



# TORREYANA

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

No. 158

October 1988

## SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15, 9:00 A.M. AT THE VISITOR CENTER

Claire Brey, canyoneer from the San Diego Natural History Museum, who spoke briefly on grasses last month, will return in October to discuss the ecological value of retaining native plant species. She will follow her talk with a walk along the Guy Fleming trail to demonstrate techniques for weeding out *carpobrotus* (both Hottentot and sea fig). Large plastic bags will be supplied for everyone to fill with this alien plant which has made such a determined march over so many areas in the Reserve. Be sure to wear sturdy shoes and protective gloves. (Perhaps along the way Claire will have time to identify a few of the grasses still in evidence.)



## IMPORTANT: LODGE DUTY HOURS CHANGED by Grace Martin

The Board of the Docent Society has changed weekend Lodge duty hours to the following:

MORNING LODGE DUTY: 10:30 A.M. - 1:30 P.M.  
AFTERNOON LODGE DUTY: 1:30 P.M. - 4:30 P.M.

Trail walk hours remain the same:

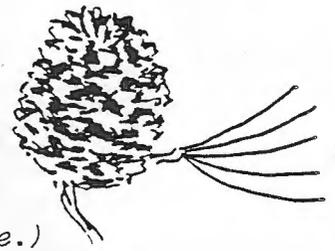
11:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.  
1:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.

If you have any questions or may have a problem in meeting these hours, please call me at 452-1176. (See October duty calendar, p. 3.)



*Bird Alert:* October is a good month to watch for migrating birds, many of them brilliantly colored--our answer to the autumn leaves in colder areas. Look for western bluebirds, western tanagers, various warblers, vireos, ducks and shorebirds, and many others on your Reserve bird checklist.

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



### DOCENT SOCIETY MEETING SEPTEMBER 17, 1988

(Note: Official minutes are posted in the docent room in the Lodge.)

#### State Interpreter Explains Exhibits

Chief Ranger Bob Wohl introduced John Wryminski, State Park Interpreter II, who explained what had gone into the thinking behind the new exhibits installed in the Lodge. John stressed that he and Phil Carey, designer and visual consultant, tried to express a realistic feel for Torrey Pines State Reserve through the exhibits. Lighting and bird sound effects will be installed at a later date. Information will be forthcoming about a maintenance schedule for the exhibit. Docents were invited to present their comments on and suggestions for the exhibit.

#### Three New Docents Qualify

President Parker Foster presented docent badges and congratulations to Elberta Fleming, Jane Talbert, and Del Roberts, who have become full-fledged docents.

#### Announcements, Etc.

Parker also announced that Jo Kiernan was recently married and that he had received a letter of resignation from Valerie De Prez, who has moved to Klamath Falls with her family. Patsy Klipstein is on leave in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Judy Schulman distributed the League of California State Park Nonprofit Organizations newsletter.

Grace Martin announced extended hours for weekend Lodge duty beginning in October (see article, p. 1).

Grace also reported that a petition signed by 34 docents had been sent to the State Department of Parks regarding Hank Nicol's dismissal.

Parker passed out literature about the proposed Copper Canyon trip in March 1989 (see article p. 7).

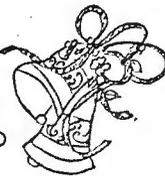
#### Talk on Grasses

After refreshments provided by Georgette Camporini and contributing docents, the short business meeting was followed by a talk on the identification of grasses, presented by Claire Brey, a Canyoneer with the San Diego Natural History Museum. The talk was accompanied by botanical drawings and samples.

## ***Docent Doings***

### DOCENT WEDDING

Congratulations and best wishes to Docent Jo Kiernan and Bjorn Bjerede, who were married September 10, 1988, at the Bahia Resort Hotel.



### POSTCARD SALES

Rowdy James reports that more than 2600 of the new Torrey Pines postcards have been sold since they arrived in the Lodge shop in April. This includes 200 sets of nine. At this rate the initial cost of the cards will be recovered in less than a year!



