



# Torrey Pinecone

A news bulletin for the  
Torrey Pines Docent Society

April 2013

## Filming the "Wilds of San Diego"

by Joan R. Simon

Photographer/filmmaker Jim Karnik gave a presentation at the March 9<sup>th</sup> meeting on his 25 years of photographing and filming San Diego's incredible natural diversity. He is known to Torrey Pines aficionados for his TPA (Torrey Pines Association) and TPDS films, including "A Legacy of Stewardship."

Jim grew up near Escondido and spent many youthful days exploring the rich environment of the surrounding countryside. It was "unsupervised," he said, "and we probably did a lot of things that would make our parents cringe." But this freedom to frolic in the wild help him to develop what became a life-long love for nature.

A self-styled "video geek," Jim gradually moved beyond "tinkering with electronics" and became more interested in how documentary filming could be used "to tell stories." His early filming experiences in the '70s included underwater filming with a Super 8 movie camera. "While others were spear fishing," he said, "my interest was in filming kelp forests and reef life." He next acquired 16mm film gear which he used on coastal sailing and diving adventures along the Channel Islands.

**Docent General Meeting**  
**Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, 9 am**

**Location:** St Peter's Episcopal Rec Hall, Del Mar  
**Title:** The Ultimate Fate of a Common Dolphin  
**Speaker:** Eddie Kisfaludy

Eddie Kisfaludy will present his recent National Geographic expedition exploring the life cycle of common dolphins with a focus on how they are born, their migration patterns, and what happens after they die. When marine mammals perish in the ocean they usually sink to the bottom and create "marine mammal falls." Researchers have recently sunk stranded carcasses to understand how benthic ecosystems change after an animal sinks to the sea floor and decomposes. Mr. Kisfaludy will present current research describing what happens to a dolphin after it dies in the ocean in his collaborative work with NOAA, Scripps Oceanography, and National Geographic. This entertaining presentation is filled with extraordinary video and photos and is surely a talk you won't want to miss!

**Refreshment Alert:** *The Society will continue to provide coffee, tea and fruit snacks as usual. What is new is that the docents are bringing baked goods, special treats, nuts etc. In March we had a very nice spread, provided by docents with last names starting with A, B, C. April will be D, E, F. Check here every month to see when it's your turn.*

Shooting film was very expensive in those days, so for a while Jim shifted his focus to still photography, "lugging a view camera" into the backcountry. It wasn't until the late 1980s, when "video became portable and sturdy enough to use in the field," that he decided to get back into motion photography. In 1987 he started his own production company, and this was the start of filming the wilds of San Diego and Field Notes Nature Documentaries.

"I was always fascinated with early journal writings of great naturalists

like Darwin and Muir," he said, "so the idea behind Field Notes was to

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provide a video version of a naturalist journal and create documentary films with this style mind.” His early projects ranged from the lagoons and wetlands of the Southern California coast to the endangered California Gnatcatcher to native grasslands to birding in San Diego. “It was while filming the gnatcatcher,” he observed, “that I learned how important it is to be patient and take the time to let the birds and other wildlife get comfortable with my presence.”



Broken Hill- Jim Karnik website photo

All this time, he was adapting to new technology that made filming in the field easier and provided higher quality images. He moved from the “clunky” 3/4 inch tape, to industrial H-8, to broadcast Betacam, to DVCam.

In 1998 he received a County TV grant to produce “Exploring San Diego’s Natural Diversity,” which gave him the opportunity to film all the major habitats in San Diego County from the coast to the mountain and desert regions.



“Lizard Rock”- Jim Karnik website photo

With the introduction of High Definition video, Jim’s finally found a medium worthy of the subject of his films and he could truly capture “the intricate detail and beauty of nature.”

HDSLR (High Definition Single Lens Reflex cameras), which allow for both high definition video and high resolution still photography, “are the perfect solution for the type of work I do,” he said. They are small and lightweight and function well in low light. Issues such as limited audio quality and control still exist, but improvements are constantly being made, he said.

Armed with the newest cameras, Jim’s goal is to “re-visit and film the spectacular beauty of our county.” He plans to create a new series of short programs on “The Wilds of San Diego” and hopes to support local conservation efforts by increasing awareness of San Diego County’s incredible natural diversity and beauty. Many of Jim’s films and still photography can be found on [fieldnotes.com](http://fieldnotes.com).

## March 2013 Docent Meeting Minutes

*Excerpted from notes of TPDS March 9, 2013 General Meeting, by Secretary Lynne Truong. Complete minutes are in the docent library.*

Meeting called to order at 10:30 a.m. by President **Bill Eckles**.

A new Docent Directory is now available.

