

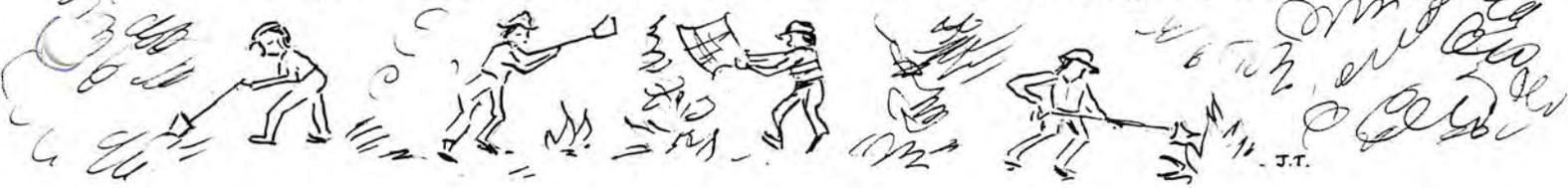


TORREYANA

Published for Members of the Torrey Pines Docent Society, #79, Oct., 1982

NEXT DOCENT MEETING: Saturday, October 16, 9:00 A.M. Visitor Center

October brings our Santa Ana winds and associated dangerous fire conditions to the chaparral. Tom White, program coordinator for the Laguna-Morena demonstration area of Cleveland National Forest, will be our guest speaker and present a lecture-slide program covering wildfire problems and current chaparral management of San Diego County. Hey! This is a hot and burning topic.



Judy's Gentle Conglomerations of Thought

This month I would like to share with you the Summary from MISSION 1990 (the 1982 update of the state park system plan. I will bring the entire report to the next meeting for anyone who wants to read it.

Judy

Summary

The 1982 update of the California State Park System Plan recognizes that Californians have continued to express a growing need and desire for the values and experiences offered in the State Park System. During fiscal year 1980-81, attendance at State Park System units grew by over 7 million visitor days to 64 million, the highest in the system's 52-year history, and hundreds of thousands were turned away. Additionally, voters have backed their concern for system expansion by passing the 1980 park bond act, which provides \$130 million for that purpose.

This biennial plan update, the result of legislative mandate and the department's Mission 1990 planning program, responds to public recreation needs as voiced at ranger stations and the polls, and in the recently completed Statewide Recreation Needs Analysis and other studies.

To meet these needs, the department is proposing \$262.6 million in capital outlay expenditures for project acquisition and development for fiscal years 1982-83 through 1985-86. These projects will:

1. Obtain more than 23,000 acres of critically needed property.
2. Add 2,305 campsites.
3. Place 59 percent of new facilities near urban areas, where demand is greatest.
4. Provide the capacity for over 8 million additional visitors.
5. Increase opportunities for learning about California's history and the contributions of the state's various cultural groups.
6. Preclude system deterioration by rehabilitating worn-out land and facilities.
7. Improve recreation opportunities for the disabled.
8. Assist the department in recovering up to 45 percent of system operating costs by decade's end.

SUMMARY (continued)

Development projects were selected to provide the greatest service at the least operation and maintenance cost.

The selection process for all projects involved the legislature, the public, and the State Park and Recreation Commission. Projects nominated by the public, the commission, the legislature, and the department were evaluated according to criteria that reflect Mission 1990 concerns. The final selection was made by the Park and Recreation Commission.

The department will also enable visitors to enjoy and appreciate the State Park System more fully by taking such measures as improving the reservation system, increasing volunteerism, expanding access to coastal resources, providing additional camping opportunities for travelers, and increasing the variety of recreational activities available in the State Park System.

While it seeks to expand park and recreation opportunities, the department is acutely aware of the fiscal crisis facing the state and nation. There will be fewer tax dollars available to support park and recreation programs. Therefore, the department, in addition to careful project selection, is pursuing these additional ways to provide increased revenue and economic efficiencies:

- A policy allowing revenue to keep pace with inflation's impact on the department.
- A policy to encourage more compatible concessions and ensure greater concession revenue to the state.
- Expansion of the role of nonprofit corporations.
- More attention to energy conservation in existing and proposed units.

The department remains fundamentally concerned about guarding outstanding examples of California's heritage, and about the stewardship of lands and facilities acquired over the last 50 years. To ensure that these resources are properly cared for, the department proposes to preserve critical examples of California's cultural and natural heritage; restore resource areas that have deteriorated from overuse or natural causes; and rehabilitate facilities that are worn or damaged or that require excessive maintenance costs.

HALLOWE'EN QUIZ

No self respecting witch
would be seen without
her 1) ---- and her
2) -----.

