JUNE PCAS SPEAKER

Celso D. Jaquez

THE MURALS OF SAN BARTOLO:
OLMEC PRESENCE IN THE PRECLASSIC MAYS PETEN

In the spring of 2004, Dr. William Saturno of Boston University wandered into a looter’s trench exhausted and suffering from dehydration after a long day’s hike in search of a Maya site identified by guides from a nearby village. As he sat recovering from the heat, he happened to shine his lamp above on the trench wall. He was startled to find the face of the Maize God staring back at him. Thus began an investigation into what is arguably one of the most important Mesoamerican archaeological finds of the past 100 years. Dating to at least 200 BC, the site of San Bartolo in Guatemala’s Northern Peten region has provided Maya scholars with an unprecedented glimpse into Preclassic Maya cosmology, religion, and may finally serve as the “smoking gun” with respect to Olmec/Maya cultural connections.

This lecture will seek to demonstrate how this connection is manifest along the beautifully painted walls of the Las Pinturas Chamber at San Bartolo. Through the work of Maya scholars, William Saturno (Boston University), David Stuart (University of Texas, Austin), and Karl Taube (University of California, Riverside), light has been shed on important questions.

DINNER WITH THE SPEAKER

Please join this month’s speaker, Celso Jaquez, and PCAS members for dinner before the June 13th General Meeting. We will meet at 6 pm at Mimi’s Café, 4030 Barranca Parkway, Irvine.
Dr. Edward Knell, accompanied by others from the John D. Cooper Center for Archaeology and Paleontology, presented recent progress made by the center. The Director of the center, Dr. Jere Lipps, is a geologist, and he noted his own interest in climate change and extinctions with the fossil record demonstrating changing sea levels over time. He spoke of research being conducted at the center by research associates and students and of loans to other facilities. He also reminded us of the Prehistoric OC archaeology day to be presented this year on October 12th. The first of these events last year was very successful, and this year’s is expected to be bigger and better.

The stated mission of the Center is “to preserve, curate, manage, and promote use of the archaeological and paleontological specimens collected within Orange County for research, education, outreach, and exhibits.” Administration of the Center is divided between the two disciplines with James Parham, Faculty Curator, and Meredith Rivin, Paleontology Associate Curator, leading the paleontology section. Edward Knell, Faculty Curator, and Jeannine Pederson, Archaeology Associate Curator, lead the archaeological team. The faculty curators direct the research efforts of the Center, while the associate curators handle the day-to-day work and development. All work on the collections is done by interns and volunteers.

The concept of the current Cooper Center was originally proposed by Milton A. Gordon, former president of California State University, Fullerton. The concept was described to us as embracing need, ability, and oversight. The County of Orange had a need to curate and preserve the collections, Cal State Fullerton has the ability to provide academic expertise and student manpower for research, and OC Parks will provide the oversight.

The facility occupies a number of buildings on 3.3 acres. Build-out of an existing building for use as a lab included an area for climate controlled storage. Moveable shelf units make maximum use of available space, and this area may be expanded in the future. The center currently houses 450 collections with over one million artifacts and specimens in 3,000 boxes. All these were recovered from development projects in Orange County over the past 40 years.

The paleontological collection dates back 180 million years and indicates various strata of marine and terrestrial fossils demonstrating a fluctuating coastline. The first mammals inhabited a warm, swampy environment 60 million years ago. The early Miocene fossils were once again marine animals and include a 12 million year old seaweed fossil. No dinosaurs have been recorded in the county, and the oldest marine fossil is that of a plesiosaur, a large, long-necked marine predator. Later fossils include dugongs and manatees—now found in brackish environments such as in Florida—and a baleen whale, the last of its type.

The archaeological collection is being studied in various ways including spatial diversity, site and artifact type, and temporal period. The county covers a variety of environmental zones including coastal sites, major and minor rivers, and foothills. The coastal sites, such as those on the Newport Coast, include extensive shell middens providing great insight into resource availability. Rivers provided fresh water and associated resources. Villages are found on hilltops, bluffs, and ridges, including the Bolsa Chica sites known for production of the ubiquitous cogged stone.

Identified site types include milling sites, fishing camps, lithic scatters, and residential sites—the latter are noted for large collections. Diverse artifacts are classified in such categories as subsistence (grinding and lithic tools), stone beads, cogged stones, and historic materials.

