



Colorado Desert Archaeology Society

CDAS BULLETIN

DECEMBER 2018

DECEMBER CALENDAR

www.anzaborregoarchaeo.org/calendar

- **LAB DAY & LIBRARY OPEN**
Every Tuesday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
B.A.R.C.
- **FIELD DAY: PINYON MOUNTAIN**
Saturday, 12/1, 12/8 and 12/15.
See *Better Impact* for details.
- **CDAS Speaker: Mallory Genauer**
"Post-Historic Kumeyaay Nation"
Friday, 12/21 11 a.m.
Visitor Center (Please see page 7)
- **CDAS Steering Committee**
Friday, 12/21, NOTE: **1:30 p.m.**
BARC Library

STEERING COMMITTEE

The Steering Committee convenes once a month during the season (October through April). Meetings are open to all members. If you have any comments or suggestions and cannot attend a meeting, please contact one of the following members:

Chair: **John Downing**

714-615-2137

johndowning2014@outlook.com

Secretary: **Mary Lou White**

760-765-2331

marylouizard@gmail.com

Treasurer: **Rick Huls**

randphuls@gmail.com

Member: **Gary Holmes**

GHBorrego@pobox.com

Member : **Paula Huls**

randphuls@gmail.com

Member: **Eugenie Newton**

eNewton8@gmail.com

Member: **Suzanne Emery**

powaywoman@gmail.com

FROM THE CHAIR



JOHN DOWNING

It is my pleasure to announce that Suzanne Emery has been unanimously confirmed as a CDAS Steering Committee member by a vote of active members. Her knowledge, experience and contacts within the Kumeyaay community — as well as her enthusiasm — make her a welcome addition to our leadership team. She replaces a member who recently resigned.

Regarding our steering committee: We will have two open positions for the steering committee with an election to be held in January. I encourage members to consider volunteering for nomination.

With a committee of seven to share the work, this can be an interesting and rewarding experience. Join us and help steer the course of our growing society.

Training has begun for new archaeology technicians and site stewards with a total of 35 excellent candidates. On November 17, Robin and Pat Downing conducted site-steward training for the entire group. The next day, 15 site stewards received their field training and are now ready for site set-up. See Page 8 for a complete report on these activities.

Please remember these important dates: 1) Annual Meeting: January 26 at the UCI Steele-Burnand Desert Research Center and 2) Archaeology Weekend: February 22, 23, & 24.

NOTES FROM THE PARK



ROBIN CONNORS

Hayley and Robin have been working on several projects including an excavation with paleontology, total station training, gathering hours from volunteers for end of year recognition, and training a new batch of Volunteer

Archaeology Technicians and Site Steward Volunteers for the Park.

We have a record number of participants due to the marketing efforts of John and Pat Downing. We have 20 Arch Tech students and 15 new site stewards. The arch Techs also took the steward training and many of them are

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New Arch Tech class with Rick and Paula Huls, John Downing, Jean Paul Carrere and Lance Deibler.

Photo by Rick Huls

NOTES FROM THE PARK *Continued from page 1*

looking forward to being placed with needy sites.

We've been working on a joint archaeology and paleontology project developing protocols for collaborative excavations or other projects. We look forward to melding our volunteers with paleo volunteers so we can collaborate on projects together. Lance Deibler joined us out in the field. We're looking for volunteers with excavation experience to join us on this project. We're limiting it to four people who can schedule and rotate in and out of the field, so must only choose those with some desert excavation experience. We're happy to be working with Mario Morales again, he is not only a great help with the project, he also offers valuable advice from the Native perspective.

Hayley and Robin had some invaluable training from Bob Caswell on our Total Station, a kind of computerized theodolite. The instrument must be placed on a set point and from there, sighting information with a back site is entered and the Total Station "sets" itself in the world. From there it's just a matter of positioning a rod with a prism at the base and shooting a laser into the prism which reflects information on height, elevation and distance in the form of a numeric digital code. We are anxious to get it set up and work on our excavation



Sandra Keeley and Linda Sund from Paleo working on an archaeo/paleo project.

