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TORREYANA

Published for Members of the
Torrey Pines Docent Society
and the Torrey Pines Association

No. 119

May 1985

Next Docent Society Meeting

The regular monthly meeting of the Torrey Pines Docent Society will be held May 18 at 9 a.m. in the Lodge. Erik Jonnsen will present a lecture and slide program on the native plants of the Torrey Pines area. This should be an outstanding program and an important part of the Docent Training Program as well. Don't miss it.



Getting to Know You by Bernard Dambron

One can hardly imagine anything more different from Southern California than Northern France, where I was born. There, no sun, no mountains, no canyons, but rain, plains, and canals; no wilderness, but well-tended vegetable gardens and, of course, wheat fields where the poppy grows, since we are in Flanders.

Tourcoing, my home town, is the wool capital of France. Coal-burning factories have long replaced the spinning wheels, and I grew up in a decor of brick walls and chimney stacks. Nature, to me, was something poets talked about, not a reality of life. So I did not become a ranger, but a French teacher. Later, I went into the wine business, and I am now working for a French tile company.

It was not until a few years ago, when I took up running and birding, that I started to enjoy nature and wild life. I first discovered Torrey Pines in 1982, running the La Jolla half-marathon, and I came back, and back again, first by myself, and now, since I got married, with my lovely wife Dawn.

I find Torrey Pines an inspiring, uplifting, enriching place, and I am glad I have the opportunity to share it with friends and visitors.

Secretary's Notes by Betty Andrews

The Torrey Pines Docent Society met on April 20, at 9 a.m., in the Lodge.

Judy Carlstrom, Vice President, extended a welcome to all, particularly to the new docents who were there as part of their training program.

Judy outlined tentative plans for a Wilderness Weekend in June. She explained what it entailed and what was done at the first one last October, and asked for a volunteer committee to implement it.

Judy Schulman announced that she did not work on Hank Nicol's second book as stated in the Introduction. She did work on the first book, but Isabel Buechler worked on the second.

Glenn Dunham, President, passed out information on the Historical Society Tour on April 29 to those planning to attend.

Glenn introduced our speaker, Tom Demeré, a paleontologist from the Natural History Museum. He traced the geological development of our area from the Jurassic period 145 million years ago to the present, illustrating his talk with slides.

Next, Don Coppeck, from the State Coastal Conservancy, spoke to us concerning the development of Peñasquitos Lagoon. There will be a public hearing on April 24 to discuss a proposed restoration and enhancement plan for the area. Mr. Coppeck answered questions on both the Conservancy and the proposal.

Tom Demeré then led a discussion outside the Lodge concerning rock formations to be seen in the area.

The meeting ended with refreshments provided by Margaret Bardwick, Irene Stiller, Joanne Cannon, and Janet Humphreys.

Betty

(Refreshments for the April 13 Training Session were contributed by Jeanne Vanderhoof, Melba Kooyman, and Isabel Buechler.)



EDITOR'S NOTE: KAREN DUSEK TO DO JUNE TORREYANA

I'll be going out of town (it's graduation time again) on May 25, which is the deadline for Torreyana items. I'm therefore requesting that contributors get material to me prior to that date if at all possible. If you are't able to get items to me at least a couple of days ahead of time, please send them to Karen, who has kindly agreed to take over in my absence. Her address and phone number are:

13166 Thunderhead Street
San Diego, CA 92129
484-3692

Thank you all for your cooperation, and sincere thanks to Karen for coming to the rescue.

JB

Docent Doings



NOTES FROM THE TPDS PRESIDENT by Glenn Dunham

Welcome Torrey Pines Association members. Thanks to Isabel, who agreed to support this additional work load, we are sharing the Torreyana with a sister group that has contributed significantly to Torrey Pines for many years. In doing so we have the benefit of articles submitted by the Association, such as Mitch Beauchamp's article on the control burn of a few months ago, and the sharing of the production cost for the Torreyana. I believe combining forces will be to our mutual benefit.

It is also time to welcome the new docent class. We have another sizable class with many talented people about to be added to the society. The training classes we have this year are excellent and they are just the beginning. Docents should really never stop learning. The check sheet will keep you reading and learning by doing, and our monthly meetings are always on related topics to keep the membership up to date. Learning on your own is also important. I seem to get a new question or idea to research whenever I take a group for a walk, so keep growing. Torrey Pines is a great place to study natural history. Again, welcome to our group. You will be contributing to the park, and volunteers are appreciated by the public, park staff, and the rest of the Docent Society.

