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PCAS NEWSLETTER

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DECEMBER PCAS SPEAKER

TOM BURGE

High Sierra Archeological Surveys in Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks

Tom Burge has worked as an archeologist for over 30 years. A native of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, he obtained undergraduate (B.A.) and graduate (M.A.) degrees from the University of Pittsburgh. Since 1994, he has served as the archeologist for Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks in California's southern Sierra Nevada.

In concert with United States Forest Service archaeologist and friend Bill Matthews, Mr. Burge co-directed archeological surveys in the higher elevations of the parks between 1997 and 2004. The surveys were conducted in the Ta-booze Pass, Rae Lakes, Kearsarge Pass, Siberian Outpost, and Bishop Pass areas of the parks. Obsidian, ground stone, and ceramic artifacts were recorded, along with stone circle features suggestive of temporary shelters. Seasonal use of the sub-alpine and alpine zones of the parks is clearly shown.

Mr. Burge will be joining all of us at our Holiday Dinner.

PCAS MEETINGS CALENDAR

HOLIDAY DINNER

Reservations Required— See page 7
December 13th - 6:00 pm

Speaker: Tom Burge

Topic: *High Sierra Archeological Surveys in Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks*

Location: The Duck Club
5 Riparian View
(south of Michelson)
Irvine, CA

Directions: Exit 5 at Jamboree. Turn left onto Michelson and then right on Riparian View. The Duck Club is to the right after you pass the water facility.

**NO BOARD MEETING
THIS MONTH!**

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NOVEMBER SPEAKER NOTES

Submitted by Sandy Kennedy

November's speaker was Dr. Eleanora Robbins, a paleo-palynologist, who retired after more than 30 years at the USGS. Currently she teaches Geology at San Diego State University. Her theory, albeit controversial, is that medicinal native plants arrived in North America via boat as people migrated here. She is the first to admit that this is just a theory – she has no hard evidence to support her hypothesis but is looking for some help in trying to prove it. She points out that boat technology was developed approximately 40,000 to 50,000 years ago. Due to the absence of a land bridge between Asia and Australia, human migration to Australia must have occurred with the use of ocean-going boats.

With her background in geology, Dr. Robbins has traced the last 60,000 years of ancient North American shoreline. She has used maps of submarine canyons and narrow continental shelves. If she could get some core samples, she thinks there may be evidence of early human activity. Unfortunately these areas are under 150 feet of water and layers upon layers of sediment.

Without this information Dr. Robbins turned to another area of research. She looked at the distribution of native medicinal plants worldwide including Asia, Australia, and North America to learn which plants may have traveled with people as they launched their ocean voyages. Before anyone set out on such an adventure, they would stock up on water, food, fishing gear, and medicinal plants. Dr. Robbins successfully merged the San Diego plant databases with worldwide plant databases. Not only did she find worldwide distribution of some medicinal plants but the study also revealed the existence of both north-south and east-west trade routes across the North American continent.

Dr. Robbins also has reviewed a study done on the ocean currents from Asia to North America. She cited a case in which Nike shoes were washed overboard from a container ship on the Asian side of the Pacific and tracked until they reached North America only 181 days later. It seems reasonable that a boat or canoe, powered by paddle or sail, could have left Asia and traveled the Pacific to North America. Dr. Robbins has also been discussing oral histories with coastal Native American people and has found that their creation stories all relate to water in some fashion.



PCAS Program Chair Joe Hodulik with Dr. Eleanora Robbins at the November meeting

Dr. Robbins states that we can wait until the next glaciation period for ocean waters to recede so that researchers can study the exposed shoreline and what may be buried underneath, or we can actively search for early signs of human activity. Proof that her theory is correct necessitates sampling of the ancient shorelines which were existent during glaciated periods. Dr. Robbins says that this can be accomplished by taking core samples off the present coastline and sending scuba divers into the underwater canyons to search for artifactual evidence.

RIDESHARE FOR PCAS MEETINGS

Scott Findlay will attempt to connect members who need rides and members who can provide rides to our meetings. If you need a ride, let Scott know. If you can provide transportation for a member who is no longer driving at night, please contact Scott with information about which pick up areas are convenient for you. Scott can be reached at wisscott@sbcglobal.net or 714-342-2534.