Photo by Rick Huls

project to make sure we accurately assess where the units lie in the space we've sectioned off.

Folks are responding well to Better Impact, again, there are a few quirks, so if you would please continue to let us know your problems, we'll get to them as soon as we can. Your patience is appreciated.

The Interpretive program for CDD is ready to go with their first tour happening on the 23rd. We would like to kind of spruce up the BARC, and some ideas would be well received. Maybe I need to clear off my desk!

On that note, I hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving. I know what we're thankful for: Our Great Volunteers!

— Robin Connors



Students walking to their new site.

Photo by Rick Huls

Nominate now!

Do you know anyone who would be a helpful voice in guiding CDAS? Maybe it's you!

CDAS has two open positions on the steering committee. Nominations and elections for these positions will be held prior to our annual meeting on January 26th. We are asking for each member's participation in the nomination and election process to fill these two committee openings.

The steering committee is the hub for organizing archaeology activities to support CDAS volunteers and provide vital assistance to park archaeologists. Robin Connors and Haley Elsen. Meetings are on the third Friday of the month from October to April.

Active CDAS members who have completed and recorded at least 40 hours of volunteer activities, or two (2) or more site stewardship visits during 2018 are eligible to be on the steering committee and to vote.

Nominations will be open from December 3-22. Please consider nominating yourself or another member!

Watch for the "Nominations Open" email for more information.

CDAS Nominating Committee
Eugenie Newton and Sally Bickerton

Treasure hunt!

Tired of looking at that picture or piece of art? Is there a small appliance that was used only once or twice and now you don't want it or use it anymore? Have duplicate tools?

Consider bringing these quality, gently used items for our Silent Auction. If you know of a local artist or business, please reach out to them and see if they would be willing to donate an item or service.

We will be accepting items for the auction at the BARC Library on Tuesdays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., starting now until the 9th of February. The CDAS Silent Auction will be held on Saturday, February 23rd, during Archaeology Weekend. Thank you very much!

Paula L. Huls
Silent Auction Committee

Robin Connors

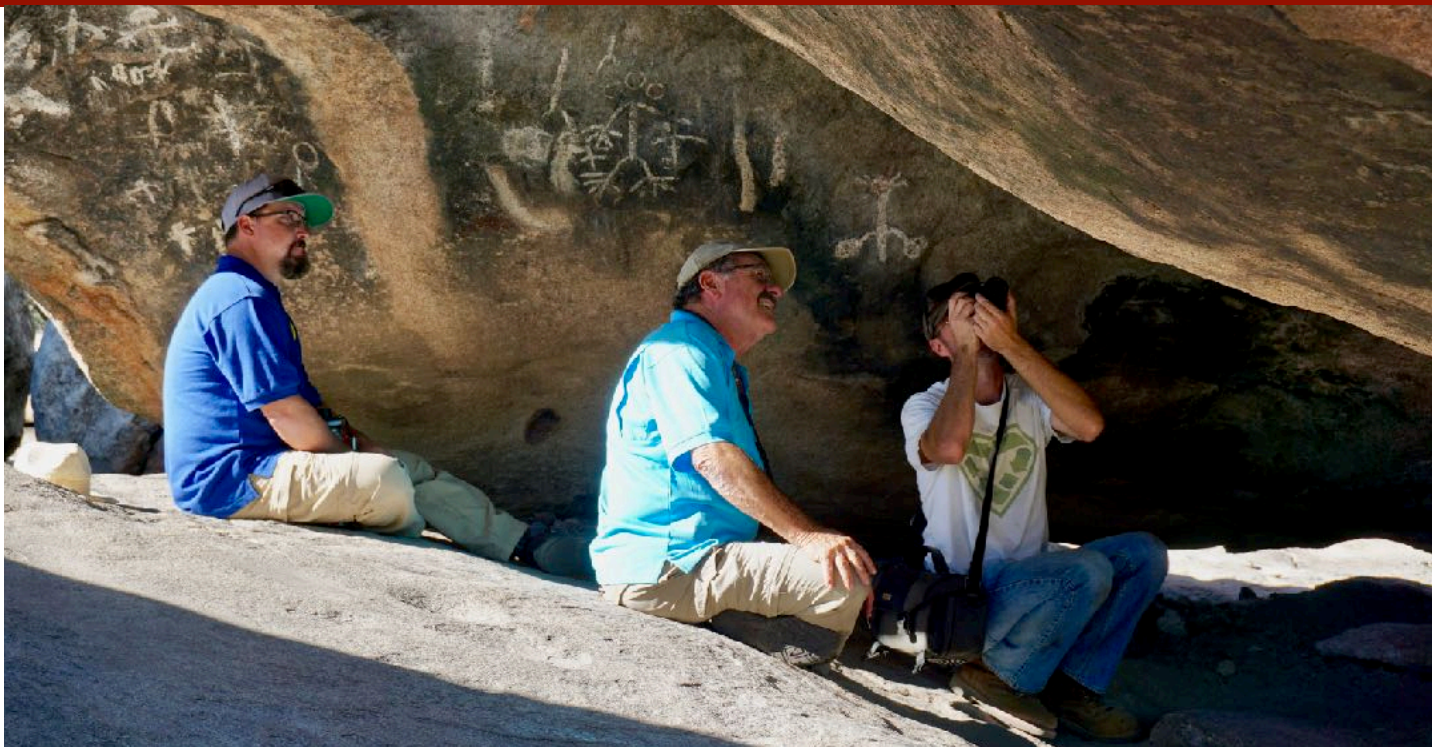
Associate State Archaeologist
robin.connors@parks.ca.gov
760-767-5790