DUTY CALENDAR FOR OCTOBER



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
						<b>1</b> L - SWANSON W - SWANSON L - KIERNAN W - ROBERTS	
<b>2</b> L - MORRISON W - JOLLETT L - HUMPHREYS W - DIXON	<b>3</b> KOESSLER	<b>4</b> MARTIN	<b>5</b> MARGULIES JACKSON	<b>6</b> GITTELSON	<b>7</b> NICOLOFF	<b>8</b> L - KOOYMAN W - SCHULMAN L - LUCIC W - FOX	
<b>9</b> L - HUMPHREYS W - ANDERSON L - FOSTER, P.V. W - DIXON	<b>10</b> KOESSLER	<b>11</b> HUMPHREYS	<b>12</b> TALBERT, J TALBERT, B	<b>13</b> GITTELSON	<b>14</b> JAMES	<b>15</b> L - LUCIC W - SCHULMAN L - CHENEY W - FOSTER, P.V.	
<b>16</b> L - DUNHAM W - DUNHAM L - CHENEY W -	<b>17</b> MORRISON KOESSLER	<b>18</b> MARTIN	<b>19</b> MARGULIES	<b>20</b> MORRISON	<b>21</b> NICOLOFF	<b>22</b> L - TAYLOR W - ROBERTS L - BUECHLER W - TAYLOR	
<b>23</b> L - MORRISON W - L - W -	<b>24</b> KOESSLER	<b>25</b> AMANN, B AMANN, M	<b>26</b> TALBERT, J TALBERT, B	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> L - SWANSON W - SWANSON L - W -	
<b>30</b> L - ANDERSON W - L - W -	<b>31</b> MORRISON	There are some uncommitted duty hours the latter part of the month. Please call me if you can sign up. 452-1176				Grace	

### *Report from the Ranger*

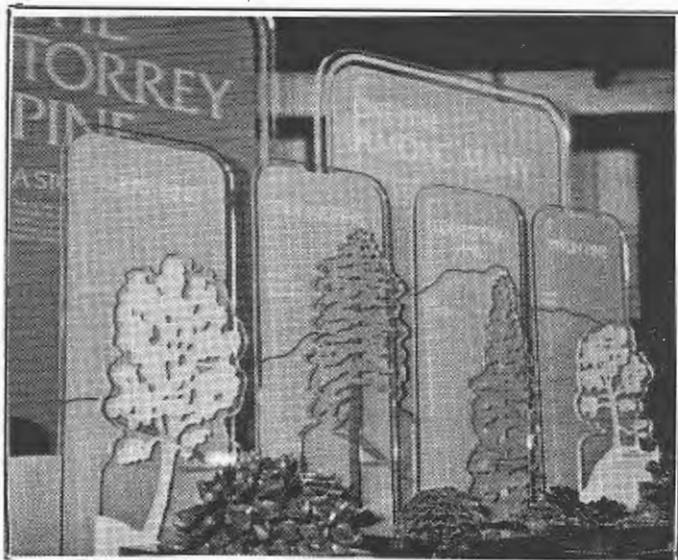
Ranger Greg Hackett goes to South Carlsbad State Beach October through December. He is exchanging places with Ranger Karen Frechou, who will be on duty at TPSR.

### *Getting to Know You* by Carol Lucic

I am thrilled to finally become a "decent" docent at Torrey Pines State Reserve. I've always had a love for plants and animals--most of my badges for Girl Scouts had to do with nature, for example. Our family vacations always centered around state and national parks, and one of my ambitions was to be a naturalist. Since my training didn't lead to that, I decided to take it up as a hobby. Thanks to Michael Fox and his excellent training program, I have acquired a new appreciation for all that exists here.

My time away from Torrey Pines is spent on plant and basket design at "Flowers by Adelaide" in La Jolla; serving as a trustee on the La Jolla Town Council; and lots of cooking for my husband Peter. I look forward to sharing my newfound knowledge and enthusiasm while on duty at the Reserve.

