



TORREYANA

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

No. 130

April 1986

SATURDAY, APRIL 19, 9:00 A.M. AT THE VISITOR CENTER

The monthly meeting will feature Richard Carrico, anthropologist currently with Westec Services in Cultural Resource Management as well teaching American Indian History at San Diego State University. As chief investigator for the excavation in Sorrento Valley of the Ipai Indian settlement, he is in a position to bring to us information of great value in our understanding of the natives of this area.

Docents who haven't attended the two previous 1986 training sessions will find this a wonderful opportunity to meet the current trainees.

BOARD MEETING will precede the regular meeting, at 8:00 o'clock.

Shown below is the schedule of Docent Training Sessions. All regular docents should attend as many as possible not only to refresh and add to our knowledge but also to meet and welcome prospective docents.

ANNOUNCING the 1986 DOCENT TRAINING SESSION

On April 5, at 9:00 a.m. the 1986 Docent Training Session will begin with an introduction to the Torrey Pines Docent Society by our President, Janet Humphreys, and information on the State Park System and in particular the Torrey Pines State Reserve by Park Supervisor Bob Wohl. This will be followed by a walk led by Reserve Naturalist Hank Nicol. Subsequent meetings of the session will feature the following:

April 12 - Bill Brothers, Botanist, speaking on the plants in the Reserve.

April 19 - General meeting to feature Richard Carrico, anthropologist, speaking on the Indians who occupied the area.

(Cont.)

- April 26 - An opportunity to learn interpretive techniques to better serve the public who come to enjoy our reserve. This will feature Bob Wohl together with some of our docents who will give brief presentations of their most successful techniques.
- May 3 - Historian Judy Schulman will present recent history, while Tom Demere, Paleontologist from the Natural History Museum, will take us back to the very distant past.
- May 10 - Dr. Ross Dingman, mammalogist from University of San Diego, will speak on the mammals in the area.



Great Horned Owl

TORREY PINES DOCENT SOCIETY DUTY REPORT - February, 1986

Report includes hours spent on duty in the museum, leading nature walks, landscaping and administrative duties. The * indicates attendance at monthly meeting.

<u>Full Members</u>	<u>Hours</u>		<u>Hours</u>
Bob Amann*	11	Jo Kiernan*	6
Marge Amann*	11	Wolfgang Koessler	15
Bill Anderson*	3	Melba Kooyman	3
Betty Andrews*	6	Julie Marine*	3
Margaret Bardwick*		Grace Martin*	12
Pete Bardwick*		Mary Miller	3
Bill Brothers*	3	Charles Morrow	3
Isabel Buechler*	25	Judy Morrow	3
Judy Carlstrom	12	Elizabeth Nicoloff	14
Ruth Cheney*	9	Judy Schulman*	3
Marion Dixon*	6	June Warburton*	6
Glenn Dunham*	27		
Karen Dusek	3	<u>Associate Members</u>	
Marc Gittelsohn*	6	Jeanne Dunham*	4
Millicent Horger*	3	Bob Margulies*	6
Janet Humphreys*	18	Jim Nortman*	3
Rowdy James	16	<u>Other: Gordon Borneman</u>	6

GRAND TOTAL: 315 Volunteer Hours

Secretary's Notes by Marc Gittelsohn

The monthly meeting of the Torrey Pines Docent Society was called to order on March 15, 1986, at 9 a.m. in the Lodge by newly elected president Janet Humphreys. She thanked the 1985 board for all its hard work and introduced the new board:

President: Janey Humphreys
Vice President: Grace Martin
Secretary: Marc Gittelsohn
Treasurer: Elizabeth Nicoloff
Torreyana Editor: Isabel Buechler
Duty Coordinator: Bill Anderson

The new chairs of committees and key personages are:

Social: Jeanne Dunham
Membership: Milli Horger
Historian: Judy Schulman
Storekeeper: Rowdy James

Membership chair Horger distributed a current list of members and associates. She also reminded everyone that dues are to be paid to her and that new name badges are being prepared. Milli has more wildflower maps; call her if needed.

