



# TORREYANA

No, 205

January 1993

## *Next Docent Society Meeting*

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 18, 9:00 A.M. AT THE VISITOR CENTER

Docents, who last learned about the habits of the gray whales, will make a leap upland at their January meeting and consider the butterfly. Local entomologist and author John Brown, Ph.D., will tune us in to some of the habitats, adaptations, and activities of our numerous local butterflies and illustrate his talk with slides. His recently published book is *Butterflies of Baja California* and his degree in entomology is from the University of California at Berkeley. Perhaps he can help us learn how to identify these beautiful winged creatures in the split second they flash by on our walks and supply us with intriguing butterfly lore to pass on to our visitors....Remember that nominations for new officers for the coming year will be made soon. If you have suggestions, pass them on to the Nominating Committee (members to be announced at the January meeting).

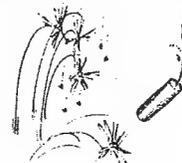


### DOCENT OF THE YEAR: GLENN DUNHAM



At the annual holiday party of Torrey Pines Docent Society Saturday, December 19, the honor of being chosen "Docent of the Year" went to Glenn Dunham. And well deserved it was! Not only was Glenn president for 1984-85 term, but he also served as treasurer for three years, from 1989 to 1991. Currently he prepares the monthly mailing list for the *Torreyana* and the annual membership roster for the Society, as well as answering conundrums about plants and keeping the group informed about activities of interest at the California Native Plant Society, of which he is also a member. The Docent Society is fortunate to have Glenn contribute so much of his expertise to it, since he also leads hikes as a canyoneer for the San Diego Natural History Museum and is a qualified leader for the Sierra Club. For recreation, he takes the equivalent of a postman's holiday--he hikes. Both he and his wife Jeanne (also a docent and also a "Docent of the Year," in 1986) go backpacking to such favorite spots as Anza Borrego, Baja California, and the Sierras. Then, in his spare time, Glenn reads--a lot. He and Jeanne belong to a Book Club. And yes, Glenn does work, too, as a cost analyst for GDE Systems and as chief financial officer for Bioserv Corporation. Three children, two boys and a girl, share Glenn's busy life.

H A P P Y   N E W   Y E A R !



# DOCENT DOINGS



## YEAR END DOCENT AWARDS *et al.*



*Margaret and Pete Bardwick were selected as "Couple with the Most Versatile Talent!"*



*Jane and Bob Talbert were recognized "For Keeping Us Trim and Tidy."*

*John Carson received the title of "Herpetology Guru."*

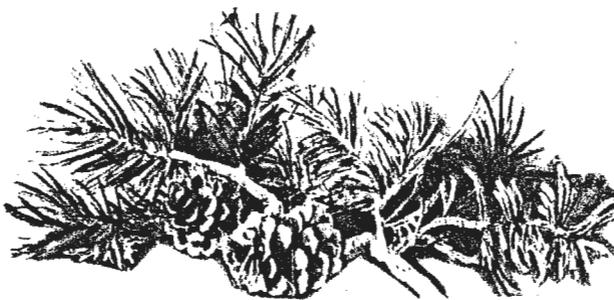


*Top: President Diana Snodgrass presents "Keeping the Earth" certificate to Grace Martin.*

*Bottom: Former Park Aide Sue Pelley is honored for "Creativity beyond the Bounds of Duty."*

*Diane Sachs and Jim Cassell put in extra hours to decorate fireproofed tree.*

## Docent Doings (cont'd from p.2)



### INDEX TO TORREYANA

(Ed. note: Docent Betty Stephan, a librarian by profession, has put in scores of hours in the past few months compiling an index to the Torreyana. She describes below how to use it.)

The index to the Torreyana will soon be available in the docents' room. It is an alphabetical listing of historical and scientific items of interest to the docents. Items are listed according to issue number and page number.

Examples:

State of California Report: 204.6,8. Issue 204. Starts on p.6 and is completed on p.8.

Least Tern: 188.7-8. Starts on p.7 and continues on to p.8.

Fleming, Guy has articles listed as well as subtitles: Fleming, Guy: 3.1, 57.1-2; Campsites: 180.9; House: 60.1,5; Trail: 115.5.

