MAY PCAS SPEAKER

Dr. James Kus

What’s New at Machu Picchu?

In this PowerPoint presentation Dr. Kus will tell the story of Hiram Bingham’s 1911 “discovery” of Machu Picchu and give an overview of the site, its importance within Andean prehistory, recent discoveries at Machu Picchu, plus how massive numbers of tourists are affecting this world-famous archaeological site. He will also present his theory regarding what the site was used for. This talk has been Dr. Kus’s most popular lecture on recent cruises, and he has given it throughout North America for the past 15 years as part of the Archaeological Institute of America lecture series.

(Continued on p. 4)

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS!

See Page 5 in this Newsletter

DINNER WITH THE SPEAKER

Please join this month’s speaker, Dr. James Kus, for dinner before the May 10 meeting, 6 pm, Mimi’s Café, 4030 Barranca Parkway, Irvine.

PCAS MEETINGS CALENDAR

General Meeting
Free and Open To the Public
May 10 – 7:30 pm
Speaker: Dr. James Kus
Topic: What’s New at Machu Picchu?
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
May 12 – 12 noon
Location: PCAS Curation Facility
For directions: 714–342–2534

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APRIL SPEAKER NOTES

La Rumorosa Rock Art Along the Border

By Megan Galway

Don Liponi presented an overview of La Rumorosa rock art as discussed in his recent publication, La Rumorosa Rock Art Along the Border. Liponi was first introduced to the Tipai worldview and spirituality as a young man when his father hired Tipai workers to help in the construction of an RV park. Although archaeology did not enter into his later education, he developed a love of photography, and later contact with archaeologists such as Bob Begole fostered his interest in rock art.

The La Rumorosa style is found in the Kumeyaay cultural territory encompassing San Diego and Imperial Counties, Baja, and southwest Arizona. It may also be seen along the Colorado River valley as far north as the Grand Canyon. The style has been known and studied for many years, but this was the first study dedicated solely to the La Rumorosa rock art expression in the border area.

The style consists of digitate and non-digitate anthropomorphs (including those with a lizard–like tail), zoomorphs, grids, and combs or rakes. Many of the anthropomorphs display bird–like features such as beaks and feathered wings. Images are painted in shades of black, red, and white and are found in rock shelters and under overhanging rocks protected from the weather. Most are believed to be shamanistic illustrations of altered states of being. Smaller figures believed to depict spirit helpers are seen in many of the panels. Liponi defines the shaman as being a problem solver who could contact the spiritual world and then paint the experience. One site, documented in the 1930s, was dated based on associated artifacts to AD 500–1,000.

The style was first designated as La Rumorosa by Ken Hedges but had long been documented by earlier archaeologists such as Malcolm Rogers. It is named for the city of La Rumorosa in the Tecate Municipality of Baja California, Mexico. Earlier studies were limited by early photographic technology, but with the advent of DStretch enhancement software, many more images have become visible. DStretch also shows many examples of earlier pictographs being scraped away and overpainted with new images.

The Liponi volume connects the rock art to the ethnography and spirituality of the area and includes contributions from both rock art researchers and Native Americans. Articles by various researchers review and document the work that has been done going back to the first studies by Malcolm Rogers in the 1930s. Native Americans from Kumeyaay and Mojave tribes have written on their spiritual connection to the rock art and the land. Liponi told of interviewing residents of the study area and the ways in which they make concessions to the modern world but still follow tradition in many ways. He also showed photos of vandalized panels and spoke on the need to protect rock art.

CURATION WORKDAY

When: May 12, 2018, 1 pm
Where: PCAS Curation Facility
Red Car Building

Everyone is welcome. No experience necessary! Please contact Scott Findlay (714–342–2534, president@pcas.org) for directions and to let us know you will be coming.
WHAT IS IT? AN ANSWER

H. C. Koerper

The March and April PCAS newsletters ran an article (Parts 1 and 2) that described an artifact that had presumably functioned as a subsistence tool. Encountered in the attic of an old Redondo Beach home and purchased by the author from Allan Barstow, present owner of the house, it had been acquired around the 1920s by John Buxton, a lapidarist and amateur naturalist. The unusual looking object, although somewhat suggestive of a chuckwalla hook, seemed too fancy to have been used to snare reptiles or small mammals. Curiously, the implement had lain in the attic in direct contact with an authentic Australian boomerang.

The article ended on the following note: “any reasonable hypothesis addressing cultural origin and/or function are welcome; the mystery, once solved, will help direct the artifact to a proper venue for curation and display.” Ken Hedges, former curator for the San Diego Museum of Man, recognized the object as a near identical twin to a tool housed with the museum. Mystery solved—it is a “woomera,” or northern Australian atlatl, or spear thrower. Ken further supplied the author with images of capture weapons from Australian collections that answered to the same “edge-style” type (see Figures 1a, b, c and Figures 2a, b, c).

Figure 1. a) Woomera housed in an Australian museum; b) hook; c) handle.

Figure 2. a) Another woomera curated in Australia; b) hook; c) handle.
April Speaker  (continued from p. 1)

Dr. James Kus

Dr. James Kus is an Emeritus Professor (41 years teaching at California State University, Fresno) and a Registered Professional Archaeologist. He has lived for many years in Peru, leading several archaeology projects there and teaching at Peru’s top university. He has published extensively on Peruvian geography, archaeology, and history in both professional and popular media, including Encyclopedia Britannica. Since retiring seven years ago, he has led more than a dozen tours to Peru (for the Archaeological Institute of America, Smithsonian Journeys, universities, and private groups) and lectured on vessels sailing around South America, along West Coast Mexico and Central America, and through the Panama Canal.