Rowdy James urged those on museum duty to write clearly the names of items sold in the sales of books (e.g., "Discover San Diego" and not just "book") so that he can maintain the inventory properly. Annual passes, he mentioned again, are to be sold in numerical sequence.

Vice President Grace Martin announced that the 1986 training classes will begin on April 5 and will continue for the following five Saturdays (see schedule on pp. 1 and 2). To integrate and welcome new trainees, she requested docents to wear their badges and to interact with trainees at breaks and on walks. Personal contact surely is the best way to teach.

Duty Coordinator Bill Anderson passed around the regular sign-up sheet and a special roster for the Easter week vacation covering duty shifts from 12 noon to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday.

President Humphreys said that Thursday, April 3, from 9 a.m. on is to be Spring Cleaning Day at the Lodge. More than 10 volunteered to come and were asked to bring their own Windex, rags, and other cleaning materials. The idea is to spruce up the Lodge before Spring Training begins on the 5th.

To maintain the close-knit and caring spirit of the Society, Janet asked that members keep the board informed of important news affecting other members so that appropriate cards (e.g., get-well cards) can be sent.

Delicious refreshments were provided for this meeting by Bob and Marge Amann, Pete and Margaret Bardwick, Judy Carlstrom, Karen Dusek, and Wolfgang Koessler. After adjournment, over 30 members and guests carpooled to the Extension for a guided walk led by Ranger Bob Wohl (see p. 6).

A-TISKET, A-TASKET, WHY NOT MAKE A BASKET? by Marion Dixon

Easter baskets may be in the closet for another year, but Torrey pine-needle baskets never go out of season. Basket-making, like other handicrafts, has attained new heights of popularity recently, and the products are found in more and more homes as well as in local stores.

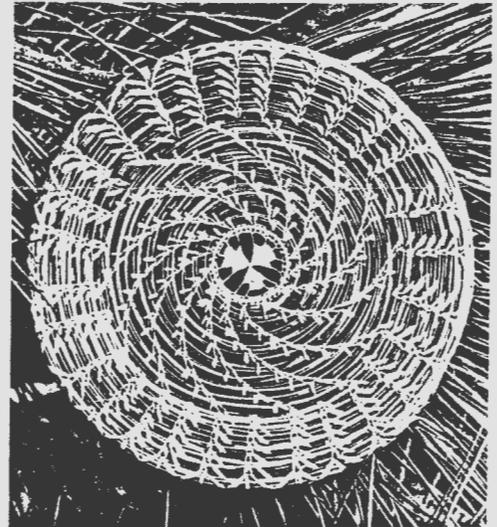
One local basket-making expert, Misti Washington, has herself taught "thousands" of men and women her creative skills in the past ten years. In fact, some years ago she conducted a workshop for docents at Torrey Pines Lodge. In a recent interview she provided answers for some of the questions often asked by visitors (and docents) about pine-needle baskets.

The original baskets, of course, were made by Diguẽño Indians, and some Indian tribes are again picking up the craft.

The first thing a student in this area learns is not to take pine needles from the State Reserve. Since domesticated Torrey pines abound locally, it isn't hard to find another source. Needles from other pine trees can be used, but they need to be a suitable length, usually at least 6 inches. To make a small basket, about 6 inches in diameter and 2 inches high, you need a man's shoe-box full of needles.

It is the dried needles that are used, since green ones shrink in the drying process, resulting in an unstable basket. The needles must first be washed (preferably in Ivory Snow, according to Misti), rinsed, then soaked in warm water for about an hour and put in a plastic bag to "mellow" overnight at room temperature. From here on in, the process gets quite complicated and lessons are a must.

Needles can be used in their natural color or dyed, usually cocoa brown for the main part of the stem and gold for the tip. They are then woven together with raffia, waxed linen thread, or some other appropriate material, and may be decorated with beads or porcupine quills. Advanced craftsmen have introduced unusual colors and trims as well as designs.