## TYING TALKS AND WALKS IN WITH THE NEW EXHIBITS



In addition to explaining the design of the new Lodge exhibits at the last general meeting of the Docent Society, John Wryminski, Park Interpreter II offered some suggestions to help docents in their presentations to the public.

He pointed out that the primary responsibility of the exhibit was to direct the visitor's attention to the principal resource of the Reserve: the Torrey pine. Because the fossil record sheds little light, much of the history of the tree remains a mystery--and the exhibitors decided to leave it that way. He encouraged docents to keep up with research on the pine and add it to the information in the exhibit legends. He drew attention

to the growth rings and the small dark spots in the wood, which are scars from needle bundles.

John suggested that leaders on walks can point out the environmental spectrum from cliff to beach, a geologic walk traversing millions of years of San Diego history. This spectrum has been telescoped in the exhibit to show a relationship not readily apparent on the trail. In particular, John stressed the effect of lack of water in this area, resulting in a condition aptly described by the naturalist-writer Joseph Wood Krutch as "the grand fact of dryness." Discussion of adaptations of plants and animals to this environment will provide visitors with an understanding of this region, which may differ greatly from theirs.

A trail walk can also be turned into a sleuthing adventure, using visible clues such as tracks and scat or audible ones such as bird song to alert visitors to the often invisible life in the Reserve.

Some additions to the exhibit to be installed soon include bird songs (which can be turned off if desired), labels to identify birds displayed, and lighting. [The arrangement of the sales area and desk will be re-designed for greater convenience.]

## ***News and Notes***

### EXPANDING ON EXHIBIT INFORMATION

Lots of information is given on our new displays, but there's much more to be said. For instance, an 11-page article from *Scientific American* (April, 1985) explains how tree branches are attached to trunks--something you may not have thought about. For those curious about such matters, copies of the article (which came from Park Interpreter John Wryminski) will be provided by Judy Schulman in October.

### MESSAGE FROM MARY MILLER

A recent card from former longtime docent Mary Miller, now living in Penn Valley, says the forest fires in her area this summer were near enough to cause them to leave their home for a few days. Fortunately, it was not damaged, but 13 others in the same development were. She says people fought the fire "with everything, including diet cola!". . . Mary adds that she has been leading walks with school groups on the South Yuba Indendence Trail: "It was fun and my TPDS training came in handy." She expects to visit this area at Thanksgiving time and hopes to see some of her old friends at TPSR then.

**Sheep Watching '88** By Hank Nicol

(Continued from last month)

*I had hurt my knee while walking into Hellhole Canyon with Randy and Ingo Olms. We were taking part in the annual bighorn sheep count at Anza-Borrego Desert State Park.*

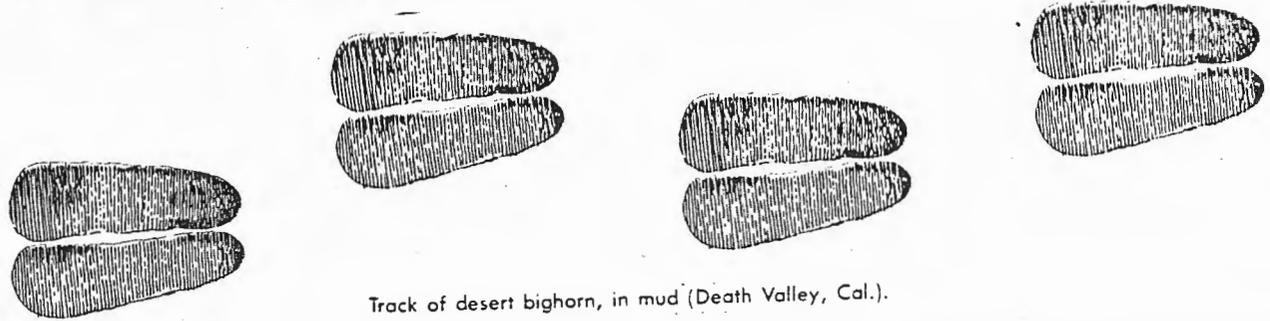
Right at one o'clock Ingo spotted a bighorn posing in profile on the skyline four or five hundred yards to the east. They were so hard to see that I began to think of him as "Sherlock" Olms. He had help from a magnifying glass the like of which Basil Rathbone never dreamed. The view through Ingo's \$400 dollar binoculars was unbelievably clear. You do get what you pay for. The bighorn didn't want to look our way so that we could tell if it were a ewe or a young ram. It took a while before we all agreed that it was a ewe. A young ram's horns would have a wider spread. Randy quickly set up a small astronomical telescope with a low power eyepiece. He was able to spot another ewe further up the ridge and a lamb against the hillside. A few minutes later another ewe crossed over the ridge into our view. The first ewe must have gotten tired. It lay down with its head flat on a slab of rock. Its position reminded me of the way my beagle flops.



