

TPA Journal

Journal of the Torrey Pines Association

Spring 2006

If the trees could speak

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Vol. 2, No. 1

When big cats prowled the preserve. Do they still?

By Maryruth Cox

*“In the very beginning of time when the Animals were People, four Immortals floated in a basket boat on the Everlasting Water. They were Ocean Woman, Mountain Lion, Wolf, and Coyote.”
(Chemehuevi legend)*

Yes, mountain lions have been a part of Torrey Pines for a long time, in legend, lore, and reality. They are secretive, nocturnal, and well-adapted to be unobtrusive with their sand-colored coat and sharp nails that retract when they walk, reducing the clatter of claws to a silent padding. Thus, sightings are rare. However, a male lion needs to eat one deer a week, so he ranges widely over 100 square miles, following his prey through wildlife corridors from the mountains to the sea ... and at least, until recently, to Torrey Pines.

In 1986 Ranger Bob Wohl and his family lived in the Fleming house, near the Lodge. One day, Bob's wife looked out the window and found herself staring into the face of a mountain lion. Others have reported the big cats: Bob Margulies stood in the doorway of the lodge and saw one on the steps outside. Ann Merritt saw one cross Flintkote Road near her home last year. And about two years ago a mountain lion was seen eating a fawn at the southern edge of the park, near National University.



Courtesy Mountain Lion Foundation, www.mountainlion.org.

According to former Supervising Ranger Bob Wohl, there are no known photos of a mountain lion taken at the Reserve (these photos taken elsewhere in California). Perhaps our readers would care to prove him wrong?

Maurie Brown once saw a mountain lion bounding up the hill from the beach as she was running down the trail. Later a jogger encountered the same lion on the road by the maintenance facility. When the shocked breathless runner tried to tell Bob Wohl about the lion, he could only stammer “cat...big cat”. Bob then asked, “Short tail (bobcat)? Or long tail (mountain

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past

present

future

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President's Message

Strengthening and redefining partnerships at the Reserve

My cell phone rang about 10 in the morning. One of our members (ellow Counselor Mike Gonzalez) shared the news that the lagoon mouth would be opened sometime around midday and that it would be “quite a show.”

Sure enough, when I arrived, the beach was swarming with trucks and a large powered shovel—a highly maneuverable contraption that used to be called a “steam shovel” but nowadays looks like a diesel-powered praying mantis on tractor-treads. This thing was taking giant bites out of the sand just west of the low bridge. Finally, it scooped out a last dam-like section. The water sprang toward the sea.

None of this would be possible without the quiet but immensely important efforts of the Los Peñasquitos Lagoon Foundation, which for years has overseen a grant-writing, fund-finding process (and administration of those funds) that steers monies toward restoring health of the lagoon, as well as creating a huge body of scientific knowledge about its dynamic condition. As I stood there on the beach with the happy crowd of onlookers, it felt like we were cheering another “touchdown” by our home team, in this case the LPLF...

Over the 26 years I've lived near the Reserve, it has gradually become clear to me that there are numerous “home teams” to cheer for at Torrey Pines State Reserve.

It's a nice analogy I suppose, but it has one flaw, and it took most of my years living here to figure it out. Many of us think of the Reserve as a place administered and/or protected by these separate “teams.” Here's what I'd rather we call ourselves: Players. Players on one team. To that end, we beg your patience while we, the TPA, once again continue to hammer at who we are in this issue, and what position we play on this ONE team.

For example, we don't have our boots on the ground every day like the Docent Society, who love their mission of education. In so doing, they get to know the park and every nuance of its natural cycles like no others.

We don't do the heavy lifting of opening a lagoon mouth (and finding the huge amount

of money that requires)—the LPLF does it, with spectacular results.

We don't greet visitors each day with a smile, enforce rules, save lives—the rangers and lifeguards we have are the best in the system, period.

We don't study the Reserve, but we fund those who put in tireless hours to learn about the trees and their health.

