



NOVEMBER 2017

PCAS NEWSLETTER

THE MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE
PACIFIC COAST ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

www.pcas.org

Volume 56 Number 11

ISSN 0270-6776

NOVEMBER PCAS SPEAKER

Dr. Janine Gasco

Four Thousand Years of Cacao Cultivation and Consumption in Mesoamerica

The earliest evidence for cacao consumption in Mesoamerica comes from residues on the inside of a pot from the Soconusco region of Chiapas, Mexico, dating to almost four thousand years ago. We still do not know how cacao made its way from its homeland in the Amazon Basin, but once established in the tropical lowlands of Mesoamerica, its popularity grew, and by the time the Spaniards arrived, cacao was being traded across Mesoamerica and as far north as New Mexico. It was consumed in a variety of drinks, one variety of which became what we now call chocolate. The seeds of the cacao fruit were used as currency, and it had taken on a wide range of social values and uses. *(Continued on p. 3)*



Mixtec bride and groom sharing a cup of chocolate.

DINNER WITH THE SPEAKER

Please join this month's speaker, Dr. Janine Gasco, for dinner before the November 9th meeting, 6 pm, Mimi's Café, 4030 Barranca Parkway, Irvine.

PCAS MEETINGS CALENDAR

GENERAL MEETING

Free and Open To the Public

November 9 - 7:30 pm

Speaker: Dr. Janine Gasco

Topic: *Four Thousand Years of Cacao
Cultivation and Consumption
in Mesoamerica*

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

November 11 - 12 noon

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

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 2 October Speaker Notes
- 3 Prehistoric OC
- 3 Field Trip to Vandenberg AFB
- 4 PCAS Annual Meeting and Election
- 4 November Field Trip to Palen-McCoy Wilderness
- 4 October Board Meeting Summary
- 4 November Curation Workday
- 5 Holiday Dinner flyer
- 6 Dig This—Exhibits, Lectures, and more
- 7 Speaker Schedule

**Please attend the November 9th
PCAS Annual and Election Meeting.
We need a quorum!**

OCTOBER SPEAKER NOTES

Religious Symbolism in Eastern California Ghost Dance Paintings

By Megan Galway

Dr. Alan Garfinkel offered an analysis and interpretation of Eastern California pictographs believed to relate to the Numic Ghost Dance. The Ghost Dance tradition was first recorded in 1870 and flourished again in 1890. Dr. Garfinkel notes these were periods of European expansion into Native lands, creating cultural pressure and stress, prime conditions for a religious revival.

While traditional Numic pictographs are mostly red abstract images, those of the Ghost Dance period include black, red, white, yellow, orange, and pink paint and are rich in imagery. Twenty sites have been recorded in Eastern California and many historic images are noted including men on horseback, holding firearms, and wearing what appear to be Stetson hats. These sites date to a period between 1870 and 1900 and are confined to Great Basin Paiute-Shoshone (Numic) territory.

Wovoka, also known as Jack Wilson, is considered the founder of the Ghost Dance movement, which employed the round dance to invoke a return to traditional ways and restore a spiritual balance to the community. Pictographs of the period depict elements of Numic cosmology describing seasonal death and rebirth. The cosmology is depicted by a layered universe with each layer defined by a specific color. The highest and most sacred level is white and can be symbolized by clouds, snow, and the most sacred symbol, the eagle, the shamanistic master of this domain. It includes the mountain tops populated by bighorn sheep, shamanistic master of big game animals. Mountain lions, masters of the upper earth, are associated with the color yellow. Middle earth may be green, gray, or blue and is the home of the coyote. Lower earth, the terrestrial world, is mastered by the weasel and the color red. Red represents soil and life and is recognized as a powerful healing color. This level is home to the creatures of the ground including man. The lowest level, the underworld, is black and is guarded by the rattlesnake. This is the domain of the Animal Master who restores the dead animals by their rebirth each spring. It is also where creatures such as quail, chuckwalla, turtles, and tortoises guard the portals to the supernatural world.

The sacred color white appears in the pictograph panels as a white horse. In Michael Hittman's book



Speaker Dr. Alan Garfinkel and PCAS Programs Co-Chair Brian Steffensen at the October meeting.

