JANUARY PCAS SPEAKER

Anne Morgan

Geoglyphs of the Desert Southwest

The deserts of the American Southwest have one of the largest concentrations of geoglyphs outside of Peru’s Nazca Lines. These ancient Native American works of earthen art can be hundreds of feet long, and yet they are often invisible until viewed from above. Before drones, GPS, or Google Maps, photographer Harry Casey began a unique archaeology project. Armed with (Continued on p. 3)

PCAS MEETINGS CALENDAR

General Meeting
Free and Open To the Public
January 9 - 7:30 pm

Speaker: Anne Morgan
Topic: Geoglyphs of the Desert Southwest—Earthen Art as Viewed from Above
Location: IRWD Community Room
15500 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
January Meeting
Location: For date and location: Contact Scott Findlay, president@pcas.org or 714-342-2534.

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DINNER WITH THE SPEAKER

Please join this month’s speaker, Anne Morgan, for dinner before the January 9 meeting, 6 pm, Mimi’s Café, 4030 Barranca Parkway, Irvine.

Happy New Year!
Please remember to renew your PCAS membership.
DECEMBER SPEAKER NOTES

Lost Narratives: New Directions in the Post-1850 Historical Archaeology of Southern California

By Megan Galway

Dr. Snead brought us a discussion of a period connecting historical archaeology with living memory as seen in southern California. Historical archaeology was traditionally defined by the study of colonial settlements in eastern North America and the Mission period in the West. Dr. Snead is now looking at the period from the late 1800s to the early 1900s where features are no longer visible but descendants of former residents are able to tell the stories.

The first case he described was that of Alice Ballard, an African-American woman who built a cabin in what is now the Santa Monica Mountains Recreation Area. Many of her descendants are still in the Los Angeles area and know her story, and Dr. Snead says members of the younger generation are interested in learning more about her. The area where her cabin was believed to have stood was overgrown and somewhat inaccessible, but the recent Woolsey fire cleared much of the underbrush, and maps were available to help pinpoint the site. In association with Austin Ringlestein, a National Parks archeologist, Dr. Snead and his CSUN students performed a walking survey of the area. Artifacts, fragments of household pottery, glassware, etc., were found which were representative of the period. A bottle labeled “Radium Rada” once contained a patent medicine claiming to cure appendicitis. Its ingredients apparently included water, turpentine, and capsicum. The students were at the very beginning of their archaeological education and learning the process which lead to discussions on how Alice may have lived based on the artifacts. The area was privately owned so permission had to be sought from the owners to perform any research. Once this was obtained, an agreement was reached for further study and for any artifacts to be stored at CSUN.

Further information about these sites and the projects may be found at: http://csunshinetoday.csun.edu/alumni/csun-alum-uncovers-early-homestead-owned-by-african-american-woman-in-santa-monica-mountains/.

Terminal Island, 1930s.

The second case was that of a Terminal Island residential area known as Japantown, which was once occupied by Japanese American fishermen and their families. The community existed until 1942 when the 3,000 residents were sent to an internment camp in Topaz, Utah, and the town was demolished. In 2014 a proposed development of the area required a CRM survey. The Japantown site was identified, and the project was halted. Artifacts from the survey were later loaned to a student for his master’s project. One artifact of particular interest was identified as a Charles Lindbergh commemorative candy jar. Japanese descendants in the area have now built a memorial marker, and the site is featured in the Japanese American National Museum. The site itself remains undeveloped.

Speaker Dr. James Snead with PCAS Programs Chair Brian Steffensen at the Holiday Dinner.
January Speaker (continued from p. 1)

nothing more than topographic maps, 35mm film cameras, and his beloved Piper J3 Cub aircraft, Casey spent 35 years documenting the region’s geoglyphs before natural erosion and human intervention could destroy these fragile sites. Here, for the first time, in Geoglyphs of the Desert Southwest is a visual record of these beautiful and mysterious, little-known features.

Anne Morgan.

