

TORREY LITE

Torrey Pines Docent Society Announcements
October 2000

Meetings, October 21st

Board Meeting: begins at 7:45 A.M. Space available, the public is welcome to attend.

General Meeting: begins at 9:00 A.M., starting with the speaker. After refreshments, the business meeting will begin.

October's speaker is docent **Wes Farmer** on *Eocene Flora, Fauna, and Crystals of Torrey Pines State Beach*, a 35 mm slide presentation. Puzzle piece by puzzle piece, the 45 to 53 million year history of this national treasure called TPSR sharpens our view of that ancient time. See petrified plants as photomicrographs, the stomach content of a Tapir (most likely) with petrified pieces of plant in the mineralized stomach acid, and other wonders.

Wes has collected, photographed, organized, and published for several years. Visit his Web site <http://www.angelfire.com/ca2/seashorediscoveries/index.html> for further images of petrified plants of Torrey Pines State Beach.

Remember the parking rules, please:

- **Park** in the lower lot, or south of the top parking lot off the right hand side of the road, facing south. [thank you for complying!]

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We Can Do It

Never underestimate the power of volunteers.

Three weeks ago, we had nobody running for Board President, Treasurer, and Training Officer. With the help of Joan Nimick, we have found excellent candidates (This is not to discourage anybody else from running: people may decide to run at any time before the November General Meeting elections.). Thank you all for volunteering to serve!

Over the last three years, the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) has promoted programs at state parks highlighting California history and heritage, culminating with an October 2000 celebration of statehood.

We have tied into DPR's program with our 75th Anniversary of the Lodge, and the 100th Anniversary of the Reserve. With the assistance of the Board (funding, encouragement, and organization), we found coordinators, planned these events for over six months, and they were fun, successful, and a learning experience.

With no Board support for the 150th Celebration, things seemed bleak, although we are a dedicated and talented bunch of volunteers.

Nonetheless, with two weeks remaining, Acting Supervising Ranger Allyn Kaye called an organizing meeting, and almost 20 docents came and volunteered. We will have a range of activities, from tours to children's programs, to geology, to hawk and quail talks, to living history (with live music!).

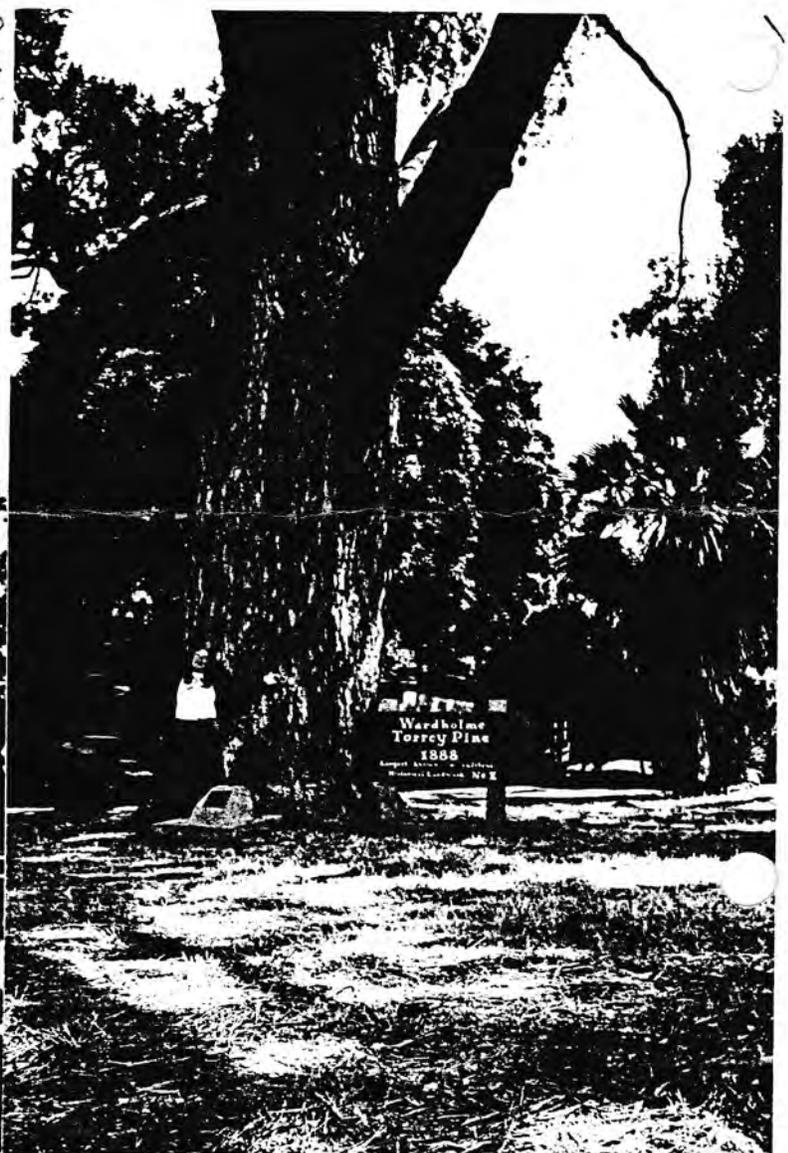
A call to action went out by e-mail, for docents, trainees, and friends to do walks, Lodge duty, loan items, distribute flyers, come, and enjoy.

