

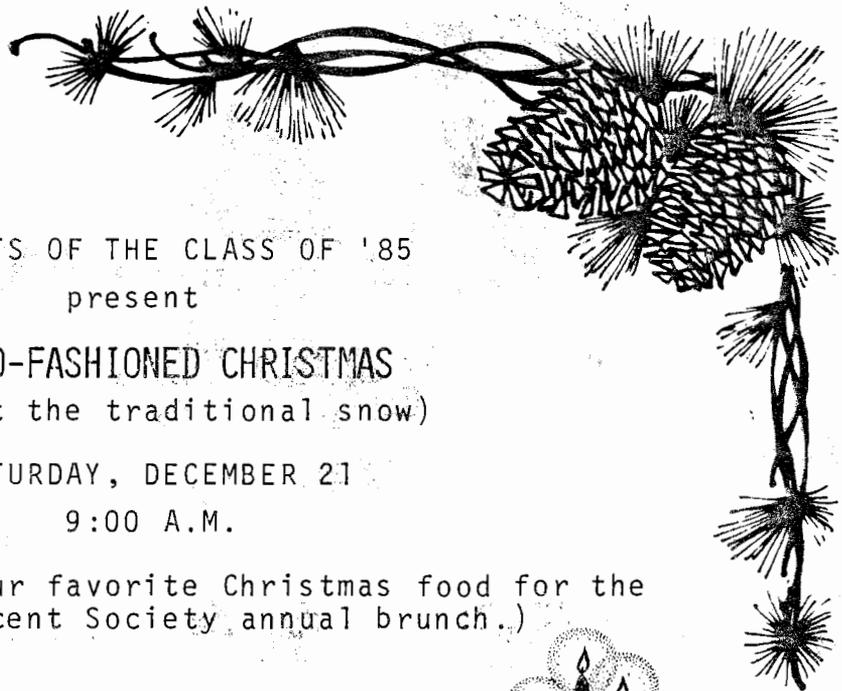


TORREYANA

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

No. 126

December 1985

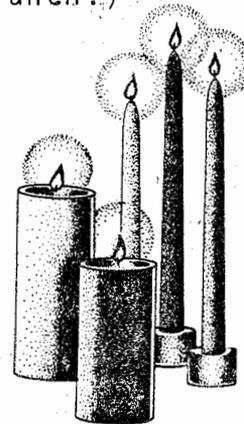


DOCENTS OF THE CLASS OF '85
present

AN OLD-FASHIONED CHRISTMAS
(Without the traditional snow)

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21
9:00 A.M.

(Please bring your favorite Christmas food for the
Torrey Pines Docent Society annual brunch.)



Secretary's Notes by Jeanne Dunham
(substituting for Betty Andrews)

The monthly meeting of the Torrey Pines Docent Society was held on November 16, 1985, at the Lodge. Glenn Dunham, President, opened the meeting with general announcements and passed the attendance sheet around. He also asked everyone to make corrections to the address list during the meeting. Rowdy James announced that the Mat cards have increased in price and that docents should note the new prices when on duty.

Judy Carlstrom passed out Torrey Pines State Reserve volunteer patches to those five docents who did not receive them last month.

Ranger Bob Wohl reminded everyone to sign the attendance sheet as it is passed around and also discussed the repairs to the roof which are being funded by the State.

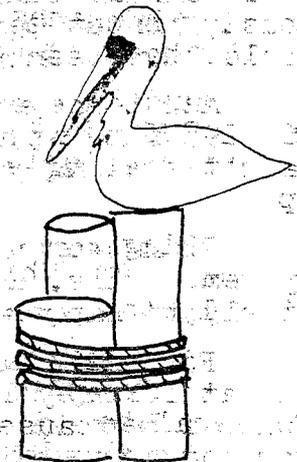
Dick Schwenkmeyer, the guest speaker, was introduced by Judy Carlstrom. Dick is Professor of Biology at Mesa College, and herpetology is his special interest. He presented a slide show that pointed out myths and misconceptions associated with reptiles. He also discussed some interesting biological facts:

- Reptiles have scales, amphibians do not.
- Round eyes are associated with predominantly diurnal animals and elliptical are associated with nocturnal.
- Snakes use their tongues to smell.
- Rattlesnake rattles are dead segments that are loosely connected.
- Some snakes sense heat through their pits, hence the name pit vipers. Included in this group are copperheads, water moccasins, and all rattlesnakes.

