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PCAS NEWSLETTER

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FEBRUARY PCAS SPEAKER

Clay Lebow

Archaeological Excavations and Stabilization at Swordfish Cave

Swordfish Cave is a well-known rock art site located on Vandenberg Air Force Base in south central California. Named for the swordfish painted on its wall, the cave is a sacred Chumash site. It has long drawn in visitors with its alluring rock art including a realistic rendition of its namesake swordfish. However, viewers were inadvertently damaging the artwork because space inside the cave was very limited. As a conservation measure, Vandenberg Air Force Base asked Applied Earth-Works, Inc. to create a viewing area by excavating a block at the mouth of the cave. These excavations revealed a substantial archaeological deposit.

In this lecture, Clay Lebow will describe the archaeological excavations and (Continued on p. 3)



DINNER WITH THE SPEAKER

Please join this month's speaker, Clay Lebow, for dinner before the February 9 meeting at 6 pm at Mimi's Café, 4030 Barranca Parkway, Irvine.

PCAS MEETINGS CALENDAR

GENERAL MEETING

Free and Open To the Public

February 9 - 7:30 pm

Speakers: Clay Lebow

Topic: *Archaeological Excavations and Stabilization at Swordfish Cave*

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.

BOARD MEETING

All Members Welcome

February 11 - 12 noon

Location: PCAS Curation Facility
Contact Scott Findlay for directions:
714-342-2534 or fieldtrips@pcas.org.

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**Have you renewed your membership?
Use the membership form in this Newsletter
or pay online at www.pcas.org.**

JANUARY SPEAKER NOTES

Using Cutting-Edge LiDAR Technology at El Pilar

By Megan Galway

Dr. Anabel Ford is director of the MesoAmerican Research Center at the University of California, Santa Barbara, and president of the nonprofit Exploring Solutions Past: The Maya Forest Alliance. Her research focuses on the ancient Maya landscape, combining archaeological settlement survey with traditional ecological knowledge.

Dr. Ford began her research of Maya sites in 1972 and in 1983 discovered and conducted site surveys and mapping of El Pilar. This site is located in the El Pilar Reserve for Maya Flora and Fauna and straddles the border between Guatemala and Belize. As its name suggests, the primary function of the reserve is to study the way in which the cultural landscape relates to the native vegetation and conserve biodiversity in the area. The area of the El Pilar archaeological site is estimated to be 20 km² of which 7 km² have currently been surveyed.

A recent innovation at the site is the use of LiDAR (Light Detection and Ranging) as a way to map the landscape. LiDAR uses laser pulses fired from an aircraft (in this case a helicopter) which are returned by any solid surface. By recording these results as points, the technology is able to create a variety of images. Analysis of the points can differentiate between the forest canopy, the biomass, and the ground surface. These results may then be displayed as a topographic image (accurate to 1 m contours) or as a profile of a specific transect. In this way groundworks and structures may be identified. Dr. Ford did note the process is not effective in identifying features such as roads or trails because it only indicates changes in elevation.

The LiDAR maps were found to closely match the earlier ground survey maps of known sites, but also indicated potential sites that had not been previously identified. Future work on this project will involve ground-truthing the LiDAR results by further visual surveys and GPS mapping. Verifying accuracy of the information at known sites will allow more confidence in using results to plan future projects. Dr. Ford's question of "Magic Wand or Fabulous Tool?" may not yet be answered but results at El Pilar seem to indicate it to be an excellent tool. Field surveys are still required, and



Dr. Anabel Ford and PCAS Programs Co-Chair Joe Hodulik at the January meeting.

the results need the archaeologist for the final interpretation of the data.

Dr. Ford's work on the landscape and archaeology of the El Pilar area resulted in the binational El Pilar Reserve. By understanding the ancient Maya landscape, she hopes to create a sustainable model in agriculture and conservation that will revitalize the Maya forest and protect the archaeology of a major Maya center.

Find us on 

www.facebook.com/pacificcoastarchaeologicalsoc/?ref=aymt_homepage_panel

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. You must be signed up for the current term, September 1, 2016–August 31, 2017. If you didn't sign up after September 1, 2016, please sign up again!

