



TORREYANA

*A monthly newsletter for
Torrey Pines State Reserve*

No. 225

December 1994

DOCENT SOCIETY HOLIDAY PARTY

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17, 10 A.M.

The Society's annual party takes place this month, with food being the main action on the agenda. This is potluck, with members requested to bring a dish, tray, or item for the table. The Docent of the Year and other awards will be presented.

Vida Fruebis and the training class volunteers, plus interested members, will meet at 10 A.M. on Friday, Dec. 2, to decorate the Lodge. Volunteers are reminded to avoid plant decorations that quickly lose leaves or needles, and bring nothing with berries (the mice then have a party, too).

TORREY PINES ASSOCIATION

Proclamations Honor the TPA Book

Proclamations by the city, the county, and the state declared October 28 as Torrey Pines Day to honor the appearance of the book *TORREY PINES Landscape and Legacy* by Bill Evarts. Councilman Harry Mathis, County Supervisor Pam Slater, and Senator Lucy Killea were sponsors of the separate proclamations. Also, Del Mar Mayor Jan McMillan sponsored a Del Mar proclamation declaring November 7 to be Torrey Pines Day. The documents were all brought to the book launching party at the Lodge on October 28 and were there presented to the Torrey Pines Association, publisher of the book.

-- Elizabeth Nicoloff

TORREY PINES Landscape and Legacy Is Here!

Elizabeth Nicoloff

A warm, happy event at the Lodge on October 28 celebrated the launching of Bill Evarts's book *TORREY PINES Landscape and Legacy*, published by the Torrey Pines Association. In the absence of President John Fleming, Vice President George Beardsley presided over the ceremonies, held - it was a beautiful balmy afternoon - outdoors at the entrance to the Lodge. TPA Counselor Sally Spiess introduced the author, who spoke about the pleasure he had had in the nine years he had spent photographing the Reserve in all its aspects. He thanked the ranger staff and the TPA for their help in bringing the book to fruition, and he introduced his mother and his brother John, whose Cachuma Press produced the book. Next, Ellen Revelle Eckis, whose great aunt Ellen Browning Scripps was a guiding light and patroness of the Reserve, spoke about her aunt. Not an heiress to wealth, she made her money herself and used it in extraordinarily wise and generous philanthropy. Among other distinguished guests who spoke were County Supervisor Chair Pam Slater, City Councilman Harry Mathis, State Parks Commissioner Pauline Des Granges, and State Parks District Superintendent Ed Navarro, who introduced Don Murphy. Director Murphy represented Governor Wilson at the event as well as attending in his own capacity as Director of the State Department of Parks and Recreation. He spoke movingly of our ties

to the natural world and how we feel especially close in places like Torrey Pines State Reserve. He read a passage from Wordsworth's *Ode on the Intimations of Immortality* reflecting feelings and emotions such as we experience in the Reserve. Supervising Ranger Bob Wohl spoke of his appreciation of Bill's Work, and Freda Reid, a member of the book committee that worked with Bill, presented on behalf of the Association a handsome potted duranta, or sky flower, plant to John Shelton, chairman of the committee.

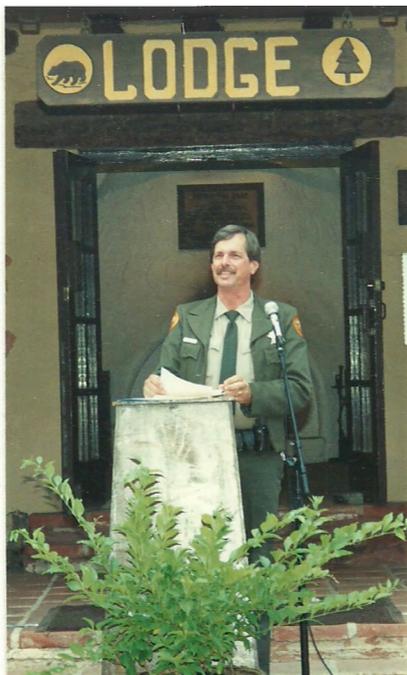
Social hour followed. Two tables set by Sally Spiess held punch, sparkling cider, and tasty edibles with, as *piece de resistance*, a gorgeous cake, the frosting of which was a replica of the photograph on the front cover of the book. A truly remarkable repast.

