barbara Donaldson
Cristal Edmunds
Keith & Bonnie Elder
Tres English & Paula Schlusberg
Bette & Gerard Ervin
Larry Evers & Barbara Grygutis
Hayley Fisher
Stephen Fletcher
Rosemarie Font
William & Beth Freeman
Anna Fulton
Robert Garner & Robin Beresford
Ann Gibson
William Gillespie
Martin Goldberg & Nina d’Ambra
Angelica Gomez
Neil & Margo Goodwin
Judith Gray
Bob Gresham
Camille Habermacher
Karen Halderson
Steven Harrison
Loren & Janet Haury
Lisa Hawkins
Linda & Dave Heisley
Jesse Hersh
Elizabeth Jo Higgins
Robert Himmerich y Valencia & Eva Valencia de Himmerich
Marsha & David Irwin
Vince & Teresa Issenmann
William & Margarita Joffroy Jr
Ford Johnson
Susan & Albert Johnson
Rob Johnston Jr
Joshua Jones
Valerie Kaplan
Diane Kelly
Carolyn Kendrick & Peter Schmid
Dr. Mikio Kimata
Wendy Kohatsu MD
Delight & Timothy Lane
D. Terence Langendoen & Nancy Kelly
Suzy & Bill Lillis
Roy Loewenstein & Alana Stubbs
Amasa & Gary Louis
Jared Mailet
Georgina Maldonado
Linda Mayo & William H. Hoelle
Michael & DeAnna McDonald
Christina & Doug McVie
Kipp Metzger
Barbara & Floyd H Miller
C Minar
John Mitchell
William Mitchell
Diane Monnier
Davey Monzon
Janet Moore
Suraya Murray
Elizabeth Naylor
Iris Nussbaum
Alexandra Peot
Reed Peters
Robert Peters
Charles & Pat Pettis
Kenneth Porter
Michael & Linda Powers
Richard Pratt & Lois Grant
Janet & Ted Ranney
Judith Reynolds
Janice Rickert Mueller & John Mueller
Edward Robbins
Leilani Rothrock
Tracey Ryder
David Sarrazin
Ray Sayre
Travis & Leigh Sebera
Erika Seekatz
Stephen Shetron
Bob Skaggs & Kathleen Anderle
Slow Food Phoenix
Jessica Smith
Ann & Larry Smith
Adena Stapen

Big Thanks to Our “Mortgage Lifters”
Who Donated Funds to Support Our Agricultural Conservation Center!

Anonymous (1)
Margaret Gay Chanler
Tom & Candace Grogan
Nancy & Richard Fe Tom

Winter 2013 8 nativeseeds.org
The 39 graduates of Montana Seed School pose for a group photo—our biggest class yet!

Joseph Gelinger
Pei Gepts & Elisabeth Garcia
Andrea Gerlak
Sharon Gilbert
Patricia Gilman & Paul Minnis
Michal Glines & Michael Racy
Goodsearch
Jason & Katherine Grace
Cal & Kerith Graeber
Charles & Mary Graf
Kate Greenberg
Edith Greene
Vicki Greiffl
Charles & Kathleen Grier
Anita Griesenauer
Agnes Grifffen & John Hall
Kurt Griffin & Susan Hoover
Beth Grindell
Brett & Frank Guldseth
Suzanne Haffner
Helen Hakola
David Hall
Connie & Steve Hammond
James & Lucille Harkin
Richard Harle
Patti Harmann
Sally Harris
Roy Harris
Patricia Harrison
Steve & Nina Hatchett
D. Brooke Hatfield
Suzan Hausser
Jeanie Haye & Stanley J Haye
Ann Hedlund & Kit Schweitzer
James Henson
George Heryith
Janine Hembrode
Thomas Hicks
Caye Hill
Barbara & Rodric Himebaugh
Ron Hine
Barbara & Robert Hirni
John Hirschi
Terri Honga
Joan Hood & David Davis
Robert Hopkins
Donna House
Hualapai Cooperative Extension
Christina Husted
Sheila Hutchings
Elaine & Brian Jacobs
Cynthia Jeninek & Charles J. Gulyash
Rosemary Joganic
Darcy Johnson & Ross Schulstad
Melody & Stuart Johnson
Allan Johnson II
Larry Jones & Barbara Worthing-Jones
Coby Jordan
Adrienne Joseph
Babette Josephs
Beatrice Kabler
Bruce Kahle
Karen & David Kane
Sall Katz
Roger & Cara Keller
William Kemling
Diane Kent
Beth Kersey
Carlton King
Barbara Kingsolver & Steven Hopp
Clayton Kirking
Dennis Kizerian
Tamara Klein
David & Mary Klein
Sheldon Knapp
Peter & Emily Kohl
Steve Kratochwill
Kathy Kritscher
Bill & Beth Krumbein
Susanne Lane & Yahya Sadowski
Barth Larsen
Diane Laush & R J Dummer
Elliot Lunt & Eneida Guerra De Lima
Arline Lemesheswky
Lori Levine & Gary Benna
Phoebe & Jack Lewis
Max & Claire Licher
William Lockwood
K. Tsalina Lomivawama
Marlyn Loveless
Dennis Lubbs
Dominique Lunte
Dr Amy Lyman
Susan Mack & Jake Turin
Kay MacNeil
David Maddison
Bob Maddox & Katie Hirschboeck
Susan Makansk
Beth Malassy & John Chesley
Kim Malcolm
Diana Manning
Kathy Markham
Martha Martin
Scott Mason
Barbara McBride
Valerie McCaffrey
Ella McCulloch
Sallie McCutcheon
Larry & Susan McDonald
Rachel & Justin A. McEldowney
Anastasia McInnis
Juliet McKenna
John & Barbara McLean
Jon McNamara & Emily Mabry
Donna McNamara
Dr Christine Menke
Lauri Merrick & Matt Liebman
Joan Metzger
Tom & Karrie Metzger
Christine Michalowski
Sharon & George Milan
Annette & Paul Miller
Carolyn Miller
Matthew Miner
Barbara & Jeffrey Minker
Elizabeth Mize
Kathleen Mohan
Leone Mohney
Angela Moll
Miriam Moore
continued next page
Naomi Binzen at play in the sunflower patch.

