

TORREYANA

Published for Members of the Torrey Pines Docent Society, #50, April, '80

NEXT DOCENT MEETING - Saturday morning, April 19, 9:00 A.M. Lodge

CONN QUEST by Martha Conn, President

Thanks, Hank, for the tour through the burned area. Those eight year old Torrey pines are quite hardy. They needed our visit, too.

Thanks also to Julie and Sunny for the delicious cake and fresh fruit. We all need to remember our contributions for coffee and goodies. It is a pleasant ending to our early 9:00 A.M. beginning.

Judy Morrow has found it necessary to resign as Duty Coordinator. Anyone interested should call me at 223-7720. (I won't be sitting by the phone holding my breath, so keep trying, please!)

The California Native Plant Society walked in the Reserve on March 22. Marcie Thorner, a member, and I, a guest, joined them. Any interested folks are welcome, free of charge, on most of their outings. They are scheduled to visit the Vernal Pools on the 12th of April, and Desert Slopes on April 26th.

April 19th will be a day to sort out priorities! Our second training session and meeting date; the state's Volunteer Workshop, and "Day in the Wildwood". I wish I could attend all. What a fine opportunity to brighten one's life.

Interpretive techniques and devices: terrariums, binoculars, hand held exhibits, cameras, arts and crafts demonstrations, archaeological aids; environmental updates. Feed back- written or oral.

Martha

TRAINING SESSIONS START APRIL 12th. SEE PAGE 2 FOR DETAILS

TORREY PINES STATE RESERVE
DOCENT PROGRAM TRAINING SYLLABUS
SPRING 1980

- April 12 Orientation to Docent Program
9:00-9:30 a.m. Welcome - Martha Conn, President, Torrey Pines
Docent Society
Jeff Price, Park Supervisor
- 9:45-10:45 a.m. Geology of San Diego and the Torrey Pines area:
Richard Phillips, Ph.D., University of San Diego
- 10:45-12:00 p.m. Geology on Torrey Pines' trails: Dr. Phillips
- April 19 Vertebrate Biology
9:00-10:00 a.m. Mammals, Reptiles & Amphibians: Faculty, San
Diego State University
- 10:00-12:00 p.m. Field Trip in the Reserve
- April 26 Ornithology
9:00-10:30 a.m. Ornithology: Suzanne Bond, B.S., San Diego
Natural History Museum
- 10:30-12:00 p.m. Bird walk: Suzanne Bond
- May 3 Botany
9:00-10:00 a.m. Botany and Plant Communities: Tom Oberbauer, M.A.,
California Native Plant Society
- 10:00-12:00 p.m. Botany walk: Tom Oberbauer
- May 10 Final Training Session
9:00-10:00 a.m. Audio-Visual Equipment: Docent
10:00 -11:00 a.m. How to Lead a Field Trip: Docent
11:00-12:00 a.m. Evaluation of Docent Training
- May 17 9:00 a.m. Regular Docent Meeting - Welcome to New Docents



I remember an old song which started out, "Spring will be a little late this year." Well, it seems like that around here. We've had 16.33 inches of rain since October 1st. That's a lot for this part of the world, but the first worthwhile downpour didn't come until January 9th.

Most of the flowers that bloomed last month are still with us. I made a fast trip to Razor Point, across to Yucca Point, then to Flat Rock, and back by way of Broken Hill and made a list. Making lists is lots of fun. Reading them is not. It will be a lot more exciting if you turn quickly to Ranger Lunday's story about deermice. Dang! I was going to write one of those!

The list is in the order in which I first saw the plant. For anyone still with me, here goes: Bloodtonic onion, Black sage, Mojave yucca, Rockrose, Red paintbrush, Wartystem ceanothus, Sea dahlia, Bladderpod, Bushrue, Scrub oak, Redberry, Prickly pear, California buckwheat, Blue-eyed grass, Red monkey flower.

Everlasting, Bedstraw, Plantain, Sea fig, Purple nightshade, Wild cucumber, Suncups, Wooly paintbrush, Deerweed, Popcorn flower, Dichelostemma, Fringed gilia, Hottentot fig, Johnny-jump-up, Tread lightly, California groundsel, Toadflax, Pigmy weed, Morning glory, Western Dichondra, Encelia, Sand aster, Heliotrope, California poppy, Saltmarsh daisy, Four o' clocks, Goldfields.

Fuchsia-flowered gooseberry, Shooting star, Jojoba, Mission manzanita, Mountain mahogany, Telegraph weed, Bush poppy, Eastwood manzanita, Biscuit root.

