



TORREYANA

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SR Jody Kummer: behind the badge *text and photo by Linda Martin*

By the time Supervising Ranger Jody Kummer arrives at work at the Torrey Pines State Reserve, she has already fed and organized a family of five - including two teenagers, an elderly father-in-law, and a ranger husband who has just arrived home from the night shift - **and** driven 50 miles on Interstate 5, in rush-hour traffic. But you'd never know it. As the Reserve's early morning visitors arrive, Jody welcomes them sporting a crisp khaki uniform and 30 pounds of POPE gear (Police Officer's Pro-

tection Equipment), including service revolver and bulletproof vest, a neat ponytail and a cheerful grin. The amazing thing is...Jody sees herself as an ordinary gal, just doing her job.

Jody Kummer (nee Borchardt) grew up in Sacramento, an area of California that is akin to the Midwest in terms of traditional family values and social attitudes. Hers was an active, outdoorsy kind of family that escaped to the mountains during the area's scorching summer temperatures. It was there, sitting around the campfire in the High Sierras, that Jody learned to love the natural environment and to admire the park rangers who interpreted that world for her and other young visitors.

It's not likely that any of the field rangers Jody met at this impressionable age were female. Although women played a significant role in developing the National Parks, and several women rose to the level of "field ranger" while most men were off fighting in the First World War, the National Park Service (NPS) in essence banned women from serving in the field from the 1930s until about 1965. Nonetheless, Jody decided to devote her future toward protecting the source of such fond memories. At Cal Poly's San Luis Obispo campus, she majored in Natural Resource Management (NRM) and worked as a Park Aide at Morro Bay State Park, one of nearly 300 units managed by California's Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR).

After graduating, Jody would have gone directly into ranger training, but the department had a hiring freeze in place. She stayed involved by working as a dispatcher at Morro Bay.

When the freeze lifted, Jody was hired at Pismo Dunes (now known as Oceano Dunes State Vehicular Recreation Area, and the only California State Park where vehicles may be driven on the beach). Thanks to her dispatching experience, she was familiar with the routine. Still, while chasing an offender on her very first night, she was embarrassed to find her Jeep Cherokee teetering precariously on a log that had suddenly surfaced from beneath the beach sand. Before the rookie ranger could call for

(Continued on page 3)



Supervising Ranger Jody Kummer shares her vision for the Torrey Pines with Docents Rick Vogel and Karen Woods.

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President's message...

This month's big news is our '05 Docent Class bringing us their new interests, skills and enthusiasm. Special thanks to Janie Killermann and Mike Cornforth for a great training program this year--also to Barbara Wallach for the Training Manual (you can still get one!) Finally, thanks to our many dedicated docents for training sessions, walks, mentoring, Lodge training, etc. What a great payoff for all this investment!

And now a note about the condition of the Reserve: The TPDS Board, reflecting individual docent impressions, has long been concerned about the condition of the Reserve's trails, degraded considerably from this winter's extraordinary rains. For many years, we have asked reserve and district staff for trail rehabilitation plans and timetable. In spite of excellent daily communication with our Rangers, and with the District via quarterly steering committee meetings, we were only reassured that maintenance was slowly making its way through the bureaucratic process. As summer approached and docents expressed their own and the public's frustration with the closed trails, we asked if we could help to address limitations in personnel and funding. Docents have routinely volunteered for training in trail work and other maintenance: the Board asked the District for proposals to accomplish this objective.

Meanwhile, District staff has requested Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) grants for storm damage repair. Per FEMA, any work on those trails could negate the "emergency" designation and cause the loss of the grants. Thus the District has delayed work in those areas until the FEMA funding is decided. However, other trails have been designated as needing repair or restoration, and there is neither budget nor personnel to address these concerns. Brian Gaudet, maintenance supervisor, proposed that California Conservation Corps (CCC) crews could readily complete these projects, dramatically improving the appearance and function of the Reserve. He requested funds to pay them. This resulted in a \$10,000 grant recommendation from the Board, approved at the June general meeting. (The Torrey Pines Association has just approved a similar, "matching" allocation.)

Regarding the need for trained volunteers, some docents are being trained by maintenance personnel, but there is no one to supervise their work. To address this, the Board has recommended (and the membership approved at the June meeting) an additional \$5000 to pay a seasonal park aide assigned specifically to supervise trail maintenance volunteers.

