



TORREYANA

*A monthly newsletter for
Torrey Pines State Reserve*

No. 228

March 1995

**NEXT DOCENT SOCIETY MEETING
Saturday, March 18, 1995, at 9 A.M.**

Living in present day San Diego, it is easy for us to forget that Native Americans were in the coastal area earlier for thousands of years. Guest speaker Mike Wilken, anthropologist and Executive Director of the CUNA Institute (Ensenada), will give us an overview of past and present Native American cultures for the San Diego and Baja areas. With him will be two Kumeyaay, who will demonstrate basketry and sing traditional songs, and a Pai Pai, who will show native pottery methods. They will remain outside the Lodge afterwards for crafts demonstrations for the public.

During the business part of the meeting, there will be a vote on an important change in the Society bylaws. See page 4 for information on this.

Docent Society Twentieth Anniversary

Twenty years ago this month, beginning on March 15 to be exact, a group of about 26 people started meeting on Saturday mornings at the Lodge for training to be the first docents at Torrey Pines State Reserve. During the nine weeks of training, the group put together organization bylaws and elected officers; docent programs for the public started in June. Beginning on page 10, we look back at the predecessor volunteer activities, the origin and early history of the current Society, and its accomplishments.

A Note from Supervising Ranger Bob Wohl

Happy 20th Anniversary, Docents! Can it really be 20 years already? I arrived at San Elijo in 1975 and came scrambling down to Torrey Pines in 1976, little realizing that this robust volunteer group had been in existence only one year. Then it was a much smaller group. Now at our monthly docent meetings we spill out the Lodge door! And the programs and contributions of the docents have grown in size and diversity along with the membership. Torrey Pines would not be the same place nor would visitors' experiences be enriched without the docents. Congratulations, docents, on 20 years of service and assistance to the public, to the Reserve, and to the staff. And thank you for all your enthusiasm, energy, and idealism. You've made it all possible.

Bob

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1995 Annual Meeting of the Torrey Pines Association
Elizabeth Nicoloff



The 45th annual meeting of the Torrey Pines Association was held February 9 at the Lodge, presided over by John Fleming. Besides TPA members, several guests attended, including representatives of the offices of State Senator Lucy Killea, Congressman Brian Bilbray, and Congressman Randy Cunningham.

After the reading by Secretary Bob Coats of the minutes of the last meeting, and their approval, election results were announced. Elected for the 1995-1998 term were: Frances Armstrong, Patricia Axelrod, John Fleming, Norma Sullivan, and Robert Warwick.

Treasurer John Shelton reported that receipts and expenditures were similar to last year's except for the financing of the book *TORREY PINES Landscape and Legacy* by Bill Evarts, which went on sale last October. Some \$70,000 have been spent to date, about half of which have been received in donations, and the other half expected to be recouped in sales. About two thirds of the print run of the hardback books have been sold already, and about one quarter of the soft covers. There have been a number of donations in memory of Dr. Thomas Whitaker, who died in 1993. The Board are deliberating what kind of memorial to create with these funds. At the end of the treasurer's report, a charming non-agenda event took place - the presentation to John by Counselor Victoria Bradshaw on behalf of the Board of a commemorative handmade ceramic plate showing the book cover picture to commend his efforts in getting the book launched. Then she presented another plate showing the "Green Book" cover to Freda Reid for her work in editing the third edition, 1991, of this book, *Torrey Pines State Reserve*.



Freda Reid and John Shelton

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1995 Annual Meeting (continued from p. 2)

An ecology report was given by Resource Ecologist Mike Wells in place of District Superintendent Ed Navarro, who was unable to attend. On the bark beetle situation, rainfall last winter and this winter has been helpful; the last tree lost to the infestation was in September 1993. Since then 500 seedlings have been planted, roughly one for every tree lost. These seedlings were grown from seeds collected in the Reserve and marked as to which area they came from. A 30% seedling mortality is expected, which would reduce tree density. It has been suggested that the Reserve was over-populated, that the trees would be less vulnerable to bark beetle attack if they were more widely separated. Studies of density in the Reserve and comparison with that on Santa Rosa Island are being made by scientists of three universities to learn what normal density has been in the past. One of their investigations is of the pollen count in sediment cores in the lagoon. The factor of fog drip in tree growth is also being studied by measuring the moisture accumulated in a fog collector on the Lodge roof. A tree census is planned; the last census was in 1970. On removal of invasive exotics, Mike reported great progress in eradicating Russian thistle, European stock, and Hottentot fig, and he commended the leaders of the exotics team: Dave Economou, Kathy Estey, and Diana Snodgrass. New problems in exotics are being created by a recently discovered South African grass and an introduction by Caltrans of *Coreopsis gigantea*, which can cross-fertilize with our native sea dahlia (*Coreopsis maritima*) and thus pollute our stand of this favorite flower. Another problem has to do with wildlife corridors connecting the Reserve with inland areas now being closed by development and by the construction on I-5 at the top of the lagoon.

The lower part of the Beach Trail has been officially closed, reported Supervising Ranger Bob Wohl, because of dangerous deterioration of the cliff-hugging section overhanging the beach. The cliffs are not stable, as evidenced by the recent landslide just north of the Beach Trail. The crime rate has dropped from previous years, but there are still problems with homeless people, indecent exposure, and graffiti taggers. Plans are proceeding for a new North Beach entrance and kiosk, which should be built in the fall of this year.

Diana Snodgrass, President of the Torrey Pines Docent Society, reported on docent activities and on efforts to bring about closer cooperation between the Docent Society and TPA.