Speaking of volunteers, we need someone to take over the duty calendar for about three months while Janet Humphreys is on an extended trip. It means a trip to the lodge now and then and some phone calls when we have an opening or a change. I have the calendar now so call me if you are interested. There are two openings in May: 1 to 4 p.m. for the lodge on May 5, and 1 to 4 p.m. for the walk on May 26. Please call me if you can fill one of these. The best way to reach me is at work at 573-6698, generally from 7 to 4.

Judy Schulman, TPDS past president, has been designated official Historian for the group. She's well qualified for the position, having done extensive research on the Torrey Pines and Camp Callan areas. Judy suggests that you contact her if you have any stories or photos that are of historical interest to TPDS.

A GIFT FOR THE MUSEUM



A recent gift of \$100 for the Museum has enabled the purchase of two stools, which have long been needed to allow small children to see some of the exhibits. The gift was received from Bill and Jo McClintock of Santa Cruz when they paid a recent visit to San Diego. Bill, a cousin of docent Milli Horger and supporting member Mary Jane Raymond, is a former San Diegan who often visited Torrey Pines in the early '30s and remembers backing up the hill in a Model T. He and his mother (who died a few months ago at the age of 102) were both teachers in San Diego schools.

After conferring with Bob Wohl, Milli selected the stools. About \$30 remains to be spent, and Milli would like suggestions from the docents as to how to use it.

A LETTER FROM ASILOMAR



March 29, 1985

Dear Docents and T.P. Associates:

I drove toward Monterey, the S.J. Valley and Pacheco Pass. I liked the pretty little valley around Hollister. I thought that fear of earthquakes might hold down growth, but Hollister is splaying out just like everyplace else. It has its quota of McDonald's, Jack in the . . . , Arby's, Kentucky Fried, and Heavenly D'nuts.

I hit Monterey enough hours early that I thought I'd take a look at the new, and already famous, aquarium. It's set up in an old sardine plant on Cannery Row. Like a lot of other places, Monterey has turned its crummiest section into tourist trap. Works every time!

The aquarium didn't look like all that much when I went in. My first thought was that I could do better at Sea World, but I kept getting in deeper. There were side rooms on side halls. There were upstairs. There were upper upstairs. There was a three story kelp forest. There was an outside tide pool. There was an inside tide pool. There was space they ain't hardly used yet. After an hour and a half, I knew I'd gotten my seven dollars worth. After two and a half hours I was sated. Besides, mid-spring in Sandiago is still early spring in Monterey. My allergy had caught up with me again. I got unparked and headed out.

I drove along a beautiful, rocky coast line much like the La Jolla shore multiplied. I stopped here and there, but the wind was too biting to make things enjoyable. I blundered onto Asilomar Blvd. I hoped it led somewhere. It did. I found the Asilomar Conference Center and got myself registered. The clerk gave me a meal ticket and assigned me to Deer Lodge. Appropriate. The first thing on the first morning I saw a real buck with newly started antlers wander past the window. It was a coast mule deer, of course, but it appeared to be much bigger than the ones we see at Torrey Pines. I hadn't needed an alarm clock. The "firm" mattress was no inducement to linger in the sack. It was somewhat harder than Linda Vista sandstone.

Asilomar is a pretty place. The gnarled trees would be a credit to the Parry Grove except that they were Monterey pines. Lots of rugged coast live oak, twisted Monterey cypress, and huge ceanothi were in the mix. The whole effect is green, much greener than the gray look of Torrey Pines.

The weather fitted a Southern Californian's idea of Northern California. In between rain squalls I went down to Asilomar State Beach. It's very pretty with dunes and rocks, but the cold wind made my eyes water. I did admire the boardwalk across the dunes. I wish we could have something like that on the Beach Trail.

Classes were at the William Penn Mott Jr. Training Academy. During the first day, who should show up at lunch but William Penn Mott Jr. I hadn't seen him in eight or ten years. He looks about three days older. Our former director must be too much the dignitary to have to sleep on one of those mattresses. He did suffer with the rest of us in the mess hall. Speaking of suffering, I hope the seagull

March 29, 1985

on my plate hadn't. I enjoyed the pork, one evening, until I wondered what had happened to the racoons that used to hang around the mess hall. Disregard my remarks about food. I ate, and ate, and ate. I was the thief who pinched the bread from the table reserved for "Director DPR". Another table had a sign that said, "Experienced prosecutor". I left that one alone. Forgive me, but I made an attempt to score points by giving a copy of the new book, TPBTT, to Garth Tanner, Chief of Operations. I didn't even give one to Director DPR or to William Penn Mott Jr.

