

2017  
SPRING/SUMMER

# DESERT CORNER JOURNAL

TOHONO CHUL'S NEWSLETTER



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**Tohono Chul**  
GARDENS • GALLERIES • BISTRO





l'm a: *Penstemon triflorus*



l'm a: *Penstemon palmeri*



l'm a: *Zauschneria californica*

## MORE THAN JUST PECULIAR PLANTS

FRI JULY 28 | 3-7 P.M. & SAT JULY 29 | 8 A.M.-1 P.M.

**Free admission during the sale!**

This annual plant sale is not like others as you get to meet local growers and nationally-renowned plant experts! Close to thirty vendors and experts fill the gardens with their plants and garden ornaments. In addition to more plants than you know what to do with, there is also a variety of presentations on plant care, plant species, and water conservation.

There is a lot of discussion about reduced water use, and while water conservation is good it is not to be construed with “don’t plant anything”. There are a lot of wonderful plants that are very low water use and still put on quite a show. Don’t forget drought tolerant shrubs provide screening and habitat for wildlife which is always a treat to watch.

## GET TO KNOW YOUR PENSTEMONS!

Penstemons, sometimes called beardtongue, are a favorite of gardeners. Its 275 species were widely cultivated on both sides of the Atlantic ever since scientists first described them in 1748.

In the Sonoran Desert, native penstemons are also the favorite of hummingbirds and have evolved to appeal to their sensibilities. Long, tubular flowers are made to fit a hummingbird’s long beak and tongue, and coincidentally, the flowers come in a range of hummingbird-approved colors—just so long as it is red!

As proponents of drought tolerant and wildlife friendly landscaping, Tohono Chul has dedicated an entire garden to one of the the most visually and environmentally appealing genera viable in the Sonoran Desert, the Penstemon.





Christopher Allison | Nocturnal Sonoran Star, Tucson, AZ | modified photographic print



Noreen Simplico | Olla with Pueblo | polychrome ceramic



Jeffrey Dacosta | Parcel 5 | photographic print



Amanda Rohrbach | Fire Above and Below | photographic print on aluminum



Tom Baumgartner | Cereus Lunix | offset print

## EXHIBITIONS 2017

### ARIZONA ABSTRACT

APRIL 27 – AUGUST 13 | MAIN GALLERY

A visual document concerned with the true essence of the abstract elements found in nature and of the abstract ideas developed in the studio. The exhibition celebrates what a phenomenally abstract place Arizona is and the phenomenal abstract artists that live and work here.

Reception with the Artists: Thursday, April 27, 5:30 – 8:00 pm

## PERMANENT COLLECTION |

### NEW PERSPECTIVES III

APRIL 27 – AUGUST 13 | WELCOME GALLERY

The third survey of objects from Tohono Chul's Permanent Collection curated by Tohono Chul's valued Docents and Volunteers. Serving as Guest Curators for 2017 are Olivia Carey, Kate Porter, Martin Randall, and Maya Seraphin.

## JEFFREY DACOSTA | PARCEL

MAY 5 – JUNE 4 | ENTRY GALLERY

The new Entry Gallery Project Space offers Arizona artists an intimate space for cohesive projects. The Parcel series is an exploration of the ethereal meaning of land and the significance of its purposed designation and control.

## ART DU JOUR:

## AMANDA ROHRBACH

MAY 18 – SEPTEMBER 7 | THE GARDEN BISTRO

Rohrbach is a Tucson native who grew up admiring the Arizona skies. This lifelong passion inspired her to study Astronomy and Physics at The University of Arizona, and she now works to capture the beauty and wonder of those skies in her photography.

Reception with the Artists: Thursday, May 18, 5:30 – 8:00 pm

## QUEEN OF THE NIGHT |

### CELEBRATING BLOOM NIGHT

JUNE 9 – JULY 23 | ENTRY GALLERY

Bloom Night is coming! To celebrate the beloved *Peniocereus greggii* or night-blooming cereus, an exhibition in the Entry Gallery will feature the Queen of the Night in all her glory. The exhibit will include objects from Tohono Chul's permanent collection in addition to artwork by talented regional artists.





## YOU--ON A MISSION!

You make Tohono Chul alive, vibrant and firmly rooted in a mission that becomes more real, dynamic and impactful because of you.

As the New Year dawns, I want to thank you. Your interest, engagement and investment are pivotal. As a volunteer, member, monthly donor, annual giver, or Wilson Legacy Society member... you ensure success!

