



# TORREYANA

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

No. 156

July-August 1988

## *Next Docent Society Meeting*

SATURDAY, JULY 16, 9:00 A.M. AT THE VISITOR CENTER

Robert Love, entomologist at the San Diego Natural History Museum, will talk on ecology and entomology at the July meeting. After refreshments, he will lead a walk in the Reserve to illustrate his talk with some living examples. In addition, Michel Fox hopes to continue training of docents in use of the new video equipment after the meeting. . . .If the new exhibits are installed by meeting time, as scheduled, time will be allotted for discussion of them. SEE PAGE 3 FOR AUGUST BEACH PARTY ANNOUNCEMENT.

## NEW LODGE EXHIBITS SCHEDULED FOR JULY INSTALLATION

Monday, July 11, will be a busy day in the lodge: on that day the new exhibits will begin to replace many of the present ones. By Friday, July 15, if all goes as planned, the installation will be completed, ready for docents to critique it at their meeting the following day.

Like the present exhibits, the new ones are designed to break apart and roll aside for meeting space. The present "old friends" in the room--the osprey, mountain lion, coyote, bobcat, and birds--are going to remain on display wherever they fit in best. Some smaller items may be stored elsewhere in the lodge for circulating or temporary exhibits. The docent information desk and bookshelves may remain as is or may be more conveniently located near the entrance. Concerns of docents about these and other details are being kept in mind.

The new exhibits cost \$70,000 and were financed by a State Parks bond issue.

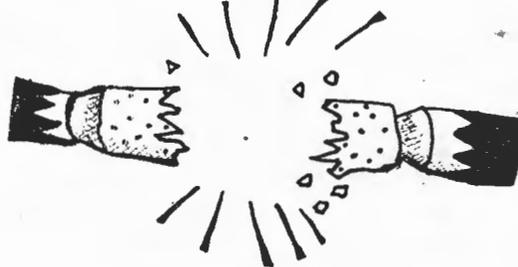
(continued on p.2 )

HAVE A HAPPY



FOURTH OF JULY!

## *Secretary's Notes* by Patricia B. Foster



### DOCENT SOCIETY MEETING JUNE 18, 1988

*(Note: Official minutes of the regular meeting of the Docent Society as well as of the Executive Board are posted in the docent room in the Lodge.)*

\* \* \*

### Latin Names Added to Wildflower Maps

At President Parker Foster's request, Millicent Horger passed out copies of wildflower maps for the Guy Fleming trail on which Marc Gittelsohn had inserted Latin names for the identified flowers. It was noted that this version of the maps was for docent use only, not for sale.

### Plant Pictures Delayed

Herb Swanson expressed regret that the Seattle film company had not yet returned the photographs of flowers prepared for the docents. When the pictures arrive, Herb will deliver them to the Lodge for faster distribution.

### Trainee Becomes Full Docent

The first docent in this class to complete the requirements is Bob Talbert, who received a TPSR docent badge from Parker and applause from the group. Michael Fox congratulated the new docents on doing a fine job with their written exams and critiques.

### Lodge Duty Open to Qualified Trainees

Grace Martin encouraged new trainees to sign up for lodge duty if they have completed all their requirements except the nature walk.

### Sarge Walker Update

Isabel Buechler said that she had been in contact with Sarge (Clyde) Walker, who is at home but still receiving hospital treatment as an out-patient. He greatly appreciates the cards and telephone calls sent to him by the docents.

### Video Equipment Training

Michael Fox said that he would be willing to teach docents individually whenever convenient how to operate the new video equipment. He will also continue training at the next regular meeting.

### Nature Talk and Walk in Extension

Barbara Moore presented a lecture with slides on flora and fauna of the Extension preceding a walk in two different areas there. Barbara encouraged docents to use the Extension as an alternate walk when giving public tours.

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### NEW LODGE EXHIBITS (continued from p.1)

They were designed by Phil Carey and the accompanying text is by John Wriminski, both from the Museum and Exhibit Section of the State Park system. Robin Holmes, chief of that section, will not only personally supervise the installation, but is proudly displaying the exhibits to all the chiefs of the State Resource Agency in Sacramento on July 7, prior to packing up for the trip to TPSR.

DOCENT BEACH PARTY SATURDAY, AUGUST 20, 12 NOON

The regular meeting of the Docent Society will be replaced in August with the annual beach party, to be held, as it was last year, at North Torrey Pines State Beach. The party begins at noon, but Parker Foster will be there early to stake out a good location.