Since a small basket takes from 24 to 30 hours to make, the price of the finished product can range from about \$60 to several hundred dollars, depending partly on size and type, but mostly on the reputation and skill of the artist. Handsome baskets are sold in San Diego at the Museum of Man, Gallery Eight (La Jolla), the International Gallery, and Marcie Stone's at The Shepherdess in Old Town. With a well-recognized national reputation, Misti sells her products in Eastern markets, where they command higher prices.

Baskets have multiple uses, from holders for pincushions, sewing items, fruit, plants, pie plates, and casseroles to wall and shelf decorations.

(Continued on next page)

A-TISKET, A-TASKET (Continued)

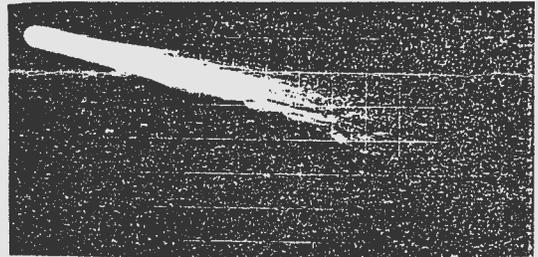
Those interested in pursuing basket-making seriously can get in touch with Misti at 481-9548. She gives regular lessons at her home in Solana Beach and sometimes at the Museum of Man, where other classes are also taught. Plan on about a year if you want to become adept at this craft. For a personal view on the pleasures and problems of basket-making, consult docent Milli Horger, who is a graduate of Misti's class.



Screech Owl

COMETARY by Hank Nicol

KFMB exploded in my ear. I popped out of bed. Well, I didn't exactly pop. It was 4:00 a.m. I was going to try to see Halley's comet from right here in the Big Smoke. Mild Santa Ana conditions had set in a couple of days earlier. The sky was about as clear as it was ever going to be. I drove out to Miramar College, which is still mostly dreams and brush. A baseball field in the corner looked like a dark spot. I found a dim wall behind a dugout which shielded my eyes from some campus lighting. Still, the "light pollution" glowed all over the sky. I couldn't see any comet. I tried the binoculars.... There it was! It was dim, but it looked just the way a comet is supposed to look. When I put down the glasses I could still see the head but not the tail. The comet was low in the sky and more to the south than the southeast. It looked as though it would get more and more southerly as it progressed.



I started for home Just on chance I stopped along a road at the northern boundary of the campus. I shielded my eyes from college lights behind a large laurel sumac. I could still see the comet. Back home I tried once more. With the binoculars I could see the comet even though I was bucking a neighbor's bright yard light.

Halley's comet is visible from San Diego if the sky is clear. In a dark corner you might barely be able to see it with the undressed eye. You'll be much better off to use binoculars. You'll be better off still to take your spyglass to the mountains.

Happy comet hunting.

Hank

Along our Bloomin' Trails by Marc Gittelsohn

A threatening storm did not deter more than 30 docents and guests from a wonderful walk in the Torrey Pines Extension on March 15 following the monthly meeting. This event had been deferred from February due to rain and was led by Ranger Bob Wohl. While the showers obediently kept their distance until nightfall, we carpoled to the Del Mar Heights School to begin a 1-1/2-hour jaunt on the Margaret Fleming Nature Trail, a path that ends about 3/4 mile southwest at Del Mar Scenic Drive. Many of us had never hiked in the 200-acre Extension, and most had not been over this recently restored nature trail which has guide posts keyed to an attractive brochure. This booklet was prepared in 1978 for use particularly by school children and is now out of print (hint for docents: possible revision and reprinting). Bob conducted our leisurely amble and, in part, related the guide book to flora and other natural features encountered along the way. For example, post No. 3 shows us spice bush and toyon; post No. 7 is a "rabbit convention center"; post No. 8 is "trap-door spider land"; and post No. 15 is a "wood rat's home."