Dick also noted that there are only four poisonous snakes in our area, and all are rattlesnakes: the red diamond, Southern Pacific, sidewinder, and speckled.

There was a lot of interest in the subject, and Dick answered questions at the conclusion.

Following the talk, refreshments were served, provided by Glenn Dunham, Mary Miller, and Irene Stiller.



A RANGER RETIRES by Hank Nicol



I never put anything in my shirt pocket. One day I went tromping around the very new Border Field State Park. I found some interesting fossils. Well, just this once.... I put them into my shirt pocket. On the way back to Old Town I stopped by District Headquarters. The District Superintendent spotted me. "Hello Hank.... Incidentally, your shirt pocket is unbuttoned." It was shortly after this that I began cutting the buttons off my shirt pockets and resewing them on top of the flap. That way they were never buttoned but they always looked buttoned. Once he dinged me when he saw that my (cheap) socks which had once been regulation chocolate brown had faded to a rather insipid khaki. I am by nature un-neat, but Jim Whitehead did his very best on some very poor raw material.

Everybody who worked in District Six has stories.... But Jim did more than try to sharpen up his rangers (and his trucks. The tailgates didn't advertise Ford, or Dodge, or Chevy. They advertised PARKS). Jim was a leader. More patrol on foot and less in the pickup. Interpretation rather than enforcement. Parks were run by people, not by personnel. Civil servants were civil. Ideals. Under Jim these things happened.

Jim wasn't an 8:00 to 5:00 man. He would show up anytime, any place. He was a mover in the Desert Protective Council, the Torrey Pines Association, and many other organizations. He had the attributes. He did the work. He was all the things a good conservationist should be.

I was at Jim's retirement party. Everybody was there. Many a story was told, but we, from here, accused him of retiring only so he could devote his entire attention to Torrey Pines. He lived right across the road. I often saw him on his daily constitutional. He would tell me about the suspected clawed frog, or the racoon he found dead on the road, or how many species of ducks were moving in for the winter. He stayed active in conservationist causes. He didn't forget parks. He was appointed to the State Park Commission. Later he served a term as Chairman. Wherever and however he served, Jim was always a Ranger.

To tell the truth I was a bit awed by James B. Whitehead. I had a hard time addressing him as "Jim." He was the most scrupulously honest person I have ever known. The word "integrity" could have been invented just for him.

And he never stopped trying. On Saturday afternoon, November 16, 1985, he was still gently trying to smarten me up. Later he wasn't feeling well. He went home. He took a nap. He never woke up.

Flags were flown at half mast in every unit of the State Park System. This, I'm told, has never happened before. It's not likely to happen again soon.

For all his efforts Jim still had one failure. The Naturalist at Torrey Pines is still not noticeably tidy. I missed the funeral because I forgot to bring my dress uniform to work. I was not about to go in green Levi's. But I'll miss Jim. I really will.

Hank

PRESIDENT'S NOTES by Glenn Dunham

Anyone who missed the November meeting missed a good speaker. I enjoy talking to Dick Schwenkmeyer. He is a naturalist in the true sense of the word. With his knowledge of natural history he could teach each section of our training class and do it with accurate scientific knowledge, first-hand accounts on the subject, and the same humor and style we enjoyed at the meeting.

The Docent League of San Diego has scheduled next year's Docent Appreciation Days on February 3-14 with special events being planned for docents at many museums. I think we should have some special program besides our usual walk and free admission to the Reserve. Please give me some suggestions or ideas and we can start planning.

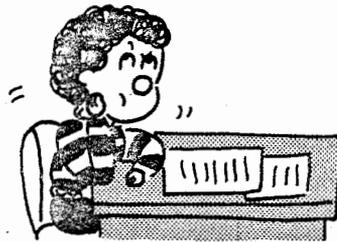
Also sponsored by the Docent League is the annual meeting, which will be held at Old Town and sponsored by the State Park volunteer group. It has been tentatively scheduled for May 12 of next year.

Coming up much sooner is this year's Christmas on the Prado on December 6 and 7. The Natural History Museum, along with all the other organizations in Balboa Park, will be open and special exhibits are planned. I encourage everyone to attend. I may be at the Natural History Museum selling mistletoe on Saturday evening.



*"Don't worry.
It's just his seasonal plumage."*

Notes from the Naturalist by Hank Nicol



WE GET LETTERS

All columnists run out of stuff now and then. They fill in with amusing letters they get. I'm no different. These all came from one class:

We had fun at the part. the trees war mirr and gren.
What fun pl ld nd the plant. When we whet the ltik
we saw a lizard.

thank you
Victoria

..... It was very fun.

