



TORREYANA

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

No. 190

September 1991

Next Docent Society Meeting

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 9:00 A.M. AT THE VISITOR CENTER

The Docent Society resumes its regular meetings in September, catching up on business that was put on hold for the month of August. To start the fall off, Supervising Ranger Bob Wohl will give one of his off-trail walks, which have a well-deserved reputation for providing docents with exciting new vistas as well as little-known information about the Reserve. The location will be a surprise; just come prepared to walk, listen, and learn. (Questions are allowed, however.)

TRIP TO SANTA ROSA ISLAND CANCELLED

For want of 42 interested persons (the number required for the special rate), the trip to Santa Rosa Island to see those "other" Torrey pines, tentatively planned for September, has been cancelled. Thanks goes to Del Roberts, vice president of programs, and Dorothy Green for their efforts in planning the trip. Another year, perhaps.

PARK ENTRY FEES TO BE REDUCED

As of September 6, the entry fee for cars into the Reserve will be reduced from \$6.00 to \$4.00 (\$3.00 for seniors) when the kiosk is manned. The ATM machines, when installed, will require a \$5.00 fee. The machines are expected to be installed sometime this year at both North Beach and South Beach parking lots.

The reduction in park entry fees is not statewide, but has been put in place at Torrey Pines because of the reduced revenues here this summer. The reduction is blamed partly on higher parking fees, though gloomy coastal weather no doubt also was a contributing factor.

We can never have enough of nature.

--Henry David Thoreau

Docent Doings

RECORD NUMBER COMPLETE DOCENT REQUIREMENTS EARLY

Name plates and Docent Society patches were awarded to the following training class graduates for 1991 at the July meeting: Kathy Carine, Joy Cooper, Kristine Crewse, Mayo Stiegler, Hilda Moran, Vickie Stone, Eva Szela, Mary Lou Wasden, Tom Lidot, Wesley Farmer, and Susan Ferguson. (James Cassell had completed his requirements the previous month.) Since training began only on April 6, this means that these trainees worked very hard for 16 weeks, attending lectures, going on trails, doing required reading, and taking an at-home exam. They are all to be congratulated for their diligence and enthusiasm.

Joan Nimick, vice president of the training program, was recognized at the meeting for her outstanding organization and leadership.

DOCENTS' ROOM TO GET NEW LOOK

Plans for new shelving for the Docent Society Library have been approved, and work will start as soon as a bid has been accepted. Ranger Chris Platis has been asked to supervise the work. In addition, a file cabinet to hold TPDS records as well as brochures for the library will be purchased. The possibility of replacing the present little-used desk with a more useful couch for meetings is being considered by the Executive Board.

THERE GOES THE TUMBLING TUMBLEWEED--WE HOPE



Tumbleweed terminators are at work on the trails helping to rid the park of yet another insidious interloper. Help is welcomed. Wear leather gloves and long pants and request a shovel from the rangers' office. These plants are mean and thorny.

The rangers will also designate a site where the plants should be removed and provide a large trash bag for your collection.

NEW TAPE ANSWERS QUESTIONS FOR VISITORS

Recently added to the stock of videotapes for visitors is one by Former Park Aide Jim Serpa*. It is a good outline for newcomers of the basic rules to be observed in the Reserve as well as a summary of the most frequently asked questions. All docents who come in contact with the public can benefit from watching the tape. Questions include:

- Did I see sharks out there?
- What's the story behind the rock formations?
- Are the trees sick?
- Did you have a fire here?
- What other plants are here besides the Torrey pine?
- Where are all the animals in the park?
- What's that big ball in the tree?

and last but not least:

- Where are the restrooms?

Listen to the tape to get the answers.

*Jim is now a State Park Ranger at Doheny State Beach.

