



TORREYANA

Published for members of the Torrey Pines Docent Society, #55, Oct., 1980

NEXT DOCENT MEETING Saturday, October 18, 9:00 A.M. Lodge

Bob Wohl "Birthday Speech"

PROPOSITION 1 COULD ADD TO NORTH COAST PARKLAND

North Coast areas could gain additional resources and parkland if state Proposition 1, the \$285 million Parklands Act, passes in November. About \$8.7 million is earmarked for the San Diego area. The funds, if approved, will be used to improve existing parks and acquire and develop new park sites. Included in those funds is \$921,600 for the county's unincorporated areas such as San Dieguito- \$25,321 for Carlsbad and \$3,900 for Del Mar.

Conn Quest by Martha Conn

Thanks, Martha Black, for your pressed flower exhibit of Torrey Pines Reserve wildflowers, on display in the Lodge on the large folding screen. And thanks to Ranger Steve for bringing in the Anise Swallowtail chrysalis which metamorphosized sometime during its stay inside. Ruth Hand noted how "smart" the caterpillar is to choose exactly the time when the fennel is at its greenest and juiciest best, to eat and then to spin its well camouflaged cocoon.

Bill Everett, Research Ornithologist at Hubb Institute, recommended for our reading, "Birds of California", (in several volumes) by Arnold Small. These books will help us to identify birds in general, know the dynamics of marshlands and ecosystems, and learn about endangered species. Bill gave us a worthwhile introduction to the shorebirds of our area, and told us that San Diego county is the best place in the U.S.A. for bird watching! He led us on a field trip to Penasquitos Lagoon, where we identified more than 20 different birds, the rarest being the Elegant Tern.

Secretary's Notes by Mary Christenson

September 20, 1980

The meeting was led by President, Martha Conn, with 23 members and guests present.

Duty: Correction! Duty Coordinator for October will be Elsa Evans- Phone: 481-9670

Treasury: Expenses: \$157.44; Balance on hand: \$1313.56

New Business: 1. Mike O'Dea roughly estimated a cost of \$1.50 each for the naturalist's book.

2. A motion was made and seconded that we accept the photo by Charles Smith, have it suitably framed, and give him a year's Honorary Membership in T.P.D.S. Question: Will the policy apply to other artists who wish to contribute work? It was decided to handle each item on an individual basis. There will be no soliciting done. No business cards will be given out to visitors. The artist's name, alone, will appear on the photo.



Killdeer

3. Grace Claire suggested we might buy a spotting scope for use on trail walks. Bob Wohl will help assemble an Interpretive Kit of items that we could share, such as binoculars, magnifying glass, etc.

4. Steve Woods, new Ranger Trainee, was introduced.

5. Rowdy James reported that Mat cards and prints are going up some in price.

6. Ruth Hand asked that the sofa in the Docent Lounge be replaced, using monies from our Treasury. Sunny Rankin was appointed to head a committee to study and present ideas of materials and cost.

7. Many thanks to Elizabeth Nicoloff, who presented a book, "An Island Called California", by Elna Bekker, to the Docent Library.

CONGRATULATIONS! To MIKE WAINWRIGHT (First Docent-in-training in this year's class to complete his check-list!)

Mike said, "I always loved nature, and am anxious to expand my knowledge of it. In my spare time I enjoy to fish, draw, and hike in the local canyons. I'm hoping to start a career in the resources field, and spent this summer in the Y.C.C. at Torrey Pines."

REPORT FROM THE RANGER

My immediate first impression was, "It's good to be back." Though I may be a strange name to many of the new Docents, to the others who have supported the Docent Society for so many years, I'm a fairly familiar person. It's good to see Milly and Ruth, Judy and Gene, Rowdy and Elsa, Grace and Julie, and Sunny and Marti and Joyce and...and...all of you again. My last day at Torrey Pines was Dec. 1, 1978, when I was promoted to Supervising Ranger at South Carlsbad State Beach. Though I enjoyed the campers and the park staff there, my heart has always been here at Torrey. I'm glad to be back!