Future plans for the facility include the development of policies, procedures, and guidelines to be used by the Center and recommended to those who place collections there so that incoming documentation can be standardized. Outreach and education are also current priorities. An exhibit—Keepers of Orange County’s Past—is currently on display at the Old County Courthouse Museum in Santa Ana. The Center maintains a Facebook page and the CooperCrew are active on YouTube. Prehistoric OC in October is a major outreach event—and PCAS is looking forward to participating again this year. Students from CSUF and from other universities are active at the Center. Volunteering is seen as a good resume builder. Students are using their research for their MA theses. The future of the Cooper Center is seen as documenting the history of life in Orange County and how it relates to the Pacific Rim and world biotas, including a study of climate change and tsunamis. CSUF and other student research will continue to be encouraged, along with international and doctoral students. Development of public outreach, exhibits, and K-12 education will continue.
MAY BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

Submitted by Brian Steffensen

President Megan Galway called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm at the Old Orange County Courthouse in Santa Ana, California. Board members present: Bob Brace, Gail Cochlin, Sherri Gust, Joe Hodulik, Hank Koerper, Steve O’Neil, and Brian Steffensen. Members present: Scott Findlay, Rene Brace, and Kathleen Shada.

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

Old Business:

The signatures on our bank accounts have been changed to reflect new officers. Archaeology Day at Garfield Elementary will be June 6. Several members will meet at the curation facility on June 2 to prepare materials used in the outreach event.

New Business:

Megan Galway presented the Scholarship Committee recommendations for recipients of the two PCAS scholarships. Board members had been forwarded all applications prior to the meeting. The board unanimously voted to award the Myrtle Soderberg Memorial Scholarship to Alexandria Fusriboon of California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, and the Gloria Bogdan Memorial Scholarship to Jessica Morales of California State University, Los Angeles. Joe Hodulik suggested we again make overstock PCAS Quarterly available at monthly meetings.

Committee Reports:

The next curation workday will be June 15. Joe Hodulik’s Award-Donation table raised $214 at the May meeting for the scholarship fund! Field Trip Chair Scott Findlay reported that he is planning a field trip to San Juan Capistrano on June 22 which will include visits to the Blas Aguilar Adobe Museum, the mission, and time permitting, the Los Rios Historic District. Editor Hank Koerper stated that three PCAS Quarterly double-issues, California Ceramic Traditions (47:1&2, 47:3&4, 48:1&2), are at the printer. We expect to prepare them for mailing on May 23.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm.

June Speaker (continued from p. 1)

regarding the Preclassic Maya world. New understanding has come from the artistic renderings in Las Pinturas which demonstrate the presence of the Olmec Maize deity and early cosmological ordering of the universe. They also contain some of the earliest depictions of royal ascension ever found. We will look at how origins of rulership among the Middle Preclassic Olmec (900-500 B.C.) were legitimized through association with the maize deity and how that was then articulated at San Bartolo and other Preclassic sites in west Mexico and the southern Maya regions. Additionally, discussion will touch on the formation and expression of the religious complex Dr. Taube and Dr. Jane Hill of the University of Arizona have identified as the Flower World. With its origins dating to the Early Preclassic Olmec, this view of the celestial paradise and its earthly place of origin at Flower Mountain are also beautifully rendered on the walls of the Pinturas Chamber.

Celso D. Jaquez is a doctoral student in the Department of Anthropology at the University of California, Riverside, under the mentorship of Dr. Karl Taube. Mr. Jaquez received his BA in anthropology from CSU Dominguez Hills and his MA in anthropology from UC Riverside. His doctoral research focuses on the appropriation by Olmec shaman chiefs of maize and rain deity symbolism for the purpose of legitimizing rulership in Early and Middle Preclassic Mesoamerica.

June Field Trip

Where: San Juan Capistrano—Blas Aguilar Adobe Museum, Mission, and Los Rios Historic District

When: June 22, 2013

We plan to meet David Belardes, Chief of the Juaneño Band of Mission Indians, Acjachemen Nation, at the Blas Aguilar Adobe Museum at 1 pm. We also intend to visit the mission and the Los Rios Historic District. Some field trip participants plan to take Metrolink from stations in central Orange County to the San Juan Capistrano station. There are several morning departure and afternoon return times.

Contact Scott Findlay (fieldtrips@pcas.org or 714-342-2534) for additional information and to sign up for this field trip.
**MOTTE RIMROCK FIELD TRIP**

Members who attended the April field trip to the Motte Rimrock Preserve were impressed by the pristine conditions of the pictographs and the captivating setting. Many thanks to Steve Freers (bottom photo) for sharing his wealth of knowledge about the site’s rock art.

**2013 SCHOLARSHIP REPORT**

The PCAS Scholarship Committee is pleased to announce the following undergraduate scholarship awards for 2013:

**Alexandria Fusriboon** is a student at California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, expecting to graduate in June 2014. Last summer she attended Silchester Field School offered by the University of Reading, England, where she had practical excavation experience. The study site included a Roman town built on an earlier Iron Age town. Returning to California, she began to discover our own rich cultural heritage and is now involved in Cal Poly’s research in the Mojave Desert as well as volunteering at the San Bernardino County Museum. She plans to pursue her masters degree and work in cultural resource management. Alexandria will receive the $1,000 Myrtle Sodeburg Memorial Scholarship.