Bill Evarts, meanwhile, with his charming wife Sue beside him, was autographing copies of the book. With the smooth sales operation of docents Bob And Marge Amann and Georgette Camporini, some 150 copies were bought that afternoon.



John Evarts (left), Bill Evarts
(Photo: Wes Farmer)

Supervising Ranger Bob Wohl's Talk at the TPA Book Party



In 1990 we met on this spot at Torrey Pines State Reserve to celebrate the fortieth anniversary of the Torrey Pines Association. Today we are meeting again to celebrate another TPA achievement - the publication of Bill Evarts's marvelous photo album of the Torrey Pines landscape - and to commemorate the great legacy of citizens' efforts and determination to save and protect this valuable treasure.

We are not the first generation to discover, appreciate, and cherish Torrey Pines. And yet each of us feels, upon entering the Reserve for the first time, a sense of returning, and belonging, and personal enjoyment. People come off the trails at Torrey Pines with a feeling of awed revelation, and they approach us and confess, "I didn't know. I didn't realize that this place existed. I had no idea. And right here in San Diego. I never suspected."

Torrey Pines is a place for replenishment - where people come to recover, and rediscover themselves. As the surrounding neighborhood develops and fills in, and as the traffic piles up on the freeway and grade, we may long for the days when Torrey Pines was an isolated outpost, hard to reach, on the outskirts of the city.

Ellen Browning Scripps and the city founders wanted to preserve as their legacy - for all time - a natural place, an open-space coastal gateway to the city. And that has been achieved through their vision, foresight, and caring.

But it is up to us, generation by generation, to make that legacy one for all time. The members of the Torrey Pines Association, through their individual and group efforts, have rallied the community and state decision makers for nearly a century in support of the cause of Torrey Pines.

With the publication of this beautiful book, with its expressive text and color photos by Bill Evarts, the Torrey Pines Association has created a lasting tribute. *TORREY PINES Landscape and Legacy*, the book, will bring the story of Torrey Pines to numerous people who have never been here or heard of its existence. But these are the same people we need to reach to preserve Torrey Pines for all time.

Through this book, the present members of the Torrey Pines Association will carry their legacy into the next century.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Fellow Docents,

Once again the holiday season has arrived. This year the Torrey Pines Docent Society has a lot to celebrate - the success of the children's program, the beautiful flower brochure, and the new and popular slide show, to name but a few of our recent endeavors. The annual docent holiday party will take place at the Lodge on Saturday, December 17, at 10 A.M., replacing the monthly meeting with the usual scrumptious potluck and holiday cheer. So, come all of ye and enjoy!

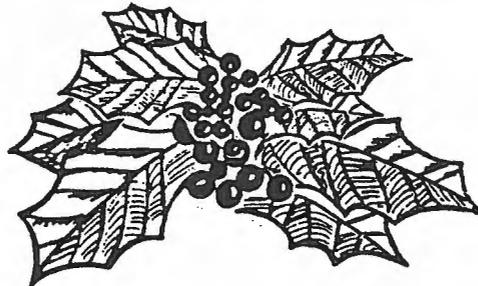
In anticipation of greater things to come, an informal workshop/get-together is planned for the second week in January on Friday the 13th, the time and place to be announced. "Wine and Words" will focus on philosophy, plans, and projects of the Docent Society. Board members, committee members, and all of you interested in discussing issues are welcome to attend.

Those docent members who have not been able to find a space to sign up on the calendar should find it easier in the New Year. As of 1 January 1995, each day of the week will have two docent shifts, from 10 A.M. to 1 P.M. and from 1 P.M. to 4 P.M.

On behalf of the Torrey Pines Docent Society, I would like to congratulate the Torrey Pines Association on the publication of Bill Evarts's book, *TORREY PINES Landscape and Legacy*. Both docents and visitors have expressed appreciation of the quality photography and text of this new history of the Reserve.

