



TORREYANA

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Torrey Pines Docent Society
and the Torrey Pines Association

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June 1990

Next Docent Society Meeting

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

Graham Mackintosh, author of *Into a Desert Place* (to be published in June or July), will be the Docent Society speaker for June. He will talk about his walk along the coast of Baja California, including natural history anecdotes and survival techniques. The talk will be accompanied by slides. Vice President Diana Snodgrass will conduct the meeting in the absence of President Michael Fox.

GUIDED WALKS IN EXTENSION--TO BE OR NOT TO BE?

Trial walks led by docents in TPSR Extension Saturday and Sunday, May 26 and 27, lured 14 visitors the first day and 10 the second. An ample supply of docents was on hand to divide the visitors into small groups for the walks. Glenn Dunham, who supervised the experiment, manned a table at the Del Mar Scenic Parkway entrance to the Extension. He provided preliminary trail education for those docents who had not been to that area recently. Among plants blooming that are rare or absent from trails in the main site were bee plant, bush mallow, and canchagua.

Discussion among participating docents concerned the advisability of scheduling regular walks, perhaps once a month in prime seasons, both in the Extension and in other areas of the Reserve, such as the lagoon and Flintkote Road. Additional newspaper publicity, which brought most of the visitors this time, would be considered, as well as timing the walks for other than holiday weekends. Glenn suggested posters in the condominium public areas in order to let residents know about the walks and perhaps interest them in keeping these natural preserves from improper uses. Additional discussion was planned for future docent meetings.

Apprentice yourself to nature. Not a day will pass without her opening a new and wondrous world of experience to learn from and enjoy. --Richard W. Langer



Docent Doings

FOUR NEW DOCENT COMMITTEES AT WORK

Logo: Pat Foster, chair of the committee to standardize the logo for the Docent Society, announced at the May meeting that the following persons would be serving on this committee: Bob Wohl, Bob Amann, Judy Schulman, Millie Horger, and Parker Foster. The purpose of the committee is to design a single logo to be used in all references to the Docent Society and materials used for its official purposes, such as letterheads. Currently several different logos are in use.

Maintenance: Walter Desmond, chair of the new Maintenance Committee, reported that he has made a survey of items throughout the Reserve that are in need of repair, such as fence posts, cables, defaced signs, and trail surfaces. He is cooperating with Ranger Chris Platis, who has a prioritized list of needed repairs. Docents who wish to participate in maintenance will be given some training before getting involved. A sign-up sheet was passed around at the May meeting, but others interested can contact Chris.

Brochure: Judy Schulman will chair a sub-committee of the Publications Committee which will work on producing a brochure about the Docent Society containing information for the public, particularly for prospective members. It will be distributed free, as is similar information about Torrey Pines Association.

Planning: President Michael Fox will appoint a chair to head a planning committee to work out details of remodeling and refurbishing the docent meeting room and storage space, including additional accessible shelves for the library. This committee will be asked to submit tentative plans to the Board in September.

EXPANSION OF TPDS LIBRARY

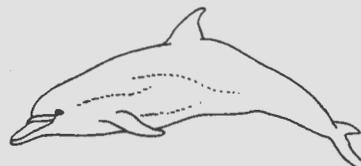
More space is needed for the growing docent library, according to Marc Gittelsohn, librarian. He reported at the May Docent Society meeting that 25 new volumes have already been added this year, with more to come. Also added is a box for pamphlets containing information about the Reserve or the Torrey pine. Marc drew the group's attention particularly to two recent additions: *The Sense of Wonder* by Rachel Carson and *E. W. and Ellen Browning Scripps: An Unmatched Pair* by Charles Preece. The latter has just recently been published and contains genealogical information about the Scripps family as well as other information of interest to docents.



NEW MEMBERSHIP ROSTERS

Glenn Dunham distributed updated membership rosters for the Docent Society at the May meeting. These include the trainees from this year's class. The total number of full docents listed is 60, associate members, 19, supporting members, 17, and one honorary members, for a total of 97.

