

# TORREY LITE

Torrey Pines Docent Society Announcements  
September 2000

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## September Meeting

September's event is a field trip to **Rancho de los Peñasquito** (in the Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve County Park).

*[There will be **no** Board or General Business meetings; do **not** drive to TPSR. Please follow the directions below.]*

**When:** September 16, 9:00 A.M.—1:00 P.M.

**How to get there:** Phone 858-484-7504 or follow:

[1] A chartered bus will pick you up at the Park and Ride lot (Carmel Valley Road (CVR) and Sorrento Valley Road (SVR)) leaving at 9:00 A.M. Hope you join others on the bus, it is fun to go together. A \$5 fee is suggested to help defray the \$300 bus rental cost.

[2] If you are driving on your own, or car-pooling:  
[a] From Freeways 5 or 805 exit on Mira Mesa going east. Turn left (north) at Black Mountain Road until you pass Mercy Road (about two miles), one more block to Canyonside Park Driveway, turn left and go to the end of this road. There is a small sign at the turn into Canyonside Park Driveway. Follow the white fence and Park signs as you continue past the athletic fields.

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I thank Georgette Camporini for production and mailing assistance, Elaine Sacks for the duty schedule, Jeannie Smith for the database and labels, and Liz Stiel for her meeting notes

--Theo Tanalski, Editor

## Editor's Message

Torrey Pines Docent Society members are fortunate people doing valuable work for society. But we must solve several issues **soon** in order to continue doing our work.

Funding will decrease. We will likely lose our income from Annual Park Passes starting October 1<sup>st</sup>. Park Passes provide the bulk of our funding. Although we have funds in the treasury, we must start planning and implementing ways either to replace these funds or radically decrease our expenditures.

This challenge of finding new money could be a **great opportunity** for the Society. We may have become so dependent on Park Pass income that we do not seek additional sources of money. Money is out there if we ask for it! People **love** this place and want to contribute to it in some tangible way. We just need to make contribution easier and more accessible.

There may be a place to create a new role, such as a contributions/foundations chair. Their task would be to meet the challenge of finding **new** sources of income **rather than focusing energies on austerity budgeting**.

Your ideas, and, particularly, your applicable experience and help, will be vital in meeting this challenge creatively.

At this point, we have nobody running for Executive Board President and Treasurer. Although every office is elected each year at the November General meeting, members have tended to serve for several years, and there has been little competition for board offices. Recently President and Treasurer offices have been filled for shorter times. Yet they are **vital** to our very existence. Without President and Treasurer, we have no organization. Without people having appropriate **skills**, our organization will suffer from inefficiency and bad feelings: that can cause poor decision making (which will affect **every** TPDS member, not to mention our public mission). [To volunteer to run for any office, just speak to a Board member.]

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## September Meeting

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## Editor's Message

[continued from page 1]

[2] [b] From Freeway 15, take Mercy Road turnoff (west), turn right onto Black Mountain Road, and follow the remaining instructions in [a].

[c] If you are bold, daring, and somewhat familiar with the shortcut to SVR (the longer part which is open) you can try this (and see much of the *Canyon Preserve* on your route): CVR to El Camino Real, turn right and follow signs to SVR and turn left. SVR makes a sharp right hand turn at a major stoplight (where the freeway exits), goes up a hill through new housing developments, and changes its name several times until you reach Camino Ruiz, where you turn right. When you reach Mira Mesa, turn right and follow the directions in [a].

You may wish to bring a hat, a bag lunch, water, binoculars, sunscreen, backpack, and notebook. Restrooms and literature are available on site.

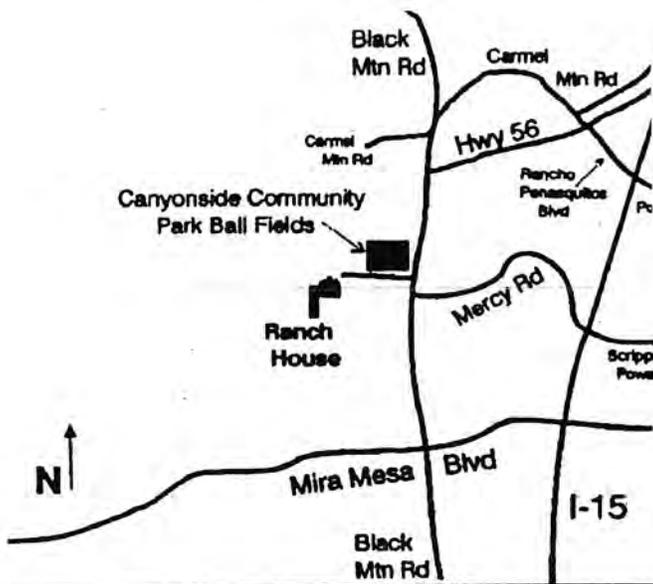
The **President** carries out the business of the organization in accordance with Board established policy. He or she presides at meetings, supervises the society, and submits an annual report. The President must do these things while working with people who are **volunteers**. Ideally the President is someone who is a great **enroller** in the ideals of the Society and who has a **vision** of where the Society is going. He or she is an open **listener** to the group, and an **enlister** of many in the accomplishment of the goals of the Society. This person will be a great **delegator** of tasks because he or she has so engaged the group that others can't keep their hands down or keep sitting in their seats because of the enthusiasm the President has generated for the group. Please consider if you could do this task, for the benefit of all.

