



TORREYANA

Published for members of the Torrey Pines Docent Society, #54, Aug., 1980

NEXT DOCENT MEETING Saturday, August 16

We will meet at 9:00 A. M. at the Lodge and carpool to Scripps Institute of Oceanography. At 10:30 A. M. Pat Kampman, Education Coordinator for Scripps Institute, will enlighten us on plant and animal life along the beach and tide pool area.

Conn Quest by Martha Conn

LOAN RANGER

Torrey Pines will be hosting a series of rangers on loan from Anza-Borrego Desert State Park for the remainder of this summer. A trailer residence has been temporarily set up at the T.P. shop for these rangers.

Since spring, '80, five rangers have transferred out of San Diego coast area leaving the parks very short handed. Jeff Price says the upcoming hiring of 11 ranger trainees in Aug. will fill the vacancies here and at two other S. California areas. Jeff has been on loan from Borrego since May 20 and returns to work in the desert on Aug. 1st.

FAREWELL, RANGER JEFF PRICE!

Your ideas were fresh and sparkling, your leadership imaginative, your humor contagious! Poking gentle fun at fellow workers and docents alike, at the same time you inspired us to do our very best. We'll all miss you, Jeff!

Secretary's Notes by Mary Christenson

July 19, 1980

The meeting was led by our Vice-President, Frances Parks

Treasury: June sales \$117.54, July balance \$1,344.53
Rowdy James asks that docents on duty list every item sold and place list or tag in the change box.

Library: Summer Y.C.C. helpers have offered to build a new bookcase in the lounge. Our society will pay for materials. Gene Barber will help Ruth Hand with needed diagrams.

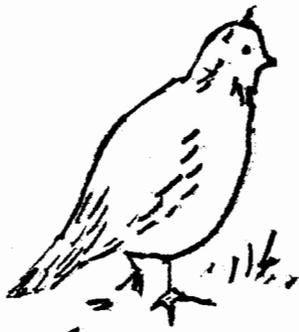
Duty: A new calendar sign-up sheet is located at the front desk. Our goal for the rest of the summer is to fill Fri. (12-3:00), Sat. and Sun. (11-2 and 1-4).
August Duty Coordinator- Penny Hoffman 282-9662
September Coordinator- Elizabeth Nicoloff 459-7608

New Business: A motion was made and seconded to purchase a new portable tape recorder with the specific intent that the machine be available and used at Torrey Pines Reserve. Motion carried.
Hank Nicol asked the society for support of his new book which is an expansion of his "Notes by the Naturalist". The first chapter covers the Torrey Pine, and Hank would like to make that portion into a booklet. Mike O'Dea will investigate options on putting the booklet together.
There will be a bond issue for parks on the November ballot. Jim Whitehead will keep us informed.

Program: Hank Nicol took us on a hike which included techniques in giving a walk.

In Nature, there are neither penalties nor rewards- only consequences. And, sooner or later, everyone must sit down to a banquet of consequences.

