NEW CLASS OF DOCENTS HAS MANY GIFTS TO SHARE
By Barbara McCabe
(Class of ’06)
Photos by Herb Knufken

The 26 recent graduates are already making their presence felt throughout the Reserve.

Herb Knufken, an amateur photographer who produced three winning entries in this year’s photo contest, has been busy photographing plants for the TPDS new flowering plant brochure. Before becoming a docent, Herb was at the Reserve several times a week capturing digital images that reflect its beauty and wildness. “Since I was here all the time anyway, I figured I might as well become a docent,” says Herb, who lives with his wife, Roswitha, in Carmel Valley.

Since he retired from the electronics field a few years ago, Herb, who immigrated to California from Germany in 1976, has pursued his hobby full time. Herb’s winning photos are on display, with the other winning entries, inside the Lodge. His images of Scallop Seashore, Pelican Sunset and Dolphins in Surf, are evidence that Herb has captured the spirit of Torrey Pines and will be an ongoing asset to the Reserve in many capacities.

It is no surprise that Sherry Doolittle, a third grade teacher at Solana Highlands Elementary School in Carmel Valley for the last 20 years, wanted to become a Torrey Pines docent. “I’ve always loved the Reserve and hiked up there almost weekly since I found out about it in the 1980s,” says Sherry.

Born and raised in Idaho, Sherry grew up riding horses in the mountains around Boise. After moving to San Diego with her husband Bob in 1976, Sherry’s love of nature and animals prompted her to initiate a program to help students learn about the natural world. “I was determined to help kids know about plants and animals in their back yards before it all was destroyed,” says Sherry, a mother of two grown daughters. “Sadly, that’s already happened in most of North County.” The program, which also became part of the Carmel Creek Elementary School curriculum, led to many field trips to the Reserve. “I want to give back to the place that has provided me with so much pleasure,” says Sherry. With her combined passion for nature and teaching, Sherry has a lot to offer to the Reserve.

When Marian Casazza retired from Quality Assurance International, an organic certification organization, where she was VP of Quality Systems, the San Diego native was able to fulfill her longtime desire to volunteer at the Reserve. “I became interested in being a docent after my aunt, Marion Antrim Heller, went through the program in the 1980s,” explains Marian, who has lived on Crest Road in Del Mar for 21 years. The Lodge’s history as a restaurant also has meaning for Marian, whose...
From the President

“Sacred work.” These are the words Richard Louv, author of Last Child in the Woods, used to describe the mission and the efforts of the Docent Society. In a presentation that was both entertaining and inspiring, Rich challenged us as an organization and as individuals to step up our efforts to fulfill our responsibilities to “educate and interpret” as well as to “protect and preserve.” Of special importance is the increased necessity to make this Reserve, and all of the out-of-doors, more immediate and relevant to our children. If our love of this great, green earth is not sustained in the souls of our children and their children, from where will come the next generation of custodians? The Children’s Program is a critical component in this task. Over 3,000 students a year are introduced to, or reacquainted with, the Reserve. We need to extend this outreach to children of middle school and high school age. We should establish a program for these youth and young adults to insure that the Reserve and the natural habitat that it represents becomes an important and meaningful part of their lives as well.

To this end, your Board has already begun to initiate contact with local area high schools, both public and non-public, in order to include the Torrey Pines State Reserve in their community service curriculums. Such a program has already been established with The Children’s School in La Jolla. In cooperation with TPA, we are considering the funding for a full time Interpretive Specialist at the Reserve. Such an individual could help coordinate and maintain these and other programs. But we need to do more. Creation of a program along the lines of a junior ranger program would enable us to enhance the environmental awareness of our youth while also providing an outlet for energy and curiosity that already exists.

Establishment of these and similar programs will benefit not only the Reserve, but also the Society and us as individual Docents as well. We can provide an additional outlet for the creativity and energy of our ever expanding membership. The unique rewards from working with bright, curious and engaged budding environmentalists will surely keep such a program staffed and robust.

The recent progress in preserving Santa Rosa Island is another aspect of our “Sacred Work.” Now that the Senate Resolution to preserve Santa Rosa Island within the National Park System has passed, the battle moves to the Conference Committee considering the Defense Authorization Act. Duncan Hunter has included his proposal to maintain the hunting operation on the island beyond its agreed termination in 2011 in this bill. I urge all of our members to express their opposition to Representative Hunter’s proposal to Senators John Warner (R-Virginia) and Carl Levin (D-Michigan). Senator Warner is the Chairman of the Senate Armed Forces Committee and Senator Levin is the ranking Democrat. These two will lead the Senate delegation in the Conference Committee. Contact information can be found through the Torreyana link on our Web site at torreypine.org . With a little more work, we can defeat this attempt to abrogate the rule of law that will benefit the few to the detriment of the many.