Glenn requested that changes of address be given to him, since he prepares the monthly mailing list for the *Torreyana*. He will then give the changes to Carol Lewis, membership chair, for her records.



Docent Doings (continued)

DESERT GROUP VISITS TPSR

Twenty-five docents from the Anza-Borrego Natural History Association visited the Reserve Tuesday, April 24. Hospitality and refreshments at the Lodge were provided by the Torrey Pines Docent Society. Those who hosted and assisted in leading nature walks were: Kathy Estey, Rowdy James, Millie Horger, Isabel Buechler, Del Roberts, Joan Nimick, and Barbara Greene. Last year docents from the Reserve visited Anza-Borrego and spent a similar day.

TRAIL TALK. . . TO LODGE

"Docent Smith? This is Docent Jones down by the south overlook on the Guy Fleming Trail. I've just spotted a bobcat, a fox, and several deer going through the canyon."

"Docent Smith here in the Lodge. Tell those animals to stay right where they are. I'll notify the Rang...wait a minute. Isn't this April first?"

The new walkie-talkie system for docents isn't really expected to be used for such light-hearted banter as the above. Rather, it's for reporting such items as off-trail persons or an injury that might require some assistance. President Michael Fox demonstrated the use of the instruments at the May meeting. Instructions for operation of the equipment will be available at the desk. Both portable instruments can be operated at the same time, so that both a docent on patrol and another leading a walk could communicate to the Lodge desk during the same time period.

A TELEPHONE, TOO

 The telephone promised for the docent desk is now available. Docents on duty in the Lodge can plug in the instrument for use when no one is in the Ranger office. Pasted on the front of the phone are emergency phone numbers as well as numbers for the Lodge, kiosk, maintenance, and nearby campsites. An information sheet will be provided for use in answering common questions ("How do we arrange for a wedding at the Reserve?" "Do you give guided tours to groups?") The docent last on duty in the day is asked to return the phone to the Ranger office.

BUTTERFLY DISPLAY FOR LODGE

A colorful array of local butterflies artistically arranged in a glass case was donated to the Lodge exhibits in May by Dr. David Marriott.  Most of the specimens show both top and under side. In tiny print under each butterfly is the site where captured, the date, and a number which refers to an accompanying list of names, both common and scientific. Clearly stated on this list is a notice that collecting butterflies in Torrey Pines State Reserve is prohibited.

The display includes 55 species, 49 of which are found in a local area extending from San Clemente Canyon to San Dieguito River. Dr. Marriott pointed out that the great variety of butterflies in this area indicates a similar variety of plants, since most butterflies are plant specific when laying their eggs. He noted, however, that more than one species may share a plant for feeding. Buckwheat (*erigonum*), which is just coming into bloom in the Reserve is a popular feeding plant and should be a good location for docent observation right now.

Dr. Marriott, who spoke to the Docent Society at one of its regular meetings recently, is noted for his research on monarch butterflies. Under a new grant from San Diego County he will be monitoring and helping to preserve all monarch sites in this area.

IS EARTH DAY A LOT OF SMOKE?

I was heavily involved in the first Earth Day. I don't remember exact numbers, but I spoke at something like eight or nine assemblies at three or four schools. I spoke to adults too. Again and again I was asked, "What can I do?"

I had some lame answer. What could an individual do? Big corporations were spewing out pollutants by the thousands of tons. Big Cities were pouring sewage into rivers, lakes, and oceans. San Diego, at least, gives the stuff some treatment first. Canyons were being turned into mountains of trash. Peregrine falcons, brown pelicans, bald eagles, and California condors were all but extinct. In the face of all that flushing the toilet less often, putting litter in the bin, and saving aluminum cans seemed a bit weak. It's taken me a long time to come up with an answer that I should have thought of 20 years ago. In that time those kids I spoke to are grown up and, I hope, voting. Now they are in a position to do something. One day soon they will be the leaders. I should have told them to get mad—and stay mad. If enough people getting mad could get us out of Vietnam, maybe getting mad will stop the ruination of our planet. That may be the only effective way to save the environment and, thereby, ourselves.