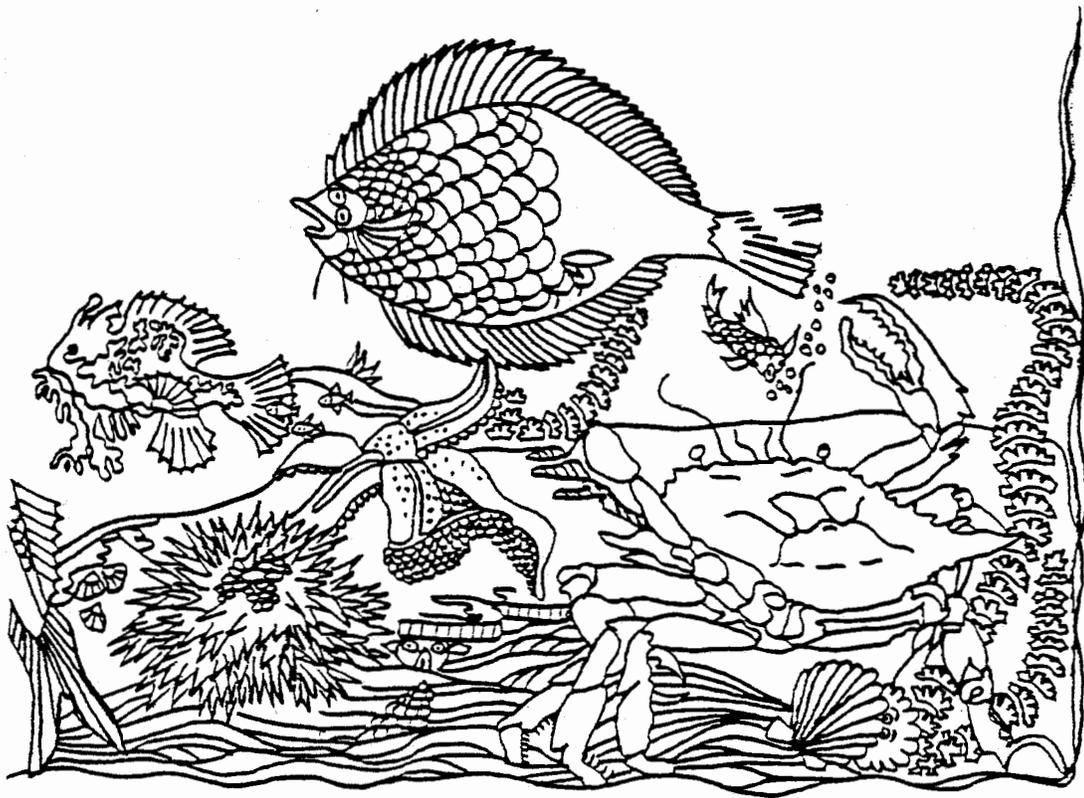
-Submitted by Jim Whitehead



News & Notes

A recent visitor from the East coast was infant, Torrey Peace, born Oct. 31, 1979, who arrived in a knapsack on her father's back. Her name was inspired by her parents' frequent visits to our beautiful reserve! Let's make little Torrey the youngest honorary member of our society! (Could her middle name be "Anna"?)

Join us for the next meeting and tide pool field trip!



Tide pool drawing by the Editor's daughter, Katherine Shaw, of Tucson, Arizona.

THAT QUAIL, CRICKET by Piper Lindsay

Illustrated by Sunny Lindsay

"Is that really a quail you have sitting on your shoulder?" is a question I hear quite often, especially now that I'm working at D. L. Bliss State Park on Lake Tahoe. Rarely do you see a Valley quail in the Sierra Nevada, not to mention a tame Valley quail!

It all started for Cricket and me a little over a year ago, on Mothers' Day, 1979. It was on that day she hatched from a small brown and white speckled egg which we had diligently watched for over twenty-one days. The incubator's thermostat was kept at a constant 100 f. and the eggs were turned faithfully every six hours. A pan of water underneath the clutch of ten eggs kept moisture in the air and the eggs from drying out. When the 21st day arrived nothing happened, and we were disappointed. We listened carefully, though, heard chirps inside the eggs, and continued our vigilance. The next day small holes appeared, completely encircling the eggs. Minutes later tiny wet chicks emerged. Cricket was the last to arrive, needing a little assistance from me to help her out.

Young quails' feathers dry quickly, and it wasn't long before the chicks were actively running under foot, chirping for attention and warmth. It's important to provide either a warm light or a heating pad in the box the first couple of weeks- Cricket had both. The first day, absorbing the residue of the original egg yolk enclosed in the abdomen, quails eat very little. Soon after, though, their appetites are voracious. As many as 50 flies are eaten in one day, along with beginning chicken scratch. Phew! Ever try to kill 300+ flies in one day??! I soon discovered meal worms are just as tasty as flies to quails, and I was able to purchase meal worms at the local pet shop.

The first couple of weeks young quails look much like walnuts with legs, and they will follow anyone anywhere! This is called "imprinting", when a young animal attaches himself to the first thing he sees. Sure enough, these young quails had imprinted upon us humans.

After a couple of days, most quails were given to loving homes. I kept Cricket and we moved up to Lake Tahoe for the summer. Enroute to Tahoe we camped in Yosemite for a week and visited several state parks. She became very used to people holding and petting her.

Sex in a quail can be determined at six weeks, at which time it became clear that Cricket would be a female. I gave her a couple of extra weeks but to no avail, she was definitely a female! The males are quite colorful compared to the females, who must be better camouflaged to blend in with a nest of eggs. At six weeks a male quail will develop a white line above the eyes and a white "ring around the collar" and colorful breast feathers. Cricket was beginning to get colorful breast feathers, but that was the only similarity. Also, her top knot never got as pronounced as a male quail's. At this time she wasn't so dependent on insects, and became interested in seeds, green foods and cookies.