It was almost 1:30 when the lamb left its post, and the leading ewe stood up and went over the crest. We thought the bighorns were ready to move down to drink in the stream at the bottom of the canyon. Then we heard voices. Two hikers were coming up the canyon. One was inconspicuous in khaki. The other was a lady in pink with a picture hat and a large yellow canteen. We hadn't been expecting company. Neither were the sheep. Two ewes stood about 50 yards apart on the crest. Their attention was on the people in the canyon. The third ewe was on a rock ledge, and the lamb had found a shady cave. We could see it only with the aid of the telescope. It couldn't be picked out even using Ingo's high priced binoculars. I hoped the people would keep on coming and be out of the bighorns' way. They didn't, and when they did turn back, it was only to park in the grove directly below the sheep. We waited. The sheep waited.

At around 2:20 the sheep began moving around. The leading ewe left, came back, and left again. I imagined that she wanted to get down to the water real bad. At two thirty five the hikers moved off down the canyon. Fifteen minutes later the bighorns disappeared over the crest. At 3:15 Ingo spotted the sheep on the move near a sphinx-like rock. Were they heading for water? We didn't see them again. They could have sneaked down the bottom of a draw where we couldn't see them, or they could have given up for the day. They had missed the prime watering time. We waited another hour before we packed it in.

(continued on p. 6)



Track of desert bighorn, in mud (Death Valley, Cal.).

## TPA Topics

### HISTORICAL NOTES ON TORREY PINES EXTENSION

*(With each passing year, as the roofs on the horizon multiply, our debt to those who participated in protecting and preserving the 197 acres in Torrey Pines Extension becomes more obvious. It seems appropriate to occasionally remind our readers, who change from time to time, of the efforts from which we all benefit. The following notes are excerpted from a talk given by Thomas Whitaker at the 25th anniversary celebration of TPSR on May 6, 1984. Mr. Whitaker was co-editor of the TPSR booklet, which contains additional information on the Extension project.)*



"It required the best efforts, persistence, clear thinking, and dedication from at least 20 key people over almost a decade--1964-1972--to bring the effort [to acquire the acreage for Torrey Pines Extension] to fruition.

"The response to our plea for funds from the community was overwhelming. Donations small and large were received from school children, high schools, Scout groups, junior colleges, universities, service clubs, corporations, interested individuals, and many others. A benefit run for the Torrey Pines was held, along with a golf tournament on the T.P. course, featuring Gene Littler and Billy Casper. The media responded by giving us much free publicity.

"In the end over \$300,000 was collected, and the remainder of the money needed to purchase the several parcels of land was squeezed or strangled bit by bit from State and Federal agencies. . . ."

(Among the people--some now deceased--mentioned by Mr. Whitaker as contributing substantially of their efforts or money, and sometimes both, were: Margaret Fleming, widow of Guy Fleming; Nakey Meanley and numerous other members of the Scripps family; Judge Edward T. Butler, Bob and Gloria Bates, Gene Geritz, Marilyn Shaw, John Burke, Carl and Laura Hubbs, Harriett Allen, and Sally Spiess.)

