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PCAS NEWSLETTER

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APRIL PCAS SPEAKER

DR. NANCY ANASTASIA WILEY

Bolsa Chica Archaeology:
A Tribute to Hal Eberhart

Part One: The Sites

The first professional investigations for prehistoric culture on Upper Bolsa Chica were conducted in the 1960s by Dr. Hal Eberhart. Leading a joint effort comprised of CSULA and PCAS scientific teams, Dr. Eberhart oversaw three expeditions to investigate archaeological deposits on the Cogged Stone site (CA-ORA-83), the Alika Herring's Site E (CA-ORA-86), and what came to be known as the Eberhart site (CA-ORA-85).

In the last 20 years, Dr. Wiley and SRS, Inc. have conducted excavations on these three locations. Her talk will highlight the CSULA-PCAS work and subsequent expansions by SRS three decades later. Following the results of surface inspection, Eberhart placed the 1960s excavations in highly significant portions of each site; prior to the work by SRS, subsequent excavators moved away from these key deposits. Methodologically and technologically advanced methods were employed by SRS during the 20-year study to reinvestigate the Eberhart excavation areas and broaden the research approach.

This talk recognizes Dr. Hal Eberhart for his insights, professionalism, and willingness to mentor the avocational community, specifically PCAS. His work provided key information for much of the additional work carried out on Bolsa Chica Mesa.

Dr. Wiley began her career studying classical languages. She subsequently broadened her scholarly pursuits to include research focused on both prehistoric and historic archaeology; she was certified in both subdisciplines by the (Continued on Page 3)

DINNER WITH THE SPEAKER

Please join this month's speaker, Dr. Nancy Wiley, and PCAS members for dinner before the April 8th General Meeting. We will meet at 6 pm at **Knowlwood Restaurant**, 14952 Sand Canyon, Irvine.

PCAS MEETINGS CALENDAR

GENERAL MEETING

Free and Open to the Public

April 8 - 7:30 pm

Speaker: Dr. Nancy Anastasia Wiley

Topic: *Bolsa Chica Archaeology: A Tribute To Hal Eberhart. Part One: The Sites*

Location: Irvine Ranch Water District
15600 Sand Canyon Ave., Irvine
(between the I-5 and I-405 freeway)

The Irvine Ranch Water District neither supports nor endorses the causes or activities of organizations that use the District's meeting rooms which are made available for public use.

BOARD MEETING

All Members Welcome

April 15 - 7:00 pm

Location: Old Orange County Courthouse
PCAS Library, Ground Floor
211 W. Santa Ana Blvd, Santa Ana

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APRIL SPEAKER NOTES

Ice Age Man in Malibu: The Clovis Culture Discovery at the Farpoint Site

Submitted by Megan Galway

Dr. Gary Stickel presented a report on the Farpoint site (CA-LAN-451) located on Point Dume in the Malibu area. In 2005 a Native American monitor, following a backhoe, discovered a large intact point. It was made of Monterey chert and fashioned by percussion rather than pressure flaking. The overall shape and basal flake removal led Dr. Stickel to send drawings and photographs to researchers around the country who generally agreed it met the definition of a Clovis point.

Dr. Stickel's team originally worked on the site in 2000, returning for further excavation in 2005, when the landowner began construction on a mansion. Less than one percent of the site was excavated, and after discovery of the point, the landowner became concerned about privacy and protection of the property and banned all further access to researchers. She agreed to build the house on caissons so the ground underneath would not be disturbed, but has since disturbed large areas of the property for plantings and an irrigation system.

Radiocarbon dates on shell of approximately 9,000 BP have been obtained at levels above those where the point was located. Clovis sites generally fall in a range of 11,000 to 13,000 BP. Dr. Stickel also discussed the varying views on the origins of early man in the Americas. He quoted Dr. Dennis Stanford of the Smithsonian, who believes the Clovis tradition is similar to the Salutrean technology of northern Europe, rather than anything in Asia. This would indicate a marine migration wave from Europe to eastern Canada. Again there is a question of dates, as Salutrean sites tend to date prior to 18,000 BP, leaving a 5,000-year gap before the height of Clovis activity.

At the end of the talk, Dr. Stickel's associate, Dr. Kent Christenson, displayed and discussed the use of the atlatl, believed to be the preferred hunting weapon of the Clovis culture. Using the atlatl, a spear can be cast accurately up to 100 yards, and the detachable foreshaft allows the hunter to retrieve the spear and attach a new foreshaft. This way he could carry a quiver of just the foreshafts, rather than whole spears.