I've seen and heard stories about progress since the first Earth Day. There have been marginal gains here and there. The pelicans have come back, and the falcons are working at it. But I don't remember an ozone hole in 1970. Radioactive waste has been building up, and there's no place to put it. Acid rain wasn't noted as a big thing. The United States was one of the few nations not to sign the agreement to refrain from exploiting Antarctica. The last of the old growth forests are almost gone, and other forests in Europe and North America are dying. Tropical forests are disappearing by fire and axe. Topsoil is washing down the rivers and out to the sea. Water tables are dropping everywhere. The over-population problem has done nothing but get worse. Twenty years ago Huntington Beach was a neat place to surf, and nobody had ever heard of Prince William Sound.

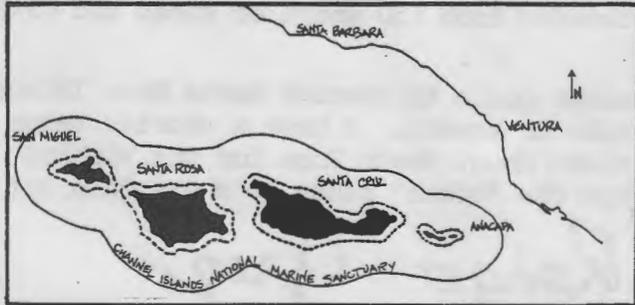
Now I'm living in Eureka in pristine Northern California. Riiiiight! On the narrow peninsula across Humboldt Bay three pulp mills pour untreated sludge into the ocean. Surfers, divers, and fishermen stay well away from the area. Around here clear-cutting is a way of life. The bulldozing of the stumps and destruction of the soil is far worse than any cutting of trees.

On Earth Day, 1990. Progress. Some people planted trees. Some service clubs picked up litter along the highway. It rained. When doesn't it rain here? I watched the TV a lot. Several times I was treated to a commercial by the Louisiana Pacific Corp. Chuck Yaeger, who used to be one of my heroes, told me how the company planted seven times as many trees as it cut down. How many of them lived? He didn't say. Did these trees (six inch high seedlings) have any genetic diversity whatsoever? I gathered not.

I woke up the morning after Earth Day. I took the beagle outside for the usual. The air was thick with fumes coming from the Louisiana Pacific pulp mill across the bay. I picked up the paper. The main headline was about a freed hostage. The second was, "MILLIONS JOIN EARTH DAY CELEBRATION." The third said, "BUSH LIKELY TO ALLOW OIL DRILLING OFF CALIFORNIA." The fourth was, "CHERNOBYL STILL THREATENS THOUSANDS." Progress?

Hank Nicol

THE "OTHER" TORREY PINE by Greg Hackett



As some of you already know, on May 7 through May 11, I got lucky. (It's not what you're thinking.) I had the rare opportunity to travel to Santa Barbara (the city) and to Santa Rosa Island to study, observe, and photograph that "other" grove at that "other" location we so often mention in our interpretive efforts here at Torrey Pines State Reserve.

While in Santa Barbara, I was given the chance to use the research libraries at both the Santa Barbara Botanical Gardens and the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History. Excellent resources, both. I also met with Dr. Robert Haller, known for his studies of both groves of Torrey pines (ours and the "others") at the University of California, Santa Barbara. We talked trees.

Former TPSR park aides Jim Bittner and Becky Barker send their "hellos." They enjoy living in Santa Barbara. Jim is assistant curator at the Museum of Natural History there and Becky is assistant planning officer for the Los Padres National Forest.