Thank You For Your Support!

Sharon Moore & Larry Pierce
Carol Mullen
Matts Myhrman & Judy Knox
Gary Paul Nabhan & Laurie Monti
Ray & Nancy Nagle
Martha Narro & Bill Montfort
Diego & Elena Navarrette Jr
Kelly Nelson
Brenda Neufeld
Stephanie Nichols-Young & Roger Young
Kurt & Paula Nielsen
Dr Wendell & Rosemary Niemann
Michael Niemann
Jasper & Beth Norris
Fred & Ann Norton
Joyce & Roger Nussbaum
Katharine Olmstead
Karen Osland & Kathy Badrak
Laurinda Oswald
Bill & Carol Owens
Cynthia Owings
Christine Palmer-Persen
Louise & William Pape
Ann Parker & Angelo Joaquín Jr
Allen Parleir & Elia Woods
John Parodi
Robert Patterson & Renee B. Boblette
Joan Peet
Gerald Perry
James Sydney Person
Amy Peters
Irene Peters & Jeff Bursey
Shirley Pfeifer
Claudia Piper
Bruce Plenk & Patti Hartmann
Val & Harry Plummer
Doreen Pollack
Margaret Pope & Norman Epstein
Gayle Potter Basso
Alan Pufahl
Sally Quinby
German & Bea Quiroga
Kathleen Randolph
Lee Read
Raytheon Workplace Giving
Julie Reichert
Robin Reichhardt
Jenny Reid
Marion Reid & Christopher Brooks
Carol & Steve Rhodes
Marcia Ring
Christina Riordan
Anne & Robert Rissi
Pat & Jennifer Roche
Elizabeth Rodríguez
Robert Roemer & Irene Terry
Melanie Rohr
Samuel Rose
H Stewart Ross
Ginette Roth
Thomas Rothe MD
Rebekah Rottenberg
Kimberly Ryan
Diana Sammararo
John & Helen Schaefer
Sue Scheff
Ginny Schnell
Scott Schoneman
Kathryn Schrag
Larry Schramm
Kay & Paul Schulz
Eugene Schupp & Janis Boettinger
Rebecca Schwendler
Cynthia Scott
Helen Scully
Sear Family Foundation
John Seeger
Greg & Alice Seymour
Karen Shafer
Ben Shalant
Michael Shearer
Lois & Richard Shelton
Lisa & Catlow Shipek
Allison & Everett Shock
Terry Shreve
Melissa Shuck
Belisario Silva
Rosemary & J R Simek
Robert & Helga Small
Susan Small
Randall Smith
Norman Smith
Linda & Dennis Smith
Jarra Sofro
Claude Souquet
Claire Steigerwald
Barbara Straub
Juliet Stromberg & Matthew Chew
Patricia Stubblefield
Ariel Swartley
Alma Sychuk
Donna Tang
Laura Tanzer
Peter & Catherine Taylor
Steve Thompson
Molly Thoron-Duran
Mike & Julie Toepper
Hagin Tom
Martin Torch MD
Robbie Townsend-Vennel
Thomas & Jacquelyn Tucker
Marie Tymrak
Janice & Rick Ulrich
United States Bureau of Reclamation -Denver
Amy Unthank
Ross Vail
Carla Van West & Roger Irwin
Nancy VanDyke
Dana Vincil
Gwinn & Patricia Vivian
Stephanie Wacha
J Giles Waines
David & Kay Walters
Lea Ward
Henry Ware
Brent Warner & Cristina Doria-Warner
Patricia Waterfall
Wilhelmina & Harold K. Watkins
Bonnie Welton
Anita Wederich
Karen Wetherell
Elizabeth Wheat & Eric Scharf
Nancy White
Wayne & Bernice Wiegel
Karen Wiley & Wm R Astle
Kathleen Williams
Dwight Williams
Pamela Wilson
Ervin Wilson
James & Bonnie Winn
Lawrence Winship
Michael & Devera Witkin
Nina Woessner
Ann Marie Wolf & Jack Perchorovicz
Vicki & Gerry Wolfe
Barbara Wood
John Wood & Shirley Powell
Margaret & Michael Woodhouse
Constance & Jeffrey Woodman
Mary Wright
Michael Yeatts & Nina Swidler
Ann Youberg Czaja & Robert Czaja
Russ & April Young
Jesse Zoernig & Cecile McKee

