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PCAS NEWSLETTER

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PACIFIC COAST ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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FEBRUARY PCAS SPEAKER

Dr. Nancy Anastasia Wiley

Bolsa Chica Archaeology

Part Five: Features and Functions

This talk is the fifth in a series on Bolsa Chica archaeology which have been presented at Pacific Coast Archaeological Society meetings since 2010. In a tribute to Dr. Hal Eberhart, Parts One and Two presented a history of investigations on the Mesa sites (including a detailed bibliography) and a Californian-Chilean Cogged Stone review and comparison. Parts Three and Four highlighted other artifacts. Shell beads were thoroughly explored, and a taxonomic hierarchy presented. Manufacturing industries were described including the process for making shell beads. Hammerstone production for bipolar lithic reduction, bead drill manufacture, and for cogged stone shaping and notching was also presented. The next three talks will concentrate on other aspects of the archaeological sites. Numerous features were located during the various exploration programs at CA-ORA-83, CA-ORA-85, and CA-ORA-86 including natural geological phenomena and the results of cultural activities. Soil undulations and inclusions, such as natural pigments, characterize the unusual geological deposits. Prehistoric features that were documented on the Mesa include cultural depressions and rock, shell, and bone concentrations. In addition, historic activities in and around the sites are reflected in remnants of structural remains—wooden, ceramic, metal and plastic pipelines, and other mechanical parts related to military activities, agriculture, and oil industries throughout the 1900s. This presentation briefly describes Bolsa Chica features and their probable functions. *(Continued on p. 3)*

DINNER WITH THE SPEAKER

Please join this month's speaker, Dr. Nancy Anastasia Wiley, and PCAS members for dinner before the February 9th 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

February 9 - 7:30 pm

Speaker: Dr. Nancy Anastasia Wiley

Topic: *Bolsa Chica Archaeology
Part Five: Features and Functions*

Location: Irvine Ranch Water District
15600 Sand Canyon Ave., Irvine

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

February 16 - 7:00 pm

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

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 2 January Speaker Notes
- 2 2012 Scholarships and Grants
- 3 January Board Meeting Summary
- 3 Curation
- 4 2011 Financial Statement
- 4 Field Trips
- 6 Dig This - Exhibits, Lectures, and more
- 7 Speaker Schedule

**Remember to Renew
your PCAS Membership!
Use the form in this newsletter.**

JANUARY SPEAKER NOTES

Orange County's Sculpted Rocks: The Santiago Petroglyph Style

Submitted by Megan Galway

Artist and rock art researcher Bernie Jones introduced us to a little known complex in Orange County. Located in Santiago Oaks Regional Park, adjacent to Weir Canyon, the site was long hidden by vegetation until the 2007 Windy Ridge wildfire. The fire was considered a hundred year burn and revealed rock faces for the first time in local memory. Jones described an extensive complex of unique symbols, surrounded by a heavily urbanized area. A portion of the site is within the park, but much of the rock art is on surrounding private property.

The exposed faces and boulders are generally pink sandstone, and the rock art is concentrated at an elevation of 800 to 1,000 feet. The elevation and exposure of the site allows direct sightlines to most of the important landscape features in and around Orange County. Nothing was found within the rock shelters, but 90 percent was located on steep slopes. An unusual number of small, carved stones were found primarily in streambeds or areas of water runoff.

Jones noted that Ken Hedges and Roger Mason had previously recorded sites in Weir Canyon and identified similar petroglyphs. He identifies 39 types of petroglyph motifs, four of them incorporating some paint. They are generally abstract, rather than representational, being formed with grooves, scoops, channels, and gouges. Some of the more common and unique are:

- The vulva glyph, described as a V-shaped symbol with a deep groove at the bottom of the V.
- A Y-form glyph evocative of deer antlers. There are also possible deer hoof glyphs on some panels.
- Cupules are small and relatively few in number, but there are a number of deep cupules with radiating grooves.
- Three parallel lines in association with a scoop-like depression. Some ethnographic reports relate a similar symbol to coyote.
- Individual deep scoops.
- Stacked chevrons.