Torrey Pines is a special place, lucky to have great supporters in both the Torrey Pines Docent Society and Torrey Pines Association, backed up by the Reserve's dedicated DPR staff. The Torrey Pines Docent Board wishes everyone a happy holiday season.

Diana



D o c e n t D o i n g s

DOCENT OF THE MONTH Elizabeth Nicoloff is this month's recipient, in recognition of her long and continuing service to the Docent Society. She is one of the behind-the-scenes persons who are essential for successful volunteer groups. Among her current activities are tabulating and recording all the docent hours and handling (frequently with the help of one or two docent friends) the stapling, labeling, and mailing of the *Torreyana*. In addition, she is also active in the Torrey Pines Association, being membership chair. Congratulations to Elizabeth for a well-deserved recognition.

NEW MEMBERS Completing their training in time to enjoy the December holidays party as new full members are Hunter Francis, Shirley Grain, Joan McNally, Selma Myers, and Peggy Roberts. Congratulations and welcome to all the docent activities.

EXOTIC PLANTS Since mid summer Kathy Estey and her loyal crew pulled up Hottentot fig along the sides of the entrance road at the north end of the grade. This work was completed with a big-time operation in October consisting of the combined efforts of docents, over 50 students from La Jolla Country Day School, a Cal. Dept. of Forestry crew, and CalTrans (whose crew and compactor truck hauled away a huge amount of fig). The Reserve staff is now considering reseeding some of the cleared areas and leaving others alone to determine which approach is more effective in area restoration. Kathy's next target: sand dunes across Torrey Pines Rd.

INDIAN MATERIALS During a recent trip to Baja, docent Melanie Martinod purchased several Native American items that she has placed in the docent room for members to show school groups and visitors. Items include a rabbit throwing stick and examples of pottery.

DOCENT BROCHURE Marion Dixon and Judy Schulman have volunteered to prepare a brochure similar in concept to the TPA brochure. It would cover highlights of the Reserve and describe activities of the Docent Society. The plan is to have the brochure stocked at the docent desk and available free to visitors. Members having suggestions for brochure content should call Marion or Judy.

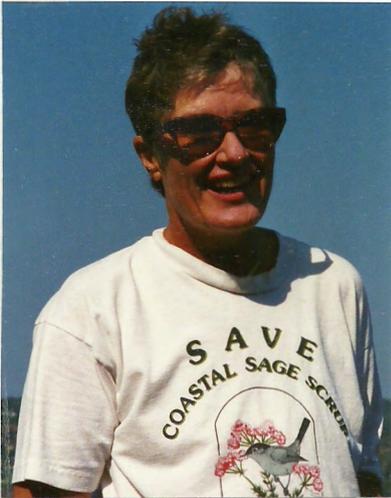
NEW LODGE HOURS Beginning 1 January 1995 there will be two shifts at the Lodge on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, so the Lodge hours for **all days will be 10 A.M. to 1 P.M. and 1 P.M. to 4 P.M.** This will give members having problems scheduling time at the Reserve more opportunities to meet the six hours of volunteer time required per month.

NIMICK SHOW For those members who missed Joan and Webb Nimick's slide show on the Galapagos, Ecuador, Peru, and Bolivia, they will repeat it at the TPSR Lodge at 7 P.M. on Monday, Dec. 19.

NOTICE TO ALL DOCENTS DOCENT DUES ARE PAYABLE BY 31 DEC. 1994

Dues are \$10 for full members and \$25 for supporting members. Please pay by check made out to Torrey Pines Docent Society. Mail to Membership Chair Shirley Musser, 336 Glencrest Drive, Solana Beach, CA 92075; or leave check in the cash drawer in an envelope marked "TPDS Dues" (PLEASE, NO CASH).