The Board's decisions considered visitor and interpretation impact, Brian's experience with the CCC, seasonal urgency, as well as availability of a limited amount of our assets for "protection and interpretation." We have asked that TPDS be updated on the expenditure of these grants. We have communicated our concern to the District and the DPR that this is a one-time fix of an ongoing need. Furthermore, it is our opinion that this special natural resource is perpetually overlooked and under-funded, considering its uniqueness, heavy visitor use and educational and interpretive potential.

We all need to advocate for our chronically neglected parkland resources (estimated by DPR to be 60% under-funded) with our personal and professional acquaintances, our park visitors and our public officials.

Walter Desmond, President
Torrey Pines Docent Society

This issue was brought to you by Team *Torreyana*. Many thanks to Karen Woods for her competent editing; to Roger Isaacson, on-call 24/7 to assist with technical glitches and for formatting many of our graphic features; to Judy Schulman, whose proofreading prevents us from looking foolish; and to Vernie McGowan who coordinates the distribution to docents.

Space limitations prevented us from using many of the excellent photos and articles you submitted. We may expand to 12-pages next issue in order to incorporate more of your wonderful contributions. Also, watch for changes on our website at www.torreypine.org.

Linda Martin, Editor

Behind the badge (cont. from page 1)

back up, a group of “burly beach dudes” (eager volunteers) lifted her jeep off the log, and she was back on patrol. Within hours, Oceano locals were identifying her as the lady ranger who had to be rescued on her first solo patrol. With self-deprecating humor, she explains, “I survived that, so I figured nothing I can do in my career can cause me any more embarrassment. So, I kind of gave myself permission to take risks.”

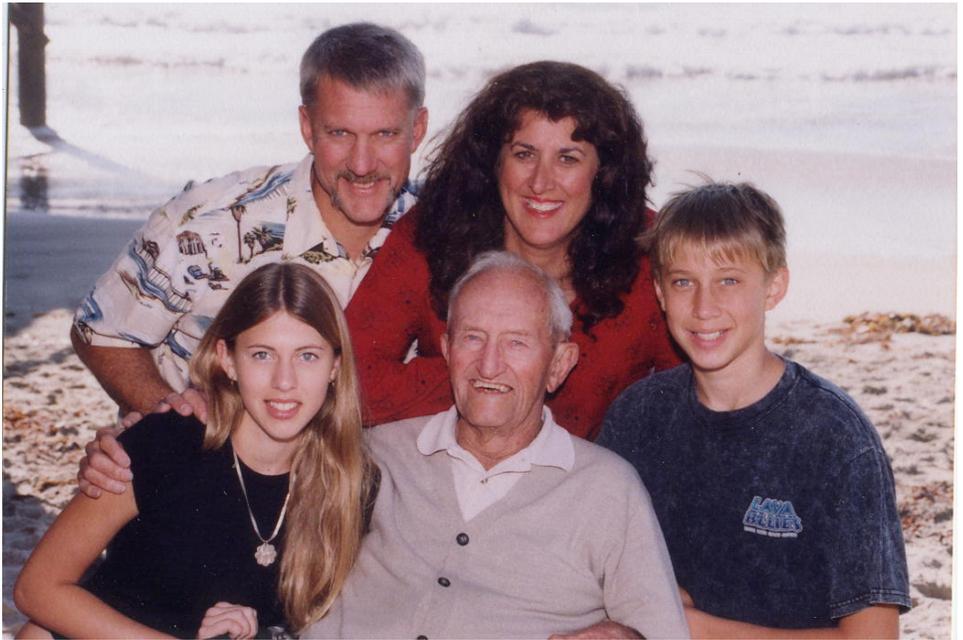
Unlike National Park Service Ranger Anna Pigeon, the fictional creation of popular mystery writer (and former ranger) Nevada Barr, Jody rarely confronts serial killers or other park visitors with homicide on their minds. That’s not to say she hasn’t experienced some hostile situations. Like the time she had to quiet a group of drunk, knife-wielding campers. “They’re free to move around,” she said, spreading her arms in a broad circle, and looking over her shoulder, “so the ranger doesn’t have control of the environment.” Then there are danger-prone holidays, such as the Fourth of July, when drunken revelers frequently aim their rockets at the rangers’ patrol vehicles. “That’s pretty wild,” Jody says, “but not exactly life-threatening.”

