



# TORREYANA

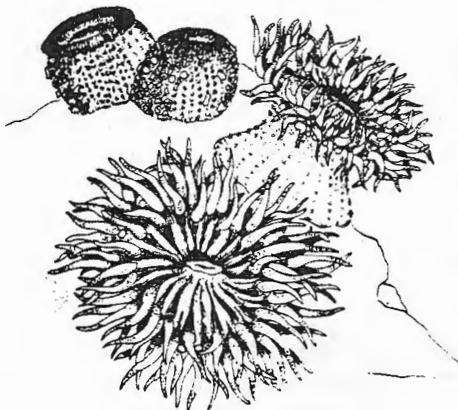
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Torrey Pines Docent Society  
and the Torrey Pines Association

No. 166

June 1989

## *Next Docent Society Meeting*

SATURDAY, JUNE 17, 9:00 A.M. AT THE VISITOR CENTER



Our speaker will be Sam Hinton, author and illustrator of *Seashore Life of Southern California: Introduction to the Animal Life of California Beaches South of Santa Barbara* (1987), who will talk about the seashore creatures in the intertidal and tidal zones at the Torrey Pines State Beach and adjacent areas. Dr. Hinton was formerly the Science Director of the Museum-Aquarium at Scripps Institute of Oceanography and has taught many classes on the beach near here. Business, duty calendar sign-ups, refreshments and socializing will round out a full morning.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR EXOTIC PLANT REMOVAL by Robert Talbert

Glen Omvig of the Ranger staff announced an expanded non-native plant removal program at the May meeting of Torrey Pines Docent Society. Because of limited State funds available for the program, its success depends heavily on volunteer effort. Duty credit will be given to any docents or trainees who assist Glen on a one-to-one basis (however, lodge and trail duties take first and second priorities). For scheduling information, contact the Ranger office.

Following are the plants now included in the removal project, with some additional information about their characteristics:

- Russian thistle (*Salsola iberica*), a native of the plains of Southeastern Russia and Western Siberia, is abundant on the bluff above flat rock and the beach access trail.
- Pampasgrass (*Cortaderia selloana*), native to Argentina, with leaf edges like sharp points, is found in the Extension and Lagoon and survives chemical treatment.



(continued on p. 4)

## Docent Doings

### TPDS PUBLICATION GUIDELINES

New guidelines for publications sponsored by Torrey Pines Docent Society were approved by the Executive Board at a special meeting April 29. Judy Schulman headed the task force which prepared the guidelines. She was assisted by Parker Foster, Jean and Herb Swanson, Rowdy James, and Bob Wohl. The guidelines will be given to any person requesting consideration for support of a publication from the Docent Society. In addition, a task force will review material submitted and make recommendations concerning its publication.

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### OF MEN AND MICE

A new cabinet for storing the paraphernalia connected with serving refreshments at docent meetings has been installed in the docent room of the Lodge. Most of the credit goes to the Bardwicks: Pete spotted the cabinet on sale and bought it with the blessing of the Executive Board. Margaret hid all those unsightly packages from view--and from the mice, who will no doubt find other paper to chew and use for their nests.

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### DUTY COORDINATOR

Grace Martin is temporarily replacing Georgette Camporini as duty coordinator. Georgette resigned because of time and effort needed for other commitments. She will still be active as a docent, however. (See the "Wanted" ad for a permanent coordinator elsewhere in the *Torreyana*.)

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### DOCENT AREA RECONSTRUCTION

The Executive Board of Torrey Pines Docent Society voted at its May meeting to accept the low bid on carpentry work to reconstruct the docent area, which includes the information desk and bookshop shelves in the Lodge. Work is scheduled to begin in July.

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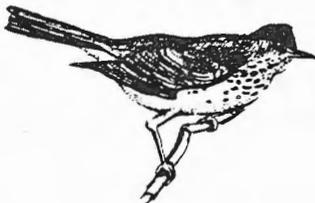
### REMINDERS

--Court time for sentencing for Hank Nicol, former naturalist at TPSR, has been set for 1:00 P.M. Wednesday, June 21, in Department 5, Municipal Court. This is the same room previously used when sentencing was delayed. It is on the second floor of the San Diego County Courthouse, 220 W. Broadway. A show of support for Hank may be helpful.

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--Dedication of the Sierra Del Mar easement is from 3:00 - 5:00 P.M. Saturday, June 3, at the end of the Long Boat Cove. Los Peñasquitos Lagoon Foundation and others are celebrating the preservation of this additional open space. All docents should have received invitations and directions in the mail.

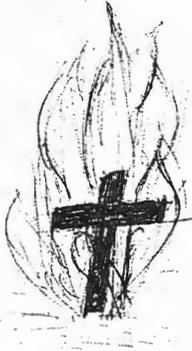
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*I meant to do my work today--  
But a brown bird sang in the apple-tree,  
And a butterfly flitted across the field,  
And all the leaves were calling me.*

--Richard Le Gallienne

## CROSS BURNING RITE ON TPSR CLIFF



The moon was full on the night of Saturday, May 20. Whether that is related to the incident that occurred in the Reserve is a matter for speculation.