Docent Bios by Del Roberts



Kathy Estey is a rare bird . . . a native San Diegan. She also much prefers to talk about her projects rather than herself. As a dedicated protector of native plants in Torrey Pines State Reserve, she heads an exotic plant removal team who work equally hard at preserving our natural environment. It all began during her docent training classes five years ago when a small group, including Diana Snodgrass and John Huber, approached Ranger Bob Wohl for an outdoor project. He suggested clearing the Hottentot and sea fig away from the base of a choked Torrey pine near the Guy Fleming Trail. Since then Dorothy and John Green, John Carson, Jan Taylor, Betty Vale, and Eva Armi have joined forces in weeding out exotics. (Docent

Dave Economou has worked as a one-man Hottentot fig eradicator since 1988, but sometimes recruits his students from Castle Park High in Chula Vista.) Two other schools, Bishop's and Country Day in La Jolla, also participate in the exotic plant removal program as part of their community service program. Kathy hopes to get a further commitment for her newest project: trail maintenance. Ranger Chris has offered to train the students to improve eroded trails and engineer water runoffs.

So who is this rare bird and how did she become a docent? Well, her neighbor and friend, Melba Kooyman, an original TP Lodge sitter, introduced her to the Docent Society. Now both Kathy and husband Nelson Brav are docents. Their son Ehren (means honor in German) often takes a break from surfing to join his fellow students when Country Day School schedules a Hottentot fig removal day. "He's a fifteen-year-old environmentalist who makes a real contribution to the movement," says his mother. "The reason Diana (Snodgrass) and I started the children's program three years ago was because kids are going to be the saviors of our planet."

Kathy and Nelson feel very close to Torrey Pines. They were married on the beach, and have lived in a house overlooking the Reserve for the past 15 years. Both are lawyers, but their favorite outdoor activities are hiking, backpacking, and camping. Kathy enjoys birding, but she's not one of these serious "listers," who travel to exotic places to add to their list of bird species. She does, however, plan to celebrate her birthday with the "Birders and Boozers" by visiting a birding hot spot, Big Morongo, near Joshua Tree. She'll probably be the one searching out wild flowers or watching tame insects, instead of looking skyward through her binoculars.

The versatility of our docent program meets Kathy's diverse interests. "There are so many opportunities for docents to find happiness in Torrey Pines," she says. Her dream for the future is to have our docents share their expertise in walks or talks once a month. The talent is there. All it takes is a coordinator. But don't ask Kathy. She'll be too busy pulling up Hottentot fig.

The Torrey Pine - A Continuing Puzzle (Part 1)

John Carson

In addition to being the rarest pine in the U.S., the Torrey pine is also noteworthy for having unusual physical and genetic features that are still not well understood. These are discussed here along with a summary of recent DNA research.

Most pine species are geographically distributed and have considerable genetic diversity (as might be expected from wind pollination). The Torrey pine is the other extreme: only two small widely separated locations, very little genetic variation, and distinctive physical differences for the two populations. J.R. Haller, professor emeritus in biology at UC Santa Barbara, is a recognized authority on the California pines and has studied the Torrey pine for many years. In a 1986 article (ref. 1), he reported his observations of the physical characteristics of the TPSR and Santa Rosa Island (SRI) populations. While there are only minor variations within each population, there are statistically significant differences between the two. The main ones: the SRI cones are larger and wider and have larger bumps (umbos) on the scale tips, the SRI needles have a more blue green color, and the TPSR trees tend to grow taller.

Even though the locations are similar, these differences could be caused by environmental factors, such as soil and rainfall. Fortunately for Torrey pine researchers, a site (the La Jolla Cancer Foundation on Torrey Pines Rd.) close to TPSR contains trees grown from seeds from both locations. Haller studied these trees and reported that most of the cone and needle color differences were no longer distinct, but in their places were new differences: the TPSR trees have fewer new branches per year, greater branch growth per year, and longer needles. As in the separate populations, the TPSR trees tend to grow taller while the SRI ones tend to have more spreading branches.

Ledig and Conkle (ref. 2) investigated genetic characteristics of Torrey pines in 1980. They collected cones from SRI and TPSR trees, extracted seeds, and let them start to germinate. Genetic information was obtained from enzyme analyses of the seed growth material. For the 59 gene loci investigated, all were identical within each population and only 2 differed between populations. At the time of their article, they commented that this pattern was unknown for conifers.