*Go forth, under the open sky, and list
To Nature's teachings.* --William Cullen Bryant

Getting to Know You *

Jim Cassell was the first of the 1991 trainee class to earn his full docent badge. He brings a long-time interest in gardens and training in art to his new-found hobby of docenting, about which he is very enthusiastic. After four years in the Air Corps in WWII, he went to Chicago, where he graduated from the Art Institute and the University of Chicago. For 32 years thereafter he worked in graphic arts and packaging. On the side, he was gardening--doing it well enough to have his Chicago garden appear in *Better Homes & Gardens*, *Apartment Life*, and various newspapers. He gained additional fame by having his block prints in permanent collections around the country. He has also traveled widely: to China, Japan, Russia, Turkey, Italy, England, Greece, and parts of Africa. From Chicago he returned to California, his home state (he was born and raised in Palo Alto).

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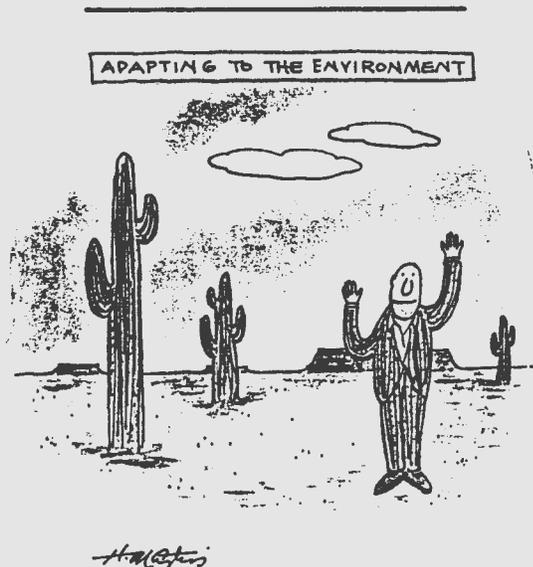
Vickie Stone discovered Torrey Pines State Reserve by accident on one of her frequent beach walks by taking the beach trail up to see where it went. She fell in love with the Reserve and jumped at the chance to join the docent training class this spring. She has had time to enjoy her summer docenting since she is currently searching for a new job, since her last position was eliminated by a weak banking industry.

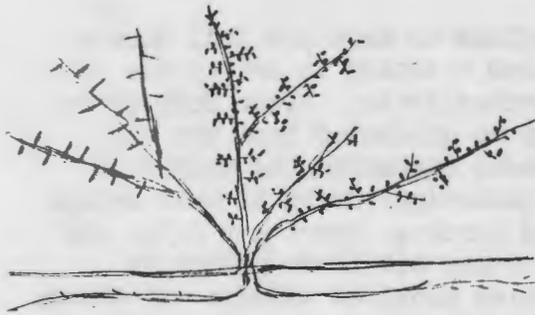
Vickie grew up in Columbus, Ohio, and graduated from Ohio State University with a degree in business administration, after sampling other majors such as landscape architecture and wildlife management. She came to San Diego in 1986 and shares a condo in Encinitas with a parakeet called "Chirps," a cockatiel named "Tucker," and an aquarium of anonymous fish. Her many interests include animals, traveling, volleyball, tennis, snorkeling, and mystery novels.

* * * * *

Mayo Stiegler grew up in Minneapolis, Minnesota, where he graduated from the University of Minnesota Law School. After living in Evanston, Illinois, for 25 years, he moved to San Diego in 1986 and retired here in 1990. Living in a condo led to his search for outdoor activity, and he became a docent at Quail Botanical Gardens in September 1990. One day while walking at Torrey Pines, he asked if there was also a docent program here--with the result that he joined the trainee class this spring. Mayo and his wife have two grown sons: one in San Diego and one in San Francisco.

**These brief sketches about new full docents are intended to help members of TPDS get to know and appreciate each other. All new docents are requested to submit brief biographical material to the Torreyana editor as soon as possible.*



TRAIL NOTES (BAD AND GOOD) by Bob Amann

Wolfberry roots are barely underground. Leaves are tiny and spade-shaped.