What does Jody like most about her ranger role? “Unlike cops, rangers work independently,” she says. “As a supervising ranger, I love that I can empower other rangers, encourage them to figure things out for themselves, to think on their feet.” TPSR is her second stint as a supervising ranger. Her first was at Old Town San Diego State Historic Park, where she worked with Superintendent Bob Wohl. (Wohl was the supervising ranger at TPSR for more than 20 years.) How does supervision differ from field rangers? “It’s like being squeezed in the middle of a sandwich cookie,” she says with a wry smile, “there’s management pushing from above and the rank and file from below.” Still, her expression says it all: she enjoys the challenge.

Being a ranger is something that she shares with her husband, Brian, who is now stationed at Doheny State Beach. Jody and Brian met while she was a ranger at San Onofre State Beach and he was a San Clemente police officer raising two small children. (Brian now works nights so there will always be someone at home for the children and Brian’s father, Oscar.)

Jody and the youngsters took to each other immediately. “It helped,” she says matter-of-factly, “that the children loved my dog.” Jody has been helping to raise them since they were two and four years old, a responsibility she takes seriously. An active athlete, Jody switched from her first love, outrigger canoe racing, to son Colton’s water polo! “I just decided that, if I was going to support him in this endeavor, I needed to know how to play.” Just as remarkably, Jody recently chaperoned her daughter Michelle’s all-night prom dance at San Clemente High School, then came to work at Torrey Pines the next day.

Of working at Torrey Pines, she says with enthusiasm, “It’s a privilege to be here.” Jody is especially impressed with our 200 plus-member Torrey Pines Docent Society. She has worked to organize volunteer groups in other parks and understands the challenges involved. She’s extremely appreciative that volunteers



Jody lives and plays in San Clemente with her husband, Ranger Brian Kummer, Brian’s dad, Oscar, and teen-agers Michelle and Colton.

are stepping up to offer additional help during these times of budget cuts and dangerously eroded trails. Regarding trail closures, she says, “Be patient – the state moves slowly. Consider,” she says, “the DPR is the largest state employer with a volunteer force. The closing of the beach trail is a huge source of frustration for me now. If opening the trail means carving further into the bluff,” Jody says, “how is that preserving the resource?”

Some of these controversial issues will be decided by a district-wide committee composed of the ranger staff, resource management, maintenance personnel, and representatives of the Docent Society Board. Concerning improvements other than the ongoing trails restoration and maintenance issues, Jody says, “The sky’s the limit -- research your idea and bring it to me. We can always talk.”

Where will Jody go after Torrey Pines? [Perish the thought! LM] “DPR hasn’t come up with a position that would make me wanna leave here,” she says. “I’m not interested in a promotion that leads to a desk job. I love people. I love meeting the public on the trails, in the Lodge, on the Beach. That’s the only way to stay connected and better understand the park’s needs.”

Docent Society President Walt Desmond says, “Jody Kummer is a breath of fresh air for Torrey Pines. She’s always looking for ways to help us accomplish our mission, removing bureaucratic obstacles wherever she can.” Jody makes it a point to be available for the Society’s Board meetings, even when they fall on her scheduled day off.

Rick Halsey, chaparral ecologist and author of “Fire, Chaparral, and Survival in Southern California,” addressed the Docent Society membership recently. He suggested that human beings are “hard-wired” to be connected to nature. Torrey Pines is fortunate to have a supervising ranger who is “hard-wired” to her job. Moreover, SR Jody Kummer serves as a role model for everyone she encounters -- a source of inspiration for protecting our natural resources and for living one’s life to the fullest. ♦

Docent Chronicles—July 2005

The General meeting July 16 will be a festive event, beginning at 9:00 AM at the Lodge. The business meeting will be followed by presentations on beach geology. Docents may choose from a walk on the beach or a presentation at the Lodge. A picnic will then be held on the beach. TPSR staff will provide hot dogs, buns and condiments for everyone - Docents are to bring the rest. We look forward to a truly special gathering in July.



Ranger Gary Olson again requested a volunteer to act as Trail Patrol Coordinator. This person would be responsible for monitoring the Trail Patrol log, maintaining the equipment, and working with the TPSR staff to insure the smooth operation of this important program. Anyone interested should contact Rangers Gary Olson or Kyle Knox.