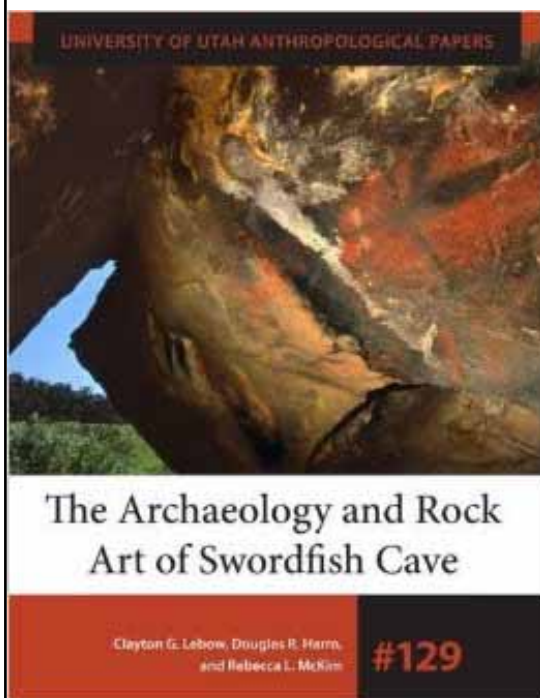
1. Go to www.ralphs.com and create an account or sign in (email and password) to your account.
2. Click on your name at top left of screen.
3. Link your card to PCAS by clicking on "Community Rewards." The PCAS organization number is 90417.
4. Or call 800-443-4438 for assistance.

Scan letters are no longer valid.

February Speaker *(continued from p. 1)*

the necessary measures taken to create the viewing area. Data from the site demonstrate that rock art on the Central Coast is much older than previously thought. Other data provide fascinating and unusual insights into the people that once used the cave and created the rock art.

Clay Lebow (MA) is a Registered Professional Archaeologist with more than 35 years of experience in the western United States, including 20 years along California's Central Coast. He is a Vice President for Applied EarthWorks, Inc., a well-respected cultural resources management consulting firm. He is responsible for operations in the Lompoc office. From that office he has directed more than 170 archaeological investigations on Vandenberg Air Force Base, including a multiyear effort at Swordfish Cave. Mr. Lebow is an editor of *The Archaeology and Rock Art of Swordfish Cave*, (University of Utah Anthropological Papers, 2016) (book cover below).



FEBRUARY CURATION WORKDAY

When: February 11, 2017, 1 pm

Where: Red Car Building

Everyone is welcome. No experience necessary! Please contact **Mark Roeder** (714-299-4150, curator@pcas.org) or **Scott Findlay** (714-342-2534, fieldtrips@pcas.org) for directions and to let us know you will be coming

JANUARY BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

Submitted by Megan Galway

President **Sheri Gust** called the meeting to order on January 14, 12:12 pm, at the Red Car Building. 2016 Board Members present: **Rene Brace, Gail Cochlin, Steve Dwyer, Scott Findlay, Hank Koerper, and Kathleen Shada**. Incoming 2017 Board Members present: **Bob Brace, Megan Galway, and Brian Steffensen**. Member present: **Mark Roeder**.

The November 2016 minutes were approved, and the November Treasurer's report was accepted. The 2016 Financial Statement will be published in the February Newsletter.

Newly elected Board members, Bob Brace, Megan Galway, and Brian Steffensen, were seated on the 2017 PCAS Board. Outgoing members, **Rene Brace, Scott Findlay, and Jane Gothold**, were thanked for their service. The Board unanimously elected **Sheri Gust president; Hank Koerper vice president; Megan Galway secretary; and Bob Brace treasurer**. All committee chairmanships will remain the same. **Gail Cochlin** was named to the new position of Archivist.

The Board discussed the successful Holiday Dinner at the Duck Club. **Megan Galway** will have information about PCAS T-shirts at the next Board meeting.

Joe Hodulik received \$145 in donations for the Scholarship fund! Our next field trip will be to the Needles area, February 3–5. Speakers have been scheduled for the remainder of 2017, except October and November. In September we will welcome back Dr. James Kus, and in December we will have the privilege to hear Dr. Dennis Jenkins speaking on the archaeology of Paisley Cave.

Four boxes of material from CA-Ora-193 was returned by California State University, Sacramento. PCAS Quarterly 52, Number 4, was mailed earlier in January and hand-delivered at the January General Meeting. **Megan Galway** will begin announcing the availability of 2017 PCAS Scholarships. She reported that **Kat Davis**, the 2016 recipient of the Gloria Bogdan Memorial Scholarship and a student at San Diego State, is attending a field school in the Mt. Palomar area and has been accepted for a summer intern program at the San Diego Museum of Man.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:55 pm.

PCAS SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

Applications are now being accepted for our 2017 undergraduate scholarships, the **Myrtle Soderberg Memorial Scholarship** and the **Gloria Bogdan Memorial Scholarship**.