Hayley Elsen

Associate State Archaeologist
hayley.elsen@parks.ca.gov

LA RUMOROSA, MEXICO



L to R: Shay McGhee, John Downing and Jeremy Freeman check out prehistoric pictographs at the El Vallecito archaeological site.

Photo by Laurie Brindle

CDAS members visit famed archaeology sites during south-of-the-border tour

Thanks to the superb planning by Pat Downing, 19 CDAS members enjoyed a day-long tour south of the border to learn more about Kumeyaay culture and to see the stunning rock art at the El Vallecito archaeological site near the Mexican town of La Rumorosa.



The "El Tiburon" (the shark) site.

Photo by Sherry Mitchell

Our group rendezvoused at the specified parking lot and walked across the border into Tecate. There we met our affable and knowledgeable guide,

Francisco "Tati" Detrell. We boarded our small white commuter van (some would say squeezed into — good thing we are a friendly group) and drove a short distance to the Kumeyaay and Tecate Community Center museums ("Museo Comunitario Kumiai" and "Museo Comunitario de Tecate" in Spanish)

The dome-shaped rock and brick structure of the Kumeyaay museum, designed by world-renowned architectural firm of Hubbell and Hubbell, houses a large, semi-circular, hand-painted mural of a typical Kumeyaay village. It also has displays of traditional basketry and ollas (ceramic pots), as well as video screens for multimedia presentations. There Tati discussed timelines of Kumeyaay and their predecessors, the Yuman. As hunters and gatherers, these prehistoric people lived by the rhythms of the nature. They practiced a sustainable economy by moving from the Pacific coast to the gulf coast and back, traversing the peninsular mountain range,



