January Docent General Meeting Notes
Excerpted from notes from the TPDS General Meeting, January 20, 2007 by Secretary, Judy Schulman. Complete minutes in docent library.

Docent of the Month: Patricia Wahle for outstanding work at the holiday party.

Treasurer’s Report (Rick Vogel): 2006 Summary: revenue $65,000 including $16,000 donations; expenditures $69,900; per budget except higher children’s bus subsidies. Recent $145,000 bequest from Jewel Legran!! To go to endowment. Thanks to Rick for 3 years on Board; future reports from new treasurer, Priscilla Lewis.

Children’s Program: (Cecily Goode): All docs welcome to observe Children’s Walks—no signup needed—good intro for your own walks. Online signups coming soon. Diane Greening will email SD Archeological Soc. Workshop info.

Training: (Jeff Spivak): Training starts February 24th. Need docs for mentors, walk leaders, and help with refreshments. Schedules and special Torreyanas at the desk for prospective docs. Thanks to 06 Class for much work already.

Duty (Irene Larrimore): Most spaces filled for February and March. (Ed: However key vacancies noted from recent cancellations.) Two docs per shift are encouraged, especially on weekends. Shifts are still 10–1, 1–4. Reminders: sign calendar in pencil; lock cash drawer.

Bookstore (Karen Woods): Inventory in progress; sales slip revision planned, docent ideas welcome. Christmas ornaments and gourds sales were over $1000. Wildlife, Wildflower Symposia, SD Natural History Museum, Jan 30, 7–9 p.m.

Library: (Sharon Rose) New purchases: Sycuan: Our People, Our Culture, Our History and Gardening with California Natives. Docents: Don’t overlook a valuable resource, your newly remodeled, carefully tended library!

February General Meeting will be Saturday February 17
At 9:00 a.m.
At National University
11255 North Torrey Pines Road
JAMES O’KEEFE with the Cuyamaca State Park interpretive group will address us on goings on at Cuyamaca, the various volunteer opportunities, from mounted horseback patrols to mountain bike patrols. He will also show us the recovery efforts to date at Cuyamaca from the 2002 Cedar fire.

Trail Patrol: Jan 28 Mission Trails walk postponed until further notice.

Endowment (Steve Usher): Should be completed by next month, ready for donations. LeGran bequest will go to endowment.

Beach Trail Update: Coastal Commission approval still needed. Upon approval, repair will take 45 days, and will be funded by E.B. Scripps Foundation. Spearheaded by Alan Bennett more information is being emailed to all docs.

Trails Report: To be discussed at Tues. February 6 community meeting, 6pm. at the Lodge at Torrey Pines hotel. 3 major items: Guy Fleming Trail jogging ban, monitoring/enforcement of same and one-way road proposal. Draft report link has been emailed to docs and is available on www.torreypine.com (pdf)

(Continued on p. 2)
Santa Rosa Island Legislation:
Appropriations Bill amendment allowing original conservation plan passed Senate, pending in House.

Santa Rosa Island Trip:
Scheduled for September. Boat already reserved, with limited places. Priority will be given to people who signed up the first time, but weren’t able to go.

Lifetime Memberships:
Special badges for this new category will be presented at the February meeting to (active membership years indicated): Bob and Marge Amann (23), Hank and Jane Baele (13), Nelson Brav (13), John and Myrna Burton (11), Jim Cassell (15), Marion Dixon (17), Kathy Estey (11), Susan Ferguson (13), Marc Gittelsohn (17), Don Grine (13), Twinx Hauer (11), Bob Margulies (21), Ree Miller (12), Joan Nimick (16), Jeannie Smith (10), Mayo Stiegler (15), Robert and Jane Talbert (17), Theo Tanalski (14), Diana Wenman (10).

Science Fair (Theo Tanalski):
Judging on March 28, 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Email Theo if you are interested in being a judge. This is our 7th year of participation.

State Parks Foundation:
Community meeting of this parks advocacy group at National Univ. February 28 at 6 p.m. Topics: political environment and state parks, park protection policies and effective docent advocacy with the state legislature, Park Advocacy Day, March 26 in Sacramento.

San Diego Docent League: (Walt Desmond)
Benefits to TP docents include special tours or admission to some parks/ museums. On May 21st Chula Vista Nature Reserve hosts a special tour free to docents. We now have free reciprocal admission to the Mingei Museum and the San Diego Museum of Art.

