



DECEMBER 2018

PCAS NEWSLETTER

THE MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE
PACIFIC COAST ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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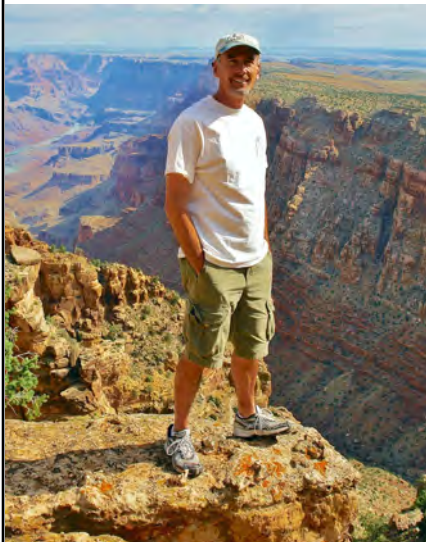
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DECEMBER PCAS SPEAKER

Steven M. Freers

Rock Art of the Grand Canyon Region— Expanding Our Understanding

Steven Freers will present an overview of approximately 5,000 years of Native American rock art painted and engraved on the canyon walls and boulders within the greater Grand Canyon region, an area stretching south from the Arizona-Utah border to the Mogollon Rim. The presentation will expand upon the research presented by his fellow authors in their book *Rock Art of the Grand Canyon Region*. New discoveries continue to be made, as well as greater appreciation of the more subtle expressions at well-



Steve Freers.

known localities. The audience will be taken on a behind-the-scenes journey to vicariously experience the awe of hiking within magnificent canyon systems, negotiating rugged and steep trails, and discovery of ancient human presence. Mr. Freers hopes to

(Continued on p. 3)

PCAS MEETINGS CALENDAR

HOLIDAY POTLUCK

December 13 - 6:30 pm

RSVP - see page 4

**Lecture: 7:30 pm
(free and open to the public)**

Speaker: Steven M. Freers

Topic: *Rock Art of the Grand Canyon Region—
Expanding Our Understanding*

Location: **The Duck Club, Irvine**
See map and directions on page 5.

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.

NO BOARD MEETING THIS MONTH

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 2 November Speaker Notes
- 3 January Field Trip
- 3 Renew Your Membership Online!
- 4 PCAS Holiday Dinner at the Duck Club
- 5 Map to Duck Club
- 6 Dig This—Exhibits, Lectures, and more
- 6 November Board Meeting Summary
- 7 Rock Art 2018
- 7 Speaker Schedule

The Holiday Potluck replaces Dinner with the Speaker this month. See page 4 for information.

**Renew your PCAS membership!
Pay online with PayPal—see page 3.**

NOVEMBER SPEAKER NOTES

Ancient Droughts, Fires, and Floods: Living with the Elements in the Santa Monica Mountains

By Megan Galway

On a day when disastrous fires erupted across California, Dr. Vellanoweth presented a history of such events based on his studies in the Santa Monica Mountains. Although he has worked in Ireland and Baja, he noted he has always enjoyed working in his backyard including extensive work on the Channel Islands. In 2012 he conducted the first field school on the Danielson Ranch in Sycamore Canyon in the Santa Monica Mountains. This was a cooperative effort with Barbara Tejada (California State Parks), Gary Brown (NPS), and Dr. Vellanoweth’s students from California State University, Los Angeles. The area is a floodplain in a transitional zone between Chumash and Gabrielino culture areas. Older cultural evidence was likely buried by material eroding down from the surrounding hillsides. Camping onsite allowed the students to experience the environment in an area now protected as parkland. The native vegetation is returning along with a range of wildlife, and tidal shellfish are available a short distance away.

In May 2013, the Camarillo Springs Fire burned through the study area from Newberry to the ocean. In the study area much of the vegetation was gone, and the ground was parched. Photos taken in 2012 and 2013 on the same trail showed the devastation from the fire. In December 2013, heavy rains flooded the area, and by the following summer the vegetation was returning. The Santa Monica Mountains are geologically young, and their soft rocks, steep slopes, and narrow drainages are prone to accelerated erosion during flood events. This erosion of flood tumbled rocks and other debris is visibly different to the regular slippage of the hillside.

Dr. Vellanoweth raised the question of “how do you find sites in this environment?” His answer was “deep excavations,” which were then undertaken. Four different loci were excavated, and all contained evidence of cultural activities. In one 3 m excavation, the team compared the strata to recent deposit events and identified three separate flood events dating back at least 3,400 years. This excavation also had traces of a midden at a



PCAS Programs Chair Brian Steffensen with Dr. René Vellanoweth at the November meeting.

depth of 1 m that included marine shell. The youngest site returned radiocarbon dates of 600–500 years BP.

