



APRIL 2026

# PCAS Newsletter

The Monthly Publication of the  
Pacific Coast Archaeological Society

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## April PCAS Speaker

**Richard L Carrico**

*El Presidio de San Diego:  
The Story of Alta California's First  
European Settlement and Its People*

**In-Person and Zoom Meeting  
April 9, 7:30 pm. See p. 5.**

**Speaker will be present at the  
in-person meeting**

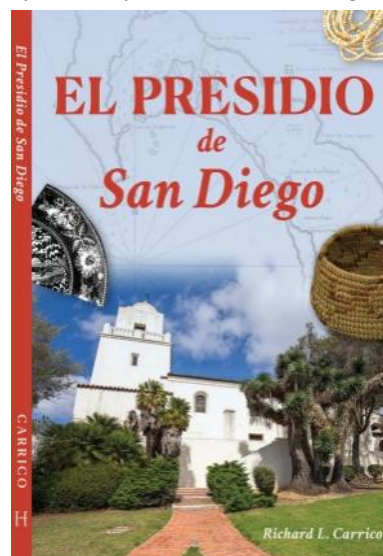
In this presentation archaeologist and historian Richard L Carrico will discuss his latest book, *El Presidio de San Diego: Excavating Southern California's Lost City*, in which he explores San Diego's first European settlement. Founded in 1769, the ruins



**Richard L.  
Carrico.**

of upper California's first mission and fort lie buried beneath the landscaped hills in Presidio Park. Mr. Carrico's extensive research on the presidio and its people include materials from Spanish archives housed in Mexico City and at Berkeley, Kumeyaay oral tradition, and nearly a decade of archaeological excavation at the site—he directed two seasons himself. In this talk, Mr. Carrico will discuss the men, women, and children who lived and died at the presidio.

Richard Carrico is an Army veteran and award-winning author of nonfiction and historical fiction on eclectic topics including Indigenous people, Spanish colonial history, archaeology, and, most recently, true crime. He grew up in San Diego, California, and received a BA in history from San Diego State College, a BA in anthropology from San Diego State University, and an MA in history from the University of San Diego. Mr. Carrico taught history, anthropology, and Native American studies at San Diego State University for 30 years before retiring in 2024.



## Dinner with the Speaker

Please join this month's speaker, Dennis R. Gallegos, and PCAS members for dinner before the April 9th meeting, 6 pm, Knowlwood Restaurant, 14982 Sand Canyon Ave, Irvine.

**PCAS Scholarship applications  
are due by April 30.**

[www.pcas.org/scholarship.html](http://www.pcas.org/scholarship.html)

## March PCAS Speaker Notes

### *Teeth Tell the Tale: Dental Evidence and the Peopling of the Americas*

By Albert Knight

Our Thursday March 12, 2026, speaker was Dr. G. Richard Scott, who is a Foundation Professor of Anthropology at the University of Nevada, Reno. He received his BA and his PhD degrees in anthropology from Arizona State University. Dr. Scott's specialty is dental anthropology with a focus on human tooth crown and root morphology. He has written or edited five books on this subject, including *The Anthropology of Modern Human Teeth* (1997; 2<sup>nd</sup> edition 2018).

Dental anthropology is an important tool for consideration in the peopling of the Americas. As explained by Dr. Scott, dental traits are heritable, “developmentally conservative,” and minimally affected by environment, and thus they provide a good line of biological evidence for assessing population history. Dr. Scott's research followed previous linguistic research that appeared to show that the various languages of the Western Hemisphere can be described as belonging to one of three broad categories: Macro-Indians (most of the North American languages and all the Central American and South American Indian languages); Na-Dene (Tlingit and Athapaskan languages, found mostly in Canada, but also including the Navajo and Apache languages, plus a few small isolated populations in northwest California); and Eskimo (Inuit)-Aleut (spoken from the Aleutian Islands in the west to Kalaallit Nunaat, or Greenland, in the east). In other words, the peopling of the Americas appears to be the result of at least three distinct population movements.