The speaker of the day was U.S. Park Ranger Debbie Stetz from Cabrillo National Monument, who entertained us with a most interesting slide show on the history of the lighthouse on Point Loma. She also showed pictures of Torrey pines on Santa Rosa Island and told of the convenient and relatively inexpensive plane service from Camarillo to the island that is available to tourists and people like us.

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

Election Results - Unlike the national elections last November, docents reelected all the current officers to another year term. The Board members are:

President - Diana Snodgrass

Vice President, Programs - Walt Desmond

Vice President, Training - Jim Cassell

Secretary - Kathy Watson

Treasurer - June Brickelmaier

Duty Coordinators - Ruth Ganeless and Elaine Sacks

Newsletter Editor - John Carson

See the next item for proposed changes in the Board organization.

Proposed Changes, TPDS Board - During the past few years, the nominating committees were unable to find anyone other than the incumbent willing to serve as president. Reasons frequently given by members were their unfamiliarity with the various duties and a lack of time needed for the position. So this year's nominating committee suggested that the new position of executive vice president be created, with this person helping the president as needed and then being willing to be a candidate for president. In this way a person who hadn't served on the Board could gain the needed experience, and the time commitments for both positions would not be excessive.

Summarizing the proposed bylaws changes, the new position of Executive Vice President will be established, and the titles of Vice Pres. of Training and Vice Pres. of Programs will be changed to Training Coordinator and Programs Coordinator, respectively. The actual changes will be posted on the bulletin board in the docent room the first week of March for member review prior to a vote on this at the monthly meeting on March 18.

Docent of the Month - Congratulations to Georgette Camporini, who received the award for February in recognition of her work as the Society's current representative to both the Docent League of San Diego County and the League of California State Parks Non-Profit Organizations. Since joining TPDS over nine years ago, Georgette has regularly contributed extra time and effort for the Society, such as being a representative at Parks displays for Earth Day and other environmental occasions, serving as meeting refreshments coordinator, and assisting at times on the newsletter.

Docents Really Volunteer! - Elizabeth Nicoloff, the Society's records keeper, reported that 79 docents contributed 8497 hours to TPDS and TPSR projects during 1994. Top volunteers were Joan Nimick with 421 hours and Melanie Martinod with 413; there were two members in the 300-399 hour range, six within 200-299 hours, and twenty-three within 100-199 hours. On the down side, there were some members who missed the required 72 hours per year, and Elizabeth urged them to increase their participation. The list is posted on the bulletin board in the docent room.

Whitaker Garden - While Melanie Martinod and several other members have made considerable progress in restoring this area, much remains to be done, too much for just occasional docent work. Various approaches are being considered, including requesting State support for a landscape maintenance position covering several Parks, including TPSR for help on the Whitaker garden. At this time TPDS needs a commitment from a few members to join with Melanie in working with the Reserve staff on preparing the garden project plan. Please talk to Melanie if you are interested in helping on this.

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Docent Doings (continued from p. 4)

TPSR Plant List, TPDS Brochure - The Reserve plant list revisions (the work of Marty Jacobson and several other docents) are now complete. The list will be printed soon and be a sales item at the Lodge. The Society's brochure is also complete and will be printed as soon as the new address for the District Office is known.

Lodge Exhibits - Wes Farmer is the chairperson for exhibits in the Lodge. If you have suggestions or contributions for exhibits, see Wes.

Membership List Update - Glenn Dunham is preparing the annual membership list. If you didn't indicate needed changes on the list at the February meeting, please call Glenn or Shirley Musser as soon as possible.

Labeling Machine - The Society recently purchased a unit that turns out quality labels for displays. Docent Don Grine has checked it out and will offer assistance to first-time users if needed. The unit will be in the ranger office.

Docent Bird Walk - Join Hank and Jane Baele for a bird walk at San Elijo Lagoon on Wednesday, March 22, at 9 A.M. Meet at north end of Rios Ave. off Lomas Santa Fe in Solana Beach.

Book Sales - There are continuing problems in reconciling sales and inventory of the book *TORREY PINES Landscape and Legacy*. Members on Lodge duty are requested to be sure to record all sales of this book. Also, only the display copy should be kept in the open area; all new copies are to be kept in a cabinet in the ranger office.

Weekend Walks - Docents on Lodge duty are sometimes asked about bringing organized groups to the Reserve to go on the docent-led weekend walks. The Society answer to this request is no, for adding a group to the normal number of visitors makes the overall size too large.

Extension Walks - Jan Taylor reported that sixteen people showed up for the first scheduled walk in February, led by her and Theo Tanalski. For this month she has walks set for Saturday, March 4, and Saturday, March 25, starting at 9 A.M. at the north end of Del Mar Scenic Parkway. Docents interested in leading visitors or just walking in the area are invited to come.

Diana Snodgrass - At the February meeting, Diana announced that she is now using the surname of Gordon and requested that this be used on correspondence to her. The address for mail to her is PO Box 375, Del Mar, CA 92014.

Docent League to Escondido - The Docent League of San Diego County will have its annual spring outing in Escondido this year on Tuesday, March 21, to visit historic buildings in Grape Day Park and the new California Center for the Arts (CCA). The morning activities start at 10:15 A.M. at the CCA parking lot, Escondido Blvd. and Woodward Ave., with tours of historic buildings and the railroad depot led by Escondido Historic Society docents. Visitors will have the noon period for lunch on their own and then will meet CCA docents at 1:30 P.M. at the CCA ticket office for a tour of the Art Museum and theaters. The tours are free. For further information, call Georgette Camporini.