Bob Wohl, park supervisor, was driving to his residence in the Reserve with his family about 10:30 P.M. that night. As they unlocked the gate at the park entrance, they saw a flashlight blinking along the side of the cliff near Tower One. In the bright moonlight they could also discern a shrouded white, cross-shaped object there.

Bob took his family home, then called for help. He was shortly joined by District Chief Ranger Jim Van Schmus and Rangers Scott Nakagi, Karen Frechou, and Mary Gann. They found 29 Sigma Chi fraternity men from the University of San Diego with the now charred cross, which had been wrapped in bedding material drenched with gasoline and burned in a niche about 75 feet up the cliff.

The students said the burning was an initiation ritual based on Emperor Constantine and his conversion to Christianity. The initiates make lists of their faults (including cross-burning?), and the lists are then burned, thus symbolically purifying the men and making them worthy of fraternity membership.

Eight charred crosses have been found in the park in the past year and a half, four on the same bluff. One in January was also during a full moon. Fraternity members, however, denied any connection with previous burnings.

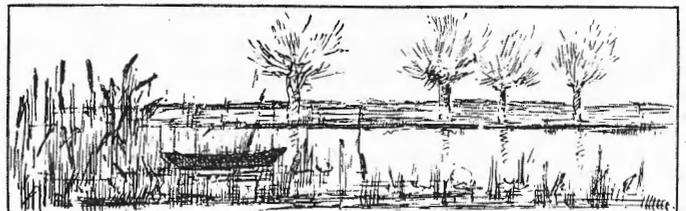
Possible charges that may be filed against the students include setting off an incendiary device in a nature reserve, being in a park after hours, and being off trail. Thomas Burke, USD dean of students, said the university would take disciplinary measures, but these had not been spelled out at the time of the report.

## NATIONAL PUBLICITY FOR THE RESERVE

Visitors from other parts of the country are often charmed by Torrey Pines State Reserve. One who wanted to spread the news about it was Nancy Ray, a publisher from Louisville, Kentucky, who was here in 1987. She wrote to Greg Hackett that she admired "the great work you are doing to keep the wildlife and plants in good shape." Then she requested an article for her magazine, *High Roads Folio*, about the flora "in accordance with the good slide show that Greg put together." The request was referred to the *Torreyana* editor, and the article appears in the 1989 *Folio*, published this April. It's in good company--Ladybird Johnson wrote an article on wildflowers for a past issue. The magazine is widely distributed (20,000 copies) by mail and to airlines, and may bring us more visitors from distant parts. . . .Copies are available for perusal in the Lodge.

*Summer afternoon--summer afternoon;  
to me those have always been the two  
most beautiful words in the English  
language.*

--Henry James



## UPDATE YOUR HISTORY BIBLIOGRAPHY

Is your bibliography for the Docent Society up to date? Judy Schulman, historian, keeps adding new references each year to the list which is always distributed to trainees. If you joined before 1987, you might want to check the list for recent publications. For example, the following books have been added since that time:



- San Diego Originals: Profiles of the Movers and Shakers of California's First Community.* Theodore W. Fuller, CA Profiles Publications, 1987.
- A Short History of Carmel Valley & McDonigle Canyon, Del Mar, CA.* John Northrup, Windsor Assoc., 1989.
- Del Mar: Looking Back.* Nancy Ewing, The Del Mar History Fdtn., 1988.
- La Jolla: The Story of a Community 1887-1987.* Patricia Schaelchlin, The Friends of the La Jolla Library, 1988.
- The Forgotten Artist: Indians of Anza-Borrego and Their Rock Art.* Manfred Knaak, Anza-Borrego Desert Natural History Assoc., 1988.
- San Dieguito-La Jolla: Chronology and Controversy.* San Diego County Archeological Society, 1987.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR EXOTIC PLANT REMOVAL (continued from p. 1)



- Garden stock (*Matthiola incana*), a member of the mustard family (*Brassicaceae*), is found near shore bluffs, on the Guy Fleming and Parry Grove trails, and in Fat Man's Misery canyon. It exudes toxins from its roots and actually competes with *Carpobrotus*.
- Wild radish (*Raphanus sativus*), another wild mustard native to Europe (like stock), also called "pioneer plant," is abundant in waste places everywhere.
- Sweet fennel (*Foeniculum vulgare*), native of the Mediterranean region, is easily confused with poison hemlock, which it resembles when not in bloom. Sweet fennel smells of licorice or anise. Found in the Extension and Flintkote areas.
- Tree tobacco (*Nicotiana glauca*), introduced from South America in Spanish days, found below the restroom on the Beach Trail. May have been brought in by the padres as a source of smoking tobacco but is poisonous to ingest either cooked or raw.
- Black mustard (*Brassica nigra*), ubiquitous grain weed from the Old World, colors entire fields with an impressive bright yellow display in spring.
- Castor bean (*Ricinus communis*), native to warm regions of the Old World, dies in low temperatures, so has not become an important weed. Seeds mottled silvery and brown are deadly poisonous. Seeds and foliage cause severe contact allergies. Found in the Flintkote Road area of the Lagoon.
- Hottentot fig (*Carpobrotus edulis*), native of South Africa, eaten and spread by squirrels; related to common ice plant (*Mesembryanthemum crystallinum*), also a native of South Africa.



