



TORREYANA

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

No. 196

March 1992

Next Docent Society Meeting

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

The Reserve is teeming with healthy, green plants, so it's an appropriate time to learn how many uses they have. Steve Crouthamel, Associate Professor of American Indian Studies at Palomar Community College, will talk about both Indian and current uses of native plants for food and medicine at the March meeting. He will emphasize plants at the Reserve but will also cover others in the Southern California area. His talk will be illustrated with slides. The regular business meeting and refreshments will precede the talk.

NEW COUNSELLORS ELECTED TO TPA

At the annual meeting of Torrey Pines Association Thursday, February 13, results of the ballot-by-mail for new counsellors were announced as follows: Frances Armstrong, Maurie Brown, John Fleming, Scott Jenkins, Alan Klier, Margaret Langsdorf, and Peter Lucic. The counsellors will hold their first meeting at 8:30 A.M., Saturday, March 14.



Also at the February meeting, Ranger Chris Platis updated the group on the bark beetle and control burn plans (see "Report from the Ranger" in this issue). Jessie LaGrange reported that Peñasquitos Lagoon was in an extremely healthy condition, and Diana Snodgrass, president of the Docent Society, thanked the Association for its recently revised "green book" and said that sales were going well.

ELECTION RESULTS FOR DOCENT SOCIETY

The slate of officers proposed by the Nominating Committee of the Docent Society, headed by Bob Margulies, was elected unanimously at the annual meeting in February. Officers for 1992 will be: President, Diana Snodgrass; Vice President for Programs, Jim Cassell; Vice President for Training, Joan Nimick; Treasurer, June Brickelmaier; Secretary, Bob Talbert; Duty Coordinator, Joy Cooper; Newsletter Editor, Marion Dixon.

HIKES IN LAGOON AND EXTENSION

Saturday, March 14, 9:00 A.M.: A walk for the public is scheduled for the Reserve Extension, leaving from the entrance on Del Mar Scenic Boulevard. Diana Snodgrass and Jan Taylor will be the leaders.

Sunday, March 15, 1:00 P.M.: Another walk for the public is scheduled for the lagoon. Walkers should meet at the light on Carmel Valley Road and Del Mar Scenic Boulevard--thus enabling them to park free along the road. There will be a low tide at this time, opening up more space for viewing.

TPDS TREASURER'S REPORT

Glenn Dunham, retiring treasurer of the Docent Society, gave his report for 1991 at the February annual meeting. He noted that there was a slight increase in receipts. Copies of the report were distributed at the meeting and are available to all members.

Because of the healthy balance in the docents' account, the Executive Board later requested that the rangers establish priorities for their "wish list" and submit them to the Board. They also approved a \$1,000 donation to the San Diego Museum of Natural History, to be directed to an appropriate department.

Other projects for which the Board recommended support were the Junior Rangers Program at San Elijo State Park and half the fee for a training program for docents who wish to work with children, if it can be arranged.

LIBRARY REPORT FOR 1991

In 1991, 22 items were added to the docent library, 18 by purchase and four by donation. (Gifts actually constitute the major portion of our collection.) This was part of a first-time annual report submitted to the Executive Board in February by Librarian Marc Gittelsohn. Marc pointed out that the library had now

(cont'd in next column)

Library Report (cont'd)

acquired all but four of the titles listed in the "Selective Bibliography" in the manual for docents. These will be acquired as soon as possible. Last year also bookplates designed by Pat Foster became available and have been put into all existing holdings. A new pamphlet file was started in 1991, including newspaper clippings, leaflets, and xeroxed articles. These are now contained in 35 manila folders and kept in the docents' room.

IMPROVEMENTS AT LODGE

Attractive new bookshelves made of reddish-stained Douglas fir have been installed in the docents' room at the Lodge. Donated by Pat and Parker Foster in memory of his mother, the shelves provide more than ample space above counter level for the current collection. No more contortions to find the volume you want. The metal file containing refreshment supplies has been moved to the back room.

Also, a new, larger TV monitor has been installed, providing better viewing for our audiences. It was purchased by the Docent Society.

HAVE YOU KEPT YOUR PLEDGE TO TPDS?

Elizabeth Nicoloff, who has been keeping a record of docents' hours, reminded members at their last meeting that each of them had pledged to give six hours per month or 72 hours per year when they completed their training for the Docent Society. If you don't know whether or not you measured up, check the list of hours posted in the docents' room.

