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PCAS Newsletter

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September PCAS Speaker

Dr. Philip de Barros

*Exciting Pottery Discoveries in the
Coachella Valley: 14th Century Ceramic
Firing Pits in the City of Coachella?*

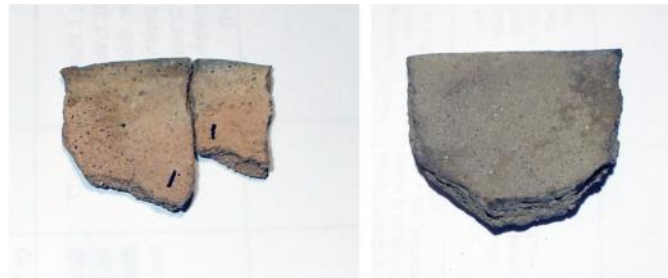
**In-Person and Zoom Meeting
September 14, 7:30 pm. See p. 4.**

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

A CRM survey review of sites previously recorded on a 277-acre plot scheduled for housing and commercial development near the I-10 revealed a light pottery scatter consisting of four loci, instead



of just one previously recorded. Test pits initially reinforced the idea that it was just a recent (perhaps eighteenth century) pottery scatter. However, additional testing revealed the presence of several hearths, some of which had been reused multiple times. A comparison of the site and hearth attributes with the ethnographic record, along with an ethnobotanical study of charred plant remains from the hearths and C14 dates, suggests that that we had discovered fourteenth century prehistoric pottery firing pits. The pros and cons of this hypothesis will be presented and discussed. Excavation methods will also be briefly discussed.



Two rim sherds with direct rims from CA-RIV-7834.

Dr. Philip de Barros received his BA and MA from Stanford and his PhD in anthropology from UCLA. He is Professor Emeritus of Anthropology at Palomar College, San Marcos, where he was coordinator of the AA degree and certificate programs in archaeology. He also has been involved in CRM as Director of Archaeology for the Chambers Group and as president of Professional Archaeological Services. Dr. de Barros has extensive field experience in Africa and California. He is the author of numerous publications on traditional African ironworking and of many California CRM reports

**PCAS Board Nomination
and Election Information!
See p. 3.**

June Speaker Notes

Genetic Evidence for Ancient Population Shifts and Migrations in Central and Southern California

By Megan Galway

Dr. Nathan Nakatsuka brought us a presentation on his study of population shifts in the region based on linguistic and genetic diversity. The genetic studies were performed in collaboration with Dr. John Johnson of the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History and Paul Langenwalter of Biola University.

California is considered to be a key region in the peopling of the Americas with evidence of an early coastal migration, followed many years later by the post-glacial migration. Santa Barbara and the California Channel Islands are considered to have some of the earliest sites with evidence they have been continuously occupied for over 13,000 years. There is a great linguistic diversity in California with Uto-Aztecan being one of the major groups, and there is debate over the origin of this group. The genetic studies hoped to answer questions raised by the linguistic studies, including relationships within California and with other regions, how much genetic continuity there is over time, and when did the different language families arrive and from where. Throughout the study local Native communities were consulted regarding what information they would like to see in the results, and they were kept informed as the study progressed.

DNA was sequenced from both ancient people and from more recent populations. The ancient DNA was obtained by crushing small samples of bone under sterile conditions and sequencing DNA from this powder. This was then compared to the recent samples. With these samples we can see how the population of an area may have changed over time or when and to where these populations may have migrated. It was noted that a larger number of samples from a population will provide a more accurate result. Dr. Nakatsuka compared this to trying to define the genetic identity of New York based on just one sample when so many diverse ethnicities exist in the city.

There have been two previous California genetic studies (in 2018 and 2022). The first looked at Native American ancestry with a broader global perspective while the later one focused on 2,000 years of genetic continuity in central California. The current study included 60 existing samples and 81 newly sequenced samples from central and southern California including the Channel Islands. These samples ranged in age from 180 to 8,000 years old. To these, the current study added nine old and 40 younger



PCAS June speaker, Dr. Nathan Nakatsuka.

samples from Mexico dating from 500 to 2,750 years ago.

Analysis of mitochondrial DNA showed that 30 of 36 samples older than 3,500 years had the A2 haplotype, and the remaining 6 were all from mainland southern California. After 3,500 years, only 35 of 91 are A2 with the remainder being a variety of other haplotypes indicating possible migration from outside the region, most likely by way of Mexico. This migration also appears to be the original source of Uto-Aztecan languages. Further studies based on the Y chromosome indicate people from South America entered the area within the last 5,000 years. This migration included the southern Channel Islands, where people spoke a Uto-Aztecan language. People of the northern islands spoke original Chumash.

No evidence was found of migration from California south into Mexico, and the study somewhat contradicts early hypotheses that Uto-Aztecan people migrated from the Great Basin south into the Southwest and California. However, Dr. Nakatsuka notes the original migration may have been from the south into the Great Basin and then southwest into California. He also noted the probable migration began earlier than the introduction of maize and agriculture. No genetic evidence was found between Californian and Polynesian populations.