Cultural material recovered from the area included imported flake stone, fused shale artifacts, chipping waste, and ground stone tools including both manos and pestles. Mussel, clam, and scallop shell from the coast 4.5 miles away were in evidence, and animal, bird, and reptile bones were found. Beads from the Classic, Middle, Late, and Mission periods were identified dating to 5350–180 years BP. Three different occupation periods were identified indicating the area was probably abandoned after the fire/flood events and reoccupied when resources recovered.

In his summary, Dr. Vellanoweth suggests the Santa Monica Mountains had been inhabited by Native Americans for at least 3,500 years. They used terrestrial and marine resources, created flaked and ground stone tools, and traded with other groups for raw materials. Drought, wind, fire, and flood events, like those recently experienced, are part of the natural lifecycle of the Santa Monica Mountains resulting in deeply buried archaeological evidence.



December Speaker *(continued from p. 1)*

impart not just the sense of adventurous research, but a closer understanding of the integration of such a powerful environment and its influence on the aboriginal artists who painted or carved the Grand Canyon's ancient art.



Steve Freers is an International Baccalaureate and Honors chemistry teacher at Temescal Canyon High School, Lake Elsinore, California. Avocationally, he has spent the past 30 years researching Native American rock art in Riverside and San Diego counties, as well as concentrated studies in the Grand Canyon region. In 1994, he co-authored the book *Fading Images* on rock art in western Riverside County. He served for five years as the senior editor for the American Rock Art Research Association (ARARA). In May 2013, the results of an extensive rock art recording project in Grand Canyon National Park culminated in a 288-page book entitled *Rock Art of the Grand Canyon Region* by Don Christensen, Jerry Dickey, and Steve Freers.

Mr. Freers's specialty is taking a physical anthropological approach to rock art research. Using anthropometric data collected by the famous anthropologist Franz Boas in the late 1800s and early 1900s, he modified a regression equation that assists in predicting the physical stature and gender of the makers of prehistoric handprints. His most recent research explores rock art along the Takic and Yuman ethnographic division in southern California, as well as examining the chronological sequence of petroglyph creation at a newly recorded Colorado Desert site. As an avid hiker and photographer, Steve has been able to capture the dynamic context of archaeological sites in the Southwest's most remote areas.

The Arizona Governor's Archaeology Advisory Commission awarded Mr. Freers and his co-authors the 2014 Arizona Governor's Award for Special

Achievement in Public Archaeology for their book and the over 10,000 volunteer hours documenting archaeological sites for public agencies. In 2016, Mr. Freers was awarded the Crabtree Award by the Society for American Archaeology (SAA) for his outstanding contributions to the field of archaeology, cultural heritage preservation, and public education. Mr. Freers currently serves as the program and conservation chair for the San Diego Rock Art Association and continues to conduct field work in northern San Diego County.

JANUARY FIELD TRIP SAVE THE DATE

When: January 19–20, 2019

Where: Lower Colorado Desert

More information in the January *PCAS Newsletter*.

Shop at AmazonSmile
and Amazon will make
a donation to:
**Pacific Coast
Archaeological Society**

Get started

amazon smile

Or go to: smile.amazon.com/ch/95-2685178

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP ONLINE!

PCAS memberships expire at the end of the calendar year. Memberships can be renewed for 2019 at www.pcas.org/membs.html through PayPal with any credit card. A PayPal account is not necessary. If your mailing address, phone number, or email has changed, please email membership@pcas.org with the correct information. Renewal forms are also available in this newsletter and on our website for members and subscribers wishing to renew by mail.

We appreciate your continued support of PCAS and look forward to receiving your renewal for 2019.