PCAS SPEAKER CALENDAR

January 10 • Jamie Cleland and Andrew York
*Settlement and Ceremony at
Landing Hill: A Place Remembered*

NOVEMBER PCAS BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

President Megan Galway called the meeting to order at 7:07 pm at the Old Courthouse, Santa Ana, California. Board members present: **Bob Brace, Megan Galway, Scott Findlay, Sandy Kennedy, Henry Koerper, Mark Roeder, and Tony Sawyer.** Member attending: **Rene Brace.**

The July and October Board meeting minutes were approved with corrections. The November Treasurer's report including expenditures was approved.

Rene Brace reported that she has been in contact with the Most Likely Descendant for the culturally sensitive materials to be returned from the PCAS LAN-98 collection. There was no report from the Quarterly Committee. The Holiday Dinner caterer has been retained. We have a commitment for 50 dinners. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

Kathleen Long has returned the ORA-321 (French Cave) material. She created an electronic catalog. This collection would make a perfect Master's project. PCAS plans to continue to promote the studying and reporting on collections in our care. **Sandy Kennedy** and **Scott Findlay**, reporting for the Election Committee, stated that **Rene Brace, Gail Cochlin, and Sherri Gust** were elected by unanimous voice vote at the November meeting. There were no nominations from the floor.

Field Trip Chair **Scott Findlay** stated that there would be no field trips in December. A January field trip will be announced in the January Newsletter. Monthly speakers have been scheduled through June. **Bob Brace** reported that the PCAS information and Quarterly table at the Rock Art Conference sold \$270 in Quarterly issues. There will be curation workday on November 24th – work will continue on the ORA-145 collection. **Megan Galway** stated that in the December Newsletter members will be asked to renew their memberships before receiving mailed renewal notices. **Megan Galway and Sandy Kennedy** said that PCAS Scholarship information would be sent to colleges in January. **Joe Hodulik's** Donation-Award activity brought in \$89 for the scholarship fund at the November Meeting!

CONGRATULATIONS, NEW DIRECTORS!

Rene Brace, Gail Cochlin, and Sherri Gust were elected to the PCAS Board of Directors at the November 13th General Meeting. The new Board Members were elected by unanimous voice vote to three-year terms that will begin in January.

Rene Brace served as Treasurer as a past Board member. She has been active in outreach with Arch in the Park and Garfield Elementary School. Rene is actively involved in the stewardship of PCAS collections and is a member of the curation team. She is currently PCAS Board liaison to the Newsletter Editor and updates the PCAS website.

Gail Cochlin has been an active member of PCAS for seven years, participating in fieldtrips, and volunteering at the PCAS curation facility, Arch in the Park, Garfield Outreach. Her involvement in PCAS reflects her personal commitment to furthering her understanding and support of the study, protection, and preservation of our cultural resources.

Sherri Gust is a Registered Professional Archaeologist and a Qualified Principal Paleontologist with her own cultural resources consulting company, Cogstone, here in Orange County. She has 28 years experience in cultural resources management and consulting in California. She currently serves on the PCAS Quarterly Committee and is PCAS Newsletter Editor.

Thanks to our Election Committee of **Dorothy DeGennaro, Scott Findlay, and Sandy Kennedy** for checking members in and being prepared to tally the vote. A special thanks to all PCAS members who attended the meeting, so that we had a quorum.

ROCK ART 2007

PCAS members attended the San Diego Museum of Man's 32nd Annual Rock Art Symposium on November 3rd. A full day of presentations included reports on sites from southern California and as far beyond as Egypt and Libya. A very special treat was a presentation by **Jay von Werlhof** (Imperial Valley College Desert Museum) with photos of Colorado River area geoglyphs which will be used to apply for United Nations World Heritage classification. PCAS member **Don Christensen** discussed the Grapevine Style distribution. **Steve Freers** presented Part 3 of his *New Sites for Sore Eyes, which focused on digital enhancement and close-up photography*. These new techniques provide the ability to better distinguish variances of San Luis Rey and Rancho Bernardo Styles. Enhanced close-up photography can reveal superimposition and application techniques. **Ken Hedges** focused on three sites on the lower Gila River which appear to be related to the Sears Point site. M. Leigh Marymor described the searchable rock art database that he has compiled. The database is available at <http://bancroft.berkeley.edu/collections/rockart.html> - with 16,000 citations, and the ability to search by place names and key words, along with author and title.