For additional information on the Farpoint site, see www.farpointsite.blogspot.com.



March speaker Dr. Gary Stickel with PCAS Program Chair Joe Hodulik.



Replica of the point found at the Farpoint site.



Dr. Kent Christenson displays atlatl with foreshaft.

MARCH BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

President Scott Findlay called the meeting to order on March 16, 7:08 pm, at the Old Orange County Courthouse, Santa Ana, California. Board members present: Scott Findlay, Megan Galway, Rene Brace, Gail Cochlin, and Kathleen Shada. Member present: Bob Brace.

The February 2010 minutes were approved. The treasurer's report and expenditures were approved.

Rene Brace has received a quote from the company that hosts the PCAS website to design a new site for us. The board approved accepting this quote pending review of other sites designed by this company and its guarantee that all existing data would be preserved. The board also approved the purchase of discounted software to enable more than one member to update the website. The board is still investigating the possibility of accepting credit cards and/or Paypal. Approval was given to funding the 2009 scholarship to William Blodgett, which had been deferred last year when he was unable to enroll in school. He will now be studying at the University of Leicester in the UK.

Our annual Garfield Outreach Day will be held Wednesday, May 26th. We will be calling for volunteers to work our activity tables that day.

Scott Findlay suggested we schedule a fixed date each month for our curation activities. We agreed to meet on the Saturday immediately following the monthly meeting. The March field trip will be the weekend of March 27-28 to the Johnson Valley area. We'll be going to Inscription Canyon April 17-18, and in June we hope to visit the Swansea solstice site in the Owens Valley. Megan Galway will be sending renewal reminders to members who have not renewed their membership. Fifty-one people attended our March meeting, including a number of students from Orange Coast College. Joe Hodulik's donation/award table generated \$82.00 for the scholarship fund at the March meeting!

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35.

MEMBERSHIP REMINDER

Have you renewed your membership/subscription for calendar year 2010? If we've not received your renewal by April 15th, you will no longer receive our newsletter. Questions regarding membership can be directed to membership@pcas.org.

SCHOLARSHIP REMINDER

The application deadline for the annual PCAS undergraduate scholarship is fast approaching. Applications must be postmarked by April 30th to be accepted. The winner will be announced by May 31st. The scholarship is awarded to a student entering his/her junior year in the fall, and complete qualifications and guidelines can be found on the PCAS website: www.pcas.org/scholarship. Questions may be directed to scholarship@pcas.org.

PCAS SPEAKER CALENDAR

May 13, 2010

Dr. Nancy Anastasia Wiley

Bolsa Chica Archaeology: A Tribute to Hal Eberhart

Part Two: The Cogged Stones

June 10, 2010

Roderic McLean

Buried Sites Archaeology: Life by the Lakes in Laguna Canyon during the Intermediate and Late Prehistoric Periods

Bolsa Chica Archaeology (Continued from Page 1)

Society of Professional Archaeologists. Experience in New York State prehistory and a strong classical background in history and architecture have served her well as research director and principal investigator for the oldest cultural resource management firm, Scientific Resource Surveys, Inc. (SRS) (est. 1973). Dr. Wiley has managed the longest privately funded cultural resource investigations in southern California (29 years). These investigations comprise a multi-site and multi-disciplinary project that integrates archaeological, historic, ethnographic and paleontological studies. Within the last three years, she has expanded her expertise in Native American cultural studies and has recently accepted a position as tribal archaeologist for the Chilkat Tlingit Tribal group in Haines, Alaska. She is married to a Tlingit/Southern Tutchone Native, Ted Wiley, and they have opened a branch office of SRS in Haines in order to train Native American monitors. The company is researching the Tlingit language using the Alaskan field notes of J. P. Harrington; the goal is to generate a comparative Tlingit dictionary.

PCAS CURATION

The February and March curation workdays were huge successes, and the end is in sight for finishing the inventory of the Coyote Canyon Cave collection. We do have a few more boxes, and hopefully we'll use good April weather to work outside for rebagging some column samples.

We again thank Hank Koerper for his time and expertise in identifying artifactual material. It was a pleasure to be joined by several people new to PCAS curation.

PCAS curation volunteers in February and March: Bob and Rene Brace, Linda Christison, Gail Cochlin, Scott Findlay, Irene Foster, Megan Galway, Dana Guzman, Susan Harrington, Ardith Haworth, Wendy Hogan, Sandy Kennedy, Hank Koerper, Mark Roeder, and Kathleen Shada.



