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PCAS Newsletter

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January PCAS Speaker

Joyce Stanfield Perry

Where We Bow Our Heads

In-Person and Zoom Meeting

January 12, 7:30 pm. See p. 4.

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

The Acjachemen/Juaneño are the indigenous people of Orange County. Interconnectedness to place and to land is an essential part of the Acjachemen world view. The legacy of colonialism and development has led to the destruction of many of our ancient villages and sacred sites. I will share a personal perspective, as an Acjachemen woman, through reflections of my experiences on the site of the ancient



village at Bolsa Chica. I will share what I learned as I observed the land being forever altered at the expense of this sacred site.



**Bolsa Chica
coggled stone.**

Joyce Stanfield Perry is of Acjachemen, Luiseño, and Kumeyaay descent. Joyce is a mother, a Tutu, a wife, and an auntie. Her work in her community spans over 30 years. She is an Acjachemen tribal scholar, founder and President of Payomkawichum Kaamalam, an American Indian nonprofit organization founded in 2000, Founder and Executive Director of the Acjachemen Tongva Land Conservancy, Cultural Resource Director for the Juaneño Band of Mission Indians, Acjachemen Nation—Belardes, and former Board Member of the Blas Aguilar Adobe Museum/Acjachemen Cultural Center.

As an American Indian consultant for archaeological projects, Ms. Perry has negotiated with landowners for repatriation and reburial of ancestors and their belongings. She has been instrumental in developing and educating Native and non-Native personnel in forming policies for cultural and historical preservation. She was a member of the Laguna Canyon Foundation Interpretive Exhibit Design Team for the James and Rosemary Nix Nature Center, member of the Putidum Park Project, Portola Springs Community Center Acjachemen Room Project, and has been active in the Acjachemen Language Revitalization Movement.

Happy New Year!

**Renew your PCAS membership
online: www.pcas.org/membs.**

December Speaker Notes

A Surprise Encounter with 37,000-Year-Old Mammoths in My Backyard

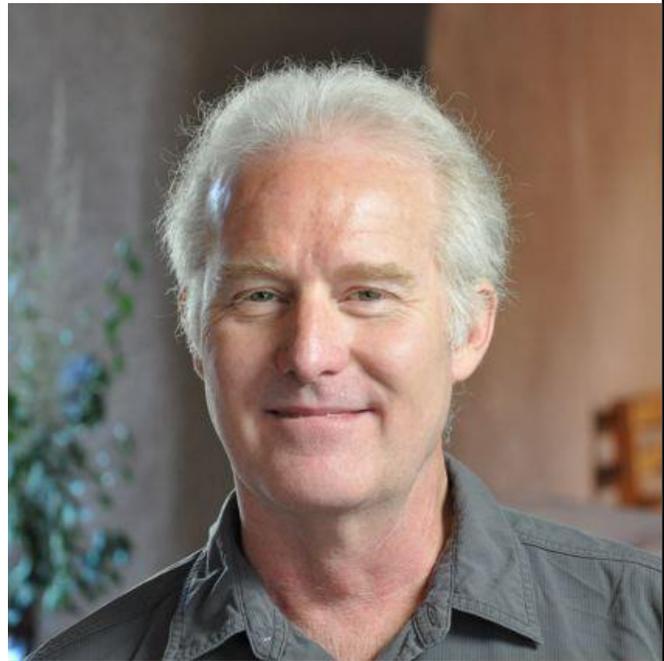
By Megan Galway

In the 1980s, Dr. Timothy Rowe visited the Triassic dinosaur site at Ghost Ranch near Abiquiu, New Mexico. Later when he was at the University of Texas, he revisited the area searching for fossils that could be used in teaching and to increase the university's comparative collection. He later bought a vacation home overlooking the Abiquiu Reservoir. In 2013 he was contacted by a neighbor who said he had been out hiking and discovered what looked like dinosaur bones, and perhaps Dr. Rowe would care to excavate them. When asked about the exact location and the need for landowner permissions, Dr. Rowe discovered the site was on his own property.

The bones were determined to be those of a young mammoth female and calf, and there were indications of cultural modification. Studies have shown that butchering of megafauna concentrates on areas of the animal which provide the most nutrition. Lipids, found in the brain and eyeballs, are obtained by severing the skull above the tusks, and this was noted in Dr. Rowe's find. Other bones, such as the ribs, were broken by blunt force, generally done to access the marrow. Lithic scatters, primarily debitage with some points or blades, were noted. One lithic was suggestive of a heavily reworked Clovis point.

