

TORREYANA

THE DOCENT NEWSLETTER FOR
TORREY PINES
STATE NATURAL RESERVE

Issue 350

July 2014

An Archeological Mystery

by Pat Finn

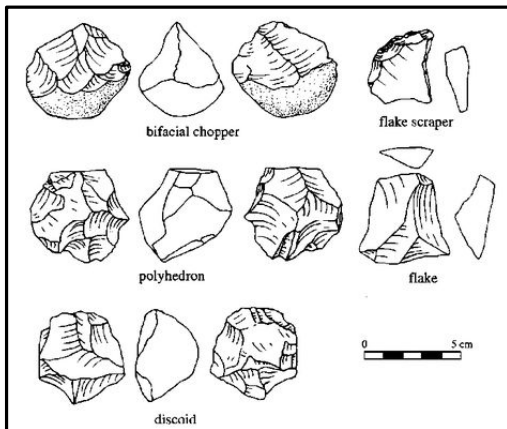
Mark Becker, PhD., the speaker at the June TPDS meeting, is a man of mystery.

Take his firm, ASM Affiliates in Carlsbad. It is, the website says, “an SBE certified cultural resources management (CRM) firm with more than 35 years of experience providing environmental regulatory compliance services to federal agencies and private proponents throughout the west.”

Code for sure, but easily decipherable. ASM helps federal agencies and private corporations stay on the right side of environmental laws and protection acts like California’s CEQA and the National Historic Preservation Act. ASM provides these services to mining companies and transportation, energy and construction projects. In fact, there is a photo of Petco Park on ASM’s Projects page.

Dr. Becker figures that after eight years of personally investigating archeology in the San Diego region, he and his colleagues ought to have come to some sort of consensus on when events occurred – the chronology -- by now. But there is none. Another mystery.

Archeologists base a chronology on *types* of artifacts, which include ceramics and, most reliably, stone tools, which last longer. The tool kit of the average Upper Paleolithic



Some examples of chopper and scraper styles
Cropped from Bing images

Docent General Meeting

Saturday, July 12, 9 am

Location: St Peter’s Episcopal Rec Hall, Del Mar

Title & Speaker: TBA

Refreshments: Docents whose last names begin with D, E and F will be responsible for providing snacks for the July meeting.

handyman includes blade cores, burins, endscrapers, and perforators. How they are made – the *styles* – are even more help in determining chronology.

In the Midwestern United States there is agreement among archeologists as to who was punching holes in bison hides with which perforator around what time in history. Same story (minus the buffalo) in the Middle East. Consensus.

But the San Diego region lacks standardized types of tools. Why? Tools were made of non-flaked stone, even shells. Bone tools and ceramics can’t be identified as to date or area. Different areas used different technologies.

So Dr. Becker believes the answer to finding a chronology may lie in studying the *function* of tools. Inland and coastal regions, for instance, may have packed the same tool kit, but they used the tools differently. Dr. Becker believes that in San Diego, native populations were “complete generalists,” rather than specialists. They used all the resources they could find and weren’t picky about which blade to dispatch an animal with.

(cont. on pg. 3)

Inside

| | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Message from the President | 2 |
| General Meeting Minutes | 3 |
| Docent of the Month | 3 |
| 27 New Docents | 4 |
| Children’s Program | 4 |
| TPDS Book Club | 4 |
| Diane Russell’s Magic Sq... | 5 |
| Book Review | 5 |
| Seeing the Reserve From... | 5 |
| Goodbye Letter | 6 |
| Did You Know? | 7 |
| Bird List | 7 |

The Torrey Pines Docent Society publishes the *Torreyana* monthly, edited by Joan Simon and Pat Finn on alternate months, and is formatted and produced by Roger Isaacson. Submissions are due on or about the 20th day of the preceding month and may be emailed to

Editors@torreypine.org.

Circulation manager: Marian Casazza

Extra copies of the printed *Torreyana* may be found in the docent library.