The mission of Tohono Chul is to enrich people's lives by connecting them with the wonders of nature, art and culture in the Sonoran Desert region and inspiring wise stewardship of the natural world.

You fuel this mission. You sustain the people, programs and plants. You enrich lives. You connect others with wonders and you inspire care of the planet.

So, thank YOU! Part of the joy of this work is philanthropy. You have engaged in an increasingly generous way. You enable critical maintenance, daily operation and brand new projects and programs!

My hope is that you feel the joy you create. Your investment of time, talent and treasure is well invested here. Take a moment to stroll down the paths. Take a deep breath and feel all that you create.

You and I are stewards of this place we call Tohono Chul. I join you in giving generously of my time and money. Like you, I believe in Tohono Chul, I support Tohono Chul, and I am deeply grateful for all you do!

Thank you! You are on a mission!

Christine Conte, Executive Director

## THE ENDOWMENT FOR TOHONO CHUL

The Board of Directors of Tohono Chul recently created The Endowment for Tohono Chul. This new fund is a permanent "savings account." Your gifts to the fund are held and invested. Then, each year, a payout from the corpus supports the needs of Tohono Chul. This endowment is critical to the long-term health, success and sustainability of Tohono Chul.

## WILSON LEGACY SOCIETY

The Wilson Legacy Society is named in honor of Dick and Jean Wilson who created Tohono Chul with a gift of their home and property 30 years ago. The society celebrates those who are leaving estate gifts to Tohono Chul. You can make similar arrangements and be a member of the Society as well. For more information, please visit [tohonochul.org/planned-giving](http://tohonochul.org/planned-giving) or contact Carol Dimit in the Philanthropy office at [cdimit@tohonochul.org](mailto:cdimit@tohonochul.org) or 520-742-6455, ext. 243





## BLOOM WATCH

### THE QUEEN IS COMING

Each year, for one evening only between May and July, Tohono Chul opens its doors to visitors from around the world to experience the majestic mass blooming of the Queen of the Night, the night-blooming cereus *Peniocereus greggii*. The Queen of the Night is here in abundance as Tohono Chul is home to the world's largest collection.

Bloom Night will be here before you know it, but be sure to stay in the loop by signing up for the Bloom Watch email newsletter and by downloading the Tohono Chul iPhone or Android phone app to receive notifications. We may not know the exact date of Bloom Night, but by signing up you'll be the first to know when it's time!

To sign up for notifications visit [bloomwatch.org](http://bloomwatch.org)



## MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH

What better way to celebrate Mother's Day than with Brunch at The Garden Bistro? Enjoy dining indoors or outside in the Hummingbird Garden.

**Sunday | May 14 | 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. \$47.50 per person | \$15.50 children 11 & under | Children under 5 complimentary. Reservations are recommended, please call 520.742.6455 x501.**

## SHARE A SPECIAL DAY WITH MOM AT TOHONO CHUL!

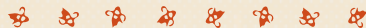
Mothers and Grandmothers receive free admission all day on Sunday, May 14! Make a day of it at Tohono Chul by dining at the Garden Bistro, then explore the gardens, nature trails, museum shops, and art galleries.

## FREE ADMISSION FOR FATHERS AND GRANDFATHERS!

Fathers and Grandfathers receive free admission all day on Sunday, June 18! Take a relaxing stroll through the gardens and spot wildlife on the nature trails. Don't forget to visit the Retail Greenhouse and museum shops.



# WHEN YOU ADOPT-A-BEE...



Hey Todd,  
what do you  
call a wasp?

A wanna-bee!

That's not too  
shab-bee!



HELLO, MY NAME IS  
**JAY POL-LENO**



HELLO, MY NAME IS  
**TODD**

## YOU'LL SNAG AN INVITATION TO OUR POLLINATOR PARTY

**FRIDAY, JUNE 23  
FROM 6 TO 8 P.M.**

Visit your bee, enjoy cocktails, a honey  
bar, & more!

## NATIONAL PUBLIC GARDENS DAY

Enjoy **free admission** into the gardens on  
Friday, May 12 in honor of National Public  
Gardens Day. Take the chance to come out and  
smell the Desert Roses.