PCAS HOLIDAY DINNER

Thursday, December 13, 2018

6:30 PM

IRWD Duck Club*

Annual Holiday Potluck

Steven M. Freers will speak on

Rock Art of the Grand Canyon Region—Expanding Our Understanding

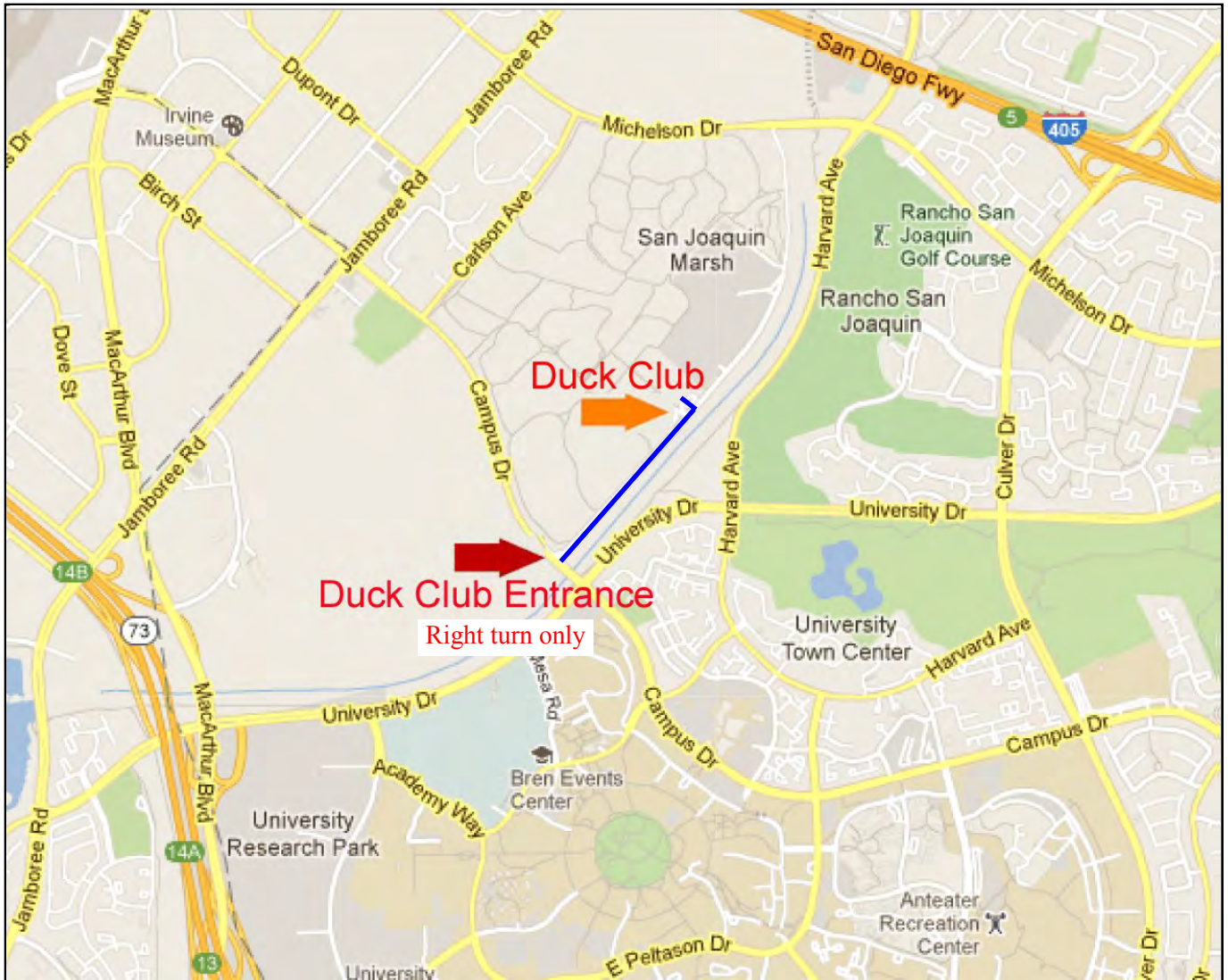
Lecture at 7:30 pm – free and open to the public

1. The Holiday Dinner will be at the Duck Club* in Irvine.
2. Bring a ready-to-serve dish that doesn't require heating to serve 6 people.
3. No alcoholic beverages are allowed.



**RSVP: Megan Galway, membership@PCAS.org
or 714-539-6354, to let us know what you're
bringing.**

*See directions to the Duck Club on the following page. Directions are also available at www.pcas.org (click on Latest News on left menu).



Note: The entrance from Campus Drive is right turn only.

Directions from I-405

- 1. Exit the 405 Freeway on Culver Drive and go south.**
- 2. Turn right on University Drive.**
- 3. Turn right on Campus Drive.**
- 4. Stay in the right lane and immediately turn right onto Riparian View which is marked by a dark green sign identifying it as the entrance to the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary.**
- 5. Proceed to Duck Club entrance on left. Signs will direct you.**

If lost, call 714-290-1845.

DIG THIS ...



Lectures

Deified Dead in the Pyramid Age, by Dr. Julia Troche (Missouri State University). An ARCE lecture, Bowers Museum, December 8, 1:30–3:30 pm. Fee: \$12; Bowers and ARCE members free. Tickets and information: www.bowers.org or 714–567–3677.

Rock Art at Little Lake: An Inside Look, by Doug Brotherton. San Diego Rock Art Association lecture. Kumeyaay-Ipai Interpretive Center, Poway, December 10. Potluck 4 pm; presentations 5 pm. Fee: Donation \$5; members free. Information: www.sandiegorockart.org.

