



TORREYANA

*A monthly newsletter for
Torrey Pines State Reserve*

Issue No. 236

January 1996

NEXT DOCENT SOCIETY MEETING

Saturday, January 20, at 9 A.M.

Construction site excavation and road work frequently require the presence of paleontologists to monitor work in sensitive areas and examine unearthed fossils. This is what happened to our paleontologist speaker scheduled for last November's meeting. (Fortunately for us, Dr. Al Myrick was able to step in with his very interesting account of his recent dolphin research, a talk originally planned for January.) So, barring another excavation conflict, a staff paleontologist from the San Diego Natural History Museum will be our guest speaker and describe fossil finds and research in the San Diego area.

DOCENT OF THE YEAR

In recognition of her outstanding service and enthusiastic commitment to the Docent Society, Diana Gordon was chosen "Docent of the Year" for 1995. Diana joined the Society in 1989, was elected Vice President in 90, and served as President of the Society from February 91 to this past October.

Her 1989 trainee group chose as a project the removal of Hottentot fig, and Diana is one of the group from that period who have continued with exotic plant removal. In the early 90s she devoted much time to working with the first group of docents for the children's education program, which has since expanded into one of the Society's largest and most active projects. Recently she was one of the founders of the Carmel Mountain Conservancy, a group dedicated to preserving the 8A open space east of the Reserve. With all this volunteer work, she has somehow still found time to raise two sons and to receive a B.A. degree in literature (French and Spanish) from UCSD in 94. She is currently a teaching assistant at UCSD while doing graduate work.

Since Diana was spending December in Wales with her family, the formal presentation of the award will take place at the January meeting.

Happy New Year

Docent Doings

Lodge Decorations - The Lodge wore holiday attire for December, thanks to the work of the 1995 trainee group - and other docents who can't resist joining what always turns into a mini-party. This year's decoration group, coordinated by John Burton, consisted of the following members and friends: Eva Armi and daughter Io, Myrna Burton, Andy Brecieski, June Brickelmaier, Ann Campbell, Jim Cassell, Claudia Clay, Wes Farmer, the Farrell family, Vida Fruebis, Ann Gaarder, Betty Marshall, Joan Nimick, Gloria Phillips, Bob and Jane Talbert, Jan Taylor, and Barbara Wallach. The Society acknowledges with thanks the donation of the tree by Longs Drugs of Del Mar and its fireproofing by Evergreen Nursery (Black Mountain Road). Special thanks to the Talberts for providing coffee and the homemade coffeecake and strudel.

Holiday Party - Although the weather forecast for the morning of the party included the possibility of showers, the sun shone on a large group of docents gathered at the Lodge for this annual feast. After the meal, Jim Cassell gave badges to trainees who had completed their program, and Acting President Don Grine presented awards.

New Members - Congratulations to Irving Hansen, Katrina Hauer, and Monique Murthy of the 1995 trainee group, and to Shami Kanekar (1993 group). Three other members of the 1995 group have badges waiting for them - please come to the next meeting to receive them.

Length-of-Service Awards - Four members received recognition for ten years of membership and contributions: Marion Dixon, Bob Margulies, Marc Gittelsohn, and Grace Martin (the latter two in absentia). There was special applause for Julie Marine, the first active docent with twenty years of service, for which she received a plaque. She is the only full docent left from the two training groups of 1975, the year the Society was organized. In presenting the award to Julie, Don Grine noted that she was also the first recipient of the Docent of the Year award in 1976. Congratulations to all these long-time members and thanks for all their past and continuing contributions.

Docent Dues Reminder - Members who haven't paid their 1996 dues are requested to do so as soon as possible. For dues information, see page 2 of the December 95 *Torreyana*.