Besides some fine specimens of Torrey pines and the plants found in the chaparral and coastal sage scrub biotic communities seen in the main part of the Reserve (chamise, black sage, laurel sumac, etc.), we also encountered a number of plants not readily found there, such as Eastwood manzanita and ceanothus with blue flowers. Willow and wild onion and giant rye were to be seen growing in profusion in damp areas. Enjoyed also was probably the largest mass of bush poppy--now in flower--in the Reserve. Bob showed us the site of the fire of November 1984 and several stately Torrey pines lost in that conflagration. Our sense of loss at observing these great dead trees was alleviated only by the realization of how much worse a disaster it could have been if the fire had not been promptly contained by a cold trail cut by quick-thinking Reserve staff and Boy Scouts. The regeneration of other plant life in the last 17 months has also been heartening.

Middens and fire-darkened rocks revealed the extent of Indian activity in the Extension. Like ourselves, native Americans must also have been awed by the magnificent views and great prospects of the lagoon, beaches, and wooded regions to the west and south. One sure thing: all of us will want to spend more time in the Torrey Pines Extension on the Margaret Fleming and its other splendid trails.

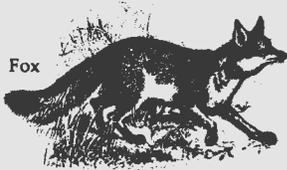


Notes from the Naturalist by Hank Nicol

A LETTER FROM LITTLE HARBOR (Conclusion)

Our destination was Little Harbor on the western side of the island. The harbor is really two little coves. One is wide open to the sea and is suitable for surfing. The other is protected, at least a little. It's better for anchoring a boat or for diving. It still doesn't look like a good place to be trapped during a storm. The harbor is bounded by, and strewn about with, picturesque rocks. Conservancy naturalist Terry Martin likened the basic rock formation to a chocolate chip cookie, sedimentary rock rolled around, broken up, then pressure cooked while being squashed between two tectonic plates. In a word ..., metamorphic.

Terry told us about the animal life. The bison we could see for ourselves. They were introduced, of course. The population is under control, and the herd is maintained at about 400. Deer are still a problem. The infamous goats have been pretty well wiped out. The only one I saw was a big, black nanny draped across the front of a pickup truck. It was very, very dead. Santa Catalina is the only channel island with rattlesnakes. There are ground squirrels and quail but no rabbits or woodrats. The most renowned animal may be the small island fox. The most exciting is the bald eagle. There are four pairs plus on the island. The nearest I got to seeing an eagle was a distant look at a nesting platform. We were warned of pigs that rampage through the campground. We hung our food up out of reach, but the only feral animal I saw was a very bold pussycat. It went right into tents looking for food.



The vegetation around Little Harbor is classified as maritime desert scrub. Most of the plants are the same as you see here at Torrey Pines. The difference is in emphasis. There's a lot more prickly pear and sagebrush. There's a lot less lemonadeberry and sage. Dr. Haller disappeared for quite a while. We eventually spotted him over on a hillside. He was diligently studying and thoroughly photographing a pretty bush with white flowers. It was crossosoma californicum. Crossosoma is a family with only the one, or maybe two or three, species.

Terry told us about another plant which, for rarity, puts the Torrey pine and the Monterey Cypress to shame. It's a mountain mahogany, cercocarpus tras-kiae. There are only seven known mature plants. All are on Catalina. Terry fenced off two of them to keep the bison at bay. They have produced 22 seedlings so far. One small victory. Some other plants have made comebacks after the goats and the bison were controlled. The Conservancy wants to fence off some larger areas. There could be more small triumphs.

The trip was to be educational for the students. I know I learned a few things. Another purpose was to plant some Torrey pines at the fringes of the Little Harbor Campground. The students were shown how to plant a tree: the hole just right, not too deep, not too shallow, watered in. Students planted. I watched.