Ranger’s Report:
ID cards area parking pass, identification, and possible free admission to other parks and museums were discussed. The upper restroom septic system is being rehabilitated. Lodge phones will be fixed by Monday. DVD video show: be sure audio is “ON” (cabinet, bottom shelf). Maintenance of wooden structures is on the list for

Docents doing battle with Veldt Grass (Ehrharta)
The scourge of Annual Veldt Grass (*Ehrharta longiflora*) is back at TPSR! If exotic species are the biggest threat to the Reserve, *Ehrharta* may be the worst. To combat the invasion, a Monitoring and Eradication Program is under way, with docents needed to join the battle. The primary effort is between now and June, when the grass goes to seed. Volunteers in the effort get credit for service hours, and will have expert support from three staff professionals. We will encourage mentoring and going out in teams.

Now is the chance to be out at peak wildflower time and to visit remote, ‘off-trail’ areas where our flowers may be threatened by the invader. *Ehrharta* monitoring and eradication scheduled for the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays (8:30 to 11:30 am), alternating weeks with the ongoing Whacky Weeder’s 2nd

For Pinecone newsletters (in color):
torreypine.org >Docent Login and Username: docent
Password: torreypine06

Darren Smith (wearing backpack) teaching docents to identify some invasive plants such as *Ehrharta longiflora*. Photo by Roger Isaacson
and 4th Mondays, and also avoiding conflicts with the School Programs.

Don’t know your _longiflora_ from that precious and rare native that we want to preserve? Go to our training sessions. More than 20 docents attended on January 8. Two more sessions will be held on Saturdays, February 3 and February 10, at 8:30 a.m. Docents attending either one will hear a program introduction by our resource naturalist, Darren Smith, followed by field training. Handouts with program details and id tips and illustrations on native and invasive grasses.

_Dues are Due_

Please pay your 2007 dues to maintain your TPDS membership. Dues are $10 for Active Members, $25 for Supporting Members, and not required (nonetheless still welcomed) for those designated Lifetime Members.

Send your checks to Jeannie Smith, Membership Chair at PO Box 2414, Del Mar, CA 92014; or put them in the ‘Membership’ mailbox in the docent library.

Docents who have paid their dues should have a laminated ID card with a 2007 sticker on the reverse. If you need a card, please notify Jeannie Smith (heyjeannie@sbcglobal.net).

Pick up cards and stickers at the general meeting when you can also get an id photo. Supporting Members who want only a parking pass can get it at the February meeting, or by mail (send stamped, self-addressed envelope to the address above.

_Thousands of Kids See TPSR through Docents: Join Us!_

During 2006 the Children’s Program introduced 3,630 children from 51 schools to our Reserve and to a love of Nature that Richard Louv has asked us to pass on. This is a testament to a dedicated group of docents, as well as to the treasure that we all help preserve.

On any Thursday or Friday we invite ALL DOCENTS to come and tag along with our children’s leaders, to see what is involved in hiking with children. Sometimes we buddy up and it is amazing what we can learn from each other --and always, from the kids!

Children’s Walk signups can now be done on the TPSR Web site but is still being tested. So continue, temporarily, to sign up as well on the sheet in the Library. Those who do not use a computer can call Laura to sign you up, or you can grab a fellow docent to help out. Thanks to the team for making it even easier for docents to participate in the Children’s Program.

_Docents Encourage Next Generation of Scientists_

Docent Theo Tanalski, continuing as chair of the TPDS Science Fair judging team this year, sends the following invitation:

"Docents will do Professional Organization Judging at the 2007 Greater San Diego Science and Engineering Fair, our seventh year of such community outreach. We need docents and trainees for a judging team both involving and interactive--you will judge in teams, and may collaborate on articles about our awardees. Judges get kudos, have fun, and do good for society and students alike! Science types and non–science types are equally welcome. Send me e-mail within 14 days if you might be interested (thepccat@juno.com)."

Join the team that’s a model for all Professional Organizations!
Flopsy, Mopsy and Cottontail…and Obligatory Symbiosis

Docents who find *The Tale of Peter Rabbit* and other Beatrix Potter stories timelessly entertaining and informative for children and grandchildren will be doubly appreciative of Miss Potter’s genius, upon learning of her other life. Potter had a life-long passion for the study of plants and animals in her environment. Her powers of observation and illustration show clearly in her little stories, but also in her comprehensive studies of fungi—still appreciated and used by mycologists today.