Docents Meet with DPR Native American Advisory Council

by Judy Schulman

On February 11, 1995, six docents involved with the children's education group and two Reserve staff members met with Dan Abeyta, Assistant Director of Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR), and five members of DPR's Native American Advisory Council. This council is composed of members from several California Native American groups. The Council acts in an advisory capacity and makes recommendations to the Department of Parks and Recreation regarding the following:

- * Ensure that the DPR is responsive to the recreational, cultural, and leisure needs and desires of the State's Native American population.

- * Ensure that the Native American heritage in California's history is preserved, promoted, and interpreted from a Native American perspective.

- * Ensure that the Native American community is afforded equitable entrepreneurial opportunities in DPR concessions.

- * Ensure that the DPR makes an active attempt to improve participation by the Native American community in its planning and decision-making.

- * Ensure that the DPR makes an attempt to improve its equal employment opportunity practices for the hiring and upward mobility of Native Americans.

- * Ensure that local assistance grants programs administered by the DPR are sensitive to the recreational needs of the Native American community.

Specifically, they were here to see what Torrey Pines State Reserve has to offer in the way of providing information about local Native Americans. Discussions focussed on our interior and exterior displays and what we do on our children's education classes. Issues that were discussed included accuracy of our sources, problems when using territorial maps, teaching from a Native American perspective, and misconceptions about Native American culture based on anthropological labels. The meeting concluded with a walk along the Guy Fleming Trail.

Docents and staff in attendance were Eva Armi, Margaret Bardwick, Park Aide David Franks (who is Chickasaw), Susan Ferguson, Ranger Allyn Kaye, Melanie Martinod, Judy Schulman, Theo Tanalski, and Barbara Wallach. DPR staff present were Dan Abeyta and his assistants, Janet Henner and Diane Voll. Native American Advisory Council members present were Clarence Brown (Kumeyaay), Richard Bugbee (Luiseño), Charlie Cooke (Chumash), Ron Goode (Mono), and Vivien Hailstone (Yurok-Karuk-Hoopa).

A summary of the comments, criticisms, and suggestions from this meeting will be in the April issue of the *Torreyana*.

Bill Evarts - Artist in Residence by Del Roberts

Bill Evarts is not your point-and-shoot landscape photographer. He has spent seven years tramping around Torrey Pines State Reserve shooting scenes in fog, rain, and sun, and at all hours. The result is an incredibly beautiful book *TORREY PINES Landscape and Legacy*, with photographs and text by the artist, and published by the Torrey Pines Association.

In speaking at the Docent Society's February meeting, he shared with us the different parameters important to photography: knowledge of your equipment, and the need to see graphically. Ironically, Bill can't see the shot he gets when he clicks the shutter of his 4 x 5 camera, because the film stretched across the back plate blocks his view. So he spends hours composing his picture, thinking about color and texture, and memorizing the scene. While patiently, waiting for the elements to come together: light, waves, clouds, and wind, he mutters to himself, "KISS, KISS, KISS," (keep it simple, stupid).

Landscape photography is Bill's first love, but sometimes uncontrollable factors can challenge even his patience. While holding up his magnificent blowups that appear in his book, he regaled the docents with situations he faced on location. In trying for a picture of the golden bluffs reflected in the waves on a dark, stormy day, he spent most of one afternoon standing on flat rock. He watched the sun peak through the clouds, sweeping the cliffs like a search light. Just when he had the right light, a good reflection of the bluffs in the waves, and an empty beach, the lifeguard jeep drove by and left tracks. By the time the next set of waves washed the beach clean, the light had disappeared. Finally, all the components were in place, when an amateur photographer interrupted to ask what kind of camera he was using and began discussing his own equipment. Ultimately, he captured the reflection of the Torrey Pines bluffs, and it became one of his favorites.

Bill delights in the transformation that fog produces in the Reserve, creating new interpretations of familiar scenes. Veteran docents didn't recognize the location of his portrait of a Torrey pine tree because the fog obliterated the background, isolating it in a magical land. And he wasn't revealing his source. Since Bill usually excludes man-made structures and people in his photographs, his pictures stand alone as works of art.

Sunset is a favorite time for our resident artist. Often he is dealing with "the edge of light," when, in a matter of minutes, the sky becomes dark. Once, after waiting on the bluffs for a sunset that didn't happen, Bill turned around to pack up his equipment and saw his shot. He had just enough time to find a foreground before the light drained. Without time to think, he clicked once, and produced a dramatic view of silhouetted trees against storm clouds reflecting the orange glow of the sun. Our artist can say more about the Torrey Pines environment than meets the eye.

Bill not only has the eye of an artist but the soul of a poet, as he writes about fog in *TORREY PINES Landscape and Legacy*: "Among the pines and chaparral, fog imposes a magical order. Each grove and shrub-covered slope becomes a mute symphony of colorless shapes and silhouettes. Tiny beads of moisture collect on the fragile strands of spiders' webs, delicately tracing their outlines. Damp air coaxes rich woodland scents from the trees. The muffled patter from dripping pine needles is the only sound that emanates from the hushed landscape. Wrapped in the silence and shadowless light of a foggy day, the relict pines seem even more mysterious."

Docent Bios by Del Roberts



Grace Martin, January's docent of the month, epitomizes the adage, "ask a busy person if you want something done." For the past ten years, she has taken on special projects, served on the Board, worked on the Torreyana, and applied her organizational skills effectively wherever needed. While substitute duty coordinator, she suggested printing the docent calendar in the Torreyana, making it easier for docents to know their schedule. She also gathered, organized, and assembled material for the current training manual, now in its fifth year, for editor Marion Dixon. Although we'll miss her when she becomes a supporting member, she promises not to desert us.

