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PCAS NEWSLETTER

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MARCH PCAS SPEAKER

Steven J. Schwartz

Sifting Fact from Fiction:

The Lone Woman of San Nicolas Island

Mr. Schwartz's talk will summarize the true story of the Lone Woman of San Nicolas Island and will present the latest archival and archaeological findings. Much new information has come to light in the last few years. Recently discovered Russian documents add to our understanding of the circumstances of the Lone Woman's abandonment, the tragic beginning of the story. New archaeological findings are adding details about her isolated life on the island—where she lived and how she survived. Historical research adds to our understanding of her life in Santa Barbara, the tragic end of the story. *(Continued on p. 3)*



One of two redwood boxes found on San Nicolas Island. Box being excavated in lab.

DINNER WITH THE SPEAKER

Please join this month's speaker, Steven Schwartz, and PCAS members for dinner before the March 14th General Meeting. We will meet at 6 pm at Mimi's Café, 4030 Barranca Parkway, Irvine.

PCAS MEETINGS CALENDAR

GENERAL MEETING

Free and Open to the Public

March 14 - 7:30 pm

Speaker: Steven J. Schwartz

Topic: *Sifting Fact from Fiction: The Lone Woman of San Nicolas Island*

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

March 21 - 7:00 pm

Location: Old Orange County Courthouse
PCAS Library, Ground Floor
211 W. Santa Ana Blvd., Santa Ana

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**Have you renewed your membership?
Use the membership form in this Newsletter.**

FEBRUARY SPEAKER NOTES

Olmec and the Origins of Mesoamerican Civilization: Evidence from Ceramic Compositional Analysis

Submitted by Rene Brace

Dr. Hector Neff (CSULB) presented his research in support of the Olmec “mother culture” narrative, one of two contrasting summaries of Early Formative Mesoamerican civilization. The “mother culture” concept holds that the Gulf lowland Olmec introduced deities and incipient theocracy and dominated a large peasant population. The opposing “sister culture” model maintains that Early Formative Mesoamerica was made up of roughly equivalent “sister cultures,” and through adaptive autonomy and competition, small chiefdoms evolved making use of technology and sociopolitical strategies available to all areas of Middle America.

The Olmec were known for huge investments in architecture, monuments, and public works, including the Olmec colossal heads from the San Lorenzo horizon. San Lorenzo surpassed all contemporary settlements in scale of construction. The San Lorenzo horizon produced ceramic art with Olmec motifs that appeared throughout Mesoamerica. Additionally, these motifs appeared on jade and other stone during the Middle Preclassic (the La Venta horizon). The Olmec jaguar may have been the prototype for later Mesoamerican rain gods.

Dr. Neff holds that San Lorenzo exported material goods, particularly ceramics, to other areas of Middle America along with its concept of government. To provide evidence for his theory, he used instrumental neutron activation analysis (INAA) on over 1000 ceramic samples and 623 raw material samples from San Lorenzo and contemporary Middle American sites. Dr. Neff concluded that San Lorenzo was a major exporter of both white



PCAS Program Chair Joe Hodulik with February speaker, Dr. Hector Neff.

and gray pottery; gray pottery was often decorated with Olmec iconography. No movement of pottery in the opposite direction was detected, thus concluding that no pottery was imported to San Lorenzo.

Supporters of the “sister culture” model, Kent V. Flannery et al. (2005) and Stoltman et al (2005), took exception to Dr. Neff’s analysis, claiming that INAA has inherent problems and re-analysis of data shows that ceramic movement was multidirectional. Yet, only approximately 20 sherds were analyzed petrographically (with no raw material samples). Additional petrographic study of San Lorenzo pottery has determined that San Lorenzo pottery has diverse tempers, not exclusively calcareous sand as claimed by “sister culture” proponents.

Dr. Neff’s INAA studies of Olmec ceramics was conducted at the Missouri University Research Reactor.(MURR). Presently, he is a Professor of Anthropology at CSULB and a principal researcher at the Institute for Integrated Research in Materials, Environments, and Society (IIRMES) at CSULB.

MARCH FIELD TRIP

When: March 23–25, 2013

Where: Anza-Borrego Desert State Park

PCAS members will dry camp within the park and visit archaeological and rock art sites. Please be aware you will be required to sign a code of ethics and waiver of liability. Contact **Scott Findlay** for more information: fieldtrips@pcas.org or 714-342-2534.

MARCH CURATION WORKDAY

When: March 16, 2013, 1 pm

Where: Red Car Building

Everyone is welcome. 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.