In the North Grove you can see most of these plus Douglas wallflower, White nightshade, Parry larkspur, Tidy tips, Arroyo lupine, Stock and milkmaids.

That's sixty. In case you think I can't count, I didn't tell you there were two Bedstraws.

See! I told you to read about deermice! But it should be fun to make the same trip next month and see how the list changes.

Hank



FROM THE EDITOR

Torrey Pines Docent Society expressed outrage upon hearing the District's decision to discontinue Hank's monthly Trail News: "Notes from the Naturalist". The consensus among docents is that Hank's literary style is refreshing, humorous, informative and interesting- unusual among tons of boring, unread descriptive flyers throughout the park system.

M.H.

Question: What is from 4 to 9 inches long (including the tail), has a color range from pale, grayish buff to deep reddish brown and a tail that is sharply bicolored, white below, dark above?

This animal lives in the ground, in trees, stumps, and very, very well in the Torrey Pines Lodge. It feeds on seeds, nuts, acorns, insects and anything humans eat.

Give up? It is the Peromyscus maniculatus or Deer Mouse. This cute little rodent with big eyes, long ears and an insatiable appetite roams freely in the Torrey Pines Reserve and Lodge.

Since this little rodent does most of its roaming in the night hours, you may never have been able to observe one. On one occasion some of us rangers were sitting in the office talking and several Peromyscus maniculatus ran into the office and then back out when they saw that the giants were still here.

We managed to catch one of these mice live and put it on display in the Lodge one weekend for the public to observe and learn about. It was quite a treat for all of the younger generation.

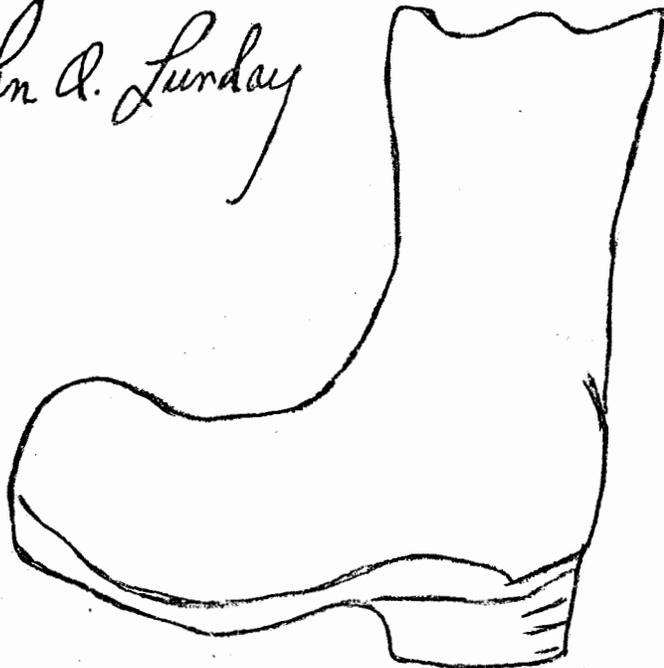
Ranger Price and I were walking the old Rim Trail one day and heard a faint sound that resembled a squeak. We listened for a while to see if we could locate where the sound was coming from, and discovered two baby Deer Mice that had fallen from their nest. We looked around for several minutes to try and locate their nest and mama, but to no avail.

Ranger Price decided to take our two abandoned friends home with him and see if a new mother white mouse, that his son, Jerod, raises, would adopt them. The mother mouse did all of her maternal processes, but it seems our two orphans could not stand the pressure of the big city and gave up the ghost several days later, much to the dismay of the Price family.

We plan to catch some more animals and reptiles in the future and display them in the Lodge. So remember while you are at Torrey Pines Reserve and Lodge, walking and observing nature, that there will be many things observing you, and when you feel those big eyes following you wherever you go, they may belong to Peromyscus maniculatus !



John A. Lunday



POETRY CORNER

MICE

I think mice
Are rather nice.

Their tails are long, their faces small,
They haven't any chins at all.
Their ears are pink, their teeth are white,
They run about the house at night.
They nibble things they shouldn't touch
And no one seems to like them much.



but I think mice
Are nice.

- Rose Fyleman

NOTES FROM THE DOCENT MEETING, MARCH 15

By Judy Schulman (Acting Secretary)

Dominic Gotelli, from the District office, showed us the film clip that was partially filmed here in honor of the "Year of the Docent", featuring volunteers from various state park units. Representatives from Torrey Pines were Judy Schulman, Julie Marine, Millicent Horger, Bob Hopper, Gene Barber, and Park Aid Debbie Green.

An all day workshop, to be held in Old Town, is scheduled for all San Diego docents on April 19.