The Impossible Railroad, by Reena Deutsch. A Coachella Valley Archaeological Society presentation, Portola Community Center, 45-480 Portola Ave, Palm Desert, December 14, 6:30 pm. Free. Information: www.cvarch.org.

Adventures Under the Temple: New Discoveries at Chavín de Huántar, Peru, by Andrew Lesh, will present findings from the 2017 and 2019 field seasons under the direction of Dr. John Rick (Stanford University). A lecture of the Riverside and Inland Empire chapter of the AIA, Riverside City Main Library, 3581 Mission Inn Ave, Riverside, December 16, 3 pm. Information: aiariverside.ucr.edu.

Post Historic Kumeyaay Nation, by Mallory Genauer (Education Coordinator, Barona Culture Center and Museum). Anza-Borrego Desert State Park Visitor Center, Borrego Springs, December 21, 11 am–12 pm. Information: www.anzaborregoarchaeo.org

Classes, Meetings, and Events

The Salton Sea—Past, Present and Future, by Dr. Timothy Bradley (UC Irvine). Class of the Anza-Borrego Foundation, December 21, 7:30–8:30 pm (lecture), December 22, 9am–2pm (field class). Fee \$60, members \$50, lecture only \$5. Information: theabf.org.

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

Visit www.pcas.org for all the latest news.

NOVEMBER BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

President **Scott Findlay** called the November 10 meeting to order at 12:05 pm at the Red Car Building, Santa Ana. PCAS Board members present: **Bob Brace, Megan Galway, Jane Gothold** (by speaker phone), **Ardith Haworth** (by speaker phone), and **Brian Steffensen**. PCAS members present: **Rene Brace, Steve Dwyer, Irene Foster, and Hank Koerper**.

The October minutes were approved. Treasurer **Bob Brace** reported that \$322 of *PCAS Quarterly* issues were sold at the Rock Art Conference. The Treasurer's report was approved with expenditures.

The slate of nominees for the 2019 Board—**Steve Dwyer, Irene Foster, and Hank Koerper**—was unanimously approved by the membership at the November 8 meeting. The Board thanked retiring members—**Gail Cochlin, Ardith Haworth, and Sherri Gust**—for their service.

President **Scott Findlay** again encouraged all Board members and committee chairs to find backups/assistants for their positions. A small collection of unprovenanced artifacts, 15 small boxes with no paperwork labeled as being from the Manriquez Adobe, was picked up by Ruth Atkins of the Lake Elsinore Historical Society. Fifteen cartons with three manos each have been identified as material previously used in landscaping at Bowers Museum and given to PCAS after renovations. These will be offered to interested educational facilities.

The Board discussed plans for the Holiday Potluck dinner. Set-up for the dinner will be 4:30 pm at the Duck Club. **Scott Findlay** will place directional signs at Riparian View and Campus Drive and at the entrance to the Duck Club.

Joe Hodulik received donations of \$85 for the scholarship fund in November. **Steve Dwyer** reported that a field trip to the lower Colorado Desert is planned for January 19–20. Brian Steffensen has scheduled speakers through March 2019. Dr. Amy Gusick will speak in March.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:15 pm.

NO CURATION WORKDAY IN DECEMBER

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 thanks the San Diego Rock Art Association (SDRAA) for welcoming a *PCAS Quarterly* sales and information table at Rock Art 2018 on November 3. SDRAA's *Rock Art Papers*, Volume 19, is now available at [Sunbelt Publications](http://SunbeltPublications.com). For more information about SDRAA, go to www.sandiegorockart.org.

PCAS SPEAKER CALENDAR

January 10, 2019

Dr. Patricia Martz

Advocacy for Preservation

February 14, 2019

George Kline and Martín Jespersen

Dos Palmas Sites

March 14, 2019

Dr. Amy Gusick

Trans-Holocene and Inter-Island Approaches to Human-Coastal Interactions: A Case Study from the Channel Islands of California

2018 PCAS BOARD MEMBERS AND COMMITTEE CONTACTS

<u>Office</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Email</u>	<u>Phone</u>
*President	Scott Findlay	president@pcas.org	714-342-2534
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*Secretary	Megan Galway	secretary@pcas.org	714-539-6354
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*Programs Chair	Brian Steffensen	programs@pcas.org	714-348-9179
*Quarterly Editor	Sherri Gust	publications@pcas.org	714-245-0264
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Website	Rene Brace	info@pcas.org	714-544-6282

*PCAS Board Member

PACIFIC COAST ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

2019 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 \$ _____

Return form with payment to:

PCAS Membership
PO Box 10926
Costa Mesa, CA 92627-0926

www.pcas.org