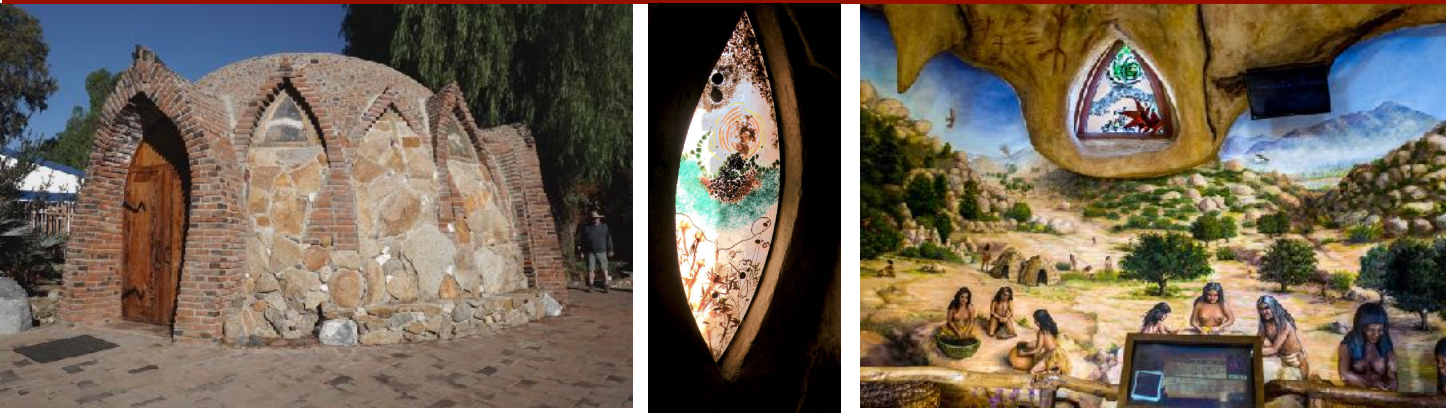
Our guide for the day, Francisco "Tati" Detrell, at the Museo Comunitario Kumiai in Tecate.

Photo by Laurie Brindle

depending on the time of year and the availability of resources. They marked the winter solstice and other celestial events

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LA RUMOROSA, MEXICO



The Museo Comunitario Kumiai was designed by the architectural firm of Hubbell and Hubbell. Photos (L to R) by Laurie Brindle, Sherry Mitchell and Rick Huls

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and knew exactly when to harvest hundreds of native plants for food and medicines.

The adjacent community center museum featured contemporary local culture, including educational displays about the advent of the railroads, the ranchos, the famed Rancho La Puerta spa, and an collection of now obsolete household items such as a wringer washing machine, TV consoles and a wood-burning kitchen stove.

After a hearty lunch at La Cabaña del Abuelo in La Rumorosa, we journeyed on to see the famed rock art. Tati had procured our entrance tickets, but we had to purchase additional passes to take photographs, which we eagerly did. For more than two hours, we hiked from one

remarkable site to another, transfixed by the number of superb images, many of which were in shallow caves or sheltered by huge rock overhangs. Several members utilized their “D-Stretch” phone apps, which dramatically enhances a pictograph photo, often revealing layers of pigment invisible to the human eye.

As described by archaeologist Ken Hedges, the pictographs are fine examples of the La Rumorosa style of rock art, which is characterized by “digitate anthromorphs,” human figures with hands and/or feet. There are also sun bursts, grids, circles and lizard motifs.

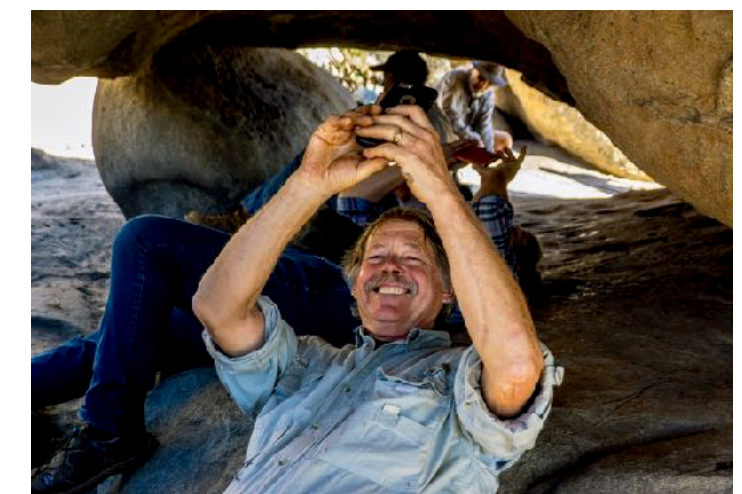
One of the better known pictographs we viewed was “El Diablito,” an image of a man with what looks like horns. It’s notable because the sun illuminates its

eyes during the winter solstice.