The Docents were reminded that the Cleveland Sage and the Scarlet Larkspur are in all their glory on the Extension trails. This is an excellent opportunity to view these magnificent blossoms. In order to learn more about the ongoing red tide bloom, our marine expert Brett Lear offered to host an informal beach walk; which was then planned for the next day.

Walt reminded everyone that the main sources of funds for the Society are proceeds from the bookstore and revenue from the Private Walks coordinated by Don Grine. It was suggested that the Society consider sponsoring a fund raising event to enhance our ability to assist the Reserve. Anyone with ideas should contact Walt or Rick Vogel.

Highlights from the June 18, 2005 General Meeting (From Secretary Steve Usher's Minutes)

After a warm introduction by Janie Killermann, 38 members of the Class of 2005 were inducted into the Torrey Pines Docent Society. The 2005 Class was the largest in docent history. Words of welcome were provided by Ranger Gary Olson, Walt Desmond and Linda Martin. We look forward to an infusion of energy, creativity and dedication from the new class. Congratulations and Welcome to the Graduates - and our thanks to all involved with the training!

Steve and Sharon Rose are Docents of the Month for their outstanding work with the Library, as well as their commitment to lodge duty. With their numerous contributions to the Reserve, many were surprised to learn that they had not previously received the honor. Congratulations Steve and Sharon! For the first time in three months the DoM was absent from the meeting, a regression to trend.

Rick Halsey's presentation on Fire and the Chaparral was exceptionally entertaining and informative. This was in spite of numerous glitches with the Reserve's AV equipment. To prevent future AV problems, Walt asks that anyone able to volunteer special skills in that area contact Gary. In addition, if anyone has ideas for future programs, they should contact Walt or Margaret Fillius.

Barbara Wallach reminded everyone that the Children's Program is in constant need of volunteers. Over 3,000 children participate in the program each year. With more Docent volunteers we could reach even more schools and students. Children's Program walks are generally held every Thursday and Friday morning during the academic year. Two training sessions for the program will be held this summer: July 26 and August 23. Both will begin at 9:00 AM at the Lodge. A meeting to prepare materials for next year's program will be held on August 2, also from 9:00 AM at the Lodge. Everyone is welcome at all the sessions.

Walt introduced two Board recommendations: 1) to provide \$10,000 to fund a request to supplement underfunded maintenance projects at the Reserve; 2) to provide \$5,000 to fund a Seasonal Park Aide who would be dedicated to supervising volunteers in trail repair projects. Members in attendance approved motions on both recommendations.

Ranger Olson announced that we will begin offering TPSR lapel pins in exchange for donations of \$10 or greater. The special pin bearing an impression of an Egret was prepared by the Society for the Preservation of the Los Peñasquitos Estuary. All proceeds will go toward the eradication of invasive plant species in the estuary, to be coordinated by our Resource Ecologist, Darren Smith. There are 1,200 pins available and if this edition proves successful, a second edition may follow.

A May Morning on Carmel Mountain by Maryruth Cox

A darting fear:
SNAKE!
sharpens our eyes
as we walk through the golden fields of tarweed,
fringed with fuchsia canchagua
The running pools of March are gone,
now dry, cracked hollows press on the land,
like giant thumbprints
At the far cusp of red rock
the creamy star-flowers of *Dudleya brevifolia*
cluster,
mute testimony to the abundant winter rains.

From all of us to all of you...

From all of us Trainees to all of you Docent Trainers and Mentors, we would like to extend a warm and heart-felt "Thank you!"

You've answered countless questions, presented fascinating lectures, trod numerous steps along the trails, and exhibited great patience in the name of tutoring new Docents.

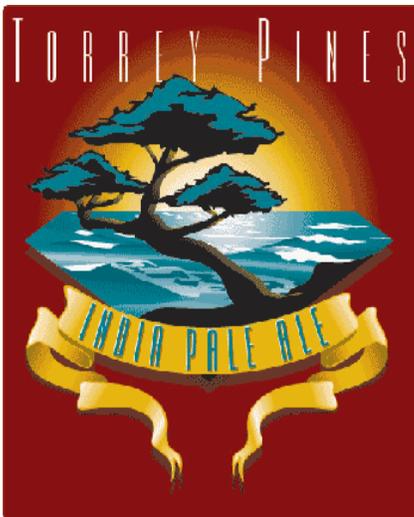
Special thanks and a great fanfare to Überdocent, Janie Killermann-Mother Goose and Florence Nightingale pale in comparison to you. And to Mike Cornforth, who straightened us up and went through countless quizzes with great pizzazz and a generous sense of humor. We would also like to mention the great tutoring skills and inspiration provided by Barbara Wallach, Margaret Fillius, Judy Schulman, Jeannie Smith, Brett Lear, Jim Cassell, Walt Desmond, Eva Armi and... oh so many more, the list too long for inclusion in this issue.



