



Colorado Desert Archaeology
Society

CDAS Monthly Bulletin

February 2018

January Calendar

<http://www.anzaborregoarchaeo.org/calendar>

Every Tues 9am-3pm	Lab Day	BARC
Fri. 2/9-Sat. 3/25	CDAS Arch Tech/Site Steward Class	Robin Connors
Fri. 2/16 11AM	Long Distance Clovis Lithic Movement Dr. Steven Holen	Discovery Room Visitor Center
Fri. 2/16 1 pm	Steering Committee	BARC Library
Wed. 2/28	Cerutti Mastodon NAT tour	Pat Downing

From the Chair

The New Year has started out well for CDAS. Our annual general meeting was productive and educational. With the work that was already in process and from the input received during the meeting's discussions, improvements have begun which will enhance our operations. Eugenie Newton has updated our website with significant improvements and the new Members-Only section will be of great benefit to all. Pat Downing, Lisa Pridmore and Sally Bickerton are in the process of updating our membership rolls and are improving as well our site steward procedures and recordkeeping. Rick Huls is working on scheduling new continuing education classes for this season and the next. Eugenie and Pat are also developing a group email application that will enhance communications between our members. In addition, many hours of work, led by Paula Huls and Carol Black, were contributed towards updating our societies Bylaws to bring them up to date with our current needs.

Our Steering Committee has three fine new members: Eugenie Newton, Paula Huls, and Rick Huls. New officers have been selected: Treasurer: Rick Huls, Secretary: Mary Lou White, Vice-Chair: Julie Nyssen, and Chair: John Downing. I am honored to be selected as chair and it is my privilege to serve in this capacity.

Your Steering Committee is working diligently towards maintaining and improving our society. You have a voice in our decisions and are always welcome to attend our meetings. If you have information or questions for the committee and cannot attend please contact me or one of the other committee members and share your views.

John Downing



Your new Steering Committee. Left to Right:
Mary Lou White, Julie Nyssen, Gary Holmes, John
Downing, Eugenie Newton, Robin Connors, Rick
Huls and Paula Huls.

Anzaborregoarchaeo.org

The CDAS website, anzaborregoarchaeo.org, is being enhanced and expanded. We want the website to inform the public about archaeology in Anza-Borrego and support the community of park archaeology volunteers. Our website offers information about the unique cultural resources in the Colorado Desert and how to recognize and visit an archaeology site. Another section helps web visitors learn about the field of archaeology. A live calendar is available in one section and the News and Events area keeps CDAS website visitors current with

Your CDAS Steering Committee

The Steering Committee Meetings are held once a month during the season and are open to all members. Should you have any comments or suggestions for the committee and cannot attend please contact one of the following members:

Chair	John Downing johndowning2014@outlook.com 714 615-2137
Vice Chair	Julie Nyssen jannyssen@gmail.com
Secretary	Mary Lou White Marylouizard@gmail.com 760 765-2331
Treasurer	Rick Huls randphuls@gmail.com
Member	Gary Holmes GHBorrego@pobox.com
Member	Paula Huls randphuls@gmail.com
Member	Eugenie Newton Evnewton8@gmail.com

archaeology happenings.

The website has a new members only section and it is password protected. In the CDAS Members Only area you will find links to helpful information such as Site Steward forms, the 2018 Hours Timesheet, the 2018 Archaeology Survey calendar, CDAS bulletins and more.

To access the Members section:

- Open the Member page and click on the blue "Here" link. This will take you to the Member sign-in page.
- Enter the password and the CDAS Member page will open.
- You don't need a Username, just the Members only password.

To get the password, email Eugenie Newton at [evnewton8@gmail.com](mailto: evnewton8@gmail.com). We are releasing the password this way in order to protect password privacy. Please use *CDAS Password Request* on the Subject line.

We will keep adding information helpful to CDAS members, so check in periodically!

Eugenie Newton

To Wearers of Fitness Devices

NEWS FLASH! Strava Can Reveal Sensitive Site Locations
Strava Heat Map can reveal our trips to sensitive archaeological sites. We should deactivate our exercise apps, Fitbits, Vivofits, etc and GPS watches before heading out on a visit.

The map on the left of Indian Hill shows its' activity. For further information see:

<http://triblive.com/usworld/world/13236062-74/us-soldiers-are-revealing-sensitive-and-dangerous-information-by-jogging>

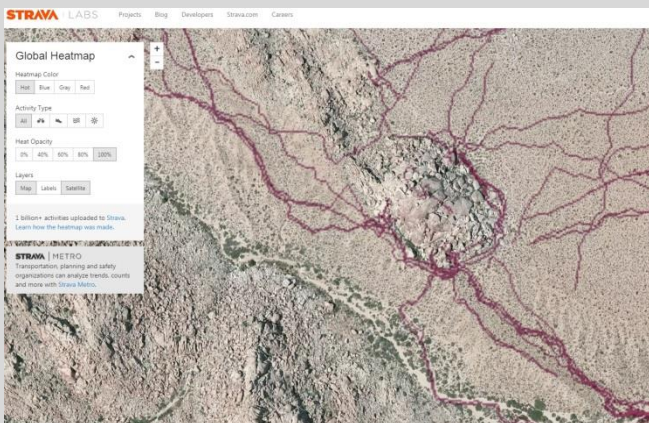
Notes from the Field:

Our field days in January took us up into the Laguna Mountains along Sunrise Highway for another look at the old Lucky 5 Ranch. The valley floor is heavily covered with deep tufted grass. This likely made it a prime grazing area for cattle starting back in the 1860s when a rancher named Harper first settled the valley.