Once again, thank you all for your dedication and hard work. See you around the Reserve!

Steve Usher
President, Torrey Pines Docent Society
(Continued from page 1) Marion’s involvement in the organic movement spurred her interest in ecological sustainability and environmental issues. She has a degree in early childhood education and has worked as a preschool teacher, and her experience will prove invaluable in projects benefiting the Reserve. “I am interested in maintaining the Extension, collecting seeds, working in the library and helping out wherever I am needed,” says Marian, who also volunteers at Quail Botanical Gardens.

While Herb, Sherry and Marian have much to contribute, their classmates bring diverse talents that should prove equally valuable. The class includes a history professor, a retired management consultant, a land surveyor, a computer programmer-analyst, a retired UCSD advisor and a plant scientist, among others.

“My fledglings have left the nest,” says 2006 Training Director Jeff Spivak. “I’ve seen many of them around the Reserve,” adds the retired public school teacher from New York State, “I am gratified that they are really involved.”

Docent Chronicles
August 06

Next General Meeting
September 16, 2006 9 a.m.
at National University just across the highway from the Torrey Pines Golf Course (15 min walk from the Visitor Center)
11255 North Torrey Pines Road.

Program: Pat Abbot, Very colorful Professor of Geological Sciences at SDSU.
See Addendum on p. 9 for details.

Highlights from the August General Meeting
By Barbara McCardle, edited by Team Torreyana

Docent of the Month: Don Grine was recognized for his tremendous contribution as founder and coordinator of TPDS Special Walks for the past five years. Don and his program have generated over $20,000 in fees for the Society while introducing 2900 visitors to the Reserve. Steve announced that Don will be retiring from this position, and he presented Don with Thayer’s DVD, Birds of America 3.5, and thanked him for his many hours of work. Docents sang “Happy Birthday” to Don who will be celebrating his 76th birthday in a few days.

Steve announced that Margaret Fillius has agreed to take over for Don as Coordinator of Special Walks.

Treasurer’s Report: In the absence of Treasurer Rick Vogel, Steve gave the following report: “We spent some money and we have some left!”

Children’s Program: Cecily Goode reported that a workshop was held August 11 to repair props and assemble three photo books which docents may use on hikes. On Friday, August 25 Diane Greening will speak at 9 a.m. on “The Reserve, Plants and Habitats” as training for docents who may wish to participate in the 2006-07 Children’s Program. Laura Lowenstein reported the new online application for teachers is available on the torreypine.org Web site. New schools will be given priority over repeat schools. Volunteers will be needed to pack and unpack materials for the Children’s Program as part of the docent library remodel.

Training: Jeff Spivak reported that this is a quiet time for training. There may be a few additional graduates in September as 2006 trainees complete their requirements. Eight or nine names have been taken for the 2007 training class and Jeff asked docents to think about serving as a mentor or a walk leader during next year’s training.

Duty: Irene Larrimore reminded docents that they may not sign up for Lodge Duty on the TPDS Web site, but they are able to check the calendar for openings and then call the Lodge to fill a spot. There are still openings for September. Irene also reminded docents who may be showing up for Trail Patrol to please cover Lodge Duty if the desk is unstaffed and forgo Trail Patrol.

Communications: Roger Isaacson encouraged docents to give their comments on Richard Louv’s talk today. These comments will be included in the next Torreyana. The flower brochure has been delayed due to Roger’s involvement with the development of the online application for the Children’s Program. The TPSR Web site Education/Teacher’s Corner page offers four types of educational visits to the Reserve: (1) Docent-led Children’s Program (2) Ranger talk (3) College classes/other non profit organizations and (4) Special hikes with a docent naturalist. At this time only the Children’s Program. The TPSR Web site Education/Teacher’s Corner page offers four types of educational visits to the Reserve: (1) Docent-led Children’s Program (2) Ranger talk (3) College classes/other non profit organizations and (4) Special hikes with a docent naturalist. At this time only the Children’s Program offers an online application. The deadline for the next issue of the Torreyana is August 23 and Senior Editor Victoria Schaffer encouraged docents to submit articles.

The reciprocal Quail Gardens Tour is scheduled for Tuesday, September (continued on page 4)
26 and docents interested in attending should sign up after the meeting today.