Articles listing references are indicated with the abbreviation "Ref." Definitions are indicated with the abbreviation "Def."

In using the index **be aware** that some issues appear with the **same number**. Example: Issue 30 July is listed as A.30. Issue 30 August is B.30. Some issue numbers have been skipped altogether!

Noteworthy speakers, trail leaders, and writers are included in the index as well as on a separate listing. Biographical sketches of some persons are itemized as "Profiles."--**Betty Stephan**.

### AN UNSTARRY NIGHT

Thursday evening, December 17, a dozen docents and an uninvited mouse met at the Lodge for an astronomy session with Ron Lyons. Since thick clouds blocked out the stars except for a brief appearance of Venus, astronomy was confined to inside the Lodge. Ron handed out current star charts and explained how they are used. Then with slides he described the place of astronomy in ancient cultures, reviewed the development of astronomical measurements and instruments, and

summarized some of the main features of the current understanding of the stars. Thanks to Ranger Allyn Kaye for making the Lodge available for this evening meeting. --**John Carson**.

### EDUCATION COMMITTEE OMISSION

Last month's report in the "Editor's Corner" on the program planned by the Education Committee inadvertently omitted an important area: Native Americans. Margaret Bardwick is in charge of this section for the children's programs.

### DUTY CALENDAR

The good news is that the Duty Calendar is filling up more rapidly these days. The bad news is that some people are left without a time when they can work. I would like to know who you are so that I may have a potential substitute list.--**Duty Chair, Joy Cooper, 259-1299**.

### HERE'S JOHN! (New Docent Bio)

John Carson, a retired microwave R&D engineer, is still overwhelmed (he says) by the zillion plants in TPSR, so he is concentrating on his main interests: birds and other animals. With the help of Docent Mary Weir, he has been identifying and photographing park lizards (20 years ago there were eight species) and any other cooperative animals. After obtaining a complete set of lizard photographs, he plans to put together a notebook of pictures and descriptions for use in the Lodge.

### MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM by MIKE PETERS



## PREPARING FOR THE HOLIDAY PARTY by Mary Weir, Chair

Our annual holiday party is over. There are many who helped make it a success. Jim Cassell, chair for last year, reviewed procedures, described what happened last year, and gave an over-all orientation to this year's committee. Decorating the Lodge was the first challenge, and thanks must go to Dick Lighthall, Bob and Jane Talbert, Ruth Ganeless, Jane Gary, Betty Stephan, Jim Cassell, and Don Grine (a new docent trainee), who put up all the boughs, many donated by Jan Taylor. (It takes a lot of tree limbs to circle the upper ledge in the Lodge!). Crumb cake, coffee (from the Talberts) and hot cider (my donation) made the decorating task a party.

The tree was donated by Jim Johnson, manager of Long's Drug Store at Del Mar Heights Shopping Center. At first the tree created moments of anxiety because it had not been fireproofed, a requirement for trees in public places. Mickey Meszaros and Bob Wohl from the staff got on the phone to find sprayers and certification. A boys' and girls' club at the Del Mar Fair Grounds donated their services and provided the proper certification. The tree had to dry 24 hours before being decorated, so Jim Cassell, Don Grine, and Diane Sachs helped finish the decorating Saturday. Laurilyn Burson added beautiful wooden ornaments for the tree to those already stored in the Lodge. A big wreath over the Lodge entrance was made from a barrel hoop (donated by Elizabeth Nicoloff) and concealed with greenery by Jim.



*Mary Weir, holiday party chair, stands below one of wreaths made by Jim.*

So many people helped with setting up and cleaning up that I have no list of who did what. I do know that the Talberts brought all the seasonal party paper and plastic utensils. I know also that Kathy Watson got up from a sick bed to drag out the pot and make the coffee, hot water for the tea, and locate the plugs for the pots. I want to extend my thanks to all of you who came, brought food, and helped in many, many ways that day. It is a good memory for me, and I hope it will be for you. The more I work with the fine docents at Torrey Pines, the deeper is my awareness of what a grand group there is up here.