Steve Usher mentioned that the class of 2004 already boasts an astounding number of 'Docent of the Month' awardees. Say no more -- the race is on.

The Class of 2005 considers it an honor to be trusted with the job of interpreting this unique and beautiful gem of a habitat -- the Torrey Pines State Reserve.

Christina Bjenning
Class of 2005



Intoxicating Torrey Pines by Judy Schulman

We all know Torrey Pines is an intoxicating place. The sights, the smells, the sounds. They all excite our senses. That goes for Torrey Pines' native species, as well. I remember reading somewhere that birds can get drunk from pecking at the base of the Mojave yucca stem. Apparently, in extremely hot weather, the stem liquid ferments.

Well now that we are on the subject, I want to assure you that the connection between Torrey Pines and alcohol really does exist.

How many of you have ever heard of Torrey Pines Wine? No, this doesn't have anything to do with what the Lodge served in the 1920s. San Pasqual Winery of Escondido put out a white table wine with that name in 1993. The label had a beautiful drawing of a Torrey pine by an artist named Aviva Rahmani. I vaguely remember some type of controversy over the winery's use of our tree for commercial purposes. The wine cost \$2.99 a bottle. By the way, I still have four bottles left!

Oggi's Pizza & Brewing Co. (formerly known as Stuff Pizza Restaurant) has a beer called Torrey Pines India Pale Ale. It won the Silver Medal at the 2001 Great American Beer Festival. They even have a t-shirt advertising the beer. I bought mine on eBay, but if you go to the Oggi's website, you can buy one too!

Our Torrey pine and alcohol connection extends all the way to Las Vegas. An establishment is named the Torrey Pines Pub because it is located at the intersection of West Lake Mead Boulevard and Torrey Pines Drive. The pub has a t-shirt and a coin. But disappointingly, neither features the Torrey pine.

Cheers!



After a long and wonderful relationship with the Torrey Pines Docent Society, we will no longer be sending the *Torreyana* to our members. TPA contributions to *Torreyana* began in the mid '80s, and have included some terrific writings from special people: Thomas Whitaker, who was so important in the creation of the TPSR Extension; Freda Reid, editor of the "Green Book;" Courtney Coyle, noted environmental lawyer; "the Diana's -- Gordon and Bergen -- who were so important in the Sorrento Valley Road issue; and many others. Their writings helped us celebrate important benchmarks in TPA history.

The TPA thanks the Torrey Pines Docent Society for their kindness in sharing their newsletter space and allowing us to present our viewpoint to our readers and theirs. In particular, I want to thank Linda Martin, the hard-working and talented editor of *Torreyana*. Here is a person that I respect greatly and who has been exceptionally gracious to us at the TPA.

I also want to thank the Docent Society President, our great friend Walter Desmond. Walter has been very helpful in this transition, and I thank him for that, but I also want to thank him as the representative of all past presidents of the Docent Society who have graciously hosted our message. This is a wonderful group, and if you are not a Docent, perhaps you should join me in aspiring to be one!

We will be sending *TPA Journal* to all of our members, almost 700 now. Those of you who receive *Torreyana* but are not TPA members will be able to see it on our website at www.torreypines.org. Or maybe you will join us in our mission to protect the grand Torrey pine. You can get that info on our website, too.

Thank you, Docents; you've been great to us. We'll see you on the trails!

Tidings from TPA

by Doug Lappi, President

Torrey Pines Association will initiate its new publication, *TPA Journal*, in August of this year. This is an exciting time for TPA, a venerable institution begun by Guy Fleming and several other noted lovers of the Torrey pine more than 50 years ago.

We have a proud history as an organization, but until now, no newsletter! The *Journal* will help us communicate with our members and keep them informed of current issues and TPA Board of Counselors' actions. It also gives our members a way to reflect and report on the park's past, its human and natural history and the beauty that is the Torrey Pines State Reserve (TPSR).

