



# TORREYANA

Published for Members of the Torrey Pines Docent Society, #94, March, 1983

NEXT DOCENT MEETING: Saturday, March 19, 9:00 a.m., Visitor Center

Our guest speaker for March will be Ron Mc Peak, a marine biologist from Kelco. He will present a fabulous slide program on the Dynamics and Utilization of a California Kelp Forest.

A Board of Directors' meeting will follow the regular meeting.

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DESERT TOUR ----- SUNDAY MARCH 20. 8:00 a.m.

Our society is taking a bus tour to Anza Borrego Desert State Park. Our tentative itinerary includes leaving Torrey Pines at 8:00 a.m. and arriving at the desert visitor's center around 10:30 for their fantastic slide presentation and museum exhibits. Afterwards, lunch (bring your own edibles and refreshments), hike up palm canyon and bussing to the floral displays within the park. Hopefully Borrego's naturalist will be along to interpret the desert environment for us. ALL docents, rangers and friends are invited. Please contact Bill Brothers, 286-7085, to confirm your reservations. The bus holds 38 people, thus I will take the first 38 to call. The price will be around 10 to 17 dollars. Wild flowers and clean skies are a few of nature's wonders to behold.

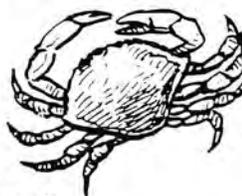
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Dates Set for Docent Training Program

Mark the following Saturdays on your calendars!  
April 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th, and May 7th.  
Further information will appear in the next Torreyana.

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FISH,  
SHELLFISH,  
AND SEA  
MAMMALS  
ALL FIND  
SHELTER  
IN KELP BEDS



BROADTAIL

(FROND)

CALIFORNIA  
GIANT KELP



So how do you like my new logo for the president's message? Well to be truthful, it really isn't new. In fact, it's some 40 years old. It was used as the heading for the humor column of the Camp Callan newspaper The Rangefinder. Located just south of the Reserve, Camp Callan was an Army anti-aircraft artillery replacement training center. It was activated on January 15, 1941 and was declared as surplus and razed in 1946.

Congratulations to Ellen Sjöholm! She is the latest 1982 training session associate to become a voting member. Please also welcome to our group the following new associate members; Bob & Margaret Amann, Lenore Feinberg, Dorothy Hammil, Jean Hendley, Janet Humphreys and Robert Wheatley.

To clear up any confusion regarding the difference between "associate" and "supporting" members of the TPDS; our by-laws define an "associate" member as someone who has submitted an application for membership, has paid an annual fee of \$3.00, and who is actively pursuing a prescribed course of docent training. Privileges shall not include voting, but they shall include receipt of all Society notices and newsletters, temporary identification for entry to the Reserve, and other privileges bestowed upon volunteer workers by the State Park System. On the other hand, "supporting members" become so designated by nomination and majority vote of the Executive Board for outstanding service on behalf of the Society or by contribution of \$10.00. Privileges include only the receipt of Society newsletters and any other privileges bestowed by the Executive Board. A "voting" member is one who has completed a prescribed course of training and is performing a minimum prescribed hours of public service duties or equivalent service to further the aims of the society, as determined by the Executive Board. In addition to all the privileges granted to associate members, this category of member can also participate in voting on Society matters.

Because of this apparent confusion, you will be given a grace period of 2 more weeks to pay your dues. After this time, if you have not paid, your name will be removed from the mailing list and you will no longer receive the Torreyana. Since there has been some objection to printing the mailing list in the Torreyana, copies of the list will be placed on the library shelf in the docent lounge by March 19. Pick up your copy at the next meeting.

## News & Notes

Judy

Please remember while serving duty in the museum to keep the envelope containing the annual passes in the cash drawer, not on the desk or on top of the sales counter.

Wildflower Map # 2, prepared by your editors, is ready for distribution to the public at the Docent Desk @ 5¢ ea. See page 7.

The new sign near the parking lot requesting visitor registration refers to the book on the Lodge porch.

# Secretary's Notes

by Julie Marine

The annual election meeting, Feb. 19, was attended by 30 docents and park staff, Judy Schulman presiding. The door prize went to Marge Amann.

Ranger Bob Wohl reported that annual passes are now for sale @ \$40.00, good for visiting all state parks, day use only. Docents will sell the passes, the Docent Society receiving \$10.00 for each pass sold. Please remember that Torrey Pines Docents and members of the Torrey Pines Association receive free admission to the Reserve only, as a special benefit of membership.