*Here are some of the decorating committee. Can you tell who's who?*

### *Blue Jay January*

*The joyous, jaunty, jeering jays  
Now entertain my kitchen days  
Scorning, mocking, laughing at  
My next door neighbor's hopeful cat.  
I, waging war as women must  
Against the tyranny of dust;  
They, screaming challenge at the old,  
The deadly foe, the winter cold.  
Allied are we against such weather,  
The brave, bright jays and I together,  
And through the winter snows I feed them,  
Faithfully, because I need them. --Jean Harrison*



(Submitted by Julie Marine and carried in a previous *Torreyana*.)

## News and Notes

### TRAIL MAPS IN FOUR LANGUAGES

Foreign visitors to TPSR who speak Spanish, French, or Japanese should feel very welcome as they are given trail maps with information in their languages. (English is, of course, the fourth language and the only one used on the maps until recently.)

The map in Spanish was made available through Ranger Jim Serpa, formerly a park aide and intern at TPSR and now a ranger at Doheny State Beach. The map in Japanese was done by Shoichi Fyujikake, a professor of English at Gifu University in Gifu, Japan, and now head of an international program there. He studied at UCSD in the seventies and was given assistance in English conversation by Marion Dixon, then coordinator of a volunteer tutoring program there. The Japanese requires more space than English so that map is a larger size.

The map in French was translated by Ginette and John Launay, native French speakers who have lived in the San Diego area for some time and are well acquainted with the Reserve. All the translations were generously provided on a volunteer basis.

The next project is a translation into German, since we have many German speaking visitors. (However, English is widespread and well taught in Germany, so that the need for a translation into that language is not great.)

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### BIRDS, DEER, ETC. IN THE EAST GROVE

Docent, naturalist, and teacher Barbara Moore led a group through some upland areas of the East grove on October 18 and came back with an encouraging record of growth and life there. They noted that many plants were re-establishing themselves in the burned areas and that many birds were foraging there. They also saw two deer with no antlers (either does or young) as well as many gophers and lots of fresh coyote scat.

They saw 22 species of birds and a total of 277 individuals. Following is the list and number of sightings, in no particular order:

Great blue heron	1	Common raven	3
Red-shouldered hawk	1	Bushtit	20
Red-tailed hawk	3	House wren	1
American kestrel	1	Marsh wren	1
California quail	50	Wrentit	3
Mourning dove	50	Northern mockingbird	1
Anna's hummingbird	4	Loggerhead shrike	2
Northern flicker	1	California towhee	10
Black phoebe	1	Song sparrow	20
Say's phoebe	2	White-crowned sparrow	1
Scrub jay	1	House finch	100

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### BEVERLY HILLS CLAIMS NATIONAL CHAMPION TORREY PINE

An article in *Urban Forests* magazine for December/January 1993 claims that the national champion Torrey pine is located in Beverly Gardens Park in Beverly Hills, California. The pine is 110 feet high with a 240" trunk circumference and a 75-foot crown. The article also states that "Torrey pines usually grow no taller than 35 feet and no wider than 14 inches in diameter." Would any docents care to comment on this news item?

## Report from the Ranger

### TPSR COLORING BOOK AVAILABLE

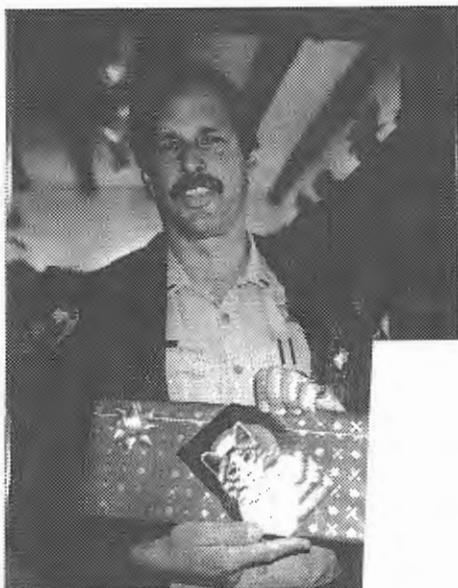
A children's coloring book by former Park Aide Sue Pelley, *Color Your Day at Torrey Pines State Reserve*, arrived in the Lodge bookshop in December in time for holiday sales. Sue, who is now a Water District Ranger at Mount Israel Recreation Area, did both the drawings and the text for the book. A great horned owl looks out from the cover and inside are outline black and white pictures of plants and animals common in the park, including a great blue heron, a diamondback rattlesnake, a bobcat, a mule deer, a scrub oak, and a yerba santa bush. A small amount of text in large print describes each drawing. The book was published by the Docent Society.