**Jessica Morales** is a student at California State University, Los Angeles, expecting to graduate in spring 2014. Her study of shell and bone in the archaeology lab at CSULA has directed her interests toward zooarchaeology. She participated in a field school at Point Mugu State Park, Malibu, and has been accepted into the University of Utah’s Zooarchaeology and Field Ecology Field School to be held this summer at Eagle Lake, California. She presented a poster at the SCA meeting in Berkeley in March and will present another at the Southern California Academy of Sciences in May. She hopes to apply her zooarchaeology specialization to the study of the Channel Islands in particular and the archaeology of California in general. Jessica will receive the $1,000 Gloria Bogdan Memorial Scholarship.

The PCAS Scholarship and Grant program is primarily supported by Joe Hodulik’s Donation/Award table at our monthly meetings, along with additional donations from our members. Application forms and guidelines are available on our website, www.pcas.org.

**JUNE CURATION WORKDAY**

When: June 15, 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.

**PCAS ANNUAL PICNIC**

Save the Date!  
July 11, 2013

The Annual Picnic will be Thursday, July 11, 6 pm, at Irvine Regional Park. Hamburgers will be provided, and everyone is asked to bring a side dish to share. A flyer will be sent out in late June with directions and additional information.
**With Anza to California, 1775–1776: The Journal of Pedro Font, O.F.M.**


**Book Review by Stephen O'Neil**

The two land expeditions of Lt. Colonel Juan Bautista de Anza from Sonora to Alta California and back were seminal events in the development of the Far West. In 1774 the soldier/explorer demonstrated that the new province of California could be reached overland from the rest of New Spain, and the very next year he confirmed that fact by bringing the first settlement party to found the pueblo of Yerba Buena (later San Francisco). While de Anza kept his own diary of those trips, it was up to Pedro Font, a Franciscan priest, to maintain the full account for later use by government and ecclesiastical authorities. Font, a Catalán who came to New Spain in 1763 for missionary work, was the chaplain and “cosmographer” for the 1775–76 expedition. He was trained as a draftsman which ideally suited him for the task at hand, as the secondary purpose of the trip was to determine the possible existence of a major entry to the interior of the Southwest from the mouth of the San Francisco Bay. The expedition was also to determine the extent of the suspected inland mountain ranges (i.e., the Sierra Nevadas) and possible relationships between these, the southern mountains of the province, and the Colorado and Gila rivers. Font's detailed observations of landscapes and descriptions of conversations about topography he had with de Anza, who had seen these lands on his first trip, provide fascinating views into the geographical knowledge of the time and show its importance in determining what California was to become.

Font provided detailed daily accounts of the landscape from Horcasitas in Sonora to the headlands of the San Francisco peninsula and San Joaquin Delta. Also, there are observations on the Native Americans encountered at every location and notes on the personalities of de Anza and other persons of great historical interest to us today, weather and vegetation, conversations between de Anza and Captain Rivera y Moncada (military governor of the Californias and later leader of his own settlement expedition in 1781 to found the Pueblo of Los Angeles), and the numerous fascinating events that happened along the way.

One side event would be of particular interest to Society members in the Orange County region, though it was not a part of the expedition's itinerary and delayed travel for a full month. As the company was crossing the Santa Ana River on January 1, 1776, three days out of Mission San Gabriel, de Anza received word of the Kumeyaay attack on Mission San Diego two months prior. Being the ranking officer in the province, Colonel de Anza with Font and a score of soldiers rushed to San Diego so he could apprise himself of the situation and aid in putting down the “rebellion.” The passage south is well described on pages 183–186, from the Santa Ana River south through to the San Luis Rey River, with a note on the abandoned site that marked the aborted attempt to found Mission San Juan Capistrano in November 1775. Font was well versed on the findings here by the Portolá Expedition of 1769 and what the soldiers could tell him of events and place naming that did not find its way into the official account. He noted meeting with Acjachemen Indians out on a food gathering expedition in the San Juan Creek area but curiously did not record seeing any of their towns along the way.

This new edition of Font’s account includes his recently discovered field journal—the actual notes he wrote on the trip. Brown has added these to the text of the final version Font had prepared for publication, adding valuable extended details. Brown’s “Introduction” to this work would be worth the price of the book alone. Presented in 58 pages, the editor sets the historic and even psychological contexts for the people and events to follow. He covers the history of settlement in New Spain, de Anza's ambitions to further his career by expanding the boundaries of the king's empire, theological quandaries faced by Fr. Font as he encountered indigenous people outside the agricultural societies he could relate to, geographical and cartographic issues of this time and place and how they affected the growth of empire, relations between missionary and military systems, the practical aspects of settlement strategies used by missionaries toward their evangelical goals, and colonial diplomacy with Indians tribes. All these and more are explained, and this background is very beneficial for the reader's comprehension of the accounts that follow.