The picnic will be pot luck, and docents are requested to bring an item from the following list according to the first initial of their last name. (Anyone with a preference for or a specialty in another category can switch.)

- A - D    Hors d'oeuvres
- E - L    Salads
- M - S    Casseroles
- T - Z    Desserts



Beverages, paper goods, and eating utensils will be provided, but bring your own serving equipment. And don't forget your bathing suit and sun screen!

DUTY CALENDAR

**JULY**  
Sunday

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					<b>1</b> DE PREZ	<b>2</b> L - BARDWICK, P W - BARDWICK, M  L - KLIPSTEIN W - HORGER
<b>3</b> L - GITTELSOHN W - SCHULMAN  L - SCHULMAN W - DIXON	<b>4</b> HOLIDAY L - CAMPORINI W - DE PREZ  L - KLIPSTEIN W - DIXON	<b>5</b> MARTIN	<b>6</b> MARGULIES	<b>7</b> MORROW, J.	<b>8</b> MORROW, C.	<b>9</b> L - KOOYMAN W - KIERNAN  L - MORROW, J W - MORROW, C
<b>10</b> L - ANDERSON W - GITTELSOHN  L - DUNHAM W - DUNHAM	<b>11*</b> BARDWICK	<b>12*</b> BARDWICK	<b>13*</b> AMANN AMANN	<b>14*</b> MORRISON	<b>15*</b> NICOLOFF	<b>16</b> L - SCHULMAN W -  L - CHENEY W -
<b>17</b> L - MORRISON W -  L - CHENEY W -	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> MARTIN	<b>20</b> MARGULIES	<b>21</b> MORRISON	<b>22</b> FOSTER, P.V.	<b>23</b> L - HUMPHREYS W - ANDERSON  L - FOSTER, P.V W - NICOLOFF
<b>24</b> L - W - JOLLETT  L - P. Foster W -	<b>25</b> P. FOSTER	<b>26</b> MORRISON	<b>27</b> NICOLOFF	<b>28</b> MORRISON	<b>29</b> HUMPHREYS	<b>30</b> L - SWANSON W - SWANSON  L - BUECHLER W - TAYLOR

**31**  
L -  
W -  
  
L - SWANSON  
W - SWANSON

IMPORTANT!!

Under our new calendar system I look forward to those who have not had an opportunity to sign up calling me to let me know what vacant duty hours you may be able to take. 452-1176

THANKS SO MUCH!

Grace Martin

\*Docents are expected to be on duty this week while new exhibits are being installed, but may have to be flexible about their tasks.

## TPA Topics

### IN MEMORY OF PEGGY FLEMING



*(The following memorial speech, printed in part here, was delivered by Tom Whitaker at a meeting of the Torrey Pines Association February 10, 1977, a week after Peggy Fleming died. Tom found it when cleaning out his files recently and gave it to Sally Spiess, current TPA president. Sally passed it on to us to share with those who may not be aware of how much Peggy contributed to Torrey Pines State Reserve.)*

Mrs. Guy L. Fleming, better known as Peggy, ...passed away last Wednesday, February 2, 1977.

It was Peggy, along with her husband, ...who was largely responsible for the Torrey Pines Reserve as we know it today. In fact, if it were not for the sustained and effective efforts of these two individuals, we would not be here discussing how to save more of these trees; there would have been none to save.

Mrs. Fleming, in her quiet way, was instrumental in forming the Torrey Pines Extension Committee that eventually raised over \$350,000 for the purchase of the core properties that now comprise the Torrey Pines Extension. Peggy was a staunch conservationist, and a recital of her efforts in this field of endeavor would take more time than we have at our disposal. But I do want to mention the innumerable walks she led for youngsters, and for the young at heart. This gave her an opportunity to explain to a spellbound audience some of the wonders of nature, and at the same time to extol the values of the Reserve and the importance of the Torrey pine in particular.

Peggy Fleming was a competent artist....those who have had the opportunity to study her copper etchings and her paintings will agree with this statement. The paintings of wildflowers that illustrate the Torrey Pines booklet are outstanding for their detail and scientific fidelity. These sketches...were done at an age when most of us are willing to hang up our paint brushes and our test tubes and settle for a more sedentary mode of life.