### FORMER PARK AIDE NOW AT MAMMOTH

The following note was received recently from Bill and Topper Thomas (Bill is a member of the Torrey Pines Association and Topper is a canyoneer at San Diego Natural History Museum):

*While vacationing in Mammoth Lakes last fall (1992), we noticed an interview with Jim Bittner in the local newspaper. We recognized his name as that of one of the park aides at Torrey Pines who had helped our son with an Eagle Scout project at the Reserve some years ago. We hunted up Jim at his store at Mammoth and had a good visit. In May Jim and his wife Becky relocated to Mammoth. She had a new job as Recreation Supervisor with the Mammoth District of Inyo National Forest, and Jim decided to open a nature store in town. His store is called "The Great Outdoors," and he carries many items devoted to the natural scene including books, posters, jewelry, gifts, nice walking sticks, etc. His line of goods is very attractive, and he has modeled his store after the gift shop at the Santa Barbara Natural History Museum where he worked before. He said that business had been very good and that he and Becky were pleased with their new life. The address of his store is: The Great Outdoors, The Mammoth Mall, 126 Old Mammoth Road, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546. We are sure that any Torrey Pines devotee would receive a warm welcome from Jim.\**

(\*Ed. note: Jim helped develop the checklist of the birds of Torrey Pines and Los Peñasquitos which we carry in the shop. He also wrote several articles on birds for the *Torreyana*.)



*"Ranger Bob" received a special award at the docent holiday party chosen by V.P. Jim Cassell. The package was appropriately decorated with a "BOBcat" and contained a highly useful antique sign reading "We are KOSHER only."*

**CHARLOTTE'S WEBS FESTOON THE LIBRARY** (Library List No.19) by Marc Gittelsohn

(Here are the docent library's books on spiders. As we know, spiders are not insects, so Library Subject List no. 1 on insects--see *Torreyana* January 1991, p.5--is only peripherally useful. With their four pairs of legs, no antennae or wings, and only two body regions--abdomen and combined head and thorax--spiders are in the class Arachnida and are distinguished from the class Insecta--which has three pairs of legs, one pair of antennae and often wings and three body regions. Thanks to Docent John Carson, who pointed out our dearth of spider books, I was inspired to get the Emerton and Kaston works listed below this year. Entomologists at the San Diego Natural History Museum say there are no really first rate field guides on spiders available.)

Emerton, James H., *The common spiders of the United States with a new key to common groups of spiders* by S. W. Frost (Dover Publications, 1961).

Kaston, B.J., *How to know the spiders*. 3rd ed. (Brown Co., Pictured Key Nature Series, 1978).

Levi, Herbert W., *A guide to spiders and their kin* Golden Press, Golden Nature Guide Series, 1968).

Two other books in the library that have some helpful information on spiders are:

Dodge, Natt N., *Poisonous dwellers of the desert* (Southwest Parks & Monuments Assoc., 1978).

Hogue, Charles L., *The insects of the Los Angeles basin* (Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, 1974). Pages 145ff have good descriptions and enlarged photos of local spiders, many of which are here in Reserve.)



**MORE ON THE PRICKLY PEAR SPIDER** by John Carson

A recent "Scientific American Frontiers" program on KPBS-TV had a segment on silver argiope spiders that supplements the argiope note in the November 1992 *Torreyana*. The program described research on the thick zigzag sections seen in many of the webs. By means of optical filters and photography, the researchers showed that these parts of the webs reflect ultraviolet (UV) light, as do grass, leaves, and parts of plants, while the thin strands of the webs and the spiders themselves reflect relatively little UV. Since the eyes of the flying insects are UV sensitive, the researchers believe that the zigzag sections help blend the webs into the plant background. The number and location of these sections is varied, apparently to keep insects from learning to recognize a fixed pattern.

This is consistent with my observations of the webs in TPSR; some have no zigzag sections, while others have one or more. With the arrival of cool weather, these spiders seem to have disappeared from the Reserve. I would appreciate hearing from docents who see any during the winter.