A Note from Ranger Greg Hackett -

Dear Torrey Pines Docents,

In this season of giving and sharing, I want to share with you just how much you all give and share with our park visitors. While compiling our November 95 interpretive statistics, I realized that in November alone docents hosted at least 4281 folks in our visitor center. Docents gave at least 17 guided walks to 197 visitors in 44 hours. Docent-led school programs in environmental education reached at least 635 children in 12 programs requiring 156 docent hours. (Yes, Reserve staff does interpretation as well!)

YOU ARE AN AWESOME GROUP!!

I wish you all a joyous and wonderful holiday season.

Sincerely, *Greg*

PERIODICAL INFORMATION

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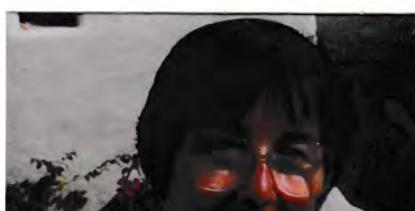
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(Left) A pleased Lodge decoration group in front of the Lodge fireplace.



(Left) Julie Marine with her
20-year plaque:
JULIE MARINE
In Appreciation
for 20 years of service to the
Torrey Pines Docent Society
1975 - 1995



LIGHTS! CAMERA! ACTION! TORREY PINES?

By Judy Schulman

Between the 1910s and 1930s, the San Diego area rivaled Hollywood as an ideal place to film movies. Balboa Park was the first most requested location. Torrey Pines was among the second most frequently requested locations. Because both places were then part of the City Park System, permission had to be granted by the San Diego Board of Commissioners. At Torrey Pines special care was insisted upon to protect the rare, native trees.

Beginning in February 1925, "Tides of Passion" was filmed at Torrey Pines and the Windansea/ Bird Rock area in La Jolla. The movie is a screen adaption of Basil King's novel *In the Garden of Charity*. Produced by Commodore J. Stuart Blackton and his Vitagraph Company, the movie starred Mae Marsh, Laske Winter, Ben Hendricks, Earl Shenk, and Thomas Mills. Of his movie, Blackton said, "We have issued a declaration of independence. We are proving ourselves, free of every influence in the world save the theater and its wants. We were never firmer in our determination, more diligent than to meet those wants than in this movie."

The heroine of the story, Charity, lives in a pretty cottage with a blooming garden. This cottage and garden were "built" at Torrey Pines. In order to build this cottage, which would need to stand for a few months, Vitagraph obtained permission from both the San Diego Board of Commissioners and Ellen Browning Scripps. They also obtained permission to run a water pipeline from the road to the location and to plant a few flowers and shrubs. The cottage was two stories high with a thatched roof, garden fences and gates.

In a phone conversation I had with John Fleming of the Torrey Pines Association, he said that he did not remember any such structure in or near the Park. Nor was I able to find any correspondence from Vitagraph in the San Diego Board of Commissioners files in the downtown library's California Room.

Locals came out to both sites to watch the production being filmed. At Torrey Pines a donkey, which belonged to one of the characters in the movie, entertained the crowds. The crowds were also fascinated by the numerous mechanical devices involved in filming. Oftentimes large crowds would wait at the locations, hoping to catch a glimpse of the stars.

Granada Theater

Saturday, June 5
BETTE DANIELS AND HARRISON FORD IN
"LOVERS IN QUARANTINE".

Sunday-Monday, June 6-7
MAE MARSH IN "TIDES OF PASSION"
FILMED IN LA JOLLA

Tuesday-Wednesday, June 8-9
THE STORY OF THE FIRST BLACK SHEEP
"THE WANDERER"
With Ernest Torrence, Greta Nissen, Wallace Beery
FABLE COMEDY

Thursday-Friday, June 10-11
HARRY LANGDON IN
"TRAMP, TRAMP, TRAMP"