Kaimon

..... I learned a lot about what kind
of animals there were in the Torrey Pines
montians. You trail were very in-
teresting because it was a ful trail and
it had plants all over it.

from Brandan

I liked all of the trails but the one that took me
to the mountain that was right under the ocean was
my best.

Sincerely
Brad

Torrey Pines is fun and it has nise trees. the birds
hlped us eat are food.

Thank you,
Jennifer

..... I lik uor plant we plantid.

Jane

Thank you for sowing us aron the state park I
liked the boccat and the Kiote.

Your friend Maggie

..... We mint come sometime to the part and go on the traies. That trale that you tuk us on was nete and clean. When are you going to be retired? Im 10 year's by then you will be old this is Branden F. Clark

I like when I planted that tree. Also I like when you should as the many catcus. Are you a real Naturalist.

From Stephen

Rotten kid! You can tell that the class planted a Torrey pine. Greg Hackett also had a class plant a tree. He got more flat-tering letters:

Thank you for being so nice to us and taking us for a Hike, and you are a nice Park Ranger.

Love, Marieele

..... You are a nice Park Ranger you made it easy for us to understand you.

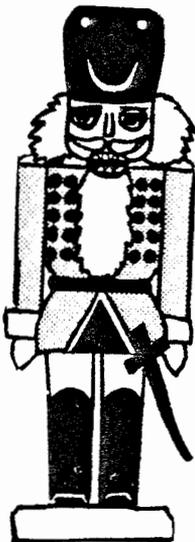
Your friend,

Rocio

Thank you for letting me and my den plant the Den 3 Tree being a ranger would be a fun job. I hope I can come to see you and the Den 3 Tree soon.

I hope he can too. I hope it survives the flak.

_____ Hank



TORREYANAGRAM *

F	L	I	B	R	A	R	Y	J	O	H	N	M	U	I	R	S
R	I	N	O	W	I	S	W	O	N	D	E	R	T	R	E	A
O	N	T	Q	S	A	N	D	E	R	L	I	N	G	S	O	N
G	D	A	T	U	R	A	Y	A	R	R	O	W	W	A	M	D
H	A	E	F	J	A	R	Z	A	L	L	K	O	A	N	D	I
O	V	E	Q	U	B	I	N	G	P	C	I	M	R	T	S	E
P	I	M	E	D	L	I	L	Y	O	T	O	C	T	A	E	G
P	S	T	O	Y	O	N	E	T	O	P	T	H	Y	J	A	U
E	T	W	I	T	C	H	S	B	R	O	O	M	E	U	G	I
R	A	N	I	N	C	H	A	Y	E	A	R	P	A	N	U	T
I	D	O	F	F	S	L	A	W	I	N	D	T	P	E	L	O
H	E	Z	R	R	T	I	D	Y	T	I	P	S	A	Y	L	F



NOTE: Words may run right, down, up-right, or down-right.

CLUES

Big white trumpets

Spittlebug

Top 30-foot layer

California bird

A European

Christmas berry

White-throated

Earth movement rate

Sinister vehicle

Side-blotched

Mariposa

Ceanothus stem

Beach bird flock

Early man

Two golden plants

Gliders need it

Johnathan L.

Great cartoonist

A neat flower

Gentle wilderness man

Readers' place

A sense of _____

Ex-pres or VP

Yerba _____

8-26-76

Revised 10-23-85

TORREY PINES DOCENT SOCIETY

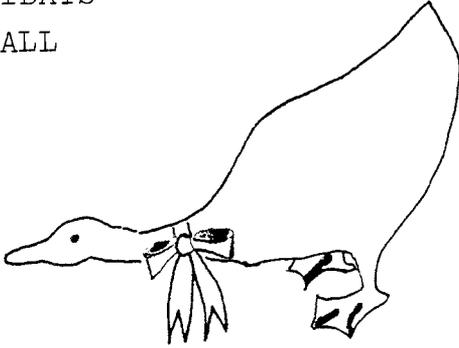
President: Glenn Dunham

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

Send contributions to:
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Phone: 222-7016

HAPPY
HOLIDAYS
TO ALL



Torrey Titters



It was thoughtful of you to not land on our new roof, but I still can't allow you to take up five parking spaces!!!

QUAY BURTON

Torrey Pines Docent Society
c/o Torrey Pines State Reserve
2680 Carlsbad Boulevard
Carlsbad, CA 92008

FOR