Wovoka and the Ghost Dance, he relates a traditional story about a man (the Rainmaker) who rode in from the north on a white horse. He was described as a gambler and was looking for a wife. He demanded supplies, and when these were denied, he brought down torrential rain. He later rode off into the heavens with a beautiful Numic wife.

Dr. Garfinkel described and showed pictures of a site near Panamint City which includes over 100 elements. Key elements of the 1890 Ghost Dance include a person riding a white horse. Digital enhancement of this image clearly shows the reigns the rider is holding. The panels include hunting scenes with a variety of weapons, from atlatls to rifles. Dr. Garfinkel believes the atlatls are copied from earlier petroglyphs and are a further attempt to reach back to earlier times. The portrayal of what appears to be people holding hands and dancing is believed to depict the circle of the Ghost Dance. Animals are painted in the colors of the Numic cosmology centered on the large white horse.

Shop at AmazonSmile
and Amazon will make
a donation to:
**Pacific Coast
Archaeological Society**

Get started

amazon smile

November Speaker *(continued from p. 1)*

In the Colonial period, Europeans quickly acquired a taste for chocolate, and cacao production expanded into regions across Africa and Asia. Today there is concern that growing demand in new markets such as China and India may lead to higher prices and shortages. This presentation traces the development of the cacao “industry” from its earliest beginnings to the present day.



Dr. Janine Gasco.

Dr. Janine Gasco is Professor of Anthropology at California State University, Dominguez Hills. She is an archaeologist, ethnohistorian, and ethnographer who has worked for over thirty-five years in the Soconusco region of Chiapas, Mexico. A primary focus of her work has been on change and continuity in cacao cultivation and its role in the Soconusco economy over almost four thousand years. She has published numerous journal articles and book chapters, including “Cacao and Commerce in Late Postclassic Xoconochco” (in *Rethinking the Aztec Economy*, Deborah Nichols, Frances Berdan, and Michael Smith, eds. 2017), and is co-author (with Barbara Voorhies) of *Postclassic Soconusco Society*, 2004.



PREHISTORIC OC

PCAS participated in the well-attended Cooper Center’s October 14th Prehistoric OC at Ralph Clark Regional Park. Volunteers were busy explaining PCAS’s mission and presenting activities—artifact identification, drilling shells for jewelry, and Native foods and preparation. Thanks to our volunteers: **Bob Brace, Dorothy DeGennaro, Gail Cochlin, Scott Findlay, and Kathleen Shada.**



October Field Trip to Vandenberg AFB

PCAS members enjoyed the October 20th field trip to archaeological sites on Vandenberg AFB and thank the knowledgeable and gracious Base Archaeologist Christopher Ryan for leading the tour. We visited the Honda Point disaster site where seven destroyers came aground in 1923. Next, we viewed the Honda Ridge pictographs (see photo below), a probable winter solstice site with many intricate hematite images. While having lunch at the Boathouse, we saw birds of prey and many monarch butterflies overwintering on pine trees. We also noticed smoke rising from a canyon to the south. Chris Ryan reported the fire. We tried to reach Swordfish Cave, but all roads were closed as multiple agencies fought and controlled the fire. Off base, we enjoyed visiting the Lompoc Museum and Mission La Purisima.



PCAS ANNUAL MEETING AND ELECTION

The 2017 PCAS Annual Meeting and Election will be held on November 9, 2017, 7:30 pm, at the Irvine Ranch Water District Community Room, 15500 Sand Canyon Avenue, Irvine.

A quorum of members is necessary for the election to take place. You must be physically present to vote. Our bylaws prohibit proxy voting. Please plan to attend!

PCAS members will elect three Directors to three-year terms. The Nomination Committee has recruited three candidates to stand for election. The nominees are **Scott Findlay, Jane Gothold, and Stephen O'Neil**. Their biographies were printed in the October *PCAS Newsletter* (available at www.pcas.org).

Before the election takes place, additional nominations may be made from the floor by any member present with the prior consent of the nominee. If there are more than three nominees, Directors will be elected by secret ballot. Ballots will be distributed as members arrive. Please be aware that additional names may be placed in nomination. Voting will not take place until after floor nominations are closed.

