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PCAS Newsletter

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December PCAS Speaker

Michael E. Macko

CA-ORA-64: Background, Data, and What's Next

Thursday, December 12

Duck Club Holiday Potluck—7 pm

Hybrid Lecture—7:30 pm

See pages 4 & 6.

Speaker will be present at the meeting.

Archaeological investigation at CA-ORA-64, the Irvine site, began soon after its recording in 1965 by Paul Chace. While the site was first noted in 1912 by Nels Nelson from the University of California Museum of Anthropology, no scientific study occurred until the 1970s. The large site was located in an area of rapid commercial and residential development in the 1960s and 70s coastal Orange County city of Newport Beach, most of which was not subject to environmental review at the levels common today.

CA-ORA-64 excavation during final data recovery. View is SW toward mouth of Newport Bay. Note systematic grid and office/mechanical screen facility (lower right).

The residential development of East bluff to the north, Fashion Island and the Newport Beach Country Club to the east, and Hyatt Newport and John Wayne Tennis Club to the south surrounded the undeveloped site of ORA-64. Despite extensive efforts to preserve ORA-64 through National Register nomination and ultimately a vote of the people in Newport Beach, the site was permitted for development by the California Coastal Commission.

The data recovery at ORA-64 was quite large by comparison to most other archaeological projects that have been conducted in the United States. Due to its efficient system of recovery, data management, and reporting procedures, the recently completed Newport Coast Archaeological Project (NCAP), designed and implemented by *(Continued on p. 3)*

Renew your PCAS membership for 2025! See p. 3.

November Speaker Notes

Managing Cultural Resources at Mojave National Preserve

By Megan Galway

The Mojave National Preserve is the third largest U.S. National Park unit after Yellowstone and Death Valley. Its boundaries are roughly defined by I-15 to the north, I-40 to the south, Zzyx to the west, and the California/ Nevada border to the east. National Preserves differ from National Parks in that they may allow such things as hunting, ranching, and mining, which is the case in the Mojave. The land was most recently occupied by the Chemehuevi and before that the Mojave.

David Nichols spoke of his long history in the Mojave, having camped there with his father as a youngster. While in graduate school from 2001 to 2004, he lived in a primitive cabin to research and to write his thesis, and his association with the preserve led to his appointment as park archaeologist. His position involves evaluating prehistoric and historic sites and artifacts and ensuring their preservation. Showing a photograph from his early time in the preserve, he commented he would now never wear shorts as he did then. Today he wears long pants, often with snake guards.

Mr. Nichols warns that when surveying an area, features that appear inconsequential should not be overlooked. A couple of stacked stones, which he almost ignored, led to a series of similar stacks and eventually to a large village site with a midden, milling stones, and other artifacts. Sites in the preserve with pottery are identified as Mojave, and the Chemehuevi were known for basket making. Cottonwood Triangular projectile points found on the preserve are attributed to the Chemehuevi and were the last point style made before contact.

One of the most well-known rock art sites is Counsel Rocks (known to some as Womb Rock), which has both petroglyphs and pictographs and is considered an important ritual site used by both Mojave and Chemehuevi. A piece of pottery found on the site was a style unfamiliar to Mr. Nichols and was identified as likely Dead Man's Gray from the Prescott, Arizona, area, indicating a wide trade network throughout California and Arizona.

High up on a canyon's limestone walls is a rock shelter with the only known pictograph in the preserve depicting a horse and rider. The canyon is said to be on the route of the 1776 Garcés expedition. Directly across the canyon at the same elevation is another rock shelter with pictographs.

Another facet of Mr. Nichols's position is evaluating needs during and after wildfires. During the fire, any sensitive areas and historic structures must be identified and protected when possible. Afterward, the burn area is surveyed to identify the potential for further damage such as erosion. These areas can then be protected. One such area was a multilevel habitation site with a large midden, which was being washed away. The solution was to cover the site with a fabric material and create berms to redirect the water. The site was remote, inaccessible by road, so all the material was brought in on pack horses.

PCAS November speaker, David Nichols.

Using pack horses to carry materials to a remote site for mitigation after a fire.

Historic cabins on the preserve relate to ranching, mining, homesteading, and the railroads. National Park Service funds are available for the preservation of these structures, and many are restored so that park visitors can use them. Photographs of the buildings from local archives are used so that the buildings can be restored as close to original as possible, and the process includes training the builders in historic construction techniques.