Please send postal/
email address changes to:

Torrey Pines Docent Society

P.O. Box 2414, Del Mar, CA 92014

Attn: Membership or email to

Membership@torreypine.org

Web sites:

TP Docent Society: torreypine.org

TP Association: torreypines.org

Visitor Center phone: **858.755.8219**

TPDS 2014 Board Members:

President: Bill Eckles

Vice-president: Bob Doolittle

Treasurer: Gerry Lawrence

Secretary: Annette Ring

Dir. of Communications: Lou Adamo

Dirs. of Children's Program: Barbara Justice
& Marie Johnson

Dir. of Programs: Hank Beck

Dir. of Training: Diane Stocklin

Dirs. of Lodge Hosting: Irene Larrimore
& Jan Lombardi

TPSNR Staff:

Supervising Ranger: Dylan Hardenbrook

Rangers: Kyle Knox, Jesus "Chuy" Salinas
Rodriguez, and Mike Winterton

Sr. Park Aide: Louis Sands

Park Aides: Joy Inton, Johnson Jou,
Isabelle Medina, and Jake Mumma

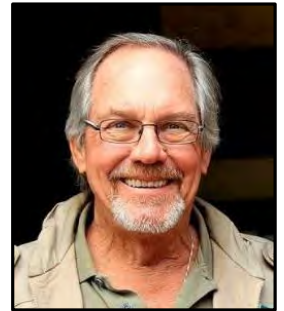
© Torrey Pines Docent Society
Since 1975

All rights reserved

FLASH From Joy Inton: Don't
forget to donate your ZooNooz
magazines to the Museum Shop.

Message from the President

It's June and we can't escape the fact that the drought has taken its toll on the wild flowers, the Torreys, and the overall look and feel of the Reserve. Blossoms have been much less visible than normal and a gray pervades the beautiful vistas, the result of both dust and dryness. Yet the trails and vistas remain inspiring and humbling in their summer attire, the cues to their richness being more subtle than when well-watered by winter rains. Plants struggle for scarce but necessary water; trees wring water from less prevalent "June Gloom"-generated fog; reptiles find water in places that are a bit riskier to them than their normal sources. The discriminating eyes of our visitors as well as our docents see wonders of preservation and even growth that contribute to the attraction and beauty of our Reserve.



So it is with the progress of our Society. There may appear to be a lull in activities, but we are merely "catching our breath" as we gear up for another surge. The Ranger staff has added Isabel as a park aide, complimenting the activities of Johnson, Joy, Louis, and Jake and helping us and the Rangers (Chuy fit right into the Ranger group almost immediately) with all of our chores. Docent committees and operating groups are gathering momentum to meet and greet the anticipated expanded summer flow of visitors and vacationing travelers. The Museum Refresh workers will refine their goals, the result of sharing ideas from several possible vendors. The Safety Committee will be ready to implement trail delineation and identification when the master trail plan is complete. The garden committee is continuing to work on the Lodge's front yard and plans to move across the street soon to Whitaker Garden. Our Whacky Weeders and Recyclers are winning their battles against unwelcome "guests," while TPA generates more ways to add both beauty and function to our Reserve.

At our general meeting in June we welcomed another large, strong and active group of docents and look forward to their assistance in protecting and preserving, as well as enhancing, our precious legacy. This, too, is part of the natural cycle. Thanks to all for participating and moving us all along.

Bill Eckles

President,

Torrey Pines Docent Society

(cont. from pg. 1)

Dr. Becker believes studying this willingness to adapt, to try anything, can yield understanding for us as we face our own challenge with adaptation, climate change. And how to deal with that effectively is, of course, another mystery.

Torrey Pines Docent Society General Meeting Minutes for June 14, 2014

Ingo Renner was named DOM to rounds of applause, reinforcing his popularity for doing a fine job with high energy, great people skills, and lots of knowledge of the out-of-doors.

Thomas Stehlik read a "going away" letter from **Andre Batarseh** expressing Andre's gratitude to the Docent Society and the Reserve (see letter on pg. 6).

Frank Burham reintroduced Nilay Shaw, a 2012 Science Fair winner, whose presentation at the docent meeting two years ago spurred the Society's interest in discontinuing the sale of bottled water at the Reserve because of environmental concerns. (See June 2012 *Pinecone* for Nilay's student article.) Frank presented Nilay with souvenir reusable water bottles that we have sold to the visiting public, as well as gratitude for his actions. Nilay is continuing his studies in the field and is participating in advanced programs at UCSD.