NOVEMBER FIELD TRIP

November 17–19, 2017

Palen–McCoy Wilderness

On November 18th BLM Archaeologist George Kline will lead PCAS members to rock art and other sites in the Palen Mountains. This field trip will involve hiking a distance over uneven terrain. The hike will begin early Saturday morning, and PCAS field trip leaders plan to camp on Friday night just outside the wilderness boundary. For information or to sign-up, contact **Scott Findlay** (714-342-2534) or **Steve Dwyer** (714-969-1911) or fieldtrips@pcas.org.



Palen Tank digitate anthropomorphs.

OCTOBER BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

Secretary **Megan Galway** called the meeting to order on October 7, 12:00 pm, at the Red Car Building. PCAS Board Members present: **Bob Brace, Gail Cochlin, Steve Dwyer, Joe Hodulik** (on speaker phone), and **Kathleen Shada**. PCAS members present: Scott Findlay and Mark Roeder

The October minutes were approved, and the October Treasurer's report was accepted with expenditures. **Bob Brace** reported that a new projector for lecture meetings has been purchased.

All room reservations for 2018 have been confirmed by the IRWD. The Board discussed the Holiday Dinner. It was decided that PCAS would supply a pre-carved and ready-to-serve ham and ask members to bring ready-to-serve side dishes as in the past. Arrangements will be made to pick up Dr. Jenkins, the speaker, at his hotel.

We received Tad Tadlock's CA-MNO-611 collection and will hopefully find a depository for it. In addition, we received a large quantity of unprovenanced display items.

Preparations for the November Board election were discussed. **Bob Brace** will print tally sheets, and **Megan Galway** will print ballots. **Kathleen Shada** and **Dorothy DeGennaro** will distribute ballots to members. The following field trips have been scheduled: October 20, Vandenberg AFB and Swordfish Cave; November 4, San Diego Rock Art Conference; and November 17–20, Palen and McCoy Wilderness area with George Kline. **Joe Hodulik** reported that speakers have been booked through this year and for most of spring 2018. *PCAS Quarterly* 53(4) is in process. The next Curation workday will be November 11 following the November Board meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:15 pm.

CURATION WORKDAY

When: November 11, 2017, 1 pm

Where: PCAS Curation Facility
Red Car Building

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



PCAS HOLIDAY DINNER

Thursday, December 14, 2017

6:30 PM

IRWD Duck Club*

Annual Holiday Potluck

Dr. Dennis L. Jenkins will speak on

Archaeology and Science at the Paisley Caves

Lecture at 7:30 pm – free and open to the public

1. The Holiday Dinner will be at the Duck Club* in Irvine.
2. Bring a ready-to-serve dish that doesn't require heating to serve 6 people.
3. No alcoholic beverages are allowed.



Sign up at the November meeting or contact Megan Galway, membership@PCAS.org or 714-539-6354, and let us know what you're bringing.

*Directions to the Duck Club are available at www.pcas.org (click on Latest News on left menu).

DIG THIS ...



Lectures

The Surprising Emergence of the Egyptian Book of the Dead at the Beginning of the New Kingdom, by Dr. Peter F. Dorman (University of Chicago). An ARCE lecture, Bowers Museum, November 4, 1:30 pm. Fee: \$12; Bowers and ARCE members free. Information: www.bowers.org or 714-567-3677.

A Tale of Two Empires: 1000 Years of Central Mexican Influence on the Pacific Coast of Chiapas, by Mikael Fauvelle (UCSD Ph.D. candidate). A lecture of the AIA, Orange County Chapter. Kershaw Auditorium, Bowers Museum, November 5, 1:30 pm. Fee: \$5; students and members free. Information: www.aia-oc.org.

The Dos Palmas Green Hill Site, by George Kline (BLM archaeologist). A Coachella Valley Archaeological Society presentation, Portola Community Center, 45-480 Portola Ave., Palm Desert, November 16, 6:30 pm. Free. Information: www.cvarch.org.