Looking for a specimen of *Lycium californicum** (wolfberry/desert or box thorn) to place in our living herbarium out front, Marge and I were aghast to find that the total sizable population was deceased (desiccated, wiped out, kaput). On both sides of the Broken Hills Trail 100 yards from Flat Rock, there had been a healthy, trail-rimming hedge of wolfberry for years. However, we managed to locate several small specimens struggling for survival just a tad up the Beach Trail from Flat Rock. So, with a little judicious surgery, we'll try to keep a sample alive in the Lodge garden for future young botanists.

Incidentally, have you noticed the unusually good mast crop this year? "Mast" is the acorn crop, and the scrub oak, utilizing the March miracle rains, are loaded, especially on the Broken Hills Trail and in the Red Butte area. Rodents should dine well this winter.

And guess what will dine on fat, juicy rodents?

(**Lycium californicum* is listed as a native under Solanaceae on p. 40 of the TPSR native plant list.)

UNEXPECTED GUEST APPEARS FOR ANNUAL PICNIC by Del Roberts

Jeanne & Glenn Dunham helped prepare picnic.

On Saturday, August 17, South Torrey Pines Beach was brightened by 32 docents who brought their own sunny dispositions to a cloudy day. Maintenance staffers Mark Dias and Mickey Meszaros carted tables and benches to the beach in order to keep the sand out of the delicious buffet. Wes Farmer arrived early to hold the tables, and Del Roberts set out the tablecloths and plasticware. Ranger Bob, although still on vacation, joined us with Robin and Shayna. Glenn and Jeanne Dunham left the champagne home because of the "no glass on the beach" rule, but brought sodas and fruit drinks to wash down the delicious potluck buffet. "Luck" actually has nothing to do with a docent feast, just culinary talent. No one went hungry. Carol's cheese balls, Millie's BBQ beans, Joy's vegetarian butter beans, Kathy's German potato salad, Steve's fried chicken, and Grace's orange cake were just a few of the delectable dishes.

One unexpected guest couldn't partake of our food, but provided a brief respite from a groaning board. A starving adult sea lion with an abscessed bite on its flipper and a head wound was rescued from Flat Rock by the Sea World staff, who gave him a good chance for recovery.

A few brave docents ventured into the sea. Others walked off their lunch, while Kathy Watson and John Huber gathered up all the unused table settings for the next feast.



Bob Wohl selects a sweet for daughter Shayna.

TREASURES IN TIDEPOLS

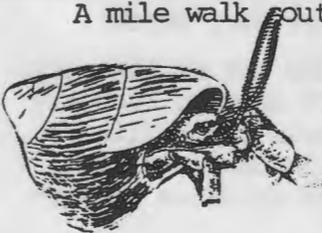
So your visitors from Kansas have finished their walk around the Guy Fleming Trail and they want to know where to go to see some starfish and sea anemones and other tidepool creatures. Scripps Aquarium is one answer, of course; but if the tide is right, you can direct them to any one of several spots from the Reserve to Point Loma which won't require a major amount of time or gas.

Dr. Linda Tway, researcher at Scripps Institution of Oceanography, told docents about these pools at the July meeting, augmenting her detailed lecture with crystal clear, colorful slides (her own) of the marine life that populates these areas. Residents of tidepools often tolerate dramatic changes in their environment from total immersion to complete exposure.

San Diego County has 22 tidepool locations, all listed in Dr. Tway's recently published *Tidepools of Southern California* (now available in the docent bookstore). The best time for tidepooling is during a minus tide in winter, when the largest amount of surface is exposed. Closest pool for Reserve walkers is at Flat Rock, home to anemones and sandcastle worms on the north side, mussels and leaf barnacles on the south side. On the top, periwinkles and limpets cling to drier areas; and on the front face owl limpets and more sandcastle worms cover the surface.



A mile walk south along the beach brings the walkers to a stretch of large boulders which harbor "some of the largest and greenest giant green anemones in the county." Still further south and walkable is dike rock, half a mile north of Scripps Pier. Tway calls this one of the best tidepool areas in San Diego County, where, in addition to the creatures mentioned above, one can find California sea hares, hermit crabs, tegula snails, acorn barnacles, scaly tube snails, and an assortment of sea plants, such as surfgrass and southern sea palm.