Haller (op. cit.) also summarized chemical analyses of the turpentine compositions of SRI and TPSR trees reported in a 1967 article by Zavarin, et al. There were differences between the populations in 13 of the compounds. Based on the morphological (physical), genetic (albeit small), and chemical differences between the SRI and TPSR trees, Haller concluded that the two populations are separate subspecies.

Since such low levels of genetic diversity are so unusual in trees, especially pines, Waters and Schaal performed DNA research on Torrey pines because genetic variations can exist at the DNA level that are not measurable at the enzyme and morphology levels. They examined cell structure material (chloroplast genome) from both SRI and TPSR needles and reported their results in a 1991 paper (ref. 3). For over 150 genetic sites investigated, they found no differences within or between the two populations. They concluded that, if there is any chloroplast variation in the Torrey pine, it is very low, which is atypical for pines.

With so little genetic difference, why do the two populations have different characteristics? What does the lack of genetic diversity imply about the past history of the trees and their future? Comments from the cited references on these points will be covered in part 2, next month, along with a discussion of the Torrey pines on the grounds of the La Jolla Cancer Foundation.

References (in a notebook in docent library titled, "Torrey Pines: Res. Articles"):

- 1) Haller, J.R., "Taxonomy and Relationships of the Mainland and Island Populations of *Pinus torreyana*," *Systematic Botany*, pp 39-50, 1986.
- 2) Ledig, F.T., Conkle, M.T., "Gene Diversity and Genetic Structure in a Narrow Endemic, Torrey Pine," *Evolution*, pp 79-85, 1983.
- 3) Waters, E.R., Schaal, B.A., "No variation is detected in the chloroplast genome of *Pinus torreyana*," *Canadian Journ. Forest Research*, pp 1832-35, 1991.

LOOKING BACK

Members at the November meeting took a trip back in time to the first part of the century to view the early days of Torrey Pines through the slides and commentary of guest speaker Alexander Bevil. Mr. Bevil, a land use historian, researched the history of the Reserve area as part of a State Parks historical sites project. He believes there is sufficient historical significance to qualify the Lodge, Fleming house, and the Reserve road for listing on the San Diego registry of historical sites and eventually with the national registry.

During his research of newspaper accounts, books on the history of Del Mar and La Jolla, and personal papers of E.B. Scripps, George Marston, and other early civic leaders, he uncovered much information new to most docents, the road through the Reserve being an example. Docents know that the first paved road was completed about 1915 and that it provided the first easy public access to the area. The speaker's research showed that real estate development was the main reason for the road. Developer "Col." Ed Fletcher had extensive holdings in Del Mar, E.W. Scripps in Miramar, and Ellen Scripps and her brother F.T. in Pacific Beach and Mission Beach. Fletcher and E.W. Scripps financed the construction of the paved coast road from Del Mar to Pacific Beach (they may have been reimbursed later by the local governments) to help open access to the area for their land development. This road provided the only coast route north to Los Angeles and was heavily used by private and commercial vehicles. Mr. Bevil noted that the road name on the first map identified it as the Roosevelt Memorial Drive, but the name did not stick.

The original concept for a lodge was a Hopi pueblo design that was to be built about 1912. The San Diego Exposition in Balboa Park delayed actual construction until 1922. The speaker found records showing that Ellen Scripps's motivation for building a lodge came at least partly from her brother E.W. He told her that the newspaper business was so successful she was accumulating too much money(!) and ought to spend some by building a lodge in Torrey Pines. The Lodge walls were constructed of adobe that was mixed in what is now the parking lot just south of the Lodge. The adobe blocks weighed at least 50 pounds. Samples from a batch were tested by dropping them about two feet to the ground; if the samples didn't break apart, the rest were used. John Byers of Santa Monica, who had extensive experience in adobe construction, was the primary architect. He strongly believed that Mexican workers were the best for this type of construction because of their adobe heritage, so he hired a crew that lived on site during the months of construction (according to the speaker, no Hopi Indians were involved in this work).

