APRIL PCAS SPEAKER

George Crawford

Eighty Years of Paleoindian Research on the Southern Plains—A View from the Clovis Site.

In significant ways, research into the First Americans has come full circle from a broad search to understand the changing climate, biodiversity, and human interactions at the end of the last glacial maximum, through a period of processual excavations, and back to a big picture of landscape archaeology. A real understanding of prehistory comes not from collecting spear points and animal bones but from understanding as much as possible about the landscape, weather, plants, and animals that made up the sphere of human interaction.

The Clovis site is perhaps best known as the place where humans were proved to have killed and butchered mammoths and other Pleistocene megafauna on a marshy plain, but it is much more than a typical kill site. The Clovis site is situated in a unique geologic/geographic position of eolian aggradation and extreme stability.

DINNER WITH THE SPEAKER

Please join this month’s speaker, George Crawford, and PCAS members for dinner before the April 11th General Meeting. We will meet at 6 pm at Mimi’s Café, 4030 Barranca Parkway, Irvine.

PCAS MEETINGS CALENDAR

GENERAL MEETING

Free and Open to the Public
April 11 - 7:30 pm

Speaker: George Crawford
Topic: Eighty Years of Paleoindian Research on the Southern Plains—A view from the Clovis site.
Location: IRWD Community Room
15500 Sand Canyon Ave, Irvine

PCAS scholarship application deadline is April 30. PCAS is offering two $1,000 scholarships. Information: www.pcas.org.
March Speaker Notes

Sifting Fact from Fiction: The Lone Woman of San Nicolas Island

Submitted by Megan Galway

Steven J. Schwartz told us of the latest research into the life of the Lone Woman of San Nicolas Island. Mr. Schwartz noted that many people are familiar with the story having read *The Island of the Blue Dolphins* in elementary school. He emphasized the true story is very different, but no less interesting, than that of the fictionalized account. While some accounts of the Lone Woman’s life existed, they become little more than folklore by the 1940s. Local newspaper accounts of the woman’s story had been lost over the years, but recent digitalization of many publications from around the country has enabled researchers to locate copies of these stories. Accounts have been located dating as far back as 1847. Russian archives have also provided valuable details from the period.

San Nicolas Island is the farthest offshore of the Channel Islands, extremely isolated, and subject to notoriously bad weather. It is part of the southern group of islands where the native population were affiliated with the Gabrieliño/Tongva people rather than the Chumash. There was believed to be long-term occupation of the island with a population at any time of 200 to 300 people. There was some contact with the mainland but not a great deal. In the very early 1800s fur hunting became a valuable activity on the California coast, and Russian fur traders, by way of Alaska and Fort Ross, became active on the coast. In 1814 the Il’mena under the command of Iakov Bakin visited the island with 17 Aleutian hunters. This visit appears to have been made without permits in order to avoid taxes. By this time there were an estimated 4 to 30 individuals still on the island. On November 21, 1835, the three to five individuals were evacuated to San Pedro, leaving only one woman on the island.

Myth and legend suggest a variety of reasons that the Lone Woman was left behind. Mr. Schwartz suggests she just really didn’t want to leave, and as a result, she lived alone on the island for the next 18 years. During this time, there were at least 10 to 12 recorded visits to the island, some visitors making contact with her, but the woman refused to leave. George Nidever, a sea captain out of Santa Barbara, visited the island in 1851, 1852, and 1853. In 1853 he and his crew searched the island and located the woman hiding in one of her wind shelters. She offered them food, and although they had no common language, they persuaded her to accompany them back to their ship. They crossed the island by way of Old Garden Spring where she visited a food cache and Thousand Spring where she stopped to bathe. They camped and hunted for a month at Ranch House Landing where their ship was moored, and during this time, the Lone Woman was noted to have made woven water bottles lined with asphaltum. In September 1853 she was taken to Santa Barbara where she lived with Captain Nidever’s wife. Accounts speak of her amazement at seeing a horse for the first time—the largest animals she had previously known were her dogs. Newspaper reporters were said to have flocked to Santa Barbara to record her arrival, but communication was difficult as she spoke a Uto-Aztecan dialect and local Santa Barbara Natives all spoke Chumash. Seven weeks after her arrival, the woman contracted dysentery and died. She was baptized (post-mortem) Juana Maria on October 19, 1853, and a plaque at the Santa Barbara Mission marks what is believed to be her burial site. There is so far no record of her given Native name.

April Curation Workday

When: April 13, 2013, 1 pm
Where: Red Car Building

Everyone is welcome. Please contact Mark Roeder (714-299-4150, curator@pcas.org) or Scott Findlay (714-342-2534, fieldtrips@pcas.org) for directions and to let us know you will be coming.
MARCH BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

President Megan Galway called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm at the Old County Courthouse in Santa Ana, California. Board members present: Bob Brace, Joe Hodulik, Hank Koerper, Steve O’Neil and Brian Steffensen. Members present: Scott Findlay and Rene Brace.

