

# TORREYANA

Published for Members of the Torrey Pines Docent Society, #102, Dec., 1983



## DOCENTS PLAN HOLIDAY PARTY FELIZ NAVIDAD!

Come to the pot-luck fiesta on Saturday, Dec. 17, 9:00 A.M. at the Hacienda (Lodge).

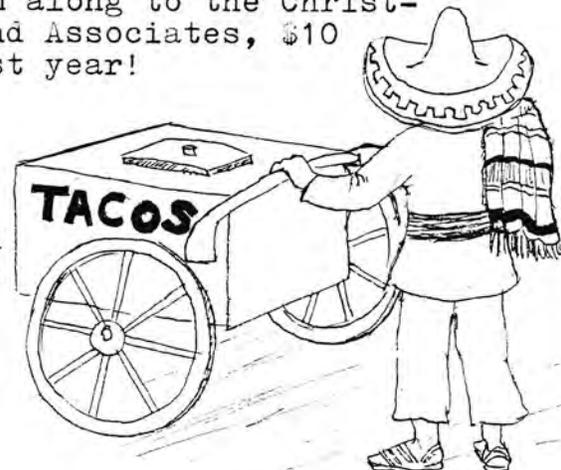
Please remember to bring a food item which could have a Mexican flavor. (If you need any suggestions, call Julie Marine at 755-5598.) Come in South-of-the-border costumes if you wish, and try your hand at whacking the piñata! Other features will be a short reading by Ruth Hand, Docent-of-the-year award, and music by our talented Judy Carlstrom on the dulcimer, accompanied by her husband, Tom, on guitar. Don't miss the festivities! Come with food, singing voices, family, friends and smiling faces! Olé!

## Dues Due Soon!

Dues are due in January. Why not bring them along to the Christmas party? Only \$3.00 for Voting Members and Associates, \$10 for Supporting Members. Same bargain as last year!

## Share Your Vacation!

Docents are needed for duty the week between Christmas and New Year's. Call Ruth Hand at 459-9020 to sign up, please.





Judy S.,  
Bill, Mary,  
Betty, Glenn,  
Isabel, Judy C.  
Grace, Millicent,  
Julie, Rowdy, John,  
Elizabeth, Melba, Jim  
June, Charles & Judy M.  
Ruth H., Ellen Q, Shelley  
Jo, Ellen S., Glenda, Bob W  
Peter, Carolyn, Monique, Emmy  
Sally & Norm, Pamela, Robert W.  
Laura, Dan, Lu Carol, Betsy, Joan  
Bob & Marge A., Laurie, Dorothy, Ed  
Pete, Margaret, Cherry, Ruth C., Jean  
Lenore, Martha, Nobie, Ruby, Carol, Ron  
Jane V., Jack & Jo Ann, Janet, Piper, Steve

DOCENTS  
AND  
ASSOCIATES

*Holiday Greetings from the stars  
on the  
Torrey Pines "Docentree"*

TWO OF OUR BRIGHT STARS

Three cheers for Docent Carolyn Anderson, who recently completed a brand-new, finely crafted Indian-life diorama, enclosed in one of our new display cases. Already this educational display has been greatly admired by park visitors, as well as staff and docents. We're waiting with bated breath for Carolyn's owl display, complete except for the owl, still at the taxidermist's.



Applause for our Animal Talk author, cartoonist and artist (whew! all these!) June Warburton, who drew the clever illustrations on the front and back pages this month!



by Judy Schulman

For those of you who noticed that I wasn't at the November meeting, you can rest assured that I wasn't playing hooky. What I was doing was attending the Department of Park & Recreation's workshop on volunteer training and management. The weekend seminar was held at the William Penn Mott Jr. Training Center at the Asilomar Conference Grounds near Monterey. 54 members were there representing 32 different docent groups statewide. Seminar topics included an introduction to the Department's organization and cooperative association relations, the mechanics of organizing and managing a volunteer program, problem solving, planning special events, and sharing group goals and objectives.