Those who wish to go beyond this point can hop in their cars and drive to La Jolla Shores, where large flat rock outcrops south of the Marine Room are fascinating to explore—but slippery; or to Alligator Head, a little further south; and on to Shell Beach, where seals are regularly to be seen sunning on Seal Rock nearby.

You should also warn visitors that collecting is a no-no. In some areas it is illegal; in all, it is destructive to the habitat, not to mention the collected creatures, some of which, like the anemones, may be over 200 years old.

NEW MATERIAL ADDED TO DELFINA CUERO BOOK

A new edition of *Delfina Cuero: Her autobiography; An Account of Her Last Years and Her Ethnobotanic Contributions* by Florence Connolly Shipek has just been issued and should be available for purchase from the docent bookshop soon. In addition to the material covered in the previous edition, this one has added information about Delfina's life between the time of the first edition (1970) and her death in 1972. There is also a new section at the end on her ethnobotanical contributions, which gives the plant names in Kumeyaay as well as English and Latin, followed by the uses familiar to Delfina. For example:

Sage (*Artemisia californica*) "Kuchash"—Grind leaves and use fresh as a poultice on ant bites or boil and use for tea when ill; boil and bathe in it for measles. It was dried and used as a tobacco for smoking also.

WEAVING PARK MAGIC INTO BASKETS by Judy Schulman

Pat McGillis helps
Lee Osisek; Allyn
Kaye weaves her magic.

On July 14, two very confused birds looked down from their perch on the Torrey pine behind the Lodge. What was all that commotion on the tables below? What kind of nests were those ten tall featherless birds trying to make anyway? The nests weren't even big enough for them to sit in. And no self-respecting bird would make its nest out of something as uncomfortable as pine needles and raffia instead of twigs, leave, bark, and grass.

If we could only have chirped in the right language, we could have told those poor birds that we were learning how to make Torrey pine baskets. Our instructor was docent trainee Pat McGillis, who is a local artist. She has been making baskets for the past 15 years. She teaches at the UCSD Craft Center, San Dieguito Adult School, Mira Costa Extension, and occasionally at her Del Mar studio.

Those attending the class were Pat Bransford, Ranger Allyn Kaye, Sharon Liu, Lee Osisek, Del Roberts, Judy Schulman, Eva Stela, and Barbara and Dana Wallick. While we practiced our new techniques, Pat talked to us about the need for sacred places where we can be alone without the pressures of our daily life. To her, Torrey Pines is such a place. She also read some selections from the nature-inspired poetry of Pulitzer-prize-winning writer Gary Snyder.

For those interested in reading and learning more about the art of basketry, a number of sources are available. These include the July 1975 special basketry issue of *Arizona Highways*; *Diegueno Coiled Baskets* by E. L. Davis and William Allen (San Diego Museum of Man, October 1967); *North American Indian Arts* by Andrew Hunter Whiteford (a Golden Guide); and *Rods, Bundles and Stitches* (Riverside Museum Press, 1981).

Another basket-weaving class may be scheduled before Christmas. Watch for the notice.

BUTTERFLIES AMIDST THE BIBLIOPHILES (Library Subject List #7) by Marc Gittelsohn

(This is the eighth in a continuing series of book lists reflecting holdings now available in the docent library. Future lists will include wildflower identification, birds, geology, tidepools, and other topics.)

Emmel, Thomas C., *The butterflies of Southern California* (Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, 1973). Best on larvae and pupae. Colored illustrations are grouped.

Garth, John S., *California butterflies* (University of California Press, 1986; California Natural History Guide no. 51).

Tilden, James W., *A field guide to Western butterflies* (Houghton Mifflin, 1986; Peterson Field Guide no. 33).

Garth and Tilden are new additions to the collection this year. For other information on butterflies see our books on insects (Library Subject List #1, *Torreyana*, January 1991, p. 5).



