OCTOBER PCAS SPEAKER

Dr. Steven R. James

Archaeological Field Schools in California and the American Southwest: Historical Perspectives and Personal Reflections

For over a hundred years, archaeological field schools have been held in the American Southwest and were initially tied to the passage of the 1906 Antiquities Act, although most archaeologists today are unaware of this little known fact. In contrast, the rest of the country including California did not have formal archaeological field classes until the 1930s and 1940s. The historical background, reasons for the time lag, and anthropologists involved in these developments are examined, which reflect the growth and maturity of the discipline. The results of recent field schools and classes offered by Cal State Fullerton in southern coastal California and in northern Arizona under the direction of Dr. James during the past seven years are then discussed.

Dr. Steven R. James is an archaeological anthropologist in the Department of Anthropology at California State University, Fullerton. He is also the director and principal investigator of two field classes in archaeology offered by the Anthropology Department, one on the Palos Verdes Peninsula and/or on San Nicolas Island during the regular school year and the other at the Southern Sinagua prehistoric pueblo of Honanki and surrounding area in the Red Rocks near Sedona, Arizona, in early summer. Prior to teaching at Cal State Fullerton, (continued on page 3)

DINNER WITH THE SPEAKER

Please join this month’s speaker, Dr. Steven R. James, and PCAS members for dinner before the October 14th 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
October 14 - 7:30 pm

Speaker: Dr. Steven R. James

Topic: Archaeological Field Schools in California and the American Southwest: Historical Perspectives and Personal Reflections

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
October 21 - 7:00 pm

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

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

2 September Speaker Notes
3 September Board Meeting Summary
3 PCAS Scholarship
4 PCAS Annual Meeting and Election
4 Curation
4 Outreach Volunteers Needed
5 PCAS Outreach - Smithsonian Day
6 Dig This – Exhibits, Lectures, and more
7 Field Trips
7 Speaker Calendar

October is Archaeology Month
Bring a Friend to the Meeting!
SEPTEMBER SPEAKER NOTES

An Introduction to Southwest and Southern California Indian Baskets

Submitted by Kathleen Shada

Authentic American Indian fine arts are “dying out” according to Dr. John Collins. There are fewer examples of American Indian fine art; however, the quality of workmanship is better. Many works of art found in trading posts are “fake,” and some are even made in other countries. “If you don’t know your turquoise, know your trader,” says Dr. Collins. A good resource for true fine art is the American Indian Art Association.

The art and technology of basketry is about 9-10,000 years older than pottery. Southwestern American Indians use coiling, twining and plaiting techniques to create their baskets. There are three types of twining: plain, twill, and wrap. Sometimes a combination of techniques is used to create a basket. From the finished basket, one can determine the knowledge and skill of the weaver and the mechanics of the basket’s creation. Placing patterns within a basket is challenging and demonstrates the great forethought of the weaver.

Dr. Collins says a technical flaw in the basket may be inherent in the context of the basket’s style or an aspect of the basket’s symbolism. Although many baskets are used for ceremonial purposes, he cautions against viewing all basket patterns as symbolic. “A Navaho woman was once asked what does the design mean? Her answer, ‘It’s just a design.’”

Dr. Collins told stories about his extensive basket collection. The date range of his baskets is late 19th century to present day. He obtained baskets from variety of sources, from trading and garage sales to direct purchases. The weavers used a variety of techniques and materials. Some materials are sumac or willow coils over a grass foundation, pinion pine pitch, willow shoots with leaves, deer grass, rabbit bush, bear grass, yucca, and pine needles. Many have designs that are created by using dyes derived from plants such as the seeds of the devil’s claw and the berries of the sumac. Dr. Collins cautioned that many of the dyes, such as aniline, fade over time, especially if exposed to sunlight.

We thank Dr. Collins for sharing his basket collection with us and for the enlightening stories he told about the baskets.
SEPTEMBER BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

President Scott Findlay called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm at the Old County Courthouse, Santa Ana, California. Board members present: Scott Findlay, Steve O’Neill, Megan Galway, Rene Brace, Gail Coehlin, Sherri Gust, Jane Gothold and Ivan Strudwick. Members present: Bob Brace, Hank Koerper, and Linda Christison.

