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PCAS Newsletter

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November PCAS Speaker

Albert Knight

Salvage Archaeology in the 21st Century: The Chumash Village of Saticoy

Zoom Meeting

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

The Chumash village of Saticoy was located in what is now the eastern part of the City of San Buenaventura (Ventura). Developed in 1916 for row crops by the Vanoni family, the old village was "rediscovered" in the 1930s on installation of a watering/drainage system for walnut orchards. Some 300 metates and other artifacts were recovered at that time. During the 1950s, more artifacts were recovered when part of the ranch was made into residential housing. In the 1990s, a cemetery was identified and preserved when more of the ranch was developed. Albert Knight will describe his work as archaeological field director at Saticoy in 2022, when 10 acres near the center of the site were developed for family housing for veterans. Although previous researchers had declared that the old village site had been destroyed, project monitors discovered that a large area of midden still existed, and thousands of mostly small lithic and faunal artifacts were recovered.

Al Knight was born in Long Beach, California, in 1950, and he was raised in North Hollywood. He and his wife, Mary Cardea, live in the Glendale Rancho District. His interests include California and Great Basin prehistory, history, geography, rock art, ethnobotany, and hot springs. Mr. Knight is a member of the Board of Directors of the Santa Susana Mountains Park Association, a member of the Board of Directors of the Pacific Coast Archaeology Society, and was a Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History Anthropology Department Associate (1996–2026).

Mr. Knight has over 40 years of professional experience in archaeological fieldwork and ethnographic and historical research. He received his BA in anthropology at the University of California, Santa Barbara, in 1983. He meets national standards in archaeology set by the Secretary of Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archaeology and Historic Preservation. Mr. Knight has extensive experience consulting with Native American leaders and community members in a variety of contexts, and he has published numerous papers on the ethnography and rock art of south-central California. His *Warpath to Cahuenga: American Indians in the Conquest of California, 1845–1847* was published by the Los Angeles Corral, Westerners International, in June 2026.

Board of Directors Election

All PCAS members should have received their ballots for the November Directors election**. If you did not receive a ballot, please email membership@pcas.org and request one.** All ballots must be returned by November 12. We need a quorum for the election. **Please return your ballot today!**

October PCAS Speaker Notes

The California Archaeological Site Stewardship Program (CASSP)

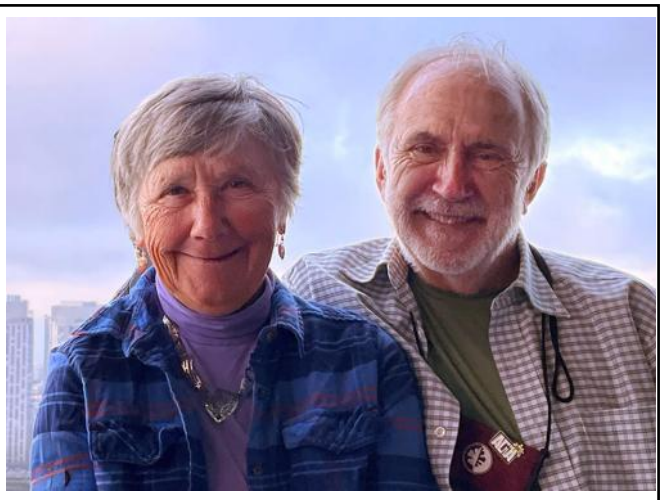
By Albert Knight

The PCAS speakers for October were Beth and Chris Padon, who have been married for over 50 years. Mr. and Mrs. Padon own and manage the CRM firm Discovery Works, which has its offices in Long Beach and was established in 1998. Beth has a master's degree in anthropology, and she is the Executive Director of Partners for Archaeological Site Stewardship, which administers the California Archaeological Site Stewardship Program (CASSP)—the subject of our October 8 ZOOM presentation.

According to their website, "Discovery Works, Inc., provides archaeological, historical, and paleontological services in southern California to help clients comply with local, state (CEQA), and federal (NHPA Section 106) requirements. We also prepare National Register nominations, conduct peer reviews, and provide award-winning public outreach programs and displays. Our services are professional and personal, whether the project is large or small." Clients include federal, state, and local governments, as well as private parties (e.g., Native American groups and developers).

The CASSP is a statewide program that "trains local volunteers to regularly visit assigned sites on public lands and report their condition to the local supervising archaeologist" (e.g., people from the BLM, California State Parks, etc.). "By regularly monitoring sites, CASSP ensures that potential problems are detected early and can be corrected quickly, thus limiting the extent of damage at each site." CASSP training workshops take place over two days. The first day is an in-person or online classroom meeting, "that is open to the public with no prerequisites." This initial training covers local archaeology and paleontology, safety, cultural resources laws, and CASSP procedures. The second day consists of a day in the field with an archaeologist from the land management agency in the area. This day gives hands-on training and practice for the field work and reporting that they will do as site stewards.

CASSP also conducts Heritage Hikes that are free, public hikes to visit examples of California heritage. Participants view cultural resources and learn why they are important and why they should be protected. One of the most recent training sessions was a field trip to the historic Donner Pass Summit Tunnels (October 2026). A field trip to the Los Angeles Historic Plaza, scheduled for October 11, was cancelled due to a forecast for rain. This field trip will be rescheduled.



PCAS November speakers, Beth and Chris Padon.

Beth and Chris have received the Governor's Historic Preservation Award (2002) from the State of California for developing CASSP, the Mark Raymond Harrington Award from the Society for California Archaeology (2003, 2009), the Best Practices in Site Preservation Stewardship Award from the Archaeological Institute of America (2014), and the Distinguished Service Citation from Beloit College (2020 and 2021). Beth and Chris also served as production editors for our own *Pacific Coast Archaeology Society Quarterly*, which received the Governor's Historic preservation Award in 2005.