January speaker Bernie Jones with PCAS Program Chair Joe Hodulik.

While similar symbols are found at other sites, they are generally seen in association with many other styles. This site appears to have a close focus on this particular style. Luiseno ethnography describes stones as sacred beings, which is a possible explanation for the heavily sculptured boulders found here. One panel includes a nicely carved cross, and it was noted that Portola passed very close to this area. This is one of the few motifs that could be said to be representational. Jones estimates the site contains greater than 3,000 images and maybe as many as 5,000. He notes the vegetation has been growing back since the fire, and the panels will soon be hidden again.

2012 PCAS Scholarships and Grants

With the beginning of the spring semester, PCAS is inviting applications for our annual undergraduate scholarship program.

We will again offer two \$750 scholarships to students who will achieve junior or senior level by the fall of 2012 with a declared major in anthropology. Complete information, application guidelines, and application forms can be found on our website at www.pcas.org/scholarship.

Our scholarship program is funded by donations from our members, including funds raised by our monthly donation-award table run by Joe Hodulik.

Should you know any qualified students who have not heard of our program, please direct them to our website, or questions may also be directed to scholarship@pcas.org or by telephone to 714-539-6354.

JANUARY BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

President **Scott Findlay** called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm at the Old Orange County Courthouse, Santa Ana, California. Board members present: **Bob Brace, Linda Christison, Gail Cochlin, Sherry Gust, Joe Hodulik, Hank Koerper, Kathleen Shada**, and retiring board member **Megan Galway**. Member present: **Rene Brace**.

The November 2011 minutes and the treasurer's report with expenditures were approved. The 2011 year-end report was approved for publication in the February newsletter

New board officers for 2012 were unanimously elected: President, **Scott Findlay**; Vice President, **Joe Hodulik**; Secretary, **Kathleen Shada**; and Treasurer, **Bob Brace**. All committees chairs will remain the same. **Sherry Gust** offered to host Dinner with the Speaker since **Joe Hodulik** needs to be at the meeting room to set up the donation-award table.

Rene Brace has reserved the PCAS table at the SCA Conference in March (cost is \$60). **Megan Galway** has submitted the Silent Auction donation form. We will make our standard donation of two packages, each with four Quarterly issues and an Index (valued at \$60 each).

Hank Koerper showed a photograph of an artifact described on the back as being the artifact on which our logo was based and that it was found at LAN-98. There is some doubt over this provenience. The notes also indicate the logo was drawn by Ralph Irwin. We will try to track down the artifact's present location.

Work continues on ORA-83 (the Cogstone site). **Joe Hodulik's** donation/award table generated \$130 in January, including a \$20 donation from our speaker, Bernie Jones! The successful bidder in the didgeridoo auction at the Holiday Dinner was our speaker, Dr. Robert Yohe, with a bid of \$80. We have also received a most generous donation from Life Member Dr. **Keith Dixon** of \$200 to be divided between the scholarship and publication funds. Speakers have been scheduled through summer. Member **Brian Steffensen** will lead a field trip into Weir Canyon on February 25th. Details will be given to members who sign up for the trip. Quarterly Volume 46, Numbers 1 and 2, is expected to be published in March. **Rene Brace** will be able to test access to our archive server this month.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:08 pm.

PCAS Curation

January Curation Workday

When: February 11, 2012

Time: 1 pm

Where: Red Car Building

Everyone is welcome. Please contact Mark Roeder (714-299-4150, curator@pcas.org) or Rene Brace (714-544-6282, info@pcas.org) for directions and to let us know you will be coming.

SCA MEETING TABLE

PCAS will have a Quarterly sales and information table at the March 29 through April 1 Society for California Archaeology Annual Meeting in San Diego. The table will be staffed by PCAS volunteers whenever the book room is open. If you will be attending the meeting and would be willing to assist in manning the table for a few hours or during a lunch break, please contact **Bob Brace** at orders@pcas.org or 714-544-6282.

We plan to have copies of all PCAS Quarterly issues available for sale. If you are planning on purchasing back issues, please let us know at the above email address, and we will have your order ready to pick-up.