Some may think the **Treasurer** just pays out money and keeps the books. Treasurer actually is a very important job. The Treasurer must supervise and implement planning, like the President, only he or she does it with money. It would be helpful if the Treasurer was computer literate. There **must** be somebody in our ranks with appropriate skills who will volunteer to run for this office. Our current Treasurer wishes to train his replacement during October, since he will be out of the country any other time.

This information surfaced in the last Board meeting. I have faith our talented membership contains the solutions for these problems. As Newsletter Editor, *I submit these challenges for your solution*. Our future depends on your efforts.

--Theo Tanalski

Map:



Los Peñasquitos Adobe Ranch House  
12020 Black Mountain Road  
San Diego, CA 92129  
Call 858-538-0935 for info

## Volunteering Opportunities for 150<sup>th</sup> Celebration, October 7, 2000, 10 A.M.—4 P.M.

Two years ago we had a public celebration of the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Lodge completion. The next year we followed up with a well-received 100<sup>th</sup> Celebration of Torrey Pines as a Reserve. For both events, committees were formed, committee heads tirelessly organized and canvassed for volunteers, TPDS funds were spent (with added contributions from Torrey Pines Association (TPA)), and we had two important, exciting, and valuable (to the public) events.

DPR (California Department of Parks and Recreation) has encouraged parks to host a 150<sup>th</sup> celebration in October, with a theme related to statehood. At TPSR, we (intended to) celebrate the **naming of the Torrey Pine *Pinus torreyana*** (by Dr. C.C. Parry, the official botanist of the U.S.—Mexican boundary survey). Some thought our **planned 150<sup>th</sup> celebration** would build upon the 75<sup>th</sup> and 100<sup>th</sup> and be **even more successful**.

*And so it can be.*

Unfortunately, despite repeated notices and requests, nobody from TPDS has stepped up to lead any committee (burnout perhaps?). So there has been no leadership from TPDS, nor has the Board set aside funds for the program (as you are aware, we are facing a radical decrease in our income, and TPA has agreed to contribute some funds to the celebration).

We are members of TPDS, a Cooperating Association that solicits funds to be used to benefit Torrey Pines State Reserve (TPSR) in ways consistent with our mission and Board policy. Our mission has been primarily to provide quality interpretation of TPSR to the public. TPDS trains and certifies us as Docents in order to work at TPSR.

When we work at TPSR, the Rangers provide direction and leadership for our activities here (we work as unpaid volunteers for DPR).

Allyn Kaye is Acting Supervising Ranger of TPSR, and Cooperating Association Liaison (CAL) to TPDS (with the recent assistance of Chief Ranger John Quirk [see **Welcome John Quirk** announcement -Ed]). Despite having to do more with less, in a position very new to her, she has continued to plan and organize toward a successful 150<sup>th</sup> celebration. She has issued a list of **some of the jobs** needed for a successful celebration, **which I repeat in the righthand column**, to solicit your involvement.

As **docents** you have the opportunity to use your volunteer hours and native abilities to **make the 150<sup>th</sup> celebration a rousing success**. You **also** have the opportunity to contact Board members and influence policy *on any issue you feel is important*. The issue of funding for the celebration is one potential issue.

**Time is short.**

**Please contact Allyn to volunteer, have fun, and see you there!**

**--Theo Tanalski**

**These are some of the jobs that are needed for a successful celebration. (If you have some ideas of your own please share them!) Some of these tasks are one person jobs; others call for a committee. Thank you for your interest and participation!**

[1] Media/Press Releases.

[2] Banner for front entrance sign.

[3] Display about the Tree *Pinus torreyana*.

[4] Display on C.C. Parry and Dr. John Torrey.

[5] Living History personas of Parry, Torrey, and any other colorful characters of the day (1850).

[6] Various interpretation "stations" on a variety of natural, cultural, or history topics. Ideas include the Torrey Pine tree, local history, hawk talk, snakes, marine mammals, native peoples, geology, native plants and their uses, plant communities, local animals, etc.

[7] A "Passport" where a participant could attend each interpretive station and receive a stamp or sticker. When the passport is completed, they receive "Pine Cone Club Badge" and/or some other commemorative certificate of the day.