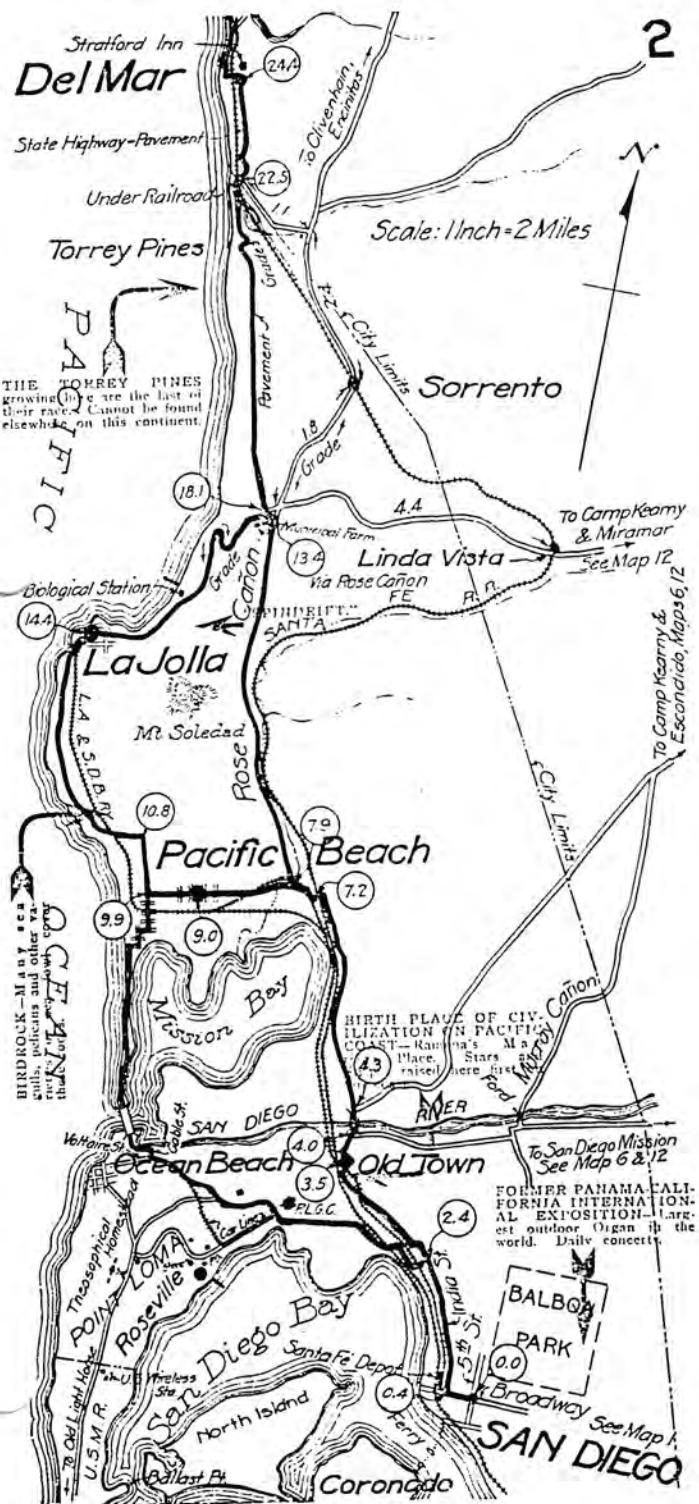
The movie is set in Nova Scotia. Charity is a young woman whose cottage and garden are the pride of her village. She falls in love and marries William, who becomes a soldier. In his travels as a soldier, he is unfaithful. Charity dutifully waits for him at home. During the seven years that pass, she is befriended by a peddler named Jonas, who falls in love with her. Her wandering husband decides to come back but is shipwrecked. He washes ashore (Windansea Beach location) and is cared for by a woman named Hagar whom he marries. Jonas, the peddler, runs into him and tries to persuade William to return. He refuses. Jonas returns to Charity and tells her a story that makes her believe that she is now a widow. Meanwhile William decides to return to Charity. Hagar tells him that she will send a steamer for him but instead has revenge on her mind and leaves him stranded on a rocky shore during a storm where he dies. The now pregnant Hagar goes to Charity to have her baby. Afterwards Hagar tries to commit suicide, but Charity saves her and the two make a home for the baby.