We DO have our boots on the ground in terms of being there for everyone who needs help on a Reserve project, or when a threat arises. We function as our founders intended: to provide counsel on plans and studies, and to raise funds to help protect and preserve. We are a central clearing house, an instigator, a watchdog, and a bottom-line resource. We have been quietly doing this behind the scenes for 56 years, but now we're making more noise. We have to: The park system is in a deep financial crisis, and Torrey Pines State Reserve is one of the most popular parks

per acre in the world.

Working with Steve Usher of the Docent Society, TPA has begun a series of regular meetings and partnerships (such as the library project; see page 3) with the Docents to see how we can better support their programs.

Working with Supervising Ranger Jody Kummer, your TPA supports innumerable park projects, from trail maintenance to scientific research to signage to lodge restoration.

Working with the San Diego Foundation, your TPA is in the process of creating an endowment program, assuring a regular stream of funds available to the park in perpetuity.

Inspired by our own history of capital campaigns (i.e. the TPA- and community-led effort to purchase the Extension), we once again hope to sink our teeth into major projects that may require hundreds of thousands of dollars to see through.

From the big victories to the little problems (like who's going to pay for a bucket of bolts to complete a trail project), each player at Torrey Pines has a role. Ours at TPA was defined by Guy Fleming and his friends in 1950, and holds true today. We shall continue to take pride in our role as a key player—among many—on the *one* team that serves the trees and lands we love most. —Peter Jensen

“...each player at Torrey Pines has a role.”

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A special thanks to professional photographer Will Sooter (www.sharpeyesonline.com) for the images in this issue.

Torrey Pines Association

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TPA Board meetings: last Thursday of every month at 6:30 p.m. at the Lodge.

When big cats prowled the preserve

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lion)?" Still unable to speak, the jogger spread his arms wide.

In the mid-'90s my friend and I walked up the park road to the lodge amid the splendor of late afternoon. Two somber ravens perched in the dead tree at the side of the road contemplating the endless sea, while we chatted and laughed.

Suddenly my friend grabbed my arm and pointed ahead. Padding noiselessly up the road was a really large cat with a long tail: a mountain lion! (Average dimensions 150-200 pounds, 6 to 8 feet long.) We should have faded into the hills but instead we stared, transfixed.

Mountain lions are dangerous. Ten violent attacks on Californians, two of them fatal, occurred between 1986-1995. The number of mountain lions in California has increased from 600 in 1906 to 5000 at present. The chance of an



involuntary encounter with the big cat has escalated because more and more people live, work, and play in wild parts of California.

Mountain lions follow deer through wildlife corridors from the mountains to the sea. In San Diego they traverse the long canyon of Peñasquitos preserve and pass through the big tunnel under the merge of 5 and 805 to Torrey Pines. Recently deer trackers have documented that the deer are not using the tunnel, probably because the bright lights and noise of freeway construction inhibits them. Also, studies of deer scat, using genetic analysis, have identified individual deer. They show that a small herd of 20 deer stay on the seaward side of the tunnel, at Torrey Pines. No tracks of mountain lions have been seen recently.

Hopefully, when the construction work is finished, deer will once again move freely up and down Peñasquitos creek to the sea, and mountain lions will follow them to Torrey Pines. Then, as we wander over the trails and on the beach, we may once again glimpse the gentle deer, or the big cats prowling down the path, part of the secret web of life around us. ❀

Deer are a primary food source for these very solitary predators, who practice a life of "mutual avoidance" with other lions.



Short ears, thick long tail, one color...that's the shorthand way to describe a mountain lion. It may have been years since one has had the "nerve" to cross under the freeways and make their way to the Reserve

Generous Scripps donation enables library project

New shelves, furniture, electrical upgrades and more

By Steve Usher, President, Torrey Pines Docent Society

The close relationship between the Torrey Pines Association and the Torrey Pines Docent Society is being strengthened further by a growing number of joint projects. The most recent example is the remodeling and updating of the Docent Library at the Lodge/Ranger Station in the Reserve. Thanks to the generosity of the Josephine Stedem Scripps Foundation, the remodeling of the Library should be completed by mid-late summer. The project will include a replacement of the existing bookshelves with glass enclosed shelves*, the addition of a dedicated computer work station, a rewiring of the electrical system to remove the exposed conduit, an updated heater and the addition of expanded storage for historical documents and photographs. All of the

furniture will be stylistically consistent and period appropriate.