This call to action is repeated here. Please distribute the enclosed green flyer at your workplace, shopping center, etc. Please sign up for the listed jobs (or help with the other tasks). Please come and help us celebrate our "**Birth Day Tree,**" *Pinus torreyana*, and California Statehood. We could have over 40 docents and trainees working on October 7 to make our event a rousing success.

We thank Allyn Kaye for her persistence and organizational skills. We thank DPR for funding this event: profits will go to TPDS. Most of all, we must thank **our outstanding docents, trainees, and friends** for proving *We Can Do It!* --Editor

I thank Georgette Camporini for production and mailing assistance, Jeannie Smith for the database and labels, and Ann Campbell for the duty schedule.

--Theo Tanalski, Editor



How I Spent My Summer Vacation By Judy Schulman

What is 110 feet high, 6.6 feet in diameter, and has a 120-foot crown? No it's not a member of royalty with a growth hormone problem. It's the Wardholme Torrey Pine tree in Carpinteria (Santa Barbara County), California. It is believed to be the largest Torrey Pine in existence. Prompted by a photograph the rangers have of Guy Fleming standing in front of this tree in 1936, I decided I wanted to see this tree for myself. The tree is absolutely magnificent. To take it all in I literally had to walk about half a block away to get it all in one photo. In fact they're probably still talking about the crazy lady standing in the middle of the intersection trying to get the best photo view of the tree.

It was collected as a seedling from Santa Rosa Island by Judge Thomas Ward in 1888, and planted in front of his home the same year. No documentation exists as to why or how the tree was brought over. David Griggs, curator of the Carpinteria Valley History Museum proposed the following. Most of the people who moved to Carpinteria in the late 1800's were interested in horticulture. There was a polite competition among residents as to who could have the most interesting plants. Ward was a well read man who had probably read about T.S. Brandagee's discovery of the tree on the island that same year which probably prompted his interest. It would have been easy to get to any of the Channel Islands as there were a number of commercial enterprises on those islands (fishing, wineries, oil, abalone) that required boats to go back and forth to the mainland.

The tree had always been meticulously cared for by Judge Ward and his family. When Florence Ward Wood inherited the property she carried on that tradition and saw to it that the tree received professional maintenance. It is she who proposed that official landmark status be granted to protect the tree. As a result, in 1968 the tree became the city's first official landmark.

In 1988, there was a special celebration to honor the tree's 100 year anniversary. Special displays were designed for the Carpinteria museum. It was of great interest to find that some of the information that was used was from the writings of former Torrey Pines naturalist Hank Nichol.

Below is a table showing the growth patterns of the tree.

year	crown (feet)	diameter (at 4 feet)	height (feet)
1934	106	not available	93
1940	114	55.5 inches	96
1947	122	60.5 inches	101
1973	120	70.7 inches	106
1988	121	75.6 inches	128

Why it grew so well is probably a result of the rich fertile soil, high water table, and good climate. The combination of these conditions has made the Carpinteria area a prime agricultural area. Carpinteria is also the home to a number of other larger-than-usual plants.

The photo was made even more pleasant by meeting up with former docent John Carson. He took the photograph of me in the same pose as Guy Fleming. Ignoring the stares of bemused passers-by, he used a tape measure and a ball of string to measure the circumference of the tree. It had a circumference of 19 feet at the five foot level. No, neither of us felt like climbing the tree to measure its height!



Thank you for doing such a terrific job with my class. I really appreciate your outstanding teaching. Enclosed are some letters from several students who "chose" to write you on their computer time.

Sincerely,

Sharon Thereseau
Hickman - Gr. 5

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Call To Action for 150th Celebration, October 7, 2000, 10 A.M.—4 P.M.

What We'll Have

Here are some of the things planned for the 150th Celebration—Statehood and the “Birthday Tree:”

- Visitors greeted on the shuttle and when they arrive at the upper lot. Two buses run 9:30—4:30.
- Interpretive stations including children’s activities (Native Americans, Geology, Insects, Torrey Pine Tree), basketry demonstration, hawk and quail talk, Torrey Pine Tree, Fossils and microphotographs, etc.
- Spotting Scope.
- Lodge tours.
- Guided walks at 11:30 and 1:30.
- Living History (including music from Old Town State Historic Park, period costumes, historic figures).
- Art show.
- Tee shirts for sale.
- Lemonade and Celebratory Cake pieces for sale.
- Gift shop sales, including Torrey Pines Association representative.
- Gourds and Flutes hand decorated by Jim Cassell, docent artist.
- Nonprofit organizations invited to host booths.
- Passport: visit all interpretive stations, get your passport stamped, and receive a free Torrey Pine button. Button is also for sale. 150th stamps and special cancellations from the local Postmaster.