Kumeyaay Ethnobotany, by author Michael Wilkin-Robertson, November 24, 7 pm meet the author, 7:30 lecture, members free, non-members \$10 at door; ***La Rumorosa Rock Art along the Border***, by author Don Liponi, November 25, 6:30 pm, fee: members \$10, non-members \$12, online registration. Both lectures and book signings are sponsored by the Anza-Borrego Desert Natural History Association. Information: www.abdnha.org/calendar1.htm.

Classes, Meetings, and Events

2017 Ridgecrest Petroglyph Festival will celebrate Native American Heritage. Petroglyph tours through Maturango Museum by passenger bus (<http://maturango.org/rpfestival>). Ridgecrest, November 4–5. Free (fee for some activities). Information and tickets: www.rpfestival.com.

The College of the Desert Annual Symposium's theme will be “Shamans, Chiefs, and Other Influential Persons.” Pollack Theatre, College of the Desert,

Classes, Meetings, and Events (*continued*)

48500 Monterey Ave, Palm Desert, November 11. Free. Information: Dr. Ellen Hardy, 760-776-7449; Leslie Mouriquand, 760-989-1041 or lmouriquand@collegeofthedesert.edu.

Rock Art 2017, sponsored by the San Diego Rock Art Association, will be held at the San Diego Community College District Educational Cultural Complex Theatre, 4343 Ocean View Blvd, Room 159, San Diego, November 4, 9 am–4:30 pm. Fee: \$25. Information and online registration: www.sandiegorockart.org.

2017 Colorado Desert Cultural Heritage Symposium will be held at the Steele/Burnand Anza-Borrego Desert Research Center, Borrego Springs. December 1 (4 pm)–December 3 (12 noon). Fee: \$45; students \$25. Sunday field trips: \$15. Information: 760-767-0446 or theabf.org/2017symposium.

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

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

REMINDER: SIGN UP AGAIN FOR RALPHS COMMUNITY REWARDS

PCAS thanks Ralphs and all our participants for the opportunity to earn a donation of at least 1 percent of your Ralphs purchases. Everyone needs to sign up again for the new term which began September 1:

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 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.

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.



Cocoa tree.

Join us at the November 9th meeting to hear Dr. Janine Gasco speak on "Four Thousand Years of Cacao Cultivation and Consumption in Mesoamerica." It has been rumored that chocolate samples will be available.

PCAS SPEAKER CALENDAR

December 14, 2017 Holiday Dinner Meeting

Dr. Dennis L. Jenkins

Archaeology and Science at the Paisley Caves

January 11, 2018

Bernie Jones and Dr. Chris Drover

Flower World Iconography and Metaphor of the Southern Colorado

February 8, 2018

Dennis Gallegos

First People—A Revised Chronology for San Diego County

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	714-245-0264
*Vice-President	Hank Koerper	vicepresident@pcas.org	714-633-9287
*Secretary	Megan Galway	secretary@pcas.org	714-539-6354
*Treasurer	Bob Brace	treasurer@pcas.org	714-544-6282
*Field Trips Co-Chair	Stephen Dwyer	fieldtrips@pcas.org	714-969-1911
*Archivist	Gail Cochlin	archivist@pcas.org	714-745-0815
*Programs Co-Chair	Joe Hodulik	programs@pcas.org	949-300-1864
*Programs Co-Chair	Brian Steffensen	programs@pcas.org	714-348-9179
*Voting member	Kathleen Shada	kathleenshada@pcas.org	714-381-8182
Curator	Mark Roeder	curator@pcas.org	714-299-4150
Donation-Awards Coordinator	Joe Hodulik	donation-awards@pcas.org	949-300-1864
Field Trips Co-Chair	Scott Findlay	fieldtrips@pcas.org	714-342-2534
Historian/Librarian	Jane Gothold	historian-librarian@pcas.org	562-947-6506
Membership	Megan Galway	membership@pcas.org	714-539-6354
Native American Liaison	Steve O'Neil	nativeamericanliaison@pcas.org	949-677-2391
Newsletter Editor	Sherri Gust	newsletter@pcas.org	714-245-0264
Publicist	Joe Hodulik	publicity@pcas.org	949-300-1864
Quarterly Editor	Hank Koerper	publications@pcas.org	714-633-9287
Refreshments	Gail Cochlin	refreshments@pcas.org	714-745-0815
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

2018 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
- 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