**Docent of the Month: George Beardsley** was selected for always being willing to cover Lodge hosting when absolutely no one else was available.

**Spotlight On:** Featured Carol Martin, CA State Park Aide, coordinator for the restoration of native plants in the Los Peñasquitos Lagoon bordering Carmel Valley Road. Carol is retiring to New Mexico and **Joy Inton** will take over the coordination of volunteers. Exotic removal is the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month. Carol is asking that TPDS adopt a section of Carmel Valley Road, between Via Borgia & Via Donada.

## General Announcements:

- **Sue Randerson** announced that TPDS donated a Special Walk for the Vulcan Mountain’s fundraiser. TPDS is invited to the fundraiser dinner & dance at Camp Stevens, outside Julian, on March 23, 7:30-10:30, cost \$75.
- **Ken King** announced a TPDS trip to Anza Borrego 3/22-3/24. Lodging is available at the Palm Canyon Resort at a reasonable rate.
- **Roger Isaacson** solicited articles, up to 300 words, for a special memorial section for **Jim Cassell** in the April *Pinecone*. Articles should be submitted by March 18.
- **Chuck Anders** thanked docents with last names A-C for the refreshments. Next meeting, docents with last names D-F to bring refreshments.

## Art in the Pines (Mike Yang for Judith Zyskind):

- Artists were solicited during the last 4 months and juried by a professional artist. Art quality is higher this year – might lead to higher prices for art!
- Sold 63 booths this year, 7 booths are shared (two to a booth) and one is a double booth (one artist, two booths); a total of 100 artists are participating in either booth, booth & Plein Air, or Plein Air only.
- TPDS will not get a commission on art sold in booths, but we raised the price of booth rentals. We will receive a 35% commission on art sold in the Plein Air Competition and in the Docent Booth.
- Instead of an Opportunity Drawing, we will have an official raffle and a silent auction.
- All booths are corner booths. **Bob Doolittle** made this happen with

the help of the aerial map of the parking lot provided by **Chuck Anders**.

- One additional theme for this year is “Near Zero Waste Activity”. Artists were asked to minimize their packaging and use environmental friendly packaging.
- Grace Swanson designed both the bookmark and the AITP flyer. The artwork was done by Joan Grine.
- **Cindy Wollager & Jeff Harrison** have donation forms for docents to use to solicit donations from local businesses.
- **Bobbi Kruger** announced that applications are due April 15<sup>th</sup> for the Docent Art Booth; 35% commission to TPDS.
- **Lillian Lachicotte** will have signup sheets for volunteers for the event. Please note Lillian’s new email address in the new Docent Directory. **Bob Doolittle** needs help with traffic & signage.

For sustaining injury while performing docent duty with the Seabees, **Sheldon Kruger** was awarded the Purple Shovel award by **Bob Doolittle**. A piece of concrete fell on Sheldon. **Thomas Stehlik** ceremoniously pinned a Purple Shovel pin on Sheldon’s lapel.

**Water Bottle Rumors: (Bill Eckles)** Starting March 16<sup>th</sup>, and for the next 2-4 weeks, TIK (Trail Info Kiosk) will not be selling water in disposable plastic bottles. TIK will give away filtered water to anyone with a refillable bottle. TIK will have refillable bottles for sale at cost. Water bottles will still be available for purchase in the museum shop.

**Museum Shop: (Nancy Woodworth)** Nancy passed around the cutest, softest rabbit hand puppet. We were treated to wonderful rabbit animations as the puppet was passed

around. Puppets in various sizes are available in the Museum Shop.

**Recycling:** Recycling shed move was delayed by **Bob Doolittle’s** jury duty. Flatbed truck offered by Ranger Dylan Hardenbrook for the move.

**Children’s Program: (Marie Johnson)** There are three Ecosystem walks & 3 Kumeyaay walks scheduled in March with 373 students and 42 docents and presenters participating. On March 14<sup>th</sup> **Barbara Wallach** will lead a training workshop, Museum Animal Tidbits – how to use the museum animals when interpreting for visitors or students on field trip. A field trip to the Kumeyaay Center in Poway is planned for August.

**Docent Training: (Jeannie Smith)** There are 28 enthusiastic trainees in the program; most were at the general meeting.

**Communications:** Looking for a new editor for the Pinecone.

**Lodge Hosting: (Irene Larimore):** The museum is changing to three shifts per day after the start of daylight savings.

**Library: (Bonnie Hornbeck) Karen Lay** is dealing with health issues. Bonnie is taking over as Librarian and she reminded docents that material is out on loan on a two week basis.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

## Children’s Program

*by Marie Johnson & Barbara Justice, Children’s Program, Co-Directors and Louis Sands, Children’s Program Coordinator*

We had a great training session on March 14<sup>th</sup> given by **Barbara Wallach** on “Museum Animal Tidbits”. It was attended by seventeen docents and for those who missed it, **Diana Wenman** made a video recording of Barbara’s talk. We all felt we could have stayed for more...so perhaps in the future, there

will be Part II. The training ended with Barbara pointing out the “Dog-faced Butterfly” that is in the butterfly display case...and is the California State Insect.