The Head Archivist and Curator at the Imperial Valley Desert Museum (IVDM) in Ocotillo, California, from 2012 to 2018, Anne Morgan is a freelance editor and independent museum professional. While working with the IVDM, she met aerial photographer Harry Casey, who introduced her to the geoglyphs of the southwestern United States. After Harry donated his collection of earthen art and rock art photographs to the IVDM, he asked her to edit a manuscript he had been working on for years and help him to get it published. Geoglyphs of the Desert Southwest is the result of that collaboration and their first published work with Sunbelt Publications.

IN PASSING … PHILLIP K. BRIGANDI, 1959–2019

We are saddened to report that historian Phil Brigandi passed away on December 12, 2019. For over 40 years he recorded Orange County and southern California history and stories. He published many books and articles on local history and served as Orange County Archivist from 2003 to 2008. Phil was a vital part of local historical organizations and will be missed. PCAS extends its condolences to his family, friends, and colleagues in the historical community.

A memorial service will be at Waverly Chapel, Fairhaven Memorial Park, 1702 Fairhaven Ave, Santa Ana, January 12, 11 am–12 pm, with reception to follow. The Orange Historical Society will hold a public tribute on January 9, 7 pm, Trinity Episcopal Church, 2400 N. Canal St, Orange.

November Board Meeting Summary

President Scott Findlay called the meeting to order at 1:02 PM at the curation facility at 3001 W. Harvard, Santa Ana. Board Members present Bob Brace, Steve Dwyer, Irene Foster, Megan Galway, Hank Koerper, and Brian Steffensen. PCAS members present: Rene Brace and Gail Cochlin.

The October 2019 minutes were approved, and the November Treasurer’s report was accepted.

The results of the November annual election were recorded. Rene Brace, Gail Cochlin, and Dorothy DeGennaro will join the Board in January; Bob Brace, Megan Galway, and Brian Steffensen will be retiring.

The Board acknowledged with regret the unexpected passing of Sherri Gust. A memorial will be in the December Newsletter.

The need for a PCAS Quarterly editor was discussed. At least temporarily, the Brace’s will print and mail hard copies of the PCAS Newsletter. Plans for the Holiday Dinner were discussed. Setup was scheduled for 6:30 pm. Irene Foster will sign in attendees and provide name tags; Megan Galway will provide reserved signs for the speaker; Gail Cochlin will supply the holiday music.

Joe Hodulik raised $166 in November for the Scholarship fund! A one-day field trip will be led by the Jespersens to the Yucca Valley area on November 23. A membership reminder will be in the December newsletter, and renewal notices will be emailed in December.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:10 pm.

Phil Brigandi at San Juan Hot Springs, 2009. Photo courtesy Chris Jepsen.

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Field Trips

By Stephen Dwyer

January Field Trip

When: January 18, 2020
Where: Antelope Valley Indian Museum

Join PCAS members at the Antelope Valley Indian Museum east of Lancaster on January 18. For information or to sign up for this field trip, contact Scott Findlay (714-342-2534), Stephen Dwyer (714-969-1911), or fieldtrips@pcas.org.

From the museum’s website at www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=632: Antelope Valley Indian Museum State Historic Park is California's State Regional Indian Museum representing Great Basin Indian Cultures. The exhibits and interpretive emphasis are on American Indian groups of the Southwest, Great Basin, and California culture regions. The museum was originally constructed by homesteader/artist H. Arden Edwards in 1928. The chalet-style structure was built over an entire rock formation of Piute Butte in the Mojave Desert. The museum exhibits over 3,000 objects, including many rare and outstanding objects from the Antelope Valley, California coast, Great Basin, and the Southwest.

November Field Trip

In November, PCAS members visited the Landers area. Several petroglyph and pictograph sites were explored. Although many of the motifs are now faded and eroded, a surprising number were still in very good condition. Looking closely showed more and more details. Special thanks to Martin and Mary Jespersen for leading this trip, and to Jim and Ellen LaMotte for hosting an excellent chili dinner afterwards!