We have a stuffed Long-tailed Weasel awaiting a case before being put on display because he is a bit fragile. He is currently in the ranger office until we can acquire an appropriate display case.

The Green Team will install an attractive water dispenser and water fountain in the south parking lot, at the south end of the restroom next to the shower. Bottles may be filled in preparation for the uphill hike rather than waiting for the reward at the top. Look for further beautification there.

A draft presentation of the *Parks Forward* report is at its website for our perusal. A final report will be presented to the public in a soon-to-be-held symposium.

The Endowment Fund, created jointly by TPA and TPDS, is being managed by a committee of **Bill Eckles** and **Jim Bedinger** (supported by Treasurer **Gerry Lawrence** and **Hank Beck**) in addition to TPA representatives to assure its most efficient and effective use.

A dynamic discussion was stimulated by the recent curtailment of distributing paper trail maps at the Lodge, which was done for environmental reasons. The matter will be resolved, following a thoughtful analysis by the Board and the Green Team, with approval by Supervising Ranger Dylan Hardenbrook.

The graduating class of new docents was introduced by **Diane Stocklin**, **Jeannie Smith**, and **Linda Zlotnik** and mutual thanks were expressed.

Everyone adjourned to the patio area for lunch and congratulations before departing for home.

Docent of the Month:

Ingo Renner

Photo by Herb Knüfken

Thank you for naming me Docent of the Month. I am honored and humbled, recognizing the outstanding volunteers that have served TPDS over the years. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time here; whether it's leading nature hikes, going on interpretive trail patrol, doing Lodge hosting or joining the Whacky



Weeders. The comradery has been great and I am proud to belong to such a fun, intelligent, and passionate group of docents!

Torrey Pines, the Extension and neighboring Crest Canyon will always have a special place in my heart, because this is where I grew up and still live today. I was born in the old Scripps Hospital when it was located in downtown La Jolla and have many fond memories of exploring local canyons and lonely beaches with my family and dogs. On weekends I used to enjoy visiting close friends who had a large pig ranch in Carmel Valley, just a few miles east of the Reserve, where we could hike, ride horseback, and motorbike through what we used to call the "boonies." One afternoon, a large mountain lion jumped right over the hood of our car while we were driving home. I have enjoyed many activities that connected me with nature, such as snorkeling, surfing, and more recently paragliding on nearby Black Mountain and the Torrey Pines Glider Port.

After graduating from Torrey Pines High School, I joined the family business of building custom cabinets and fine woodworking. During this time, I

also attended Palomar College, taking classes in Native American Studies and the Natural History of Native Plants and Animals. This hands-on training laid the groundwork for my docent work in Torrey Pines. In September, 1993, I married my lovely wife, Hilda (who was a docent at the time), on the Parry Grove Overlook. Forward twenty years, now that our two children are grown, the Docent Society has given me the opportunity to share my interest in the education and preservation of this last remaining precious slice of our Torrey Pines maritime chaparral.

27 New Docents Graduate

by Jeannie Smith

The docent training class of 2014 celebrated the graduation of 27 new docents who will share their enthusiasm, knowledge and love of the Reserve with visitors from now on. We're hoping a 28th will graduate when she returns from an oceanographic expedition. The class was introduced to the Docent Society at the June 14th general meeting as **Diane Stocklin**, Director of Training, called each graduate by name to rounds of applause.

Following the introductions and the bestowing of shirts, badges and parking passes, all docents, new and old, were invited to share a lunch of sandwiches from Board and Brew, fruits, cookies and cake. The lively crowd lingered long in the sunny, flower-filled patio of St. Peter's for congratulations and conversations and growing friendships. We seasoned docents welcome you, Class of 2014, and wish you many years of fun, learning, and service to our beloved Reserve.

Children's Program

by Barbara Justice and Marie Johnson, Children's Program Directors and
Louis Sands, Children's Program Coordinator

THANK YOU to all the wonderful and dedicated docents who participated as presenters and/or leaders for our hikes with the school children this year. Our last hike was on June 6th with 26 children for the Kumeyaay, Native American program. **Joellen Barnett** was the presenter.