The Myrtle Soderberg Memorial Scholarship is named for a founding member of our society and is fully funded by the Donation/Award table and individual donations by generous members. The Gloria Bogdan Memorial Scholarship, named for a passed Life Member, is generously funded by her husband, Tom. PCAS is dedicated to promoting the discipline of archaeology and encouraging its study wherever possible.

Scholarship applicants must achieve junior or senior status by fall 2017, must live or be attending university in California, and be able to display a proven interest in archaeology. Successful applicants will each receive an award of \$1,000 on enrollment for the fall semester. Complete application guidelines and an application form are available on our website, www.pcas.org/scholarship. Deadline for applications is April 30, 2017.

In addition to our undergraduate scholarship program, we have research and presentation grants available to graduate students. Guidelines for these awards can also be found on our website.

Should you know any qualified students who may not have heard of our program, please direct them to the website. Questions may also be directed to scholarship@pcas.org or by telephone to 714-539-6354.

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Archaeological Society**

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SRI PUBLICATION ANNOUNCEMENT

Statistical Research, Inc. (SRI) has announced the publication of the five-volume series, *People in a Changing Land: The Archaeology and History of the Ballona in Los Angeles, California*.

Volume 1: *Paleoenvironment and Culture History*

Volume 2: *Archaeological Sites and Chronology*

Volume 3: *Material Culture and Subsistence Practices*

Volume 4: *Bioarchaeology and Paleodemography*

Volume 5: *Gabrielino/Tongva Origins and Development: A View from Guaspet*

These volumes are available for download at no cost through the SRI Press at www.sripress.com/playa-vista-technical-series/.

With the publication of these peer-reviewed final reports, the Playa Vista Archaeological and Historical Project (PVAHP), first begun in 1991, is now complete. The fundamental objective of the PVAHP was to understand how humans adapted to a dynamic wetlands environment in southern California over the course of 8,500 years of human occupation and use. To do so, SRI conducted numerous studies involving scores of scholars. Like so many big projects, PVAHP had many twists and turns and more than a few dead ends. Among its many accomplishments are:

1. A detailed reconstruction of the Holocene history of the Ballona wetlands and surrounding region
2. A thorough documentation of the Ballona's archaeological record, including excavation and analysis of more than a dozen sites in the wetlands and surrounding region
3. An extensive study of the ethnohistory of the region, focusing on the rancheria of Guaspet
4. The excavation, study, repatriation, and reburial of 374 burial features associated with the prehistoric and ethnohistoric occupation and use of CALAN-62

One only has to remember the hundreds, perhaps thousands, of people involved in the [Playa Vista Archaeological and Historical] project. Clients, regulators, Native Americans, archaeologists, historians, architects, educators, journalists, politicians, lawyers, and diverse publics all played a part. That the archaeology was fought over so fervently and for so long is perhaps the best measure of how much our work mattered to so many. The five monographs along with the more than 5,000 files of appendices stand as a treasure trove of information for future generations. – Jeff Altschul, Principal, Statistical Research, Inc.

PCAS 2016 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

INCOME

Donations	
Scholarship	\$1,918.00
Other Donations	\$2,009.65
Interest	\$143.38
Member Dues	\$7,043.71
Quarterly Sales	\$3,248.53
Subscriptions	\$2,005.00
Misc Income	\$700.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$17,068.27

EXPENSES

Curation	\$1,448.54
General Administration	\$631.55
Lecture Program	\$1,366.35
Library	\$464.79
Newsletter	\$738.90
Outreach	\$66.42
Quarterly	\$8,658.57
Scholarship	\$3,250.00
Website	\$100.00
PayPal Expenses	\$154.65
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$16,879.77

TOTAL (INCOME - EXPENSES) \$188.50

ASSETS 12/31/15 12/31/16

Checking, CD, PayPal & Money Market Accounts	\$11,378.51	\$13,016.19
Reserve for Curation	\$8,000.00	\$8,000.00
C14 Fund	\$4,406.04	\$4,406.04
Scholarship Fund	\$10,078.19	\$8,746.19
Outreach Fund	\$166.95	\$100.53
Postage Account	\$71.10	\$20.34
TOTAL ASSETS	\$34,100.79	\$34,289.29

LIABILITIES

Paid Subscriptions	\$3,080.00	\$3,368.00
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FEBRUARY FIELD TRIP

When: February 3–5, 2017

Where: Needles area

PCAS members plan to dry camp in the Needles area and visit nearby rock art sites. Needles also has numerous lodging facilities available. Be aware that all participants are required to sign a code of ethics and waiver of liability. For information or to sign up for this field trip, contact Scott Findlay (714-342-2534), Stephen Dwyer (714-969-1911), or fieldtrips@pcas.org.