The class was about "using interpretation as a management tool". I'm not a manager. I don't know exactly why I was there except, maybe to be a thorn to the people who are managers. Just the same, I think I picked up some things to make it worthwhile . . . and a few new ways to drive the boss ranger crazy.

The emphasis was on why we should use interpretation rather than on how to use interpretation. There was, of course, some mention of bringing interpretation into the modern world: Walkman interpretation, video machines, computers to tell the park story. Will we turn parks into electronic games? I may be old enough to go extinct along with the rest of the dinosaurs, but I think a park should be a refuge from computers and electronics.

We were given piles and piles of handouts. Some of them made me dizzy. I read such gems of the language of Shakespeare and Shaw as "interpretive modes", "media tests", "fabrication of exhibitry", and "non-obtrusive research measures". We watched a not-very-exciting video tape. It made some good points but could have stood some editing. It's amazing how poorly interpretive experts interpret interpretation. See? Now I'm doing it.

There were good ideas too, even though the snow shoe workshop probably wouldn't At one park a docent wears a distinctive bandana to keep the sun off the back of his neck. I was surprised to find out that it wasn't even special. It was right off the rack. The park shop sells an amazing amount of souvenir bandanas. This makes a buck or two for the park, and the bandana is a lasting memory for the visitor.

The announcement of a new program got my hackles up. Apparently we are going partners with Post, of Grape Nuts fame, and the phone company. Collect enough boxtops, and you can go camping . . . , or something. What shook me was the mention of 500 fourth to sixth graders blowing in all at once. Whether announced or unannounced, Torrey Pines can't take it I can't take it! The worst part is being represented by another cartoon animal. Smokey the Bear, Ranger Rick, and Woodsy Owl are over sufficient. Now our state bird is being converted into Qutsie Quail. If the state parks need a spokesman, what was the matter with Papa Ponderosa. Enough already!

I've been accused of having a wierd sense of humor. I wasn't even in the race. Several of my classmates outdid me in wierd. They also had great supplies of stories. Some may even have had a basis in truth. These types had in common that each had baked his brains over several Anza-Borrego summers.

One of the tale spinners of note was the only other naturalist in the S.P. system. Many of you know Mark Jorgensen. Even without the Scandahoovian handle he could have been the model for Hagar the Horrible. One night Mark gave a program on his adventures in Arabia deserta. Good story. Great pictures. It would be well worth inviting him to speak at a docent meeting.

Well, all finished here. Now I'm headed north to visit Año Nuevo State Reserve and the elephant seals.

Hank



The Torrey Pines Association

Thomas W. Whitaker, President

Your Editor has kindly invited me to say a few words about the Torrey Pines Association as we join forces with the Docents to publish *Torreyana*. This is a great leap forward and will allow us to work more efficiently toward our mutual goals. These goals are stated tersely and succinctly in our By-Laws as follows:

"The primary purpose of the organization (Torrey Pines Association) is to bring together persons interested in the protection and preservation of the rare Torrey Pines and their associated fauna and flora, within the unique geological area now officially called "Torrey Pines State Reserve."

The founding of the Torrey Pines Association was due almost entirely to the foresight, determination, and organizational skills of Guy L. Fleming. He was a knowledgeable botanist and a competent naturalist, with a lifelong dedication to conservation, and particularly to the Torrey Pines Park, which later became Torrey Pines State Reserve. Mr. Fleming and his charming wife Peggy were liked, respected and trusted by members of the Scripps family. This connection gave Mr. Fleming the leverage to carry out many of the projects he initiated and supervised.

The Torrey Pines Association has been a remarkably stable organization. During the 35 years since the founding, its activities have been directed essentially by 3 men, Guy L. Fleming, Dr. John A. Comstock, and Dr. Thomas W. Whitaker (Professor Carl L. Hubbs served as President during 1972, and Robert Hopper was elected President in 1981. He served a few months until his untimely death.)

For a small organization (never more than 125-135 members) the track record of the Torrey Pines Association has been studded with some impressive achievements, perhaps the most significant being the successful drive to raise funds for the purchase of the so-called "Torrey Pines Extension." This successful fund raising drive added approximately 200 acres of valuable real estate to the Reserve, along with a goodly number of native *Pinus torreyana* trees on the north side of the Lagoon.