With the completion of the Lodge, Torrey Pines became a favorite tourist stop for bus tours and the San Diego residents out for a day drive. The area was still considered remote, so the Lodge managers had difficulty in obtaining and retaining employees for the restaurant operation. The increasing traffic during the 20s became too much for the coast road, so a new road was proposed. Some people wanted a route through the western part of the present Reserve (very scenic, overlooking the ocean!), while others wanted to protect the area and strongly pushed for a route about where I-5 is today. The compromise was what is now known as Torrey Pines Road.

The speaker pointed out how fortunate we are today that from the beginning there were individuals who saw the need and value in protecting Torrey Pines, such as: Ellen Scripps, who provided the funding; Ralph Cornell, a landscape architect, who insisted that non-native plants not be introduced into the area; and Guy Fleming, the first and long-time Park custodian and true guardian.

Thanks to Alex Bevil, the Torrey Pines past came alive for an hour, and we all have a better appreciation of the area we enjoy so much today.

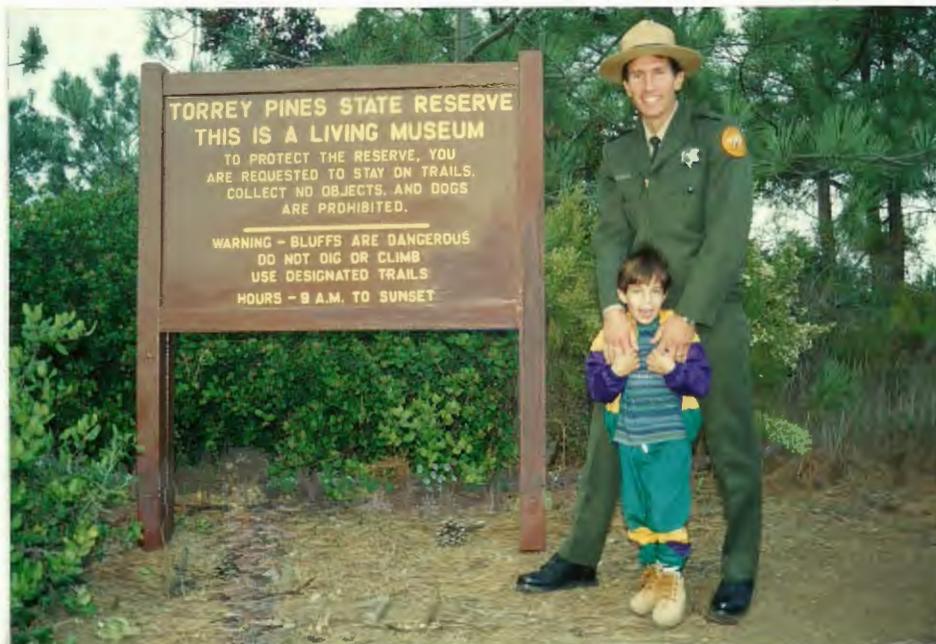
Report from the Ranger

THE BIRDS ARE BACK! Members in the Lodge recently should have noticed the return of the quail call inside the building. For many months the "birds" were silent, and everyone assumed the tape unit was the problem. Recently Park Aide Norb Runke checked out the system, which is located inside the large west display, and discovered that the ever busy mice had chewed on the cables. Repairing the cables restored the system. **NOTE:** Docents should be sure to disconnect the power plug in the floor before moving the display.

TREE SURVEY Resource Ecologist Mike Wells is planning a survey of the Reserve's Torrey pines. Members interested in helping on this project should see Mike.

DEPARTURES Park Aides Stacy DeJane and Charlie Kerns reached the maximum number of hours allowed for seasonal employees and have left the Reserve. Park Aide Amy Wepsic, who has been assigned to Park units north of TPSR, will be at the Reserve for December and January.

SICK TORREY PINE? Members may be curious about the possibly dying Torrey pine on the east side of Torrey Pines Rd. about half way up the hill from the beach. The "good news" is that the tree was not attacked by the bark beetle. According to Bob Wohl, sometime last summer there was a small brush fire by the tree that caused extensive damage to it. The local fire dept. put out the fire and didn't notify the Reserve staff, who only found out later by calling the fire dept. The staff is monitoring the tree for possible problems that may arise from its weakened state.