Hank Nicol recommended a new state park project, the printing of a park newspaper for Torrey Pines S.R. once or twice a year, to be handed out to visitors. The newspaper would contain pertinent information, calendar of programs, seasonal changes, photos, etc. Docents' input would be appreciated.

The Nominating Committee Chairperson, June Warburton, presented the slate of officers for 1983: President- Judy Schulman, Vice Pres.- Bill Brothers, Sec'y.- Julie Marine, Treas.- Mary Miller, Sales Coordinator- Rowdy James, Librarian & Duty Coordinator- Ruth Hand, Torreyana Editor- Millicent Horger. The slate was accepted by unanimous vote. A motion was made and seconded that Isabel Buechler be elected as Associate Editor of the Torreyana. Motion carried.

Ranger Bob Wohl introduced a 16 minute taped TV program about T.P.S.R. with Bob Wohl and Dick Edwards as moderators. Watching another tape, "A Docent Doesn't", we could pick out all the wrong things the Docent did while giving a museum tour to a group of young people- a good training aid.

Bill Brothers asked for suggestions from the docents for meetings and special tours.

The Treasurer's report showed a balance on hand of \$2,405.47

Refreshments followed and Bill Brothers led us on a walk on the Parry Grove Trail. He pointed out the Clematis vine, & small bushes of Coast buckwheat- see p. 22 & 182 Key to Coastal and Chaparral Plants- these are unusual. We also saw tiny pop-corn flowers, a red tailed hawk, Anna's hummingbird and red-shafted flicker.

Don't forget to contribute to the coffee fund. This month I spent \$7.50 on refreshments. Please call if you would like to serve as hostess or contribute goodies.

Something extra: A Smile A smile costs nothing, but gives much. It enriches those who receive without making poorer those who give. It takes but a moment, but the memory of it lasts a life time. None is so rich or mighty that he can get along without it. A smile creates happiness in the home, creates goodwill in business, and is the countersign of friendship. It brings rest to the weary, cheer to the discouraged, sunshine to the sad, and is nature's best antidote for worry. It cannot be bought, begged, sold, borrowed or stolen. It is of no value to anyone until it is given away. Some people are too weary to give you a smile. Give them one of yours, for no one needs a smile quite so much as a person who has none to give.

Julie

## Letters to the editor

Writes Shelley Rogers:

"I was glancing through the Jan. 14 issue of Science when I came across a possible answer to something I've always wondered about. I've even been asked about it on my walks. I have tried to capture the essence of the article in this paragraph."

### SPIDER EXPERIMENT

Have you ever wondered why some spiders decorate their webs with a prominent patch of zig-zag embroidery? Two scientists at Cornell had a hunch, so they did an experiment. They knew that nocturnal spiders (spiders that put up their webs at night and take them down in the morning) never weave these patches, so they conjectured that the showy embroidery woven by "daytime" spiders might be a visual sign. The scientists had also noted that birds dislike flying into spider webs; on approaching webs the birds often change course abruptly to avoid them. To see whether the patches might alert birds to the presence of webs, thereby saving both spiders and birds grief, the scientists one night located 60 nocturnal spiders spinning away in the wee hours. They removed the spiders from their finished webs (we can only hope they put them back later) and in 30 of the webs they placed fake (paper) zig-zags. By noon the next day, 60% of the "embroidered" webs were still standing, but only 8% of the unmarked webs! (A towhee was noted plowing through one of the unmarked webs.) Thus the scientists confirmed their hunch that at least one important function of a spider's zig-zag patch is to protect its web from potentially destructive flying birds.



*Shelley*

### *Poetry Corner*

"The web of our life is of a  
mingled yarn,  
Good and ill together."

"All's Well That Ends Well"  
-Shakespeare

*M. H.*

QUEEN WATCHING

by Hank Nicol

This has absolutely nothing to do with Torrey Pines, or conservation, or environmentalism, but, since San Diego is to be visited by royalty, I thought I'd tell you what to expect.

I was living in Auckland, New Zealand. My transportation was an anemic motor scooter. There was one hill I just couldn't make in one go. I would ride halfway up and duck into a side street just as the engine was gasping to a stop. Then I would come roaring out of the side street and, if there was no traffic in the way, I could just get to the top. One Sunday morning I had just gone through this operation, but as I got near the top I saw a cop with his tall bobby helmet motioning me to pull up. Behind him there were hundreds of people blocking the street. I asked the cop what was going on. He said the Queen Mother, who was on a visit, was going to come out of Dominion House and go to church. The people were there to see her. Well, I figured I might just as well look too. I was already there. After a while a car came out of the drive and turned up the street. The crowd cheered. I guess I saw the Queen Mother. At least I saw a big, black car.