Personally, I count it a rare privilege to have been associated with this remarkable lady for...about 40 years, the past two decades in an active capacity. The Torrey Pines Reserve is a fitting tribute and a living memorial to Guy and Peggy Fleming....

### **Docent President's Notes** by Parker V. Foster

The better Patricia and I know the individual Torrey Pines docents, the more impressed we are with the high caliber of our people. We are truly blessed to be part of such a fine group. The few opportunities that have become available to know members in a social setting outside the Reserve have been particularly rewarding. The wide diversity of backgrounds, experiences, careers, as well as present interests make this a very well-rounded group. We hope that, as our 1988 class of trainees assimilates into the organization, they will feel the same.

The balance of 1988 should be exciting for us. The swelling of our ranks as new people complete their requirements should allow us to expand our activities. The new video equipment and lodge exhibit area will complement each other nicely as we present our programs to the public.

Thanks to everyone for participating in this great venture.

## Getting to Know You by Robert Talbert

(Robert Talbert was the first trainee in this year's class to qualify as a full docent. He completed his requirements by June 5, possibly a record. Shortly after Robert submitted the following "bio," Jane Talbert completed her requirements for full docent, on June 19. We welcome them both.)

Jane and I are looking forward to docent service at Torrey Pines State Reserve. Several of our parents and grandparents enjoyed a lifelong interest in wildflowers, birds, trees, and all things natural. This avocation became our own when we discovered the Illinois Dunesland in 1983. The Illinois Nature Preserve, 900 acres of dunes, sandy prairies, oak forest, marshes, a river, ponds, and the Lake Michigan beach, is near Zion and the Wisconsin State line. Nowhere else in Illinois can one see the variety of plants found in the Dunesland—over 650. By 1987 Jane and I had identified just about all of the plants listed in the excellent flower book by E. T. Lunn (IL Dunesland Preservation Society), which covers about a quarter of the species.

With great regret we visited the dunes for the last time in June 1987. We moved to Encinitas in July. What a wonderful surprise awaited us when, through Jerry Schad's *Afoot and Afield in San Diego County*, we visited the Reserve for the first time in August. However, the real discovery of wildflowers began in December as spring came to San Diego. Now we know where to come for the same fulfillment we found in Illinois.

Since October we have been fellow students with Janet Humphreys in Barbara Moore's weekly walks on chaparral nature. Janet recommended we apply for docent training. Michael Fox's training program was outstanding. It opened to us not only a more structured means of enjoying the Reserve, but a way of contributing with many others in preserving what we have come to love.

### WINNING ENTRY IN DOCENT CLASSIFIER CONTEST

The winning suggestion for a "noun of multitude" to describe a group of TPSR docents was submitted by Millicent Horger: a "trail" of docents. Not only did Millie come up with an apt collective noun for us, she also wrote a verse to go with it, to be sung to the tune of



**There's A Long, Long Trail** Lyrics by STEPHEN KING  
Music by ED ELBERT

There's A Long, Long Trail a - wind - ing lo - to the land of my dreams, Where the  
long, long trail of trail - ing up - til my dreams all come true, Till the

night - in - gales are sing - ing And a white moon beams. There's a  
day when I'll be go - ing down That long, long trail... with you.

"There's a long, long trail of docents  
who work at TPSR  
Leading nature walks for visitors  
from near and far.  
Torrey pines and other natives  
We can describe quite a few;  
We're so happy just to be here  
And to share our lore with you."

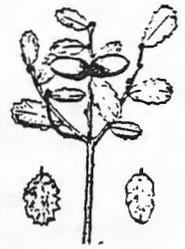
Congratulations, Millie. Perhaps you can lead us in the song on our next festive occasion!

## Notes from the Naturalist

By Hank Nicol

*In my "Torrey Oaks" of March 15, 1984 I attempted to explain the difference between white oaks and black oaks. The result was confusing to everyone, especially me. Now I'm going to try again with*

### TORREY OAKS, Part Two



The oaks are divided into white and black by the color of their wood and bark. Among the deciduous oaks, those with prickles on the leaves are called "black" and those without are called "white." What are red oaks? They're black. What about our scrub oak? It's a white oak. But it has prickly leaves. Yes, but it's evergreen. The whole classification into white and black oaks isn't remotely scientific. A better way is to classify all oaks which have acorns which mature in one season as white oaks. All black oaks, then, would take two seasons to produce acorns. We still aren't there, because there are a couple of oaks with light colored wood and two year acorns and a couple more with dark wood and one year acorns. This doesn't seem to be a lot of help, but it's about as far as I can take it. Let's forget it and talk about sex.