FEBRUARY BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

President **Megan Galway** called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm at the Old County Courthouse in Santa Ana, California. Board members present: **Bob Brace, Linda Christison, Gail Cochlin, Joe Hodulik, Hank Koerper,** and **Brian Steffensen.** Members present: **Scott Findlay** and **Rene Brace.**

The Board approved the minutes of the January 2013 meeting. The Treasurer's report was approved.

Old Business:

Members representing PCAS at the SCA meeting in Berkeley will be **Bob and Rene Brace, Megan Galway,** and **Hank Koerper.** Our current meeting room is reserved through December. **Galway** and **Brian Steffensen** will meet at the banks to change signatures of record.

New Business:

Jeannine Pedersen of the Cooper Center has invited PCAS to again participate in Prehistoric OC, sponsored by OC Parks, the Cooper Center, and CSUF. The Board agreed that PCAS will participate in the October 12 event to be held at Ralph B. Clark Regional Park in Fullerton.

The Board awarded presentation grants to **Jennie Allen** (CSULA), presenting a paper at the SCA meeting on the Redwood Box Cache from San Nicolas Island, and **Megan Wilson** (CSUF), presenting a poster at the SCA meeting on settlement patterns along Aliso Creek. **Scott Findlay** will coordinate our annual May outreach event at Garfield Elementary School. An anonymous donor gave \$100 to the scholarship fund and \$100 to publications. The Board agreed on a SCA meeting promotion price of \$50 for preorder of the *PCAS Quarterly* California ceramic issues (three double issues).

Committee Reports:

The next curation workday will be March 16. **Joe Hodulik's** Award-Donation table raised \$115 at the February meeting for the scholarship fund! Field Trip Chair **Findlay** will try to schedule an April field trip to the Motte Rimrock Preserve. A field trip to the Anza-Borrego Desert State Park is planned for March 23-25. **Hodulik** reported that speakers have been booked through January 2014.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:57 pm.

THANK YOU, SCOTT FINDLAY!



At the February meeting PCAS Vice President Joe Hodulik presented Past President Scott Findlay with a sweatshirt adorned with the PCAS logo. Thank you, Scott, for all your service to PCAS! The warm sweatshirt will be very useful on future field trips.

March Speaker *(Continued from p. 1)*

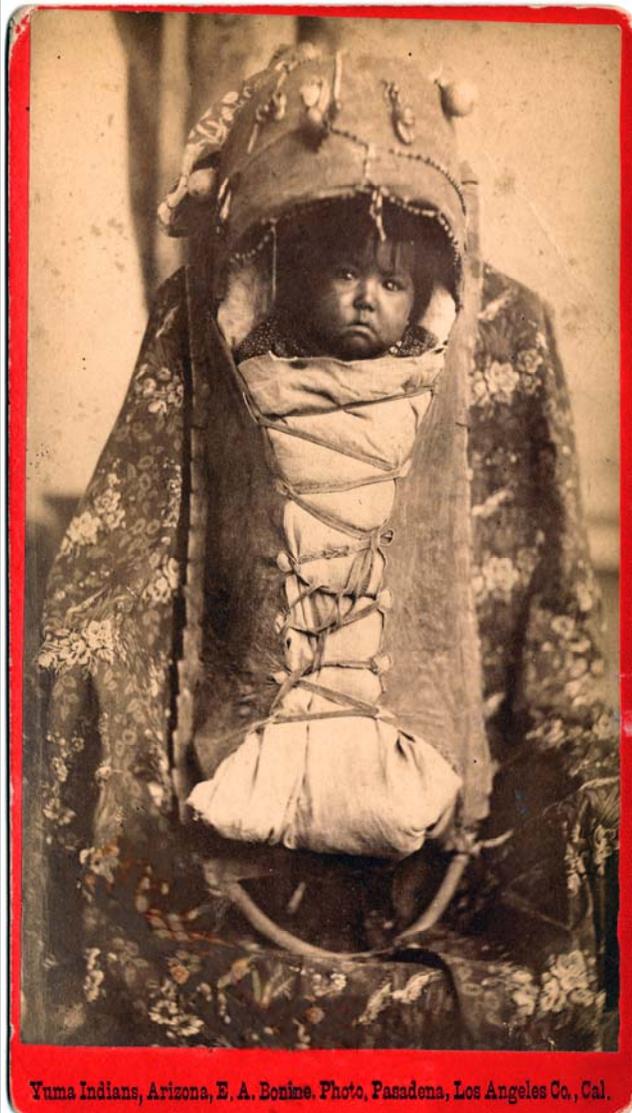
Mr. Schwartz is one of the leading experts on the story and has many insights from his years of experience on the island. He has served as the Navy's senior archaeologist on San Nicolas for almost 25 years, and because of this position, he has become a leading expert on the Lone Woman story. Prior to his present position, he worked for nine years at the US Army Corps of Engineers office in Los Angeles, overseeing archaeological and historical projects throughout the Southwest. In 1989 he moved to the Navy base at Point Mugu and quickly established an archaeology program for San Nicolas Island, developing a strong working relationship with California State University, Los Angeles, and other universities. During his time with the Navy, Mr. Schwartz supervised the complete survey of all archaeological sites on the island, the preparation of various background studies, and excavated at numerous sites. He also has a keen interest in the history of the island and has overseen studies of the various historic themes from sheep ranching to the Cold War. His other interests include rock art research. He has conducted extensive surveys of rock art sites at the Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake and has worked a number of smaller projects throughout the Desert West. His most exotic endeavor was in Australia where he worked with an aboriginal elder to record the stories that accompany the rock art in the Wardaman lands.