The film was shown at the Granada Theater in La Jolla (at the southeast corner of Wall & Girard) for two days starting June 6, 1926. Ads were run in the local papers announcing the opening of the movie.

Author's Note: I would like to thank Sandy Spalding of the La Jolla Historical Society for finding the La Jolla Journal articles that were used to write this article. Additional sources include personal correspondence with the San Diego Film Commission and the article "Hollywood Comes to San Diego" in the Winter 1992 issue of *The Journal of San Diego History*.

COASTAL AREA MAP

This map shows the roads in the Del Mar to La Jolla area about 1918. Note that the Coast Highway is marked "State Highway - Pavement." The other roads around the Reserve are presumed to be dirt or gravel. (Copy of map courtesy of La Jolla Historical Society.)



TORREY PINES RESERVE (For Bob and Mary Elliot)

Ground dry as yellow bones.
A dust of sand, gold-mica-glittering.
Oh dry! Grey ceanothus stems
twisted and tough; small flowers. A lizard place.
Rain rare and hard as an old woman's tears
runnelled these faces of the cliffs.
Sandstone is softer than the salty wind;
it crumbles, wrinkles, very old,
vulnerable. Circles in the rock
in hollows worn by ocean long ago.
These are eyes that were his pearls.

One must walk
lightly; this is fragile.
Hold to the thread of way.
There's narrow place for us
in this high place between the still
desert and the stillness of the sea.
This gentle wilderness.

The Torrey pines
grow nowhere else on earth.

Listen:
you can hear the lizards
listening.

(1973)

This poem by Ursula K. Le Guin, from her book *Buffalo Gals and Other Animal Presences*, Plume, a division of Penguin Books, 1988.

Acknowledgment: Thanks to docent Judy Schulman for providing a copy of the poem.

Reserve Research Notes

Carnivorous Mammal Survey -

The Biodiversity Analysis and Management Center, UC Santa Cruz, recently began a study of the abundance and distribution of carnivorous mammals in the Reserve. Graduate student Kevin Crooks set up 10 transects (long, narrow strips of land) along roads or paths for monitoring the presence of these animals. Spaced along each transect are one-meter-diameter circular areas of sifted dirt or gypsum with scented bait lures (e.g., cat food) in the centers. The transects were checked twice during the month sample period for scat, which was collected for future analysis, and the cleared areas were examined daily for a week for tracks. The transect sites are: Extension - DAR Trail area, main ravine, and Red Ridge; Lagoon - Lagoon, and Flintkote Rd.; Main Reserve - Guy Fleming Trail area, Parry Grove area, and Broken Hill area; golf course - north finger canyon, and south finger canyon. The animals in the survey so far are: coyote, fox, bobcat, cat, skunk, opossum, and raccoon.

The results of the fall survey are as follows: Extension - tracks for all seven animals and scat for coyote and fox; Lagoon - tracks for all but the cat, and scat for the coyote and bobcat; Main Reserve - tracks for bobcat, skunk, and opossum, and scat for bobcat; golf course - tracks for all but the cat, and scat for coyote and bobcat. The study will continue in 1996, with planned use of infrared-beam-triggered cameras and additional investigation in the Extension of the effects of domestic dogs and cats.

Reptile-Amphibian Survey -

The reptile-amphibian survey, directed by staff of the UCSD Biology Dept., started last June in the Broken Hill Trail area, and in October two more sites were added: a) the Extension, and b) parts of the Parry Grove area, the east side of the Guy Fleming Trail area, and a large area south of the Lagoon and east of North Torrey Pines Road. The current schedule consists of a 10-day survey period followed by a 10-day off period, with the three sites monitored in sequence, so there will be about seven weeks between sampling periods for a site. The results through October are given below.