**Trail Patrol:** Paul Whitby reported that the month of July was hot but 20 docents were out for 108 hours of Trail Patrol. Long-standing docents who may have missed the recent training for Trail Patrol may contact Paul to join the patrol.

**Santa Rosa Island Update:** Steve Usher reported that the resolution opposing the change in the use of Santa Rosa Island has passed in the Senate. The Paralyzed Veterans Association has also come out in opposition to Duncan Hunter’s proposal. Sue Randerson and Steve met with members from Senator Feinstein’s staff and docents are encouraged to do the following before September when the congressional committee will meet regarding this matter: (1) anyone who lives within Duncan Hunter’s district should write to him and (2) letters should also be written to Senator John Warner from Virginia and Senator Carl Levin from Michigan who will lead the Senate delegation to the Conference Committee considering the Defense Authorization bill which includes Duncan Hunter’s proposal. Addresses and fax numbers are available on the TPSR Web site, as well as a copy of the letter Steve wrote to both senators (Click on the Torreyana link, New-sample letter). Also see copy on page 9. This letter may be edited and sent to Duncan Hunter. Letters should be faxed to the Washington DC offices and home office addresses may be obtained from the senators’ Web sites for hard copy letters.

**Santa Rosa Island Field Trip:** Tom Polakiewicz reported that the September 17-19 trip has sold out with 42 people going. A bus has been arranged for transportation to and from the boat in Santa Barbara, and Tom will e-mail participants an information packet.

**Library Remodel:** Steve Usher reported that a specific schedule has been set for this project. Packing will commence September 20 and 21 and materials will be stored in the Video Room. Roger Isaacson will relocate the computer to the Video Room so docents can still enter their hours in the Tracker program. Demolition will occur on September 22 and all cabinetry will be installed October 9 and completed by October 13. The Grand Opening will be October 22. Volunteers will be needed for packing and unpacking. Imperial Hardwood has agreed to donate time and materials for finishing the floors. Eric Schulken will donate the labor for the painting of the walls.

**Beach Trail:** The PEF was approved and this project now goes to the Coastal Commission for approval. The goal now is to have the trail completed by the end of this calendar year. The Ellen Browning Scripps Foundation, who is paying for the project, would also like completion to occur by the end of 2006.

**Ranger’s Report:** Supervising Ranger Jody Kummer announced that rangers will host Volunteer Appreciation Night on the beach Sunday, September 24 at 6 p.m. Food and entertainment will be provided and further details will be given to docents in the near future.

**Children’s Program**

*Photos by Margaret Fillius*

The summer has flown by and in a few weeks we will be back on the trails with the school children. Please reflect on what our August speaker Richard Louv, author of *Last Child in the Woods*, had to say. He pointed out that we, docents, are doing “sacred work” by introducing children to nature and to our wonderful Reserve.

A new, online procedure is now in place for teachers to make a reservation for the Children’s Program. When working at the desk doing Lodge duty please instruct all interested teachers to go to the Website torreypine.org and use the online reservation form by following these steps:

- Point to Education on the menu bar and then click on Teachers’ corner.
- This will take them to a brief explanation of the program.
- Next, click on fill out the reservation request form and then Submit.

Note: Please do not give out any personal phone numbers.

Many teachers have already expressed interest in participating in our program during the new school year. We still have slots available on September 14, 15, 22 and 23, 2006. If you know of teachers in any public, private or charter school, who would be interested in making reservations for those dates, please inform them of the reservation procedure.

The Children’s Program offers a great experience to docents that want to interact with our youth. If you are one of those docents, please feel free to come and tag along and get involved. Look for signup sheets on the bulletin board in the library in mid-September.

We will hold a training session on trail tips, unruly children and sharing of ideas for the upcoming year, on September 15 if no school is signed up for that date. We will send confirmation and additional information by e-mail.

**Cecily Goode**
Director of Children’s Program
Acute Nature Deficiency
Text by Victoria Schaffer
Photo by Don Grine

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PDS President Steve Usher introduced Richard Louv, our August meeting speaker. Richard is a nationally known author, journalist and speaker on children, family, community, and nature. He writes a weekly column for the San Diego Union Tribune, and is author of Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children from Nature-Deficit Disorder. The book moved quickly to the New York Times best-sellers list, was recently issued in paperback, and was featured in People magazine. Richard confesses to having a very happy publisher, and adds that the latest book-related Google count is 200,000 hits.