*And 'tis my faith that every flower
Enjoys the air it breathes.*

--William Wordsworth



1992 DOCENT TRAINING SESSIONS

Joan Nimick, vice president of training for TPDS, has outlined the following schedule for docent training this year beginning March 28 and ending May 9. The weekend of April 18 is omitted because that is the Easter holiday. All Saturday sessions begin at 9:00 A.M. and will end at approximately 1:00 P.M., including the interpretive walk. Refreshments will be provided between the lecture and the walk. All docents are invited to attend and requested to notify interested friends. Optional walks will be held on Sundays at 9:00 A.M. on each training weekend. Docents on duty are asked to show this schedule to visitors.

- SATURDAY, MARCH 28** - Introductions, applications, and other handouts
 - President's message (Diana Snodgrass)
 - CA State Park System and information for docents (Bob Wohl)
 - Interpretive walk (Bob Wohl)
- SATURDAY, APRIL 4** - Geology of the Reserve, lecture and walk
 (Professor Philip Kern, San Diego State Univ.)
- SATURDAY, APRIL 11** - Plants of the Reserve, talk and slides
 (Bill Brothers)
 - Walk, plants and birds (Barbara Moore)
- SATURDAY, APRIL 25** - General Docent Society meeting
 - Talk and walk on Reserve animals (Sharyl Massey)
- SATURDAY, MAY 2** - History and Indians of the Reserve (Judy Schulman)
 - Walk, Indian uses of native plants (Judy Schulman)
- SATURDAY, MAY 9** - Final information for trainees
 - Trail interpretation and walk (Bob Wohl)



SLIDE SHOW SUBSTITUTES FOR WALK IN THE RAIN

Instead of slipping and sliding down the Beach Trail to look at tidepools in a downpour, docents were treated at their February meeting to a slide show by the fire in a cozy Lodge. Program Chair Del Roberts and would-have-been walk leader Dr. Linda Tway hastily rearranged the day's offering to keep everyone high and dry and still well-informed about what they could see on another occasion in local tidepools. Linda, who had spoken previously to the group on some of the aspects of tidepooling, selected a new set of slides to illustrate treasures to be found from North County to Point Loma.

Rocky areas are the most populous sites, and Flat Rock offers a particularly good variety of creatures because it has both wet and splash zones. Other areas described were the boulder area south of Flat Rock, Dyke Rock north of Scripps Pier, the rocky area near the Marine Room, Goldfish Point, La Jolla Cove, Seal Rock, Bird Rock, False Point, the pier at Ocean Beach, and the area marked by signs on Point Loma. Winter is the best time for tidepooling because of the frequent extremely low tides.

Report from the Ranger

BARK BEETLE BACK

Signs of re-infestation by ips paraconfusus, the destructive little bark beetle that has killed 700 or so Torrey pines, were reported in February by Ranger Chris Platis. He said that the funnel traps would be put into action again, using the sex pheromone that has already attracted so many thousands to their deaths.

PRESCRIBED BURNS IN RESERVE

Permits have been secured for conducting a prescribed burn in the Broken Hills area, probably in March, depending on weather conditions. The control burn in Parry Grove has been delayed probably until next fall because of the new growth of flora in that area. Parry Grove will remain closed to the public until after the burn, however. Community volunteers are still helping to remove carpobrotus in that area.

AN UNUSUAL FIND IN THE PARK

Fossilized shells, metates and manos used by the Kumeyaay, animal or bird skeletons--these are the usual finds reported by those with sharp eyes after a winter storm or winds lay bare a new area in the park. This time a visitor saw a different kind of object lying near a discarded bottle a few feet off Razor Point Trail just west of Red Butte: a 9 mm. revolver. Its rusty condition indicated that it had been out in the weather awhile, perhaps a year or more. It was reported to the ranger staff, who turned it in to the park firearms department and reported it to the San Diego Police Department. An investigation into any association the gun might have with criminal activity is being conducted.

NEW MAINTENANCE CHIEF

A new maintenance chief, Bill Minnell, has been appointed at the Reserve. His emphasis will be on trail upkeep. Docents interested in helping with trail work should make arrangements through Ranger Chris Platis. No doubt the heavy rains have provided a lot of opportunities for trail improvement for volunteers as well as staff.

EXHIBIT MATERIAL REQUESTED FOR SAN ELIJO

Former TPSR Ranger Greg Hackett, who is now at San Elijo-Carlsbad Campgrounds, made a plea to docents at their February meeting for items to be included in the exhibit in the new Visitor Center at San Elijo. The materials should fit into one of the following categories: oceans, beach, wetlands. Materials can be either loaned or given.