For March, there were three Kumeyaay and three Ecosystems and Food Chains programs given with over 400 children, teachers and chaperones attending. Presenters were **Ann Williamson, Janet Uglade, Sue Randerson, Kay Harry, and Joellen Barnett**. We also had thirteen other docents who came and led the trail walks. Thanks to all of you!

We have scheduled another special training session at the Kumeyaay Ipai Center in Poway for August 15, 2013. It is always interesting (and educational) to see how other groups give their programs. So, please, SAVE THE DATE!

For anyone wishing to join the Children’s Program or see what it is we do, please come and tag along some Thursday or Friday morning. To find the programs and times for any particular day just go to Docent Login and look under Children’s Program Sign-ups and click on the date. We’d love to have you join us!

## Docent of the Month: George Beardsley



I was born and raised in Los Angeles, but my mother and others on her side of the family were native San Diegans and dedicated to Torrey Pines. So, when I finally had the sense to join them here in 1985, it

wasn't long before a cousin on the TPA board suggested I stand for election to replace her. I said yes and did not regret the decision, serving for three and a fraction terms and becoming friends with Bob Wohl, Dave O'Dell, Sally Spiess, John Fleming, John Shelton, and many others. The Docent Society representative to the TPA was the formidable Maurie Brown.

The TPA supported TPSNR in many ways then. I scrambled with Dave in the steep canyons above the lagoon after the Flintkote Rd. cabin housing the district Ranger was flooded by a rainstorm (the City improved the drainage). With Bob Wohl I visited the neighbor who thought Torrey Pines Extension meant he could "extend" his yard plantings into it. John Shelton and I called on my Barber Tract neighbor Ellen Revelle in search of a generous donation, which she readily gave. I could be mistaken, but I think the first bark beetle traps and their pheromone bait were bought during my time on the board. Working with Bill Everts on "Landscape and Legacy" was an education in the publishing world.

Continuing the family theme, my daughter Emily was a park aide in the summer of 1992 and, of course, my wife Connie preceded me as a docent by a couple of years. I went with her on one of the Santa Rosa Island trips, had a great time and was impressed by the knowledge and commitment of the docents I met. When I remarked to then-president Steve Usher that it looked like there were already plenty of docents, he replied to the effect that a variety of people, with different backgrounds, talents and interests, were the key to the functioning of the society.

That's worked for me. I've realized my aspiration to lead walks in the Reserve and I always enjoy Trail Patrol and Lodge hosting (**Ken King** is remarkably patient with my phone inquiries about the POS system.). Picking up trash along the side of US-

101 is a different kind of fun and challenge -- thanks to **Kristine Schindler** for organizing this.

Finally, I appreciate the honor of Docent of the Month, deserved or not. I'll try to live up to it.



## 2013 Park Advocacy Day

by Rick Vogel

Park Advocacy Day on March 12<sup>th</sup> hosted 195 people from around the State, the largest gathering in the eleven years the California State Parks Foundation has organized this event. The day included a luncheon where we viewed a short video tribute to the late Huell Howser, possibly our park system's most famous and enthusiastic booster. Speakers included General Anthony (Tony) Jackson, the new Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR). General Jackson regaled us with a narrative of how he came to accept the nomination and begin his work to restore the public trust in the Parks Department. He also discussed the release of DPR's Strategic Action Plan, the first substantive act of his administration. You can access this plan at [parks.ca.gov](http://parks.ca.gov) or [calparks.org](http://calparks.org).

This year our efforts were focused on keeping the legislators aware of our parks and the efforts of many people around the State to keep them open. The unpleasantness of last summer and the "found money" the Department had evidently been intentionally hiding for the last several years has been an issue for many legislators. General Jackson's work has helped turn the legislative focus to ensuring the continued vitality of all of California's parks in the face of the obviously difficult budget environment. Our major concern is that the overall funding of our parks remains insecure and

insufficient to meet the demands that are being placed on them. You might think these issues don't affect our Reserve, because TPSNR has not been on the most recent closure lists. But think about the last time you were unable to find a ranger because they were at a beach campground providing coverage to a facility that cannot hire new rangers to replace those who have left?