Richard’s cowboy boots seemed incongruous, until one learned that he came to coastal San Diego from the plains of Kansas. He showed a knack for bullet-pointing his message, using modern vernacular to cleverly bring it home. He talked about children, a subject close to our docents’ hearts. He drove to countless extracurricular activities, as the causes of NDD. He decries the “cultural fascism” of housing development CC&Rs whose “no kids, no running, no-tree-house-building”, and other rules, result from our willingly surrendering to homeowners association boards those same liberties that we would not let elected officials take away. This is related to parents’ fear of abductions, and overall fear of danger, that build up in proportion to TV watching, and to that medium’s emphasis on abduction and danger news. The real danger lies not only in cutting children off nature, but also in giving them the negative message that we are doomed, and so is our environment.

Richard suggests that we replace the spotted owl with the nature-exposed child as the leading threatened-species indicator. Increased incidence of childhood obesity, with its associated diseases, is directly linked to insufficient physical activity. Exposure to nature has been shown to be effective in treating Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder.

Some of Richard’s proposed solutions include a “Leave No Child Inside” program to make up for the missing symbolic tree house in the woods; nature-focused “Audubon Scouts;” “Nature Preschool;” “Grow Outside” posters in pediatricians’ offices; a children-focused partnering that brings together different groups; changes in agricultural practices and energy sources.

While addressing different organizations, Richard has found that his book is having an impact, and a movement seems to be starting, as if the issue of Nature Deficit Disorder has been in the back of people’s mind and is being brought to the fore by his book.

So what if, while ever so subtly promoting his book, Richard was speaking to our choir? His message touched our hearts and reinforced beliefs that keep us coming back to this place to give of ourselves: that it behooves us to preserve this piece of nature, and that children will benefit from learning about it, and walking through it. This choir will sing louder, energized by a message of old-fashioned hope.

Trail Tales: Excerpts from the Trail Patrol Log
Edited by Victoria Schaffer

Trail Patrol Coordinator Paul Whitby reports that twenty Patrollers went on the trails in July, and put in a total of 118 hours. After their trail duties, patrollers also take time to log their observations. These are some of their log entries.

“There was an Osprey, a majestic, big-bird, black and white, fly-like-you-mean-it Osprey. Right there on the ledge above Flat Rock. Five color layers of substratum sandstone up. Our visitors, Mr. and Mrs. Wisconsin, Indiana, Germany and, fittingly, Chula Vista, thanked me and the Rangers and the Docent Society for such natural wonders. Yes, it was an interpretive moment about birds of prey and the Reserve. Within seconds, however, the balance of questions was restored when a gentleman with teenagers in tow asked where all the animals were. Amid the ringing of cell phones, he wanted to know why all he had seen on this big hike down the hill to Yucca Point were lizards. At that point, the...
Osprey decided to make a move and fly again. All I had to do was point in its direction. No words required.”  
Rhea Bridy, Rookie Trail Patroller, 7/24/06.

“ ‘Warning, Rattlesnakes’ the sign read. I had paused to contemplate the young man contemplating the picture sign. He turned, so I asked if I could answer his questions. He thought a moment, and wondered, ‘I have not seen any snakes as yet. Where would they be?’ Are there really rattlesnakes here?” It reminded me of me, five months ago, before training. It was as if I were from Missouri, the Show-me State. I explained that the snakes have already begun to come out of their mild hibernation and know well the value of camouflage while hunting for mice, lizards, squirrel, and birds. I told him a little bit about my own trail experience with a rattler as it hid inches from the trail under a bladderpod, yet I didn’t see it until I heard it strike at a lizard. The young man’s eyes widened incredulously. I added that he might find a rattler lounging on the trail on warm, soft sand or on a parking lot’s warm asphalt or on a warm rock just big enough to sit on. He asked what he should do if he saw one. My answer was specific. This is the rattler’s home. You give him a very long space and then some. You thank nature for the opportunity. Last week I neglected to show and then go in the opposite direction. He asked why he couldn’t move onto the trail and end their picnic. The best part of the walk was finding an Osprey, perched on the highest point north of Yucca Point, eating its lunch! (No prohibition on that picnic!) And, finally, the best of all was observing a school of, what I think were horn sharks, in the shallow water around Flat Rock. There were probably a dozen or more 4-5 foot dark grey sharks swimming in very shallow clear surf. Quite exciting as I haven’t seen them before. I have seen the leopard sharks in previous years. These experiences keep calling one back to Torrey Pines!”  
Mayo Stiegler, 8/14/06.