We had a total of 2610 children for our programs from January through June. WOW - fantastic! And the Children's Program paid \$4656 for grants to help out with 25 bus trips starting in October last year.

If you want some fun and entertaining reading, please look in the library at the letters and drawings from happy participating children.

Save Thursday, July 17th for our Children's Program end of school year potluck luncheon when we will evaluate and discuss this year's programs. **Barbara Wallach** will tell us the history of the Children's Program as we prepare to celebrate our 25th anniversary. More details will be emailed to you from Louis Sands.

Torrey Pines Book Club

When: Tuesday, July 29, 2 pm

Where: Ken King's residence (La Jolla)

What: *The West without Water: What Past Floods, Droughts, and Other Climatic Clues Tell Us about Tomorrow* by B. Lynn Ingram

All TPDS docents are welcome. Meetings usually last a couple of hours. Please contact Molly McConnell or Ken King if you plan to attend. (Check Member List for email or phone numbers.)



Back row: Marsha Arones, Deb Balch (obscured), Pao Chao, Pete Domaille, Jeff Friedenber, Jennifer Greenberg, Allen Holden, Charles Jia, Polina Katrikh, Claudia Kay, Luisa Kennefick, Jake Mumma

Front row: Clare Key, Mona Kuczenski, Nerius Landys, Stephanie Moles, Andrea Morin, Susan Morrison, Emily Motz, Tania Popov, Sarah Wyckoff, Tina Rathbone, Betsy Seible, Claudia Swanson, Lorraine Stein, Clay White

Unable to attend: Arlene Weinerman and Jessica Durette

Photo by Herb Knüfken

Diane Russell's Magic Square

by Lynne Small

Docent Diane Russell has a very special square -- a 10m x 10m square staked out on the western slope along the Guy Fleming Trail. In this area every year the Whacky Weeders fight the non-native, highly invasive South African veldt grass (*Ehrharta longiflora*). The grass is an annual and reproduces by spreading a billion seeds throughout the area. (Maybe not quite a billion, but it seems like it.) As hard as we try, it is impossible to get all the young *Ehrharta* plants out before they go to seed. But what if we could?

In 2013, Diane took it upon herself to weed every sprig of *Ehrharta* out of her square -- and to keep count! How many were there? By doing this year after year, she would give us some real evidence on this grass, about which rather little is known. How much will regrow from a previous year's seed bank? How much is blown, washed, or carried in from outside the square?



Photo by Roger Isaacson

Season totals:

2013 3806 *Ehrharta* plants

2014 329 *Ehrharta* plants

A magic square, indeed! But wait. Life isn't that simple. How much of this decline was due to the drought and how much to Diane's as-close-to-100%-as-you-can-get weeding? We need 2015, 2016, data. The experiment continues.

The Whacky Weeders as a group are trying a related but less demanding experiment, in addition to continuing to do our best to weed the whole region. We are trying to weed very, very thoroughly an ever-expanding array of squares (two added each year) without, however, trying to keep track of the count. Even in these squares, we cannot hope to get rid of the *Ehrharta* completely, but perhaps we can create an area where there is much less. The hope is that where there is much less, the weeding will then go more quickly and so we'll have time to increase the size of the closely-weeded area even further ... and further ... and further.

Museum Shop Book Review

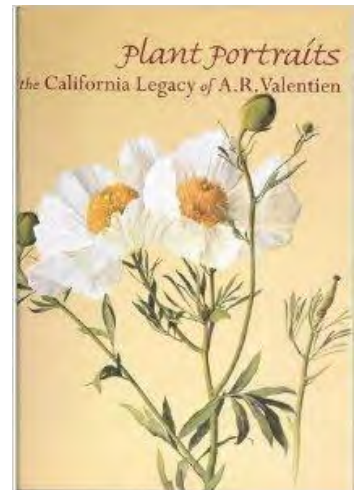
by Suzan Potuznik

Plant Portraits: The California Legacy of A. R. Valentien by Margaret N. Dykens, Jean Stern, Exequiel Ezcurra, Peter Raven, Joan Irvine Smith (Introduction) 2003.