The male flowers hang down in tassles which are easy to see. The female blossoms are tiny and very hard to find. Oak flowers are pollinated by the wind. The pollen can drift far, and oaks can cross pollinate easily. This can drive botanists crazy. The scrub oak can easily hybridize with the far larger Engelmann oak. Acorns seem to appear suddenly and magically. Actually, acorns which mature in one season, like those on our scrub oak, grow steadily. Acorns which mature in two seasons remain tiny the first year and grow rapidly the second.

Most acorns are eaten, but some are stored underground by birds and rodents. Any that are forgotten are effectively planted. Floods also spread acorns around. Some acorns can germinate in fall, but most start growing in spring. A young oak doesn't look like much the first year or two, but the roots are growing fast and strong. This helps the seedling survive a fire or being nibbled by an animal. New shoots can form again and again until the tree finally gets a fair start. The extensive root system helps a scrub oak re-sprout strongly after a fire. Fire is often the cause of multiple trunked oaks, of which Torrey Pines has many. Some larger coast live oaks are the multiple trunked "Trees of Mystery" in upper Peñasquitos Canyon.

The most heavily populated area in California was once the hills of Tulare County. The reason was oaks, lots of oaks with gourmet acorns. Here in Southern California the acorns of the black oaks in the mountains were considered to be the most tasty. Our scrub oak acorns were strictly C-nation quality. They were collected if there was a heavy crop, but nobody ate them unless necessary. Raw acorns can be heavy on tannin and very bitter. One way to make them edible was to bury them in swampy ground for a year. These acorns turned purple. Another way was to let them mold and then bury them in the clean sand of a riverbed. These acorns came out black. Black or purple, they were roasted and eaten whole. The more common way to use acorns was to pound them into meal. This was leached by pouring in many changes of water through it. Leaching could be done in a leaky basket or in a hole in the sand next to a stream. The center of the wet acorn flour could be made into a sort of bread. The outside of the lump could be a bit sandy. It was made into mush which, I gather, was somewhat near the consistency of poi or, maybe, watery grits. Since aluminum pots were in short supply, this acorn soup, mush, pinole, atole, or whatever was cooked by dropping hot rocks into a basket. Try that with your oatmeal some morning.

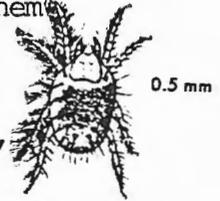


Hank

## News and Notes

### PROGNOSIS POSITIVE FOR AILING PINES

Concern about Torrey pines in the Reserve which look to be browning more than normal for their three-year cycle led our naturalist, Hank Nicol, to investigate. He took samples of tiny insects he found in the trees to the entomologist at the San Diego County Department of Agriculture, who identified them as spotted spider mites and red spider mites. An outbreak of similar mites a few years ago affected the trees adversely, but none died. The prediction for the present infestation is also positive: natural defenses will take care of the mites. Spraying, which is generally frowned upon here, will not be done.



Many of the affected trees are visible along the ocean side of the road going down to the Guy Fleming trail; others are on the trail itself. The trees will be watched carefully by the staff, but at present they are expected to survive the spider mite infestation without interference.

### SANTA ROSA ISLAND OPEN TO VISITORS

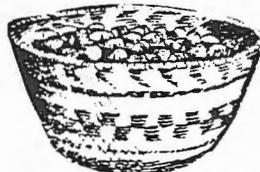
Santa Rosa Island, the only other spot on earth besides the Reserve where Torrey pines are native, allowed visitors ashore for the first time last summer. This summer eight more day trips will be permitted, all operated by Island Packers out of Ventura. Trips are scheduled for July 9, 23, 30; August 5, 31; September 10, 24; and October 9. They cost \$60 and reservations are required. The boat leaves Ventura at 7 A.M. and returns at 7 P.M.; time for each crossing is 3½ hours. The island is the newest addition to the Channel Islands National Park and is 30 miles out from Santa Barbara. . . . Besides the 200 pine trees, the island is noted for being the home of the earliest Californian. Elk, deer, and wild pigs run free on the island. All visitor tours are escorted by a resident Ranger.