There were 116 acres of valley floor and hillsides transected and recorded but virtually everything flagged for Hayley's recording crew was up on the hillsides among the rock outcroppings. Features dominated. There were almost no hand tools, ceramics, flakes, or other such artifacts. Slicks were somewhat common and usually accompanied by mortars in the bedrock or boulders. One rock shelter was found at the top of a pile of boulders out in the valley.

The granite rock in that valley was heavily weathered likely due to conditions at its 4600 foot elevation. This weathering made deciding what to flag a bit difficult at times, so the transect team would either call Robin over for a little help or perhaps just flag things and let Hayley and her team make the decision whether to record.

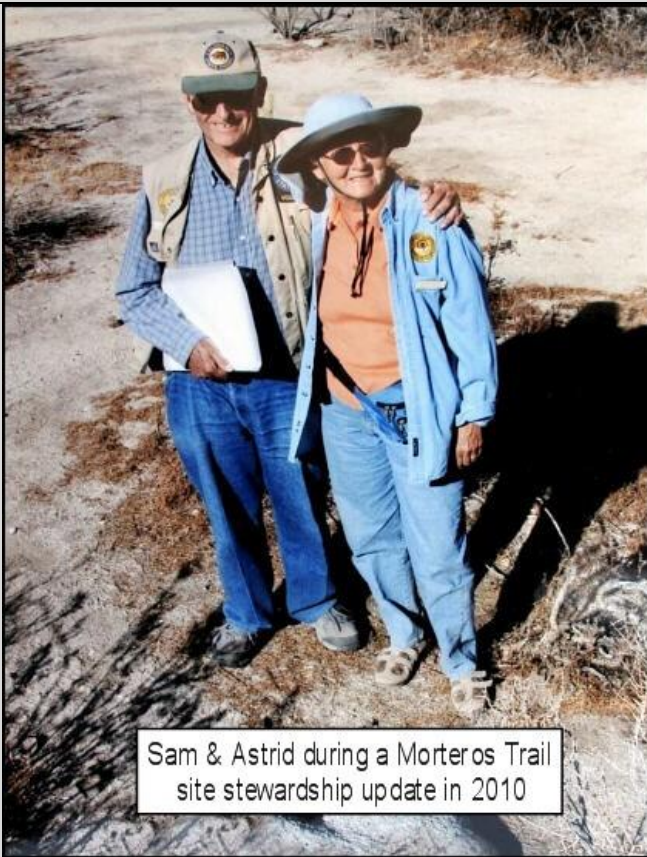
Thanks goes out for the excellent work of Lance Deibler, Jim



Strava heat map showing visits to Indian Hill



Lucky Five Ranch Jan 12, 2018 CDAS survey crew



Sam & Astrid during a Morteros Trail site stewardship update in 2010

Bryant, Gary Holmes, Rick Huls, Dan Jellis, Sam and Astrid Webb, Llouise Jee and Christiane Villescaz for helping survey and record resources in the Lucky 5 II area. There will be additional field days at Lucky 5 this season so anyone interested be on the lookout for the notifications.

Gary Holmes

Site Steward Interview:

Everyone knows Sam and Astrid Webb, right? They are synonymous with CDAS, in my mind! This month, though, we will hear more about their history with Borrego Springs, CDAS, and especially, site stewarding.

Sam and Astrid Webb received their initial Archaeology Field Technician training from Archaeologist Rae Schwaderer in 2000. They conducted their first CDAS site stewardship survey in Blair Valley at the Pictograph Rock in 2001, (this was the first assigned site stewardship area in the park), followed eight months later by the Morteros Trail site. They have been regularly monitoring these two sites and a few others in Blair Valley for over 16 years. During those years there were impacts at both sites, which luckily they were able to resolve with no permanent damage to any feature except one, which involved the dismantling of a rock cairn by someone looking for a geocache. After that incident, geocaching was prohibited within our Park, and it is now California SP policy that it is not allowed where it will affect natural, cultural and historical resources.

Some of Sam and Astrid's non-site stewardship activities included the Carrizo stage station and Garra execution site excavations in 2001-3, and helping with the installation of the straw-bales and construction assistance at the BARC in 2005. Astrid is now referred to as "mother" for her ongoing BARC responsibilities. They participated in the initial surveying of the eight Cultural Preserve areas designated in 2012 and the installation of signage. After the Cedar fire in 2003, they participated in a CDAS car patrol program at Cuyamaca Rancho SP, watching out for pothunters wanting to take advantage of the burned away vegetation that had hidden many sensitive cultural sites (98% of the Park burned), conducted multiple post burn surveys, and helped recover the many cultural artifacts from the Dyar House Museum building that was severely damaged in the fire.