Explain what they are
and where they can be
found in the Reserve.

The spells are ringing...



... for me and my ghoul !!

HAPPY
HALLOWEEN!

Poetry Corner

OCTOBER

Here is October, here
Is ruddy October, the old
harvester,
Wrapped like a beggared sachem
in a coat
Of tattered tanager and partridge
feathers,
Scattering jack-o-lanterns every-
where
To give the field mice pumpkin
colored moons.
His red clay pipe has trailed
across the land,
Staining the trees with colors of
the sumach;
East, West, South, North, the
ceremonial fume,
Blue and enchanted as the soul of
air
Drifted its incense.
Incense of the wild,
Incense of earth fulfilled, ready to
sleep
The stupefied dark slumber of the
bear
All winter, underneath a frozen
star.

— Stephen Vincent Benet

Report from the Ranger by Bob Wohl

Phew! The dust is beginning to settle, the crowds are waning, and it looks like we've made it through another eventful summer! This may have been the best staff at Torrey Pines ever, (at least since I've been on the coast, and that goes back to 1975.) Hopefully, many of the park aides will choose to return next summer. I've already been informed that I will be allowed to remain for a third consecutive year, as the supervising Ranger. But the fate of Rangers John Magee and Kathy Watton at Torrey Pines remains uncertain. On November 1st every year, the Rangers at San Diego Coast Area are rotated, so that the campground Rangers might be allowed to experience the "raptures" of working at Torrey Pines. Kathy has only worked here one year, but she has too many projects to finish, and hopefully she may be allowed to stay during the winter months to complete her efforts. John will continue to live in the Guy Fleming Residence. He has been at the Reserve since June, 1890.* Both Rangers, if they are forced to leave, will be sorely missed; for their energies, concerns, work capacity, and personal involvement will be hard to duplicate. I cannot praise these two Rangers enough for their excellence. (It's not coincidence that Kathy is in first position and John in second on the State Park System promotional list for Supervising Ranger.)

Of course, Hank isn't going anywhere. Some things never change. He has become a living treasure trove of Torrey information. Hank and I will be working in earnest along with the Docents on the museum exhibits and interpretive gardens. That's also the project Kathy has devoted so much energy and time to. We still need to finish the survey of the entire Reserve, for which John is indispensable.

The Torrey Pines State Reserve Resource Management meeting on Sept. 18 was very well attended. Over 60 people were on hand, giving input and listening to the State's prescriptions for the Reserve. The final General Plan meeting, encompassing planning, development, operation, and resource management of all the state park units from Carlsbad to Torrey Pines will be held on Oct. 26 from 7 P.M.- 10 P.M. at the Board Room at the Del Mar Fairgrounds. Just drive in the main gate, immediately turn left about 200 yards, and follow the signs to Executive Offices.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the Oct. 16th Docent Meeting at the Lodge,



(* Ed. note: Or is it 1980?)



THAT LOUSY BIRD AGAIN

by Hank Nicol

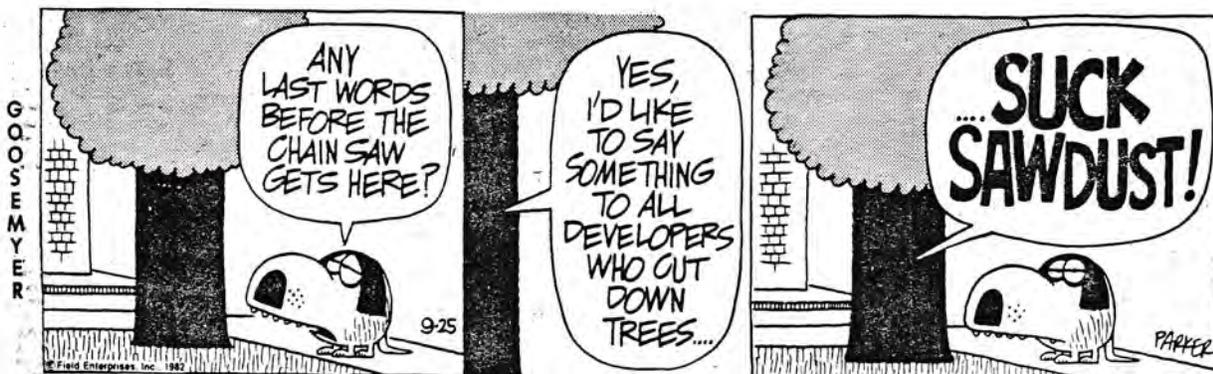
Lately we've picked up a couple of injured and/or sick pelicans at the beach. We've taken them down to Sea World for treatment and rehabilitation. I think I've probably written enough about pelicans recently. I want to tell you about some things that go with pelicans.