Did you know that you belong to a very special family of people? Not only is it very special, but also it's very large. There are between 4,000 to 6,000 of you in about 75 different docent groups. And if you include other types of cooperative associations, commissioners, advisory committees, and mounted patrols, there are some 10,000 of us. In addition to being a very large family, we're a very productive one too. Over a million dollars in services have been provided for the State Park System. These services include fund-raising, planning projects, building visitor centers and staffing them, doing living history programs, giving nature walks, sponsoring special events, and providing both equestrian and off-road vehicle patrols.

If it sounds like I'm trying to feed your egos, you're right. You have every reason to be proud. One of the leaders of the meeting mentioned that she was glad to see a representative from Torrey Pines because our group is considered one of the bastions of docentry.

For me, there were 3 very exciting outcomes from this seminar. First: Compared to many of the other groups, we're doing extremely well. Despite our small size, we have a lot of accomplishments under our belt. We also have a good working relationship with the park staff. I mention this because I was surprised to find out that this is not so with all groups. Other representatives there also mentioned problems due to internal fighting within the docent group. Fortunately, neither of these problems plague us.

Second: I picked up quite a few new ideas on docent activities from the speakers and other docents. These include informational pamphlets on our group, publicity events, fund-raising, special events, docent training manuals, publications, new interpretive techniques, business operations, and methods to objectively evaluate a docent program.

Third: At the last cooperative association workshop in March, work was begun on the formation of a League of State Park Non-Profit Organizations. According to the League's by-laws, the purpose of its formation is....

- A. To secure cooperative action in advancing the common purposes of its members.
- B. To provide a network of communication for consideration of the ideas and experiences of nonprofit organizations cooperating with the State Department of Parks and Recreation.
- C. To represent to the California State Department of Parks and Recreation and to others in government, the views and recommendations of the Conference on all matters affecting or anticipated to affect, the interests of members of the Conference.
- D. To assist in forming new nonprofit organizations to benefit the State Park System.

THE TORREY TELLER (continued)

At this November workshop, an 8 member steering committee was formed to insure that (1) all docent groups will have the opportunity to join the league; (2) review the by-laws and suggest modifications; and (3) submit a nominee for membership on the board of directors. From the list of nominees, the steering committee will choose the board. The board will be chosen to represent an equal distribution among groups in regard to geographical location, size, and orientation (nature vs. history). As I am a member of the steering committee, I would appreciate as much input as possible on the by-laws. To that effect, several copies of the by-laws will be kept at the docent desk and in our lounge.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS,

*Judy*



*Secretary's Notes by Julie Marine*

Vice-President Bill Brothers opened the monthly meeting at 9:15 on November 19. Twenty-five were in attendance, including new members Joan Jollett, Lu Carol O'Neill, Dan O'Neill and Betsy Roick, to whom a warm welcome was extended.

The whale trip to the Coronado Islands is tentatively set for January 14th or January 21st. The price will possibly be \$35 per person. Sign up with Bill Brothers if you wish to go.

Summaries of Senate bill AB 2099 (Farr) were distributed. The subject: General Obligation Bond Issue: Park and Recreational Facilities. This bill would propose to the voters at the 1984 Primary Election a 370 million dollar general obligation bond issue for park and recreation facilities and related purposes. Docent Jim Whitehead explained the reasons for this bill, the importance of new interpretive centers, repairs of storm damage, protection of endangered species, etc. He urged us to become familiar with this bill so that we become well informed and urge others to support it.

Our guest speaker for the day was Jim Sumich, Instructor of Marine Biology at Grossmont College. He gave a slide illustrated talk on marine mammals, with emphasis on the California grey whale, including fascinating experiences during a three month's study of the whales at San Ignacio lagoon in Baja California. Many thanks, Jim, for a splendid presentation.

