

Last chance to register for the Designing Spaces for Outdoor Living workshop. See below and call 432.837.1117 to reserve a space

Native Plant Society of Texas
Big Bend Chapter
January 2008 Newsletter

Looking toward 2008 -

Last year, to mark the fifth anniversary of the Big Bend Chapter, we sent members a list of all the programs from the past five years and asked you to choose your favorites - or the ones you missed - for repeat performances as the 2008 Programs.

On page 2 you will see the programs for this year, and, no doubt, you'll recognize many. We have selected the top nine to be re-presented - sometimes with a twist, sometimes just as they were.

Please look them over and take a moment to mark your date books for these special days. Whether for the first time or as a repeat of a favorite, you'll find nine terrific programs!

Thank you, John Gee -

Many of us have been given the gift to know NPSOT member John Gee who died January 2 at home in Fort Davis with his wife Carol Edwards and his daughter Barbara by his side. Smart, warm, stylish and modest - words to describe this lovely man could go on and on. Here is a brief obituary:

John Prescott Gee, beloved husband and father as well as internationally noted birder, died on January 2, 2008, at his home in Fort Davis, Texas. He was born in San Antonio in 1927 but spent much of his life far from Texas.

He graduated from Princeton University, and, following army service during and after World War II and the Korean War, he worked in petroleum exploration and production in Louisiana, Australia, Africa, Asia, New York and elsewhere. While living abroad and traveling for pleasure, John managed to see over 75% of the birds in the world and as a young man he worked closely with the Louisiana State University Department of Ornithology. He retired and returned to Texas in 1987.

He is survived by his wife, Carol Edwards of Fort Davis, and his three children: Scott Gee, Paauilo, Hawaii; Bill Gee, wife Cindy and grandchildren Logan and Sarah, of Golden, Colorado; and Barbara Gee Trofholtz, husband Mark and grandchildren Megan and Katie, of Estes Park, Colorado. His is also survived by his three sisters and brother-in-law, Margaret Lawes, Dorothy and Ed Cordes, and Cathy Glynn, his aunt Margaret Dealey, cousins, nephews and his much-loved cat Bootsie.

Throughout his lifetime John devoted himself to study and volunteer work in aspects of natural history, especially ornithology and botany, and to conservation and protection of the environment. John was a gracious, kind and gentle man who loved nature, plants and animals. He told fascinating stories of his favorite pets and many trips abroad, birding in such exotic places as Nepal, Viet Nam, South America and India. John served on the boards of several organizations, most recently the Chihuahuan Desert Research Institute (CDRI). He will be greatly missed and fondly remembered by all those who knew him.

A celebration of his life will be scheduled in the near future. Those wishing to do so may make a contribution in his memory to CDRI, P.O. Box 905, Fort Davis, TX. 79734.

Contribute to the NPSOT Newsletter -

If you receive interesting e-mails or online publications that you'd like to share with the NPSOT membership, please forward them to bigbendwoman@sbcglobal.net, and I'll include them as part of the monthly newsletter