WISH LIST FOR PROJECT WILDLIFE

"Project Wildlife," which has been represented by a speaker at Torrey Pines Docent Society, takes care of wild animals which need help. Many of them are injured and require a long period of care before they can be released into the wild, and some can never be released. The organization is nonprofit and in need of donations. Following are some of the items on their "wish list." If you can provide any of them, call 619-225-Wild.

Paper towels, toilet paper, kleenex, freezer/zip lock bags, bleach, sugar, jars of beef or fruit baby food, wild bird seed, baby blankets, towels, photocopy paper, computer paper, plastic spray bottles, heating pads, sisal rope--all sizes, hamster water bottles, cardboard pet carriers, airline pet carriers, gram scales, microscopes, small binoculars, 35 mm camera with flash, video camera, IBM compatible computers, working hair dryers, floor standing heat lamps, chain link fencing.

EXOTIC PEST PLANT SYMPOSIUM

A symposium on exotic pest plants will be held Saturday, March 6, at the Sumner Auditorium at Scripps Institute of Oceanography in La Jolla. It will be co-hosted by the California Native Plant Society, the Friends of Los Peñasquitos Reserve, and the University of California Natural Reserve System.

Topics to be covered include information about what makes plants invasive and what makes habitats invadable; the negative impact on the diversity of native plants; the high cost of control; and a review of our regional problem exotics and efforts to control them.

Docents and staff may be interested in attending because of the problem with invasive exotics in the Reserve. For more information, call Mike Kelly of the Friends (566-6489) or Bertha McKinley of CNPS (270-9573).

*Editor's Corner*MORE ABOUT MOCKINGBIRDS

Last June we noted that we had not seen a mockingbird in the main area of the Reserve and asked others to report any sightings there. No one did, but we spotted a single mockingbird on the roof of the Lodge last fall. Barbara Moore's group also spotted a single mockingbird in their bird count in the East Grove last October. Julie Marine writes that "If there are a lot of scrub jays at Torrey Pines Reserve, then the mockingbirds couldn't survive and would naturally look for an area more suitable and safe for raising their young." Her opinion is based on an incident near her home in Del Mar when she observed a jay following a mockingbird to its nest and then stealing one of the babies. She also wonders if the feeders put out for birds by residents near the Reserve have upset the normal habits and patterns of birds so that the mockingbirds are congregating where the feeding is easy instead of in the wilderness areas. . . .Keep looking, and let us know if any more mockingbirds are seen in the main part of the Reserve.

**FOG**

*I have gone out in air so thin and clear  
that I felt alone. There was nothing near  
enough to touch. And I have walked with sun  
that gave me room. Conversely, there was one  
wind that, like a giant, shoved; and snows  
that nudged me over and stepped on my toes!*

*But this fog is like a populace!  
I go out in it and seem to face  
a million faces, all turned toward me, white,  
and closing in as though it were their right  
or their necessity....If I move  
as I may do, I only prove  
the vastness of the crowd whose ebb and flow  
still surrounds me, everywhere I go.*

--Helen Harrington

## HIGHLIGHTS OF 1992 AT TORREY PINES

- \*Deer and whale sightings reported in January.
- \*Ranger Carol Provost joins staff for Feb. and Mar. while Ranger Allyn Kaye goes to San Elijo-Carlsbad.
- \**Torreyana* gets bulk mailing permit (~~still waiting for nonprofit bulk permit~~). *Nonprofit permit just received!*
- \*Diana Snodgrass re-elected president of TPDS.
- \*Bishop's School volunteer students aid in removing weeds, exotic plants.
- \*California golden violet re-appears after five years, thanks to heavy rains.
- \*Docent Society purchases copy machine and rain gauge for Lodge.
- \*Vice President Joan Nimick appears on TV Channel 10 to publicize docent training program, for which 28 trainees enroll.
- \**Yucca whipplei* in front of Lodge competes with Jack's beanstalk--grows 5" a day.
- \*Workshop on nature for children given by Sharing Nature Foundation in May; leads to formation of Children's Education Committee and plans for docent-led walks and talks for children's groups.
- \*500 copies of revised *Notes from the Naturalist* by Hank Nicol purchased by TPDS.
- \*Trail map revised by staff. Docent Society purchases 50,000 copies.
- \*Rangers throw successful second annual docent appreciation party.
- \*Third basketry class taught by Pat McGillis at Lodge.
- \*Torrey Pines State Beach rated among best wilderness beaches in U.S.
- \*Summer sightings of bobcats, fox, deer, and possible mountain lion.
- \*Record temperatures in August bring record crowds to Torrey Pines beach--estimated 15,000 weekend of August 15-16.
- \*Fire damages 60 acres in East Grove, chars 40 trees and chaparral.
- \*TPA votes to raise dues in 1993 to \$25 for individuals, \$35 for families.
- \*Judy Schulman receives commendation and plaque from LCSNPO.
- \*New VCR purchased by Docent Society installed in Lodge.
- \*Glenn Dunham chosen docent of the year; also honored for 10-year service.