Grace hails from New Jersey where she attended Rutgers University. She and her husband, Bill, moved to Encinitas in 1956. She completed her BA and MA at SDSU. After her husband died, she got her teaching credentials in both anthropology and business services. "Since the world wasn't screaming for anthropologists," she says, "I ended up teaching at the community college adult division at East San Diego." Her students were mostly disadvantaged or displaced homemakers who had to make a change in their lives. With compassion and understanding, she taught them business and job-seeking skills, and held private conferences to help with their problems.

Grace's retirement was a gift to Torrey Pines. She joined the training class of '85, along with Marion Dixon and Marc Gittelsohn, two other shining stars in the Docent Society. After receiving her badge, she tended the Lodge and gave mini walks around the garden. The very next year she was elected vice president, supervising both programs and training. "We were fortunate to get speakers from the community," she recalls, "professors from UCSD and scientists from the Natural History Museum."

Graduating to the presidency, Grace considered herself lucky to have had such a good administrator in VP Parker Foster. During her term, she created a binder of bylaws and other pertinent docent materials for each officer, and organized a card file of speaker possibilities. The color post card project was adopted and completed, and the first video by Jared Aldern was produced. She represented the docents at planning meetings with the Park Service for the new museum display, and later chaired a committee to redesign the sales area. Ranger Chris Platis supervised the building of the new cabinets.

Travel has always been a part of her busy schedule. She kept up her interest in cultural anthropology and urban development while visiting Mexico, Japan, Europe, Alaska, and the Philippines. In the early 70's, she set out to explore the United States alone and completed a 15,000-mile car trip in five months. As an environmentalist, Grace's concern is that future generations will not have places like Torrey Pines to enjoy. After spending time with her, you realize that in her unassuming way she has a great regard for people, especially TP docents.

A Postscript from Grace Martin

When I joined the Docent Society in 1985, Glenn Dunham was President, and I was in awe of his knowledge of plants generally, and Torrey Pines specifically. I was drawn in by both the expertise and warmth of the members. What has been most consistent about the Docent Society is the interest and friendliness of the group, which sets it apart from many other volunteer organizations. Because of the diversity of the duties, all the docents contribute to the accomplishments as a whole, creating a special volunteer environment, which is where I always want to be.

1995 Docent Training Program

Jim Cassell, VP of training, has scheduled the following training sessions for new members (as of February 24, 50 people had signed up). All sessions will start at 9 A.M. at the Lodge and run until at least noon. Current members are invited to attend some or all classes to refresh and update their knowledge. Information on optional Sunday walks will be in the April issue of the *Torreyana*.

Saturday, March 25: Orientation - Docents and TPSR staff.

Saturday, April 1: Birds of S. Cal. - Jean Meajeher, San Diego Audubon Society.

Saturday, April 8: Geology of the Reserve - Don Grine, docent.

Saturday, April 15: Monthly meeting.

Saturday, April 22: Plants of the Reserve - Jim Delain, science teacher.

Saturday, April 29: TPSR Insects - Ron Lyons, volunteer entomologist, Chula Vista Nature Center.

Saturday, May 6: History & Indians of the Reserve - Judy Schulman, docent.

Saturday, May 13: Interpretive Techniques - Ranger Greg Hackett, Reserve staff.

(Editor's note: During his 11 years as the Reserve's Naturalist, Hank Nicol contributed many articles to the *Torreyana*. Thanks, Judy Schulman, for persuading Hank to write the following note - in the traditional Nicol style - for this issue.)

IT'S YOUR FAULT!

Ranger Bob once asked me, "Why the sudden thirst for knowledge?"

I have always been a curious sort, and my quest for enlightenment was far from sudden. It has carried me to many countries on several islands and a few continents. It brought me some pleasure, a lot of discomfort, and almost killed me a few times. It made me a Naturalist. Remember, please, that even a small "n" naturalist is a someone not smart enough to be a real scientist. A big "N" naturalist is something less. It's only a title. Nevertheless I studied botany, zoology, geology, archaeology. At last I came across astronomy and developed a compelling interest in the stars. Who's to blame for that? Docents, that's who!

How did it happen? You see, some docents asked Ranger Randy Hawley to lead a star walk. Randy had made a study of stellar mythology from Ancients to Aztecs, and having such a good supply of stories, he was happy to give a nighttime walk. Later, when he found he had something else to do on the appointed night, he asked me to take over. Me? What did I know? I crammed on Randy's notes and whatever other information I could find. On the night scheduled for the walk I held my breath and crossed my fingers. Luck was with me. The sky clouded over. Not a star peeked through. Swiftly I converted the theme of the walk to a subject I knew something about. But I was hooked. I took a night class in Astronomy at Miramar College. Before long I joined the Astronomical Society of the Pacific, subscribed to *Astronomy* magazine, made visits to three observatories, had conversations with real astronomers, and developed a short lived obsession with Edmund Halley and his comet. After I moved to Eureka I went so far as to take a course in that ultimate science, cosmology, at Humboldt State. I'm really not interested in mythology or in seeing all the Messier objects (the astronomical equivalent of a bird watcher's life list), but I like to read about galaxies and nebulae, quasars and pulsars. I like learning about how stars are born and how they live and how they die. Maybe it's that the closer to eternity I get, the more interested I am in it. But, d'ya know? I never did lead a star walk.