The Board approved the minutes of the February 2013 meeting with correction. The Treasurer’s report was approved.

Old Business:

Bob and Rene Brace, Megan Galway, and Hank Koerper represented PCAS at our Quarterly and information table at the SCA meeting in Berkeley. The mobile credit card system was a success. Megan Galway will be the contact for Prehistoric OC to be held October 12 at Clark Regional Park in Buena Park. Change of signatories on our bank accounts will require several Board members to be present at the banks. Scott Findlay reported that Archaeology Day at Garfield Elementary will be June 6; logistics will need to be worked out because of the massive school/community center construction project which has destroyed the open areas around the Red Car Building.

New Business:

The Board awarded presentation grants to Roshanne Bakhtiary and Samantha Law, both of Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, who presented a paper on settlement patterns on the Pecho Coast at the SCA meeting. The Board decided that new members as of March 21 would begin receiving the PCAS Quarterly with Volume 48.

Committee Reports:

The next curation workday will be April 13. Joe Hodulik’s Award-Donation table raised a record $271 at the March meeting for the scholarship fund! Field Trip Chair Findlay reported that the Motte Rimrock Preserve field trip will be April 27. Hodulik stated that speakers have been booked through April 2014. Librarian Jane Gothold has been assisting two researchers with early Orange County archaeology information about the WPA, Strandt, etc.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm.

April Speaker (continued from p. 1)

preserving pollen, diatoms, osteological, and stratigraphic data as well as the more usual array of artifacts and features associated with large multi-component sites. After all this time, we are just beginning to grasp its full potential.

George Crawford is the Director of the Blackwater Draw National Historic Landmark, also known as the Clovis site. Mr. Crawford has long had interests in pre-industrial subsistence strategies, tool kits, and craftsmanship. His early academic research was almost exclusively on Atlantic Europe and North Africa, but for practical reasons he changed his focus to the prehistory of North America, ultimately becoming interested in the earliest cultures of the Americas. His current work focuses on the interactions of the Southern High Plains and the American Southwest as well as our evolving knowledge of the effects of climate change on hunter-gatherers.

Mr. Crawford received both his BA and MA from the University of Missouri and has worked professionally as an archaeologist for the past 22 years. He served briefly as project archaeologist and cartographer for a contract archaeology firm in Oxford, England, while finishing graduate school, and soon thereafter, he joined the staff of the Office of the State Archaeologist of Iowa. He worked at the Center for Archaeological Research at Missouri State University and was involved in several large excavations including very early Paleoindian research.

He then took a position at the Clovis site working on field projects in New Mexico and Texas while serving as adjunct faculty at Eastern New Mexico University (ENMU). During this time he created the first comprehensive map of the Clovis site and surrounding landscape and developed a master plan for future management of the National Landmark. When the position ended, Mr. Crawford worked for several years on federal and state archaeological contracts in California, Arizona, Utah, New Mexico, Texas, Illinois, Missouri, and North Dakota involving large cultural resource surveys and extensive excavations of sites ranging in age from Paleoindian through Contact period Plains villages. In 2008 he returned to the Clovis site to oversee research and management of the landmark for the State of New Mexico, where he is also involved with the Department of Anthropology and Applied Archaeology at ENMU.
ON CA-LAN-138 C-14 DETERMINATIONS

Nancy Anastasia Desautels-Wiley and Henry C. Koerper

A recent article in California Archaeology (Sutton and Grenda 2012) revives interest regarding Level 1 at the Malaga Cove site (Figure 1). Level 1 is the lowest cultural deposit at CA-LAN-138; Edwin Walker (1951) numbered the site’s four strata, top to bottom, “4,” “3,” “2,” and “1.”

Sutton and Grenda address certain controversies that arose following Walker’s excavations in 1936 and 1937 (see also Walker 1937) and that continue to the present. They conclude that the stratigraphic sequence posited by Walker is valid and that Level 1 is a “genuine early component,” however, time placement of Level 1 “remains enigmatic.” If Level 1 is truly genuine, then it is quite possible, they suggest, that it represents a pre-Encinitas occupation (see Sutton and Gardner 2010) dating earlier than 8500 BP, that is, it could be “the earliest known occupation of the Los Angeles Basin.”

A shell date of 6,510 ± 200 RCYBP (LJ-3) originally assigned to Level 1 (Hubbs et al. 1960:201) may actually have derived from shell that was secured from Level 2 (Sutton and Grenda 2010:127, 138; see also Hubbs et al. 1960:201; Wallace 1985:142), prompting the two scholars’ view that “no direct chronometric data are available for Level 1” (2010:124). Sutton and Gardner do recognize the possibility that the LJ-3 radiocarbon date might relate to Level 1. An uncorrected date of 7,130 ± 240BP (UCR-1196) was obtained from sea cliff shell, but in 1988 R. E. Taylor communicated to Jon Erlandson (1994:224) that the stratigraphic context of the sample was not known.

