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# PCAS NEWSLETTER

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PACIFIC COAST ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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## MAY PCAS SPEAKERS

Martín R. Jespersen  
George Kline

### Comparing Two Rock Art Sites in the Palen-McCoy Wilderness

The Palen-McCoy Wilderness Area contains two prehistoric sites that are within 180 m of each other. This presentation will focus on comparing and contrasting the petroglyph elements found at the sites CA-RIV-12421 and CA-RIV-980. Elements, style, and superimposition will be considered. The discussion will also focus on the presence and quantity of bighorn sheep, digitate anthropomorphs, scratches, and how they differ from other well-known sites in this region. *(Continued on p. 3)*



Two Palen Tank (CA-RIV-12421) digitate anthropomorphs found just before the tenaja.

## PCAS MEETINGS CALENDAR

### GENERAL MEETING

*Free and Open To the Public*

May 11 - 7:30 pm

**Speakers:** Martín R. Jespersen and George Kline

**Topic:** *Comparing Two Rock Art Sites in the Palen-McCoy Wilderness*

**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*

May 13 - 12 noon

**Location:** PCAS Curation Facility  
Contact Scott Findlay for directions:  
714-342-2534 or [fieldtrips@pcas.org](mailto:fieldtrips@pcas.org).

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

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## DINNER WITH THE SPEAKER

Please join this month's speakers, Martín Jespersen and George Kline, for dinner before the May 11 meeting at 6 pm, Mimi's Café, 4030 Barranca Parkway, Irvine.

## CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

See p. 4 in this Newsletter

## APRIL SPEAKER NOTES

### **The Chiefs Saw What Was Happening: A Planned Acjachemen Uprising Against Mission San Juan Capistrano, AD 1778**

**By Megan Galway**

Stephen O'Neil presented an analysis of a Mission period document from Orange County casting a new light on local history. Anthropologists had previously believed the Acjachemen people accepted the Franciscan missionaries from the beginning, and Fr. Junipero Serra recorded being welcomed by them. A greater number of baptisms were recorded at San Juan Capistrano than at surrounding missions. The Spanish army, however, was aware of certain threats due to previous attacks on the military based at California missions

In 2002 Dr. Chester King, during an archive search at the Bancroft Library, discovered a document relating to Mission San Juan de Capistrano. He hand copied it, and it was translated by Dr. John Johnson of the Santa Barbara Natural History Museum. The translation was made available to Mr. O'Neil for use in his master's thesis. The document was a 1778 report by Lt. de Ortega and Sgt. Mariano Carrillo describing the suppression of a planned attack by Acjachemen warriors. The report named four Acjachemen villages: Toban (Tobane), Chacapama (Chakapa), Junga (Huhunga), and Amougen (Amaugenga). The locations of three of these have been identified.

The first indication of a possible revolt came from a neophyte cook at the mission who reported the Franciscan priests were believed to be demons and had caused crops to fail. The Acjachemen had been offended when a woman promised to be the wife of a chief's son was married to a neophyte servant named Leonardo, and they wanted revenge for the death of Indians in a battle at San Mateo. Warriors were seen to be moving north toward the mission from the coast and the mountains.

On February 27, 1778, the attack was believed to be imminent, and on February 28th Cpl. Guillermo Carrillo sent a messenger to the San Diego Presidio asking for help. The pastor of the mission, R. Pablo Mugartegui, sent a confirming letter with the same messenger. Reinforcements led by Sgt. Mariano Carrillo arrived from San Diego on March 2nd and captured the ringleaders.



**PCAS Programs Co-Chair Brian Steffensen and Stephen O'Neil at the April meeting.**

After a report of their interrogation on March 3rd, there is no further record.

Mr. O'Neil further explained the events of 1778 from the Indian point of view. Local clans were traditionally independent but members intermarried, and a clan shared resources with neighboring clans by way of ceremonial exchanges. Offensive and defensive warfare occurred if needed by both physical and magical means.

