



Colorado Desert Archaeology
Society

CDAS Monthly Bulletin

April 2018

April Calendar

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

Tuesdays 9am-3pm	Lab Day	BARC
Fri 4/20 1p.m.	Steering Committee	BARC Library
Sat 4/20 9a.m.- 2p.m.	Archaeo- geology	BARC Library / Field



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

From The Chair

March was another busy month for our society. Our Citizen Scientist class completed their course and we welcome our new archaeology technicians and site stewards: Toni Alexander, Jean Paul Carrere, John Case, Karen DeLorenzo, Tony DeLorenzo, Loulou Jee, Tom Teske, and Sandy Thomsen.

There were also five members who received site steward training: Dennis Connors, Gary Holmes, Paula Huls, Rick Huls, and Scott McClintock.

The Society for California Archaeology annual meeting was very educational and well attended by our membership. Our thanks to Gary Holmes for organizing and manning the CDAS table. Please read his report below.

The Colorado Desert District and ABF held their annual volunteer gala where many of our members were recognized for their efforts and contributions. Special recognition goes out to Chuck Bennett who accomplished the 5,000 hour level with 5,505 hours and Sam Webb for having the most volunteer hours of any active park volunteer. Of course no one really knows (not even Astrid!) truly how many hours Sam accumulated so far in his remarkable volunteer career. CDAS members were recognized for contributing 5,591 hours in 2017. However, we all know that that there are many more hours left unreported. You can see a complete list of our member's awards in the [Volunteer Gala](#) report below.

Thank you again for your continued efforts.

Please Mark the Dates:

Please note that the Fall Kick-Off Meeting has been rescheduled to Sunday October 21, 2018

Annual Meeting: January 26, 2019

Archaeology Weekend: February 23 & 24, 2019

John Downing

Notes from the Park

March was full of projects and events. We continued with the Archaeology class and field work until the students finished their last field visit to an area above Peg Leg. An area of ground was studded with modern rock alignments forming the shapes of animals, a snake, a tortoise, a butterfly, a bird's head and a bighorn. There were other motifs, a kind of star sundial and some I'm sure I'm missing. We dismantled some cairns, but I will speak to law enforcement before we dismantle the others.

Vice Chair	Julie Nyssen janysen@gmail.com
Secretary	Mary Lou White Maryloulizard@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

Students took their final exam on the 17th, amidst much anxiety, but all in all, did very well! They were issued special completion certificates beautifully crafted by Sam Webb. Hopefully, many of these new graduates will participate in our next survey on the 24th at Lucky 5-2. I feel that each student has something important to contribute to our volunteer force, we welcome them into the CDAS fold.

We had a celebrity visit from the California State Parks Cultural Resources Division Chief, Leslie Hartzell. She was very impressed with our facility and was excited to see our collections. We went out into the field and she observed some very old stone tools. Mostly at her desk in Sacramento, she was so pleased to find some artifacts. She still has the eye!

Archaeology work gave us a full month of projects and we were pleased to accomplish so much! Sadly, I had to file three impact reports on some of our resources, milling station at Bow Willow, more digging in East Mesa, and tire tracks over the axe intaglio.

Let's get out there, Site Stewards, the site and impact reports are very important. As always, I sincerely appreciate the work you all do.

Robin



Hayley Elsken and Gary Holmes in the CDAS booth

SCA Annual Meeting

CDAS showed up in strength for the annual meeting of the Society for California Archaeology (SCA) held in Mission Valley, March 8th thru 11th. Hayley Elsken, our new Associate State Archaeologist, not only attended many of the sessions but also filled in meeting and greeting people at our CDAS display in the Book Room.

Retired archaeologist Joan Schneider stopped by to say hello with her good friend Claude Warren, a legend in Southern California archaeology. Sam and Astrid Webb showed up early Saturday to spend a considerable part of their day helping out at our table display.

Pat Downing participated in a committee meeting of the California Archaeological Site Stewardship Program (CASSP) since she is heavily involved in our Site Steward program together with Lisa Pridmore and Randy Redfern. Her husband John, with his 10-year background doing underwater archaeology, found several related seminars to keep him busy.

Sally Bickerton and Suzanne Emery each prepared posters as representatives of our Site Steward Program for a session hosted by CASSP dedicated to the work of site stewards.