	Broken Hill, June-Aug.	Extension, 10 days, Oct.	Parry, etc., 15 days, Oct.
AMPHIBIANS			
Pacific tree frog	5		
slender salamander	2		5
arboreal salamander	1		
LIZARDS			
fence	69	38	39
orange-throated whiptail	38	4	2
side-blotched	14	10	5
alligator	13	8	20
western whiptail	5		
western skink	1	1	
coast horned	1		
SNAKES			
Cal. whipsnake (striped racer)	5	3	2
night	2		
ringneck		3	
gopher			2

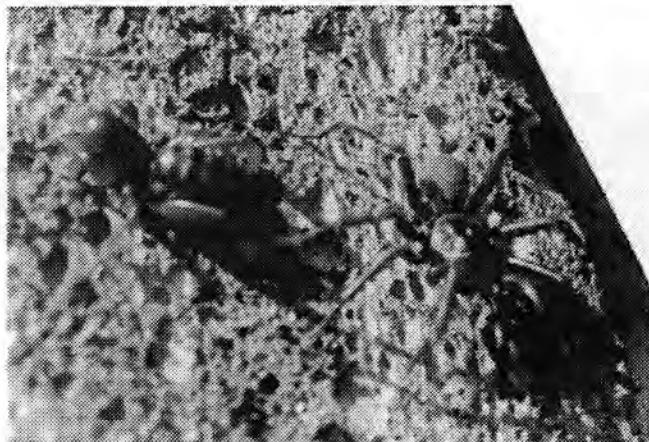
Acknowledgment: Thanks to Reserve ESI Stacie Hathaway for copies of the mammal report and the reptile survey data.

(continued on next page)

Reptile-Amphibian (continued from p. 6)

Comments - Only one horned lizard has been caught so far, which is consistent with the very few sightings reported by docents in recent years. The data appear to indicate that fence lizards far outnumber side-blotched lizards. I believe this really reflects the terrain of the sampled areas, which include very little of the loose, sandy soil preferred by the side-blotched (for example, side-blotched are very common and fence rare around the south overlook area on the Guy Fleming Trail, while the opposite is true along the east side of the Fleming loop). Only a few of the expected species of snakes have been caught. Where are the southern Pacific rattlesnakes, which are frequently seen?

Rain brings out lots of arthropods (plant matter is softer and easier to eat) and amphibians, which need moist areas. Below are a few of these animals found after a light rain last October. In the left photo is a 4-inch-long slender salamander. This lungless species has short legs (arrow points to one) ending with 4 very short spread "toes." In the right photo are a Jerusalem cricket (left side) and a male trapdoor spider (after fall rains, males go out looking for females); male has tan-to-orange abdomen.



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JANUARY DUTY CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 NEW YR'S DAY L Watson W Francis L Morin W Nimick	2 L Margulies L Hansen	3 L E. Sacks L	4 L Hauer L Katz	5 L Gaarder L Gittelsohn	6 L Robertson W Dixon L Murthy W Stone
7 L Heller W D. Miller L Anasis W Cassell	8 L Cooper L Huber	9 L Talberts L Shaw	10 L Marshall L McNally	11 L McDonald L Amann	12 L	13 L Ganeless W Dixon L Murthy W D Roberts
14 L Schulman W Ferguson L P. Roberts W Stiegler	15 M.L.KING BIRTHDAY L Rudolph	16 L Margulies L	17 L R Miller L Musser	18 L Hansen L Katz	19 L Clay L	20 MEETING L McDonald W Brav L Stone W D Miller
21 L Grain W Cassell L W Nimick	22 L Cooper L Watson	23 L D. Miller L E. Sacks	24 L Marshall L Shaw	25 L	26 L	27 L Grain W Brav L W Stiegler
28 L Heller W Ferguson L W P. Roberts	29 L R. Miller L Huber	30 L Talberts L	31 L	Duty Coord: Ruth Ganeless 275-1568 Hours: Lodge Daily 10 - 1, 1 - 4 Walks Sat/Sun/Hol 11 and 1 If you cannot do your duty, please arrange your own substitute.		

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