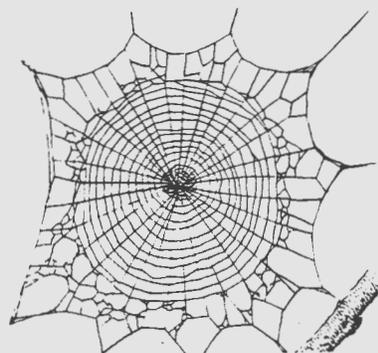
KEEP INFORMED VIA VERANDA BOARDS

Have you taken a good look at the latest whiteboard on the Lodge veranda headed "What's Happening to the Trees?" Not only is it a nice piece of art work, but it also provides a clearly illustrated explanation of how those nasty little bark beetles do their deadly work and brings you up to date on the destruction so far: 600 out of 6,000 trees.

Most surprising of all is the announcement that currently only one Torrey pine tree is infested. That's right, one. Park Aide Mike Neustein, who has been assisting Dr. Peter Shea of the University of California at Davis and the National Forestry Service in monitoring the trees, reports that apparently those accordion-like swinging black traps loaded with pheromones have done their job. As of mid-August, an estimated 200,000 beetles (probably a low figure) had met their fate in the traps, and others may have moved out of the area. Dr. Shea plans an official report early in September on the current status of the trapping project and its future.

In addition to the beetle board, another on what's blooming in the Reserve is at the other end of the veranda. Both were prepared by Park Aide Susan Pelley, whose term, like that of other summer aides, was from mid-June to mid-September. Susan will be going to Palomar Junior College and is considering majoring in park management or in art. So far she has had no formal art training, though her work looks quite professional. She hopes to return to TPSR next summer.

Mike Neustein is also looking forward to future associations with the Reserve. Meanwhile, he's off to Costa Rica backpacking this fall to examine nature in another setting.



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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Parker Foster, Marion Antrim

* * *

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Carol Lewis, Mbrshp Chair
12908 Candela Pl.
San Diego, CA 92130

REMINDERS

*Before dawn, across the whole road
as I pass I feel spiderwebs.*

*Within people's voices, under their words or
woven into the pauses, I hear a hidden sound.*

*One thin green light flashes over a smooth sea
just as the sun goes down.*

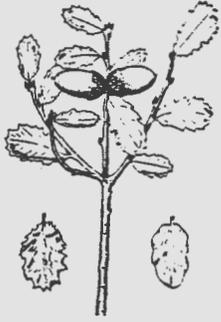
*What roses lie on the altar of evening
I inhale carefully, to keep more of.*

*Tasting all these and letting them have
their ways to waken me, I shiver and resolve:*

In my life, I will more than live.

William Stafford

SEPTEMBER DUTY CALENDAR



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 L - MORAN L - FERGUSON L - BARDWICK W - BARDWICK	2 L - BARDWICK W - BARDWICK	3 S. FERGUSON	4 MARGULIES	5 AMANN	6 10-1 NIKOLOFF 1-4 STONE	7 L - MASSEY W - COOPER L - BUECHLER W - DIXON
8 L - SCHULMAN W - MORAN L - SCHULMAN W - SLODGRAS	9 10-1 COOPER 1-4 BARDWICK	10 MARTIN	11 BARDWICK	12 GITTELSOHN	13 10-1 WATSON 1-4 SACHS	14 L BRAUNFORD W CASSELL L BRAUNFORD W. FESLUND
15 L - HELLER W - ROBERTS L - FOSTER W'	16 10-1 STIELLER 1-4	17 TALBERTS	18 MARGULIES	19 MORAN	20 10-1 NIKOLOFF 1-4 FOSTER	21 L - KOOSMAN W - CASSELL L W
22 L - C. LEWIS W - M. HORNER L W'	23 10-1 GREEN 1-4 HUBER	24 MARTIN	25 WATSON	26 GITTELSOHN	27 10-1 TALBERT 1-4 GREEN	28 L - LEWIS W - MASSEY L W - STIELLER
29 L - HELLER W - DIXON L - ROBERTS W - DUNHAM	30 10-1 GREEN 1-4 HUBER					



Torrey Pines Docent Society
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FIRST CLASS

FOR