HOLIDAY DINNER

PCAS members and guests enjoyed the Annual Holiday Potluck Dinner on December 12 at the Irvine Ranch Water District Duck Club. Our guest speaker, Dr. James Snead, presented his project of connecting historical archaeology and living memories in southern California.

We thank PCAS members who arrived early to set up and decorate the Duck Club: Gail Cochlin, Dorothy DeGennaro, Steve Dwyer, Scott Findlay, Irene Foster, Megan Galway, Joe Hodulik, Brian Steffensen, and Greg Ziak. And thanks to everyone who helped with cleanup!

We thank Megan Galway for providing the ham and everyone who brought delicious dishes to share.
DIG THIS ...

Lectures


Man Versus Wild? Rethinking the Interpretation of Human and Animal Representation in Egyptian Art, by Dr. Jennifer Miyuki Babcock (Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of History of Art and Design, Pratt Institute ). An ARCE lecture, Bowers Museum, January 11, 1:30 pm. Fee: $12; Bowers and ARCE members free. Tickets and information: www.bowers.org or 714-567-3677.

Early Human Dispersal into North America during Last Interglacial, by Dr. Steven Holen and Kathleen Holen. A lecture of the AIA, Orange County Chapter. DeNault Auditorium in Grimm Hall, Concordia University, 1530 Concordia West, Irvine, January 12, 2 pm. Fee: $5; members free. Information: www.aia-oc.org.

The Promise of "Virtual Unwrapping"—Reading the Invisible Library, by Dr. Brent Seales (Getty Conservation Institute Scholar and University of Kentucky), will present new technology for revealing texts on fragile antiquities. California NanoSystems Institute Auditorium, UCLA, January 14, 7 pm. Reservations requested. Information: https://ioa.ucla.edu, 310-825-4004.


Classes, Meetings, and Events

Rock Art of Southern California: From Palms to Pines, February 16. 8 am–6 pm; Intaglios along the Colorado River, March 8. 7:30–6 pm; Native American Plant Uses, March 15, 9 am–4 pm. All classes by Daniel McCarthy. Classes of the Joshua Tree National Park Desert Institute. Fee for each class $95, members $85. Information and registration: www.joshuatree.org/desert-institute/field-classes.html.


The 2020 Society for California Archaeology Annual Meeting will be held March 12–15 at the Riverside Convention Center. Registration is now open: scahome.org.

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

Visit www.pcas.org for all the latest news.
PCAS CODE OF ETHICS

The Pacific Coast Archaeological Society (PCAS) is a nonprofit 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.

SIGN UP FOR RALPHS COMMUNITY REWARDS

PCAS thanks Ralphs and all our participants for this opportunity to earn a donation of at least 1 percent of your Ralphs purchases. Go to www.ralphs.com and create an account or sign in (email and password) to your account.

1. Click on “My Account” at top of screen.
2. Link your card to PCAS by clicking on “Community Rewards” on the left menu. Search for “Pacific Coast Archaeological Society.”
3. Or call 800-443-4438 for assistance.

PCAS SPEAKER CALENDAR

February 13, 2020
Don Liponi
Rock Art Along the Border

March 12, 2020
Bernard M. Jones and Dr. Christopher E. Drover
Visual Prayer and Breath Bodies: Flower World Metaphor in Pueblo III and IV Rock Art

April 9, 2020
Paul Langenwalter II, Lauren Biltonen, and Aimee Montenegro
Sacred Site Recovery at Cahuenga, Documenting an Episode of Violence and Its Aftermath
# 2019 PCAS Board Members and Committee Contacts

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*PCAS Board Member

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# PACIFIC COAST ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

## 2020 Calendar Year Membership and Subscription Form

Name(s): ____________________________________________

Address: _____________________________________________________________________________

City: ____________________________________ State: _________ Zip Code ___________

Phone: __________________________________ Email: ______________ __________________

Newsletters will be sent by email unless a mailed copy is requested.

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 – $40
- [ ] Newsletter – $20

### Scholarship Fund

- [ ] Donation $________

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Return form with payment to:

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

www.pcas.org