John Magee breathed a sigh of relief as he welcomed both Steve Woods and I. Steve is one of six new Ranger Trainees just assigned to replace Lunday, Bernardo, Robards, Price, and Herman. John has had a rough summer working mostly alone. Without the Docents helping out (and our beloved Naturalist Hank) this summer at Torrey could have been disastrous. Instead the park aids and the Docents were the backbone of the visitor services' operation and contacts. We could not have done it without everyone's active support. Let me thank you for myself, Dick Johnson, Jack Welch, and one overworked Ranger named John Magee.

For those who don't know me very well, I'm a New Yorker by birth and upbringing (my accent is still quite evident). I received my education for four years in the Midwest at the University of Wisconsin in Madison, finishing up in New York City, where I became a high school history teacher. I transferred out to the Santa Cruz County school system ten years ago, and after four years of "roughing it" in a redwood forest cabin, was hired by the State Park System to train at Big Basin Redwood State Park, the first permanent park in the system. A two year sojourn in the desert at the Salton Sea S.R.A. convinced me that working near the ocean at San Diego Coast Area would be my next assignment. I fell in love with Torrey immediately, but first I was sent to San Elijo State Beach, for a year. Then on to Torrey Pines under Kent Hartwell and later Leroy Ross. I worked fifteen months as a Ranger I, and later assumed the Y.C.C. Program Manager position, redesigning the Razor Point and Broken Hill trail systems, and resuscitating the Lodge building.

I hope to communicate my hopes and desires for the Reserve through this column and also as the Executive Secretary of the Docent Society at our monthly meetings. Looking forward to seeing all of you!

Bob



Bob Wohl, Supervising Ranger

SANTA ANA FIRE SEASON IS HERE!

by Rowdy James

10-80

Summer is over and Fall is on us. When I was a Fire Control Officer for the U. S. Forest Service in Northern California from 1951 to 1969, Fall meant the end of a long fire season in my part of the state. Now we could clean up our fire equipment, total up our losses, salvage burned timber, replant burned areas and maybe get a long-delayed vacation.

But often the fire weather reports came up with the dreaded prediction, "Santa Ana winds in Southern California." Our fire crews, equipment and airplanes were alerted and flown south to assist in the almost annual battle against brush fires in the south. I suppose I spent 8 or more Thanksgivings and two Christmas-New Year holidays on Santa Ana fires in the L. A., San Bernardino or San Diego County areas.