A joint Docent-TPA committee is currently meeting with general contractors and reviewing proposals for the project. A final decision is expected by mid-May. The final project schedule will then depend on the approval of a Project Evaluation Form (PEF) by the Department of Parks and Recreation and the availability of the work crews.

This project would not have been possible without the close cooperation of TPA and the Docents. On behalf of the Docents, we would like to thank the dedication and hard work of the TPA Board of Counselors in helping to make this happen. We look forward to many more joint efforts in the future. ❀

*Mice have been a problem with the current system of open shelving.

Did you know...

Los Peñasquitos Lagoon is one of the four preserves that make up Torrey Pines Reserve. The recent reconstruction of 'Low Bridge' did much to help the in and out flow in the estuary and thus maintain life-sustaining conditions for native flora and fauna. But when nature conspires to block the opening through tidal and upriver action, it becomes necessary to open the mouth through human efforts. In March, after over a month of restricted flow due to a sandy berm blocking the opening, the Los Peñasquitos Lagoon Foundation, under the guidance of Executive Director Mike Hastings, brought in construction crews and equipment to remove the material and dredge the channel. This vital project costs \$40,000 each time and is no longer paid for by the City of San Diego—Mike Gonzalez

An Afternoon of History and Honors

56th Annual Meeting salutes the LaGrange Family ... and spurs a closer look at TPA's roots

By Diana W. Bergen

Did you know...

It was 50 years ago this spring that the San Diego City Council voted to grant stewardship of "Torrey Pines Park" to California State Parks?

Each year at our annual Membership Meeting we hand out the "Guy Fleming Award" honoring an individual's (or individuals') special commitment to the preservation and protection of the Reserve.

Our first two decisions on who should receive the honor (this year is the 2nd annual presentation of what we hope will be a long tradition) have taken us down memory lane. Our honorees remind us that we carry forth quite a legacy...

In 1950, a group of citizens, led by Guy Fleming and others, formed Torrey Pines Association (TPA).

In the '60s, volunteers initiated Torrey Pines Day Camp as a mechanism to educate the children of San Diego about Torrey Pines.

In the '70s, a passionate group of volunteers formed the Docent Society to continue educational efforts and support the daily activities of the Reserve.

Also in the '70s, long efforts to protect a large, privately held stand of Torrey Pines between Carmel Valley Road and Del Mar Heights Road,

During the '80s, TPA successfully handled major legal efforts to protect a wildlife corridor between Point Del Mar and Portofino Drive—wildlands that connect the two main bodies of TPSR land.

During the '90s, explosive growth in the San Diego region led to vast new tracts of housing and the accompanying infrastructure, such as road widening projects. At the same time, we saw a dramatic state-wide reduction of funds available for the operations, improvement, and conservation of our State Park System.

Alarmed, the TPA formed an Integrity of the Reserve Committee in 1997 and summed up the core of our past, present and future with this statement:

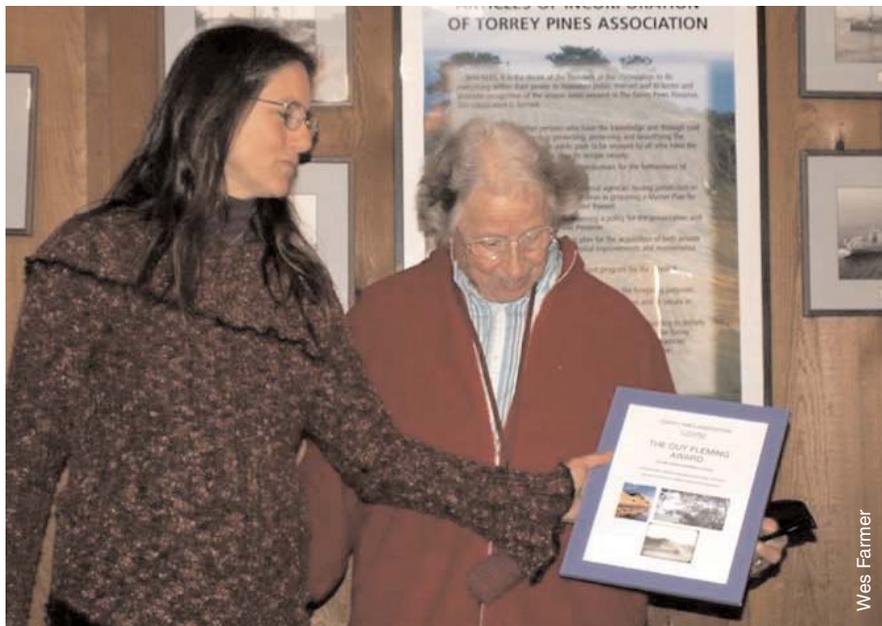
"In sum, the sanctity of this refuge can only be preserved insofar as the Torrey Pines Association counselors, People of San Diego, the State of California and the Nation, whose heritage it is, zealously guard and maintain the Torrey Pines State Reserve in its primitive beauty."

At the February 26, 2006, Annual TPA Membership Meeting (our 56th), membership and elected Counselors reviewed the past year of funding and activities. One highlight of the meeting was the unannounced appearance of California State Assemblymember (76th District) Lori Saldaña. We were impressed; she cares about all the volunteer efforts on behalf of the Reserve, and gave us part of her Sunday to attend our annual meeting. She let us know we have a contact and a voice in Sacramento.

We also unveiled a new "poster" of a tried and true mandate: our original articles of incorporation. For a look at the insightful work of Guy Fleming and the other founding members of TPA, please take a moment to read the opposite page. At TPA, we rededicate ourselves to this mandate each year—especially now when the Reserve seems more beset than ever by environmental and recreational challenges.

Our organization focuses on the collective knowledge and collective actions needed to protect TPSR. We are in an era when education and working collectively have become paramount. As Ellen Browning Scripps and Guy Fleming would have wished it, we strive to study the past in order to act now to assure the future health of the Reserve.

Which brings us to the many "Guy Flemings"



Jessie LaGrange accepts the Guy Fleming Award from TPA Counselor Diana Bergen at this year's Annual Membership Meeting

which we now call the Extension, culminated with a successful fundraising campaign and purchase: the groves are now part of TPSR. And Los Peñasquitos Lagoon received reclassification in the '70s from "Reserve" to "Preserve," as public awareness of the value of our coastal wetlands came to light.

of our world. This year the award, named in honor of the founding president of Torrey Pines Association, goes to the Lee and Jessie LaGrange family. Jessie was present to accept the award (Lee passed away in 1988).

Lee and Jessie LaGrange and their children have been the watchful eyes and caring hearts for over forty years in the fight to protect Los Peñasquitos Lagoon—including a time when there were little or no resources assigned to it. Jessie coordinated TPA efforts when needed to spark public interest for the acquisition of the Extension and an Open Space Designation for the land connecting the Extension and the Lagoon.

If you happen to see Jessie at the Reserve sometime, or meet her “around town,” take a moment to ask her about some of her experiences in the Reserve. She has so many stories, some of which we will share in future issues of “TPA Journal.”

Thank you, Jessie and your family, for your stewardship, inspiration, and educational efforts throughout so many vital years in the Reserve’s history. 🌿

Did you know...

that all Day Use and Annual Day Use Pass entry fees paid at the Reserve/South Beach and North Beach entrances are remitted directly to Sacramento and placed in the State’s General Fund? Your TPA membership fees and contributions stay here to be put to work at The Reserve.