CDAS was represented by at least 10 to 15 members at this annual meeting. Next year the SCA's Annual Meeting will be in Sacramento from Thursday, March 7 – Sunday, March 10, 2019. Gary Holmes



CDAS members at the gala

Volunteer Gala

What fun to be served an excellent Italian dinner by Park and ABF staff. CDAS was well represented in receiving cumulative hours pins:

100+ hours: L.Louise Jee, Martin Rubicalva
 250+ hours: Lance Deibler, Mary Lou White
 500+ hours: Pat Downing, Gary Holmes, Paula Huls, Rick Huls
 1,000+ hours: Randy Redfern, Stan Rohrer
 1,500+ hours: Don Endicott
 5,000+ hours: Chuck Bennett

Site Stewards

Our set up team of Randy Redfern and Lisa Pridmore have been busy with new set ups at Ghost mountain, Pena Springs, Cougar Canyon and Clark Lake Petroglyphs.

We're adding a list of Site Steward substitutes to our web site in the members section. All site visits should be made in pairs, so if you need a partner, you may contact these stewards. If you would like your name added to the substitute list, please email me at pdsnewmail@gmail.com

Don't forget your site visits and reports!
 Pat Downing

NAT tour offers insight into Cerutti Mastodon mystery

On February 28, CDAS members rendezvoused at the San Diego Natural History Museum in Balboa Park for an escorted tour of the Cerutti Mastodon site exhibit. Welcoming us was Tom Deméré, Ph.D., curator of the Paleontology Department and director of PaleoServices.

For more than two hours, Dr. Deméré provided us with first-hand knowledge of the site — from the original excavation in 1992 that he led, to the 22 years of analyzing the findings, and to the ongoing controversy over its significance.

Proposing that there is solid evidence of human presence in San Diego County more than 100,000 years earlier than previously thought has elicited a robust response from the archaeology community — and numerous rebuttal papers.

We began our tour at the second-floor exhibit, which through photos, videos, maps, timelines, and bones and rocks from the site, chronicled the laborious research undertaken by Dr. Deméré, Dr. Steven Holen and Kathleen Holen, and a team of renowned scientists.

Dr. Deméré then took us into the inner sanctum of the museum, where vast collections of fossilized flora and fauna are stored in banks of fortified cabinets. He selected several items from the Cerutti site to pass around, pointing out pertinent fractures and characteristics.

Throughout the tour, Dr. Deméré generously answered all questions from our group. He candidly acknowledged the contentious reactions to the Cerutti hypothesis. He agrees that more research is needed. He also proposes that the site could be remnants of a very brief habitation.

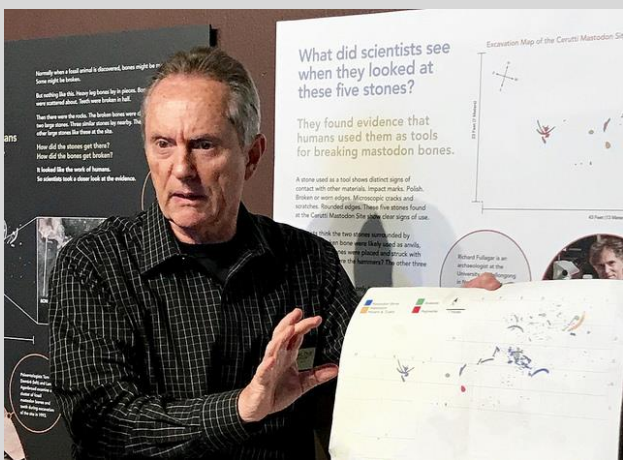
Many thanks to Pat Downing for arranging the tour, and to Chuck Bennett for suggesting it. It nicely complemented the presentation by the Holens at the December CDAS symposium.
 Laurie Brindle



500 hour awards for Pat Downing and Gary Holmes



Randy Redfern assisting new stewards Dennis Connors and Gary Holmes at Ghost Mountain



Dr. Tom Deméré explains the Cerutti Mastodon site map to CDAS members at the San Diego Natural History Museum in Balboa Park.

Site Stewardship as seen through the eyes of Carol Black

When visiting Borrego Springs in 1997, my first experience during a morning walk was interrupted by a car coming down the road...just one. That's when I knew this is where I wanted to be. I finally purchased my own home in 2002. It was the next year when I became certified as an Archaeology Technician then next a Site Steward, and the journey began.