At the park she was the hit of Junior ranger and campfire programs. In the dorm the standard joke was, when would we have quail for dinner? But most everyone enjoyed her, even when she jumped up on the table to taste mashed potatoes, ice cream, yogurt, or any of the people foods she loves to eat. Yep... occasionally quail droppings can be a problem. I've tried several methods but have found no way to house train a quail.

She is extremely spoiled, having been to movies, grocery stores (hitching a ride on the cart), and countless one day hiking trips when she'll ride tucked in my shirt or run closely behind, as if she forgets she can fly! I've never caged her or clipped her wings, and, like most quails, she prefers to stay on the ground. Occasionally she flies into a large pine tree where she calls her "Cu-ca-cow", translated, "Where are you?" Then I climb up to get her- I'm not quite sure who has who trained! Valley quails have about 14 calls, and I've learned to identify most of them. She

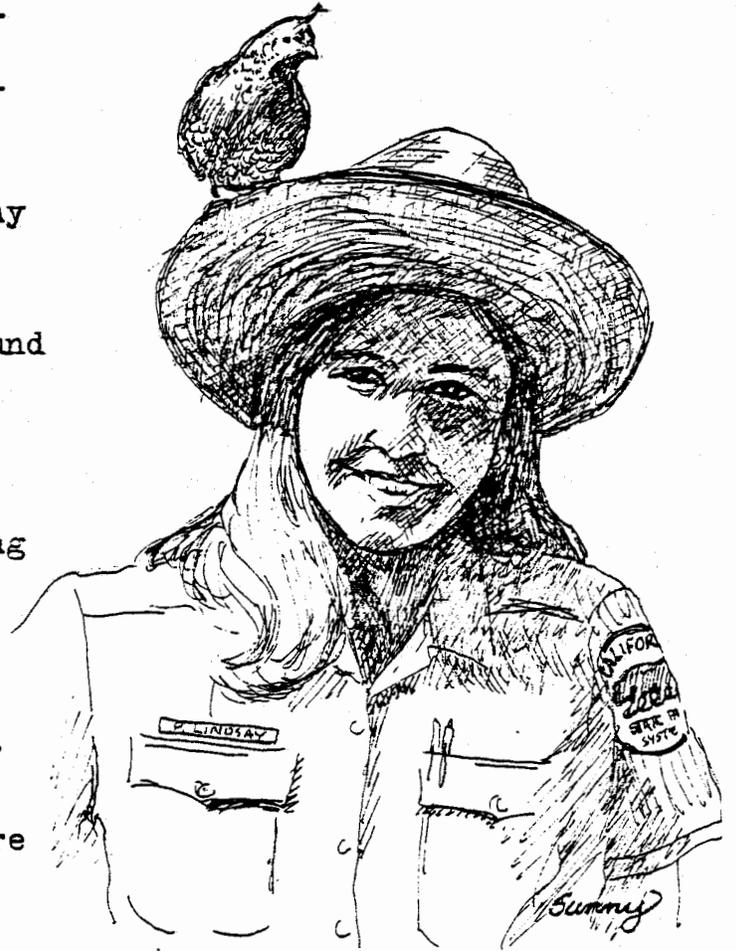
answers me with a "chirp" when I call her name, and is never far off because she doesn't like to be by herself. She'd never survive in the wilds, having little fear of natural enemies. She often sleeps on the back of our labrador and doesn't seem to mind my boa constrictor curling between her feet.

I don't advocate taking anything away from its natural environment, but Cricket is a special case. She's legal, too, now that I have received my game breeder's license from the Dep't. of Fish and Game. "That Quail, Robert" and "A Quail in the Family" are terrific books about people with similar experiences with pet quails.

It's rarely a dull moment with Cricket around, as many of you know.

Piper

(Ed. Note: Piper started her park career as a docent at Torrey Pines State Reserve in the summer of 1976.)



THE STORY BEHIND THE BIRD'S BEHIND by Hank Nicol

One morning I saw a strange looking bird fly across the parking lot. It was large and dark. It had a long, curved bill..., and no tail. I had never seen a California thrasher without its characteristic long tail. When I got inside I heard the full story.