The Birds of Torrey Pines State Reserve — June 2005

Mallard 12	Anna's Hummingbird 7	Western Meadowlark 1
California Quail 8	Rufous/Allen's Hummingbird 1	Brewer's Blackbird 9
Pied-billed Grebe 2	Nuttall's Woodpecker 1	Hooded Oriole 1
Sooty Shearwater 900+	Black Phoebe 5	House Finch 83
Brown Booby 14	Say's Phoebe 1	Lesser Goldfinch 3
Double-crested Cormorant 7	Cassin's Kingbird 4	House Sparrow 1
Great Blue Heron 5	Western Scrub-Jay 7	Ruddy Shelduck 3
Great Egret 10	American Crow 3	
Snowy Egret 10	Common Raven 27	
Black-crowned Night-Heron 1	Tree Swallow 1	
White-tailed Kite 1	Northern Rough-winged Swallow 70	
Red-tailed Hawk 2	Cliff Swallow 33	<i>Weather:</i> cool and foggy.
American Kestrel 4	Bushtit 33	<i>Lagoon mouth:</i> open.
American Coot (2 juveniles)	House Wren 4	<i>Observers:</i>
Semipalmated Plover 15	California Gnatcatcher 2	Hank Baele
Killdeer 3	Wrentit 15	David Blue
Long-billed Curlew 1	Northern Mockingbird 1	Kathy Estey
California Gull 3	European Starling 20	Blair Francis
Western Gull 45	Common Yellowthroat 5	and Don Grine
Royal Tern 2	Spotted Towhee 5	
Forster's Tern 4	California Towhee 16	
Black Skimmer 1	Savannah Sparrow 13	
Rock Pigeon 1	Song Sparrow 13	
Mourning Dove 12	Black-headed Grosbeak 3	
Great Horned Owl (1 juvenile?)	Red-winged Blackbird 32	
White-throated Swift 17		

Total of 58 species, unusual species shown in **bold**.



Great Blue Heron

Photo by Don Grine

From the archives:

Community activism saves the Reserve

by Maryruth Cox

Ten feet ahead, a beautiful brown and gold-speckled rattler slithered slowly across the dirt. Stunned, I waited. But since there was no easy way around, I walked briskly on, sending up a small prayer to whoever looks after these matters.

I had been walking on the dirt trail from the North Beach Parking Lot entrance toward the railway bridge. This path crosses a “warped triangle” of state park land that is sandwiched between Carmel Valley Road, the tracks, and McGonigle Road. This wedge of land has had a curious history. Before the railway embankment was built in the early 1900s, the triangle was open to the lagoon and emptied into the sea at the point where the bridge arches over the tracks today.

For most of the twentieth century, progenitors of today’s snake had the land to themselves. Only one house stood under cypress trees (still standing) in the center of the property. San Diego was growing to the sunny valleys of the east, El Cajon and La Mesa, and the coastal communities were quiet. During the recession of the 1960s, in which Convair (a major military contractor) collapsed, preservationists were able to secure more than a hundred acres for the Torrey Pines Extension.

But in the early 1970s, the new University of California at San Diego (UCSD) mushroomed, and housing needs grew with it. The land wars ensued. Two developers, Baldwin and Pardee, built a sea of condominiums above Carmel Valley Road across from the triangle. At that time, Baldwin also wanted to develop the triangle itself. He submitted plans for “The Village,” 130 condominiums plus commercial units.

Supporters of the park fought back. They felt that all the land on the lagoon side of Carmel Valley Road should be protected by the Reserve. State Parks and Recreation Director Wm. Penn Mott had plans for a campground on the triangle. Others envisioned an interpretive center there. “The Village” did not materialize. In 1981, Baldwin finally sold the 8.4 acre parcel to the state.