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF TORREY PINES ASSOCIATION

...WHEREAS, it is the desire of the founders of this corporation to do everything within their power to reawaken public interest and to foster and promote recognition of the unique asset existent in The Torrey Pines Preserve, this corporation is formed:

1. To associate together persons who have the knowledge and through said knowledge the interest in protecting, preserving and beautifying The Torrey Pines Preserve as a public park to be enjoyed by all who have the desire to partake of and to view its unique beauty.
2. To raise funds through voluntary contributions for the furtherment of these purposes.
3. To assist and work with all governmental agencies having jurisdiction or concerned with The Torrey Pines Preserve in preparing a Master Plan for the care, preservation and betterment thereof.
4. To assist in formulating and maintaining a policy for the preservation and improvement of The Torrey Pines Preserve.
5. To assist in setting up a financing plan for the acquisition of both private and public funds to be used for capital improvements and maintenance costs of the park.
6. To assist in establishing an enforcement program for the physical protection and operation of the area.
7. To hold, invest and re-invest moneys raised for the foregoing purposes.
8. To assure permanent preservation of those rare trees and to secure in perpetuity the scenic beauty of that region.
9. That the primary business in which the corporation is intending to initially engage is to preserve, protect and foster improvements to The Torrey Pines Preserve through cooperation with all governmental agencies having jurisdiction or concerned with The Torrey Pines Preserve....


 Torrey Pines Association

“If the trees could speak...”



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Photographer Will Sooter (whose photographs enliven all the pages of this issue) saw this rattlin’ rattler on the Guy Fleming Trail in early April. He (she?) is “king of the hill” in those parts, but hardly a threat to even the most oblivious walkers on this wide and well-worn trail. We consider encounters like this all part of a healthy ecosystem...

**Comments?
Questions?**

We’ll share them on our web site and in the next TPA Journal. Please send to: tpajournal@san.rr.com

Magnificence in the Muck

A brief primer on the role wetlands play in the environment

By Judith Vacquier, TPA Counselor

As you drive along Torrey Pines Road on your daily commute or to visit Torrey Pines State Reserve, do you scan the green expanse of Los Peñasquitos Lagoon? Maybe you glance more in the other direction, hoping to see dolphins playing in the surf or checking if the conditions are right for a good green flash at sunset. A survey of the lagoon often rewards you with an egret, a majestic white bird with long legs and needle beak used for catching small fish and invertebrates in the mud flats. Or you may notice many gulls huddled on the sand near the mouth of the lagoon. But that's about it, right?

Not so fast! I am a biologist and avid birder, but until I met

with Dr. Lisa Levin, Professor in the Integrative Oceanography Division at Scripps Institution of Oceanography, to discuss the importance of wetlands in Southern California, I was guilty of concentrating only on the birds. In a recent conversation with Dr. Levin, I asked her what she would like people to know about our local wetlands:

"There's a lot more than birds and plants and an occasional deer or snake. The marsh is teeming with mollusks, worms, crustaceans and microscopic flora and fauna. Wetlands are not huge sources of biodiversity, but they are important for several reasons."

Surge blocker...

We have become all too familiar recently with the importance of wetlands in the wake of hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Human activities along the Mississippi River, such as levee building to direct the river, drastically changed wetlands around New Orleans, creating a dangerous situation for that city. Scientists and government officials were well aware of the risks of a major hurricane, but the \$14 billion restoration and remedial work proposed in 1998 was never approved and implemented.

"In general, wetlands provide shoreline stability and are responsible for land building," says Dr. Levin. "They dampen storm surges, reduce wave

energy, increase sediment deposition and create new shoreline."

Productive "nursery"...

In Southern California in particular, wetlands are highly productive habitats: algae, plants and small animals all provide food for invertebrates which provide food for birds and ocean fish. Some of the invertebrates found in Los Peñasquitos Lagoon include several species of polychaete worms, clams, sand dollars, and snails. Some of the most common species of fish are top smelt, longjaw mudsuckers, staghorn sculpin, California killifish, and arrow gobies.

Effective filter...

Wetlands filter and detoxify pollutants. In Los Peñasquitos Lagoon these harmful chemicals and other waste arrive borne by runoff from streets, agricultural lands and stables. Runoff also brings sediment, which can be undesirable when its build up reduces the tidal flushing of the lagoon. Other blockage occurs as longshore ocean currents bring sand that clogs the lagoon mouth and limits or stops tidal flushing. Dredging near the bridge has become an annual necessity so that water trapped in the lagoon won't become too salty and low in oxygen to support life.