Two years ago, AB 42 was enacted to ensure that the DPR had the clear authority to contract with non-profits and other community organizations to keep open the parks in danger of closure ("The First Seventy"). Since then, 44 of those parks have entered into arrangements to allow them to stay open. A number of other parks are in negotiations for such agreements. Last year the Legislature enacted a moratorium on any park closures until July 2014, in part as a response to the "found money." This has created uncertainty about AB 42. Since the parks cannot be closed, are they still able to enter into contracts? Assemblyman Hueso has proposed AB 594 which would amend AB 42 to eliminate any uncertainty by allowing the DPR to enter into contracts regarding a park even though the park is not in danger of immediate closure. We believe we were successful in getting the legislators to support AB 594.

We also asked legislators to support the recommendations of several of the investigations that have been performed in the last nine months. One very important recommendation was to ensure that the DPR can calculate and divulge the cost of operating individual parks. In the past, the DPR has not been able to provide park-specific budgetary information. That complicates the negotiations for agreements to keep the parks open. We need to be able to tell donors and other parties involved the amount of money needed to keep the endangered parks open.

(cont. on pg. 6, col. 2)

Some remembrances of our beloved docent, Jim Cassell 1921-2013



Famous quote of Jim Cassell: "I'm not a docent for nothing!"

Caught on the beach collecting rocks to use as art work in his yard, Jim was censured by Ranger Bob Wohl and given the choice of a scolding or of becoming a docent. So, in 1991, Jim became a docent. He never missed a monthly meeting, training session, party, special event or opportunity to interpret Torrey Pines to the public throughout his 22 years as a docent. He was Program Chairman several times; served as Training Director for 5 years (the last time when he was 80 years old); served on dozens of committees; and enthusiastically mentored hundreds of docents who became his friends.

Photos by Barbara Wallach

reaction was just the opening he needed. Soon he was engaged in conversation, answering questions or joining them for a hike. Jim was never one to miss an opportunity to educate the public about the wonders of Torrey Pines.

His talent as an artist was appreciated by everyone. If it stood still, he would paint it. He painted rocks, gourds, flutes, wooden disks, wingspan boards and tote bags. His designs were used on T-shirts, patches, posters for special events, brochures, park signage and on many items for the Children's Program. During his last year he spent a few hours every day decorating and painting designs on bird houses. This kept him going and challenged his artistic abilities as he battled his illness. I treasure my little bird house because I know how much creativity and love went into painting it. I know the bird house auction that earned over \$1200 for the Docent Society was a proud moment for Jim. He has left Torrey Pines a remarkable legacy of his work.



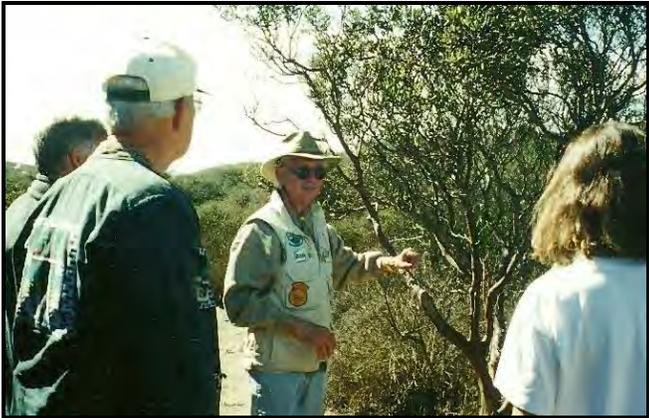
Jim leading a Children's Program walk

I will miss you my friend. You were truly one of the "loveable characters" of my life. Thanks for the memories. You will be with me always. Love ya, Barbara

*Barbara Wallach, Class of 1993*

...For many years Jim was a public walk leader when I did Lodge hosting. That gave us time to talk before he started his walks. We would talk about art, events happening in the Reserve, and the latest escapades of the cat who adopted him. He was a great story teller. One of those stories he would tell was to visitors who were showing interest in my baskets. He would tell them that I was a famous basket weaver and that my work was in museums. I think a lot of my baskets sold because of him! But what I shall miss the most are his hugs. He was a very warm-hearted person who liked to greet people at our monthly meetings with a hug. The meetings will not be the same without him.

*Judy Schulman, Class of 1977*



Jim leading a public walk

I met Jim when I became a docent in 1993. We spent many years hiking the trails together, working on projects, swapping stories, acting silly, talking gardening and just having fun. Jim had a depth of knowledge about the plants and the Reserve and I wanted to pick his brain, hear his stories and learn from him.