### SHEEP WATCHING '88 (continued from p.5)

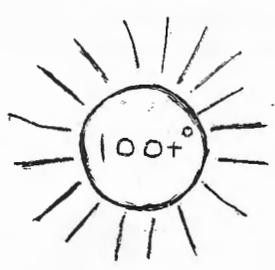
We left some of the heavier stuff on the site for the next day. My knee was stiffening, and my balance wasn't improving much. Randy suggested that I might be suffering from a bit of shock. From such a minor incident? But I was feeling miserable and had already decided that there would be no next day for me. I left my half empty water jug, some gorp and an unopened box of crackers as a small contribution to the brothers Olms (or to the resident pack rat). Ingo offered to carry my pack. I accepted. I told him it was his turn to be a hero. I was past the need. He said he he was no hero. Carrying the pack would be a lot easier than carrying me. With no load I made it down slowly but safely. I felt like I was letting the side down. Back home the next day the knee was stiff enough that I knew I'd made the right decision.



The next week Mark's report came in the mail. He noted that "Everyone moved in to and out of their count sites without a hitch. . . ." Not quite, but, then, he was talking about cars. The bighorn census totaled 126 animals. This was one of the lowest counts ever, but there was an encouraging side. There were 16 lambs and 15 yearlings for the 68 ewes, a healthy ratio. Randy and Ingo saw one ewe and three rams after I left. Hellhole isn't a bad place -- if you're a bighorn. Other places are better: 43 sheep were seen in Palm Canyon, 40 at Middle Spring, and 27 in the Willows. One group spent its nights in a motel and drove out to the count site each morning. Next time, if there is a next time, I think I'll join them.

Hank

MOTHER NATURE COOKS THE PARK



"Is it like this very often up here?" sweltering visitors to TPSR on Sunday, September 4, asked. Sun and Santa Ana winds sent temperatures over 100°F and sandstone swirling through the air that day.

Docents were honestly able to reply that the weather was highly unusual--it was, after all, only the third hottest day on record in the area.

The gale downed a tree across telephone lines along Torrey Pines Road North, cutting out service to the Reserve from noon to midnight. But the winds had one good side effect: they flushed most of the brown needles out of the pines, leaving them looking healthier than they had for weeks.

The scorching sun didn't seem to help anything. All the feathery bird's-beak plants, which were at their flowering peak, turned from soft green to rusty brown, and the already parched sage scrub growth was further desiccated. Only the tall telegraph weeds remained mostly untouched, their thick stems and hairy leaves defiantly green.

Only 90 persons were logged into the Lodge instead of the 200 plus normally expected on a holiday weekend. Several of those were brave enough to accept Docent Bill Anderson's offer (also brave) of a guided walk around the Guy Fleming trail. Bill deserves an "above-and-beyond" award for doing an 80-minute tour without succumbing to heat exhaustion--as did a young trail-walker later in the afternoon. Bravo, Bill!

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***Docent President's Notes***

COPPER CANYON TRIP by Parker Foster

We didn't get much of a chance to talk about the Copper Canyon trip at our September meeting, so we are providing further details for you here. This escorted tour leaves from Tijuana airport March 10, 1989, and returns to Tijuana March 16. The flight to Los Mochis takes about one and a half hours. Travel on the second through sixth day from Los Mochis through the canyon and return will be by railroad. The majority of the meals on these days are included in the package price of \$830 per person, double occupancy; \$795 per person, triple occupancy; or \$1,030 per person, single occupancy.

We hope very much to have a good turnout for this first Torrey Pines travel venture. A deposit of \$100 per person (check payable to "Travel Network of La Jolla") is due before November 1, 1988, in order to make this trip possible. Mail checks to Parker or Patricia Foster, 6051 Dunant St., San Diego, CA 92122. For more information, call us at 453-7054.

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PLEASE TEAR OFF AND MAIL THIS FORM WITH YOUR CHECK IF YOU PLAN TO PARTICIPATE

I (we) would like to participate in the Copper Canyon trip March 10-16, 1989, and enclose a check payable to Travel Network of La Jolla in the amount of

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ Single \_\_\_\_\_ Double \_\_\_\_\_ Triple

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*(If 20 or more people sign up, the deposit will be non-refundable. If we do not attain 20 travelers, the deposit will be returned to you.)*



## LEGAL TREES

by Frances Norris

(In homage to Joyce Kilmer, pursuant to Section 103 of Copyright Laws--  
Title 17, U.S. Code--heretofore referenced under the pains and penalties  
of plagiarism.)