Lost lands, ongoing challenges...

Over ninety percent of California's original coastal wetland acreage has been destroyed—most of it, according to Dr. Levin, lost to two factors: increased residential and commercial development, which destroys or hems in wetlands and doesn't allow the shoreline to move with changes in sea level; and transportation elements such as roads, bridges, embankments and grading, which modify circulation, sediment deposition, and plant and animal communities.

Even Peñasquitos Lagoon, which has been ardently protected for many years, still faces several challenges—particularly the widening of the railroad-track's berm to accommodate double-tracking. This may further limit natural flow patterns and will cover many acres of marshland in the heart of the lagoon. ❧

References: *Tidal Wetland Restoration: A Scientific Perspective and Southern California Focus*, Joy B. Zedler, California Sea Grant System, University of California, La Jolla, CA, 1996; "Drowning New Orleans," Mark Fischetti, *Scientific American*, Oct. 2001.



Mark your calendar...

Support our neighboring lagoon: "Lagoon Exploration Day" takes place Sunday, 1-4 p.m., April 30, at San Dieguito Lagoon. Location: the "strawberry stand" wetland center off Via de la Valle. Info: 858-204-2227 or www.sdrp.org

"View From the Sand"

Thoughts and Perspectives from a Torrey Pines Lifeguard

By Ed Vodrazka

The white caps were impressive this last December when we brought our newborn baby girl home. We were excited to show her the house that Guy Fleming built—the home where he raised his own children John and Margaret, and where my family now lives. In a few minutes she would be introduced to this wonderful historic place filled with 80 years of memories and experiences, all wrapped in the wonder of a Torrey Pines grove. On her third day of life, she would begin her own history as part of the tapestry that Fleming had begun.

Before heading up the hill we stopped at the kiosk so she could see the ocean for the first time. It was the fourth day of the largest swell we've had in over 20 years. The 12-foot waves still broke with formidable power. It was important for me to show a lifeguard's daughter an ocean that will (on calmer days) become her future playground. I faced her in the direction of the sea. She squinted...then she blinked...I think she burped a little...but she didn't seem overly impressed. Perhaps she was a bit young yet.



Being given the opportunity to live in the Fleming House is a privilege beyond compare. Fleming was the heart and soul of this park, so people always ask me what it is like to live in the home that he built.

What I enjoy most is that we, too, have become a small part of the Fleming legacy. Jenny and I have spent countless hours working on the house trying to fix or stabilize the decay that entropy and age have wrought. By working here, I share a further kinship with Guy Fleming: I appreciate the strike pattern left from the adze he used to shape the ceiling beams in the living room; I study the precision joinery he used in framing the upstairs office; I even feel his handprints in the bedroom's plaster walls. His presence is all around me.

Last spring, while restoring the wood floors, I found a penny that was lodged under one of the baseboards. I brushed it off and scrutinized the date: 1921. It must have been his. I considered this a housewarming present from Fleming himself, and now I show it to almost everyone who visits. What a thrill to realize that it passed from Fleming's hand to mine.

Fleming was 43 years old when he built the house. I was 45 when



Above: sweeping shadows are a part of the house's sensitive interplay with its setting in the Reserve
Right: Ed, Jenny and Baby Jade.



I moved in and began trying to stabilize and preserve his work. But Fleming and I share more than a list of "work projects"—I also have a growing list of family milestones that will forever be tied into memories of this old house. For example, Fleming's son John was married in front of the plate glass window in the living room, not more than 20 feet from where I proposed to my wife Jenny.

In reading daughter Margaret's family stories about growing up in this house, Jenny and I can fill in the spaces of her accounts with experiences of ours. The same old fireplace that warmed their family on winter nights now warms mine. The fragrant smells of roasting turkey still waft into the living room each Thanksgiving. Our Christmas tree sits in the same north-west corner of the living room that theirs did. The sight of the full moon rising through the pines at dusk still leads us to pause, and the aerial acrobatics of the ravens and peregrines visible through the eastern windows in the morning still cause us to gather in awe.