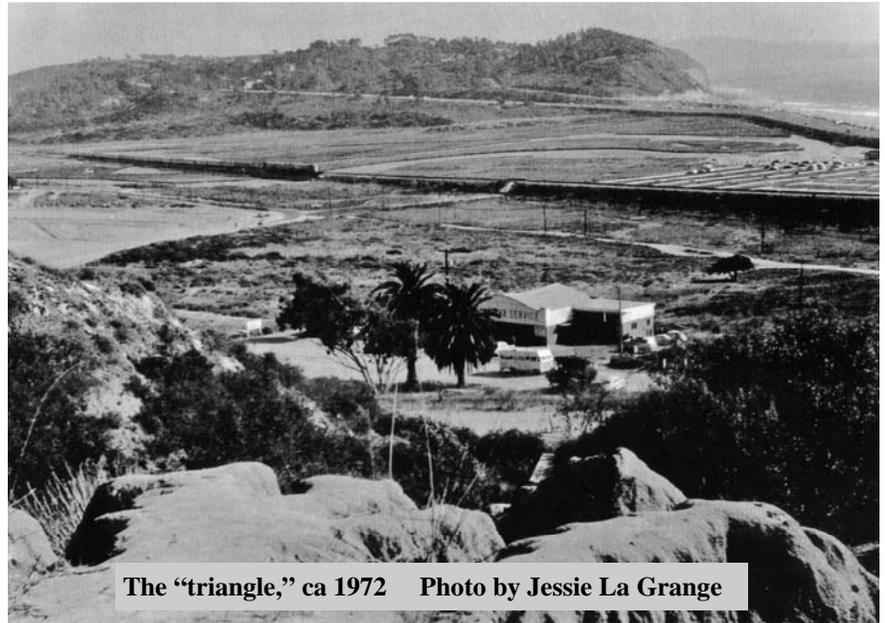
Preservationists could not relax, however. In 1986, Baldwin had another plan for his remaining 6.6 acres at the North Beach entrance: 28 condominium units, to be called “Beau Soleil.” Protests poured in: “Urban-associated pollutants would destroy the habitat of the Belding’s sparrow, an endangered species,” wrote a land-use attorney from the University of San Diego Legal Clinic. “Fill would project onto the 100 year flood plain,” said another land-use specialist. However, Diane Dugan, city planner, cited the Coastal Commission’s approval of this land for development, and the project was passed by the San Diego City Planning Commission.

But the opposition held firm. “Sewage disposal for this area was inadequate -- raw sewage had spilled into the lagoon many times,” wrote local resident Jessie La Grange. Opal Trueblood reported that the Del Mar Terrace Conservancy was negotiating with the Trust for Public Lands to hold the property for public acquisition. Acknowledging these arguments, the San Diego City Council turned down the zoning request for Beau Soleil. And

again, there seemed to be a respite in the struggle. But park supporters wondered how they could raise enough money to purchase the land once and for all. Bake sales? A special assessment district?

In a chance conversation with State Senator Craven during a drug raid at Del Mar Plaza, Jessie La Grange asked if it would be possible to acquire the land with the state revenues from off-shore oil and gas leases. “Excellent idea,” exclaimed Craven, and before the year was out, Governor Deukmejian had signed the bill providing \$1.55 million for the purchase of the land. Almost the entire wedge was now part of the Torrey Pines State Reserve.

But alas, a new proposal reared its ugly head, this time to be known as “Sunset del Mar,” a large restaurant-office complex complete with underground parking. This monstrosity would spill down the bluff of the last privately-owned parcel in the triangle: 2.15 acres at the busy junction of Carmel Valley Road and Camino del Mar. Despite warnings of horrific traffic problems and a plea to save the open view, in February 1988, the Del Mar Planning Commission approved a conditional-use permit for the project.



The “triangle,” ca 1972 Photo by Jessie La Grange

A storm of opposition rose from the Torrey Pines Association, the Del Mar Terrace Conservancy, and the Los Peñasquitos Lagoon Foundation, and an appeal was filed. Peter Navarro, local land-use activist and professor of economics, wrote that Sunset del Mar would be a huge concrete pillbox. The Del Mar Traffic and Parking Committee said Sunset del Mar should not be allowed. Gerald Tracy, from the Del Mar Terrace Conservancy, led the search for funds to purchase the land. The owner, Lance Alworth, agreed to postpone his application for eight months while the community sought money for the public lands acquisition.

Again, due to a surprising increase in the Tidelands Oil Revenues and support from Senator Craven, the State Senate approved \$1.18 million for the parcel, and it became part of Torrey Pines. Today we enjoy the open space of this land. Our ocean view from Carmel Valley Road is unobstructed. The panorama of the lagoon and hills seen from Torrey Pines Road is a natural treasure - a gift from those who struggled over many years to preserve this precious bit of coastline. ♦