Once it was determined that the site met many of the criteria for a butchering site, Dr. Rowe asked a team of graduate students from the University of New Mexico, assisted by a grant from the National Science Foundation, to properly investigate the find. The site was excavated in 1 m units, further divided into quarters, and at 5 cm levels. Artifacts were recorded with a total station before removal, and all matrix was dry screened using 1/8 and 1/4 inch screens. Small bone flakes were noted throughout the matrix indicative of being created by high-velocity impact fracturing. Dr. Rowe noted that it was later found that not all diagnostic material was captured in the original screens, so he wet screened some samples through 1/2 cm mesh and captured more material. Along with the bones and bone flakes, the team also recovered fish scales and small rodent bones and teeth, many of which appeared to have been burned. The site was a considerable distance above the river suggesting fish had been caught and carried up to the site.

Although the evidence strongly suggested a butchering site, there was a limited amount of lithic material, and most of that was on the surface and not directly associated with the bones. A sample of bone was sent for radiocarbon dating and returned a date of 32,000



PCAS December speaker, Dr. Timothy Rowe.

years BP, considered too old to be related to human activity, but the site still had all the hallmarks of a butchering site. At the start of the second season, the students considered other causes for the bone damage. By reviewing earlier studies of bone damage from natural causes and carnivore predation, anything but human interaction was ruled out. The methods of bone breakage and the way the bones were stacked with the face placed on top were consistent with other butchering sites. A number of large cobbles and six chert flakes were found with the bones, but the chert flakes may have been part of the surface scatter and introduced by bioturbation. Environmental causes such as soil movement or water flow were suggested but ruled out. The rib bones had been separated from the vertebrae and the ends broken. Many of the bones also had small holes drilled in them, possibly to boil out the lipids they contain. Bones were flaked and broken, and the fractures were found to have carbonate deposits indicating long burial and not excavation damage.

And so the debate continues. Does the original population of the Americas date back 13,000 years (Clovis), 15,000 years (the Pacific coast), 21,000 years (White Sands), or 37,000 years (Abiquiu)? Remember when Monte Verde was considered nonsense?



DIG THIS ...



Lectures

Past *Pacific Coast Archaeological Society* lectures are available on our YouTube channel: www.youtube.com/@pcas-acificc Coast archaeolo9403.

The social organization of southern California nations at the time of European contact, by Dr. Chester King. A Zoom lecture of the Ventura County Archaeological Society, January 10, 7 pm. Information and link to required registration: www.venturacountyarchaeologicalsociety.com.

Managing Cultural Resources at the Mojave National Preserve, by David Nichols (Archeologist, Mojave National Preserve). An Old Schoolhouse Lecture, 6760 National Park Dr, Twentynine Palms, January 13, 7 pm. Fee: \$5. Information: 760-819-4714 or desertinstitute@joshuatree.org.

Rethinking the Specificity of Ancient Egyptian Artistic Production from a Global Art History Perspective, by Dr. Alis e Devillers (Postdoctoral Fellow, UCLA). An ARCE/Bowers Museum onsite lecture, January 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.

History and Research at Writing-on-Stone/Aisina'i'pi, by Jack W. Brink (Curator, Royal Alberta Museum). An online American Rock Art Research Association (ARARA) lecture, January 14. Free. Information and registration: arara.wildapricot.org/Lectures. Past ARARA lectures available at www.youtube.com/channel/UCPCI2NQ3RN3J5TiICuxF3cA.

A Spatial Analysis of CA-SDI-4638, the Bancroft Ranch House Site: Or How to Force Your Existing Data into the Scientific Method Whether They Like It or Not, by Dr. Amy Jordan. A San Diego County Archaeological Society lecture, Rancho Peñasquitos Adobe, January 24, 7:30 pm. Free. Information: <https://sdcas.org>.

On the Trail of the Angry God: John P. Harrington's 1925 Travels Through Eastern San Diego County and the Imperial Valley, Richard Carrico

Lectures (continued)

(historian and archaeologist). A Desert Series Lecture of the Anza-Borrego Desert Natural History Association, Borrego Performing Arts Center, January 27, 7:30 pm. Fee: \$10, members free. Information: www.abdnha.org/anza-borrego-desert-lecture-series.htm.

Block 112: The Untold Story of San Diego's Working Class in the 1880s, by Cindy Stankowski. A San Diego Archaeological Center Zoom lecture, February 1, 6:30 pm. Pay what you wish. Information and registration: sandiegoarchaeology.org/living-room-lecture-block-112.

Classes, Meetings, and Events

The 2023 Society for California Archaeology Annual Meeting will be held March 16–19 at the Oakland Marriott City Center. Conference preregistration deadline is February 16. Information: scahome.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.

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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, January 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

February 9, 2023

Dr. Vance T. Holliday

Clovis Archaeology Across the Greater Southwest

March 9, 2023

Dr. Edward J. Knell

April 13, 2023

Dr. James Snead

Relic Hunters: Archaeology and the Public in 19th Century America

May 11, 2023 TBA

June 8, 2023

Dr. Nathan Nakatsuka

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

2022 PCAS Board Members and Committee Contacts

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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 \$ _____

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www.pcas.org/membrs.html

Or return with payment to:

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