“I am pleased to report that there are new signs in many places: on a temporary barricade at top of the Broken Hill Trail North Fork, indicating no beach access; signs by false trails indicating that there are no trails. There are also two wonderful wooden fences by open spaces on the Broken Hill Trail. And, down by the closed beach access, the Proceed with Caution sign is nowhere to be seen. Good things are happening. It feels like we are being heard.

Once again I missed an opportunity. Last week I neglected to bring a trash bag and had to make up for that today. Today I wished I had brought my camera. I saw a man with a backpack actually climbing over the wooden sign at the bottom of the Beach Trail. First he negotiated with getting down to it by sliding on his bottom. Then, rather than going around the cliff face, which is all sandy and at a 45-degree incline, he chose to climb over the sign that closes off the gap. I thought he’d break it so I called out to him, but he was not to be deterred. What a wonderful series of photos that would have made! I plan to return to the scene of the crime with a camera and hang out there hoping for a repeat performance.”  
Bobbi Whity, 8/24/06.

“Great news! The big ‘Beach Trail’ sign at the second parking lot has been covered with white plastic. This will make our job much easier, as many visitors were trying to get to the beach after seeing this sign. Of course, the beach access portion of the trail is still closed. More signage has been appearing, some saying ‘No food’ which is more explicit to indicate no picnic than the picnic table with a slash through it. Many thanks go to those responsible for obtaining the new signs. However, there are still visitors who either do not notice them or do not read the rules. Apparently one visitor thought that eating out of a plastic container as she was starting down the trail was O.K. She willingly followed my suggestion that she finish her meal in the car.

But things are looking up! I met three visitors on the Guy Fleming Trail who had parked at the beach parking lot, walked along the beach to Flat Rock, and intended to complete the circuit by coming up the Beach Trail. Seeing the closed sign, they had retraced their steps on the beach and come up the road to the Guy Fleming Trail. How refreshing! Of course they were disappointed, but understanding of the reasons for the closure. I finished my patrol by noticing what was in bloom and what not. I discovered some White Sage on the left side of the Guy Fleming Trail, about 100 yards past the birdbath. The only other place I have seen it recently is along the old road going south towards the Broken Hill Trail. Also, I saw a bush I couldn’t identify until I noticed the colorful little Harlequin bug. Problem solved. Bladderpod.”  
Paul Whity, 8/25/06.
The Western Fence Lizard at Torrey Pines
By Maryruth Cox

It had been HOT that July day, but in the late afternoon long shadows fell over the valley of the Torrey Pines Extension. We trudged up the trail, watching carefully for rattlesnakes that also like to come out in the cool of the evening and stretch their long bodies in the warm sand.

Lizards flicked across the path: the small brown Uta, a long slinky alligator lizard, and the common western fence lizard. Most of the latter were grey and nondescript, but an occasional adult male displayed brilliant ultramarine scales interspersed with grey, brown and white in an intricate pattern down his back. If he happened to be doing "push-ups" to improve his depth perception, we might have caught a glimpse of broad swatches of brilliant blue on his belly.

We were especially glad to see western fence lizards (Sceloporus occidentalis) at Torrey Pines. The blood of some of them studied in the laboratory has been found to contain a substance that kills the spirochete (Borrelia burgdorferi) that causes the dreaded Lyme disease, which affects so much of our wilderness areas. The spirochete is transmitted by the western black-legged tick (Ixodes pacificus.) The ticks feed upon the blood of infected rodents and deer, and transmit the infection to other animals and to humans. The ticks also bite the western fence lizards, but the spirochete dies in the process and thus the ticks no longer carry it.

We welcome the little fellows that scamper across our path, our friends and likely protectors!

A New Index for the Torrey Pines Historical Files
By Maryruth Cox

The Torrey Pines Historical Files have a new home and a new index. So what are the Torrey Pines Historical Files?

In the early 1990s when I asked Bob Wohl about the history of Torrey Pines, his eyes lit up. He rummaged around in a back room of the Lodge and found three boxes of musty old papers. If I sorted these, I would really learn about Torrey Pines history, he said.

Now a new index to the files is available: both chronological and alphabetical. The files are stored at Smart Self-Storage in Solana Beach. If you wish to consult them, ask Peter Jensen or Maryruth Cox for the key. A copy of the index is in the Docent Library.

Bee Swarms
By Don Grine

I have had to avoid bee swarms twice while doing Children's Walks at the Reserve. I got a demonstration on Sunday, August 13, of why we go around the long way when we see or hear a swarm.