Over the years a number of other projects have been sponsored by the TPA, among them: (1) restoration of the Fleming Residence for occupancy; (2) purchase of display cases for the Museum portion of the Headquarters Building; (3) funds for stuffed animals used in the display cases; (4) the display case at the head of the Guy Fleming trail; (5) the Whitaker Garden, and several others. (Continued)

Perhaps the most important function of the TPA is to act as a "watch dog," or a monitor of activities that would tend to disrupt or destroy the natural values of the Reserve. The dangers of encroachment upon this natural area are always present. From time to time it has been necessary to oppose, with extreme vigor, individuals and groups that have sought to obtain and use Reserve lands for purposes for which they were never intended. For example, several years ago a group made a hard fight to turn the Lagoon into a Marina. Fortunately, this scheme was thwarted, but not without considerable effort. There will undoubtedly be other schemes to reduce the Reserve area. It is the intention of the TPA to preserve the Reserve intact for the enjoyment and education of our own and future generations. To promote these objectives, a negative attitude is not enough; some effort must be made to create an interest in the esthetic and educational values of the Reserve. The Docents, with their hard-working, young (from my viewpoint), enthusiastic membership, are well placed to promote this function.

In conclusion, we do appreciate the courtesy of the Docents in allowing us to participate in the publication of Torreyana. Our members have long felt the need for close and regular contact with Reserve activities. Torreyana would seem to meet this need admirably.

TPA TORREYANA CONTACT PERSON

Nobie Hopper, who is a docent as well as a member of Torrey Pines Association, has been appointed contact person for the Torreyana. TPA members who have items for publication should submit them to Nobie, who will pass them along to the editor. Nobie will also be helping with the extra work of folding, stapling, addressing, and stamping when it's time to get the newsletters in the mail. Thank you, Nobie!

HANK NICOL'S BOOK, "BEYOND THE TREES"

Several TPA members indicated recently that they would like copies of Hank's book, "Beyond the Trees." The simplest way to obtain them (since no TPA meeting is scheduled in the near future) is to stop by the Lodge, preferably on a Saturday or Sunday when docents are on duty (11 a.m. - 4 p.m.). Cost is \$4.25.



Lemonade Berry



Toyon or
California Holly

"CONTROL BURN" CORRESPONDENCE

There has been much discussion of "Control Burn" as a management technique in the Torrey Pines State Reserve, some of it controversial. The exchange of correspondence between Ronald McCullough, Regional Director, Southern Region, Department of Parks and Recreation, and Dr. Thomas W. Whitaker, President, Torrey Pines Association, points out some of the problems, what has been done to resolve them, and plans for the future. Their letters are printed here so that members of the Docent Society and Torrey Pines Association are advised of these developments.



TORREY PINES ASSOCIATION

Torrey Pines Reserve
P.O. Box 150
LA JOLLA, CA 92038

(COPY)

March 6, 1985

Mr. Ronald C. McCullough
District Superintendent
2505 Congress St.
San Diego, CA 92110

Dear Mr. McCullough:

For some thirty-five years, much of that time in close partnership with the State Parks Department, the Torrey Pines Association has been dedicated to the preservation and enhancement of the Torrey Pines State Reserve and the trees that make it such a special place. We expect to continue to work closely with the Department in the future.

Recently, however, we have become deeply concerned by the "Prescribed Burn" activities in the East Grove area of the Park. We are particularly annoyed with what appears to be the loss of a number of mature trees. Is the sacrifice of these splendid specimens worth the price of the doubtful protection provided by "control burn"? We do not have the answer to this question, but we do feel the loss of these mature specimens is regrettable, and in no way acceptable. If this policy is to be pursued, we hope it can be implemented with caution and without damage to established stands of Torrey Pines.

In future plans for "control burning" in the Reserve, we would appreciate an opportunity to contribute input, and to be notified well in advance of the site and time of the proposed "control burn."

With kindest regards.

Sincerely,

Thomas W. Whitaker
President

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

569.0-4630

Southern Region Headquarters
2505 Congress Street
San Diego, California 92110
(619) 237-7961



March 26, 1985

Dr. Thomas W. Whitaker, President
Torrey Pines Association
Torrey Pines Reserve
P.O. Box 150
La Jolla, California 92038

Dear Dr. Whitaker:

Your recent letter (March 6, 1985) to me regarding prescribed burning in Torrey Pines State Reserve raises several valid issues. I, too, am hopeful that the amicable and straight-forward partnership between our Department and the Torrey Pines Association will continue. I am also concerned that the Torrey pines remain both as grand individual trees and as a healthy population.

Our experimental burns were conducted on the smallest reasonable scale required to obtain sufficient information about the impact of burning on Torrey pines and associated vegetation. My staff, and the researchers from San Diego State University, took great precautions to limit the potential damage created by burning. Unfortunately, we lost some mature trees as a result of the May 1984 burn. Experience gained from that burn led to a modification of our techniques during the second burn (January 1985). We are confident that less tree damage will result from the second burn.