### WHAT'S GOING ON IN CALIFORNIA PARKS THIS SUMMER

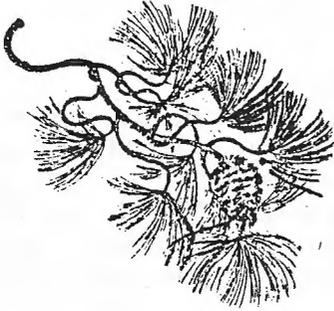
A quarterly publication, *California Parklands*, is now available in the Lodge bookshop for \$1.95. The current issue lists State park locations and events for the summer, including walks on trails in TPSR. Annual pass buyers should be likely purchasers.

### MORE ABOUT PINE BASKETS

Some elegant baskets made from Torrey pine needles were displayed recently in a basketry exhibit at Gallery 8 in La Jolla. These baskets, some very large and in a variety of shapes, are dyed in muted harmonizing colors that reflect nature. They are made by the Kraynek-Princes, the same local craftsmen whose baskets we spotted two months ago in a shop in Keystone, Colorado. Gallery 8's exhibit ended in June, but they will continue to carry--or can order--baskets by these makers. . . . The *Los Angeles Times* in its June 19 magazine section carried an article on pine baskets which noted that one basket artist, Betz Salmont of Manhattan Beach, prefers Torrey pine needles because of their weight and their decorative fascicle ends.



TORREY PINES IN THE NEWS--GOOD AND BAD



The good news is: Carpinteria, California, has just celebrated the 100th birthday of what is known as the "Wardholme Torrey Pine," reputedly the largest of its kind in existence (though the news release we saw didn't include its height or girth). The tree is named after a judge who planted it in 1888 from a seedling acquired on Santa Rosa Island. The Chamber of Commerce observed the birthday with an exhibit at the Carpinteria Valley History Museum and a big party for the community, thus recognizing the important place the tree held in the hearts of all.

The bad news is: a 90-year-old Torrey pine, 85 feet high with a trunk diameter of five and a half feet, that had most likely been planted by Guy Fleming's father in front of his residence on Bon Air Street in La Jolla, was cut down by current owners the week of May 17. (It took almost a week to completely demolish the tree, which next door neighbors had feared would fall on their house in a storm.) Other neighbors, who had cherished the huge pine that dominated the street, raised an outcry--too late, even though the "tree surgeons" had recommended only trimming the tree. There are no local rules protecting a tree on private property in this area, though Torrey pines in Del Mar may not be cut down without a permit. Such regulations are now being sought by some in La Jolla to avoid future, perhaps unnecessary, destruction of irreplaceable natural beauty.

*(Editor's note: The poem below is by Ursula Le Guin, from her book of poetry, Buffalo Gals and Other Animal Presences (1987). Le Guin is a noted science fiction author. She delivered the Robert C. Elliott Memorial Lecture at UCSD in April, 1982. The poem was passed on to us by Deborah Mauro, docent trainee.)*

TORREY PINES RESERVE

*(for Bob and Mary Elliott)*

Ground dry as yellow bones.  
A dust of sand, gold-mica-glittering.  
Oh, dry!. Grey ceanothus stems  
twisted and tough; small flowers. A  
lizard place.  
Rain rare and hard as an old woman's  
tears  
runnelled these faces of the cliffs.  
Sandstone is softer than the salty wind;  
it crumbles, wrinkles, very old,  
vulnerable. Circles in the rock  
in hollows worn by ocean long ago.  
These are eyes that were his pearls.  
One must walk  
lightly; this is fragile.

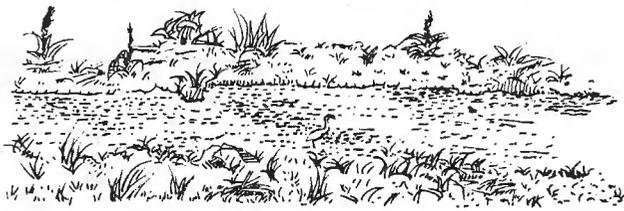
Hold to the thread of way.  
There's narrow place for us  
in this high place between the still  
desert and the stillness of the sea.  
This gentle wilderness.

The Torrey pines  
grow nowhere else on earth.

Listen:  
you can hear the lizards  
listening.

(1973)





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

LOS PEÑASQUITOS LAGOON FOUNDATION REPORT by Jessie LaGrange

Activities of the past six months were summarized at the meeting of June 8.