PCAS members sold issues of the *PCAS Quarterly* and provided information about our organization. **We extend our thanks to Ken Hedges** for making this possible.

PCAS members attending Rock Art 2007: **Bob and Rene Brace, Beverly Carpenter, Don Christensen, Linda Christison, Scott Findlay, Megan Galway, Susan Hector, Steve O'Neil, Michael Sampson, Sandy Schneeberger, and Kathleen Shada.**



PCAS members and the Quarterly sales and information table at Rock Art 2007

FIELD TRIPS

January 19-21, 2008

The Lower Salton Basin Area

Please sign up for this field trip at the December or January General Meeting or by contacting Scott Findlay at wisscott@sbcglobal.net 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.

CURATION UPDATE

The November 10th and 24th curation workdays were very successful. We finished rebagging, re-boxing, and inventorying the historic component of the PCAS ORA-145 (the Dobkin site) collection. Our next task will be to complete the prehistoric portion of the collection. If you would like to attend the next curation workday, please contact Rene Brace (714-544-6282, ibrace@pacbell.net); or Sandy Schneeberger (sandys@gsenv.com, 562-691-1357). No experience necessary!

Members attending curation workdays: **Mary Anne and Sara Balmuth, Bob and Rene Brace, Megan Galway, Scott Findlay, Sandy Kennedy, Hank Koerper, Mark Roeder, and Kathleen Shada.**



PCAS Workday, November 24th

COUNTY COLLECTIONS CURATION PROGRAM

The County of Orange is asking for submittals from organizations and institutions interested in managing the County's archaeology and paleontology collections for preservation, scientific, educational, and exhibit purposes. OC Parks' goal is the development and operation of a professional curation program and the establishment of a permanent home for the collections. Submittals will be evaluated and referred to the Orange County Board of Supervisors.

The Orange County Board of Supervisors recently approved the OC Parks Strategic Plan, which called for preservation of Orange County's cultural, scientific, and historic resources. The Board has directed OC Parks to find a partner(s) to care for the collections and to help manage a suitable curation facility.

The County collections were obtained as required by grading and development permits primarily in the 1980s, a period of very active development. They have been stored in warehouses at the County's Chestnut Street facility in Santa Ana. There is approximately 20,000 cubic feet of material. The paleontology collection is the larger of the two collections and will likely require the most attention. The archaeology collection is extensive and includes over 2700 boxes and 200 pieces of ground stone.

Submittals are due on January 16, 2008. Documents and information are available online at www.ocparks.com/uploadgraphics/OC Parks RQC 2007.pdf. For additional information, contact Griselda Castillo at grisel.castillo@rdmd.ocgov.com or 714-973-6609.

DIG THIS...**Lectures**

Fish Traps on Ancient Shores, by Eric White, sponsored by the Coachella Valley Archaeological Society. Cathedral City Senior Center, 68-727 E. Palm Canyon Dr., December 7, 6 pm. Free.

The Salt Song Trail, by Phil Klasky (educator, ethnographer, cultural geographer), an Old Schoolhouse Lecture. The Desert Institute and Twentynine Palms Historical Society, 6760 National Park Dr., Twentynine Palms, December 14, 7 pm. Fee: \$5. Information: www.joshuatree.org or 760-367-5535

The Emergence of the Earliest Temples in the Holy Land, by Thomas Levy, Ph.D., a Journey to the Copper Age lecture, San Diego Museum of Man, January 27, 5 pm, lecture followed by gallery tour. Fee: \$20 (\$10 members/seniors/military). Limited seating. Information and reservations: www.museumofman.org or 619-239-2001

Meetings

The 109th Archaeological Institute of America Annual Meeting will be held in Chicago, Illinois, January 3-6, 2008. Information: www.archaeological.org

The Society for Historical Archaeology will hold its ***2008 Conference on Historical and Underwater Archaeology*** at the Hyatt Regency Albuquerque in Albuquerque, NM, January 9-12, 2008. Information: www.sha.org

The 2008 Society of American Archaeology Annual Meeting will be held in Vancouver, BC, Canada, March 26-30, 2008. Advanced registration will be available in mid-December at www.saa.org