The suggestion was made to invite Florida Canyoneers to join our group, since their organization is disbanding.

In addition to the collapsed section of Rim trail, the old Beach Trail is closed due to storm damage, but Broken Hills Trail to the beach is still open.

Murray Nelligan reported a balance of \$840 in the treasury.

Ruth Hand, our new librarian, will be allotted \$25 a quarter for books. If docents have any suggestions for books, or would like to help maintain the library, please contact Ruth.

(Ed. note: The Docent "commercial" was seen recently on Channel 8.)

QUIZ : WORD SCRAMBLE - SOME SPRING WILDFLOWERS

- | | | |
|---------------|----------------|--------------------|
| 1- liciane | 6- lowrelflaw | 11- halpaice |
| 2- rededewe | 7- lamkidsim | 12- skoolcrocu' |
| 3- haptubrins | 8- daplobderd | 13- kenyom wolref |
| 4- gesfia | 9- sookcrer | 14- dyit spit |
| 5- hiasalead | 10- pragodsann | 15- ghostnio trass |

A LETTER IN REPLY TO A "DAMON RUNYONESQUE" STYLE LETTER BY OUR NATURALIST

Dere Hannk,

Me n Dayman Ronion thinks yu got a lot tu tell us bout human bings n annamals n treez n plantz only yu fergot tu say that when a human bing yu calld a Dosent pushes a button n nuthin happns he yells help n a Smocky Bare Rangur who carries a big hat cums walkin in n pushes nother button er moves sum thin n the pickshurs start movin agen. So yu see it aint just nacheral histry yu lern about in this here presurve its that when yure in a jam this here Rangur cud be yur frend n help yu out n so yu lern about frends n helpurs n gettin the job dun tu, even tho yu dont lern nuthin bout spellin wurds.

That tranin yu talk about dont hert yur mussels none cept a littul in yur leggs after yu clim all them steps n rocks n maybee a littul more in yur back if yu bin bendin over a lot. to dentify all them leaves n littul bitty flowerz growin tu close tu the ground fer peepul tu see when there standin up er just walkin long one a them sandee traales. You jes try one er a cupla seshuns n see fer yerself.

Yer frend Dosent

Ruth Hand

P.S. None of abuv matereal is cppyrited.

To settle a friendly argument on the recent field trip to the burned area: "The name Monkey-Flower (*Mimulus puniceus*) figwort family, is a diminutive of mimus - a buffoon, and refers to the somewhat grinning blossom."

From : "How to Know the Wild Flowers", by W. S. Dana

ATTENTION DOCENTS !!!!!

Door prizes are needed to spice up the Training Sessions. Do you have something to contribute? Perhaps a sack of oranges? A nice plant? How about a handcrafted item? Call your editor, please, and thanks in advance.



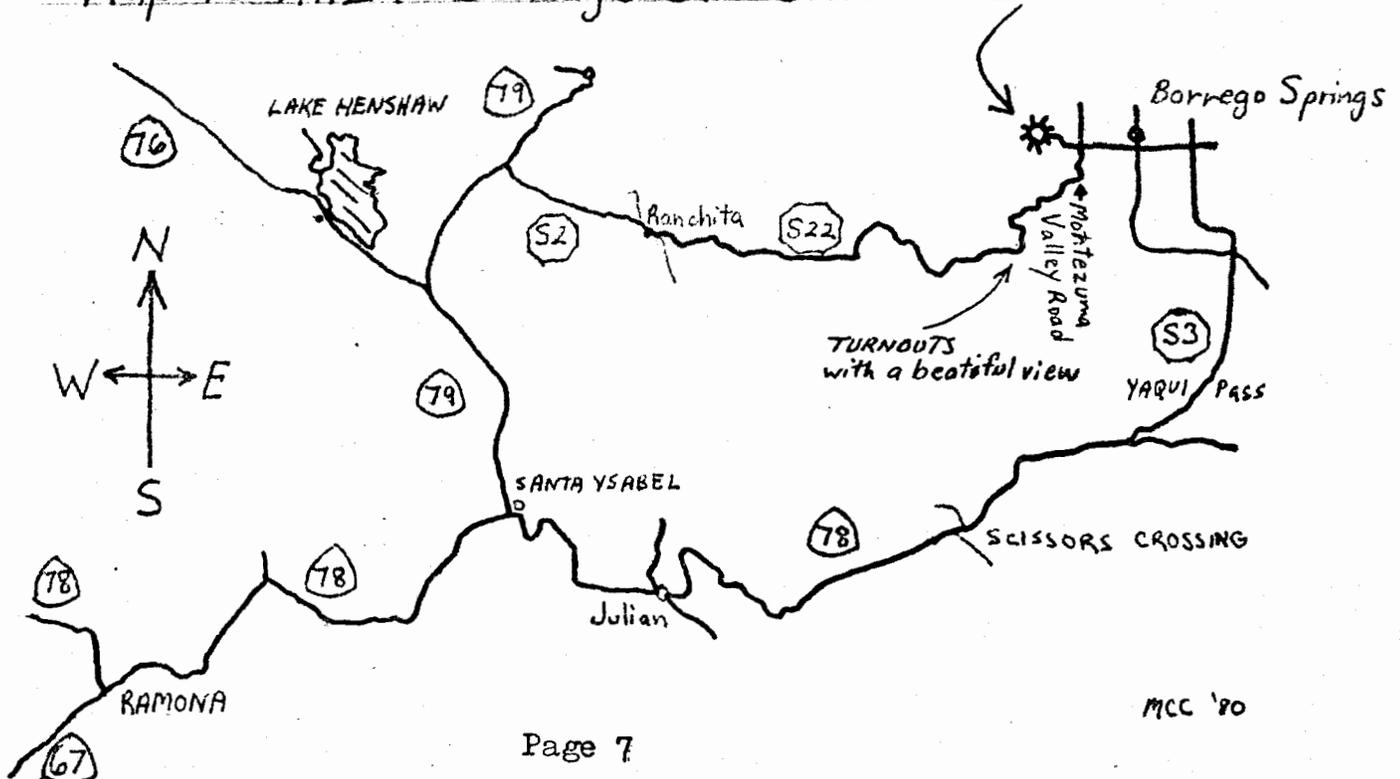
A TRIP TO ANZA-BORREGO STATE PARK by Marc Cimolino