At the age of 90, Jim was still doing special interpretive hikes for senior citizens. He made them laugh with his stories and entertained them with warmth and humor. He hugged many of them just as he hugged me and other docents. I often heard him say to seniors slowly making their way along the trail, "No running!" Their smile and

...It was little over a year ago that I was sitting at the traffic light on Camino Del Mar and 15th Street, having just left the monthly docent meeting at St. Peter's, and I realized Jim was in the car ahead of me. With his white hair and that signature red jacket, he was easy to spot. At that moment it struck me how good the world was, to have people in my life that were true and wholesome. And Jim certainly fit that bill. I became a docent in 1997 and served as president in 1999 and 2000. I remember those years well, because we conducted meetings inside the Lodge. That was tight. I don't think anyone got up to go to the bathroom, simply because once in your seat you were stuck. Jim was excellent at tossing zingers from his seat in the peanut gallery. And that appealed to me, because Jim kept it real and kept it fun. Jim's big smile matched his big heart. What an awesome docent and friend.

***Ken Baer, Class of 1997***

...Of all the qualities that made Jim so special to us, there are two that stand out to me. First, he was unfailingly friendly to everyone. I never heard him utter a critical or angry word. That's a rare attribute. Secondly (and this is even more rare), he never complained about his health. As we walk toward old age, we would all benefit from emulating Jim this way. When asked how he was doing, his stock answer was "Perfect!" That's indeed a perfect answer.

***Ken King, Class of 2002***

...One of a kind is the best way to describe Jim! His deep appreciation for art, his love of nature, and the way he so gracefully aged past 90 were just a few of the attributes that made him who he was. Not long ago, I remember admiring his collection of individually hand-painted bird houses and commenting on how each one was unique and different from the other. He laughingly replied, "Well, I should hope so! You know . . . each one is the only one of its design to exist on the planet." It was at this point that I realized that Jim was as unique and as colorful as his art. So, for those of you lucky enough to have one of his bird houses or, for that matter, any of his art, cherish it and enjoy it! Cheers to a wonderful man. We are going to miss you, Jim!

***Jake Mumma, Park Aide***

Dear Jim,  
How do I remember you?  
You loved the wings that grace  
the Reserve, a quantum in the intricate  
web of this charmed wild world: its  
community of chaparral and coastal scrub,  
its special scents, its canyons, cliffs,  
ocean mist, fogged and sapphire sea.  
You hoped we would respect all that  
fly and walk and hop and crawl  
and sing to its mate. You loved

the Torrey trees and thicket, a place  
of stories, pollinators, animals,  
cultures, ancient cobblestones,  
sandstones and wildflowers. What was  
and still resides, reserved and free.  
We thank you for the painted images  
of great and small birds: scrub jay  
and sparrow; hawk, heron, hummingbird;  
roadrunner, peregrine falcon and finch;  
osprey, owl western gull and the  
chaparral's signature sound, the wren-tit.  
Thank you for the priceless moment when  
you whispered to a pregnant lizard:  
"Scoot back under the lemonadeberry.  
Don't let birds of prey see you, mother."  
And to the school children who  
stood in turn, to see the rattler  
sunning itself across warm sandy trail:  
"Isn't it magnificent?" Their eyes  
twinkling with excitement,  
though from a respectful distance.  
Respect is the story of the Reserve,  
and you assisted its staff to protect  
the threatened and the endangered,  
with aplomb and humor. Thank you. -R

***Rhea Bridy, Class of 2006***

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(2013 Park Advocacy Day, cont. from pg. 4)

We supported three other legislative proposals:

1. AB 150 would provide free park access on Memorial Day and Veterans Day to all veterans and active duty military personnel. This bill is non-controversial and offers the State an opportunity to honor the service of citizens in the military.
2. SB 241 proposes a 9.9% oil severance tax to provide funds for higher education and parks. This tax is expected to raise about \$2 billion per year, with 7% or about \$140 million per year going to the Parks Department. While this proposal is likely to receive significant organized opposition, it represents an attempt to find a sustainable funding source for the parks.
3. SB 783 proposes a new bond issue (probably on the ballot in 2014), a portion of which will provide funds for capital projects throughout the Park System. Our current goal is primarily to make the Legislature aware of this bill.

You can follow these bills at [legislature.ca.gov](http://legislature.ca.gov). There will be considerable activity on all of these issues over the next few months. If you believe in our State Parks and want to register your support for any of the bills or initiatives, we urge you to contact your Assembly representative or State Senator.

# In Search of Long Lost Trails

by Bob Wohl

[Ed. Note: Bob Wohl, former supervising ranger at TPSNR, led 20 Whacky Weeders through the main Reserve trails on Feb. 3, 2013, showing them vestiges of the old trails that are no longer in use. This article is based on his talk.]

I hadn't been down the trail to Razor Point since 1996, when the cartilage in my knees gave out. So when Lynne Small and the Whacky Weeders asked me to guide them on a walk downhill (and back!) to reveal the long lost trails we had closed over the years, I hesitated. But then I accepted, thinking, well, with nearly 20 Whacky Weeders, they could always carry me back up. (Hah!)