The June 2010 minutes were approved. The August meeting was cancelled due to lack of a quorum. The treasurer’s report and expenditures were approved.

President Findlay reminded Board and committee members to ensure that at least one other member was familiar with their committee duties. This will ensure continuity in case of unexpected absence. Sherri Gust reported she and one of her employees had reviewed our historic bottle collection and found nothing of substantial value. Bottles with possible collector interest will be placed on the donation/award table. We will also accept bids from members and others with a particular interest. Librarian Jane Gothold will prepare a list of the types of volumes we have on hand. The board will identify the categories we wish to retain and decide on disposition of those we don’t. Fiction and other books of general interest will most likely be offered to the donation/award table.

President Findlay suggested we have a receptionist/greeter at the monthly meeting to welcome visitors and offer nametags. Megan Galway will do this as an extension of her membership duties, and will ask for volunteers if she is unable to attend a meeting. The Nominating Committee placed Bob Brace, Linda Christison, and Hank Koerper on the ballot for November. The date of record for eligibility to vote was set at October 14th.

Joe Hodulik’s donation/award table generated $107 in September! There will be a field trip to the Landers/Johnson Valley area the weekend of October 23-25. PCAS Quarterly Volume 44, Number 2, is expected to go to the printer within a month. Our 2010 scholarship winner, Jamie Gray, attended the September meeting to accept her award by Sandy Kennedy.

October Speaker (continued from page 1) he served as an Associate State Archaeologist. He has over 35 years of experience in California, the Great Basin, and the American Southwest, as well as several other regions of the world. His research interests include zooarchaeology, prehistoric human impacts on the environment, Paleoindians, historical archaeology in the West, pueblo architecture and use of space, and hominid evolution, especially with regard to the earliest use of fire. He has authored over 65 articles and chapters in books on archaeology and over 200 technical reports. Recent publication is a co-authored book entitled The Archaeology of Global Change: The Impact of Humans on Their Environment published by the Smithsonian Institution Press. A chapter entitled “Prehistoric Hunting and Fishing in the American Southwest” will be in a forthcoming edited book to be published in early 2011 by Smithsonian Institution Scholarly Press.

October Speaker (continued from page 1)

PCAS SCHOLARSHIPS

Our 2010 Myrtle Soderberg Scholarship winner, Jamie Gray, attended the September meeting where she was presented with her award by Sandy Kennedy. Jamie is a student at California State University Fullerton, where she has developed an intense interest in archaeology. She has been working closely with Professor Brenda Bowser in developing the CSUF Archaeology at the Arboretum project, and she has worked as a student laboratory technician on the CA-ORA-64 study at CSUF.

Our second 2010 scholarship winner, Stephanie Ballejo, is attending UC Santa Cruz and was unable to attend the meeting.

Both of these recipients epitomize the ideals that PCAS seeks when awarding our scholarships.

PCAS 2010 Myrtle Sodenberg Scholarship recipient Jamie Gray with Sandy Kennedy at the September meeting.
PCAS ANNUAL MEETING AND ELECTION

The PCAS Annual Meeting and Election of Directors will be held on November 11, 2010, at the Irvine Ranch Water District. The meeting will begin at 7:30 pm, and the election may occur anytime during the meeting. PCAS members will elect three new Directors. In order to vote in the November election, one must be a member of PCAS by October 14, 2010 (date of record). Membership forms and payment must be received by October 14, 2010—either delivered to the PCAS mailing address (postmarks will not be considered) or hand delivered to either Treasurer Rene Brace or Membership Chair Megan Galway at the October 14th General Meeting. Before the election takes place, additional nominations may be made from the floor by any member present with the prior consent of the nominee. If there are more than three nominees, Directors will be elected by secret ballot. Please plan to attend the November 11, 2010 PCAS Annual Meeting to cast your ballot! A quorum is necessary for this election.