Then the real fun began. After driving to Ventura at o'dark thirty (before dawn) Wednesday morning, I met with the park staff at Channel Islands National Park visitor center. We prepared to cross the channel on the "Island Ranger," one of their three boats. First order of business was for me to get it right: Santa Rosa Island is where the Torrey pine trees grow. Torrey Pines State Reserve is the other grove. The water looked deep. Also cold. It was their boat and there were more of them. I said "O.K."

There are eight Channel Islands altogether. Four are currently administered as Channel Islands National Park. One, Santa Cruz Island, is privately owned by the non-profit Nature Conservancy. These five islands comprise the 1252 square nautical miles Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary, dedicated to protecting this marine resource and the fragile ecosystems it supports. Of all eight islands, the Torrey pine grows only on Santa Rosa.

After a brief stop at East Anacapa Island, we were underway for Santa Rosa. The highlight of the three and one-half hour crossing was being close to approximately 300 leaping, playing dolphins. These beautiful animals would swim over to our boat and jockey for position to ride the bow wake. They loved it. I loved it.

Then, finally, there was Santa Rosa Island and the Torrey pines, visible from the water. The grove is smaller and contains fewer trees than here in the Reserve. The grove is over one-half mile along the north slope of a ridge facing Santa Barbara channel. A series of small north-south canyons dissects the entire grove. All trees on exposed ridges are severely wind-pruned, and none are more than 35 feet tall. The soil is a fine sandy loam, with little chaparral vegetation, as here on the mainland. Rather, openings between trees are usually covered with grass. Thus, the Torrey pine seeds have an easier time making a start, with young trees occurring in all the open spaces. Almost all the trees appear healthy, with no apparent bark beetle damage. This is most likely because of the island's more favorable growing conditions—mainly, an annual rainfall of up to 15". The trees have larger, fuller canopies than here, with many cones in the upper stories.

Being on Santa Rose for two days, I was able to hike around a bit. I found

(continued on p.6)

THE "OTHER" TORREY PINE (continued from p.5)

a large cave up on a hillside. The approach led through a midden site. Inside the cave I found probable Chumash Indian rock art and the small footprints of the shy island fox. Elsewhere, I saw mule deer, elk, and feral pig, all introduced, of course. The island is badly denuded from 150 years of sheep and cattle ranching.

The National Park Service has long-range goals to restore Santa Rosa Island and offer environmental camping (i.e., hike or kayak). I have a shorter range goal of developing a slide program and video about Santa Rosa for our visitor center. Until then, we've got a cone from the "other" pines to share with our park visitors! See you on the trails...

Ranger Greg

ROAD HOG MORE DANGEROUS THAN SHARK

Making the point that the shark population is being seriously reduced not only by fishing but by taking the adults in their reproductive years, Jeff Graham, research physiologist and marine biologist at Scripps Institute of Oceanography underlined the fact at the docents' May meeting that no shark attacks have ever been reported off the beaches at Torrey Pines State Reserve. "You have a lot less to fear from sharks than from driving on our freeways," he noted.

Graham advocates abolishing shark tournaments as a step towards keeping the species from being endangered. Another reprehensible practice in his opinion is that of playing big-game fish to exhaustion. Then, even if they are thrown back in the water, their systems may be unable to function properly and the fish drown.

There are about 600 species of sharks world-wide, at least six of which are found in local waters. These include the leopard, swell, and horn sharks, which are generally in rocky areas closer to shore than others such as the blue and the great white. The latter appears in waters in this area in May and June, but some distance out. Live representatives of local sharks may be seen at the SIO aquarium.



A smiling group from Torrey Pines State Reserve welcomes Director Henry R. Agonia, California Department of Parks and Recreation, who came down from Sacramento for the Torrey Pines Association's 40th birthday celebration. In the picture are (left to right); Greg Hackett, Henry Agonia, Shayna Wohl, Bob Wohl, Robin Wohl, and Chris Platis. (Photo by John Huber.)

HOW DOES YOUR NATIVE PLANT GARDEN GROW?