Most notable is her conclusion that lichens were indeed a symbiotic association of algae and fungi. (Note: while Potter is sometimes credited with originating this hypothesis, it had been proposed by continental biologists for some years, though discredited in Britain. Potter appears to be one of the first in Britain to support the hypothesis with her investigations—reported against considerable doubt, even disbelief, if not scorn, to the British botanic establishment.

As we introduce our public, especially children, to the story of TPSR lichens, isn’t it great that part of their history is based on the excellent science of this talented and creative artist?

There is a resurgence in interest in Beatrix Potter recently, around the centennial of the publication of her works. In the movie, “Miss Potter,” just released, Renee Zellweger portrays much of Potter’s unusual life and personality ….but nothing about her amazing role as a natural scientist.


One more connection of Beatrix Potter and Torrey Pines: she had a great interest in the preservation of open space, publicizing the need for such preserves, and ultimately leaving 4000 acres of her own lands to the National Trust in Great Britain. She would have had great conversations with Ellen Browning Scripps!!!

Walt Desmond

SD Natural History Museum Lectures

The SDNHM has an extensive program of lectures, some with field trips, offered free or at low cost. Below is a sampling of offerings over the next few months that might be of interest to TP docents. See the complete schedules and more detailed description at the SDNHM Web site, www.sdnhm.org/education/index.html.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>SUBJECT</th>
<th>COST</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tues Jan 30</td>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>Flowers, Birds, Mammals, Reptiles: SD Atlases</td>
<td>Free</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues Feb 13</td>
<td>6:30 pm</td>
<td>Climate Change: California Water Supply</td>
<td>Free</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon Feb 26</td>
<td>6:30 pm</td>
<td>Geology of San Diego (2 classes, 2 field trips)</td>
<td>$70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon Mar 12</td>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>Island Bird Extinctions</td>
<td>Free</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon Mar 12</td>
<td>6:30 pm</td>
<td>Beyone Killer Bees: SD Bees, Native and Non-native</td>
<td>$20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues Mar 13</td>
<td>6:30 pm</td>
<td>Realizing a Clean Energy Future</td>
<td>Free</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat Mar 17</td>
<td>9:00 am</td>
<td>Landscape Photography</td>
<td>$8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues Apr 10</td>
<td>6:30 pm</td>
<td>Global Warming: Where Do We Go From Here?</td>
<td>Free</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weds Apr 11</td>
<td>6:00 pm</td>
<td>Rattlesnake Biology</td>
<td>$20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues Apr 24</td>
<td>6:30 pm</td>
<td>SD County Rocks (2 classes, field trip, transportation)</td>
<td>$79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thur Apr 26</td>
<td>6:30 pm</td>
<td>Hummingbirds: Feathered Jewels (1 class+field trip)</td>
<td>$33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat May 12</td>
<td>8:00 am</td>
<td>Birding by Sound (field trip)</td>
<td>$20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Osprey flying along the cliffs at Torrey Pines State Reserve.

Images are copyrighted. Please contact the photographer before using an image for any reason: herb1rm@hotmail.com [Ed. Note: See photos in color at Herb’s site: www.pbase.com/herb1rm]

Total of 83 species (unusual sightings shown with an asterisk and in italics

Ducks & Geese
Brant* 1
Gadwall 22
American Wigeon 38
Mallard 4
Blue-winged Teal 8
Cinnamon Teal 4
Northern Shoveler 7
Northern Pintail 22
Green-winged Teal 2
Redhead 7
Lesser Scapu 9
Surf Scoter 2
Bufflehead 7
Red-breasted Merganser 2
Ruddy Duck 8

Quail
California Quail 2

Loons
Common Loon 1

Grebes
Pied-billed Grebe 6
Eared Grebe 6
Western Grebe 81

Pelicans
Brown Pelican 25

Cormorants
Double-crested Cormorant 13

Herons & Egrets

Observers: David Blue, Will Cox, Kathy Estey, Blair Frances, Don Grine, and Herb Knufken

For previous months go to www.torreypine.org/activities/bird-sightings.html

Ed. Note: People sometimes ask why the bird list is not ordered. We periodically also include the above family headings to address this.