The PCAS Nominations Committee presents the following nominees:

Bob Brace has always had an avocational interest in archaeology and has attended field schools/classes and done field work in California, Arizona, and New Mexico. After retiring as a civil engineer, he became active in PCAS. Bob has been a PCAS member since 1997 and served on the Board as Treasurer from 2005 through 2007. He assisted in updating the PCAS accounting system and securing the PCAS nonprofit status. Currently Bob handles Quarterly order inquiries and sales at conferences. He is committed to the PCAS mission of public outreach, stewardship of PCAS collections, the PCAS Quarterly, and avocational/professional teamwork.

Linda L. Christison received her MA in anthropology from CSUF in 2000. Her thesis project was the recording of rock art at the Audie Murphy Ranch. Her interest in archaeology began in 1990 when she helped excavate a Columbian mammoth with Marcus Arguelles of Merced College. In 1995, she attended a field school in Nevada with Fresno State University in cooperation with the BLM and the Nevada Archaeological Association. She participated in site mapping, excavations, and rock art recordation. Linda volunteered at UCLA in 1997 to 1998 and reviewed, identified, and stored data using archival procedures. She worked on the Robert F. Heizer collection under the supervision of Dr. Jo Anne Van Tilburg. Presently, she is volunteering at PCAS curation days and at outreach events.

Hank Koerper received his BA (history) and MA (anthropology) from UC Davis and his Ph.D. from UC Riverside in anthropology. After teaching at Chapman College for 5 years, he taught anthropology at Cypress Community College from 1975 until he retired five years ago. Hank has been the primary site investigator for numerous local excavations. His recent research includes Orange County prehistory, Greek archaic numismatic art, and sports history with emphasis on Native Americans in modern sports. He has published in American Antiquity, Journal of California and Great Basin Archaeology, Journal of Economic Botany, Journal of Anthropological Research, and he has numerous articles in the PCAS Quarterly. Hank has been active in PCAS – serving as a past Board Member, PCAS speaker, and Curation Advisor. Currently, he is co-editor of the PCAS Quarterly.

OCTOBER CURATION WORKDAY

When: October 16, 1 pm
Where: Red Car Building

We will continue to inventory and rebag the PCAS CA-ORA-236 (Coyote Canyon Cave) collection excavated by PCAS in the 1970s. Everyone is welcome. No experience necessary! Please contact Mark Roeder (714-241-8880, curator@pcas.org) or Rene Brace (714-544-6282, info@pcas.org) for directions and to let us know you will be coming.

Bone awls from the PCAS CA-ORA-236 (Coyote Canyon Cave) collection.
PCAS OUTREACH - SMITHSONIAN DAY

PCAS took part in Smithsonian Day at the Old Orange County Courthouse on September 25th. PCAS holds outreach events to promote understanding of our cultural heritage and increase the protection and preservation of historic and prehistoric sites.

Exhibits and hand-on activity were provided for visitors. Students from Dr. Brenda Bowser’s archaeology classes at CSUF assisted PCAS members at this outreach event. Thanks to Nina DeLorenzo, Jamie Gray (2010 PCAS Scholarship recipient), and Erin Hayes.

This outreach event would not have been possible without our volunteers — Tom Bogdan, Bob and Rene Brace, Linda Christison, Gail Cochlin, Allen Farquer, Scott Findlay, Megan Galway, Jenell Mort, and Kathleen Shada.

OUTREACH VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

We need volunteers to assist in hands-on activities and informational displays at Archaeology Day at Heritage Hill Historic Park (in conjunction with the AIA, Orange County Chapter). No experience necessary! You can volunteer for the entire event or for just an hour.

When: October 3, 11 am-4pm
Where: Heritage Hill Historic Park
25141 Serrano Rd., Lake Forest

Please contact Scott Findlay (president@pcas.org) or 714-352-2534 to volunteer!
DIG THIS...