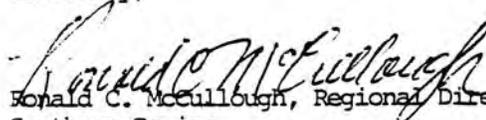
Even more encouraging than the success of the second burn is the remarkable Torrey pine seedling crop which is coming up in the May 1984 plot, as a result of that burn. Since the winter rains began, we have recorded more than 75 seedlings on the west side of the plot alone! These seedlings are being caged to protect against herbivores, but we may soon have enough seedlings to forego that protective measure. We recently have found over 30 seedlings in the east side of the May plot as well. The delayed seedling emergence there is probably related to reduced soil warming and fewer parent trees compared to the west side.

The level of Torrey pines seedling success in the East Grove prescribed burn plot is without comparison elsewhere in the park. Our goal has been to determine if light intensity fire is an effective means of managing the sensitive resources at Torrey Pines. The initial results are heartening.

Your group's concern for the individual trees should be part of the overall resource management strategy. The burning techniques around large trees have been modified to increase their survival following a prescribed burn. Our current plans are to cease burning until at least 1986, when all of the interested parties will have had a chance to review the post-burn research reports and to visit the burn sites. During this review and evaluation period, my staff will seek your input before any further prescribed burns are planned.

Your continued interest in and support of Torrey Pines State Reserve is appreciated.

Sincerely,

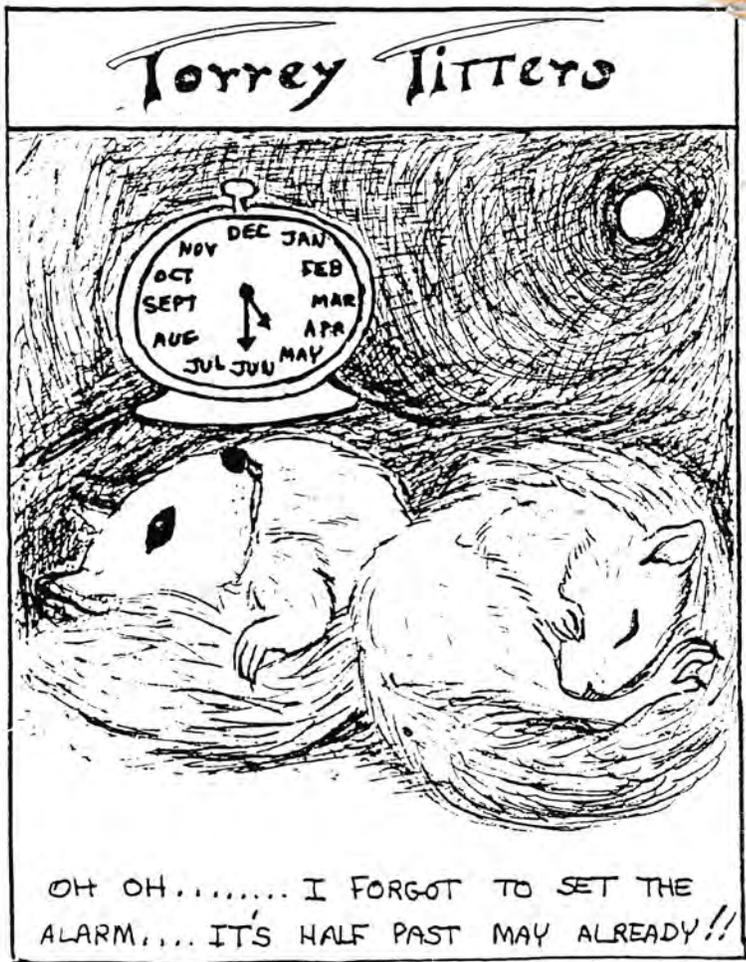
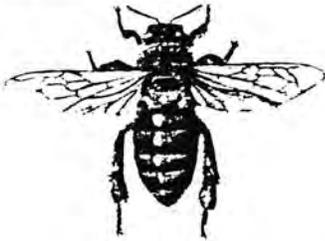

Ronald C. McCullough, Regional Director
Southern Region

TORREY PINES DOCENT SOCIETY

President: Glenn Dunham
Deadline for Torreyana copy
is the 25th of each month.
Send contributions to:
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3702 Oleander Drive
San Diego, CA 92106
Phone: 222-7016

SARGE IS BACK

Docents are happy to see Clyde (Sarge) Walker back on the job. He's been working part time at TPSR for many years and keeps threatening to retire for good. In fact, this is his twelfth season. He tells us he's now a Senior Park Aide (Leader).



Torrey Pines Docent Society
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Carlsbad, CA 92008

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