I think that I shall never see,  
Notwithstanding any past, present or future visions,  
A poem lovely as a tree--the word *tree*  
Used herein to include her, his, or its respective  
Limbs, leaves, bark, roots  
Sap(if said tree proves maple), knotholes,  
Birds,squirrels, insects, agents, and servants.  
If more than one tree is mentioned herein,  
The images,similes, metaphors and allusions  
Shall be the joint and several obligations of each such tree  
Through no fault of its own.

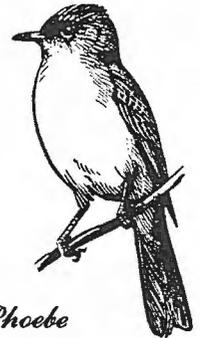
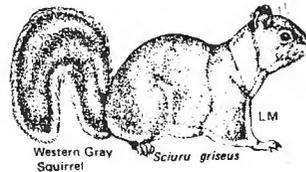
A tree whose hungry mouth is prest [sic]  
Against the earth's sweet flowing breast  
In the event that no receptacles, vehicles, baby carriages,  
Or other like equipment  
Obstruct the common ground as heretofore described.

A tree that, pursuant to religious beliefs  
not set forth herein, looks at God all day,  
And lifts her, his, or its leafy arms, in a manner authorized  
Under lawful covenant to pray.

A tree that may in Summer wear,  
To the most practical extent under the circumstances,  
A nest of robins in her, his, or its hair;  
Provided that the aforementioned birds,  
Their spouses, friends, relatives, invitees, visitors,  
Agents, servants, and any offspring born to them  
Shall neither make nor suffer any noisy, unclean,  
Or otherwise offensive use of said tree.

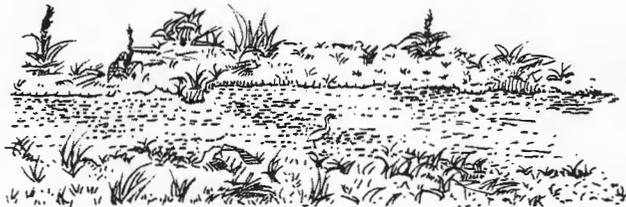
Upon whose bosom snow has lain;  
Who intimately lives with rain, hereupon and until  
The reasonable cessation of said rain,  
Or until the expiration and termination of said tree  
By exercise of the power of eminent terrain,  
Or by the action and authority of strong wind, lightning,  
Chain saw, Dutch elm disease (if said tree proves Dutch elm)  
Or any other natural or unnatural force,  
Unless otherwise stipulated in writing.

Poems are made by fools like me,\*  
But only God,  
And no other instrument of like tenor,  
Can make a legal tree.



\*Subject to applicable law

*"No place is complete without trees. A home without trees is charmless;  
a road without trees is shadeless; a park without trees is purposeless;  
a country without trees is hopeless."--Anonymous*



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

LOS PENASQUITOS LAGOON FOUNDATION REPORT by Jessie La Grange

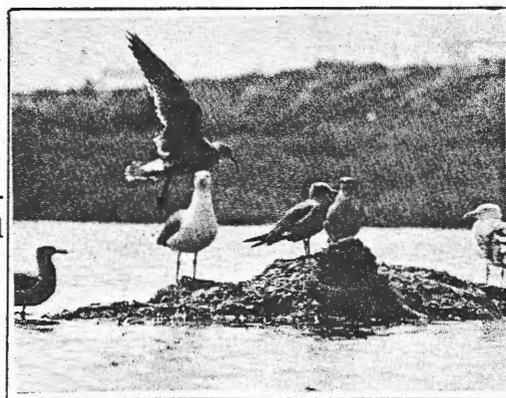
The treasurer's report submitted at the meeting September 14, 1988, showed that \$2,395 has been received as a result of the direct mail offering of "Friends of the Lagoon" membership status in the Lagoon Foundation. A motion was approved to continue the membership drive in order to establish a September annual renewal date. [Torrey Pines Association and the Docent Society should receive this mailing soon.]