This “3-wave model” is consistent with the dentition studies performed by Dr. Scott, largely following previous research by his mentor and PhD advisor Dr. Christy G. Turner II, who Dr. Scott credits with laying “the foundation for the anthropological uses of dental variation.” Dr. Turner passed away in 2013. To ensure that the records he created would be available for continued study, Dr. Scott scanned 23,000 data sheets and hundreds of computer printouts. This collection serves as the foundation for the Christy G. Turner II Legacy Project.

Dr. Turner had proposed that all Western Hemisphere populations are closely related to northeast Asian populations, while Pacific Island peoples including Australian aborigines are most closely related to Southeast Asian populations. Thus, as shown by Dr. Scott's research, although “Native Americans are



PCAS March Speaker, Dr. G. Richard Scott.

more like East Asians than Southeast Asians ... they are still distinctly different from East Asians ... [they] differentiated from East Asians long ago.” But, and no surprise, “Eskimo-Aleuts ... show closer ties to East Asians than any other Native Americans.” These findings—linguistic and dental—have also been confirmed by genetic studies.

Additional information about Dr. Scott can be found in the March 2026 *PCAS Newsletter*, Volume 65, Number 3. Dr. Scott's presentation to the PCAS can be found on the PCAS YouTube channel at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=-gDGzdND58s](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-gDGzdND58s). Also see his “From Three Waves to a Standstill: An Evolving Story Based on Teeth,” which can be found in *Mammoth Trumpet*, Volume 33, Number 3.

## Scholarship Reminder

**The application window for 2026 scholarships closes on April 30.** Four \$1,000 scholarships are offered to undergraduate students entering their junior or senior year in fall 2026. Students must be California residents or studying in California and majoring in anthropology with a focus on archaeology.

It seems some students are being told this is a field school scholarship. That is not the case! The award may be used for any academic expense.

Complete guidelines and application form may be found at <https://www.pcas.org/scholarship.html>. Questions should be directed to Megan Galway at [scholarship@pcas.org](mailto:scholarship@pcas.org) or 714-501-3717.

Winners will be determined at our May 21 board meeting, and all applicants will be notified of the results by the end of May.

## SCA Annual Meeting

By Stephen Dwyer

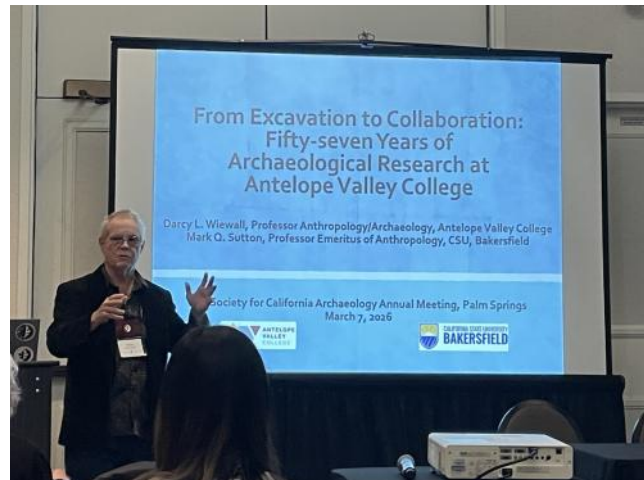
The Pacific Coast Archaeological Society participated in the Society for California Archaeology Annual Meeting in Palm Springs, March 5–8, 2026. The theme of this year’s meeting was “Reflections: Celebrating 60 Years.” At a poster session, 65 years of PCAS history was on display with two posters—1) a circa 2001 poster donated by Jane Gothold showing the beginnings, activities, and early members of the PCAS, and 2) a new poster showing the PCAS’s current activities. The book room table had information about our society, the *PCAS Quarterly*, and the PCAS Scholarship program.