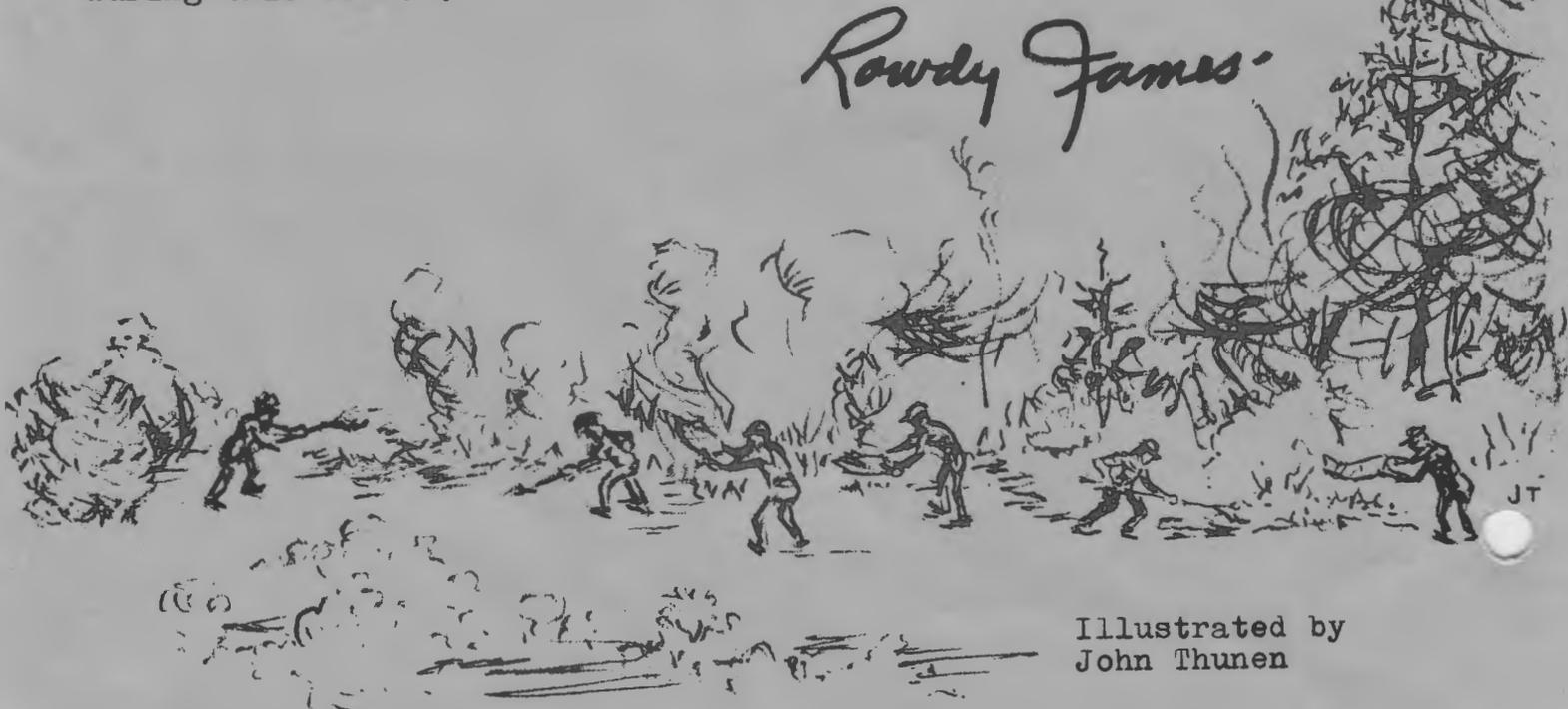
Torrey Pines Reserve is an area that could be in danger any time there is a Santa Ana, a hot, dry wind blowing from the east or northeast. Brush cover and all vegetation is dried out after the long, dry summer. When a spark from a carelessly dropped cigarette, a backfire from a car or motorcycle on the highway, or worst of all a Fire Bug's match start a fire, the grass and brush literally explode, burning up hill to the ridge tops and down slope until there is no more fuel, just water and kelp.

Torrey Pines Reserve has experienced a number of brush fires in the past as attested by fire scars on some of the older trees. One fire in 1972 burned from Sorrento Valley to Highway 101, fortunately not during a Santa Ana.

A fire with Santa Ana winds fanning it could easily jump Highway 101 and old Torrey Pines Road and wipe out the Broken Hill area with its over mature and dead brush.

The Santa Ana season is about upon us again. Let's all be extra vigilant and pass on to our visitors the dangers of a fire during this season.

Rowdy James



Illustrated by
John Thunen

Channel Island National Park Really Does Not Cater To Human Visitors

New York Times News Service

VENTURA — The Channel Islands, newest of 40 U.S. national parks, wound up a summer season with just 20,000 visitors, fewer than the Grand Tetons see in a single afternoon.

Many of those who dropped the anchors of their sailboats and cabin cruisers at the five islands, 11 to 35 miles offshore between Los Angeles and Santa Barbara, never set foot on shore. They weren't particularly encouraged to come ashore.

"The priority just must go to preservation," said Nicholas Whelan, manager of resources for the Channel Islands section of the U.S. Park Service. "These islands are so fragile compared with parks on the mainland. We simply put the survival of their ecology ahead of wide use by the public."

The Channel Islands offer what Whelan describes as "one of the world's great displays of wildlife." On the island of San Miguel alone, as many as 15,000 California seals bask in the sun in the mating season.

Anacapa Island has the only stable rookery on the entire West Coast for brown pelicans and 11 other types of sea birds. Boats encounter schools of leaping dolphins, and each winter

and spring hundreds of gray whales migrate up and down the Santa Barbara Channel to Baja California.