Linda Christison, Wendy Hogan, Scott Findlay, and Hank Koerper working with the Coyote Canyon Cave collection, March 13.



Drills and burins from the CA-ORA-236 collection.



Ardith Haworth, Sandy Kennedy and Gail Cochlin at the February 27th Curation Workday.

APRIL CURATION WORKDAY

When: April 10, 1 pm

Where: Red Car Building

We will continue to inventory and rebag the PCAS CA-ORA-236 (Coyote Canyon Cave), excavated by PCAS in the 1970s.

Everyone is welcome. No experience necessary! Please contact Mark Roeder (714-241-8880, curator@pcas.org) or Rene Brace (714-544-6282, info@pcas.org) for directions and to let us know you will be coming.

APRIL FIELD TRIP

When: April 17-19

Where: Inscription Canyon and nearby sites.

We will visit Inscription Canyon and other nearby rock art sites. This may be a one to three-day field trip. PCAS members plan to camp on Saturday and Sunday nights. Camping participants need to be self-reliant with camping gear.

Please sign up for this field trip at the April General Meeting or by contacting Scott Findlay at fieldtrips@pcas.org or 714-342-2534. Please be aware that you will be required to sign a code of ethics and waiver of liability, which acknowledges that some areas we plan to visit have inherent natural dangers. If you are unable to attend a field trip for which you have signed up, please contact Scott as soon as possible. For contact the day of the field trip, call cell phone 714-342-2534.

Book Review

By Stephen O'Neil

California Indians and Their Environment: An Introduction. By Kent G. Lightfoot and Otis Parrish; with contributions by Lee M. Panich, Tsim D. Schneider, and K. Elizabeth Soluri. California Nature Guide Series, No. 96. University of California Press, Berkeley. 2009. 490 pages. Soft cover. Index and references. \$19.95.

Introduction

The new work by Kent Lightfoot and Otis Parrish, *California Indians and Their Environment*, brings to the public large, new, and exciting ideas about Native Californians. The authors present a synthesis of the latest ethnographic, archaeological, and culture models of Indian knowledge of the natural world and related social complexity that made California a unique laboratory of human culture. Now we have the sophisticated framework of the knowledge and understanding of Native Californians' relationship to the natural world, which provided the resources to support what we know was a rich social world.

Purpose of the book

Lightfoot and Parrish state that their original purpose was:

... to make relatively few change to this classic [Robert F. Heizer and A. B. Elsasser's *The Natural World of the California Indians* (1980)]—just update each chapter, leaving the organization of the book pretty much alone. The major exception would be to tack on a natural resources section [of plants and animals] ... used by Native people across the state. Once we began to tackle the task, however, it became evident that a new synthesis would be needed to reflect the tremendous amount of research that has taken place by ethnographers, archaeologists, tribal scholars, ecologists, and others.... (p. ix).

Released from the original intent's constraints, they plunged into focusing on why California Indians are unique in the broadest sense. They wanted to demonstrate that:

This recent research continues to highlight how different California Indians are from most other indigenous populations in North America. Native Californian supported the greatest linguistic diversity and the highest population density north of Mexico, with people dispersed across the landscape in a plethora of village communities—all without recourse to agriculture (p. ix).

Content

The opening chapter is a treatise on the human/nature interaction of Native Californians. As the title "Rethinking California Indians" suggests, it espouses a

paradigm that posits an intimate interaction that goes beyond mere knowledge that would allow one to hunt and gather to support one's family. As the authors state, many researchers offered standard anthropological models for the ability of California Indians to support a large population: "...perspectives on California Indian land-management techniques tend to equate them to agrarian methods employed elsewhere in North America, using concepts such as 'protoagricultural,' quasi-agricultural,' or semiagricultural'" (p. 8). Lightfoot and Parrish sought answers to describe a subsistence system that would support a much larger population in traditional California than previously thought and its correspondingly complex social organization.

What if California Indians practiced a very different kind of economy, one that was organized in a fundamentally different manner than those of advanced agrarian societies? ...we argue that Native Californians employed various strategies of enhancing resource diversity over the broader landscape. In this book we depict Native Californians as fire managers (or pyro-diversity collectors, to use the formal anthropological term), which distinguishes them from agrarian-oriented people in North America (p. 9).