Hank Nicol

In the Beginning

Most members are vaguely aware that there was a volunteer group at the Reserve prior to the Docent Society. But how did the earlier group begin, what did it do, and how did the current docent group start? Since there does not appear to be an organized written account of this period, finding historical information turned into a long search, with some surprising results. In the beginning, there was the

Torrey Pines Wildlife Association (TPWA) - During the early 60s, some residents in the Del Mar Terrace area became concerned about the deteriorating condition of the Los Peñasquitos Lagoon and the imminent loss of Torrey pines in their area through development. So they formed the TPWA to publicize these situations and act as a public advocate. When the Extension campaign started, TPWA and TPA coordinated their efforts in raising funds.

The Lodge Sitters - The Lodge was closed to visitors after transfer of the Park to the State Park System. TPWA members thought this was a loss to the public and eventually arranged with the Reserve staff to have the Lodge open with TPWA volunteers as hosts. Jessie LaGrange (still a TPA member) and Muriel Knight of the TPWA organized a group of about two dozen members for the Lodge program, which started in April 68. The Lodge was open from noon to 4 P.M. on weekends and 10 A.M. to 4 P.M. on special holidays, with the members on 2-hour shifts. According to Melba Kooyman, the only TPWA member now in the Docent Society, this group referred to themselves as Lodge Volunteers, but somehow later on the name of Lodge Sitters became associated with them.

Lodge Sitter Activities - The volunteers, with ranger assistance, set up display cases, added lights, and in general tried to create a museum atmosphere. Two volunteers who provided historical perspectives were Peggy Fleming (wife of Guy Fleming) and Mary Whitaker (wife of Thomas Whitaker). In response to visitor interest, the volunteers arranged for occasional walks for the public led by knowledgeable people from the local schools and Natural History Museum (and sometimes a TPWA member led a walk). The group had no specific training for the programs; they brought their personal interests, knowledge, and commitment to these projects.

Torrey Pines Docent Society - Sometime in the early 70s, a Dept. of Parks and Recreation (DPR) group visited the Reserve to review the volunteer operation. The group had concerns: the Lodge Sitters had no official relationship with DPR, which posed legal liability problems; there was no Park-approved training; and there was insufficient interpretation. Partly as a result of this review, the Reserve staff decided to help organize and train an interpretive group of volunteers, recruited mainly by advertisements in local newspapers. Rangers Linda Engel (now Leyva) and Richard Irwin worked closely with this group. The first name selected for the group is believed to have been the Torrey Pines Docent Society, but other names some members preferred were Torrey Pines Volunteers, Torrey Pines Volunteer Naturalists, and the Torrey Pines Natural History Assoc. The current name won out. There was an arrangement for the Lodge Sitters to join the Docents, but most preferred not to, being uncomfortable with the formal structure, training, and dues requirements. According to Melba Kooyman, only she and one or two others did transfer.

TPWA - Last Years The completion of the Extension acquisition ended the main activity of the group, but it continued monitoring the Lagoon, reviewing environmental impact reports, etc. The group ceased operation about 1984.

Acknowledgments - My thanks to docents Judy Schulman, Melba Kooyman, and Julie Marine for information and copies of the few newspaper articles available on the early Docent Society, and a special note of appreciation to Jessie LaGrange for the information on the TPWA and Docent Society.

John Carson

by Judy Schulman

- March 75 Started by Ranger Linda Engel and 26 volunteers, The Torrey Pines Docent Society is formed and becomes one of the first volunteer groups in the California State Park System.
- Dec 75 A merger of the Torrey Pines Docent Society with the Torrey Pines Wildlife Association (the Lodge Sitters group) is discussed and agreed upon.
- June 76 Interest groups are formed for the purpose of creating interpretive displays. A film review committee is formed to suggest nature-related movies to be shown to the public.
- May 77 TPDS sponsors a booth at UCSD's Earth Day Celebration.
- Dec 77 TPDS is incorporated as a non-profit organization with the California State Park System. This new status allows for the raising of money for interpretive purposes. The first 'Docent of the Year' Award is given to Julie Marine.
- Nov 78 The use of t-shirts with an emblem by Mat is started.
- May 79 The first docent-published postcard is created.
- July 79 Mat presents each docent with a signed print.
- April 80 The State Park System's TV commercial for the 'Year of the Volunteer' is aired. Several TPDS members are shown.
- Oct 81 TPDS publishes Hank Nicol's first book 'Notes from the Naturalist'.
- Sept 82 TPDS participates in a resource management seminar sponsored by the State Park System to help determine the future of TPSR.
- Nov 82 As part of the museum renovation project, docents receive new display cases provided by the TPA. Research committees continue plans for displays.
- Feb 83 TPDS helps rangers sell annual passes and receives \$10 for each one sold. Docents Isabel Buechler and Millicent Horger design and produce wildflower maps for the Guy Fleming Trail.
- Nov 83 TPDS participates in cable series about California State Parks hosted by Ranger Bob Wohl.
- March 84 TPDS joins the League of California State Park Non-Profit Organizations.
- May 84 Along with the TPA, TPDS sponsors the 25th Anniversary Celebration of Torrey Pines State Reserve. Events include speakers, refreshments and special walks.
- Oct 84 TPDS goes on a weekend camping trip to Wilderness Gardens.
- Feb 85 TPDS publishes Hank Nicol's second book 'Torrey Pines: Beyond the Trees'.