APRIL BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

President Scott Findlay called the meeting to order on April 14, 12:05 pm, at the Red Car Building, Santa Ana. Board Members present: Bob Brace, Gail Cochlin, Megan Galway, Jane Gothold (by speaker phone), Sherri Gust, and Aredith Haworth (by speaker phone). PCAS members present: Rene Brace, Steve Dwyer, and Hank Koerper.

The March 2018 minutes were approved with requested changes, and the Treasurer’s report was accepted.

The Board discussed amending the bylaws, and noted that state law requires a minimum quorum requirement. Additionally, changing PCAS elections to a mailed or electronic ballot was tabled until next year. PCAS membership categories were also discussed, and the student membership will be removed.

CA–MNO–611 collection materials have been recorded and boxed for transfer. Steve O’Neil is working to find the collection a permanent home. Tad Tadlock’s Riker mounts contained artifacts from a variety of sites. Some materials have site designations. The disposition of these artifacts was tabled.

The Scholarship Committee, composed of Megan Galway, Joe Hodulik, and Hank Koerper, will remain unchanged. Scholarship applications are due on April 30, and Megan Galway will send out reminders to schools. Joe Hodulik will remain in charge of fundraising for the scholarship through the end of the year.

PCAS will have a table at the Irvine Ranch Jamboree sponsored by OC Parks and the OC Historical Commission at Irvine Ranch Historic Park, April 21. Volunteers will be requested for Archaeology Day at Garfield Elementary School, May 25.

Scott Findlay will make arrangements for our annual field trip to the Blas Aguilar Adobe, San Juan Capistrano. Steve Dwyer announced a field trip to the Randsburg/Inyokern area for April 27–29. He plans to visit rock art sites. He is also investigating a return trip to Vandenberg AFB in the fall. The 2017 field trip to the base was unable to visit Swordfish Cave because of a wildfire.

Joe Hodulik’s March activity generated $94 for the scholarship fund! Speakers have not been scheduled for September and November 2018.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:10 pm.
CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

Archaeology Day at Garfield Elementary School will be May 25, and volunteers are needed to man the activity stations. Groups of students will rotate through six stations: rock art, pottery making, Native foods and preparation, artifact identification, paleontology, and use of shell for jewelry making. PCAS volunteers present outreach events to promote the understanding and preservation of our cultural heritage.

No experience necessary! You will be paired with an experienced volunteer. For information or to volunteer, please contact Scott Findlay, 714–342–2534 or president@pcas.org.

March Field Trip

By Stephen Dwyer

Members of the PCAS recently visited the Dos Palmas Preserve. Located near the San Andreas Fault, it has a surprising amount of water, which has attracted humans from prehistoric times up through the present. We were treated to a tour by BLM Archeologist George Kline. George showed us prehistoric sites, the location of a stage station along the Bradshaw Trail, palm tree oases, fish (!), and a house that hopefully will become a visitor center. Side excursions to the Salton Sea and the Oasis Date Gardens completed the trip.

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Dos Palmas field trip group.

An oasis at Dos Palmas Preserve.

Old residence hopefully to become visitor center.
DIG THIS ...

Exhibits

Kidsem: Bowers Children’s Museum, high-tech and interactive, has an enhanced Archaeology Room, 1802 N Main St, Santa Ana, open Saturdays and Sundays 10 am–4 pm. Fee: $10 ages 2 and up. Information: www.bowers.org/index.php/visit/kidsem/visit-kidsem.


Lectures (continued)


Classes, Meetings, and Events


Cotsen Institute of Archaeology Open House will be held May 12, 1–4 pm, with public lecture (1 pm), open laboratories and archives (2–4 pm). Fowler Building, A level, UCLA. Free (parking fee). Information: www.ioa.ucla.edu.


Malki Kéwet Celebration, the annual fiesta, a day-long celebration will honor Native American veterans. Food, entertainment (Cahuilla Bird Singers), and demonstrations will be held at the Malki Museum, May 27. Information: 951–849–7289 or www.malkimuseum.org.

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 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.

PCAS SPEAKER CALENDAR

**June 21, 2018 (Third Thursday of June)**
Dr. E. C. Krupp
*Uplifted and Transported: Encounters at Burro Flats*

No lecture meetings in July and August

**September 13, 2018 TBA**

**October 18, 2018 (Third Thursday of October)**
Dr. Joan Schneider
*Purple Hummingbird: A Biography of Elizabeth Campbell*

**November 8, 2018 TBA**

**December 13, 2018**
Steve Freers

PCAS had a table at the Irvine Ranch Jamboree at Irvine Ranch Historic Park, April 21. The event was sponsored by OC Parks and the OC Historical Commission. PCAS members answered questions about our society and presented hands–on activities. Thanks to volunteers—Bob Brace, Gail Cochlín, Scott Findlay, Megan Galway, Ardy Haworth, and Hank Koerper.
2018 PCAS BOARD MEMBERS AND COMMITTEE CONTACTS

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PACIFIC COAST ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
2018 Calendar Year Membership and Subscription Form

Name(s): _____________________________________________________________
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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

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□ Lifetime Member* – $1000
* May be individual or family membership

www.pcas.org

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