"Why California Indians Matter," "The Central Role of Fire," "A Landscape of Unparalleled Diversity," and "The Uniqueness of California"—these section titles indicate the sets of data proving their hypothesis. Discussion of the diversity of resources used, mass harvesting for seasonal storage, and relations between small group "polities" all enhanced by illustrations with explanatory value, bring out their argument. They:

...present a model of fire management in Native California that revolves around local Indian communities that actively worked to enhance the productivity and diversity of economically important plant and animal resources (p. 36).

Chapter II is a "Visual Guide to Natural Resources." The authors display the living resources most used by the Native Californian for food, medicine, and tools, consisting of 114 color plates of herbaceous and woody plants, mammals, birds, fish, and a light sampling of shellfish and insects. Several hundred additional flora and fauna are described.

Chapter III, "California Indian Uses of Natural Resources," breaks California into six geomorphic provinces. These are the Northwest Coast Province, the Central Coast Province, the South Coast Province, the Northeast Province, the Great Central Valley and Sierra Nevada Province, and finishing with the Southern Deserts Province, with notes and reference sections for each. The tribal societies that lived within these "provinces" are named and their cultures summarily reviewed in common. This is followed by a list of plants and animals predominantly used for food, medicine, structures, and so forth. (Continued on Page 7)

DIG THIS...



Exhibits

Secrets of the Silk Road. Bowers Museum, March 27-July 25. Fee: \$16-\$20. This is a time-ticketed event. Information and ticket purchase: www.bowers.org.

Generations of Symbols, will exhibit over 100 baskets from the collection of the Morongo Band of Mission Indians. San Bernardino County Museum, through October 17. Fee: \$4-\$8. Information: www.co.san-bernardino.ca.us/museum or 909-307-2669.

Lectures

The Ancient Universe of the Queen of Sheba: Insights from Satellite Imagery Mapping of Africa and Arabia, by Dr. Michael Harrower (Cotsen Institute) and Dr. Ronald Blom (NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory), Lenart Auditorium, Fowler Building, UCLA, April 3, 2-5 pm. Free; parking \$10. RSVP to rsvp@ioa.ucla.edu. Information: www.ioa.ucla.edu or 310-206-8934.

The Luiseño Place Name Project, by Dr. Lisa Woodward (Pechanga Cultural Archivist). Western Science Center, Hemet, April 15, 7 pm. Fee: \$8; students, \$5; members, free. Information: 951-791-0033 or www.westerncentermuseum.org.

Hopi Textiles, by Dr. Dane Hart, a lecture of the Native American Institute. Orange Education Center, 1465 N. Batavia St., Orange. Free. For information: www.ocnai.org or 714-879-1337 (Dr. John Collins).

Great Pyramid Astronomy, by Dr. Edward C. Krupp (Director of the Griffith Observatory). an ARCE lecture. Bowers Museum, April 17, 1:30 pm. Free. Information: www.bowers.org or 714-567-3600.

Historical Research and Archaeology of Block 108, San Diego, by Susan Walter. a lecture of the San Diego County Archaeological Society. Los Peñasquitos Ranch Adobe, April 27, 7:30 pm. Free. Information: www.sandiegoarchaeologicalsociety.com.

Murals of Mesoamerica, by Dr. Karl Taube (UCR). San Bernardino County Museum, April 28, 7:30 pm. Free. Information: www.co.san-bernardino.ca.us/museum or 909-307-2669.

(Lectures continued)

Lucy's Legacy: The Quest for Human Origins, by Donald Johanson, a lecture of the AIA, Orange County Chapter. Beckman Center, Irvine, May 5, 7-9 pm. Arrive early - expect overflow attendance and limited seating. Information: <http://aia-oc.org>.

Classes, Meetings, and Events

Malki Museum's 16th Annual Agave Harvest & Roast. Daniel McCarthy will lead the **Agave Harvest** on April 3, 10 am, at the Tewanet Overlook on the Palms to Pines Hwy 74. Fee: \$10. The **Agave Roast** will take place at Malki Museum, April 10, beginning at 10:30 am. Fee: free admittance; food tasting, \$10. See flyer: www.malkimuseum.org/content/agaveflyer_10.pdf. Information: 951-849-7289 or www.malkimuseum.org.

Exploring Rock Art, with Ginger Ridgway (Curator/Director of Programs, Agua Caliente Cultural Museum). Meet at Corn Springs, April 10, 10 am. Fee: \$10; members free. Preregistration required. Information: 760-778-1079, Ext. 105, or www.accmuseum.org.

Appreciating Native American Basketry, with Justin Farmer, two-day seminar. Wells Fargo Theater, Museum of the American West, Griffith Park, April 10, 1-3 pm, and April 11, 1-3 pm. Free with museum admission. Information: www.theautry.org or 323-667-0000.