Lectures

For the Ancestors: Agua Caliente’s Tribal Historic Preservation Office, by Pattie A. Garcia-Tuck (Director of Tribal Historic Preservation Office), a lecture of the Coachella Valley Archaeological Society. Cathedral City Community Center, 37-171 West Buddy Rogers, October 5, 6:30 pm. Free. Information: www.cvarch.org.


Toward A Better Understanding of Amarna: Recent Research in the City and Its Main Cemetery, by Dr. Barry Kemp (Cambridge University), an ARCE lecture. Bowers Museum, October 23, 1:30 pm. Free. Information: www.bowers.org or 714-567-3677.


Classes, Meetings, and Events

Dig It!! First Annual Archaeology Fair will be all about archaeology and our rich cultural heritage. Museums, archaeological organizations (including PCAS) and cultural groups will have hands on activities, displays, artifacts, and demonstrations. OC Heritage Hill Historical Park, 25151 Serrano Rd., Lake Forest, October 3, 11 am-4 pm. Free. Information: 949-923-2230.

The 25th Annual California Indian Conference, focusing on “Retrospectives and Perspectives” will be held at UCI, October 14-16. Fee: $50. Information: ciec25celebrate@gmail.com. Online registration: https://eee.uci.edu/clients/tcthorne/registration.html.


Malki Museum Annual Fall Gathering will have demonstrations, lectures (by Dr. Katherine Siva Saubel), and food tasting. October 16, 10 am-2 pm. Information: www.malkimuseum.org or 951-849-7289.

The Olmec Symposium, in conjunction with the New World Archaeology Council and the AIA, Orange County Society. Bing Auditorium, LACMA, October 22-23. Free: Information: www.olmecsymposium.info.

Milling Around Mine Wash, with Hank Barber, will visit Yaqui Well and the Kumeyaay village at Mine Wash. The Anza-Borrego Foundation, October 24, 10 am-2 pm. Fee: $15. Information and registration: www.theabf.org.

14th Annual Coachella Valley Archaeological Society Symposium call for papers on any aspect of Coachella Valley archaeology or ethnography. Symposium theme - Venerable Cahuilla: Legacy and Research. Symposium will be held at the Pollock Theatre, College of the Desert, November 13. Free. Information: Ellen Hardy, ehardy@collegeofthedesert.edu.

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.

OCTOBER FIELD TRIP

When: October 23-25, 2010
Where: Landers/Johnson Valley (area off Hwy 247)

We will investigate prehistoric Native American habitation, petroglyph, and pictograph sites. This may be a one or two day field trip. PCAS members plan to camp on Saturday night. Camping participants need to be self-reliant with camping gear. Good hiking footwear is a must.

Please sign up for this field trip at the September or October General Meeting or by contacting Scott Findlay at fieldtrips@pcas.org or 714-342-2534. If you are unable to attend a field trip for which you have signed up, contact Scott as soon as possible. For contact the day of the field trip, call cell phone 714-342-2534.

PCAS SPEAKER CALENDAR

November 11, 2010
Dr. Edward Knell
Quarry-Centered Lithic Technological Organization around Ancient Lake Mojave, Eastern Mojave Desert, California

December 9, 2010 (Holiday Potluck Dinner)
Dr. John Johnson
Clues to California Indian Prehistory as Revealed by DNA Analysis

January 13, 2011
Dr. Jerry D. Moore

February 10, 2011
Dr. David S. Whitley
Mojave Desert Petroglyph Dating and the Peopling of the Americas
2010 PCAS BOARD MEMBERS AND COMMITTEE CONTACTS

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*Denotes PCAS Board Member

PACIFIC COAST ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
2010 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) Subscription Only Scholarship Fund

☐ Active Member - $45  ☐ Quarterly - $37  ☐ Donation $________

☐ Family Membership - $50  ☐ Newsletter - $18

☐ Supporting Member* - $55  ☐ Student Associate - $10 (email Newsletter only)

☐ Donor Member* - $75

☐ Lifetime Member* - $1000

* May be individual or family membership

www.pcas.org

Return form with payment to:
PCAS Membership
PO Box 10926
Costa Mesa, CA 92627-0926