L-R: Bob Wohl, Barbara Wallach, Lynne Small, Dianne Russell  
Photo by Lisa Plavan

Since 2004, the main Reserve trails have been receiving a general work-over by our maintenance and volunteer crews. Many of the old trail spurs are overgrown with brush and hardly visible, just as we intended. So finding the old dead trails was not easy and the Whacky Weeders were curious to know where they were.

The catalyst for this hike had been a forgotten trail spur off a lower portion of the Razor Point Trail. The Weeders in their fanatical determination to leave no exotic plant "unwhacked," had ripped out the heavy ice plant carpet and revealed the old steps. "Was that the way down to **'Fat Man's Misery'?**"

Actually, it was the way out for most of the legally frolicking pre-1974 hikers, who entered this sandstone miasma of caves and formations way back up around the West Parking Lot Overlook "tongue". Stepping back twenty feet from the West Overlook, on the right, was the original entrance. There once were actual railroad tie steps descending through the chaparral and sloping into the canyon.

Why was it called "Fat Man's Misery"? Legend has it that Uncle Oscar, the bus driver for the Torrey Pines Day Camp in the 1950s and 60s, would lead the campers down

this narrow gorge. Every child in San Diego seems to have "gone down there" and whooped and hollered and had a memorable time. If you were a bit overweight however, you might find yourself "getting stuck." This was the premise, and oh, the misery of clogging that corridor path with all those cheering, delirious kids behind you!

Labeled by Guy Fleming at various times Canyon of the Vultures and Canyon of the Wind Caves, the easy canyon trail suddenly plunged into a thin eight-foot deep gorge and undulated 100 feet until it smoothed out into a broader trail. But while the rangers were watching over the families and the kids, who were screaming, playing, knocking out sculptural forms, tearing branches, and scaling the slopes, other areas were going without adequate supervision; to wit, the Reserve lost over 200 Torrey pines in the East Grove to a forlorn unrequited-lover-arsonist.

The rangers asked, "Are we running a Nature Reserve -- or is this Disneyland South?" In 1973, they convinced the State Park Commission to enact our current Draconian laws -- no picnicking, no off-trail, no dogs, no collecting - - and to close forever the most popular trail in all the California State Parks system, Fat Man's Misery. They renamed it Canyon of the Swifts, yet another of Guy Fleming's earlier monikers.



Photo by Barbara Wallach

The Whacky Weeders listened to my tale of trying to salvage the overhanging Rim Trail between Red Butte and Fat Man's Gorge which is now closed for good. Today hikers go almost over the top of Red Butte to link into Razor Point Trail -- a rocky, mediocre but essential pathway.

In 1978, a group of 66 YCC members (Youth Conservation Corp) arrived to work on a repair project in the Extension. Having deemed that undertaking ineffective, the Reserve suddenly needed an "essential" project for the manpower now available. At the top of the list was establishing new trails above the cliffs. State Park Landscape Architect Clay Phillips plotted out the trails

with the crew leaders and then worked closely with a “Bobcat” and operator to open up the new pathways and switchbacks, away from the Rim edge. The original trails—the Razor Point Trail along Big Basin’s north side and the Rim Trail along Fat Man’s Misery gorge -- were straight-down-from-the-top trails, bulldozed out in the early 1960s. By 1978, they were badly gouged and V-grooved, turning many an ankle and creating the need for perpetual repairs. While the new switchbacks slowed much of the erosion, unhappy joggers taking shortcuts continued to thwart that effort.

The Broken Hill and Beach Trails had also been originally bulldozed into straight downhill Jeep-accessible roads by our Camp Callan neighbors during World War II. We changed that by switch-backing both of these trails as well. Our idea was to create a path that would reveal its views gradually, pleasantly surprising the hiker with a new view around the next corner of the trail. An unintended consequence at the time was that the nicely curving trails created an “ideal habitat” for indecent exposure predators, waiting for ladies to come around the corner and be unpleasantly shocked.

The Whacky Weeders indulged my tales of trails, until the cry went out, “Whale Ho!” which grabbed everyone’s attention. We finally arrived at Razor Point, the “End of the Trail”, and who was waiting for us on the narrowest point? A Peregrine Falcon! (“Ranger Bob, how did you do that?”)



*Peregrine Falcon*  
*Photo by Lisa Plavan*

Did I make it back up to the Lodge? Yes! I took the Beach Trail back up via Big Basin and Yucca Point junction. With a lack of oxygen and my right knee aching, I barely kept up with Barbara Wallach and the Weeders. Next time I’ll keep walking all the way down to Flat Rock, head north to the entrance kiosk and have “someone“ drive me back up to the Lodge. Those Whacky Weeders are too spry for me.