A current update of the lagoon described the onshore wave action that has moved the offshore rock delta eastward, where it has formed a dam across the mouth of the lagoon. Water level is now 5.3 feet with the berm level under the bridge at 6 to 8 feet.

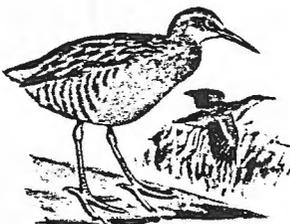
Improvement of the marsh habitat has been gradual as has been the plant and wildlife response. Recently, the presence of the clapper rail has been verified by Department of Fish & Game after several reported sightings. This endangered species nested regularly in the marsh until the early or mid 1970's.

A membership drive letter was presented in rough draft for comment. The finished copy will be sent to community neighborhoods to provide a "Friend of the Lagoon" status for interested individuals or groups. A quarterly report will include nature news of the wetlands as well as physical and financial needs for continuing enhancement.

The San Diego City Rezoning Plan for the lagoon, wetlands, and parts of Torrey Pines State Reserve was discussed and maps of designated land use were examined. A meeting was scheduled for June 16 by the Coast Commission to clarify some of the questionable items. The city spokesmen cited federal law requiring the "base" zoning to provide equitable flood insurance protection. Deborah Lee of the Commission volunteered to provide a State map to further clarify the exact jurisdiction and land use of State properties.

John Rieger, State biologist for Cal-Trans spoke about the proposed highway #56-Carmel Valley interchange. The Environmental Impact Statement for #56 has been delayed for three months. Rieger stated that the adopted eastern location of the interchange will remove construction from the wetlands; however, the planned overhead lanes of the expanded I#5 seem to remain in place, which appears to be an intrusion. Carmel Creek was shown as a restored waterway with sloping sides planted with native vegetation instead of the former plan for a cement flood control channel. This project is located immediately east of I#5.

The next Lagoon Foundation meeting will be July 13 at 7:00 P.M. at a location to be announced later.



Clapper rail

---

"In God's wilderness lies the  
hope of the world  
-the great, fresh, unblighted,  
unredeemed wilderness.  
The galling harness of civilization  
drops off, and  
the wounds heal ere we are aware."

-John Muir (1838-1914)

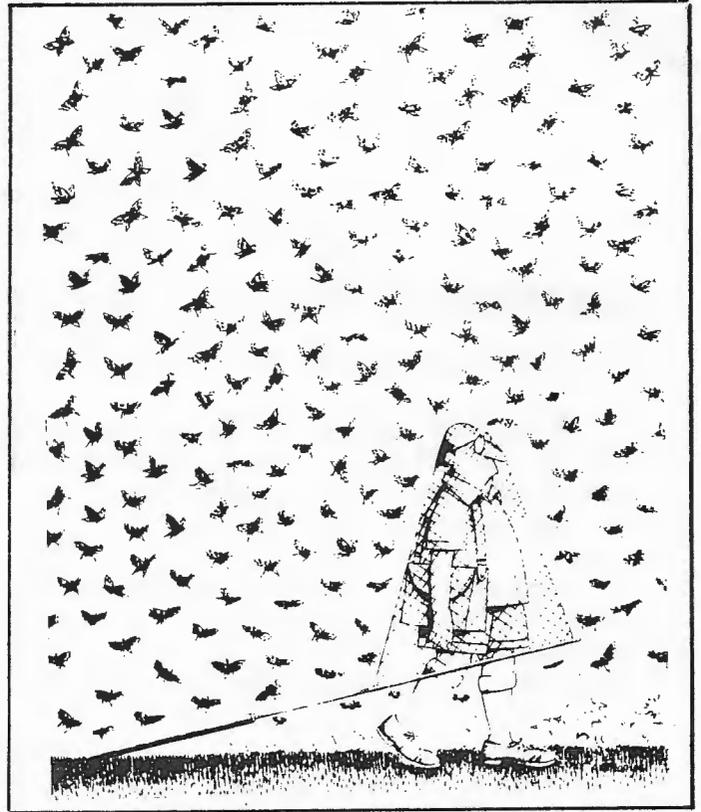
Torrey Pines Docent Society

President: Parker Foster

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Note: This is a dual issue.  
No *Torreyana* in August because  
of vacation.

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