Visit the CASSP website at www.cassp.org for more details. More information about CASSP can also be found in the October 2026 *PCAS Newsletter,* Volume 65, Number 10, page 1. Additionally, the September 2026 *Society for California Archaeology Newsletter* (Volume 60, Issue 3, pp. 12–14) includes information on CASSP field trips and activities.

Sign Up for Ralphs Community Rewards

PCAS thanks Ralphs and all our participants for this opportunity to earn a donation of at least 1 percent of your Ralphs' purchases. Go to www.ralphs.com and sign in or create an account.

1. On the "My Account" page, scroll to Community Rewards. Link your card by searching for "Pacific Coast Archaeological Society" or inserting the PCAS organization number, QT023.
2. Call 800-576-4377 for assistance.

Thank you for supporting PCAS**!**

DIG THIS ...

Exhibits

Art of Mexico and Central America blends archaeology and fine art looking back at three thousand years of Mesoamerican art from antiquity to the present. Bowers Museum, November 21–ongoing. Fee: $18, seniors and students $15. Information: www.bowers.org.

Lectures

A Journey through the Grand Egyptian Museum, by Tarek Tawfik. A Getty onsite and Zoom lecture, November 1, 2 pm. Free, fee for parking. Registration required. Information: www.getty.edu/calendar/grand-egyptian-museum.

An Archaeology of the Battle of Bunker Hill, by Joe Bagley (Boston's City Archaeologist). An AIA Archaeology Hour Zoom lecture, November 4, 5 pm (PT). Free. Information and registration: https://www.archaeological.org/programs/public/lectures/archaeologyhour.

Uncovering the Stories of the Aliso Adobe: Archaeology, Archives, and a Forgotten Community, by Betsy Pain (Palomar College). San Diego Archaeological Center, November 14, 11 am. Fee $15; members $5. Information: sandiegoarchaeology.org.

Personal Astrology and Wisdom Literature in Graeco-Roman Egypt, by Dr. Lingxin Zhang. ARCE/Bowers Museum onsite lecture, November 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/index.php/programs.

Into the Mani: Death, Burial, and Legend on the Southern Greek Mainland, by Dr. William A. Parkinson (UI Chicago, Field Museum). An AIA Orange County Society lecture, Concordia University, November 15, 2 pm. Information: https://aia-oc.org.

The Arts of Ancient Mexico and Central America, by Dr. Khristaan Villela. Bowers Museum, November 22, 1:30 pm. Fee: $20; members and students $15. Information and ticket purchase: www.bowers.org/index.php/programs.

Many past **PCAS lectures** are available on YouTube: www.youtube.com/@pcas-pacificcoastarchaeolo9403.

Classes, Meetings, and Events

Archaeology Day, presented by the Colorado Desert Archaeological Society, will include basketry, games, storytelling, speakers, and hands-on activities. Anza-Borrego Desert State Visitor Center, November 7, 9 am–3:30 pm. Free. Field trips: Mine Wash, November 7, 1 pm, adult $10, child under 12 $5; Morteros Prehistoric Village and Pictograph Trail, November 8, 8 am, adult $20, child under 12 $10. Advanced registration required for field trips theabf.org/events/anza-borrego-desert-state-park-archaeology-day-field-trips-464. Information: www.anzaborregoarchaeo.org/archday2026.

Kewet: Native American Learning Day & Market, sponsored by the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians will share Agua Caliente culture and history. Palm Springs High School, 2401 E. Baristo Rd., Palm Springs, November 7, 9 am–2 pm. Free. Information: www.aguacaliente.org/kewet.

Field Trip: Ancient Lake Cahuilla, by John Peterson. An event of the Anza-Borrego Desert Natural History Association, November 14, 9:30 am–12:00 pm. Fee: $18, members $12. Information and ticket purchase: abdnha.org/activities.

2026 Archaeology Discovery Weekend—People & Places of the New Testament World a combined in-person/online event. La Sierra University, November 13, November 14, 3–7:30 pm, and November 15, 1–6 pm. Mosaic Workshop (advanced registration required), November 13, 10 am–4 pm ($25 fee). Kids' Adventures in Archaeology (advanced registration required), November 15, 1–4 pm. Free. In-person and online. Program available online. Information and registration: lasierra.edu/cnea/discovery-weekend.

SCA Call for Papers for the 61th Annual Meeting of the Society for California Archaeology. Deadline for submission of symposia, forum, papers, and posters for 2027 Annual Meeting in Monterey is November 30. Information: scahome.org/SCA-Annual-Meeting-Submission-Guidelines.

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

Visit https://www.pcas.org for all the latest news.

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.

Zoom Meeting

- Email a **new** Zoom registration request by **noon on Thursday, November 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

December 10, 2026 In-Person and Online Holiday Meeting at the Duck Club
Dr. Brian Dervin Dillon
A Life in Ruins: 54 Years of Archaeology in California and Beyond

January 14, 2027
Dr. Christopher Morgan

February 11, 2027
Dr. Christopher S. Jaswa

March 11, 2027
Mike Tucker

April 8, 2027
Dr. Loren G. Davis

2026 PCAS Board Members and Committee Contacts

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*PCAS Board Member

PACIFIC COAST ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

2027 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* – $50

☐ *Newsletter* – $20

www.pcas.org

Scholarship Fund

☐ Donation $_____

Join online:
www.pcas.org/membrs.html

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