Janet Humphreys served as hostess and treated us to do-nuts, juice and fruit. Jo Kiernan contributed banana bread. Following the refreshment break, Bob Wohl showed the television tape from the recent series which features Torrey Pines State Reserve and Ranger Randy Hawley.

Mat Christmas cards were given to docents after the program, a special gift from Mat Studio in La Jolla.

*Julie*

# ANIMAL TALK

## RED-TAILED HAWK



The Red-Tail belongs among the Buteo group of soaring hawks with broad wings and short rounded tails. The tail which is brick red, can be seen from far off as the bird soars overhead. The Red-Tail is probably the most often seen Western bird of prey.

Erroneously referred to as a "Chicken Hawk", or "Hen Hawk", this bird is trapped or hunted relentlessly by farmers. Actually, it is the smaller hawks such as the Goshawk and Coopers Hawk that do the most damage around the poultry yard. The bulk of the Red-Tail's diet consists of mice, squirrels, rabbits and insects that are harmful to farm lands.

One of this Hawk's favorite foods is rattlesnake. The Red-Tail's legs are scaled rather than feathered, which affords them a certain amount of protection from the deadly snake. The Hawk is not immune to the snake's potent poison however, and sometimes the hunter becomes the victim.

The Red-Tail is a large bird with a wing span of 4½ feet. The adults undergo two coloration stages. During the light phase, the chest, throat and stomach are generally white, streaked with dark brown. During the dark phase, the overall color is brownish-black. During both phases, the tail retains its reddish brown color which makes for easy identification of this beautiful bird.

During the mating season, Red-Tails engage in daring aerial acrobatics, sometimes dropping 2000 feet in a single dive. Nests are built of sticks and branches in a tall tree or cliff face. Eggs are white, lightly splotched with brown, and 2-3 are the normal amount layed. As is the case with most birds of prey, the female is quite a bit bigger than the male.

Enemies of the Red-Tail are crows, ravens, owls, and other hawks. Even small songbirds will harass this hawk when he flies through their nesting areas. Their greatest enemy is still the farmer, who finds the Red-Tail an easy target because of his unfortunate habit of perching on top of telephone poles.

You might even say that when the Red-Tail perches on the top of a telephone pole, he turns into a.....  
....."Sitting Duck".

*June*

## I WAS NOT ALWAYS HANK NICOL

My name used to be Rhon Ruffnet. I come from a distant and unpronounceable planet. The people there are mostly of the same races and types with which you are familiar, caucasoid, negroid, mongoloid, etc. The population of the island-continent where I lived was mostly what I would call "Britainoid." The people are somewhat more intelligent than are people here. This is not the fault of Earth people. It is caused by a dietary deficiency. I was sent here to remedy this situation, but, unfortunately, I am subject to the same deficiency. I cannot remember the formula. I only remember that it had something to do with pineapple juice and double rhomboid crystals. I do remember some things from my old home.

Here on Earth I have been ridiculed because of my idea of paving roads and, especially, trails with "macaroni." I still maintain that it is a good idea. If short tubes of concrete or plastic or whatever could be glued together, they would make a durable surface which would be resistant to erosion. Furthermore, the fact that water would penetrate it easily would help prevent erosion on either side of the path. This idea is original only in part, or maybe not at all. I remember a cloth which looked much like the foamy, rubbery blankets which have been made here these past few years. Under a microscope it looked like macaroni. This material was useful for summer clothing because the air could pass through it easily. When it was covered with something windproof it had great insulating properties, and, so, the same clothing was useful in winter.

I give you this "macaroni" idea free. You can develop it for trails or for clothes or for anything else you like. I expect to go back home if I can ever remember how to make rhomboid crystals from pineapple juice.