In one of the 11 volumes produced from the Bolsa Chica Archaeological Project investigations (Wiley and Gibson 2013), there is reproduced a January 18, 1994 letter from R. E. Taylor to William Wallace. Space constraints do not allow its duplication here, but the most important information is supplied below. Dr. Taylor apologized for the delay in sending along dates for marine shell collected in 1936 by Walker and submitted by Wallace to the UCR Radiocarbon Laboratory. The dates were normalized for δ13C values, but Taylor cautioned that they had not been corrected for upwelling, which could range between 400-600 years. The BP dates follow:

UCR-2384D Level 4 870±40 δ13C = +1.20‰
UCR-2384A Level 1 6080±50 δ13C = +0.56‰
UCR-2372 Level 1 7140±120 δ13C = -0.56‰

The first determination is of Angeles V or Angeles VI (Del Rey Tradition) age (see Sutton 2010). The two others fall within the Topanga I Phase of the Encinitas Tradition (see Sutton and Gardner 2010). Immediately apparent is that all four early LAN-138 C-14 dates are of Topanga I age.

Erlandson, Jon M.

Hubbs, Carl L., George S. Bien, and Hans E. Suess

Sutton, Mark Q.

Sutton, Mark Q., and Jill K. Gardner

Sutton, Mark Q. Sutton, and Donn R. Grenda

(Continued on p. 5.)
**APRIL FIELD TRIP**

**When:** April 27, 2013  
**Where:** Motte Rimrock Preserve  

PCAS members will meet at 10 am at the preserve, a unit of University of California Natural Reserve System, located near Perris. We plan to visit several rock art sites within the preserve. Please be aware you will be required to sign a code of ethics and waiver of liability. You must sign up for this field trip by contacting Scott Findlay: field-trips@pcas.org or 714-342-2534.

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**SCA MEETING**

The Society for California Archaeology 2013 Meeting was held March 7-10 at the Berkeley Marina. The meeting was well attended with several symposiums running simultaneously, often making for a hard choice of which presentation to attend. The Silent Auction was held at the Lawrence Hall of Science on the UC Berkeley campus which provided a spacious venue. The Saturday night banquet keynote speaker, Malcolm Margolin, gave an insightful and lively talk.

The PCAS information and sales table was very successful—we sold Quarterly issues, received new memberships and renewals, and met with potential authors.

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(Continued from p. 4)

**Walker, Edwin Francis**  

**Wallace, William J.**  

**Wiley, Nancy Anastasia, and Robert Gibson**  
DIG THIS...

Exhibits


Lectures


Barrier Canyon: Mysterious Expressions, by François Gohier, a presentation of the San Diego Rock Art Association. Kumeyaay-Ipai Interpretive Center, 13104 Ipai Waaypuk Trail, Poway, April 7, 6 pm (Potluck begins at 4 pm). Fee: $5; members free. Information: www.sandiegorockart.org.


Early Human Populations in the New World: A Biased Perspective, by Dr. James Adovasio (Mercyhurst College), presented by the AIA, Orange County Society. DeNault Auditorium in Grimm Hall, Concordia University, April 14, 2 pm. Fee: $5; members and students, free. Information: http://aia-oc.org.


Lectures continued.


Classes, Meetings, and Events

The 3rd Annual Pow Wow will be held April 20 (11 am-7 pm) and April 21 (11 am - 6 pm). Sculpture Garden, CSU Dominguez Hills. Information: 310-243-2438.

UCLA Cotsen Institute of Archaeology Conference will be held April 26-27, Kerchhoff Hall, Grand Salon, 9 am-5 pm. Free; parking fee. Information: www.ioa.ucla.edu/agsc2013, 310-825-4169, or benjaminashepard@gmail.com.

The International Rock Art Congress with the theme, Ancient Hands around the World, will be held in conjunction with the American Rock Art Association (ARARA) 2013 Conference in Albuquerque, May 26-31. Information and registration: www.ifrao2013.org.

Websites

The National Park Service’s Channel Islands website (http://www.nps.gov/chis/photosmultimedia/california-islands-symposium.htm) has the Lone Woman of San Nicholas Island and the San Nicholas Island Box Cache presentations from the 2012 California Islands Symposium online.

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.

PCAS SPEAKER CALENDAR

May 9, 2013
Dr. Edward J. Knell
*The John D. Cooper Center for Archaeology & Paleontology: The History of Life in Southern California*

June 13, 2013
Celso D. Jaquez
*The Murals of San Bartolo: Olmec Presence in the Preclassic Maya World*

September 12, 2013
Dr. Steven J. Waller
*Rock Art Acoustics*

October 10, 2012
Dr. Jill Gardner

Come to the April 11th meeting and learn about current research at the Clovis site at Blackwater Draw.
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[www.pcas.org](http://www.pcas.org)

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