Many Thanks to Those Who Donated Goods or Services

Acacia
Susan Andersen & Robert Fernandez
Anson Mills
Arizona Opera
Barrio Bread Co.
Bob & Barbara Betchter
BICAS
Bookmans
Sue Ann Breems
Martha Burgess
Barney T. Burns & Mahina Drees
Cave Creek Ranch
Jim Daly
Donna DeConcini

Downtown Kitchen + Cocktails
Desert Leaf
Nancy Evans
Kim & Celestino Fernandez
Tony Foster
Pam Harris
Sharon Harris
Hayden Mills
Joy Hought
Jay Kittie
Kuumba Made
KXCI
Feliciano Leon
Linda McKittrick
Mohr Creations
Gary Paul Nabhan
Ogden Publishing
Robert Oser
Moria Peters
Precipice Development
Brent Ransom
Renee’s Organic Oven
Rincon Farms Inc
F Peter Rose
Vita Rose
Mike Sadler
Coya Silverlake
Sonoran Glass Art Academy
Belle Starr
Lily Steirer

Sweetgrass Ceremonies
Janet Taylor
Tohono Chul
Tucson Audubon Society
Tucson Tamale Co.
John Villinski
Dr Ronald Austin Wells & Dr Karen Jambeck
Western National Parks Assoc.
Wild Bird Store
Janos & Rebecca Wilder
Louise Winchester
Glenda Zahner

Winter 2013 10
nativeseeds.org
News and Notes

Welcomes and Farewells

It is our pleasure to welcome several new individuals to our illustrious board of directors. **Cynthia Anson** joins us after a distinguished legal career here in Tucson. She previously sat on the board of directors for the Community Food Bank of Southern Arizona and is a strong advocate in the local and sustainable food movement. Cynthia is the program manager for Tumamoc: People and Habitats, University of Arizona College of Sciences. We are honored to have her with us.

As a former Executive Director, **Kevin Dahl** is no stranger to NS/S. He has been a staunch supporter of the organization for many years and now is program manager for the National Parks Conservation Association. Kevin was instrumental in landing us our new Conservation Center and we’re thrilled to have him back in our midst as a director.

**Christopher Fullerton** has a diverse and varied background in water policy, historic preservation and law. We couldn’t help but notice Christopher and his passion for NS/S when he started showing up at all our Salons and events. We are excited to have him on the board.

We are also pleased to welcome our friend and colleague **Greg Peterson** to the NS/S board. Greg is renowned throughout Phoenix as the owner of the Urban Farm, a model permaculture homestead in the city, alongside his newest venture, Root Phoenix. He is an inspired educator on sustainability at ASU and other venues, and he will be an incredible asset to NS/S.

**Joy Hought** joins the NS/S staff as our new Director of National Seed School and Special Projects. Joy has a unique combination of expertise in arts and sciences education and a graduate degree in seed science and crop genetic conservation that makes her an ideal candidate for this position. She has taken the lead in preparing our Seed School curriculum for its national rollout and will be directing this inspiring program as it tours the country.

Welcome to our new Retail and Distribution Assistant **Sheryl Joy**. Sheryl brings with her many years of experience working in the nonprofit sector. A recent Tucson transplant from Minnesota, she is providing amazing support to the organization—and happily soaking up the desert sun! We’re thrilled to have her on the team.

We are pleased to welcome our new Retail Assistant **Liz Fairchild** to NS/S. Liz has an impressive and diverse background in environmental science and biology. She is sure to have much knowledge and insight to share with our visitors at the Retail Store.

We were sad to say farewell to board member and treasurer **Michael McDonald**. Michael is a longtime and very active supporter of NS/S, having once served as Executive Director. His contributions to the organization are too numerous to count. Thank you, Michael, for all you do. We wish you the best!

We also recently said goodbye to our Farm Assistant **Scott Caruso** who has moved on to other pastures. Scott brought a bright energy and a wealth of ideas and know-how to our Conservation Farm over the past year. Thank you, Scott!

It is with a heavy heart that we say goodbye to our friend **Karolyn Kendrick**, who sadly passed away on Thanksgiving Day. Karolyn was a passionate conservationist and lover of the Sonoran desert. She worked closely with the Arizona Native Plant Society and served as editor of our own Seedhead News in the early 1990s. Our thoughts are with Karolyn’s family and loved ones. She will be greatly missed.

Find us on Facebook and Sign Up for Our Elerts

The multitudes are growing who recognize the value of great food and the seeds and culture that make it happen. We keep you up to date on all our activities, trainings, Salons and volunteer opportunities with our Facebook updates, our monthly Elerts, and at our website (nativeseeds.org).
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.