Albert Valentien (1862-1925) was a skilled artist and a pottery decorator and designer, with a desire to paint California wildflowers in their "true colors, size and detail that would both be appreciated for their artistic value and serve as a reference for institutions of learning." Commissioned by Ellen Browning Scripps in 1908, for the next ten years Valentien traveled throughout California, visiting deserts, salt marshes, canyons, chaparral, and mountain meadows, painting the grasses, ferns, trees, and wildflowers.

At the start of the project, Valentien chose a very specific paper to serve as a backdrop for his watercolor/gouache illustrations. The paper, a medium-weight pale grey woven paper, 13 by 24 inches, was mounted on a dressed linen to provide greater body and prevent tearing. It served as an invisible pedestal placing all the focus on the plant species and every minuscule detail of its form. The entire work, now in the collection of the San Diego Natural History Museum, consists of 1,094 sheets representing approximately 1500 species that were formally identified from pressed and dried specimens sent by Valentien to H.M. Hall, Professor of Botany at the University of California at Berkeley.

Valentien dreamed of publishing his illustrations but the difficulty and costs associated with printing a book of high quality reproductions resulted in its completion long after Valentien's and Miss Scripps' lifetime. Now, between pages of exquisite reproductions of his plant portraits, a story unfolds that gives the reader a glimpse of Albert Valentien, the man, his life, his talents and the California Wildflower project. The 325 color illustrations selected for this book are presented in the order of their botanical names with figure legends that vary with each species and may highlight a unique quality, a non-native species country of origin, or perhaps a specific use or function of the plant.



The Museum Shop also carries a collection of Albert Valentien postcards.

Seeing the Reserve from Another Angle

by Kristine Schindler

We had our second road clean-up of 2014 on Friday morning, June 13th. This activity really does offer up a way to get exercise, leave the road (and bordering Reserve) much better than you found it, and take in some really different and stunning views. Thanks to those who



Our stunning view Photo by Kristine Schindler

made up our HBH (Hands, Backs, and Hearts) crew this go around. We were 12 strong with **Greg Howard, George Beardsley, Vince Castiglione, Darlene Martineau, Joan Simon, Wes Farmer, Ken King, Clay White, Claudia Kay, Andi Morin, and Julia Blake.** I am pleased to point out that we had four new crew members join in and three of those were from the new docent Class of 2014! And the other wonderful dedicated docents who come back for more -- got to love that. I appreciate the help each and every one of you provides.

Here's something to consider. We always need new docents to get involved in this activity and will welcome you and your hands, back, and heart graciously. To be added to my list to be notified of future clean-up plans, please send me an email to krisbo@cox.net.

However you SERVE the RESERVE, thank you! Hope you are enjoying our long days of summer.



Julia Blake, Joan Simon, and Vince Castiglione



Ken King and Andrea Morin Photo by Wes Farmer

Goodbye Letter from Andre Batarseh

[Previously read at the June 14th General Meeting by Thomas Stehlik.]

Dear Fellow Docents,

My friend Thomas was kind enough to read these few lines addressed to you.

My wife and I have made a quick decision to relocate to the Bay Area to be close to our two daughters. We put our house up for sale and it sold immediately. Thus, we are overwhelmed with packing and making the final arrangements to move by the end of June.

*Before I became a docent, Torrey Pines was my home for walking and running. Then one evening at a dinner party, I met **Bill Key** who introduced me to volunteering at Torrey Pines. I am grateful to him and also to my mentor **Paul Whitby**.*

*I have been a docent for three years and have enjoyed every minute of it: the long walks with my friend **Thomas Stehlik**, Lodge hosting, working with the Seabees and lately, weeding with the Whacky Weeders. However, the most enjoyable part has been the docents themselves who run Torrey Pines Reserve, many of whom became my friends. I admire the atmosphere of understanding, friendship and cooperation that exists amongst docents, and especially their dedication.*

My wife and I have spent 12 years in San Diego and are leaving it with heavy hearts. It has been a pleasure and honor to be part of you and to know you all. I will cherish these good memories. Torrey Pines is special in my heart. We will always come back to San Diego to meet our friends and surely one of the first places we will visit is Torrey Pines Reserve.

I am sure Torrey Pines will always prosper because of all the docents.

