NOVEMBER PCAS SPEAKER

Dr. Loren G. Davis

Did the First Americans Initially Travel Along the Pacific Coast? Recent Research and New Directions

Free Zoom Meeting
November 11, 7:30 pm
Registration required
Please see instructions on p. 4.

Recent archaeological research reveals that humans were south of North America's continental ice sheets prior to the opening of an interior migration route, upending longstanding views about how humans first settled the Americas. Discoveries at the Cooper's Ferry site in western Idaho show that people may have occupied the upper reaches of the Columbia River basin as early as about 16,000 years ago, greatly extending the timeline for the initial peopling of the Americas. If these discoveries are true, then the initial human migrants must have made their way around continental ice sheets, most probably along the Pacific coast. In his presentation, Dr. Davis will talk about the Coastal Migration Theory and the research he is currently pursuing to address questions about how and when people first entered the Americas.

Possible early American coastal migration route.

Loren G. Davis is a Professor of Anthropology at Oregon State University and is the Executive Director of the Keystone Archaeological Research Fund. He received his PhD from the University of Alberta in 2001 and joined the faculty at Oregon State University in 2004. His research focuses on the Pleistocene archaeology and geoarchaeology of western North America related to the early peopling of the Americas. He is currently pursuing archaeological projects above and below sea level in Idaho, Oregon, and Baja California. His research has appeared in the pages of Science magazine and in a recent episode of the National Geographic Channel's show Drain the Oceans.

For all the latest news, visit www.pcas.org.
OCTOBER SPEAKER NOTES

Tales from the Guadalasca: 3,000 Years of History at CSU Channel Islands

By Megan Galway

Dr. Delaney brought us the cultural story of the Mexican land grant Rancho Guadalasca and surrounding area dating back to the original Chumash inhabitants. The area is part of the Oxnard Plain in southwest Ventura County extending along the central California coast from the City of Ventura to Pt. Mugu. This area does not have regular running water, although the southwest border has wetlands and the Santa Clara River borders it to the north. This river has changed course in the past, most recently in 1812. Chumash villages have been identified in these areas.

Modern Chumash people are direct descendants of the region’s first people, and much of their culture survives to the present day. One of their sacred places is Sat’wiwa, or Round Mountain, and CSU Channel Islands has assisted in restoring the trail to the summit where a shrine has been reconstructed.

The Chumash of the California pre-mission period are noted for social inequality with an elite leadership. There was high population density in permanent villages with a total population estimated between 15,000 and 20,000. The Chumash participated in an extensive regional trade network, and their technical innovations include the shell fishhook and the ocean-going tomol (plank canoe). The Chumash were efficient land managers and periodically burned grasslands which helped protect against the devastating kind of wildfires we’re seeing today. The village and ceremonial center Muwu is the closest to CSU Channel Islands and is part of the Lulapiin District, which extended from Pt. Conception to Malibu. The larger settlements in this district were

Dr. Colleen M. Delaney.
located at the convergence of ecosystems making for a variety of resources.

Three sites have been recorded on the CSUCI campus; CA-VEN-174, CA-VEN-863, and CA-VEN-1429. Dating indicates the population in this area shifted closer to the coast over time. Dr. Delaney is currently working on a project to identify the source of lithics and ground stone from these sites. She noted the igneous material appeared local, but none of the sandstone sources were within 20 miles. The material for one mortar came from the Santa Ynez Mountains, 90 miles away.

In 1837 Isabel Yorba received a Mexican land grant of 30,000 acres, known as Rancho Guadalasca, located in the southern portion of the Oxnard Plain. Isabel was born in San Diego in 1789, one of 17 children. The City of Yorba Linda is named for her brother Bernardo. Her father was Jose Antonio Yorba and her mother, Maria Josefa Grijalva. Her father was one of Pedro Fages’ Catalán volunteers, and her mother came to California with the Anza Expedition. Isabel was married at fifteen and one-half years old and came to Santa Barbara in 1806. She had one daughter who died in 1818, and her husband died in 1830. By 1836 when she received the land grant, she had adopted four daughters. In 1836 she was award just part of the land she requested, but in 1837 was granted the whole parcel. Records of the time show a fenced enclosure with an adobe home, 40 horses, and 500 head of cattle.