So now I was entrusted with my own piece of desert to study, to protect, and to steward. My assignment was to monitor artifacts and features, however along the way I learned to experience the entire site through a wider lens.

As an outdoor enthusiast, and being a long distance bicycler, my greatest joy was to be on the road to anywhere. And the possibilities of adventure in the desert were limitless. So much to see.

I hung out with the Borrego Peakers, a group whose goal was to hike to the top of everything, sign the register in the stashed coffee can and then plan where to go the next day. I looked ahead.

Birding with locals, participating in the Christmas Bird Count, watching hawks and finally getting serious enough to invest in a set of great binoculars, I looked up.

Taking Botany classes (multiple times) gave me the scientific labels to call out the names of an abundance of flowers and shrubs. Through a loupe I looked at amazing intricate reproductive structures and strategies. I looked into.

It was tracking with the San Diego Tracking Team, studying the ground for signs of creatures and how they adapt to the desert which served to round out my vision. I looked down.

So now when I visit our site, shared with two other stewards, Julie Nyssen and Virginia Perrine, I see the wide angle view, the whole picture as some would say. All those interrelated resources have come together; the view, the rocks, the plants, the birds, the animals, and the signs of peoples who came before me. What a sight!

Stewarding has been the culmination of a long road but not a lonely one. I will be forever grateful for all my teachers, mentors and guides who along the way shared their knowledge and expanded my view from here to out there. So I encourage every steward to get out there, the view is waiting.

The Library Corner

April BARC Book of the Month

Women and Power in Native North America

This is a fascinating read on the varied roles of women within numerous pre-contact North American cultures. Though this tome does not address any of our local tribes it gives a fair representation of the diverse makeup of different native societies across our continent.

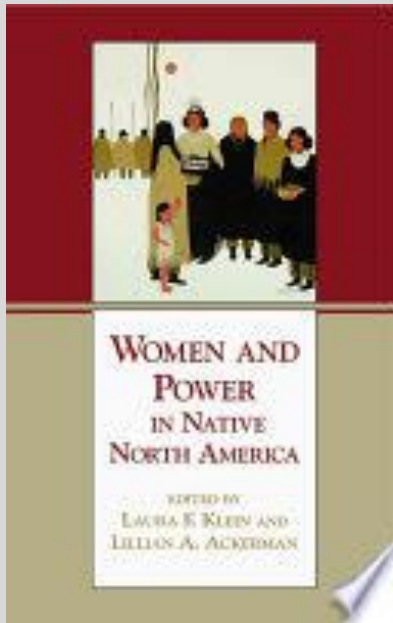
Since the colonization of indigenous peoples in North America, the roles of Native women within their societies have been concealed or misunderstood. This book follows gender status, and



John Case, Lance Deibler and John Downing inspect a calcified bone fragments from the Cerutti site.



Site Steward Carol Blacks' selfie



particularly power, in ten culture areas. It draws away the curtain of silence surrounding the lives of Native North American women. Some cultures were patriarchal in nature while others were matriarchal. Some were a mix of divided or equal status between the sexes.

Example: Were you aware that at least within one culture divorce was an accepted practice and women could claim their own property and maintain individual wealth?

All of this makes for a fun and informative read. Remember, often, sometimes a better knowledge of the past can give us an insight to understanding present day circumstance and behavior.

* Klein, Laura F. & Lillian A Ackerman. 1995. *Women and Power in Native North America*. Norman, OK. University of Oklahoma Press.

Roger Riolo

CDAS Shirts

In the near future, we will be sending out a survey to see if members are interested in purchasing a shirt embroidered with our CDAS logo. We are looking into offering a long sleeve chambray shirt, along with the bright blue polo shirts that were available a few years ago. At this time, our inventory is extremely limited. With a growing & changing membership, we would like to make them available again for you to wear to represent our organization. It is especially helpful to the public when we are easily identifiable during events like Archeology Weekend or during a Begole Center open house. It also instills a sense of pride to our members whose generous service allows our cultural resource protection program to flourish. The shirts will be made available at our cost. We will be using "survey monkey" in an email so please respond with your preferences when you receive it. We will proceed with the order if our member's interest supports it so please respond when it comes to you via email.