Don Rose of the Nominating Committee will continue to accept a list of nominees to serve on the Lagoon Foundation Board. This is a new procedure for filling vacancies since the Foundation has become independent from the Coastal Conservancy.

City Engineer Frank Belock has been accepted as a member of the Foundation Board to replace Jim Casey, City Engineer, who has submitted his resignation.

Lee La Grange reported that the lagoon mouth has been closed since June, with the water level at 3.6' at this time. There is a large clam population inside the bridge near the mouth, much bird activity, and a varied fish population to be observed.

At the request of Joan Jackson, chairman, a meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee was scheduled for September 21 to discuss implementation of the enhancement plans. Bill Tippetts, State Resource Department, reported that the necessary machine work permits have been granted.



On September 13, Abbe Wolfsheimer, City Council member for this district, introduced a motion to the Council to rename as "Tidal Estuary Wetlands" those lagoon areas currently labeled "Floodplain Fringe" zones. Various agencies and individuals had voiced objections to what appeared to be a misnomer for lagoon channels in Torrey Pines State Reserve. The motion was approved.

Requests have been received for bicycle and pedestrian access to the beach along Carmel Valley Road. A committee will meet with the City of Can Diego's bike path engineer, Del Mar planners, and Torrey Pines Community Planning Group to discuss this issue.

The next Lagoon Foundation meeting will be at 7:00 P.M. October 12, 1988, at Great American Savings public meeting room, Big Bear Shopping Center, Solana Beach.



*"There is nothing more practical in the end than the preservation of beauty."--T. Roosevelt*

Torrey Pines Docent Society

President: Parker Foster

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

Marion Dixon  
2355 Avenida de la Playa  
La Jolla, CA 92037  
Phone: 454-5511

Staff: Isabel Buechler,  
Georgette Camporini, Grace  
Martin.

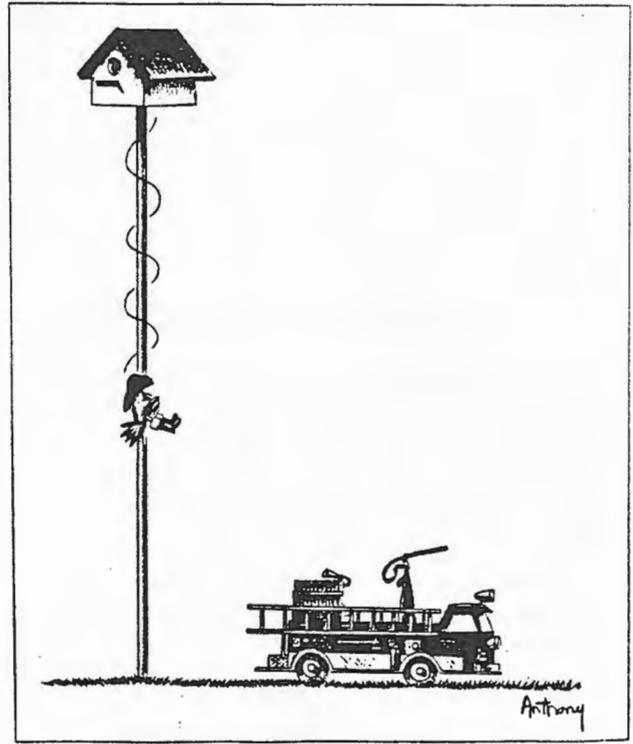
ADD TO MEMBERSHIP ROSTER:

Patricia Bransford (associate)  
1604 Palomar Drive  
San Marcos, CA 92069

ROSTER UPDATE:

Valerie De Prez  
1518 Pleasant Ave.  
Klamath Falls, OR 97601

Bill & Jo McClintock (supporting)  
18655 W. Bernardo Dr. #669  
San Diego, CA 92127



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

FOR