[8] Contact outside groups to access their interest in participating with a table. Ideas might include Project Wildlife, Wildlife Assist, Chula Vista Interpretive Center (bring some of their live critters?), Pat Dahl, REI, A-16, Los Peñasquitos Lagoon Foundation, TPA, State Park Ranger recruitment, etc.

[9] Welcoming briefing to all the folks as they get off the shuttle to inform them of the day's activities and what is so special about this place [this was missing from the 100<sup>th</sup> and would make the experience much more coherent. --Ed.]

[10] Research/coordinate feasibility of sales of tee shirt and/or poster of the tree.

[11] Commemorative postmark: a statewide sesquicentennial postmark exists. We just need to invite the Postmaster to attend.

[12] Invite Old Town musical docents to play 1850's era tunes, or be living history.

[13] Prepare and place directional signage for day of event.

**--Allyn Kaye, Acting Supervising Ranger**

## Announcements

### Welcome John Quirk.

Chief Ranger John Quirk attended our August Board meeting. He and Ed Navarro, District Superintendent, will be focusing on TPSR. They wish to promote natural resources, and to stress leadership and strategic planning for TPSR. John wishes to provoke us to do even more with education. Docents and state park employees need to continue to work together to make Torrey Pines relevant to people as a place where they can be in touch with nature. He thanked TPDS for all its hard work.

John will be interviewing for the Supervising Ranger position presently held by Acting Supervising Ranger Allyn Kaye, now that Bob Wohl has been appointed Superintendent of Old Town. John will work closely with the new Supervising Ranger during his or her first year on the job (since one cannot replace decades of experience [Bob Wohl] in a few weeks or months).

John was asked if we would get back any revenue from the new park pass sales [to start in October]. He said he would revisit this issue and get back to us.

**Welcome New Docents.** Congratulations to the 15 trainees from the Class of 2000 who have become Docents: **Jim Bedinger, Laura Blue, Tina Cheng, Mike Cornforth, Janie Killermann, Janet Lazik, Anita Musser, Joseph Musser, Connie Nowlan, Don Orahood, William Rego, Renate Smith, Denise Sunseri, Joan Winchell, and Ann Winters.**

**Wanted Web Workers.** Jeannie Smith, our current Internet Webmistress, wants to create a team to produce, maintain, and improve our Web site. People who know how to do this work are urged to contact her and volunteer. [If we are to become more "relevant" to the public, as John Quirk [and we] desire, an ever better Web site is a must!]

**Children's Program News.** All of the September, and most of October walks are filled. Margaret Fillius asks docents to please sign up for the walks on Wednesday and Friday mornings, and emphasized that all docents are welcome even if specific walks are already filled. On September 13 at 9:00 a.m., there will be a walk preparation session: the topic is Native Americans. Anyone is welcome to attend this training, even if you do not intend to work with the Children's Program.

### Tee shirts, etc.

[1] Trainee Laura Bedinger has volunteered to

take over the tee shirt project from Barbara Wallach [who needs to focus on the Children's Program]. Thank you very much, Laura! Contact her to help, or with suggestions.

[2] Polo shirts are available, woman's/men's sizes S, M, L, XL, short sleeve \$20, long sleeve \$25. They are white pique (mesh) knit with collar, buttons, banded sleeves, and a green embroidered pinecone logo on the chest.

[3] You can purchase a detailed transfer sheet of local native flowers for \$5, which you can apply to clothing of your choosing. The sign up sheet is in our Library. Attractive, and easily individualized.

**Trail Patrol always needed.** The Lagoon and Reserve Extension are among the places where additional Trail Patrol would be welcome. You get hours, great (interpretive) public contact, and you help act as eyes and ears for Staff. You need to have attended Trail Patrol Training. You should phone the Staff to let them know where and when you will work. We recommend carrying a cellular phone (available from Staff if you do not have one). If you wish training at a particular time (for example, on weekends) please contact Allyn Kaye with your request.

**Proposed change to A.M. public walks.** Don Grine has contacted the Staff and our Board with the suggestion that the morning walk be changed from 11:30 to 9:30 or 10:00 A.M. Staff must approve any change. Your input should be given to Allyn Kaye as well as any Board member. Any decision should reflect what is good for the members at large.

**Snack food request.** We all enjoy the snacks served between the lecture and Business meeting. With the impending funding shortage, there will no longer be food purchased with docent funds. The **original** intent of the snack period was as a potluck wherein we *share food we bring*. Food that people **choose to bring or make themselves** is so much better than generic supermarket cookies! It expresses the intense community we are a part of. So **please** bring food for October and other meetings, whether you have signed up or not.

**Bylaws by e-mail.** Anyone wishing an electronic version of our current bylaws may contact Theo Tanalski with that request. They are available as plain text, or as a Word 6 for Windows file attachment.

**Correction.** (In last month's *Torrey Lite*) Todd Nordress was not mentioned in the staff list, although he should have been. Both he and Wendy Storms are Senior Park Aids.

Photo Courtesy Diana Gordon