March Continuing Education First Class Completed

The first Continuing Education class completed on Sunday, March 4th. There were two short sessions; one on Photography for Archaeology by Rick Huls and one on Stewardship & More by Roger Riolo.

Photography for Archaeology: Some guidelines and tips were presented to make photography more efficient and better, whether on a field survey or site steward photo monitoring. Participants brought in their cameras and learned how to change settings to capture more meaningful photographs.

Stewardship & More: Covered the basics of stewardship and its responsibility followed by a lively discussion on the ethics involved with stewardship. There is a balancing act that all of us, as stewards of our park, must decide on whether to "protect" or to "share and develop new stewards."

A big THANK YOU to our presenters, Roger Riolo and Rick Huls. Though our first class was small, everyone walked away with some



Sam Webb leads a BARC tour for University of Virginia students visiting for invasive plant eradication.



[La Rumorosa Rock Art Tour](#)

new tidbit or a new perspective.

Our next Continuing Education class will be on April 21st, Saturday. The topic is [Archaeo-geology](#) and will be presented by Fred Jee. This will be a two part class; classroom session and field session. Please contact Paula at randphuls@gmail.com to register for this free class. For class details [see the flyer](#).

Paula Huls

Continuing Education Chair

La Rumorosa Rock Art Tour

Join us Saturday October 27 for a full day tour of La Rumorosa rock art site and the Tecate and Campo Alaska Museums. For details [see the flyer](#):

Sponsored by other groups:

California Rock Art Foundation:

CRAF offers field trips of interest for rock art aficionados.

Upcoming trips are to Little Petroglyph Canyon in the Cosos.

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

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:

Interested in local history? Join us for a Director's Hike to Miller Spring

Sunday April 1

<http://www.ivdesertmuseum.org>

Photo Credits: Sam Webb, Robin Connors, Laurie Brindle, Lisa Pridmore

Colorado Desert Archaeology Society

invites you to a one day Tour

La Rumorosa Rock Art in Vallecitos and Campo Alaska Museum

Itinerary:

9:00am - 9:30am arrive in Tecate, CA (U.S. side of the Border)

Transportation at Border Mexican side

9:30am - 11:00am Guided tour of Kumiai museum/Tecate Community
Museum

11:00am Travel to Town of La Rumorosa

12:00pm Lunch in Restaurant near Rock Art Reserve

1:00pm - 2:30pm guided (Spanish & English) tour of Rock Art-Vallecitos

2:30pm - 3:30pm Campo Alaska Museum

4:30pm - 5:00pm Arrive at border for return

ITINERARY SUBJECT TO CHANGE

REGISTER NOW!!

October, 27, 2018

Cost per person:

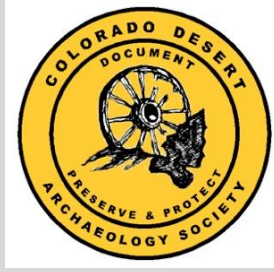
\$75.00 Dlls

Cost Includes:

**Transportation, Guide, Entrance fee to Vallecitos and
Museums, Lunch, Water, Tips and donation to CAREM.**



For further information please contact Pat Downing. Pdsnewmail@gmail.com



CDAS Continuing Education Program

April 21st, 2018 (Saturday)

9 am to 2 pm

Archaeo-Geology presented by Fred Jee

What did the landscape/geology look like to the people of 10,000 years ago? How about 1,000 years ago or even 500 years ago? What happened to make these changes? How did it impact the people and animals in this area? Come learn about the landscape and how it impacted early cultures and animals.

We will start at 9:00 am in the BARC Library. The classroom session will be approximately 2 hours. Then we'll take a short break and form into carpools. The second half of the class will be out in the field to view some of the geologic formations discussed earlier. You need to bring a lunch as the lunch break will be out in the field. We plan to return to the BARC by 2:00 pm.

To register, please contact Paula Huls at randphuls@gmail.com. This session is open to all archaeology volunteers at no cost. **You must register as class size is limited to 20.** Bring lunch, water, hiking shoes & hat. 4WD is recommended. We will be carpooling, so when registering please indicate what type of vehicle you have, how many passengers you can take, or if you'll need a ride.