“Yuma” Child in Cradleboard, ca. 1920s

Henry C. Koerper and Joe Cramer

An article in the January *PCAS Newsletter* pictured and discussed a carte de visite (ca. 1860s) featuring an elderly northern California Indian (Koerper and Cramer 2013). Encouraged by positive responses to that short piece, the authors considered additional photographic images for possible publication.

Here, we share with readers a circa 1920s carte de visite from the senior author’s personal collection of images of Native persons. The sepia photo seen in Figure 1 was selected mainly because the child’s cherubic face was immediately reminiscent of oil portraits of Native California youngsters painted by Grace Carpenter Hudson, a celebrated artist (see Boynton 1978) who used her talents to advocate for the fair and decent treatment of those tribal peoples marginalized, maligned, exploited, and sometimes brutalized by Euro-Americans, particularly those arriving



Yuma Indians, Arizona, E. A. Bonine. Photo, Pasadena, Los Angeles Co., Cal.

Figure 1. Carte de visite measures 118 mm x 185mm.

with the Gold Rush to California.¹ Also drawing the authors’ attentions were the unusual number and variety of objects attached to the hood of the covered cradleboard.

Clothed in a patterned shirt or dress, wrapped in a blanket, and further held down by an open cut buckskin wrap, its two sides cinched up by a crisscrossing leather thong, the secured infant child seems either somewhat bewildered or somewhat inquisitive, possibly in response to the photographer and/or to his strange equipment. The cradleboard frame conforms to the “Paper Clip” style, this term referring to the bending of a tree limb into an arc at both the top and the base of the carrier (see Farmer 2013:17), the upper loop more broadly arced than the lower loop. The dome served as a face protector and as a sun shade. Face protectors functioned “primarily to protect the baby’s face in the event the cradle tips over, in which case the face protector causes the cradle to roll over, with the baby facing up and no dirt in its face” (Farmer 2013:xi).

Infant and cradle are posed upon a chair, its upholstery a veritable celebration of flora. The more interesting botany, however, is displayed on the rounded cradle dome where one sees two small pear-shaped gourds, one at the upper right and the other at the lower left. Did they contain dried seeds or small stones and serve as rattles? Above the lower positioned gourd there is what Chapman University professor Paul Apodaca pointed out as a ceramic Mohave doll, albeit upside down. It appears to wear a wig. The doll’s body shows a floral pattern, perhaps painted onto the clay, or perhaps the design is on cloth material wrapping the body.

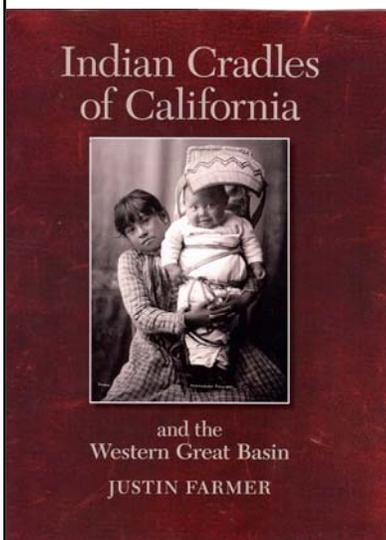
Alternating dark and light colored glass beads course across the lower third of the dome. The beads were possibly all on a single strand. Several additional indeterminate objects are attached above the rows of beads. Which, if any, of these objects were charms for the child’s safe being? Could most or all have served merely to decorate?