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- June 85 TPDS participates in a booth at the Del Mar Fair as part of the Southern Region State Park Cooperating Associations.
- Oct 85 Docent patches are designed and produced by Amanns.
- Feb 86 Docent book marks are ordered.
- July 86 Special ceremony marks the first 10-year service awards.
- April 88 TPDS publishes new series of 9 postcards.
- March 89 TPDS charters bus to go to Anza Borrego.
- April 90 TPDS publishes training manual and participates in the 40th Anniversary of Torrey Pines Association. Festivities include speakers, displays, special walks, music and a Mexican buffet.
- July 90 Rangers host 1st docent appreciation party.
- Dec 90 New patch is designed by Pat Foster.
- Sept 91 TPDS plans new shelving for library.
- Jan 92 TPDS donates \$1,000 to the Natural History Museum.
- May 92 TPDS co-sponsors a workshop by the Sharing Nature Foundation on how to lead nature walks for children. Leads to formation of Children's Education Committee. Also, TPDS is recognized as the 1991 Volunteer Association of the Year by the California Southern Region Department of Parks and Recreation.
- June 92 TPDS republishes Hank Nicol's 'Notes from the Naturalist'.
- July 92 TPDS buys rain gauge and copier. 200th issue of the Torreyana is published.
- Oct 92 Children's Education Committee sends out flyers to schools informing them of free 2-hour classes to be held Jan-May 1993. Classes to focus on whales, Native Americans, wildflowers, chaparral and Torrey pines.
- Jan 93 TPDS publishes TPSR coloring book by Park Aide Sue Pelley.
- April 93 Docents participate in replanting of Torrey pines after bark beetle devastation.
- Sept 93 TPDS donates \$100 to the Friends of California State Parks.
- March 94 TPDS publishes wild flower brochure.
- April 94 TPDS attends a day-long seminar on the Kumeyaay sponsored by the Museum of Man.
- Feb 95 TPDS meets with members of the State Park System's Native American Advisory Council to discuss displays and education programs.
- March 95 HAPPY 20th ANNIVERSARY TO THE TPDS!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Training Program for the First Docents

In 1975 there were two training sessions, one in the spring and the other in the fall. There are no current full docents from that spring class, but Julie Marine (who joined in the summer of 75) attended the fall class, as did ranger Chris Platist. Shown below, in slightly reduced size, is the spring 75 training schedule (courtesy of Julie Marine).

TORREY PINES STATE RESERVE DOCENT PROGRAM TRAINING SYLLABUS SPRING, 1975

- March 15 - Orientation to Docent Program
 9:00 - 10:30 - Welcome, Introduction to State Park System:
 Ranger Engel, Area Manager Jack Welch,
 District Supt. Jim Whitehead, Dist. Interp.
 Specialist Dominic Gotelli
 10:45 - 11:15 - Slide program on Torrey Pines S.R. : Rgr. Engel
 11:15 - 12:00 - Pine Grove Walk: Rgr. Engel
- March 22 - Tour Techniques
 9:00 - 10:30 - How to lead a field trip : Edith Curry, San
 Diego Audubon Society
 10:30 - 12:00 - Tour Techniques on the trail - Rgr Engel &
 Ms. Curry
- March 29 - Botany
 9:00 - 10:30 - Botany & Plant Communities: Dr. Reid Moran,
 San Diego Natural History Museum
 10:30 - 1200 - Botany Walk: Dr. Moran & Ranger Richard Irwin
- April 5 - Geology
 9:00 - 10:30 - Geology of San Diego & the Torrey Pines area:
 Dr. Richard Phillips, Univ. of San Diego
 10:30 - 12:00 - Geology on Torrey Pines' trails: Dr. Phillips
- April 12 - Ornithology
 9:00 - 10:00 - Ornithology - Suzanne Bond: S.D. Natural Hist.
 Museum
 10:00 - 11:30 - Bird Walk
 11:30 - 12:00 - Nomination of Docent Council Officers, Discussion
 of by-laws
- April 19 - Mammals, Reptiles, & Amphibians
 9:00 - 10:00 - Vertebrate Biology, Examination of live
 specimens: Dr. Don Hunsacker, S.D. State Univ.
 10:00 - 11:30 - Field evidence of mammal, reptile, & amphibian
 activity: Dr. Hunsacker
 11:30 - 12:00 - Election of Officers, Adoption of By-laws
- April 26 - General ecology, Torrey Pines as a Habitat for wildlife
 9:00 - 11:30 - Ecology discussion & trail observations: Dr. John
 Bradshaw, Univ. of S.D.; Dr. Peta Mudie, Scripps
 Inst.; Suzanne Byrne
 11:30- 12:00 - Preliminary planning for summer interpretative prog.
- May 3 - Anthropology
 9:00 -10:30- Indians of So. Calif.: Ken Hedges, Museum of Man
 10:30- 1200 - Indian Uses of Plants Walk: Ken Hedges & Helen
 Witham, S.D. Nat. Hist. Museum
- May 10 - Final Training Session
 9:00 -9:30 - You & your audience: rgr. Engel
 9:30 -10:00- Evaluation of docent training
 10:00-10:30- Audio visual equipment: Dom. Gotelli, Dist. Interp. Spec.
 10:30-11:00- Final exam
 11:00-12:00 - Planning session for summer program

My Docent Days by Ranger Chris Platis

At the young age of thirteen I had the good fortune of meeting a very talented athlete, Arturo Barrett. He and I were the same age, and we competed in track events at Oak Crest Junior High School in Encinitas. He had much success in cross country and track, and we quickly became friends. We often traveled to San Diego for track meets during the spring, and that is where I first met his parents, John and Loo Ann Barrett (she would later become the first president of the Docent Society). As the years passed, I moved on to college but still kept in touch with Arturo and Lou Ann. She was always looking out for me, and knowing my strong desire to become a ranger, it didn't take her long to invite me to become a Torrey docent after this group was formed.