Providence Ghost Town was built of stone and has disappeared except for the foundation footprint. A local rancher whose family has been in the area since 1913 was able to identify most of the rooms. The limestone used in the construction was mined locally.

Mr. Nichols excavated a rock shelter on private property. In a 2 m deep unit in the habitation area, many artifacts were found including shell beads from the Pacific and Gulf coasts, points from the Mojave and Chemehuevi periods, and a Spanish trade bead close to the surface. All these indicate occupation over many centuries.

The site of the Live Oak Mine in Keystone Canyon has a raised trestle on which the ore carts ran from the mine to the ore bin. It is the only remaining trestle in the preserve, and it was in danger of complete collapse. Mr. Nichols was awarded over $100,000 to preserve the trestle, and with the help of students from the University of Vermont School of Mines *(Continued on p. 3)*

December Speaker (*Continued from p. 1)*

Mr. Macko, was the model for the investigation at ORA-64. The results have produced good data from which a story of life during the early occupation of coastal Orange County can be outlined. These data include 772 features (with 600 partial inhumations and 172 cairn features) and their associations with 428,575 chipped stone items (debitage, cores and tools), 7,967 ground stone artifacts (manos, metates, and balls), 1,235,601 bone specimens (faunal remains, beads and tools), 37,656 shell specimens (faunal remains and beads), 94 ceramics, 360 shell beads, 209 stone beads, and a particularly fascinating 2,115 bone beads.

Michael Macko received his BA (1978) and MA (1983) in anthropology from UC Santa Barbara. Earlier education included engineering, math, and architectural interests that led him to view archaeological inquiry in terms of site structure and function. Having an early exposure to mapping and land surveying from high school onward, Macko became proficient in field mapping with everything from a Brunton compass to Lietz total stations and AutoCAD software for the graphic presentation of data. These tools combined to form a standardized methodology for documenting, evaluating, and sampling resources used on all his projects through the 1980s and 1990s. His noteworthy projects began with the MX and Peacekeeper Missile Projects in California, Nevada, Arizona, Texas, and New Mexico and continued with the 500-mile Intermountain Power Transmission Line Project across California, Nevada and Utah; the San Joaquin Hills and Foothill Transportation Corridor Projects in Orange County; the Newport Coast Archaeology Project; other related developments in coastal Orange County; and hundreds of smaller surveys and excavations in California. Mr. Macko is currently the Senior Archaeologist for Partner Engineering and Science Inc. in Irvine, where he coordinates archaeological surveys, assessments, and section 106 consultations for Federal projects in over 30 states.

2025 Membership Renewals

This is our annual reminder that PCAS memberships expire on December 31, and it's time to renew! You can pay online with any credit card at http://www.pcas.org/membrs.html or by check with the form in this newsletter. If your email, telephone number, or address have changed, please email membership@pcas.org with the updated information.

We will continue to offer our monthly meetings via Zoom, but we hope there will be more interest in attending meetings in person in the coming year. We have a number of scheduled in-person meetings when our speaker will be present, and we'd really like to see more people in the room. The world has changed with the advent of Zoom, but maybe it's time to get out of our sweats and get back out there? Should you have any thoughts on this, perhaps you could drop us an email. We will be holding our traditional in-person Holiday Meeting at the Duck Club on December 12, and our speaker will be present at the gathering.

Our fundraising efforts continue to be impacted by the lack of in-person meetings, and as you know, these donations directly support our annual scholarship awards. Please consider us in your year-end charitable giving. We are a 501(c)3 corporation and will gladly supply a receipt.

We appreciate your continued support of PCAS and look forward to receiving your renewal for 2025.

Scholarship Fundraiser

Joe Hodulik will be presenting a new concept for raising funds for PCAS scholarships. PCAS members and supporters will receive an email from Joe explaining details about this new program. We hope you will choose to participate.

We thank **Joe** whose past efforts have raised thousands of dollars for the scholarship fund. As always, 100% of all funds raised will go toward scholarships.

Welcome New Board Members

Jane Gothold and **Michael Macko** were elected to the PCAS Board of Directors in the November election. They will join the Board in January.

Jane is a founding member of PCAS (1961) and life member and has served in many leadership positions.