While trimming a hedge at the edge of our property, I suddenly felt several bee stings on my arms and head. As I turned to run, my foot caught in the ground cover I was walking on. As I turned my body, my foot stayed put. As a result, I sprained my left ankle and knee and collapsed to the ground with many bees still stinging me. I crawled out to our lawn and then the deck, dragging my useless left leg. The bees were still stinging but compared to the leg, did not feel too bad. I was happy to slam our screen behind me after being stung about twenty times. If I had not been able to crawl the fifty feet, I believe the bees would have killed me.

After this experience (I'm still limping), I will be even more cautious about getting near a swarm with a group of children.
Birds Fishing at Torrey Pines

*Photos and text by Herb Knufken*
(Class of 2006)

Terns are my favorite birds. I have devoted a separate gallery to them. This morning 8/25 the sun broke through early at the beach so I went to the North Beach parking lot and observed some Least Terns and Royal Terns fishing in the ocean outside the lagoon mouth. This shot was taken at 8 a.m. and was one of the best of over 100 shots I took.

This photo of an Osprey was taken on 8/9 at 5 p.m. He was flying towards his favorite perch on the cliff above Flat Rock. The afternoon light was just ideal for this shot.

Snowy Egret with fish was taken on 8/17 at 11a.m. on South Torrey Pines Beach. This month there are at least 3-4 Snowy Egrets fishing in the surf. With some patience I got this shot.

Go to [www.pbase.com/herb1rm](http://www.pbase.com/herb1rm) to see Herb’s gallery of incredible photos taken at TPSR and elsewhere. Ed

All images are copyrighted. Please contact the photographer before using an image for any reason: herb1rm@hotmail.com

**On-line Torreyana**
[www.torreypinesreserve.org](http://www.torreypinesreserve.org)
Remember the Web version is in color. Ed.

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**Torrey Pines Docent Society Bird Survey: August 5, 2006**

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<th>California Thrasher 1</th>
<th>California Gnatcatcher 5</th>
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<td>Mallard 46</td>
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<td>White-throated Swift 1</td>
<td>Common Yellowthroat 5</td>
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<td>California Quail 5</td>
<td>Snowy Plover 12</td>
<td>Anna's Hummingbird 16</td>
<td>Spotted Towhee 5</td>
<td>California Gnatcatcher 5</td>
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<td>Pied-billed Grebe 2</td>
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<td>Nuttall's Woodpecker 2</td>
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<td>Brown Pelican 14</td>
<td>Willet 62</td>
<td>Black Phoebe 3</td>
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<td>Whimbrel 6</td>
<td>Ash-throated Flycatcher 2</td>
<td>Belding's Savannah Sparrow 3</td>
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<td>Long-billed Curlew 1</td>
<td>Cassin's Kingbird 1</td>
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<td>Western Scrub-Jay 8</td>
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<td>Dowitcher sp. 4</td>
<td>American Crow 10</td>
<td>Lesser Goldfinch 23</td>
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<td>Heermann's Gull 3</td>
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<td>California Gull 1</td>
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<td><em>Jack Friery, Don Grine and Will Cox</em></td>
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Previous months are posted on the TPSR Web site at [www.torreypinesreserve.org](http://www.torreypinesreserve.org)
On the menu bar point to **Activities** and then click on **Bird-sightings**
Addendum to September 2006 Torreyana

A Fresh Look at Geology at September 16th Docent Meeting

"Best teacher at State", "Wears crazy suits every day", "Cool and interesting" are some of the things his students say about Dr. Patrick L. Abbott, our speaker at the September Docent meeting*.

Dr. Abbott, "SDSU's irrepressible explicator of natural disasters," (per SDSU newsletter) is Emeritus Professor of Geology at San Diego State, where he has taught since 1971. A prolific author of publications on San Diego geology, including the award-winning video, Written in Stone-San Diego's Last Million Years, Pat Abbott is also a noted speaker, much in demand to bring the significance of geological events to the non-geologist (on TV and cruise ships, as well as in the classroom--do you remember him in "The Real Gilligan's Island"?). Torrey Pines geology will be something new and different for docents hearing Pat Abbott at the September meeting.

*some of the 120 student comments from www.ratemyprofessors.com

Learn more about Dr. Pat Abbott at

www.geology.sdsu.edu/people/faculty/abbott/ and www-rohan.sdsu.edu/~pabbott/

Preview Written in Stone at

www-rohan.sdsu.edu/%7Ewis/