Mark Sutton, editor of the *PCAS Quarterly*, gave multiple presentations, one on “Rewriting the Legacy of Rose Spring” and one on “From Excavation to Collaboration: Fifty-Seven Years of Archaeological Research at Antelope Valley College.” Mary Jespersen gave a presentation on “CA-RIV-11746: A Pre-Ceramic Site.” Both Martin and Mary Jespersen presented at a session honoring Daniel McCarthy and showed a poster titled “Looking Back at Site Stewardship Through the Years.” Jim and Ellen LaMotte presented a poster on “Methods of Recording Rock Art for Site Stewards.” Paul Chace gave a presentation titled “Politically Considering Indigenous Heritage, A Contemporary California Challenge.”

A Sunday field trip was to the Coral Mountain site (CA-RIV-15). *Author’s note: I had been there years ago and honestly could not see anything beyond modern graffiti and trash. The site has been greatly cleaned up—many thanks to those involved. Having guides pointing out the many difficult to see prehistoric and historic features made for a unique and interesting trip.*



PCAS posters displayed at a poster session.



Dr. Mark Sutton presenting at the SCA Meeting.



Stephen Dwyer manning the PCAS table.



Field trip to the Coral Mountain site.

## DIG THIS ...



### Lectures

***The Landscape of the Assyrian***, by Dr. Jason Ur. A Bowers Museum onsite lecture, April 11, 1:30 pm. Fee: \$20, members \$15. Recorded lecture available one week after onsite event. Fee: \$10, members \$5. Ticket purchase and information: [www.bowers.org](http://www.bowers.org).

***Dung and Desert Copper: Environmental Archaeology and the Macro- and Microscale***, by Dr. Zachary Dunseth (UC San Diego). A lecture of the AIA, Orange County Chapter, DeNault Auditorium in Grimm Hall, Concordia University, 530 Concordia West, Irvine, April 12, 2 pm. Information: <https://aia-oc.org>.

***Ecology, Mimesis, and Humor: Shining A Different Light on Egyptian Frog Lamps***, by Clara McCafferty Wright. An ARCE/Bowers Museum onsite lecture, April 18, 1:30 pm. Fee: \$15; Bowers and ARCE members free. Recorded lecture available one week after onsite event. Fee: \$10; Bowers and ARCE members free. Ticket purchase and information: [www.bowers.org](http://www.bowers.org).

***San Diego Presidio Ceramics***, by Stephen Van Wormer. A lecture of the San Diego County Archaeological Society, Los Peñasquitos Ranch House, April 28, 7:30 pm. Free. Information: <https://sdcas.org>.

Many past PCAS lectures are available on YouTube: [www.youtube.com/@pcas-pacificcoastarchaeolo9403](http://www.youtube.com/@pcas-pacificcoastarchaeolo9403).

### Classes, Meetings, and Events

***Panhe***, a Native American gathering and celebration of protection and preservation, will be held at the San Mateo Campground, San Clemente, Sunday, March 29, 10 am–3 pm. Free. Information: [sanoparks.org/2026-panhe-celebration](http://sanoparks.org/2026-panhe-celebration).

***Flintknapping 101***, a hands-on workshop of the San Diego Archaeological Center, will be held at the Sikes Adobe Historic Farmhouse in Escondido, April 11, 9 am–12 pm. Free. Information and registration: [sandiegoarchaeology.org/event/flintknapping-101](http://sandiegoarchaeology.org/event/flintknapping-101).

***Agave Roast***, a Native food tasting event. Malki Museum, 11-795 Malki Rd, Banning, April 18, 11 am–2 pm. Chia candy-making demonstration at 11:45 am. Lunch served at noon with suggested donation of

### Classes, Meetings, and Events (continued)

\$15. Free and open to the public. Information: [malkimuseum.org/pages/lectures-workshops-and-classes](http://malkimuseum.org/pages/lectures-workshops-and-classes).

***San Diego Archaeological Center Annual BBQ***. will have food, music, atlatl throw and bow-and-arrow stations, and a silent auction. April 25, 3–6 pm. Cost \$55, members \$45 (presale only), youth (ages 12 & under) \$15, tribal members and students \$25, kids (5 and under) free. Information and ticket purchase: [sandiegoarchaeology.org/event/annual-bbq-2026](http://sandiegoarchaeology.org/event/annual-bbq-2026).