At that time I was nineteen years old and didn't know what the word "docent" meant. She told me it was a Latin word meaning teacher. Immediately I thought, "Boy, now I have to learn Latin in order to be a volunteer!" She easily overcame my fears and objections and told me it would be good for me to do some volunteering at Torrey Pines. So I enrolled in the November 1975 docent training session. I remember feeling so young and out of place; I kept saying to myself that I was the youngest person there. Even though I was studying full time in college, I figured that a little more education was not going to kill me; the worst that could happen was that I might learn something.

So I began the training program and met some really nice people, such as Melba Kooyman, Julie Marine, and of course, ranger Rich Irwin. The training back then was very similar to the current docent training: four hours each Saturday for several weeks (my memory is fuzzy on just how many Saturdays). I do recall enjoying the various speakers recruited from the local universities to speak about geology, ethnobotany, plant ecology, flower identification, and of course, interpretive techniques. The docent training was well organized, and it prepared us for giving walks and working in the Visitor Center.

Being the big chicken that I was back then, I couldn't see myself captivating an audience for a half-hour nature hike, and I wasn't too excited about sitting in the Lodge. I was afraid that if I sat there long enough someone was sure to ask that unanswerable question that we all get when we first start. With these important factors in mind, I decided to acquire my six hours of docent duty per month working behind the scenes. Rich Irwin asked me if I would be in charge of scheduling. I eagerly agreed and scheduled the docents for weekend walks and Lodge duty. The job was not difficult, but it could be challenging when a docent didn't show or canceled at the last minute. The volunteer experience was very rewarding and was especially helpful in getting exposed to the State Park System.

In the fall of 1976 I went north to school at Humboldt State University in Arcata, Calif. Knowing that I wanted to return to Torrey Pines, I applied for a crew leader position with the Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) at TPSR. I was fortunate to be hired in the summers of 1977 and 78 as a crew leader and returned for three more summers, two as a work coordinator and one as a camp director. I met new docents, such as Judy Schulman, and enjoyed learning new information and associating with them. We often utilized the services of the docents to contribute to the weekly YCC environmental education.

The YCC program ended at TPSR in 1981. That fall I was hired as a seasonal State Park ranger at San Onofre State Beach. After two seasons there, I worked part time, mostly weekends in the winter, at TPSR. I received a full-time position in May 84 at San Elijo State Beach, and then transferred to TPSR full time in Dec. 84.

I have always enjoyed working with the docents and continue to wonder where the Reserve would be without an organization that gives as much as all you docents do.

Ranger Memories - The 1970s at Torrey Pines

The current Docent Society owes much to the ranger staff at the Reserve in the mid 70s. They had a very real interest in the Reserve and a personal commitment to developing a strong volunteer organization for interpreting the area's natural history. Fortunately for the docents, that interest, commitment, and support have continued with the present ranger staff. In this issue rangers Irwin and Hartwell (at the Reserve in the mid 70s) share their memories of Torrey Pines and the early volunteers; former ranger Linda Engel's recollections will be in a later issue.

Ranger Richard Irwin - Rich (as he prefers to be called)) is a San Diego native, who grew up in Spring Valley and attended UC Riverside, majoring in biology with a botany specialty. After additional study to obtain a teaching credential, he taught junior high math and science for 1-1/2 years before military service. When he returned from Vietnam, he didn't find any interesting teaching jobs and ended up joining the State Park System as a ranger. His first assignment, in August 1970, was in the (then) San Diego Coast Area; initially he lived in an 18-ft. travel trailer in the TPSR maintenance yard. Most of his time was at TPSR. In 1977 he accepted a promotion to northern California and is presently Supervising Ranger, Annadel State Park, Santa Rosa. What follows are selections from his account of his time at TPSR.

"As I recall, he [Kent Hartwell, the Supervising Ranger] was the one who made arrangements with the Lodge Sitters as they carried on their faithful service. They didn't have the advantage of many exhibits or audio-visual programs. They had a small table with a few items available to visitors: books and brochures. But most seemed to like it this way, even when the Docent Society began. Talking to people and enjoying the serenity of the Lodge location seemed to be the most that, as a group, they wanted. Within the first two years of the Docent Society, I recall the thought and efforts made to attempt to blend the Lodge Sitters into the newer, large Docent Society. It wasn't easy. Most of the Lodge Sitters didn't wish to learn how to give nature walks, which was the first thrust of the new Docent Society. ... Seeing the attempts to blend two groups and to expand audio-visual programs and guided walk opportunities, in just two years, I would guess that the volunteers within the TPDS came to realize, as a group, that not every docent needed to serve in every function. ... Was I right?

"... The San Diego Coast Area was a training intake location, one of several, for the State Park System. Linda Engel was one of the earlier group of women hired as trainees.... Linda was placed there [TPSR] predominantly to work mostly on interpretive assignments. In Linda's case, this was an advantage. She had skills and a love of education. Thus was born the 'interpretive ranger' position at TPSR. Linda was first. After she moved north, I was next, followed by Paul Anderson. The thought was to allow a ranger to function in this position a year, then rotate to another ranger - ...

"... Linda's efforts resulted in some changes and improvements in serving many school tour groups that came to TPSR. Teaching packets, with film strip, were sent ahead to the school so the teacher could prepare for the trip in advance. A teacher's guide was developed. And the Docent Society was born. Probably Linda and Kent Hartwell can explain the 'why it happened' question. My feeling is that it was partly opportunity. TPSR ... had more ranger help by 1975 ... And, what better way to expand guided walk opportunities ... than to have volunteers, i.e., docents help with these?