## Art IN THE Pines by Judith Zyskind and Mike Yang

Art in the Pines is May 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>, Saturday and Sunday. Advertising throughout California was highly effective, and TPDS received over a hundred applications for participation. After jurying and lots of emails back and forth between Artists' Liaison, **Mike Yang**, and the artists, we ended up with 55 artists in single booths, 14 artists in shared booths, and 1 artist in a double booth! Also, there are 53 artists participating in the Plein Air competition.

This year we offered artists the opportunity to list their website URL on the Art in the Pines webpage, and 23 artists elected to do so for an additional \$20 fee. Mike reports that communication with the artists indicates there is great enthusiasm among them and each artist is excitedly anticipating showing, selling, and painting “en plein air” at TPSNR and competing in the event.

In addition to exceptional art, **Connie Beardsley** has organized music performances throughout the festival on both days. Renowned jazz saxophonist Joe Marillo will play each afternoon. The Minerva Classical Quartet will play over the noon hour.

We're pleased that Endangered Speciez Band and the Mission Bay High School Jazz Quartet will also entertain again this year. And new to the roster are **Sara Mussen** and Jen Hajj, both vocalists with guitars and very different styles.

Our Raffle, registered with the California Department of Justice, will consist of a Grand Prize, Silent Auctions, and a raffle with drawings hourly. If you know of a local business that might want to contribute to our event, please contact **Cindy Wollaeger** or **Jeff Harrison**.

Docent artists, please send your application soon to **Bobbi Krueger** to participate in the Docent Booth. Email her for a copy of the application.

The purpose of Art in the Pines is to raise money for the TPDS Children's Program. It is because of your efforts that the event has been so successful. **Lillian Lachicotte** is in charge of volunteers, so PLEASE contact her.

## AITP Volunteers

To volunteer to help at Art in the Pines, sign up at the April meeting or on sheets on the Docent Library bulletin board. We need your help and it's fun!

## Did you know?\*

### On a Clear Day You Can See Forever

by Tom Polakiewicz

Sometimes a day or two after a winter rain storm, the air at Torrey Pines is so clear that it seems you can count the trees on Mount Palomar, and the Pacific horizon looks like it was drawn with a sharp pencil. On those days, have you ever wondered just how far you actually can see?

The mountains that form the eastern backdrop of San Diego County are not that far away. Palomar is only about 39 miles to the northeast, and Mount Cuyamaca is around 38 miles to the east. Otay Mountain in the southeast is only 32 miles or so away.

The distance to the ocean horizon depends on where you are—the higher up, the farther you can see. For a six-foot

person standing on the beach, the horizon is only 3.3 miles away. The same person walking along the cliff top on the Guy Fleming Trail would see a horizon 19 miles off. From Red Butte, the horizon is just over 25 miles in the distance.

San Clemente Island is 72.6 miles from Torrey Pines. So how can we see it when it is beyond the visible horizon? The answer lies in its height. San Clemente is over 1900 feet high, allowing its top to be visible from Torrey Pines even when its shoreline is not. For the same reason, we can see 2,097 foot Santa Catalina, which is 75 miles away from Torrey Pines.

\*This “*Did You Know?*” tidbit is one of an occasional series from **Tom Polakiewicz**.

## Carpooling to docent events

Jeannie Smith has put together a docent list by zip code to assist us in carpooling with our fellow docents. It is on the bulletin board in the Library. Thanks, Jeannie!