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DIG THIS ...**Lectures**

Preparing for Eternity, by Dr. Georgia Barker (CSU San Bernardino). An ARCE/Bowers Museum onsite lecture, September 9, 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.

The Ancestral Maya Quarryscapes of the Mountain Pine Ridge Forest Reserve, Belize, Dr. Jon Spenard (CSU San Marcos), a lecture of the San Diego County Archaeological Society, September 23, 8 pm, Rancho Penasquitos Adobe, San Diego. Free. Information: sdcas.org/upcomingevents.

Past PCAS lectures are available on YouTube at www.youtube.com/@pcas-pacificcoastarchaeolo9403.

Classes, Meetings, and Events

Moompetam American Indian Festival will celebrate indigenous California maritime cultures with traditional craft demonstrations, storytelling, music, and dance. Aquarium of the Pacific, September 9–10, 9 am–5 pm. Fee: Included with aquarium admission. Advance online reservations required for admission. Information: www.aquariumofpacific.org.

Doors Open California, the largest statewide celebration of historic places, will have behind the scenes tours and storytelling events at over 70 places. September 9-10. Flat fee: \$20. Information: californiapreservation.org/doca. ***The San Diego Archaeological Center*** is participating with an open house and tours of the curation lab, library, and vaults, September 9, 10 am–2 pm. Information: sandiegoarchaeology.org

The SCA Northern Data Sharing Meeting will be held at the Bodega Marine Lab, Bodega Bay, October 14. Contact Jay King to RSVP, to submit a paper, or for information: jay@scahome.org. ***The SCA Southern Data Sharing Meeting*** will be held at the Coral Hotel & Marina, Ensenada, Baja California, Mexico, October 20–21. Contact Richard Guttenberg to RSVP or submit a paper: Richard@scahome.org. Additional information for both meetings: scahome.org/2023-sca-data-sharing-meetings.

Editor's Note: Please confirm time and place of listening prior to the event. Submit items for Dig This to newsletter@pcas.org.

PCAS Board Nominations and Election

PCAS has entered the digital age! Not only have we made our lectures available by Zoom and on YouTube, but the PCAS Board of Directors has updated the PCAS bylaws to allow electronic voting. Members will also have the option of returning ballots by USPS mail.

PCAS is seeking nominations for three positions for three-year terms on the PCAS Board of Directors and is requesting that members interested in serving contact any Board member. Board meetings are once a month, normally on Zoom, and consist of decision making and committee progress reporting. A candidate's biography, not to exceed 125 words, must be submitted no later than September 15, 2023, to Steve Dwyer at secretary@pcas.org. The submitted biographies will be printed in the October *PCAS Newsletter*. Should you be hesitant to commit to a full three-year term, we also have board vacancies for one- and two-year terms. These positions will be appointed by the 2024 Board

PCAS members will receive ballots for the election of Directors in mid-October. These ballots must be returned by November 9, 2023, and can only be returned electronically or by USPS mail. To vote in this election, one must be a 2023 PCAS member by October 12, 2023 (date of record). Newly elected Board members will be announced in the December newsletter and will take office in January 2024.

Please remember to vote—we need a quorum for this election!

For membership questions, contact Megan Galway at membership@pcas.org. For nomination and election questions, contact Stephen Dwyer at secretary@pcas.org.

Sign Up for Ralphs Community Rewards

PCAS thanks Ralphs and all our participants for this opportunity to earn a donation of at least 1 percent of your Ralphs' purchases. Go to www.ralphs.com and sign in or create an account.

1. On the "My Account" page, scroll to Community Rewards. Link your card by searching for "Pacific Coast Archaeological Society" or inserting the PCAS organization number, QT023.
2. Call 800-443-4438 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

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.

Zoom Meeting

- Email a **new** Zoom registration request by **noon on Thursday, September 14**, to 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

October 12, 2023

Dr. Ian Straughn

Archaeology in Interim Spaces: Excavation and Pedagogy at the Historic Bonita Camp Site on the UCI campus

November 9, 2023

Dr. James Kennett

Massive Effects and Consequences of the Younger Dryas Cometary Impact with Earth 12,800 Years Ago

December 14, 2023

Dr. Scott Sunell

A Guiding Light: The Piedra de Lumbre Quarry, Flaked Stone Tools, and Precontact Archaeology Aboard MCB Camp Pendleton

January 11, 2024

Dr. Loren G. Davis

TBA

2023 PCAS Board Members and Committee Contacts

<u>Office</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Email</u>	<u>Phone</u>
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Curator		curator@pcas.org	
*Field Trips	Stephen Dwyer	fieldtrips@pcas.org	714-969-1911
*Historian/Librarian	Jane Gothold	historian-librarian@pcas.org	562-947-6506
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Zoom Coordinator	Stephen Dwyer	zoomhost@pcas.org	714-969-1911

*PCAS Board Member

PACIFIC COAST ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

2023 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* – \$40
- Newsletter* – \$20

Scholarship Fund

- Donation \$ _____

Join online:

www.pcas.org/membrs.html

Or return with payment to:

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Costa Mesa, CA 92627-0926

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