Macko (his preferred name) is the Senior Archaeologist for Partner Engineering and Science Inc. in Irvine. He will be our guest speaker at the December holiday meeting.

We thank all PCAS members who voted!

November Speaker Notes (*Continued from p. 2)*

and Engineering was able to do so. All material and tools were airlifted in and carried up the canyon, and all work was done without the benefit of power tools.

A site known as Ivanpah II was at the end of the Nevada railroad, and artifacts in this location included a cigarette case from 1912 with the silk liner still intact, along with fragments of a Mojave pot. Members of the Mojave tribe are known to have worked on the railroad.

This is a brief summary of the presentation, and I encourage you to watch the video on our YouTube channel at *www.youtube.com/@pcas-acificcoastarchaeolo9403*.

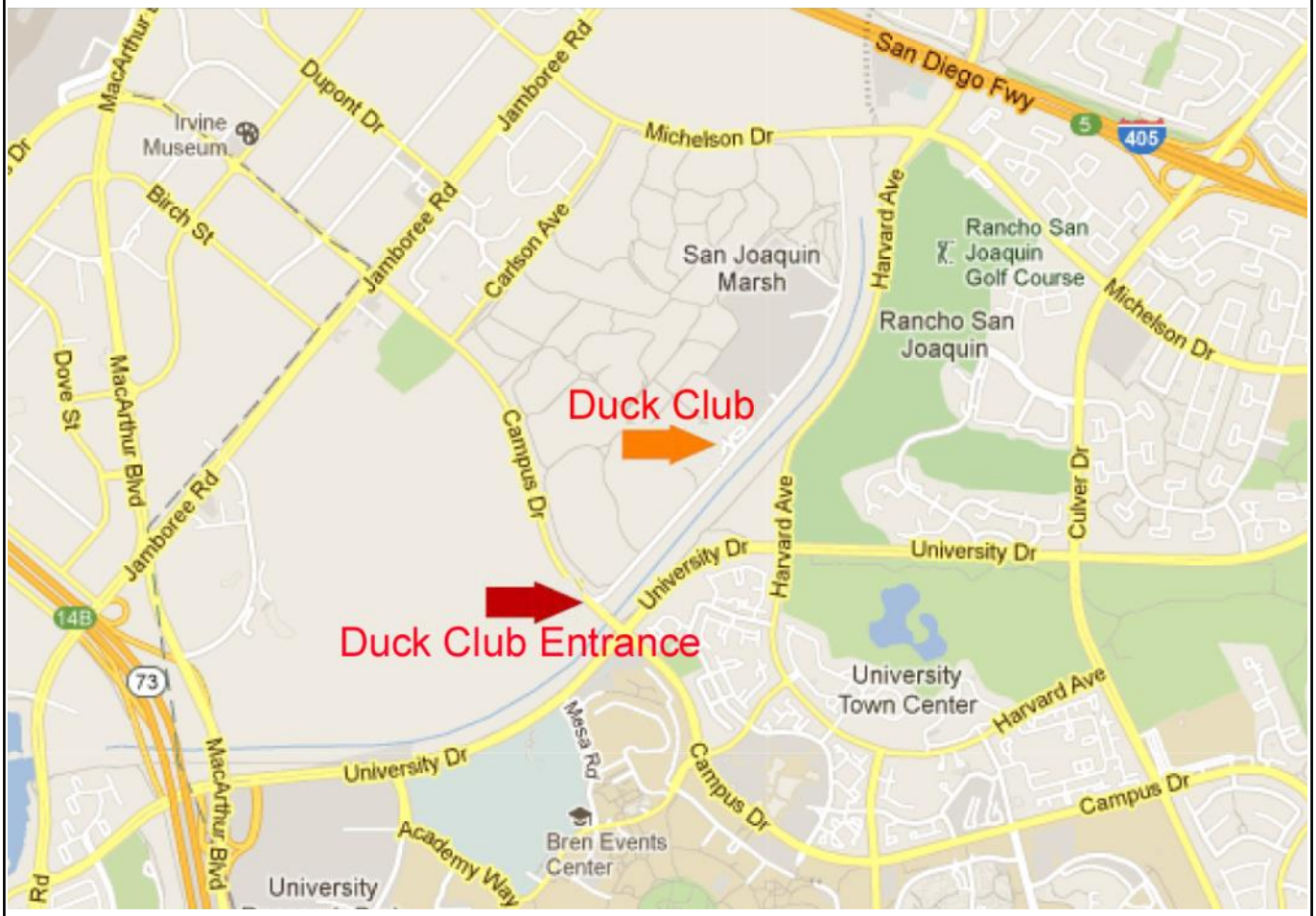
PCAS HOLIDAY POTLUCK

Thursday, December 12, 2024, 7 PM

IRWD Duck Club, 5 Riparian View, Irvine

- **Bring a dessert or side dish to share.**
- **Lecture will begin at 7:30 pm. Speaker will be present at the meeting.**

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.



Note: The entrance from Campus Drive is <u>right turn only</u>.

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 Stephen Dwyer —562-209-0567.

DIG THIS ...

Lectures

Author Spotlight: People of Ancient Daunia, by Camilla Norman (University of Sydney), will present the statue-stelae of Early Iron Age Daunia, Italy. UCLA James West Alumni Center, December 4, 6 pm. Reception: 7 pm. Free; parking fee. Information and RSVP: ioa.ucla.edu/events/upcoming.

Treaty of Temecula: A Cahuilla Narrative, by Dr. Sean Milanovich (Agua Caliente). Agua Caliente Cultural Museum, Palm Springs, December 4, 6 pm. Fee: $15. Information and ticket purchase: www.accmuseum.org/events.

Petroglyphs of California's Northern Sierra Nevada and Their Protection, by Nolan Smith and Bill Drake. An ARARA online lecture, December 7, 5:30 pm (PST). Free. Information and registration: https://arara.wildapricot.org/Lectures.

Kin or Coincidence? Figures and Figurines Similar in Form or Motif to Barrier Canyon Style Rock Art, by David Sucec. A virtual lecture of the San Diego Rock Art Association, December 8, 4 pm (PST). Free. Information and required registration: www.sandiegorockart.org.