President Carter signed a bill March 5 establishing the park. Two of the islands had already been under Park Service administration as a national monument. They are Santa Barbara and Anacapa, which gets its name from an Indian word meaning "mirage" or "deception" because of the way it emerges and disappears in the channel fog.

Whelan and others on the staff at the Ventura headquarters have been assigned to formulate a master plan that will allow maximum use of the islands while safeguarding their wildlife and beauty.

Three Channel Islands are outside the park: San Nicolas and San Clemente, owned and used by the Navy, and Catalina, a developed island with hotels, bars, restaurants, a golf course, marina and docks.

Whelan winces when asked if he foresees any of the national park islands producing a place like Avalon on Catalina with hotels and fast-food franchises.

"No, I could never foresee that happening," he said. "If people want a place like that they can go to Catal-

ina. Perhaps one day there will be spartan hostels on the park islands, but certainly no hotels or restaurants."

So far there are daily summer boat trips only to Anacapa, and even there facilities are primitive. There is no dock, so passengers have to climb into skiffs to be ferried ashore.

The two largest islands, Santa Rosa and Santa Cruz, are privately owned by cattle- and sheep-raising enterprises. The Park Service is authorized to buy the land, but at present visitors must get permits from the private owners to go ashore.

The area north and west of the park is the site of one of the nation's biggest oil-drilling operations on the ocean bed, and the Interior Department is being prodded to open it up to even greater exploratory drilling. That poses the threat of an oil spill washing onto the islands.

The Park Service is part of the Interior Department, which means the department is caught between two of its own goals: development of resources and protection of habitat.

"A decision on that may go higher up, maybe even to the President himself," Whelan said.

Of course, you all know that PINUS TORREYANA is one of the rarest trees in the world, indigenous to two small areas: Del Mar and Torrey Pines State Reserve, and the Santa Rosa Island. Wouldn't it be exciting to make a field trip some day to visit our sister pines on Santa Rosa? (If we could get permission, that is.)

Fleet Space Theater — "The Eruption of Mount Saint Helens," a 70mm film examining the recent volcanic explosion and the devastation to plant and animal life that resulted; "Viva Baja," an aerial feature on Baja, California; and the mixed-media presentation, "Cosmic Forces," which explores the forces of the other planets and stars and how they affect mankind, continue daily. "The Next Giant Leap," a multi-image show describing the space shuttle program, alternates with a laser demonstration daily in Grayson Boehm Hall, Balboa Park.

Poetry Corner

"Hast thou named all the birds without a gun?
Loved the wood-rose and left it on its stalk?
At rich men's tables eaten bread and pulse?
Unarmed, faced danger with a heart of trust?
And loved so well a high behavior,
In man or maid, that thou from speech refrained,
Nobility more nobly to repay?
O, be my friend, and teach me to be thine!"

Emerson.

BIOLOGY ACCORDING TO HEISENBERG (AND HANK)

In January and February, 1968, Phillipe Costeau rented the San Diego boat, Polaris 3 and followed the gray whale migration. He discovered that the whales swim all night, but that they take half hour naps six or seven times during the day. He confirmed what some people suspected, that the whales do eat while traveling. Sometimes they swim in circles in shallow water and take plankton at the surface. He verified something I guessed, that gray whales can leap clear of the water. He saw, and photographed, one do it twice. I appreciate this information. I'm not sure I appreciate some of his other studies.

Costeau files and his crew followed the whales for a full month. They harpooned, and attempted to harpoon, whale after whale until they managed to stick one and attach a buoy to the line. All this harassment was to slow down and track an animal that's destination was well known to everyone from Prince Rupert to La Paz.

Fish, birds and butterflies have been tagged and recovered. Polar bears, wolves and dolphin have been tracked by radio. Scientists have lived with wolves, chimpanzees, orangutans and mountain gorillas. These efforts have added to scientific knowledge. Costeau's experimentation strikes me as being a grandstand play good only for selling books and T.V. specials.

The subject of tagging and tracking animals got me to thinking that maybe there is a biological version of the Heisenberg principle. Werner Heisenberg was a physicist who said something to the effect that by studying a phenomenon you change it. He meant that the closeness of the measuring instruments could change movements of sub-atomic particles and make the accuracy of the measurements doubtful. Heisenberg didn't mean for his idea to apply to objects as big as whales, but I won't let that bother me. I'll apply it anyhow.