In-situ Scanning Electron Microscopy and Microanalysis in Conservation, Art, and Archaeology, symposium sponsored by the Laboratory for Molecular and Nano Archaeology (joint venture of Cotsen Institute and UCLA Materials Science and Engineering Department). Seminar Room 2101, Engineering-V Building, UCLA, April 25, 8 am-6 pm. Free. RSVP required. Information: www.ioa.ucla.edu or 310-206-8934.

Website

Visit www.pcas.org for all the latest news.

Editor's Note: Please confirm time and place of listing prior to the event. Submit items for Dig This to newsletter@pcas.org.

PCAS CODE OF ETHICS

The Pacific Coast Archaeological Society (PCAS) is a non-profit group of professional and avocational people dedicated to proper management of our cultural resources, public education, and the protection and preservation of archaeological materials and collections.

The following principles have been adopted by the PCAS:

1. Professional methods and forms will be used on all archaeological field surveys, excavations, and laboratory sessions.
2. A complete record of field and laboratory work will be filed with the PCAS Curator and stored at a facility approved by the Society's Board of Directors.
3. No archaeological materials will be removed without proper permits, landowner permission, and a field research design.
4. Unless otherwise legally stipulated before activity commences, all materials collected will be deposited for further research with the Curator at a facility approved by the Society's Board of Directors.
5. All generated reports will be the property of the Society and distributed as deemed appropriate.
6. All Society field activities will be performed only under the direction of a qualified field archaeologist (Principal Investigator) and the supervision of field or site directors.
7. The above principles will be observed on both Society approved projects and projects performed under the direction of an authorized institution or organization.
8. The Society and its members will strive to educate the public of the importance and proper management of our non-renewable cultural resources and to discourage the collection and commercial exploitation of archaeological materials.
9. PCAS members shall not benefit from the acquisition, purchase, sale, or trade of archaeological artifacts, materials, or specimens.
10. All members shall adhere to City, County, State, and Federal antiquities laws.

Book Review *(Continued from Page 5)*

Included is a series of boxes on the concerns and activities of the contemporary Native people of each province devoted to topics such as modern basketweaving or efforts to continue medicinal plant gathering. The text is followed by Notes and General References, specific Resource References by Region (culture area) and Type (cultural aspect), and finally a 35 page Index.

Problems with Area Coverage

I do differ with the authors' scope and organization in leaving out the Great Basin (Owens Valley) portion of California. Lightfoot and Parrish's geomorphic provinces schema is similar to the traditional model of "California" as culture area that also excluded other, well-defined cultures that fall within the current political boundaries of the state. The Nature Guide Series, however, is intended for a wide public audience looking to understand their state. The editors should have insisted that this book include all California for it to be of benefit and use to all its people.

Another omission, this time a lack of even-handed coverage, regards the South Coast Province. There is an

overwhelming emphasis here on Chumash society when discussing the material culture of this province. Tongva culture is grouped with the Chumash, when this properly would only apply to the island and Western Gabriellino who are materially similar to their northern neighbors. The eastern Tongva, Acjachemen, and Luiseño are ignored. The Cahuilla could have been profitably integrated into this survey of the South Coast peoples, because they are not in the Mojave Desert (as their placement in the Southern Deserts Province implies), and are so closely related to the Luiseño that the two can serve as examples of the same society adapting to differing environments.

Concluding Remarks

Lightfoot and Parrish's guide promises to be a standard reference to interactions between California Native societies and the natural world. The authors bring together specialized, but important academic work in a coherent fashion that explores the true complexity found in California traditional life. Reading it has inspired me to start another list of topics to work on and to make use of new information presented here for old lines of inquiry. When a new book goes beyond presenting new and good information to inspire new lines of inquiry, that is a strong sign of its worthiness.

2010 PCAS BOARD MEMBERS AND COMMITTEE CONTACTS

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*Denotes PCAS Board Member

PACIFIC COAST ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

2010 Calendar Year Membership and Subscription Form

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Yes, I would like to receive my Newsletter by email. Please be sure email above is legible.

I have read and agree to abide by the PCAS Code of Ethics _____

Signature

Membership (Includes Quarterly/Newsletter)

- Active Member - \$45
- Family Membership - \$50
- Supporting Member* - \$55
- Donor Member* - \$75
- Lifetime Member* - \$1000

* May be individual or family membership

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- Quarterly* - \$37
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www.pcas.org