The carte de visite carries the caption “Yuma Indians.” The Yuma, or Quechan (see Bee 1983), like the very similar Mohave (see Stewart 1978) just to their north, reside in the valley of the Lower Colorado River. Perhaps E. A. Bonine used “Yuma” in a generic way, and if so, it is very possible that the child was the offspring of Mohave parents. Incidentally, both ethnic groups produced anthropomorphic clay figurines, adorning them with human or horse hair wigs, and in later times often dressing them in modern rather than traditional garb.

Justin Farmer, an expert on cradleboards, advised the senior author that the “Yuma” cradleboard’s face protector has an Apache look to it and that a band of Apaches did reside in the Mariposa region just east of Yuma. He also proposed that the hood had been constructed of a series of horizontal willow sticks or arrowweed sticks.

Should the reader desire more information on cradleboards, consult Justin Farmer’s just released *Indian Cradles of California and the Western Great Basin* (see Figure 2). Within its 214 pages are 139 full color photographs of cradleboards from 29 California and Northern Paiute tribes. Seventy-six tables list details derived from observations of some 600 examples. The book can be ordered from: The Justin Farmer Foundation, 1954 Evergreen

Avenue, Fullerton, CA 92835 (phone 714-256-1260). The cost of \$35.65 includes shipping and handling.



Front cover of dust jacket of Justin Farmer's latest book.

PCAS Quarterly Update

Ceramic Traditions of California

Three *PCAS Quarterly* double issues, 47(1&2), 47(3&4), and 48(1&2) will be published in late March or April. **Brian Dervin Dillon** and **Matthew A. Bost** are the guest editors of these issues which will include 20 contributions by 26 authors about ceramic use in Native California. Archaeological, ethnohistoric, ethnographic and ethnoarchaeological research highlights one of California's most overlooked Native technologies. These papers are about unusual ceramic artifacts, figurines, and pottery from the Oregon state line into Baja California and from the Pacific littoral to the eastern California deserts. Ceramic traditions as old as the Early Archaic and as recent as the ethnographic present are evaluated.

End Note

1. Among the Native California related holdings of the Grace Hudson Museum, City of Ukiah, there are a number of the artist's paintings, some of which are of young Indian children held in cradleboards. Sadly, a significant portion of her canvases were lost during the San Francisco earthquake and fire of 1906. Her husband, John W. Hudson, M.D., is known especially for his notes on Gabrielino culture recorded during fieldwork at Tejon (see Vane and Bean 1990:108).

Bee, Robert L.

1983 Quechan. In *Southwest*, edited by Alfonso Ortiz, pp. 86–98. Handbook of North American Indians, Vol. 10, William C. Sturtevant, general editor, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.

Boynton, Searles R.

1978 *The Painter Lady, Grace Carpenter Hudson*. Interface California Corporation, Eureka, California.

Farmer, Justin

2013 *Indian Cradles of California and the Western Great Basin*. The Justin Farmer Foundation. Fullerton, California.

Koerper, Henry C., and Joe Cramer

2013 A Rare Carte de Visite Picturing a Native Californian at Marysville. *PCAS Newsletter* 52(2):4–5.

Stewart, Kenneth M.

1978 Mohave. In *Southwest*, edited by Alfonso Ortiz, pp. 55–70. Handbook of the North American Indians, Vol. 10, William C. Sturtevant, general editor, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.

Vane, Sylvia Brakke, and Lowell John Bean

1990 *California Indians: Primary Resources, A Guide to Manuscripts, Artifacts, Documents, Serials, Music and Illustrations*. Revised ed. Ballena Press Anthropological Papers No. 36. Menlo Park, California.



Western Mono woman making pottery. Photograph by Thomas T. Waterman, courtesy UC Berkeley, Hearst Museum of Anthropology.



Outdoor portrait of Mariquita Cuero (Quatsch), Campo Band of Kumeyaay, sitting with a group of ollas that she made. She wears cotton clothing including a skirt, a shirt, and a bandana. Photograph by Edward H. Davis, 1918, courtesy of the National Museum of the American Indian, Smithsonian Institution.

DIG THIS...



Exhibits

Lucy's Legacy: The Hidden Treasure of Ethiopia. Bowers Museum, will close April 28. Fee: \$10–\$15 (children under 12 free). Information: www.bowers.org or 714-567-3677.