We also paid a quick visit to the Campo Alaska Museum, a formidable stone building that was originally headquarters for government officials. Today it features a collection of native artifacts and contemporary art exhibits and installations.

Tati summed up our tour by questioning our current society’s distance from nature. When did we lose that connection? He stressed that we have much to learn from studying ancient cultures and their relationship to nature. We should question how we can apply their wisdom to our own lives.

— *Laurie Brindle*



ABOVE: Lance Deibler under a ledge at the El Vallecito archaeological site
Photo by Rick Huls

LEFT: Tour guide Tati, John Downing and one of the knowledgeable site monitors discuss D-Stretch photography. Photo by Laurie Brindle

Technology aids viewing of faded, ancient pictographs

The advent of computer software programs and digital camera apps that enhance photos of pictographs has been a game changer. The original program and phone app is called D-Stretch, but since its release, the name has often been used (incorrectly) to refer to any photo enhancement process.

D-Stretch has become invaluable for in-the-field research. It should be noted, however, that D-Stretch isn't designed to create "pretty pictures," it is meant as a diagnostic and recording tool that makes visible elements of glyphs that cannot be seen by naked eye. But it's also a whole lot of fun to use.

BEFORE



AFTER



ABOVE: These before-and-after examples were taken (and enhanced) by John Downing using D-Stretch on his Android Samsung Galaxy mobile phone.

BEFORE



John Case photographed the famed El Diablito pictograph at El Vallecito as it appears on the rock at the site (above) with his iPhone, and then enhanced it using the iDStretch app (below).

AFTER



USING PHOTOSHOP



ABOVE: Rick Huls achieved results similar to D-Stretch by enhancing his Sony DSLR photos in Adobe PhotoShop.

LA RUMOROSA, MEXICO



CDAS members take a break to pose for photo, taken by our chauffeur with Rick Huls' camera.



ABOVE: Archaeologist Jeremy Freeman

BELOW: Tour guide Tati and John Case

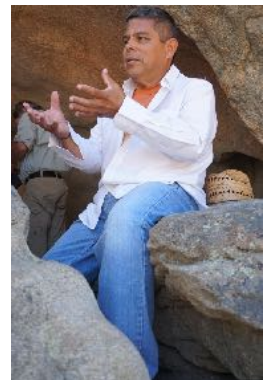


Pat Downing and John Case bend over backwards to get their photos.



Rick Huls and his supine colleagues enjoy the pictographs and some shade.

ABOVE AND RIGHT: Our outstanding tour guides at the El Vallecito archaeological site near La Rumorosa, Mexico



BELOW: CDAS members are clearly not afraid to get down and dirty when documenting rare pictographs in the field.

Photos (except top left) by Laurie Brindle



SUZANNE EMERY

By Sally Bickerton

Though our newest CDAS Steering Committee member, Suzanne Emery, has long had an interest in the indigenous people of San Diego, she first began her work with CDAS as a site steward in 2010. She stewards the very heavily visited Mine Wash Site, with various other stewards, now that her husband of many years (48!), Bob, passed away.

Suzanne, a retired teacher and newspaper reporter, is active at the Kumeyaay Ipai Interpretive Center in her hometown of Poway. If you have not yet visited the Center, it is open the 2nd and 4th Saturdays to the public, in addition to offering programs for about 2000 elementary students and hundreds of adults annually. She has enjoyed taking various classes at Kumeyaay Community College, as well, including language classes, native tools, and ethnobotany. Her knowledge of native plants and their use has been shared with visitors and fellow CDAS members for the past five years during Archaeology Weekend. (One of my favorite spots to hang out and soak up knowledge!)