In 1850 the adobe was renovated and leased to the City of Santa Barbara for $15 a month and used for council meetings. In 1868 the northern portion of the rancho was sold to one of Isabel’s nephews, and in 1870 an additional 10 acres were sold. In November 1871 the southern two-thirds of the property was sold for $22,349 in gold

(Continued on p. 3)
The land was used for beef ranching, dairy farming, and growing lima beans and sugar beets. Lima bean farming was revolutionized when it was found that dry farming produced 1.5 tons per acre as opposed to 0.6–0.775 tons by other methods. Sugar beets benefited from the salty alkaline soil. The area was also used by the railroad, military, and the movie industry. The property changed hands a number of times over the years. In 1930 the Lewis family lost the ranch, and the property was sold—1,400 of the 8,200 acres was purchased by the state for Camarillo State Hospital. The state chose to purchase this land because a ranch and dairy was wanted to support the hospital community. The hospital was closed in 1997, and CSU Channel Islands opened in 2002. Some of the hospital buildings remain and are used by the university; others are just ruins and are a source of study for archaeological students. Dr. Delaney and students recently excavated the foundations of a building which are believed associated with an unknown quarry in the dairy area.

By 1857 the US Coast Survey had mapped Mugu Lagoon and the adjacent mainland to support marine shipping. Local census records identify a multicultural population in the area associated with Rancho Guadaluca. Along with the original Spanish, there were Japanese, Chinese, Jewish, Basque, Swiss, and Italian residents. Japanese sugar beet harvesters were noted to be making $6 a day compared to the regular $2.50. Dr. Delaney noted an apparent lack of Chumash residents in these records which was likely because they had adopted Spanish surnames.

**October Speaker Notes (continued from p. 2)**

Map of Mexican land grant Rancho Guadaluca received by Isabel Yorba in 1837.

coin to William Broome, and Isabel died the following month.

PCAS NEWS

PCAS is continuing to suspend our normal activities because of the COVID-19 pandemic. We had hoped that by this date we would be able to resume our regular activities with in-person meetings and other activities, but that is not yet possible. The Irvine Ranch Water District may open its Community Meeting Room and Duck Club at reduced capacity in the near future. Our virtual Zoom lecture meetings have had benefits—our speakers are not limited by their location, and we have been able to reach people not able to attend in-person meetings. Programs Chair Joe Hodulik has scheduled a list of renowned speakers for our Zoom presentations. We do miss seeing friends and engaging with colleagues and the speaker.

Terms of the PCAS Board of Directors and committee chairs have been extended until an election can be held. Our bylaws require in-person elections.

At PCAS meetings in the past, Joe Hodulik’s donation-award table has supported PCAS scholarships and grants. Since we are not currently holding in-person meetings, please consider including a donation to the Scholarship Fund when you renew your membership.

**ARCHAEOPALOOZA**

Ellen LaMotte and Dorothy DeGennaro represented PCAS at Archaeopalooza, presented by the Desert Institute at Joshua Tree National Park in celebration of California Archaeology Month and as a tribute to Daniel McCarthy. The October 2 event was held at Copper Mountain College, Joshua Tree. The PCAS table had brochures, newsletters, and information about the PCAS Quarterly. We thank the Desert Institute for its invitation to participate in this fun event.
DIG THIS ...

Lectures


Classes, Meetings, and Events


2021 Archaeology Discovery Weekend: Southwest Turkey, Famous Cities, Churches, and Synagogues, a combined in-person/online event. La Sierra University, November 13, 3–6 pm, and November 14, 1–4 pm. Free. Kids’ Dig, November 14, 2–4 pm, $5 each. Information and registration: https://lasierra.edu/cnea/discovery-weekend/.

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 ZOOM MEETING

- Email a registration request by noon on Thursday, November 11, to membership@pcas.org.
- You will receive an email with a link to the Zoom 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 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.

PCAS SPEAKER CALENDAR

December 9, 2021
Dr. Kevin Smith
*A Technological Approach to Late Pleistocene and Early Holocene Aquatic Adaptations in the Far West of North America*

January 13, 2022
Dr. Terry L. Jones
*Chendytes lawi: Big Lessons from a Little Duck*

February 10, 2022
Dr. Torben Rick
*Cultural Keystone Places and the Chumash Landscapes of Humqaq*, Point Conception, California

March 10, 2022
Allen Dart
*Archaeology's Deep Time Perspective on Environment and Social Sustainability*

Excavation at Cooper's Ferry.

Join us for the November 11 Zoom lecture!
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) Subscription Only Scholarship Fund
☐ Active Member – $45 ☐ Quarterly – $40 ☐ Donation $________
☐ Family Membership – $50 ☐ Newsletter – $20
☐ Supporting Member* – $55
☐ Donor Member* – $75
☐ Lifetime Member* – $1000

* May be individual or family membership

Join online: www.pcas.org/members.html
Or return with payment to:
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