## A MONARCH'S 325-MILE ADVENTURE

### A MALE MONARCH BUTTERFLY

was spotted in Palm Desert, California at the Living Desert Zoo and Gardens. This butterfly was tagged by Tohono Chul's own volunteer Pam Olson on November 4, 2016. The 325-mile trip took only three months to complete and was also the first tagged Monarch from Tucson to be seen outside of the state. Go butterfly, go!

This is just one of the many monarchs tagged at Tohono Chul as the gardens became a registered Monarch Way Station in 2015. The trained volunteer team at Tohono Chul tagged 60 Monarchs in 2016, with 47 of them being tagged between October 11 and December 14. Of the 60, 32 Monarchs were caught in the

monarch Way Station located south of the Performance Garden.

What makes Monarchs so special is their annual two-way migration. Some species "overwinter" as caterpillars, pupae or even as adults, but Monarchs cannot live through a cold winter. Travelling as much as 3,000 miles one-way, Monarchs from west of the Rocky Mountains spend the winter along the California coast while those from central North America spend the winter in roosts in the mountains of central Mexico in large colonies of millions of individuals. When spring comes, they head north again, successive generations journeying all the way back to where their "ancestors" started.

You can see the Monarchs flitting about the flowers when you visit Tohono Chul late fall through winter.

For more information on Monarchs visit [tohonochul.org/monarchs](http://tohonochul.org/monarchs)





# Tohono Chul

GARDENS • GALLERIES • BISTRO

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520.742.6455 | WWW.TOHONOUCHUL.ORG

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 friend us on Facebook

 follow us on Twitter

#### Hours:

Grounds & Garden Bistro  
8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Exhibits, Shops & Greenhouse  
9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Closed: New Year's Day, 4th of July, Thanksgiving, Christmas

## 2016 VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR:

### MUSEUM SHOPS:

Michele Dunlap

### GROUNDS/ PROPAGATION/ RETAIL GREENHOUSE:

Peggie Allen

### WELCOME DESK:

Mikki Gries

### EDUCATION:

Kay Jones

### MARKETING:

Sue Hildreth

### LIFE TIME AWARDS:

Kathryn Carpenter

Catharine Curry

### 500 HOURS PINS

Beck, Kathleen 516.58  
Bishop, Ronnie 553.25  
Checkovich, Marianne 660.50  
Crawford, Tom 512.43  
Curry, Catharine 553.50

Davenport, Link 830.00  
Deeney, Raymond 540.00  
Githens, Gail 508.50  
Jones, Kay 542.00  
Ladig, Don 867.02  
Manning, Thomas 523.75  
Matthews, Larry 500.72  
Olson, Pam 675.08  
Prinz, Jane 515.63  
Russell, Carl E. 500.25  
Spikes, Stephen 551.00  
Taylor, Tomi 565.00

### 1000 HOURS PINS

Allen, Peggie 1,115.00  
Barber, Kathleen 1,169.75  
Christenson, Deb 1,101.05  
Forsch, Jennifer 1,045.75  
Hildreth, Susan 1,012.08  
Hutchison, Alice 1,379.00  
Otte, Miriam 1,024.00  
Verbais, Hank 1,071.00

### 1500 HOURS PINS

Akazawa, Crystal 1,524.08  
DeMerritt, Kathy 1,586.43  
Ogier, Sally 1,674.87  
Saccio, Francine 1,512.00

### 2000 HOURS PINS

Bezanson, Liz 2,165.50  
Callahan, Laraine 2,068.75  
Carolus, Barb 2,003.08  
Dunlap, Michele 2,130.50  
Lafayette, Diane 2,102.00  
Porter, Kate 2,368.27

### 2500 HOURS PINS

Bresdin, Cylphine 2,516.98  
Dickey, Del 2,535.00  
Pedersen, Liz 2,663.00  
Vemulapalli, Carolyn 2,508.75

### 3000 HOURS PINS

Franzi, Kathleen 3,173.00  
Honn, Jeanie 3,267.17  
Miller, Paul 3,042.50  
Montgomery, Dorothy 3,082.58