Native plants in your garden not only can cut down on watering, they can also provide you with food. Take, for example, the prickly pear cactus (*Opuntia littoralis*) --which, incidentally, is having a good blooming year in the Reserve. The fruit can be eaten raw or used for syrup or jelly (see recipes in *Edible and Useful Plants of California* by C. B. Clarke). The nopales can be used with scrambled eggs or in stew or in a salad. The following recipe for "Cactus Corn Artichoke Salad" appeared in the *Los Angeles Times Magazine*. Maybe some docent can try it and bring a sample to one of the Docent Society meetings.

- 4 purple artichokes
- 1½ c. corn kernels (cut from about 3 ears of corn)
- 2 8" nopales (available in Latino markets if not in your garden)

- ½ c. diced red pepper
- 1 tsp. salt
- Mustard vinaigrette dressing or similar
- 2 tbsp. toasted chopped pine nuts

Put artichokes in boiling water, cover, and cook until tender--about 30 minutes. Drain and trim when cool.

Wearing rubber gloves, carefully trim spines from the cactus and cut into ¼" dice (should be about 1½ cups). Boil corn in two quarts salted water until tender (about 3 minutes). Drain, saving the water. Return water to pan and bring to boil again. Add cactus and boil for about 30 seconds, drain, and toss under cold running water until syrup no longer runs out and pads are not gummy.

Toss corn, cactus, red pepper and vinaigrette dressing gently but thoroughly. Put salad into artichoke cups and sprinkle pine nuts on top. Can be served warm or chilled.

Love of flowers and all things green and growing is with many men and women a passion so strong that it often seems to be a sort of primal instinct, coming down through generation after generation. --H. R. Ely

The *Torreyana* is issued monthly except for August by the Torrey Pines Docent Society and Torrey Pines Association.

Deadline for contributions is the 24th of each month. Please send to the editor:

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DUTY CALENDAR - JUNE 1990

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
PLEASE CALL IF YOU HAVE NOT SIGNED UP OR NEED TO MAKE A CHANGE. JEANNE HELLER 587-4713		DUTY HOURS: <u>MONDAY & FRIDAY</u> 10:00 - 1:00 1:00 - 4:00 <u>TUES., WED. & THURS.</u> 11:00 - 2:00		WEEKEND Lodge: 10:30 - 1:30 1:30 - 4:30 Walk: 11:00 - 2:00 1:00 - 4:00		1 10-1 Nicoloff 1-4 Marine	2 L - Swanson L - W - Massey L - Morrow, J L - W - Morrow, C
3 L - Lewis L - W - L - Huber L - W -	4 10-1 Talbert, J&B James 1-4	5 Martin Moriearty, S (Trainee)	6 Margulies	7 Nortman	8 10-1 Gittelsohn 1-4	9 L - Bransford L - W - Greene, B L - Bransford L - W -	
10 L - Sanderson L - Brickelmaier W - Schulman L - Schulman L - W -	11 10-1 Margulies James 1-4	12 Amann, B&M	13 Snodgrass	14 Foster, P	15 10-1 Nicoloff 1-4 Foster, PV	16 L - Dickhoff L - W - Liu L - Dunham L - W - Dunham	
17 L - Buechler L - W - Dixon L - Foster, PV L - W -	18 10-1 Talbert, J&B James 1-4	19 Martin	20 Foster, P	21 Foster, P	22 10-1 Gittelsohn Moriearty, S (Trainee) 1-4 Desmond	23 L - Kooyman L - W - Horger L - Morrow, J L - W - Morrow, C	
24 L - Heller L - W - Massey L - Morrow, J L - W - Morrow, C	25 10-1 Huber James 1-4 Lewis	26 Foster, P	27 Foster, P	28 Foster, P	29 10-1 Marine 1-4	30 L - Dunham L - W - Dunham L - Liu L - W - Greene, B	



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FIRST CLASS

FOR