Anyone who has ever handled a pelican, or some other birds, has found out about bird lice. Pelicans, being rather big birds, have a lot of lice. They crawl off the bird and all over you. Fortunately, in spite of their being classed as biting lice, they don't seem to bite people. Head lice and crab lice are classed as sucking lice. I've survived one war and several recessions without being bothered by either. Head lice transmit horrible diseases like typhus, Poe's "Red Death". Biting lice are merely annoying to humans.

Most biting lice live among the feathers of birds. They bite off and eat small pieces of feather. Feathers are mostly made up of keratin. Bird lice have digestive enzymes which can break down this almost indigestible protein. Some species supplement their diet by biting through the developing feathers or the skin and drinking blood.

When I got to Sea World with the second pelican I made some comment about the lice which were crawling all over me and all over the car. The pelican keeper, whose name I didn't catch, told me that there were other lice which live inside pelican's pouches. I pried open the bird's beak and took a look. Sure enough, there was a much larger, darker louse clinging to the pouch wall up near the lower bill. Scott Dreischman, one of Sea World's birdologists, told me that these lice may eat some of the remains of a pelican's dinner, but they definitely take blood from the pelican. He has seen large infestations of lice all the way back to the trachea, but he said that my seeing only one louse was not particularly unusual. This bird had been injured. It wasn't sick, and it was still pretty feisty even if it couldn't fly. Scott said that birds in poor condition have many more lice. Whether the lice cause the condition or are a result of it is anybody's guess. I want to see what can be seen for myself. I can hardly wait to pick up another sick pelican, lice and all.

Hank



Secretary's Notes

by June Warburton (Acting Secretary)

With a cheery fire burning in the fireplace, President Judy Schulman opened the September 18th meeting of the Docent Society. After welcoming Docents and honored guests, Judy offered, to those who were interested, printed material on the Geological History of San Diego by Dr. Richard Phillips of the University of San Diego. Judy also made a suggestion that a sign be posted in the Lodge which explains the frequently asked question, "What is a Docent?"

Ruth Chaney made a well received suggestion to update the bulletin board in the Docents' lounge. She informed us that a drop box will be available for contributions of articles, photos or any information that would be appropriate for posting on our bulletin board. Please include with your contributions the source of your information (newspaper, book, etc.)

Ranger Bob Wohl introduced our speaker Dave Schaub and his Resource Management Research Team who came all the way from Sacramento to share with us the long range goals of Resource Management in regards to Torrey Pines State Reserve. Some of the issues discussed were:

- (1) The value of keeping the channel open and its effect on maintaining a normal lagoon flora and fauna;
- (2) Pros and Cons on controlled burns;
- (3) What might be done to control the aggressive and destructive Sea Fig;
- (4) Should jogging be allowed on all trails, or banned on some ?
- (5) Should stairs be provided to make the beaches more safely accessible ?

After an intermission of coffee, cookies and conversation, Mr. Schaub continued his talk that concluded with a lively question and answer session that was enhanced by the welcome participation of our special guests - The Torrey Pines Association, The Torrey Pines Protective Association, The Del Mar Heights Community Planning Group, and the Sierra Club.

Mr. Schaub thanked all for their interest and the thought provoking questions and suggestions which he will take back to Sacramento for research and consideration.

Thanks to all who cared enough to attend and share their ideas.

P.S. If you had anything on the old bulletin board that you want back, make sure that you call Judy Schulman (452-7683). Otherwise, items will be thrown out or (even worse) lost forever in her docent files.

NEIGHBORHOOD NOTEWORTHY NATURE by Judy Carlstrom

As a follow up to the sad tale of the Tell-Tale Tails I would now like to share with you a bit of my neighborhood (Poway). Here are my most recent discoveries:

- sandpipers (I think. It was dusk). They seem to like the drainage canal.
- a dead rattlesnake (lying in same drainage canal. I presume he was dead although gone the next day- on someone's hat-band by now).
- an enormous bat (Having read every bat description in Field Guide to Mammals I am convinced that it is the Western Mastiff bat. Largest bat mentioned in the book. Roosts on or in buildings, crevices, cliffs and trees.)
- a 2" long, steel blue flying insect. This has stumped even Hank Nicol although during my 4th search through Aubobon's Field Guide to the Insects I stumbled on the Mydas fly, 1 to 1 1/8", stout cylindrical, hairless, wings bluish or brownish. Its western version is said to be larger but with clear wings, so I'm not sure I've found what I'm looking for.
- a large toad - who continued to visit us nightly through mid-August. Where does he go come hot weather?
- 2 tree frogs- crawled out of my dish drainer on separate occasions.
- white-tailed kites- We were quite excited at this discovery since our Peterson Guide says they are rare. However, Dr. Hunsaker said that they breed in North County and are making a comeback.
- Ferruginous Hawk- He was dead overhead, looked light brown with black outline on the wings. He is supposed to be white but Tom, my husband, says that he was white by a bird watcher's definition, and that birds, no matter how clearly you think you see them, can be hard to identify.
- Tarantula Hawk- not a hawk at all but a wasp- large, black bodied with bright orange wings- a nasty critter. She stings the tarantula between the legs, immobilizing him, furiously digs a burial chamber, stuffs him in, along with an egg, and closes the hole. The egg hatches and the larva feeds off the spider, eventually killing him. (I can't believe he's made it this far.)
- assorted nighthawks, owls and cottontails
- velvet ants

Our canyon has recently been declared a wildlife preserve due to its popularity as a breeding ground amongst the blacktailed gnat-catchers. The locals say this bird is rare, although my bird-book says it is common to the scrublands.

There is broom baccharis below the house. It is also in the garden in front of the Lodge but Hank says it just blew in there so they gave it a label. It is very common and one of the first shrubs to grow in a disturbed area. Our slopes are also thick with wild fennel that heavily scents the night air, plenty of buckwheat, and farther up the hill a large group of lance-leaf dudleya. But best of all is the enormous Desert Agave or Century plant, a cluster of five. They bloom only once after a minimum of 12 years and then die. These tree-like blooms are 15' tall. Five acres of our canyon are now fire-scarred and I would now like to study the rate at which things grow back.

NEIGHBORHOOD NOTEWORTHY NATURE (continued)

Most of my observations are quite mundane, but I hope somehow to communicate to you my growing excitement over this new habitat and my fledgeling pride in being a member of the Torrey Pines Docent Society. If any of you has information about the phenomenon that I have observed around my home, or any related stories, please share with me.

Sincerely,

Judy Carlstrom

Docent Doings

Congratulations to Judy Carlstrom for being the second one in her training class to finish her check-list! How are the rest of you doing?

From Tony Vitto:

"I am now an Instructor in Neuropathology (Biochemistry) at the Harvard Medical School (Mc Lean Hospital) and am carrying out research into the biochemical causes of neurodegenerative diseases such as Alzheimer's and Huntington's Diseases. I suppose now Walden Pond has taken the place of Torrey Pines for me here but nothing can truly replace it in my mind. Torrey Pines is the one thing I miss most about San Diego. Good luck and love to all of you in the Docent Society.

Best regards,

Tony

News & Notes

MEMORIAL GIFT The Docent Society gratefully acknowledges a donation from Eleanor Murdoch (Mrs. E.F.) in memory of Helen K. Vollbrecht.

ANSWERS TO QUIZ

- 1.) "Witches' Hair", or Dodder (*Cuscuta Californica*). The Diegueño Indians used the entire plant, boiled as a tea, for black-widow spider bite. This orange parasite, Dodder, is seen in spring and summer on chaparral plants. There's a lot of it atop the ocean bluffs, in open spaces mostly.
- 2.) "Witches' Broom", a disease with probable multiple causes, in part hereditary, occasionally seen in Torrey pine trees. Best example just off the road en route to Parry Grove Trail, on left side going north.

TORREY PINES DOCENT SOCIETY
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the 25th of each month.
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June Warburton's

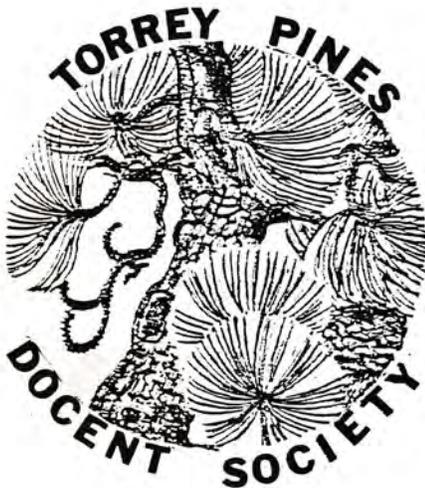
A bee flew into my drink one afternoon as I was relaxing on the patio under the bottle-brush. Gingerly I lifted him out and set him on the table. He staggered around a bit. At least he hadn't drowned. Then he spent 10 minutes (I timed him) cleaning himself up- first his head and proboscis (?), then his legs, one at a time. He seemed to be enjoying himself. As he flew away I wondered, "Do bees like Canadian Club?"

I would like to taste that honey.

M.H.



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Scrub Jay