### 3500 HOURS PINS

Allen, Nina Bell 3,545.00  
Johnson, Donald 3,667.00  
Kaufman, Louise 3,583.33

### 4000 HOURS PINS

Harow, Martin 4,300.00  
Pepper, Barbara 4,081.00

### 4500 HOURS PINS

Spitzer, Sarma 4,574.92

### 5500 HOURS PINS

Hartline, Ernie 5,585.00  
Wall, Jane 5,604.25

### 7500 HOURS PINS

Jonaitis, Karen 7,670.40

### 8500 HOURS PINS

Schneider, Arlene 8,577.00



## MAY 2017 EVENTS

Arizona Abstract	Exhibit	Through 13 August	8:00 - 9:30 a.m.
Permanent Collection   New Perspectives III	Exhibit	Through 13 August	10:00 a.m.
Art du Jour: Timothy Schirack	Exhibit	Through 11 May	
Art in the Park	General Tour	Daily	9 a.m.
Birds of Tohono Chul	General Tour	Daily	8 a.m.
Walk in the Park	General Tour	Daily	9 a.m.
Winged Things	Eco Station	1, 8, 15, 22, 29   Mondays	9 - 11 a.m.
Spring into Yoga!	Class	2   Tuesday	8:30 - 9:30 a.m.
Arizona Abstract Curator's Talk	Special Event	2, 4   Tuesday & Thursday	10 a.m.
Stories in the Garden	Specialty Tour	2, 9, 16, 23, 30   Tuesdays	10 a.m.
Wild Woolies	Eco Station	2, 9, 16, 23, 30   Tuesdays	9 - 11 a.m.
Rocks and Ruins	Eco Station	3, 10, 17, 24, 31   Wednesdays	9 - 11 a.m.
Who Eats Whom	Eco Station	4, 11, 18, 25   Thursdays	9 - 11 a.m.
Creepy Crawlies	Eco Station	5, 12, 19, 26   Fridays	9 - 11 a.m.
Reptile Ramble	Specialty Tour	5, 12, 19, 26   Fridays	10 a.m.
Connecting Plants & People	Specialty Tour	6   Saturday	10 a.m.
Butterflies of Tohono Chul	Specialty Tour	6, 13, 20, 27   Saturdays	11 a.m.
Prickly Plants	Eco Station	6, 13, 20, 27   Saturdays	9 - 11 a.m.
FREE ADMISSION! National Public Gardens Day	Special Event	12   Friday	
FREE ADMISSION FOR MOMS! Mother's Day	Special Event	14   Sunday	
Bloom Watch Begins	Special Event	Mid May - July	
Art du Jour: Amanda Rohrbach	Garden Bistro Exhibit	18 May - 7 September	
The Great Xeriscape	Specialty Tour	20   Saturday	10 a.m.

## JUNE 2017 EVENTS

Bloom Watch	Special Event	Through July	
Arizona Abstract	Exhibit	Through 13 August	
Permanent Collection   New Perspectives III	Exhibit	Through 13 August	
Art du Jour: Amanda Rohrbach	Garden Bistro Exhibit	Through 7 September	
Birds of Tohono Chul	General Tour	Daily	8 a.m.
Walk in the Park	General Tour	Daily	9 a.m.
Who Eats Whom	Eco Station	1, 8, 15, 22, 29   Thursdays	9 - 11 a.m.
Creepy Crawlies	Eco Station	2, 9, 16, 23, 30   Fridays	9 - 11 a.m.
Reptile Ramble	Specialty Tour	2, 9, 16, 23, 30   Fridays	10 a.m.



## JUNE 2017 EVENTS

(CONTINUED)

Winged Things	Eco Station	5, 12, 19, 26   Mondays	9 - 11 a.m.
Wild Woolies	Eco Station	6, 13, 20, 27   Tuesdays	9 - 11 a.m.
Rocks and Ruins	Eco Station	7, 14, 21, 28   Wednesdays	9 - 11 a.m.
The Great Xeriscape	Specialty Tour	17   Saturday	10 a.m.
Pollinator Party	Special Event	June 23	6 - 8 p.m.

## JULY 2017 EVENTS

Bloom Watch	Special Event	Through July	
Arizona Abstract	Exhibit	Through 13 August	
Permanent Collection   New Perspectives III	Exhibit	Through 13 August	
Art du Jour: Amanda Rohrbach	Garden Bistro Exhibit	Through 7 September	
Birds of Tohono Chul	General Tour	Daily	8 a.m.
Walk in the Park	General Tour	Daily	9 a.m.
Stories in the Garden	Specialty Tour	4, 11, 18, 25   Tuesdays	10 a.m.
Desert Players	Special Event	8, 22   Saturdays	10 a.m.
The Great Xeriscape	Specialty Tour	15   Saturday	10 a.m.
Monsoon Madness	Plant Sale	28 - 29   Friday & Saturday	3 - 7 p.m. & 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