A dolphin can't swim normally with a radio bolted to its dorsal fin. A gorilla isn't going to act normally while being watched by a nice English lady. A monarch butterfly can't fly straight with a tag on a wing. A butterfly can't fly straight, anyway, but never mind.

What is the value of studying something when you know your answer is going to be off target? The scientific method starts with an hypothesis, nothing more than a guess. It can be as wrong as any guess. You can bet on the wrong horse at Del Mar, too. One of the guesses will not be as wrong as the others. You can call that one a theory. If the theory works consistently you can chisel it in marble and call it a law. Scientific laws are more stable than the ones passed by Congress. They aren't repealed very often, but they can be amended. The amendments are called corollaries and additions, but the revisions require a little re-chiseling of the marble. Einstein said that his Special Theory of Relativity was only a refinement of Newton's laws.

Science, and its practical side, technology, has brought us some things we would gladly live without. It has given us D.D.T., nuclear bombs and astroturf, but it has given us refrigerators, electric light, and frisbees as well. We live more healthful, safer, and more comfortable lives than the people of Galileo's time because of science. Science is based on all those guesses. We need information, even faulty information, to get started on the guesswork. So, Heisenberg or no, we study biology as we study physics.... the best we can.

Kinda heavy this month. Sorry.

Hank

(Ed. Note: Hank would welcome comments on his views.)

10-80

Along Our Bloomin' Trails



FIGURE 29. HAPLOPAPPUS

Another HAPLOPAPPUS is *H. venetus* ssp. *vernonioides*, figure 29, from San Francisco south. It is a shrub to about three feet high, somewhat resinous, and very leafy. The heads are without ray-flowers, but have only the yellow tubular ones characteristic of the central part of the heads of so many of the Sunflower Family. One of these is shown to the right in our illustration and exhibits the one-seeded ovary at the base, the hairy modified calyx, the tubular corolla with five lobes representing the petals, and the two-lobed stigma at the summit.



FIGURE 89. SALT GRASS

10-80

Associated with *Monanthochloe* in salt marshes and often forming large patches is SALT GRASS (*Distichlis spicata*), figure 89. It has a number of technically separated varieties in saline places, ranging from Oregon to southern California. It grows from strong creeping or deeply running rootstocks and has two-ranked leaves four to eight inches long. The spikelets are evident in dense spicate panicles and are more or less green, sometimes purplish. Some forms of this grass are found in salty places inland, even on the desert.

From "Shore Wildflowers" by Philip A. Munz

TORREY PINES DOCENT SOCIETY

PRESIDENT- Martha Conn

**Deadline for Torreyana copy
the 25th of each month.**

Send contributions to:

Millicent Horger, Editor

13130 Carousel Lane

Del Mar, Ca. 92014

Phone: 481-9554

Mike O'Dea, Associate Docent, is responsible for the new Off-Set printing of the Torreyana. Since it is a more time consuming method, he has requested that the deadline for copy be moved back to the 25th of each month. Please make a note of the change so that we can mail promptly.

Many thanks to you, Mike, for the gift of your time!
Doesn't the new print job look great!

Thank you for letting us be of help to you.

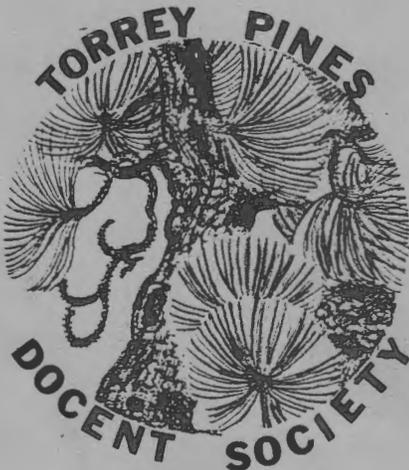


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(714) 571-1772

Torrey Pines Docent Society
C/O Torrey Pines State Reserve
2680 Carlsbad Blvd.
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