The Webb's have been residents of Borrego Springs since 1988, retiring there full time in 1997. They quickly became involved in many community activities – too many to list! For all of their service to the community, they were selected as the Honorary Mayors of Borrego Springs in 2005.

Sally Bickerton

Indian Hill Field Trip

On Saturday Dec 30th the site stewards of Indian Hill along with Robin Connors, our archeologist, lead a group of CDAS volunteers on a tour of their important site. It was an ideal winter day with clear crisp weather to enjoy the visit.



Susan shares the history of finds from previous Indian Hill archaeological excavations



Lisa sharing the rock art research



D-Stretch photo of the beautiful panel

After a short drive on dirt roads to the parking area, Robin reviewed the site steward guidelines with the group. Then it was off on a moderate hike to the large rock shelter. Susan Gilliland presented a comprehensive overview of the previous excavations that had been done in the shelter included artifact dating showing an occupation period back approximately 4500 years.

A short hike followed to the rock art alcove where Lisa Pridmore gave a short talk on the previous documentations done on the pictographs beginning with Malcom Rogers in the 1930s. She also discussed the modern innovation of D Stretch that is enabling researchers to detect faded rock art images that were previously not visual to the human eye.

A special thank you to Lisa and Susan for stewarding this important site and sharing it's prehistory and visual delights with us.

CDAS Annual Meeting

A busy day was had by all who attended the Annual Meeting of CDAS on Saturday, January 20th at the Steele Burnand Center. Park Archaeologist Robin Connors provided an overview of the Colorado Desert District Archaeology Program to a group of about 30 site stewards and archaeology technicians.

New Steering Committee members were announced for three year terms: Rick and Paula Huls, and Eugenie Newton. Lisa Pridmore and Carol Black as outgoing committee members were thanked for their service and received certificates of appreciation. Carol Black was also recognized for her many years of outstanding performance and lasting contributions to archaeology in the Colorado Desert District and was awarded Lifetime Membership from the society.

Eugenie presented an overview of the CDAS website, with both public and member information. Lots of ideas were shared during a panel discussion on the valuable role of site stewards, who visit and report on the status of important cultural resources within the Colorado Desert Parks.

After an amazing lasagna lunch, Don Endicott presented a slide presentation on an especially rich cultural area in the Jackass Flats region. Paula Huls gave a talk on curation work with possible Paleolithic artifacts and Haley Elskin, Associate Archaeologist, discussed confidentiality and ethics in archaeology.

And, to end a very productive day, former Park Archaeologist and ABF Trustee, Dr. Joan Schneider gave a talk about the very interesting life of Elizabeth Campbell. Also a historical perspective on the revolutionary artifact dating techniques she developed in the 1930's that are still relevant today. Learn more about her in, [Purple Hummingbird: Elizabeth Campbell, Her Contributions to Desert Archaeology](#), by Claude Warren and Joan Schneider, available from Amazon.

Sally Bickerton

Society for California Archaeology

March 8-11 Annual Meeting
San Diego Crown Plaza Hotel



Eugenie explains our websites' new Members Only section



Robin shares her Olmstead Award saying "Volunteers this is your award"



Thanks Rick and Paula for organizing a great lunch, and Mary, Louise and Virginia for cooking!

The Society for California Archaeology will gather in San Diego for their annual meeting in March. CDAS will have two tables in their Book Room at the Crown Plaza Hotel in Mission Valley. The meeting runs from Thursday March 8th until Sunday the 11th.

This is an excellent opportunity to mingle with those having an interest in archaeology from throughout the state of California and to attend their lectures, seminars, and workshops. The link provides details of the extensive programs they are offering.

Our tables in the Book Room will have posters and hand-out literature available for people stopping by. We do not have to man those tables the entire time during the four days but it would be very nice to have somebody there occasionally each day to interact with people and make them aware of what we do for archaeology in the state park system.

<https://scahome.org/sca-annual-meeting/2018-annual-meeting-2/>

Gary Holmes

Sponsored by other groups:

Haute Kumyaay Cuisine

Gilberto Morales

March 1 6pm to 8pm

Barona Community Center

<https://www.baronamuseum.com/events-classes>

Coachella Valley Archaeological Society

List of scheduled speakers

http://www.cvarch.org/Meetings_Agenda.html

Malki Museum

Agave Harvest, Roast and Tasting

April 7 and April 14

<http://malkimuseum.org/agave-harvest-and-roast/>

Imperial Valley Desert Museum:

<http://www.ivdesertmuseum.org>

California Rock Art Foundation:

CRAF offers field trips of interest for rock art aficionados.

Upcoming trips are to Little Lake and Little Petroglyph Canyon in the Cosos

<http://www.carockart.org/events.html>



Joan shares the fascinating story of Elizabeth Campbell



Hayley reminds us of our confidentiality responsibilities

Photo Credits: Sam Webb, Rick Huls, John Downing, Tom Teske