# People Ask



*Why is there so much kelp this year on Torrey Pines State Beach?*

--Kelp washing ashore now is the result of the big storm in January, 1988, as well as cooling and warming ocean water trends, and the sloughing-off process, according to Mia Tegner, a marine biologist at Scripps Institution of Oceanography. The amount of kelp is considered to be the most we've had in 30 to 40 years and collects in greater quantities on State beaches because there it is not removed weekly, as it is on city beaches. Bill Fait, district superintendent for State beaches in San Diego county says, "From an environmental stance, when you do remove kelp you remove sand in the process, and our beaches are deficient in sand. If there have been grunion runs in the area, you can disturb the grunion eggs." Kelp that was ripped out during the January storm grew back thickly, just as a bush that is pruned produces heavier growth than usual. Then unusually cold water temperatures during the past year increased the amount of nutrients on which the kelp feeds, adding still further to growth.

## DUTY CALENDAR



### JUNE 1989



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
IF YOU HAVE NOT SIGNED UP FOR JUNE, PLEASE CALL GRACE TO ARRANGE FOR YOUR DUTY HOURS. 452-1176				1 GITTELSON	2 MARINE	3 L - SWANSON W - SWANSON L - CHENEY W - DITTMAR
4 L - SCHULMAN W - HORGER L - CHENEY W - SCHULMAN	5 TALBERT, B/J	6 MARTIN	7 HUMPHREYS	8	9 NICOLOFF	10 L - W - ROBERTS L - W - FLEMING
11 L - W - L - W - DIXON	12 MARGULIES	13 BUECHLER	14 HUMPHREYS	15 GITTELSON	16 DIXON	17 L - W - ROBERTS L - W - FLEMING
18 L - W - HORGER L - DUNHAM W - DUNHAM	19 TALBERT, B/J	20 MARTIN	21 MARGULIES	22 FOSTER, P.V.	23 NICOLOFF	24 L - SWANSON W - SWANSON L - MORROW W - MORROW
25 L - W - L - W -	26 BARDWICK	27 BUECHLER	28	29	30	

Docents are reminded to wear green tops with Torrey Pines Docent Society badges evident when on duty so that they are readily identifiable by the public.

Torrey Pines Docent Society

President: Michael Fox

Deadline for Torreyana copy is the 24th of each month. Send contributions to the editor:

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

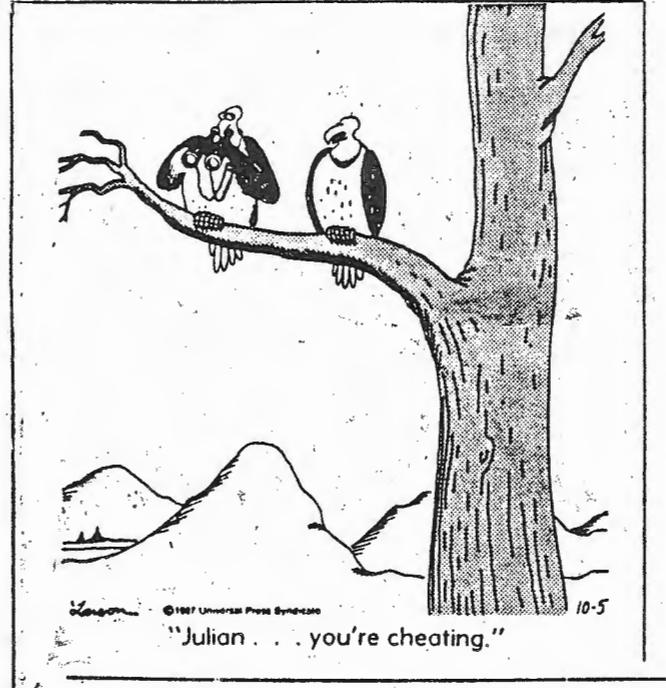
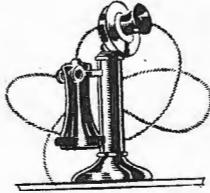
Staff: Isabel Buechler,  
Georgette Camporini, Del  
Roberts, Bob Marquies.

WANTED

DUTY COORDINATOR for Torrey Pines Docent Society. Should be reasonably accessible by telephone. This is one of the most important jobs in TPDS. Hours light but contribution great.

Call Michael Fox,

226-4676



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

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