AN OLD SIGN RETURNS If the sign above, located by the entrance walkway to the Lodge, looks vaguely familiar to long-time members, it should. It used to be at the south entrance to the Reserve by the golf course. Some years ago metal signs replaced the wood signs, and when Ranger Chris Platis obtained this discarded one it was badly warped and in poor shape. He sawed the sign board into sections, planed the faces flat, reassembled it, repaired and updated the lettering. Robbie Reschke of the maintenance staff painted it, and the sign was ready for installation just in time for the TPA book party. Thanks to Chris, standing with his son Evan next to the sign in the photo, and Robbie for restoring a Reserve classic.

WHAT KILLS OUR BIRDS?

Marion Dixon

A federal study of avian mortality by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, updated in 1991, found that our highways kill 57 million birds every year. The leading cause of bird deaths is hunting, but other sources of mortality include: plate glass buildings (97 million); pollution and poisoning (3,815,000); tall building structures (1,250,000). Domestic cats also devour millions of songbirds in America every year. (Source: *The Amicus Journal*, a publication of the Natural Resources Defense Council, fall 1994.)

COLORFUL ANIMAL SIGHTINGS

John Carson

GREEN ONES During the last few months many members got to view two green lynx spiders living in the tops of adjacent telegraph weeds at the south edge of the Lodge parking lot. These large spiders are mainly green and have long hairs on the legs easily visible with a magnifier; they do not build webs for trapping prey, but rather lie in wait for passing insects. In October both spiders spun egg sacs. Spider actions after laying eggs vary from abandoning the egg sac to actual care of the young after hatching, depending on genus. The green lynx stays by the egg sac and after about two weeks cuts an opening in the sac to help the spiderlings get out. Many tiny light-orange-colored spiders were seen for over a week after emerging from the sacs.

A BLUE-TAILED ONE As I've walked the Reserve trails during the past few years, I've watched in vain for a young orange-throated (OT) whiptail that could be easily photographed. In October I finally was at the right place at the right time. Where? Right on the Lodge front steps! The juvenile OT whiptail and western skink are at first glance similar in appearance: slender bodies, pronounced longitudinal stripes on the body from back of the rear legs up to on the head, and long tapered blue tails (by the adult phase the whiptail has lost the blue color and the skink tail color is more of a dull blue-gray). The juvenile species can be distinguished by differences in the striped pattern in back of the head; also, the whiptail has a pronounced ridge above the eye. In my extensive but thoroughly unscientific survey of the Reserve lizards, I've regularly seen OT whiptails but have yet to see a western skink, which Prof. Hunsaker's Reserve survey of 25 years ago listed as common. So if you see a slender blue-tailed lizard on the trails, it is likely an orange-throated whiptail. And if you do spot one, stop and say hello to one of the more colorful animals in the Reserve.

DECEMBER 1994

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	1 L Amanns	2 L Musser L Gittelsohn	3 L Brickelmaier W Ferguson L Stiegler W Marley
4 L Parnell W Cassell L Heller W D. Miller	5 L May L Huber	6 L Talberts	7 L Bardwick	8 L Clark	9 L Jacobson L Shaw	10 L Brickelmaier W Brav L Dixon W Francis
11 L Robertson W Ferguson L Cooper W Marley	12 L R. Miller L Huber	13 L Jacobson	14 L D. Miller	15 L Marine	16 L Musser L Gittelsohn	17 L Camporini W Myers L Watson W D. Miller
18 L Parnell W Cassell L Roberts W Brav	19 L Watson L Oswalt	20 L Talberts	21 L Margulies	22 L Clark	23 L May L Shaw	24 L Grine W Carson L E. Sacks W Francis
25 L Cooper W <u> </u> L E. Sacks W Stiegler	26 L Schroeder W D. Roberts L Oswalt W <u> </u>	27 L Marine	28 L Dixon	29 L Bardwick	30 L Schroeder L Bardwick	31 L Schroeder W Roberts L <u> </u> W Nimick

Torrey Pines Docent Society
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