The 2008 Society for California Archaeology Annual Meeting will be held at the Marriott Burbank Airport Hotel and Convention Center, Burbank, April 17-20 (all day Thursday-Sunday noon). Information: www.scahome.org

Classes and Events

Gourd Art Jewelry, by Amil Pedro, a class of the Agua Caliente Cultural Museum. December 1, 10:30 am-5 pm; and December 2, 11 am- 4 pm. Materials will be provided for this two-day open-enrollment class. Information: www.accmuseum.org or 760-778-1079

Children's Holiday Workshop will allow children ages four and up to make unique items such as bracelets, clay vases and sculptures, and picture frames while learning about the archaeology, history and natural environment of San Diego. Accompanying adults will enjoy the Center's award winning exhibits, research station, and hands-on archaeology lessons located in the newly expanded Museum. San Diego Archaeological Center, December 8, 10 am-2 pm. Fee: free, with a suggested donation of \$2 per person and \$5 per family. Information: www.sandiegoarchaeology.org

Stories and Sites of the Native Americans of the Anza Borrego, led by Ruth Nelson, is a program of the Anza-Borrogo Foundation. This literary field trip to sites in Blair Valley will focus on the stories and history of some of the park's earliest inhabitants, the Cahuilla and Kumeyaay Indians. December 9, 9 am-1 pm. Fee: \$24-\$33. Information and online registration: www.theabf.org

Singing the Birds (Wikitmallem Tahmuwhae), the Bird Song and Dance Festival, a full day event with bird singing groups; dancers; and food, beverages, and merchandise vendors. Pavillion Auditorium (Sunrise Park), 401 S. Pavillion Way, Palm Springs, December 15, 11 am-8 pm. Free.

4WD Tour of Grapevine Canyon, led by Deborah Sperberg, a field trip of the Anza-Borrogo Desert Natural History Association, will make a stop at Angelina Springs, an important Indian village site, and possibly at a second spring. 4WD vehicles mandatory, but carpooling opportunities may be available. December 28, 9 am-12 pm. Information and registration: www.abdnha.org or 760-767-3098.

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 Membership & Subscriptions

All Members receive the *PCAS Newsletter* and *Quarterly* publications. Inquiries regarding newsletter exchanges with other related groups are invited. For more information, or to obtain a membership application, please write to: PCAS Membership, P.O. Box 10926, Costa Mesa, CA 92627-0926.

Subscriptions to the *PCAS Quarterly* and *PCAS Newsletter* are \$55 per year (US). Newsletter-only subscriptions are available at \$18 per year (US). *Quarterly* subscriptions are \$37 per year (US). For more information, write to: PCAS, Subscriptions, PO Box 10926, Costa Mesa, CA 92627-0926.

Back issues of the *PCAS Newsletter* and the *PCAS Quarterly* are available, if in print. To continue receiving publications, all persons must provide notice of address changes. The membership year begins and ends on January 1st of each year.

PCAS HOLIDAY DINNER RESERVATIONS

Reservations are still available for the December 13th PCAS Holiday Dinner and General Meeting, but they must be made by **Wednesday, December 5th**.

Dinner will begin at 6:00 PM at the Duck Club in Irvine. Our General Meeting will begin at 7:30 pm with guest speaker Tom Burge speaking on *High Sierra Archeological Surveys in Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Park*.

Please contact Bob or Rene Brace (see below) and let us know that you are mailing your reservation check. Use the reservation form that was in the November Newsletter (also available at www.pcas.org, click on Latest News), or simply send your check for \$25 per person to PCAS, P.O. Box 10926, Costa Mesa, CA 92627 and indicate the following: **name(s) of attendee and entrée choice of roast beef or turkey for each person.**

Contact Bob or Rene Brace at 714-544-6282 or bobrene@pacbell.net

2007 PCAS BOARD MEMBERS AND COMMITTEE CONTACTS

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*President	Megan Galway	pcas.info@gmail.com	714-539-6354
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*Denotes PCAS Board Member

PACIFIC COAST ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

2008 CALENDAR YEAR MEMBERSHIP AND SUBSCRIPTION FORM

Renew your membership, subscribe, or become a new member today!

Name(s): _____

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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 _____

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* May be individual or family membership

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