The *Torreyana* is issued monthly except for August by the Torrey Pines Docent Society, which gratefully acknowledges the assistance of the Torrey Pines Association in its production.

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, John Carson

\* \* \*

Address changes go to:  
for TPA--Torrey Pines Association  
P.O.Box 345  
La Jolla, CA 92038

for TPDS--Mary Lou Wasden  
Membership Chair  
527 S. Sierra Ave.#180  
Solana Beach, CA 92075

### **New honorary member TPDS:**

Sue Pelley  
325H North Melrose Drive  
Vista, CA 92083  
619-726-5486

### **DUES REMINDER FOR DOCENTS**

Dues should be paid to the Docent Society by this month. They can be mailed to Membership Chair Mary Lou Wasden, 527 So. Sierra Ave., #180, Solana Beach, CA 92075, or a check may be left in the cash drawer. Please mark checks clearly "TPDS Dues."

Dues for active members are \$10; for supporting members \$25. New parking passes will be issued when dues are paid.

(Above notice does not apply to Torrey Pines Association.)

JANUARY DUTY CALENDAR



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>31</b> L-Parnell W-Massey --- L-Massey W-Nimick		Lodge—Fri/Sat/Sun/Mon 10-1 1-4 Tues/Wed/Thurs 11-2 Walks—Sat/Sun 11-2 1-4 Duty Chm. Joy Cooper 259-1299			<b>1</b> L-Watson W-Carson --- L-Liu W-Nimick	<b>2</b> L-Weir W-Carson --- L-Liu W-Farmer
<b>3</b> L-Heller W-Ferguson --- L-Watson W-Nimick	<b>4</b> L-Buechler James --- L-Stiegler	<b>5</b> L-Martin	<b>6</b> L-Miller	<b>7</b> L-Morrow	<b>8</b> L-Armi --- L-Gittelsohn	<b>9</b> L-Morrow W-Horger --- L-Sachs W-Weir
<b>10</b> L-Parnell W-Cassell --- L-Brickelmaier W-Dixon	<b>11</b> L-Moran James --- L-Green	<b>12</b> L-Talberts	<b>13</b> L-Sacks	<b>14</b> L-Ferguson	<b>15</b> L-Armi --- L-Brickelmaier	<b>16</b> MEETING L-Moran W-Roberts --- L-Dunham W-Miller
<b>17</b> L-Heller W-Cassell --- L-Burson W-Stiegler	<b>18</b> L-Schroeder James --- L-Cooper	<b>19</b> L-Martin	<b>20</b> L-Musser	<b>21</b> L-Anam	<b>22</b> L-Gittelsohn --- L-	<b>23</b> L-Schroeder W-Marley --- L-Sachs W-Roberts
<b>24</b> L-Schulman W-Ferguson --- L-Schulman W-Marley	<b>25</b> L-Green James --- L-Cooper	<b>26</b> L-Talberts	<b>27</b> L-Sacks	<b>28</b> L-Huber	<b>29</b> L-Estrella --- L-Sachs	<b>30</b> L-Marine W-Taylor --- L-Taylor W-Dixon

31st at top of calendar

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 c/o Torrey Pines State Reserve  
 3990 Old Town Avenue, Suite 300 C  
 San Diego, CA 92110

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