Mine Wash, being a large site that is identified on ABDSP maps, and on an easily traveled dirt road, has some unique issues. It is visited by school children annually, and until the Park constructed a pit toilet nearby, toilet paper litter was an ongoing issue. Once two dirt motorcycle ramps were built on the site, which required Park repairs. Other damage has included several illegal campfires, rock stacking, and the attempted removal of a very large artifact.



Suzanne Emery

Photo courtesy of Suzanne Emery

Anyone who has had the opportunity to talk to Suzanne knows her enthusiasm for ABDSP, ethnobotany, and life! She enjoys having a second home in Borrego, allowing her to visit often. She shared that what she loves most about her work at Mine Wash, is that it “gives me a platform to share the past, how to love the past and keep it attractive for future generations, and begin to understand how that affects who we are today.”

Post-Historic Kumeyaay Nation lecture slated for Dec. 21st

Friday, December 21 • 11 a.m.
Visitor Center, 200 Palm Canyon Drive
Borrego Springs, CA 92004
Open to the public



Our December speaker at the Visitor Center will be Mallory Genauer, MA, education coordinator of the Barona Cultural Center and Museum.

Ms. Genauer has a master’s degree in archaeology and a certificate in museology/museum studies.

To support her outreach presentations to local groups, she often brings examples of typical lifestyle items common to the Kumeyaay, beginning in the prehistoric period. Such items include skirts made from willow bark that women wore. The bark was first soaked in water and then pounded until it became soft and flowing.

The Kumeyaay also traded for obsidian, highly prized for the sharp edge that could be created for projectile points and hand tools.

Ms. Genauer will talk about the arrival of the Spanish in Kumeyaay territory in 1769 and the subsequent establishment of the mission system — and its profound effect on the Kumeyaay lifestyle.

For a more modern view, she will explain the separation of the Kumeyaay into the Barona and the Viejas bands in the 1900s.

This lecture is one of a monthly series co-sponsored by CDAS and the Anza Borrego Desert State Park Visitor Center.

PLEASE NOTE: There apparently is a new park policy that people attending the speakers program at the Visitor Center are no longer exempt from the \$10 per vehicle fee to enter. So be sure to have your 2018 Volunteer Card with you if attending.

— Gary Holmes

SITE STEWARDS

Site steward trainees participate in on-site field training at “Chuparosa”

At full capacity, the two-day CDAS Site Steward training was held the weekend of Nov. 17 and 18 at UCI’s Steele-Burnand Anza Borrego Desert Research Center. The 15 future stewards joined 20 members of the six-week archaeology technician class, taught by California State Park Archaeologist, Robin Connors.

CDAS Steering Committee Chair John Downing welcomed everyone and gave an introduction to CDAS and its mission. Robin provided an overview of the 650,000-acre Anza-Borrego Desert State Park, the largest in the country. She emphasized the need to preserve and protect the remains of those who lived here before. Robin also covered the area’s fascinating history, the strict protocol of documenting artifacts in the field, as well as the numerous archaeology-related events and activities scheduled throughout the year.

Each site steward trainee received a packet of forms that must be filled out, along with Live Scans, in order to complete the training.

State Park Ranger Carina Hammang stopped by (wearing the requisite 40 pounds of defensive equipment) to explain the duties and responsibilities of the park’s rangers, stressing that it’s their job to deal with violations in the park. Site Stewards should report any destructive or dangerous activities immediately and absolutely not confront anyone. Stewards should also leave the scene right away so as not to be identified and to ensure their safety.

Pat Downing outlined site steward requirements and the forms used when visiting sites. John Downing discussed how to submit photographs and how to use a GPS.

On Sunday, the group toured “Chuparosa,” one of the many sites monitored by CDAS stewards. The Downings demonstrated field exploration techniques, how to set up photo stations and the correct way to document findings.

Story and photos by Laurie Brindle



Mandie Carter discusses Kumeyaay customs.



John Downing photographs a pottery sherd as Pat Downing holds the measuring setup while Pam Gilb looks on.



Marv Coppess studies the photo station log.