My Irish buddy, Danny O' Sullivan, had a better experience. He had gotten off the train in London and was confronted by a large crowd. He decided he couldn't get through, so he ducked under the train. He started to make his way out of the station when he saw a policeman. He asked what the crowd was about. The bobby told him the crowd was waiting to see the Queen. Just then a limosine wheeled past. The Queen waved, and the cop saluted. Danny just stood there with his mouth open. The waiting crowd saw nothing.

If you sally forth to see royalty.... lots of luck!

*Hank*

CANYONEERS PLAN TOURS (no fee)

Sat., March 19- All day hike in Penasquitos Canyon

Sat., April 9- Outreach tour of San Clemente Canyon

Sun., April 24- Cowles Mt. 2:00 P.M., Meet at Golf Crest and Navajo

Sat., May 7- Cowles Mt., 10 A.M. and 11 A.M.

Sat., May 14- Kate Sessions Park, Pacific Beach

Sat., May 21- Penasquitos Canyon

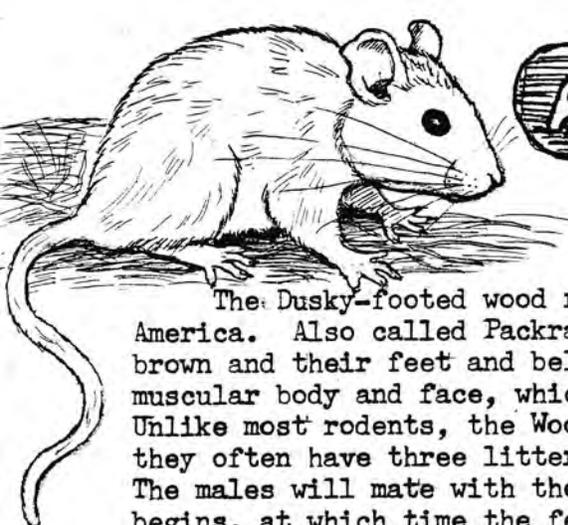
Special Tours with fee

Sat., March 12- Pio Pico- Reservations needed through Museum

Natural History Museum DAY IN THE WILDWOOD

Sat., April 16 and Sun., April 17- fee.

For more information call the Natural History Museum, 231-3821



# ANIMAL TALK



DUSKY-FOOTED WOOD RAT  
(Neotoma fuscipes)

The Dusky-footed wood rat is a large nocturnal rodent which is native to North America. Also called Packrats, Bush-rats and Trade-rats. Their silky fur is greyish-brown and their feet and belly grey to white. The mature males have an unusually muscular body and face, which distinguishes them from the slender, smooth bodied females. Unlike most rodents, the Wood-rats have very small litters, averaging 2-3. However, they often have three litters in a breeding season, which runs from January through June. The males will mate with the nearest available female and stay with her until gestation begins, at which time the female forcibly evicts him from her house. He then goes on to find another female. The mother rat raises her young entirely by herself. The young are born naked, blind and helpless and do not leave the nest until they are 23 days old. Usually they stay with the mother until they are full grown.

The Wood-rats' food is acorns, berries, leaves, grasses, seeds, fungi, galls, and tender twigs,....(and if they happen to be lucky enough to know a tender hearted RANGER, they will eat.....anything.....they.....can.....get)!!! Wood-rat houses are built of twigs and branches from live oak, scrub-oak, poison oak, and Chamise. These seem to be favored since they also have galls, berries and seeds to use for food. The houses are built draped over low hanging tree or bush branches, sometimes up in trees, but almost never on the bare ground. There is a reason for this. The wood-rats greatest enemy is not always one of his many predators. His principal cause of death can frequently be attributed to prolonged wet weather. He suffers severe weight losses during long rainy spells which results in a much greater susceptibility to diseases and parasites. The rats that prosper are the ones whose homes provide the optimum in rain protection. The ideal house would have a peaked roof which makes up half the height of the entire structure. Inside the rats home are from 1-3 nursery chambers, some occupied, some vacant. A storage room for food often has up to a gallon of acorns, seeds, berries, etc. Houses have from 6-8 external openings and internal passageways on 3-4 levels which are arranged in a circular pattern. The nest where the young are born is very small. A teacup could easily fit into one. The center of the nest is "planked down", but the sides are carefully left "plumped up" to keep the naked babies warm and cozy. The mother makes the nest of very finely shredded bark, with Chamise probably the most common.