February Speaker (*continued from p. 1*)

Dr. Nancy Anastasia Wiley is the Principal Investigator and Research Director for Scientific Resource Surveys, Inc., which has a corporate office in Orange, California, ethnographic branch in Warner Springs, California, and an Alaskan branch in Haines, Alaska. Dr. Wiley has been in charge of the Californian offices since 1982 and the Alaskan branch since 2005. Most recently she was adjunct professor in the Anthropology Department, University of Alaska, Juneau campus, where she ran a summer field school which incorporated three lower and upper level courses as part of a Native Archaeological Training Program. The students were also certified as archaeological grading monitors. She is the series editor and an author for an 11-volume final report on the Bolsa Bay Archaeological Project, which is under peer review and will be distributed during 2012 and publicly available through *Coyote Press* mid-year. Dr. Wiley has contributed numerous articles on this work to the *Pacific Coast Archaeological Society Quarterly*, *Journal of Great Basin and California Anthropology*, and *Proceedings of the Society of California Archaeology*.

PCAS 2011 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

INCOME

Donations	
Scholarship	\$5,036.00
Other Donations	\$504.20
Interest	\$319.59
Member Dues	\$5,361.00
Quarterly Sales	\$1,167.35
Subscriptions	\$2,324.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$14,712.14

EXPENSES

Curation	\$1,346.14
General Administration	\$143.05
Membership Exp	\$96.54
Newsletter	\$1,818.61
Quarterly	\$9,673.14
Scholarship	\$1,750.00
Web Site	\$200.00
Lecture Program	\$485.96
Outreach	\$73.82
Holiday Dinner	\$128.54
Library	\$750.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$16,465.80

TOTAL (INCOME - EXPENSES) (**\$-1753.66**)

ASSETS

	12/31/10	12/31/11
Checking, CD & Money Market Accts	\$ 8,173.05	\$ 7,552.67
Reserve for Curation	\$17,000.00	\$12,000.00
C14 Fund	\$4,406.04	\$4,406.04
Scholarship Fund	\$437.30	\$3,723.74
Outreach Fund	\$657.95	\$584.13
Postage Account	\$41.89	\$38.48
TOTAL ASSETS	\$30,058.72	\$28,305.06

LIABILITIES

Paid Subscriptions	\$6,098.00	\$7,687.00
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FIELD TRIPS

February Field Trip

When: Saturday, February 25, 2012

Where: Weir Canyon Wilderness Area

Brian Steffensen, a PCAS member and docent for the Irvine Ranch Conservancy (IRC), will lead a field trip into the Weir Canyon Wilderness area to view some of the area's archaeology including the "altar stone" site. Additionally, some Santiago petroglyph style grooves, etc. as described by Bernie Jones (see Speaker Notes, p. 2, in this newsletter) are recorded in this area. The hike will be a minimum of 5 miles round-trip—and probably longer. You will be required to sign IRC and PCAS waivers of liability and a PCAS Field Trip Code of Ethics. The number of participants may be limited. Reservation deadline is February 20 — contact **Scott Findlay** at fieldtrips@pcas.org or 714-342-2534. After making your reservation, you will be informed of meeting location and time. Please be aware that rain will cancel this field trip. Also, access to the wilderness area will be through Irvine Regional Park which often closes backcountry trails if they are wet.



Weir Canyon wilderness area.

March Field Trip

When: March 17-19, 2012

Where: Mojave National Preserve

PCAS members will dry camp within the preserve and visit archaeological and rock art sites. Contact Scott Findlay for more information: fieldtrips@pcas.org or 714-342-2534.

MORE ON CRYSTALS (Part 1)

Submitted by Henry C. Koerper

Introduction

A PCASQ article (Koerper et al. 2006) that described and illustrated sparkly, lithic manuports and artifacts recovered in the Bolsa Bay area, also presented Alta California and Baja California documentations bearing on Native uses of “flashy” minerals, in particular, quartz crystals. Among other employments, quartz crystals might serve as talismans in weather control (Koerper et al. 2006:62). A short section held out of the draft just prior to its submission for review and eventual publication invited thoughtful speculation regarding how quartz crystals might first have entered into those ritual/belief venues connecting with rain. The discourse further broached the question of whether such connections had precipitated the evolution of a larger body of crystal lore. The section not included is resurrected below but with small changes. The March *Newsletter* will carry an addendum and list of references (i.e., More on Quartz Crystals [Part 2]).