Lectures

Insights from the Holy Land: Cyber Archaeology and World Cultural Heritage, by Dr. Thomas E. Levy (UCSD), presented by the AIA, Orange County Society. DeNault Auditorium in Grimm Hall, Concordia University, March 3, 2 pm. Fee: \$5; members and students, free. Information: <http://aia-oc.org>.

Seafaring, Spear Points, and the Peopling of the New World: Perspectives from the California Coast, by Dr. Todd Braje (SDSU). San Diego Archaeological Center, March 9, 11 am–1 pm. Fee with museum admission. Information: www.sandiegoarchaeology.org.

Forgotten Fortress: Returning to Lower Nubia, by Dr. Laurel Bestock (Brown University). An ARCE lecture, Bowers Museum, March 9, 1:30 pm. Free. Information: www.bowers.org or 714-567-3677.

Charles Fletcher Lummis: Crusader in Corduroy, Founder Emeritus Southwest Museum, by Kim Walters. Southwest Museum of the American Indian, March 9, 2 pm. Reservations recommended: 323-495-4326 or memberinfo@theautry.org. Information: <http://theautry.org>.

Closer than We Know: Comparing the Rock Art of Australia and Western North America, by David Lee, a Coachella Valley Archaeological Society lecture. Portola Community Center, 45-480 Portola Ave, Palm Desert, March 21, 6:30 pm. Free. Information: www.cvarch.org.

Cary Ranch (La Puerta) History, by Reena Deutsch. Anza-Borrego Desert Natural History Association, 652 Palm Canyon Dr, Borrego Springs, April 5, 7 pm. Fee: \$8–\$12. Information and registration: www.abdnha.org. (See Cary Ranch field trip)

Classes, Meetings, and Events

Traditional Cahuilla Basketmaking Workshop, by Rose Ann Hamilton (Mountain Cahuilla), an Agua Caliente Cultural Museum Living Traditions Program. Agua Caliente Museum, March 23, 10 am. Fee: \$25. Advance registration required: 760-833-8167. Information: www.accmuseum.org.

Archaeology Weekend 2013, sponsored by the Colorado Desert Archaeology Society, California State Parks, and the Anza Borrego Foundation. Activities will include lectures, displays, Native American craft demonstrations/sales, field trips, tours of the Begole Archaeological Research Center. Anza-Borrego Desert State Park Visitor Center, April 6–7. Information: theabf.org.

Historic Cary Ranch (La Puerta) Field Trip, by Reena Deutsch and Dick Cary, will view three epochs of regional history at the ranch—a Mountain Cahuilla Indian village, Juan Bautista de Anza's expedition route, and the homesteading/ranching period. Anza-Borrego Desert Natural History Association, April 6, 8/9:15 am–4 pm. Fee: \$23–\$27. Information and registration: www.abdnha.org. (See Cary Ranch lecture)

Malki Museum's Agave Harvest will be April 6, 10 am, meeting at the Cahuilla Tewanet Overlook on the Palms to Pines Highway (Hwy 74); donation \$10; reservations recommended: 951-849-7289. ***The Agave Roast*** will be held on April 13, 11 am, at the Malki Museum; free admission, donation \$10 for food. Information: www.malkimuseum.org.

Maturango Museum is offering spring Coso petroglyph tours. Fee: \$40; members \$30. Information and reservations forms: www.maturango.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 non-profit 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.



Excavation on San Nicolas Island.

Come to the March 14th meeting and learn about the Lone Woman of San Nicholas Island. Steven Schwartz will present the latest information from recent excavations and archival research.

PCAS SPEAKER CALENDAR

April 11, 2013

George Crawford

Eighty Years of Paleoindian Research on the Southern Plains: A View from the Clovis Site.

May 9, 2013

Dr. Edward J. Knell

The John D. Cooper Center for Archaeology & Paleontology: The History of Life in Southern California

June 13, 2013

Celso D. Jaquez

The Murals of San Bartolo: Olmec Presence in the Preclassic Maya World

2013 PCAS BOARD MEMBERS AND COMMITTEE CONTACTS

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Website	Rene Brace	info@pcas.org	714-544-6282

*Denotes PCAS Board Member

PACIFIC COAST ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

2013 Calendar Year Membership and Subscription Form

Name(s): _____

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City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Yes, I would like to receive my Newsletter by email. Please be sure email above is legible.

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* - \$37
- Newsletter* - \$18
- Student Associate - \$10 (email Newsletter only)

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Donation \$ _____

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PO Box 10926
Costa Mesa, CA 92627-0926**

www.pcas.org