At Torrey Pines we have more than enough problems with accidentally introduced weeds. We also have weeds that were brought in on purpose like Indian fig cactus, two species of agave, two more of pepper tree, myoporum, tamarisk, several species of acacia, and several more of eucalyptus. Some of these we will never be rid of. Most were brought in by people with the best of intentions. I seem to remember my mother's saying something about the "road to Hell" When I think of all the Catalina cherry I've pulled up, dug at, and poisoned, I don't know that I want to be party to spreading Torrey pine trees around Santa Catalina.

Docent Doings

WORDS FROM PAST PRESIDENT GLENN DUNHAM

I missed the Torreyana deadline last month, but I would like to thank the officers and members who helped out by volunteering during the past two years. I appreciated your assistance and want to express my thanks once more.

THE DOCENT COUNCIL OF SAN DIEGO COUNTY

The annual meeting of the All-Docent League will be held on May 12, 1986, at Old Town State Historic Park, and will be hosted by the Boosters of Old Town (BOOTs). The program includes introductory remarks by Ed Navarro and Don Pohl of the State Parks system, presentations on docent skills, and a period costume show. Lunch will be at Hamburguesa restaurant and there will be a 45-minute walking tour of Old Town after lunch.

Reservations and \$6.00 for lunch must be in to Tom Young of BOOTs by May 1. Reservation forms and a program schedule will be at the Lodge, or call Glenn Dunham at 298-9128.

Also from the Council, ARTWALK 1986 is asking for docents to conduct walking tours of art galleries and studios on April 26 and 27. There will be a preparation meeting and information given on each studio. If interested, call Kathy Cody, 456-2623.

NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM CANYONEER INFO

Another Canyoneer training lecture will be given at the museum on April 2 at 7:00 p.m. Jan Victoria, head of the Education Department at the museum, will talk on ornithology. Friends are invited and y'all are friends. Call Glenn if interested, or meet at the side entrance around 7:00.

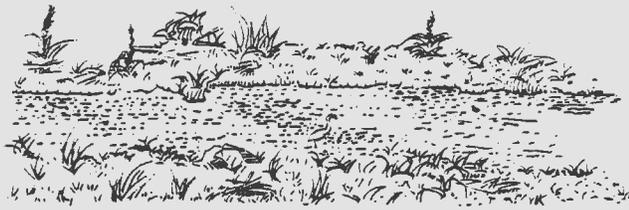
MESSAGE FROM THE NEW PRESIDENT by Janet Humphreys

Now that I've survived my first meeting as your president, I feel encouraged and eager to go on and, with your help, accomplish the business of the Docent Society. We are off to a good start with an enthusiastic group of officers and chairmen, ready and willing to do a good job for you.

Training sessions (April 5 through May 10) are under the capable planning and guidance of Vice President Grace Martin. It will be a busy six weeks for all of us, and docents who need a refresher course (and who doesn't?) are invited to come. Also, our Spring Cleaning Day, hopefully, will have the Lodge looking its best for our new trainees. If you didn't have a chance to sign up to help, please give me a call and I'll add you to the list. The date is April 3 at 9:00 a.m.

UPDATE ON SB 1692 (See Lagoon Foundation Report, p. 9)

After a check with Senator Craven's local office, Jessie La Grange reported on March 24 that SB 1692 was passed by the Senate Appropriations Committee on March 11 with no opposition (9-0). It will be scheduled for full Senate hearing, then to the Assembly if passed, and then to the Governor. Passage of this bill will add a large measure of protection to Peñasquitos Lagoon in the wetlands watershed.



Los Peñasquitos Lagoon Foundation
P.O. Box 866 Cardiff, CA 92007

LOS PEÑASQUITOS LAGOON FOUNDATION REPORT by Jessie La Grange

At the regular meeting on February 26, 1986, the correspondence received included a review by the University of San Diego Law Clinic of the EIR of "Beau Soleil," the condominium project proposed near the North Beach parking lot of Torrey Pines State Reserve. The comments directed to the San Diego City Planning Department describe a number of serious negative impacts to the biological resources of the land involved. The hydrology report is considered to be incomplete; the conclusion regarding visual impacts has been regarded as invalid. There appears to be inadequate consideration of the public purchase alternative, in addition to a lack of objectivity in preparation of the report. The public hearing date for this development has not been received.