*Hank*

## *Docent Doings*



Scripps Aquarium-Museum docents served as hosts for the annual meeting for docents of our local San Diego Museums on November 16. Torrey Pines State Reserve was represented by Julie Marine, Ruth Hand, and Isabel Buechler, while other attendees came from Old Town San Diego State Historic Park, San Diego Art Museum, Museum of Man, Natural History Museum, Aerospace Museum, and Cabrillo National Monument. The program featured sensational slides and talks by Don Wilkie, aquarium director, and Heidi Hahn, activities coordinator, who had just returned from a diving and collecting expedition to Micronesia. During their tropical marine excursion, they explored famous underwater wrecks at Truk lagoon, beautiful coral reefs of Palau, and Palau's archipelago. In spite of numerous flight delays and problems with shipping the specimens collected, almost all specimens survived the journey to Scripps, where they were being held in special tanks until exhibits could be prepared. Docents were given a behind-the-tanks tour to see working areas of the aquarium.

NATURE IN TRUST by Cherry Osborne

As an aspiring docent, I was presented with a choice of a talk to the Docent Society or an article in the newsletter... this is it! I was going to write about my garden, but my knowledge of Californian wildlife is not exactly up to scratch as Bob Wohl discovered when I innocently inquired if a gopher was some kind of a frog! Instead, I've opted for a more sedate story about my work with a native conservation group in England.

I was employed by the Lincolnshire & South Humber Trust for Nature Conservation and no one could think of a suitable abbreviation. (You try playing around with L & S H T N C.) Every county in Britain now has its own Trust. The first one to be established was in 1948. Ours was the third, and today there are over 50. Each Trust is a voluntary, charitable organization set up for the purpose of rescuing land (and therefore wildlife) in the county from developers, intensive agriculture and other threats. To this end, money is raised in a number of ways (central and local government grants; conservation bodies like the World Wildlife Funds; the Trust's own efforts- the most lucrative being sales of conservation related giftware and books) so that land can either be purchased, leased or managed and be set aside as a nature reserve where wildlife can flourish and native species of trees and plants can be preserved.

The Lincolnshire Trust managed 53 native reserves when I left in 1982, a total acreage of 5,920 which must sound insignificant, but it balances out if you remember that Britain fits comfortably into California! The Trust is also involved in protecting roadside verges, often the only places left for once common wildflowers like the cowslip or buttercup to grow unhindered.

Much of the Trusts' work is done by volunteers, organized in our county into 17 area groups. There are only 8 staff members so that most of the work on the reserves and raising funds is carried out by volunteers who also have a major role in decision-making. Until recently, most of the Trusts saw their work as saving land which once destroyed, could never be replaced. Ancient woodlands, wetlands, old meadows and hedgerows especially were and are under threat. Now, however, another task is emerging- that of underlining the urgency of the Trusts' work to the public. Part of my job was to develop just this kind of awareness in schools, colleges and to adult groups. When I left, we were grappling with the peculiar problem this creates- that of wanting to keep the nature reserves in as "pure" a condition as possible but yet teaching people about the beauty and the necessity of these places by the best means possible- that of showing them the reserves. We had to compromise so that some reserves were made open to the public at all times. Others were not mentioned very often!

The Trusts are a fairly conservative group in that they try to remain apolitical. Their philosophy, unlike an organization like Friends of the Earth, is to compromise rather than confront, in the hope that more people will be won over that way. Since we worked closely with government agencies, landowners and farmers, we had to tread carefully. And quietly, but steadily, over the 35 years the Trusts have been in operation, some of the most beautiful areas of Britain have been saved from destruction, and a number of species on the verge of extinction have been left in peace in our small native reserves.



Cherry

**TORREY PINES DOCENT SOCIETY**  
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the 25th of each month.  
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ASSOC. ED.- Isabel Buechler

## JUDY ON DUTY

### Report from the Ranger

WELCOME! Rangers Yvette DeView  
(coming from San Elijo) and Steve Woods  
(from S. Carlsbad) will  
assume their duties at TPSR on  
Dec. 1st.

FAREWELL to Ranger Greg Hackett  
who will be transferred to S.  
Carlsbad. Keep in touch, Greg!



IM JUDY....THAT'S WHO!!

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



FOR

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Scrub Jay