Wood-rats are very communicative. In field studies, these vocalizations have been noted: 1. an alarm chatter; 2. shrill squeal of rage; 3. distress squeal; 4. bird-like chirping. Tail thumping is also a very common form of expression. An angry Wood-rat will thump his tail as a release of tension, and also to warn other rats of imminent danger. A Wood-rat, entering a new territory and approaching an unfamiliar rat house, will tail thump at the entrance. If he is "answered" by tail thumping from within the house, the inhabitant is saying, "This house is occupied, GO AWAY!!! Most rats will then leave, but an especially aggressive animal will enter and challenge the owner for possession of the house.....Which reminds me.....

One very hot summer evening, we left our doors open to cool our apartment. A Wood-rat "sauntered" in and took refuge under the dishwasher. From time to time all evening, he would sneak out and try to steal an apple that was on a low shelf. Each time he came out, we tried frantically to herd him back out the front door, but after each confrontation he retreated back under the dishwasher, his tail thumping loudly to express his anger and frustration. Finally,.....by 4:00 A.M.,...the rat got bored with the whole scene and "allowed" my brave husband to let him out the door. By this time...I was fitfully sleeping in the bathroom, ..all cramped up on a pile of soggy blankets in a tightly closed shower stall,....(the safest place I could think of in a .."rat infested" studio apartment!! WOOD-RATS ARE FUN TO VISIT, BUT I DIDNT WANT TO LIVE WITH ONE!! This was long before I became a Docent, so I had never even heard of Wood-rats. Now,..after doing a lot of studying about them, I feel that if this ever happened again,I could be much more objective;- looking at the rat with curiosity and great interest. Also I could then fall asleep happily, peacefully.....all cramped up on a pile of soggy blankets in my tightly closed shower stall.....

- June -

Ocean

Still in bloom:

- Black sage
- Biscuit root
- Bladder pod
- Forget-me-not
- Ground pink
- Indian paint-brush
- Lemonadeberry
- Milkmaids
- Nightshade
- Sand Verbena
- Sea Dahlia
- Stock
- Warty-stem Ceanothus
- Wild cucumber

Groundsel  
Small yellow flowers



California poppy  
Showy flowers yellow to orange



heads in dense clusters



Pearly Everlasting  
Maple syrup scent

South Overlook



Bindweed (wild morning glory)  
Flowers - white

Phacelia  
Flowers - blue purple



Lupine  
Flowers - blue purple



Southern Sun-cup  
Petals bright yellow  
maroon center  
Prostrate annual



Shooting star  
Flowers with white to red-  
violet lobes, filaments black



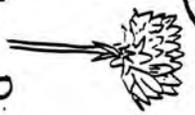
Wallflower  
Yellow flowers  
top long stems



Rock rose  
low, bushy  
plant - flowers yellow



Blue Dicks  
Tall stems  
Flowers in dense  
head-like clusters



North Overlook

Filaree  
tiny flowers  
pink-violet



Encelia  
Heads showy  
rays yellow,  
disks brown



Bush poppy  
Large shrub  
Flowers yellow



Found along the road \*

Red bush Monkey  
Flower - flowers  
brick red



# Guy Fleming Trail Wildflower Map # 2, March

(See colored photos in albums in Visitor Center)

TORREY PINES DOCENT SOCIETY  
 PRESIDENT- Judy Schulman  
 Deadline for Torreyana copy  
 the 25th of each month.  
 Send contributions to:  
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 ASSOC. ED.- Isabel Buechler

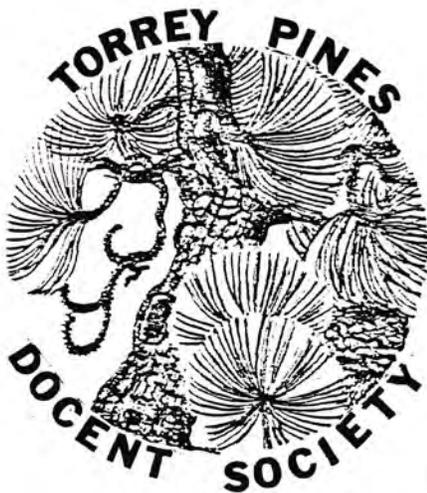


## Docent Doings

APPLAUSE!!!

Cheers for our talented Torreyana artist and cartoonist, June Warburton, who has recently sold her "Animal Talk" stationery to the Natural History Museum Gift Shop and the Libra Bookstore in Bazaar del Mundo.

Torrey Pines Docent Society  
 C/o Torrey Pines State Reserve  
 2680 Carlsbad Blvd.  
 Carlsbad, Ca. 92008



FOR

*File Copy*  
*Keep in Library*



Scrub Jay