How You Can Help

- Loan shade canopies, large coolers to store ice, or plastic water jugs to store water (contact Allyn @ 755-2063)
- Distribute flyers to stores, laundromat, workplaces, libraries, etc. in your community. Please get them from TPDS lodge. Friends of TPDS are welcome to help!
- Lead 11:30AM and 1:30PM public walks. Trainees may work under the direction of a Docent. We will need several people for each shift. Please call 755-2063 and sign up with the docent on lodge duty.
- Help with Lodge duty between 10AM and 4PM. Trainees may work under the direction of a Docent. We will need a handful of workers to welcome the guests and field the questions we will get during this celebration. Please call 755-2063 and sign up with the Docent on Lodge duty.
- Be a greeter for our visitors, either riding in the Shuttle buses or stationed near the Lodge where the bus unloads. You will be given a suggested script to use, improvise from, or you may make your own greeting. Contact Jim Bedinger to volunteer for the bus, or Georgette Camporini to volunteer at the unloading point. Scripts may be obtained from Theo Tanalski by email (theppcat@juno.com), while Jim Bedinger will have print copies available.
- Help Clean Up after the event. This means staying after 4PM and assisting Staff to clean up and put away. (Believe me, this is as important as any other task.) Trainees and Friends of TPDS are welcome: please contact Allyn at 755-2063 to volunteer.
- Get Double Credit for Hours Worked. This is what you get as a volunteer on October 7, according to Allyn!
- Parking available in far lot or on road for volunteers! Everyone else must park below and take the shuttle bus. It is suggested you drive up early, say between 8AM and 9:15, but this is not a must.
- Coffee and Lemonade will be supplied to volunteers.

There may or may not be shade where you work, so consider that in your preparations (Georgette is coming in 1850’s attire and she will pack a parasol!).

See You There!

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Announcements

Class of 2000, 20 Docents

Congratulations are in order for the twenty trainees who have become docents:

Jim Bedinger, Laura Blue, Bill Carpenter, Margaret Carpenter, Tina Cheng, Mike Cornforth, Carol Haworth, Gabrielle Ivany, Janie Killermann, Janet Lazik, Anita Musser, Joseph Musser, Connie Nowlan, Don Orahood, William Rego, Renate Smith, Denise Sunseri, Joan Winchell, Ann Winters, and Nancy Woodworth.

Polo Shirts

White Polo Shirts with the docent pinecone logo, but with "Torrey Pines State Reserve" under the pinecone, will be ready by the end of September. To cover the cost of the embroidery and taxes, a charge of \$2.40 for a short sleeve polo shirt and \$2.80 for a long sleeve polo shirt must be added (I apologize for the oversight). So, the shirts cost \$22.40 each for a short sleeve shirt and \$27.80 each for a long sleeve shirt. Only docents who have already signed up for the shirts may purchase them at this time.

—Laura Bedinger

OCTOBER DUTY CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 L GRAIN W BEDINGER L PARNELL W STIEGLER	2 L R MILLER L CAMPBELL	3 L MARGULIES L DIXON	4 L D TUBMAN L FREDERICKS	5 L IVANY L FREDERICKS	6 L BEYER L HANSEN	7 L PARNELL W D E MILLER L PARNELL W
8 L JEANNIE SNITH W CASSELL L WINTERS W ROBERTS	9 L PARNELL L PARNELL	10 L TALBERTS L CAMPBELL	11 L RANDOLPH L WINTER	12 L HANSEN L HAUER	13 L L STIELS	14 L IVANY W WINTERS L W STIEGLER
15 L GRAIN W FERGUSON L PARNELL W KAMEN	16 L R MILLER L	17 L MARGULIES L AMANN	18 L HANSEN L D TUBMAN	19 L KATZ L TEETZEL OVERGARD	20 L BEYER L DIXON	21 MEETING L GRAIN W CORNFORTH L M TUBMAN W ROBERTS
22 L JEANNIE SNITH W CASSELL L ANASIS W MARLEY	23 L R MILLER L HANSEN	24 L TALBERTS L TEETZEL OVERGARD	25 L RANDOLPH L COOPER	26 L GRANTHAM L HAUER	27 L KILLERMANN L STIELS	28 L PARNELL W D E MILLER L PARNELL W KILLERMANN
29 L SCHULMAN W FERGUSON L SCHULMAN W KAMEN	30 L L MILLER L M TUBMAN	31 L IVANY L	Duty Coordinator: Ann Campbell (858) 755-1934 Hours: Lodge Daily 10 - 1, 1 - 4 Walks Sat/Sun/Holidays 11 and 1 If you cannot do your duty, please arrange your own substitute.			