LOCAL DELEGATES TO ATTEND CSPRA CONFERENCE

Both rangers and docents from TPSR will be represented at the meeting of the California State Park Rangers Association in Anaheim from March 16-19. Rangers Allyn Kaye and Carol Provost and Docent Diana Snodgrass plan to attend. A variety of workshops helpful to both staff and volunteers will be held. Other docents who may be interested in going should contact Diana as soon as possible (481-2354).

Docent President's Notes by Diana Snodgrass

Dear fellow docents,

I am really happy to be serving you again as president for the 1992-1993 year. The past year has been an enjoyable experience. I would like to thank the board members who have stepped down this time--Glenn Dunham, Kathy Estey, and Del Roberts--for their outstanding contributions of time, energy, and ideas. I know the new board members will enthusiastically take their places and I am glad to welcome Jim Cassell, June Brickelmaier, and Joy Cooper.

This coming year the board hopes to research and establish some children's educational activities. Kathy Estey and Joan Nimick are chairing an Education Committee and will be glad to have your inquiries and assistance. Please contact them for further information.

We will be planning some additional refurbishment of the docent room in the coming year. The splendid new bookshelves donated by Parker Foster in memory of his mother, Maud Foster, set a new tone to the room. Kathy Estey did a great job of coordinating this project.

Please contact me if you have any ideas for docent activities and goals for the coming year. Don't forget to invite your friends for the next training session!

A PENNY FOR PARKS

The California State Parks Foundation, a private group which supports our state parks, is making a plea for a penny of every General Fund tax dollar from the State of California to be directed toward state parks. Currently the parks receive half a cent on every dollar. This makes up the budget for our 285 state parks, which actually amounts to only 35% of the operating costs. The parks received an estimated 70 million visits last year.

The Foundation deplores the fact that there isn't sufficient money in the current budget to keep up with the needed maintenance and that some parks and services may have to be shut down because of the budget crisis. They have issued a survey on park use and support. Members of the Foundation (anyone can join, and parking privileges are one benefit) should look for the survey and mail it in. The Foundation's address is available in the Lodge.

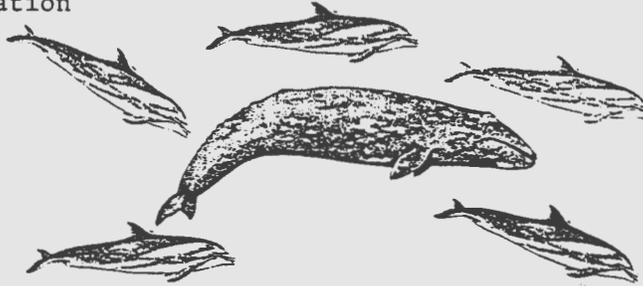


A WHALE OF A STORY (as reported by Maurie Brown)

Early morning beachgoers at Carlsbad Monday, February 17, couldn't believe their eyes.

Swimming toward them was an enormous California gray whale, estimated at 45 feet in length. It had reached the outer edge of the surf. Was it going to beach itself? What should they do?

Just as the situation a school of about 50 near the whale, and seemed to direct sea. The onlookers dolphins and whale Then the rescue crew had been notified, needed. And the witnessed the Walt spent the rest of the day telling their friends about the miracle they had been privileged to see.



seemed desperate, dolphin appeared surrounded it, it back to the watched until had disappeared. at Sea World, which was told it wasn't people who had Disney type rescue

[Ed. note: According to Tom Miller in *The World of the California Gray Whale* (Baja Trail Publications, 1975), "Grays share the southern portion of their migration route and their breeding lagoons with bottlenose porpoise." The latter name is frequently given to the dolphin we see along the coast. Gigi, the gray whale raised in captivity at Sea World for a year had a porpoise for a playmate for a while--also according to Miller. Perhaps the gray whale at Carlsbad was an old friend of the dolphins, whose instinct sent them to help a friend in trouble.]

ANIMAL LIFE IN THE PARK

"Look at the ladybugs!" cried the little boy on the nature walk on Sunday, February 23. "They're all over that plant--and there's some on me!" Walkers came into the Lodge, too, asking where all the ladybugs had come from--and why.

The explanation, given in the newspaper the following week by entomologist David Faulkner of the San Diego Natural History Museum (who has been a TPDS speaker), was that the typical cross-country spring migration of the insects had been enhanced by the Santa Ana winds. The "convergent ladybird beetles," as they are more properly called, which hibernate during winter months under rocks and logs, were expected to decrease during the week. At any rate, nobody minded having the little orange and black critters land on them. Ladybugs are universally recognized as the "good" bugs which eat the "bad" bugs, such as aphids. Don't bother buying them for your garden, though. They can't tell the difference between your yard and your neighbor's and will soon leave home--yours, that is.