The thrasher had come inside the building looking for a hand-out. Ranger Leroy Ross tried to chase it out, but, instead of going for the open door, it kept getting further inside. The slide projector is mounted in a rather high and awkward position in the small room behind the screen. That's where the bird decided to hide. Leroy knew the bird was back there, but he couldn't see it. He tried to chase it out. It wouldn't chase. Finally he reached behind the projector and grabbed at the bird. All he got was a handful of feathers. Eventually he managed to shoosh the bird outside.

The thrasher was an odd sight. After a year it doesn't have a full set of tail feathers. It still lives here, but it doesn't invite itself inside anymore.

Hank

Docent Doings

Our faithful Joyce Evans suffered a bad fall recently and broke her knee. Coveys of get-well wishes are winging their way to you, Joyce. Come back soon!

Upon explaining to a visitor the meaning of the word "docent" and our volunteer duties she exclaimed, with a smile, "You should be called No Cents!"

Someone asked, "Who has done the landscaping here?" Groan!

Along Our Bloomin' Trails



"Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow;
They toil not, neither do they spin;
And yet I say unto you, that even Solomon in all his glory
Was not arrayed like one of these."

How they come back to us, the beautiful hackneyed lines,
and flash into our memories with new significance of meaning
when we chance suddenly upon our own Mariposa lily, loveliest
"butterfly", seemingly more abundant this year than usual
along the Parry Grove trail.

M. H.

What interpreters do: The Interpreter's Viewpoint

Employers and interpreters alike, at the Spring, 1976, WIA conference at Palm Desert, California, brainstormed ten roles performed by interpreters. These are: (ref. *The Interpreter*, Spring 1976, pp 12-14)

- Role 1: To provoke an awareness of or inspire the public on, topics of nature, history, archaeology, recreation, and the like.
- Role 2: To teach specific facts to the public.
- Role 3: To provide "first hand" educational experiences.
- Role 4: To provide vicarious multimedia programs.
- Role 5: To entertain the public.
- Role 6: To convince the public to conserve resources.
- Role 7: To convince the public to preserve resources.
- Role 8: To convince the public to respect the rights of others.
- Role 9: To answer visitor's questions.
- Role 10: To solicit public input.

TORREY PINES DOCENT SOCIETY

President- Martha Conn

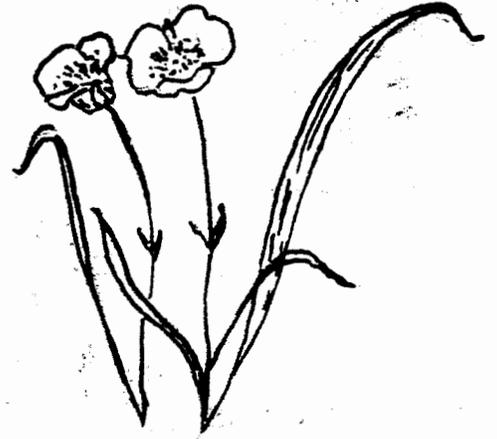
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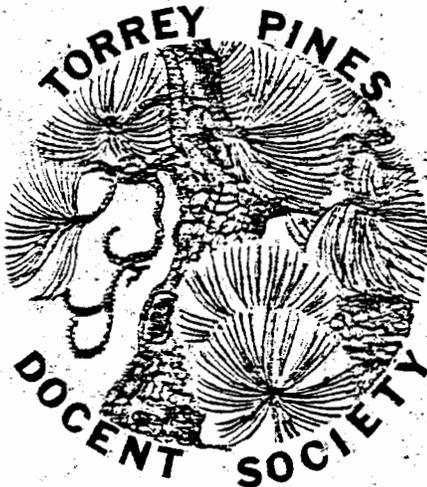
Poetry Corner

All things by immortal power near or far,
Hiddenly, to each other linked are;
That thou canst not then stir a flower
Without the troubling of a star.

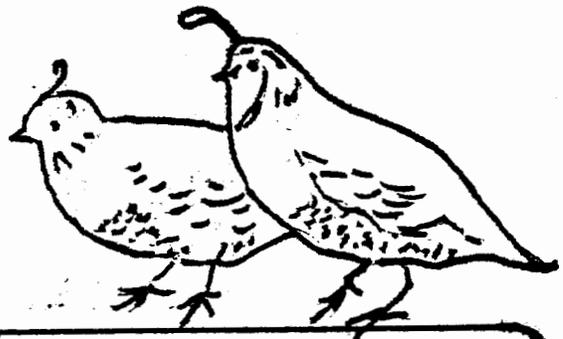
Frances Thompson



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