***The Society for American Archaeology 91st Annual Meeting*** will be held at the Hilton San Francisco Union Square, April 29–May 3, 2026. Information and registration: <https://www.saa.org>.

*Editor's Note: Please confirm time and place of listing prior to the event. Submit items for Dig This to [newsletter@pcas.org](mailto:newsletter@pcas.org).*



[www.facebook.com/pacificcoastarchaeologicalsoc](http://www.facebook.com/pacificcoastarchaeologicalsoc)

### Sign up for Ralphs's Community Contribution Program

PCAS thanks Ralphs and all our participants for this opportunity to earn a donation of at least 1 percent of your Ralphs's purchases. Please go to [www.ralphs.com/i/community/community-contribution-program](http://www.ralphs.com/i/community/community-contribution-program) and sign-up.

- Link your card by searching for "Pacific Coast Archaeological Society" or inserting the PCAS organization number, QT023.
- Call 1-800-576-4377 for assistance.

Thank you for supporting PCAS!

## 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.

### In-Person Meeting

Location: IRWD Community Room  
15500 Sand Canyon Ave, Irvine

*Irvine Ranch Water District makes its facilities available for use by residents and nonprofit organizations merely as a public service, but does not, by allowing this use, endorse or support the purpose of the event or its sponsor.*

### Zoom Meeting

- Email a **new** Zoom registration request by **noon on Thursday, April 9** to [membership@pcas.org](mailto:membership@pcas.org). You will receive an emailed link to the meeting.
- Guests (non-PCAS members) are welcome with registration.
- When the presentation starts, please **mute your microphone and turn off your webcam**.

PCAS host **Steve Dwyer** will open the Zoom meeting at 7 pm to allow time to resolve any technical problems prior to the beginning of the PCAS General Meeting and lecture at 7:30 pm.

### PCAS Speaker Calendar

**May 14, 2026**

**Dr. Mark Sutton**

*Rewriting the Legacy of the Rose Spring Site (CA-INY-372)*

**June 11, 2026**

**John W. Foster**

*The Archaeological Study and Preservation of a Deep-Water Sinkhole in the Dominican Republic*

***No meetings in July and August.***

**September 10, 2026**

**Dr. Ted Goebel**

**October 8, 2026**

**Beth and Chris Padon**

## 2026 PCAS Board Members and Committee Contacts

<u>Office</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Email</u>	<u>Phone</u>
*President	Stephen Dwyer	president@pcas.org	562-209-0567
*Vice President	Joe Hodulik	vicepresident@pcas.org	949-300-1864
*Secretary	Megan Galway	secretary@pcas.org	714-501-3717
* Hospitality	Irene Foster	ifoster@pcas.org	714-828-0942
*Historian/Librarian	Jane Gothold	historian-librarian@pcas.org	562-947-6506
*Voting Board Member	Albert Knight	knight@pcas.org	818-426-4730
*Voting Board Member	Michael Macko	macko@pcas.org	714-900-1999
*Voting Board Member	Patrick Maxon	pmaxon@pcas.org	949-677-2393
*Voting Board Member	Ivan Strudwick	strudwick@pcas.org	949-553-0666
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<i>Quarterly</i> Editor	Mark Sutton	publications@pcas.org	661-203-8670
Refreshments	Irene Foster	ifoster@pcas.org	714-828-0942
Scholarship	Megan Galway	scholarship@pcas.org	714-501-3717
Zoom Coordinator	Stephen Dwyer	zoomhost@pcas.org	562-209-0567

\*PCAS Board Member

## PACIFIC COAST ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

### 2026 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* – \$50
- Newsletter* – \$20

**Scholarship Fund**

- Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Join online:**

[www.pcas.org/membrs.html](http://www.pcas.org/membrs.html)

**Or return with payment to:**

Pacific Coast Archaeological Society  
PO Box 10926  
Costa Mesa, CA 92627-0926

[www.pcas.org](http://www.pcas.org)