*See you soon,
Andre Batarseh*



Did you know?*

Flowers, Birds and Bugs

by Tom Polakiewicz

Early on in my docenting career, I heard that, because of its varied habitats, San Diego County has more wildflowers, more bird species and more insect species than any other county in the United States. I have repeated this information to almost every group I have led on a nature walk. But, after so many years, I began to wonder, is it really true?

When I looked into it I found that San Diego County is so large that we ought to have lots of flowers, birds and bugs. The county covers 4,200 square miles of land area—more than Rhode Island and Delaware combined. Lest our hat size approach our acreage, though, we are only the 84th largest county in the country. Not even close to the 20,105 square miles of San Bernardino County, our northern neighbor. See: wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_the_largest_counties_in_the_United_States_by_area. So much for size matters.

But, in fact we do have over 2,000 native plant species. James Lightner in *San Diego County Native Plants* (3rd edition, 2011) says that this is more than any other area of comparable size. And the U.S. Geological Survey, at npwrc.usgs.gov/resource/birds/chekbird/r1/sandiego.htm, tells us that the 484 bird species found here are the most in any county in the country. According to the San Diego Field Ornithologists, the count is even higher at 514. See sandiegofieldornithologists.org/?page_id=517

Our real claim to fame, though, is in our bugs. Jim Berrian, the field entomologist at the San Diego Natural History Museum, told me that we probably do have more insects than anywhere else in the country. We have at least 500 species of native bees, four or five times that many wasps, and 441 species of spiders, just to name a few. In fact, we have so many bugs, he couldn't give me an exact number.

So if numbers make you happy, brag on. It's not just our climate that makes us the envy of much of the world, our proliferation of flowers, birds and bugs does too.

*This "*Did You Know?*" tidbit is one of a series of occasional submissions from **Tom Polakiewicz**.

Torrey Pines Docent Society Bird Survey: June 7, 2014

Number of species: 64

Gadwall 13
Mallard 7
Cinnamon Teal 1
Northern Shoveler 7
California Quail 4
Pied-billed Grebe 3
Black-vented Shearwater 9
Brandt's Cormorant 2
Double-crested Cormorant 4
Great Blue Heron 3
Great Egret 4
Snowy Egret 14
White-tailed Kite 2
Cooper's Hawk 1
Red-shouldered Hawk 2
Red-tailed Hawk 3
Common Gallinule 4

Killdeer 2
Heermann's Gull 15
Ring-billed Gull 4
Western Gull 16
California Gull 1
Caspian Tern 5
Eurasian Collared-Dove 2
Mourning Dove 12
White-throated Swift 4
Anna's Hummingbird 18
Allen's Hummingbird 2
Nuttall's Woodpecker 6
Downy Woodpecker 1
American Kestrel 4
Peregrine Falcon 2
Black Phoebe 5
Say's Phoebe 3
Ash-throated Flycatcher 2
Cassin's Kingbird 4

Western Scrub-Jay 7
American Crow 22
Common Raven 14
Northern Rough-winged Swallow 21
Cliff Swallow 5
Red-breasted Nuthatch 1
House Wren 6
Marsh Wren 1
Wrentit 19
California Thrasher 1
Northern Mockingbird 7
European Starling 1
Phainopepla 4
Orange-crowned Warbler 3
Common Yellowthroat 16
Yellow-breasted Chat 4
Spotted Towhee 22
California Towhee 12

Savannah Sparrow 6
Song Sparrow 7
Black-headed Grosbeak 3
Blue Grosbeak 1
Red-winged Blackbird 27
Brown-headed Cowbird 1
Hooded Oriole 1
House Finch 53
Lesser Goldfinch 26
House Sparrow 4

Observers: Kathy Dickey, Blair Francis, Eva Armi, Frank Wong, Jack Friery, Pete di Girolamo, Gary Grantham, Bob Glaser, and Anonymous

Previous Bird Surveys may be found at torreypine.org/activities/bird-sightings.html

Herb Knüfken's amazing photo gallery, including many birds, may be found here: pbase.com/herb1rm



Torrey Pines Docent Society
PO Box 2414
Del Mar, CA 92014
(858) 755-2063
torreypine.org