A severe drought began in the region in 1776 coinciding with the arrival of the missionaries and was still in effect in 1778. Grass and other seeds are believed to have made up about 25 percent of local diets at the time, and crop failure due to the drought was seen as a shamanic attack by the missionaries. The son of a local chief was likely already married to Sucucainem/Maria Magdalena, and Native marriages were generally recognized by the Spanish, so it was unusual for the young woman to be baptized and two days later married to the Baja neophyte Leonardo. The incident in San Mateo occurred in June 1777 when Cpl. Carrillo and five men were said to have been sent to "chastise" a village. Unrest in the village is reported to have been caused by the actions of two soldiers and a chief who were procuring Indian women for the military. Three Indians were killed and several wounded. The Native uprising against the mission would have employed magic against the missionaries and physical warfare against the soldiers.

Franciscan missionary Gerónimo Boscana first recorded the ethnography of the Acjachemen people in *Chinigchinich* in 1823. By comparing the original Spanish report

*Continued on p. 4*

## May Speakers *(continued from p. 1)*

Martín R. Jespersen attended CSU Fullerton and National University and earned his MA in Cross-Cultural Education. He currently works in the Santa Ana Unified School District, where he is a language and culture instructor. He volunteers with the California Archaeological Site Stewardship Program (CASSP) to support the preservation of archeological sites and creates and updates site records for various regions, including Palm Springs, Barstow, El Centro, and Needles, and works with the US Forest Service and California State Parks. Mr. Jespersen and his wife, Mary, have been mentored by George Kline and Daniel McCarthy. They have located and documented many sites in the Barstow Bureau of Land Management (BLM) region. They have worked closely with George Kline, Palm Springs BLM, on multiple projects, including the documentation of the new Palen Tank site, CA-RIV-12421; updating the CA-RIV-980 site records, originally documented by Daniel McCarthy; and documenting the new Dos Palmas site in the Coachella Valley. The Jespersens worked closely with Daniel McCarthy on the Coyote Hole project. Future studies, scheduled for spring 2017, will concentrate on the Native American trail system in the Palen-McCoy Wilderness.

George Kline earned his MA in Anthropology with a focus on archaeology in 2008. He currently is an archaeologist for the BLM at the Palm Springs, South Coast Field Office, where he manages the archaeology for 1.4 million acres of public land in five counties. He is also actively involved with site protection and preservation, working with CASSP volunteers.



**Geometrical panel on two faces of boulder at CA-RIV-980.**

## APRIL BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

President **Sherri Gust** called the April 15 meeting to order at 12:10 pm at the Red Car Building, Santa Ana. PCAS Board Members present: **Bob Brace, Steve Dwyer, Megan Galway, Joe Hodulik** (via speaker phone), **Hank Koerper, Kathleen Shada,** and **Brian Steffensen**. PCAS members present: **Rene Brace** and **Scott Findlay**.

The March minutes were approved, and the Treasurer's report was approved with expenditures.

**Megan Galway** presented the PCAS T-shirts that she had ordered. The Board agreed to set the price at \$10 for short-sleeved and \$12 for long-sleeved. T-shirts will be available at the May General Meeting for purchase.

**Hank Koerper** reported that the next *Quarterly* will be a double issue with an extensive paper on the "Desert Serrano of the Mojave River" by **Mark Sutton** and **David Earle**. He plans to actively seek guest editors for future *Quarterly* issues.

A very large attendance was noted for the April meeting. **Stephen O'Neil's** presentation on the 1778 uprising of the Acjachemen at Mission San Juan Capistrano was of great interest to the Acjachemen community.

**Joe Hodulik** received \$205 in donations for the Scholarship fund in April! The next field trip will be by April 21–24 to the Eagle Mountain area west of Desert Center. The group plans to visit petroglyph sites. **Domingo Belardes** has invited PCAS to the Blas Aguilar Adobe to see the completed renovations. A field trip will be planned for July to San Juan Capistrano, including the Blas Aguilar Adobe. In the past many PCAS members have enjoyed the annual field trip to San Juan Capistrano and its accessibility by Metrolink.

Membership Chair **Megan Galway** reported that in addition to late renewals several new memberships have been received. Scholarship applications are due by April 30; only one application has been received to date. Applications will be reviewed and recipients selected at the May Board meeting.

Speakers have been scheduled through 2017 with the exception of October. **Brian Steffensen** said he would contact a potential speaker for the October date.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 pm.