"I had been in and around the new docent program in 1975. And, my wife Darlene was a docent for a year and a half. It may have been 1976, the year I became interpretive ranger, that a night walk was set up for the docents. That was one of the most fun activities I can remember, as we all had a really good time. There are so many experiences one needs, to begin to really soak in the wonder of the Reserve: daytime, nighttime, fog, bright sun, moonlight, the wind, stillness, salt air,

(continued on next page)

Ranger Memories (continued from p. 15)

animal sounds at night, popping sound of ceanothus 'spitting' seeds on a hot summer day, or a Torrey pine dropping its seed, rain, the four seasons, and so much more!

"The *Flowering Plants of Torrey Pines State Reserve*, printed in 1993 by the TPDS is beautiful! That type of publication, specific to one location, is a dream of so many parks. You've made it real for TPSR. Congratulations. ... much of my early ranger career and 'off-duty' time was wrapped up there at Torrey Pines. I've always simply wished my efforts to be useful to others. To the Docents: I know your efforts are appreciated by park visitors. Keep up the good work!"

(Editor's note: a later issue will have extracts of Rich's TPSR botanical work.)

Kent Hartwell - Mr. Hartwell was the Supervising Ranger at TPSR for a number of years during the early volunteer period. Below are extracts from a letter he kindly wrote for this issue. Now retired, he lives in Magalia, California.

"My wife, Carol, and I have many wonderful remembrances of the Reserve and the great people we worked with throughout the years. ... When we arrived at Torrey Pines State Reserve in the fall of 1968, we moved into the lovely old 'Guy Fleming' house. ... The TPA was spearheaded by Mrs. Guy Fleming but due to her age she was active in a limited capacity. My wife, Carol, became a good friend with Margaret, and they spent many happy hours together shopping, and with great humor Margaret recalled many stories about living in the house her husband built. ... Jessie LaGrange and Peggy Whitehead were very active and they worked very hard to maintain the ideal of the Torrey Pines Association and the Torrey Pines Wildlife Association.

"Due to my many ranger duties, the direct contact and working relationships with the docents became the duty of rangers, level I. Those selected to work at TPSR had to have special qualities, such as: love of TPSR's environment, a background in interpretation, and a keen ability to work with volunteer groups. Also a willingness to care for the many forms of wildlife and to protect the TPSR and the ocean area. ... The Torrey Pines Docents came into being in early 1975. ... I recall many calls to the Torrey Pines Reserve house [the Lodge], when I would answer the calls from the docents. ... Jim Whitehead or Jessie LaGrange would spend many hours helping with public relations in regard to the Reserve rules, etc. These were special people who cared for the Reserve when my wife became a Lodge Sitter.

"Carol learned a great deal of the history of the Reserve and the old Lodge, which at one time was a restaurant, and the stories of Ellen Browning Scripps, told by Peggy Fleming and others of the old guard. Peggy Fleming gave us one of her small oil paintings of a small Torrey pine tree from behind the home where we all had lived."



see April 95
issue for
correction of
photo ID

Kent Hartwell, shown with Dr. R. Vish-nice, a well-known photographer, who took photographs of the area as part of the Extension campaign.

(continued on next page)

Ranger Memories (continued from p. 16)

Docents Frank Lacey, Mary Miller, and Shanda Grunkemeyer bone up on bugs before September's program as Interpretive Ranger, Rich Irwin shows them a "Giant" Bark Beetle found by docent Bob Hopper on the Guy Fleming trail!



This photograph showing ranger Rich Irwin is from the September 76 *Torreyana* and was the first photograph to appear in the newsletter, which had started as a regular monthly newsletter in December 1975.

Acknowledgments - Thanks to the following people, who made the historical section of this issue possible: former Reserve rangers Rich Irwin and Kent Hartwell for their letters, pictures, and related information; Reserve ranger Chris Platis for his article and discussions; docent and Society historian Judy Schulman for her retrospective article and copies of docent-related material; Docent Society members Julie Marine and Melba Kooyman and TPA member Jessie LaGrange for all their help.

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Walt Desmond, Del Roberts

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MARCH DUTY CALENDAR

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	
Coordinator: Elaine Sacks, 551-0708 Hours: Lodge—Daily 10-1 and 1-4 Walks—Sat/Sun/Hol 11 & 1		1 L Armi	2 L P.McDonald	3 L Ganeless	4 L Robertson W Marley	
		L Schroeder	L Tanalski	L Tanalski	L Francis	
5 L Watson W Ferguson L McConnell W Stiegler	6 L Margulies L Cooper	7 L Renner L Grine	8 L D.Miller L Schroeder	9 L Amanns L Shaw	10 L Armi L Marine	11 L Heller W P.Roberts L D.Sachs W Dixon
12 L Schulman W Ferguson L Schulman W D.Roberts	13 L Huber L Heller	14 L Talberts L Gittelsohn	15 L Grain L Shaw	16 L P.Bardwick L Shaw	17 L McNally L McNally	18 MEETING L Parnell W Brav L Parnell W D.Miller
19 L Cassell, Rbtson L Oswald W Dixon	20 L Renner L Henrichs	21 L Lighthall L Gittelsohn	22 L P.Bardwick L Wenman	23 L Grain L Clark	24 L Estey L Baeles	25 L Baeles W Brav L Dunham W Stiegler
26 L Watson W D.Miller L Dunham W P.Roberts	27 L Huber L Oswald	28 L Talberts L Lighthall	29 L P.McDonald L Myers	30 L Margulies L Clark	31 L Wenman L Marine	

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