Chris Clark, Steve Lacy and Steve Scarona observe rock formations.



2018 CDAS Site Steward training class at the Chuparosa site in Borrego Springs

State Park

Battlefield Reenactment

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2

11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

15808 San Pasqual Valley Road
along Highway 78 in Escondido.

Free and open to the public

The San Pasqual Battlefield Volunteer Association will present their annual mounted reenactment of the famous November 1846 battle at the San Pasqual Battlefield State Park.

This free event includes living history activities, a military encampment, period demonstrations, and entertainment. Be aware that this state park is only open on Saturdays and Sundays.

Upcoming Events And Resources

Anza Borrego Foundation

"New Discoveries in the American Paleolithic: The Pre-16,000BP Archaeological Record

January 10-12, 2019

<http://www.theabf.org/new-discoveries-american-paleolithic>

California Rock Art Foundation

New Moon Great Murals Pack Trip
Baja, Mexico March 6-13, 2019*

<https://www.carockart.org/field-trips.html>

Imperial Valley Desert Museum

<http://www.ivdesertmuseum.org>

San Diego County Archaeological Society

<http://sandiegoarchaeology.org>

Barona Cultural Center and Museum

<https://www.baronamuseum.com>

Malki Museum

<http://malkimuseum.org>

We want your news!

If you have events or items that you would like included in future publications of the CDAS Bulletin, please send them to Laurie Brindle at CDASBulletin@anzaborregoarchaeo.org

BOOK REVIEW

Publications in Cultural Heritage Number 34

"ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE KUMEYAAY:

Contributions to the Prehistory of Cuyamaca Rancho State Park, San Diego County, California."

This publication is highly recommended for members who would like to increase their knowledge of archaeological survey and analysis techniques and to gain a better understanding of the Kumeyaay and their late prehistoric material culture.

This publication includes two reports:

1) **"The Stacked Stone Site, CA-SDI-17666,"** written by Joan S. Schneider, Ph.D.

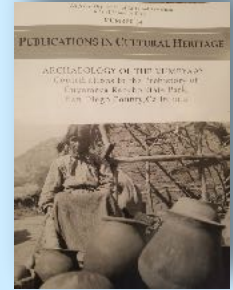
In 2005, a post-fire inventory of the West Side Trail was conducted by Colorado Desert District cultural resources team headed by Bonnie Bruce and assisted by Colorado Desert Archaeological Society members. The inventory discovered a previously unknown site judged to be in pristine original context. Subsequently the site was surveyed with the assistance of CDAS volunteers.

This book provides an excellent review of the discovery, survey and analysis processes conducted by park archaeologists and volunteers. The study and analysis provide a great deal of information about the Kumeyaay and their material culture as found in our region.

2) **"The Dripping Springs Site, CA-SDI-860,"** written by Lynn H. Gamble, U.C. Santa Barbara.

This report describes a modern (2008) survey of a significant archaeological site in Cuyamaca Rancho State Park. Although first investigated by Malcom Rogers and later by D.L. True, this report provides important new information about the late prehistoric occupants of one of the most significant villages in this region.

This book is available in hard copy or can be downloaded free in .pdf format. Link to: https://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=29812 for details.



— John Downing

Attention, Site Stewards! We need you to be mentors

We trained 35 new site stewards the weekend of November 17 and 18. Twenty of this group are also training as archaeology technicians. We'd love to get these new stewards out in the field as soon as possible.

If you are planning a site visit and are willing to take a new steward along with you, please contact me pdsnew-mail@gmail.com with the details of your planned visit, and we will match you with a new steward. Also, if you need a new or additional partner please let me know.

In preparing for our recent Site Steward training, we created a new document to help with your site reports and photos. "Tips for Emailing Site Steward Photos and Reports" can be found in the Members Section of <https://www.anzaborregoarchaeo.org/membership-login/> It gives suggestions on several ways to size your photos and email them with just a few key strokes, for both PC and Mac users. Your continued stewardship and reporting is greatly appreciated!

— Pat Downing