## Torrey Pines Docent Society Bird Survey: March 2, 2013

Total of 86 species

Gadwall 26	Great Egret 1	Caspian Tern 1	American Crow 12	Orange-crowned Warbler 7
American Wigeon 48	Snowy Egret 2	Royal Tern 2	Common Raven 10	Common Yellowthroat 11
Mallard 12	Little Blue Heron 1	Cassin's Auklet 3	Northern Rough-winged Swallow 3	Yellow-rumped Warbler 7
Cinnamon Teal 8	Black-crowned Night-Heron 2	Eurasian Collared-Dove 6	Bushtit 71	Townsend's Warbler 1
Northern Shoveler 6	White-tailed Kite 2	Mourning Dove 9	Red-breasted Nuthatch 1	Spotted Towhee 14
Northern Pintail 4	Northern Harrier 4	White-throated Swift 6	House Wren 57	California Towhee 35
Green-winged Teal 15	Cooper's Hawk 1	Anna's Hummingbird 35	Marsh Wren 3	Savannah Sparrow 6
Canvasback 12	Red-shouldered Hawk 1	Costa's Hummingbird 1	Bewick's Wren 5	Song Sparrow 18
Lesser Scaup 10	Red-tailed Hawk 5	Rufous/Allen's Hummingbird 2	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher 2	White-crowned Sparrow 1
Surf Scoter 3	Clapper Rail 1	Belted Kingfisher 2	California Gnatcatcher 5	Red-winged Blackbird 1
Bufflehead 18	American Coot 17	Nuttall's Woodpecker 6	Ruby-crowned Kinglet 3	House Finch 47
Red-breasted Merganser 3	Killdeer 1	American Kestrel 3	Wrentit 23	Lesser Goldfinch 41
Ruddy Duck 37	Willet 28	Peregrine Falcon 1	Northern Mockingbird 5	House Sparrow 4
California Quail 27	Long-billed Curlew 2	Black Phoebe 10	California Thrasher 6	
Red-throated Loon 1	Least Sandpiper 2	Say's Phoebe 1	European Starling 4	
Pacific Loon 6	Bonaparte's Gull 200	Cassin's Kingbird 1		
Pied-billed Grebe 3	Heermann's Gull 10	Hutton's Vireo 1		
Western Grebe 138	Ring-billed Gull 52	Western Scrub-Jay 2		
Double-crested Cormorant 5	Western Gull 40			
Brown Pelican 4	California Gull 20			

**Observers:** Blair Francis, Eva Armi, Kathy Dickey, Jack Friery, Gary Grantham, Herb Knüfken, and Anonymous

Previous Bird Surveys may be found at [torreypine.org/activities/bird-sightings.html](http://torreypine.org/activities/bird-sightings.html)

Herb Knüfken's amazing photo gallery may be found here: [pbase.com/herbl1rm](http://pbase.com/herbl1rm)



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*The Pinecone*, a calendar of events, notes from business meetings, and other items of specific interest to the docent membership, is published bi-monthly (even months). For odd months we publish the *Torreyana*. Please submit items by the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month to the Editor [Editors@torreypine.org](mailto:Editors@torreypine.org). This newsletter is edited by Docent Joan R. Simon. Items for publication may also be left in the *Torreyana* mailbox in the docent library.

### April 2013 TPDS Lodge Docent Hosting Calendar- Updated 3/30/13

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b>	<i>Maids</i> <b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
	L-Sogo L-S&S Rose L-A Paa	L-Walker/ Hrountas L-Heinemann L-Beardsley	L-Simon L-Beck L-Bogan	L-Griffiths L-Dewhurst L-Bogan	L-Burke L-A&G Howard L-Bogan	L-McKee W-Sanseverino L-E&G Lawrence W-Sheehan L-Hartung
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>Meeting 13</b>
L-Mussen W- L-E&G Lawrence W-Fillius L-Hartung	L-Walker/ Hrountas L-Humphrey L-Tozer	L-Sheehan L-Phillips L-Heinemann	L-M Lewis L-Walters L-Barnard	L- L-Dewhurst L-Simon	L-Sheehan L-McCardle/ Hammer L-King/stocklin	L- W- L-Isaacson W-Sheehan L-
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<i>Maids</i> <b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
L-C&B Hornbeck W-Fillius L- W-Kamen/Yehush L-	L-Woo L-F Doolittle Buckley L-Tozer	L-Fiorentino L-Phillips L-Simon	L-M Lewis L-Beck L-Heinemann	L-Griffiths L-Sogo L-Barnard	L-Burke L-Schindler MacConnel L-B&F Eckles	L-Rowbottom W-Sanseverino L-Isaacson W- L-
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
L-Mussen W-Farness L-Bar/Torres W-Larrimore L-Heinemann	L-Humphrey L-Batahseh Stehlik L-Small	L-Fiorentino L-Tarkington L-Colwell	L- L-Walters L-Heinemann	L-Martineau L-Batahseh Stehlik L-Barnard	L-Hrountas/ Walker L-Hammer L-A Paa	L-McGee W-Sanseverino L- W-Stocklin/Polakiew L-Hartung
<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<i>Maids</i> <b>30</b>	Lodge hosting hours: L- 9-12 L- 12-3 L- 3-6		Walks: W Sat/Sun/Hol 9:30 (Start 10:00) W Sat/Sun/Hol 1:30 (Start 2:00)	
L-Schulman W-Farness L-Schulman W-Schindler L-Hartung	L-Colwell L-F Doolittle/ Buckley L-Tozer	L-Sheehan L-Phillips L-Woods				
To sign up for an opening, call the hosting docent (858-755-8219) to confirm the time and write your name in the Logbook. If you cannot do your session, please try to find your own substitute by switching with another docent or using the short-notice list. Then call the hosting docent to make the change in the Logbook. Coordinators: Irene Larrimore & Jan Lombardi						