This publication is intended as the first of ten or more planned volumes on California history during the Spanish and Mexican eras through the *Early California Commentaries* series edited by Rose Marie Beebe and Robert M. Senkewicz. They are a couple who have produced many valuable texts and collections of first hand historical accounts of California through Heyday Books and other publishers and are well suited to make the best selections (Continued on p. 7)
**DIG THIS...**

**Exhibits**

*Keepers of Orange County’s Past—Preserving Our Heritage*, presented by the John D. Cooper Archaeological and Paleontological Center, a partnership of the County of Orange and CSUF. The exhibit will present artifacts and fossils from 180 million years of prehistory. Third floor exhibit gallery, Old Orange County Courthouse. Free. Courthouse information: http://ocparks.com/historic/oldcourt or 714-973-6605.

**Lectures**


*Political Instability and the Destruction of Cultural Heritage: Dastardly Deeds at El Hibeh Middle Egypt and Beyond*, by Dr. Carol Redmount (UC Berkeley), June 8; *The Temples of Ramesses III in Karnak*, by Dr. J. Brett McClain (University of Chicago), August 10; *The Re-excavation of the Tomb of Horemheb*, by Dr. Suzanne Onstine (University College, London), August 24. ARCE lectures, Bowers Museum, 1:30 pm. Free. Information: www.bowers.org or 714-567-3677.

*From Abalone to Seals to Foxes: Archaeology as a Tool for Managing California’s Natural Resources*, by Dr. Todd Braje (San Diego State University). San Diego County Archaeological Society, Los Peñasquitos Ranch House, June 22, 8 pm. Fee. Information: www.sandiegoarchaeologicalsociety.com.


**Lectures (continued)**


**Classes, Meetings, and Events**

*San Diego Archaeological Center Annual BBQ* will be held June 1, 11:30 am–4 pm. Special panel discussion, *How to Get Hired in Archaeology*, 10–11 am. Fee for food: $8 adults; $4 children. Information and reservations: info@sandiegoarchaeology.org.

*San Diego Rock Art Association Second Annual Nostalgia Night* with presentations of early images of sites. Kumeyaay-Ipai Intrepretive Center, Poway, June 9. Potluck 4 pm; presentations 5 pm. Fee: Donation $5; members free. Presenters contact Steve Freers, sfreers@verizon.net. Information: www.sandiegorockart.org.


*The Native American Arts Festival of the Idyllwild Summer Program* will be held June 30–July 6; some performances and lectures will be open to the public. Fee. Information: 951-659-2171. Online catalog and registration: www.idyllwildarts.org (click on summer programs).

*The 2013 Pecos Conference* will be held at the Flagstaff Hotshots camp, 10 miles northwest of Flagstaff, in the Coconino National Forest, August 8–11. Information and registration: www.swanet.org/2013_pecos_conference

**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.

PCAS SPEAKER CALENDAR

No Meetings in July and August

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

October 10, 2013
Dr. Aaron Sasson
The First Chicken Burrito in Western North America: A Zooarchaeological Study of Avian Remains from the San Diego Presidio

November 14, 2013
Dr. Brian Dervin Dillon

December 12, 2013
Don Christensen

Book Review (Continued from p. 5)

and provide enriched commentary. With Anza to California is also the first product of the prestigious Arthur H. Clark Company, publisher of major scholarly works concerning the history of western North America in its new role as an imprint of the University of Oklahoma Press. Its publication, however, brings with it the sad note of the death of the translator and editor, Alan Brown. Brown died in September 2009, having produced the translation and a penultimate draft of the introduction and footnotes. But there had been extensive correspondence between Brown and the editors on all matters, and his files were made available in order to finish the work. California scholars are most fortunate to have this final book in hand, one that probably could not have been so fully realized by anyone other than Brown. This is a fitting companion to his other work on the journal of Fr. Juan Crespi to the Portolá Expedition published in 2001, A Description of Distant Roads: Original Journals of the First Expedition into California, 1769–1770, by Juan Crespi. A likewise greatly expanded and enhanced edition compared to earlier translations, together these two volumes provide historians and anthropologists as well as Native scholars a rich account of the Native peoples and the environment they inhabited, setting the traditional cultural scene previously thought unavailable to people studying this field.
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*Denotes PCAS Board Member

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

Signature

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www.pcas.org

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