Photos below: rock art sites in the Needles vicinity.



DIG THIS...



Exhibits

Stepping Out of the Past explores the family tree from *Homo naledi* to Neandertals. Western Science Center, Hemet, continuing. Fee. Information: www.westerncentermuseum.org.

Lectures

A Tale of Two Red Abalone Features, by Dr. Lynn Gamble (UCSB). A Santa Barbara County Archaeological Society lecture, Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, Farrand Hall, February 6, 7:30 pm. Free. Information: www.sbnature.org/education/918.html or tkennedy@sbnature2.org.

Merneptah and the Temple of Ba'al at Ugarit, by Dr. Ellen Morris (Bernard College, Columbia University), an ARCE lecture. Bowers Museum, February 11, 1:30 pm. Fee: \$12; Bowers and ARCE members free. Information: www.bowers.org or 714-567-3677.

Excavation in Cástulo, Spain, by Justin Walsh (Chapman University), a lecture of the AIA, Orange County Chapter. DeNault Auditorium in Grimm Hall, Concordia University, February 12, 2–4 pm. Fee: \$5; students and members free. Information: www.aia-oc.org.

Parsing Anatomy in European Paleolithic Cave Art, by Dr. Roy Larick, a San Diego Rock Art Association lecture. Kumeyaay-Ipai Interpretive Center, Poway, February 12. Potluck 4 pm; presentations 5 pm. Fee: Donation \$5; members free. Information: www.sandiegorockart.org.

A California Indian Story, a one hour film, with producer Albert Chacon. Several Bird Singers will sing and answer questions. Coachella Valley Archaeological Society, Portola Center, 45480 Portola, Palm Desert, February 16, 6:30 pm. Free. Information: www.cvarch.org.

Lectures (continued)

Horses (and hominins) from Hadar: Searching for Fossils in the "Cradle of Humanity," by Eric Scott (paleontologist). Western Science Center, Hemet, February 16, 6 pm. Fee: \$5; members free. Information: www.westerncentermuseum.org.

Photogrammetry, Provenance, and Preservation of Tangible Heritage in the Khangai Mountains, Mongolia, by Nicholas Case. San Diego County Archaeological Society, Los Peñasquitos Ranch House, February 28, 7:30 pm. Free. Information: www.sandiegoarchaeologicalsociety.com.

Classes, Meetings, and Events

The 2017 California Missions Conference will be held at Mission Santa Inés February 17–19. Online registration and information: californiamissionsfoundation.org.

The Art and Science of Flintknapping, by Dr. Jeanne Day Binning and Charles (Chuck) Bouscaren. California State University Desert Studies Center (ZZYZX), February 24–26. Fee includes lodging and meals: \$275.00 or \$325 after February 18 (credit, 2 units). For questions, contact Dr. Billings, 559-301-7707. To enroll (UCR Extension): 800-442-4990 or www.extension.ucr.edu/course/716366/ANTHANTHX4365/TheArtandScienceofFlintknapping.

The 87th Annual Southwestern Anthropological Association Conference will be held at the San Jose Hilton in downtown San Jose, April 28–29. Paper abstracts, posters, etc. due by February 15. Fee: \$80, includes one year membership. Information and registrations: www.swaa-anthro.org

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

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

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.



Clay Lebow at Swordfish Cave.

**Come to the February 9 meeting
to hear about new information
from Swordfish Cave!**

PCAS SPEAKER CALENDAR

March 9, 2017

Dr. Thomas E. Levy

*At-Risk World Heritage and Digital Humanities:
The UC Office of the President Catalyst Grant*

April 13, 2017

Stephen O'Neil

*The 1778 Acjachemen Revolt at Mission San Juan
Capistrano*

May 11, 2017

Martin Jespersen and George Kline

June 8, 2017

Nathan Acebo

2017 PCAS BOARD MEMBERS AND COMMITTEE CONTACTS

<u>Office</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Email</u>	<u>Phone</u>
*President	Sherri Gust	president@pcas.org	714-539-6354
*Vice-President	Hank Koerper	vicepresident@pcas.org	714-342-2534
*Secretary	Megan Galway	secretary@pcas.org	714-348-9179
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Scholarship	Megan Galway	scholarship@pcas.org	714-539-6354
Website	Rene Brace	info@pcas.org	714-544-6282

*PCAS Board Member

PACIFIC COAST ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

2017 Calendar Year Membership and Subscription Form

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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
- Student Associate - \$10 (email Newsletter only)

Scholarship Fund

- Donation \$ _____

Return form with payment to:

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

www.pcas.org