Another unusual sight in the park in mid-February was two gray foxes, spotted in Animal Canyon around 5:00 P.M. one day and reported to the rangers' office.

Then Maurie Brown found a gray whale and its calf (or perhaps two calves) heading north past North Overlook, evidently on their return trip from Scammon's Lagoon.

And last--as well as least this time--a field mouse joined the Executive Board of the Docent Society at its February meeting in the docents' room. The brave Board members didn't even jump on their chairs or scream--just kept a close watch on their pant legs.

Editor's Corner

New Mailing Status for Torreyana

Next month the *Torreyana* will be mailed under a bulk permit, which will change it from a first class to a third class postal rating. This may possibly affect the timeliness with which you receive your copy of the newsletter. However, it will save both time and money in the mailing process and will be in line with the usual handling of organization newsletters.

The bulk mailing category is available only after the number of pieces to be mailed reaches 200. For a number of months now, our mailing, which goes to the members of both Torrey Pines Association and the Docent Society, has been averaging considerably more than 200. It seems likely that this number may continue to increase.

An additional saving will be possible when we have been able to gather the required documents for mailing as a nonprofit organization. These include the bylaws, which are currently being revised for both groups. As soon as these have been completed, our application will be submitted.

Our thanks go to Pat and Parker Foster, who have been responsible during the past year for the somewhat tedious job of supervising the printing and mailing of the *Torreyana*. Their dependability and concern for doing the job right were greatly appreciated. Elizabeth Nicoloff, always a willing volunteer, is replacing the Fosters as circulation manager and may be asking one of you to assist her. Please say "Yes."



Garter Snake

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

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

Marion Dixon
2355 Avenida de la Playa
La Jolla, CA 92037

Staff: Glenn Dunham, Elizabeth Nicoloff, Marion Antrim

* * *

Address changes go to:

for TPA--Torrey Pines Association
P.O. Box 345
La Jolla, CA 92038

for TPDS--Mary Lou Wasden
Membership Chair
13067 Cto. del Rocio
Del Mar, CA 92014-3624

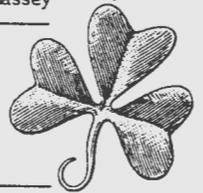
The stately ripple of the garter snake
In sinuous procession through the grass
Compelled my eye. It stopped and held its head
High above the lawn, and the delicate curve
Of its slender body formed a letter "S"--
For "serpent," I presume, as though
Diminutive majesty obliged embodiment.

The garter snake reminded me of those
Cartouches where the figure of a snake
Seems to suggest the presence of a god
Until more flickering than any god
The small snake gathered glidingly and slid,
But with such cadence to its rapt advance
That when it stopped once more to raise its head
It was stiller than the stillest mineral
And when it moved again it moved the way
A curl of water slips along a stone
Or like the ardent progress of a tear
Till, deeper still, it gave the rubbled grass
And the dull hollows where its ripple ran
Lithe scintillas of exuberance,
Moving the way a chance felicity
Slivers the whole attention of the mind.

--Eric Ormsby

MARCH DUTY CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 L—Parnell W—Marley --- L—Cooper W—Ferguson	2 L—Wasden James --- L—Bardwick	3 L—Martin	4 L—Margulies	5 L—Amanns	6 L—Gittelsohn --- L—Burson	7 L—P. Bardwick W—M. Bardwick --- L—Morrow W—Ninick
8 L—Heller W—Marley --- L—Wasden W—Cooper	9 L—Huber --- L—Green	10 L—Talberts	11 L—Green	12 L—Green	13 L—Snodgrass --- L—Dixon	14 L—Bransford W—Moran --- L—Morrow W—Stiegler
15 L—Lewis W—Ferguson --- L—Morrow W—Roberts	16 L—Moran James --- L—Bardwick	17 L—Martin	18 L—Margulies	19 L—Estey	20 L—Gittelsohn --- L—Burson	21 L—Dunham W—Taylor --- L—Taylor W—Massey
22 L—Heller W—Cassell --- L—Stiegler W—Roberts	23 L—Lewis --- L—Green	24 L—Talberts	25 L—Watson	26 L—Green	27 L—Watson --- L—Vale	28 L—Bransford W—Cassell --- L—Dunham W—Massey
29 L—Parnell W—Osisek --- L—Morrow W—DIXON	30 L—Stiegler --- L—Huber	31 L—Marine		Lodge—Fri/Sat/Sun/Mon 10-1 1-4 Hours: Tues/Wed/Thurs 11-2 Walks—Sat/Sun 11-2 1-4		



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

FOR