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

by Lt. de Ortega and Sgt. Carrillo against Boscana’s ethnography, we see how incidents can be shaped by differing cultural norms. Native people today are working to preserve their cultural history, but we also see an ongoing dialogue between Native Californians and the larger society and the Catholic Church, such as the integration of Catholic and Native ceremonies in places such as San Juan Capistrano.

**Suggested Readings**

*Chinigchinich*, by Fr. Geronimo Boscana, translated by Alfred Robinson. 2005. Malki Museum Press. (Account of Acjachemen tribe by the missionary at Mission San Juan Capistrano, written ca. 1824.)

*A New Original Version of Boscana’s Historical Account of the San Juan Capistrano Indians of Southern California*, P. Harrington, translator and editor. 1934. Smithsonian Miscellaneous Collections, Vol. 92, No. 4. Washington, D.C.

*The Acjachemen (Juaneño) Indians of Coastal Southern California*, by Stephen O’Neil. 2014. Malki Museum Press.

*Letters of Fr. Junipero Serra*, Antonio Tebisar, O.F.M., editor. 1961. Franciscan Press, Washington, D.C.

*Aboriginal Society in Southern California*, by William Duncan Strong. University of California Publications in American Archaeology and Ethnology Vol. 26, No. 1. 1929. Malki Museum Press, reprinted 1972.

**CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS**

Archaeology Day at Garfield Elementary School will be June 16, and volunteers are needed to man the activity stations. Groups of students will rotate through six stations: rock art, pottery making, Native foods and preparation, artifact identification, paleontology, and use of shell for jewelry making. PCAS volunteers present outreach events to promote the understanding and preservation of our cultural heritage.

No experience necessary! You will be paired with an experienced volunteer. For information or to volunteer, please contact Scott Findlay, 714-342-2534 or [fieldtrips@pcas.org](mailto:fieldtrips@pcas.org).



Archaeology Day in the Garfield Community Center, Garfield Elementary School, June 2016.

**MAY CURATION WORKDAY**

**When:** May 13, 2017, 1 pm

**Where:** Red Car Building

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

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## PCAS Curation Update

For the last several workdays, PCAS volunteers have been working on the CA-ORA-193 collection. ORA-193 is on the north shore of the Newport Upper Bay (Back Bay) and was first excavated by PCAS in 1966–1967. A CSU Long Beach field school under the direction of Dr. Margaret Lyneis excavated 133 square meters in 1969, 1970, 1972, and 1973. Only 15 percent of the site has been excavated.

Dr. Lyneis reported on the excavation in a double issue of the *PCAS Quarterly*, 17(2&3), in 1981. She concluded that ORA-193 was a well-stratified, intermittently occupied Late Prehistoric period site and served as a base for procurement of foods from the bay for over a thousand years. Bone tools predominate in the collection with 103 blunt-tipped tools, which may have been used to remove the meat from shellfish or to process fish. The site had only a few fragments of groundstone, suggesting that plant processing was not actively pursued. Twenty-two projectile points indicate that some terrestrial hunting took place.



Abalone bead from CA-ORA-193. The bead had broken in half exposing the biconically drilled interior.

PCAS had 15 volunteers at the April curation workday with students from CSU Fullerton attending. We are inventorying and rebagging collections and creating a searchable database to assist future study. Volunteers are always welcome—no experience necessary, and you will be paired with an experienced volunteer. Please check [www.pcas.org](http://www.pcas.org), curation on left menu, for the next workday. Contact Mark Roeder (714-299-4150, [curator@pcas.org](mailto:curator@pcas.org)) or Scott Findlay (714-342-2534, [fieldtrips@pcas.org](mailto:fieldtrips@pcas.org)) so that we know you're coming.



PCAS excavation at CA-ORA-193 in 1966–1967.



Photos above: Curation workday, April 15, 2017.

## DIG THIS...



### Lectures

***Native Americans and Native Plants***, by Steve O'Neil. An Orange County Natural History Lecture, Back Bay Science Center, 600 Shellmaker Rd, Newport Beach, May 3, 7 pm. Free. Attendees must be prompt—front gate open only 6:30–7:15 pm. Information: <http://backbaysciencecenter.org/lecture-series/>.

