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The late Alice Hale received her MA in Anthropology from California State University, Northridge, in 1995. Her 18-year career encompassed both prehistoric and historical archaeology in Los Angeles, Riverside, San Bernardino, Orange, Santa Barbara, and Ventura counties, including the Channel Islands. She was a highly skilled graphic artist and illustrator with a broad expertise in laboratory procedures and shell analysis.

Galen Hunter studies and documents the natural history and archaeology of the waterfront area on the southwest coast of Santa Monica Bay from the bluffs of Malaga Cove to the Old Salt Lake. His interest is to salvage culture in part by leveraging the techniques he has learned in his seventeen year career as a web developer. His formal education includes an AA from Santa Monica College and a BA in social science with an emphasis in history from the University of California, Santa Barbara.

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Ivan Snyder, avocational archaeologist, volunteers as a naturalist at the Point Vicente Interpretive Center in Rancho Palos Verdes. He also serves as Chairman of Ethnobotany for the South Coast Chapter of the Native Plant Society. His areas of expertise in ethnobotany include food plants, fiber (e.g., cordage making), and firecraft (e.g., fire drill technology). He has gained insight into artifact manufacture and artifact function through his experimental archaeology.
Dedication

With the death of David Lee Belardes (1947-2014) comes the loss of an ardent advocate for safeguarding the integrity of prehistoric sites linked to his people, the Acjachemen (Juaneño). A major motivating force behind his work was protection of the Acjachemen ancestors’ remains, so often destroyed and scattered by modern development. When prehistoric sites were of necessity excavated, David worked to ensure that the recovered artifacts would remain accessible to the Native community. David was equally focused on passing on knowledge of his people both to the Native and larger communities.

Belardes had grown up with the “old knowledge” of the Acjachemen and of San Juan Capistrano. On both his father’s and mother’s sides, his Native American ancestry included Acjachemen from the villages of Putuidem and Acjachme—sites in San Juan Capistrano and Pangenga (Panhe—village in San Clemente). Through his mother, Francis Salgado, he also had family ties to the Cahuilla. From forebears among the later Hispanic frontier settlers, he could claim Cota, Ávila, Lugo, Salgado, Castillo, Belardes, Reyna, Rios, and Yorba ancestry. His father, Mattias, a vaquero and rancher born in 1885, taught him about nineteenth-century Native and Hispanic traditions. They hunted deer together in the Santa Ana Mountains to put food on the table, an activity he in turn passed on to his sons, Mattias and Domingo. David’s mind retained it all: herbal remedies, meal preparation using what was collected on the beach, family genealogies and how they interconnected, and the proper ceremonies when a tribal member died.

David belonged to many organizations that promote historic preservation. Shortly after becoming a member of the newly founded Capistrano Indian Council, he was soon serving as its president. With his cousin Raymond Belardes, David founded a committee of Acjachemen members, which soon evolved into the Juaneño Band of Mission Indians. The band worked to protect ancestral sites, attain federal recognition for the tribe, maintain and spread knowledge of the tribe’s traditions, and preserve historic properties within the town of San Juan Capistrano. He was designated by the California Native American Heritage Commission to act as the tribe’s Most Likely Descendant when ancestral remains were uncovered, determining and overseeing their final dispositions. This to him was his most
During the several months of his illness, David's extended family and numerous friends from the Capistrano community and beyond came to visit him, reminiscing about past times and learning their assignments to carry on his work. When he died, the mission bells were rung in the traditional manner, an all-night rosary vigil was held in the venerable Serra Chapel, and a funeral mass was celebrated in the filled-to-capacity Mission Basilica. As is due elders of San Juan Capistrano’s old families, a large funeral procession walked from the church over the Ortega Highway bridge to the mission hilltop cemetery. Well over 200 people attended the burial, and David was laid to rest next to his wife, Cha Cha, who had died five years earlier.

The Pacific Coast Archaeological Society dedicates this Quarterly issue to the memory of David Belardes.