Food for Thought

It is for the philosophic student to trace the train of thought which underlies the magician’s practice; to draw out a few simple threads of which the tangled skein is composed; to disengage the abstract principles from their concrete applications; in short, to discern the spurious science behind the bastard art. – Sir James George Frazer, *The Golden Bough: A Study in Magic and Religion*.

Refractive, diffractive, and reflective properties of clear quartz crystals allow some measured control over the sun’s rays, a means whereby shamans or others might mimic the chromatic displays of rainbows. It was perhaps by grasping the essential consistency of rainbows’ occurrence within the medium of water droplets and simultaneously applying the “Law of Similarity” (Frazer 1993:11-12)

that ancient peoples first fashioned a logic to wed rock crystals with rain in a marriage of cause and effect. Or more prosaically, perhaps the associative glue built only on the foundation of a distinctive attribute, the clarity/translucence shared by water, ice, and quartz crystals. Yet again, it could have been the crystal’s property of triboluminescence, allowing, as it does, the mineral’s employment in simulations of lightning, that first connected rock to rain. The spatio-temporal settings from whence arose ascriptions binding crystals to rain production are forever shrouded in deep antiquity; nor shall we ever learn how California Indians came to possess crystal/rain lore, but surely they did (e.g., Driver 1937: 104; Voegelin 1938:64; Gayton 1948; Hudson and Underhay 1978:49).

Should the power animating rainmaking crystals be imagined as generalized and transferable, miraculous effects beyond weather control might have become possible by further analogizing. Crystal potency in California did indeed embrace a variety of effects (see Koerper et al. 2006).

Upon any such foundation of wide-ranging supernatural power, crystal imagery might then have folded effortlessly into shamanistic vision experience, as when many California Indian initiates to the magical arts travel to a large house, sometimes identified as a crystal house (Whitley 2000:79-80). Crystal imagery seems just as easily to have been integrated into some formal mythologies, as when, for instance, the cultural ancestors of historically known Chumash chose crystal houses as abodes for the Sun and his daughters (Blackburn 1975:36; Hudson and Underhay 1978:52), also for the “Captain” of the Land-of-the-Dead, in the Milky Way (Hudson and Underhay 1978:117, 121; see also Applegate 1978:107), and also for the Swordfish Men residing beneath the ocean (Blackburn 1975:37).

The varied hypothetical scenarios will never transcend heuristic exercise, the hoary past being loath to compromise certain secrets of magico-religious thought and behavior. Are the scenarios at least plausible, or is all of this merely “learned nonsense” in the tradition of 19th century armchair philosophy? What might be alternative models?

DIG THIS...



Lectures

Wikikmal: Bird. Creation Songs of the Cahuilla People., by Mike Mirelez. A lecture of the Coachella Valley Archaeological Society, Cathedral City Community Center, 37-171 West Buddy Rogers, February 7, 6:30 pm. Free. Information: www.cvarch.org.

Imagining the Tomb of the First Emperor of China, by Anthony Barbieri-Low, Ph.D. (UCSB). Bowers Museum, February 11, 3 pm. Fee: \$15; members \$12. Information and reservations: www.bowers.org or 714-567-3677.

Native American Coyote Stories, by Catherine Svehla, Ph.D. A Black Rock lecture, Black Rock Visitor Center, 9800 Black Rock Canyon, Yucca Valley, February 12, 7 pm. Free. Information: desertinstitute.homestead.com/.

Alive: Wellness, Disease, and Medical Care in Ancient Egypt, by Dr. Greg Thomas, MD, and Dr. Ben Harer, MD, an ARCE lecture. Bowers Museum, February 25, 1:30 pm. Free. Information: www.bowers.org or 714-567-3677.