Bob Conway reported on his efforts to obtain estimates on liability and maintenance insurance costs to the Lagoon Foundation. The Land Trust Exchange has forwarded the request to an insurance company and Bob has been authorized to obtain coverage as soon as possible.

Don Rose reported that negotiations to purchase the SDG&E land have followed the State appraisal with an option to buy 226 acres or the entire 240 acres. The City of San Diego has also entered negotiations with the utility company, and more detailed information is expected soon for the public.

Lee La Grange reported on the condition of the Lagoon. Ditches that had been dug inside the bridge were protected from heavy surf, which had closed the Lagoon mouth, by an earthen dam on January 24. On February 2, the surf wiped away this berm, but not the ditches. The basin refilled from rain with the berm breaking on February 9, with a washout of approximately 15,000 cubic yards of sand. A week later, heavy surf carried rip-rap material and boulders all over the area while the channel moved to the north end of the bridge, where it was again closed by heavy surf. The considered recommendation is that the plan is good, the 6-yard "bucket machine" is excellent for the work. The Board voted to proceed as planned, with Lee authorized to coordinate work plans with Denyse Racine, Department of Fish and Game, to accomplish channel clearing. At this time the channel is open at the north, with much cobble and storm debris at the south.

Don Coppock of Coastal Conservancy distributed copies of the Senate bill (SB 1692) introduced by Senator Craven for acquisition of 46 acres in Sorrento Valley, critical to the Peñasquitos watershed.

The Board discussed and voted not to participate in financing the monitoring of the USGS stream gauges for the period October '85 through September '86.

A resolution to accept and abide by the terms of contract with Coastal Conservancy was passed by the Board, with copies signed by Chairman Joan Jackson and then presented to Don Koppock.

The next meeting is March 26, 1986, at McDonald's in Solana Beach at 7:00 p.m.

TORREY PINES DOCENT SOCIETY

President: Janet Humphreys

Deadline for Torreyana copy is the 25th of each month. Send contributions to the editor:

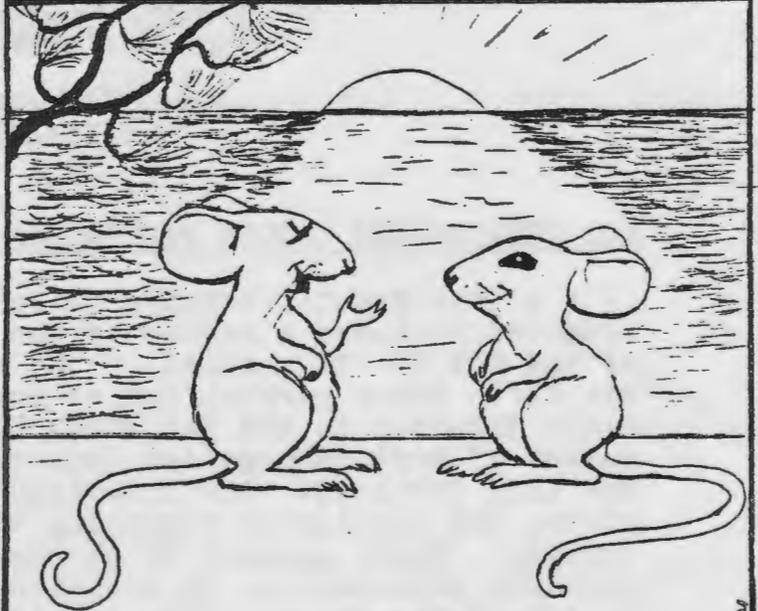
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Poetry Corner

I gazing at the boundaries of
granite and spray, the
established sea marks, felt
behind me
Mountain and plain, the
immense breadth of the
continent, before me the
mass and doubled stretch of
water.

Robinson Jeffers

Torrey Titters



"Real" sunsets are nice, but they just
can't compare to the ones in Hank's
slide show!

WALSBUKIDM

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FOR

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