***Art in Context—Designed for Eternity: The Art of Ancient Peru***, by Annalee Andres, a six-part series. ***The Art of Ancient Peru: Introduction***, May 3; ***Early and Chavín***, May 10; ***Paracas and Nasca***, May 17; ***Moche***, May 24; ***Tiwanaku and Wari***, May 31; ***Inca***, June 7. Bowers Museum, all lectures 11 am–noon. Fee: 6-part package, \$60 (members \$45); individual lecture, \$12 (member or paid admission \$9). Information and package ticket purchase: [www.bowers.org](http://www.bowers.org).

***Santa Barbara Island: Insights into the Prehistory of California's Channel Islands through its Smallest Island***, by Dr. Jennifer E. Perry (CSU Channel Islands). A program of the Ventura Archaeological Society, Chumash Indian Museum, 3290 Lang Ranch Parkway, Thousand Oaks, May 9, 7 pm. Free. Information: [www.venturaarchaeology.org](http://www.venturaarchaeology.org).

***Violence and Power: The Role of Images in Early Egyptian Ideology***, by Dr. Laurel Bestock (Brown University), an ARCE lecture. Bowers Museum, May 13, 1:30 pm. Fee: \$12; Bowers and ARCE members free. Information: [www.bowers.org](http://www.bowers.org) or 714-567-3677.

***The Use of Experimental Archaeology to Explore the Crafting and Use of Mysterious Crescent Shaped Stone Objects Found on the Channel Islands of California***, by Kevin Smith (Ph.D. candidate, UC Davis), a lecture of the AIA, Orange County Chapter. DeNault Auditorium in Grimm Hall, Concordia University, May 21, 2–4 pm. Fee: \$5; students and members free. Information: [www.aia-oc.org](http://www.aia-oc.org).

### Classes, Meetings, and Events

***Coachella Valley Archaeological Society Symposium 2017*** will be held at the Portola Center, 45480 Portola, Palm Desert, May 13; 8:45 am–noon. Speakers include Steve Freres on “Fascinating Colorado Desert Petroglyphs and Historic Inscriptions”; Tiffany Arend and Barbara Roth on “Archaeology of the Mojave Sink”; and Sid Burks on “The Military History of the Salton Sea.” Free. Information: [www.cvarch.org](http://www.cvarch.org) or [cvasnews@dc.rr.com](mailto:cvasnews@dc.rr.com).

***Malki Kéwet Celebration***, the annual fiesta, a day-long celebration will honor Native American veterans. Food, entertainment (Cahuilla Bird Singers), and demonstrations will be held at the Malki Museum, May 28. Information: 951-849-7289 or [www.malkimuseum.org](http://www.malkimuseum.org).

***Flintknapping***, with James Bowden. Workshop 1: Native American Toolbox; Workshop 2: Intermediate Flintknapping. San Diego Archaeological Center, June 17. Fee: \$30 each workshop (members \$25). Limited enrollment. Information and reservations: <http://sandiegoarchaeology.org/flintknapping-with-james-bowden/>.

### Websites

***The Chinese Material Culture Collection*** project is presented by Southern Oregon University and PAR environmental Services Inc. and was created to standardize terminology and provide accurate information about the suite of artifacts commonly found on archaeological and historical sites documenting the Chinese immigrant diaspora from the mid-nineteenth century to the early twentieth century: <http://soda.sou.edu/chinese>.

Visit [www.pcas.org](http://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](mailto: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.



Martín R. Jespersen.

**Come to the May 11 meeting —  
Comparing Two Rock Art Sites in  
the Palen-McCoy Wilderness**

## PCAS SPEAKER CALENDAR

**June 8, 2017**

**Nathan Acebo**

*Reassembling the Black Star Canyon Village*

**September 14, 2017**

**Dr. James S. Kus**

**October 12, 2017**

**TBA**

**November 9, 2017**

**Dr. Janine Gasco**

*Cacao (Chocolate) in Precolumbian and Contemporary Mesoamerica*

**December 14, 2017**

**Dr. Dennis L. Jenkins**

*Paisley Caves*

## 2017 PCAS BOARD MEMBERS AND COMMITTEE CONTACTS

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\*PCAS Board Member

## PACIFIC COAST ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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*I have read and agree to abide by the PCAS Code of Ethics* \_\_\_\_\_

Signature

**Membership** (Includes Quarterly/Newsletter)

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- Donor Member\* - \$75
- Lifetime Member\* - \$1000

\* May be individual or family membership

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