Kumeyaay Ethnobotany: Shared Heritage of the Californias, by Michael Wilken-Robertson, with book signing.. A hybrid lecture of the Riverside-San Bernardino Chapter, California Native Plant Society, Riverside-Corona Resource Conservation District, Bldg. F, 4500 Glenwood Dr, Riverside, December 14, 10 am. Zoom registration: https://bit.ly/rsbethnobotany. Questions: rsbcnps@gmail.com.

Rediscovering Egypt's Lost Dinosaurs with Dr. Matthew C. Lamanna, by Dr. Matthew C. Lamanna (Carnegie Museum of Natural History, Pittsburgh). An ARCE/Bowers Museum onsite lecture and book signing, December 14, 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.

Many past ***PCAS lectures*** are available on YouTube: *www.youtube.com/@pcas-pacificcoastarchaeolo9403*.

Classes, Meetings, and Events

Ancient Echoes: Ice Age Pigments—Handprint Edition, a hands-on, all-ages outdoor event of the San Diego Archaeological Center, December 14, 10 am–1 pm. Fee $35, members $25 (includes light refreshments). Information and registration: sandiegoarchaeology.org/event/ancient-echoes-handprint.

The 2025 AIA Annual Meeting will be January 2–5 at the Marriott Downtown , Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Information: www.archaeological.org.

SCA Call for Papers for the 2025 Annual Meeting at the Hyatt Regency SFO Airport (Burlingame), March 13–16. Submission deadline is December 8. Information: sfca.wildapricot.org/SCA-Annual-Meeting-Submission-Guidelines.

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

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Sign up for Ralph'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 Ralph's purchases. Please go to 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 Duck Club –see p. 4.**
5 Riparian View, 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, December 12,** 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

January 9, 2025
Dr. John Johnson
Mapping Chumash Communities

February 13, 2025
Albert Knight
Santa Monica Mountains Rock Art and the Woolsey Fire

March 13, 2025
Dr. Duncan McLaren

April 10, 2025
Dr. Marilyn Johnson

May 8, 2025
Michael Tucker

2024 PCAS Board Members and Committee Contacts

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*PCAS Board Member

PACIFIC COAST ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

2025 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

www.pcas.org

Scholarship Fund

☐ Donation $_____

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www.pcas.org/membrs.html

Or return with payment to:
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