The last Saturday in March I thought would be a beautiful day to scout a route to the Visitors' Center which was featured in the Year of the Volunteer TV ad screened at the last meeting. A friend and I took off with no idea how we would find our way, but with an adventurous spirit in tow. We arrived at Santa Ysabel at about 2:00 P.M. and found Highway 78 closed beyond Julian, so we took the S22 road, wide, smooth and fast, through Ranchita and down a winding section with many turnouts, providing an excellent opportunity to observe and appreciate the dramatic vista of the surrounding mountains, the distant salton Sea and the curious badlands of Borrego beyond the flat desert floor.

When you reach the stop sign at the end of your descent you make a left onto Palm Canyon road and go about 1/2 mile to the inconspicuous visitors' Center. There is no admission charge and ample dirt parking, though a bit dusty for my taste. The main building is surrounded and covered with a garden of all the common flora. There is also a permanent refuge for the desert pupfish in the form of a shallow cement pond fed with running water. Inside is an area about three times the size of the lodge with a good selection of books and pamphlets with volunteers and park staff ready to serve you.

We didn't have much time but we did experience their spectacular 24 min. slide show in their little theater for 50 visitors. The show starts with a description and view of the general area and its history, and finishes with a tour through the four seasons, with a tape recording incorporating narration, music and sound effects, all synchronized with nine projectors- each with a dissolve unit which fades from one picture to the next. It is worth the ride just to see that show including some of the best slides I've seen. I plan to return in a month or so when the flowers are in full bloom, and I would encourage each of you to consider making the 80 mile trip out which takes less than 2 hrs. with no stops. At least I will know where I am headed, and hope you also have a safe trip.

Map to Anza-Borrego State Park Visitors Center



ANSWERS TO WORD SCRAMBLE (Wasn't that easy?)

- 1- encilia
- 2- deerweed
- 3- paintbrush
- 4- sea fig
- 5- sea dahlia

- 6- wallflower
- 7- milkmaids
- 8- bladderpod
- 9- rockrose
- 10- snapdragon

- 11- phacelia
- 12- four o' clocks
- 13- monkey flower
- 14- tidy tips
- 15- shooting stars

TORREY PINES DOCENT SOCIETY

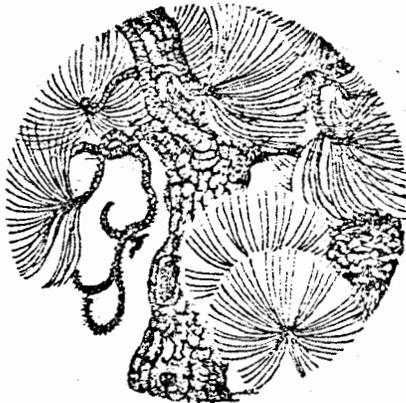
President- Martha Conn

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permission of Tsuyoshi Matsumoto.
Masthead: "Happiness"- the "Sunset
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