Having shown her the ocean, we knew it was time to bring our daughter up the hill to her new home. As we drove up through the acres of Torrey Pines that will be her future classroom, I realized that the untold natural wonders she will witness in this park will form her earliest and no doubt her fondest memories. How many pastel ocean sunsets will inspire her? How many spring wildflower displays will she witness? How many long summer days will she spend swimming in the ocean, then sleeping under the stars on bedrolls on the roof (like daughter Margaret did)? What a blessed life she has ahead of her.

Before we entered the house with this tiny baby we stopped to visit the precious 60-year-old jade plants that Margaret Fleming planted around the house. As if to welcome our daughter's birth and homecoming, they were dressed proudly in full bloom with thousands of tiny delicate white flowers. We placed our daughter next to them. She yawned and I captured the moment with my camera.

I hope that the Flemings were watching that homecoming from somewhere up above. In that moment when our daughter met the auspicious plants after which she was named, the present became the past.

Welcome home, baby Jade.



The Fleming family once enjoyed this view as much as the author does today

News from the Reserve

Good news about trails, traps, and trees

By Mike Gonzalez Jr.

After much work, the **Beach Trail/Broken Hill Trail Loop** has reopened. We now look towards the final repair phase to return safe lower access to the beach. Tech Services Chief Brian Gaudet is working on plans to construct temporary stairs within a cost and time frame that should have this completed by June 2006. We all want to get this done and your TPA is working closely with State Parks to help plan and finance this project.

Workers recently completed the new **High Point Trail**. Decades of erosion and widening of the previous trail, which wrapped around the hill, had caused considerable damage to this historically significant vista point. The new trail is wider, safer, more accessible and uses the new 'peeler pole' design which we'll begin to see more of as trail repairs continue throughout The Reserve.

How many Torrey Pine trees are there at Torrey Pines? We're going to find out. In cooperation with San Diego State University, Resource Ecologist Darren Smith is undertaking a census utilizing state-of-the-art GPS technology. Over the next 2-3 years we'll learn the number, location, age, and condition of each of the rare pines to enable us to monitor their growth and status. Your TPA is underwriting the cost of this study, esti-

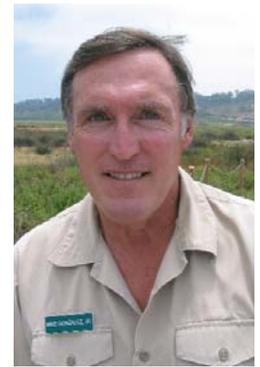
mated to be \$15,000 at press time.

Accordingly, we need to know about the tree's natural enemy, the bark beetle. If you've ever wondered what those hanging black 'pagoda' structures are out on the Guy Fleming Trail, they're **pheromone-baited traps** to attract and catch the destructive beetle, giving park officials an ongoing estimate of their relative population growth or decline. The TPA grants \$5,000 annually for this purpose.

TPA has initiated **two important fund raising programs**: This month we launched our first ever **membership drive** targeted towards residents close to The Reserve. Secondly, we have initiated the creation of the **Torrey Pines Association Endowment Fund** in partnership with the San Diego Foundation. Resources within this Fund will serve long-term needs of our Reserve. We'll be describing this program more in the near future.



TPA Counselor and seasonal park aide Mike Gonzalez, Jr.



Who we are... www.torreypines.org

The Torrey Pines Association was founded in 1950 to encourage public interest in, and support for, the preservation of the rare Torrey pine trees and their scenic refuge.

Since then it has played an active role in:

- achieving State Reserve/Preserve status
- assisting in the acquisition of additional acres of native trees
- funding educational exhibits
- publishing informational and educational materials
- managing memorial funds
- renovating the Fleming house for use as an on-site ranger's residence

- monitoring the overall welfare of the site

We invite you to join with us in our ongoing efforts to preserve and protect the rare Torrey pines and their scenic refuge by becoming a member of the Torrey Pines Association.

Please visit our website or contact us by mail for more information on membership levels.

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