Subarctic Archaeology, by Sandra Pentney, will discuss northern Saskatchewan archaeology. A lecture of the San Diego County Archaeological Society, Peñasquitos Ranch House, February 28, 7:30 pm. Free. Information: www.sdcas.org.

Classes, Meetings, and Events

Photography, Fieldwork, and the Anthropological Experience - Scholars Panel Discussion, Seth Mallios, Ph.D., Matt Lauer, Ph.D., and Erin Riley, Ph.D. San Diego Museum of Man, February 25, 11 am-12:30 pm. Free with museum admission. Information: www.museumofman.org.

Intaglios along the Colorado River, by Daniel McCarthy (Tribal Relation Program Manager, San Bernardino NF), March 4, 8 am- 6 pm, fee: \$60 (members \$50); **Archaeological Surveying & Site**

Recording, Wanda Raschkow, March 3-4, fee: \$60 (members \$50); **Geology & Cultural History of Cottonwood Spring**, Dee Trent, Ph.D., March 11, 9 am-4 pm, fee: \$60 (members \$50); **Native American Plant Uses**, by Daniel McCarthy (Tribal Relation Program Manager, San Bernardino NF), March 25, 9 am-4 pm, fee: \$60 (members \$50); **Native American Culture**, Phil Klasky and Matthew Leivas Sr. (Chemehuevi Tribal Leader), March 31-April 1, fee: \$110 (members \$100) or credit \$185 (members \$175). All classes of the Joshua Tree Desert Institute. Information and registration:

<http://desertinstitute.homestead.com/>.

Tim Dillard Flintnapping Workshop will be held March 23-25 at the Desert Studies Center near Baker. This program is not affiliated with any institution and no credit can be given. Fee: \$225 includes meals and accommodations. Information: Jeanne Binning at jeanne_binning@juno.com or 559-243-8219.

Geology for Archaeologists, by Dr. Eleanora Robbins, presented by the San Diego Archaeological Center in partnership with the Kumeyaay-Ipai Interpretive Center. Part 1 will be at the San Diego Archaeological Center, April 14, 10 am-noon; Part 2 will be a field trip from the Kumeyaay-Ipai Interpretive Center, Poway, April 21, 8 am-noon. Fee: \$70; members \$45. Reservations mandatory. Contacts: Annemarie Cox (SDAC) at 760-291-0370 or acox@sandiegoarchaeology.org; Dan Cannon (KIIC) at 858-922-8043.

Websites

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.

Come to the February 9th Meeting

*Bolsa Chica Archaeology
Part Five: Features and Functions
With Dr. Nancy Anastasia Wiley*



Dr. Wiley holding cogged stone, April 2010.

PCAS SPEAKER CALENDAR

March 8, 2012

Matthew Wetherbee, MA, RPA

Bolsa Chica Archaeology

Part Six: Foodstuff

*A Comprehensive Zooarchaeological
Investigation of the Bolsa Chica Mesa*

April 12, 2012

Dr. Jill Gardner

May 10, 2012

Dr. Nancy Anastasia Wiley

Bolsa Chica Archaeology

Part Seven: Culture and Chronology

June 14, 2012

Dr. Judy Suchey

2012 PCAS BOARD MEMBERS AND COMMITTEE CONTACTS

<u>Office</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Email</u>	<u>Phone</u>
*President	Scott Findlay	president@pcas.org	714-342-2534
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*Secretary	Kathleen Shada	secretary@pcas.org	714-381-8182
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*Quarterly Coeditor	Sherri Gust	publications@pcas.org	714-245-0264
*Refreshments	Gail Cochlin	refreshments@pcas.org	714-997-0852
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Website	Rene Brace	info@pcas.org	714-544-6282

*Denotes PCAS Board Member

PACIFIC COAST ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

2012 Calendar Year Membership and Subscription Form

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

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

Subscription Only

- Quarterly* - \$37
- Newsletter* - \$18
- Student Associate - \$10 (email Newsletter only)

Scholarship Fund

Donation \$ _____

Return form with payment to:

PCAS Membership
PO Box 10926
Costa Mesa, CA 92627-0926

www.pcas.org