



Colorado Desert Archaeology Society

CDAS BULLETIN

MARCH 2019

MARCH CALENDAR

www.anzaborregoarchaeo.org/calendar

• LAB DAY & LIBRARY OPEN

Every Tuesday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
BARC Library

• FIELD SURVEY IN VALLECITOS CREEK AREA — HISTORICAL SITE

Friday & Saturday, 3/8 and 3/9
See *Better Impact* for details

• CDAS / ABDSP SPEAKER —

“Desert Big Horn Sheep”
by Mark Jorgensen.
Friday, 3/15, 11 a.m.
ABDSP Visitor Center

• CDAS STEERING COMMITTEE

Friday, 3/15, 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

Treasurer: **Rick Huls**

randphuls@gmail.com

Member: **Dennis Connors**

dennis_connors@yahoo.com

Member: **Suzanne Emery**

powaywoman@gmail.com

Member: **Gary Holmes**

GHborrego@pobox.com

Member: **Paula Huls**

randphuls@gmail.com

Member: **Eugenie Newton**

enewton8@gmail.com



FROM THE CHAIR

JOHN DOWNING

Our signature outreach event of the year and our only fundraising activity, Archaeology Weekend, was another success. Despite cold weather and the uncertainty of mountain road conditions, we had a good number of visitors. Our Silent Auction raised \$3,574, which will be a welcome addition to our account.

Archaeology Weekend would not be possible without the significant contributions of our members, 40 of whom worked this event. It was especially exciting to have ten of our new members contribute to this team effort. Thank you for your efforts!

My special thanks go to the members who contributed so much time and energy towards the planning, organization and execution of this event. The following

members were activity leaders: Rick & Paula Huls: Silent Auction; Suzanne Emery: Speaker Recruitment and Native Plants Table; Gary Holmes: Setup Team; Eugenie Newton: Web and Print Media; Dennis Connors: Pottery Table; Don Endicott: Field Trips; Hayley Elsen & Sam Webb: BARC Tours; Laurie Brindle: Ice Cream Social; Virginia Perrine: Donations & Advertising; LuAnn Thompson & Astrid Webb: Kid's Table.

There will be an important GPS training class on Saturday, April 13, conducted by Don Endicott. Please mark your calendars. Don is well versed in the use of GPS and his presentation is interesting and educational. Attending this class will help fulfill your annual training requirement.

Best wishes to all for a beautiful spring season,

— *John Downing*



NOTES FROM THE PARK

ROBIN CONNORS

February was a great month, but I'm glad it was a short one!

As you all know, the CDAS archaeology weekend went off without a hitch, and although we didn't have as many visitors as we had in the past, those who did make it in to our Visitor Center had a great time. Hayley gave us her Saturday to give excellent tours in the BARC and Robin walked around and gave anyone who would listen, advice. Kudos to you CDAS for promoting the park cultural resources and the importance of the native heritage we are so proud to be stewards for.



Mandie Carter and Josh Breslow demonstrate how to make a clay bowl using traditional methods during Archaeology Weekend event.

Photo by Laurie Brindle

Continued on page 2



ABOVE: Stone tool in desert pavement
Photo by Robin Connors

BELOW: Milling feature
Photo by Chris Blake



We have the opportunity to send in more Begole specimens for dating with the Varnish Microlamination method and are looking for dates near the 17,500 years before present we obtained with our first sample. One of our Begole Sites, CA-SDi 1213 has been providing us with many new examples of varnish and rubification. Rubification is the reddish or yellow color found on the ventral (bottom) surface of a stone or a stone artifact. The site also offers us a beautiful example of intact desert pavement.

Our Indian Gorge Survey was successful and fun. We recorded many milling sites, potsherds and lithic flakes with participants Lance Deibler and Mary Lou White, Chris Blake, Jim Bryant, Rick and Paula Huls, Dennis Connors and Hayley and myself.

We were happy to host Camp Borrego and our brave little campers, whose camp experience consisted of getting out of the rain. I have never seen such a bedraggled little set of 5th graders. They were very happy to be in the nice warm BARC for a tour and a peek at our artifacts.



Indian Gorge with survey flags
Photo by Chris Blake

LuAnn Thompson gave them a lesson in pictographs and the stories they tell, and the kids were able to make their own.

Coming up we have the Vallecito Survey on March 8 and 9. Please sign up in Better Impact, or tell Hayley or myself that you'd like to participate. Vallecito has a long prehistoric presence layered with a rich history of ranchers.

Mid-February, we had two guests from Sacramento Headquarters come down and take a look at some of the cultural resources we had in mind for our annual training. Once a year, all of the State Park Archaeologists get together for a training, and this year it will be here in Anza Borrego Desert State Park. We're very pleased to be able to show off our rich resources to our fellow archaeologists. Recently, ABDSP is getting a lot of positive attention from Sacramento Park Headquarters Cultural Resources Division. CDAS and the CDD Archaeology Program are working together to share the wonderful resources found within our district.

Once again, thanks CDAS — we couldn't do it without you!

— Robin Connors

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ARCHAEOLOGY WEEKEND 2019

CDAS celebrates cultural heritage of Colorado Desert

Lectures, educational displays, hands-on children's activities, BARC tours and a silent auction keep visitors engaged with region's vibrant past and present

"To keep you current as we explore the past"

Taking its tagline to heart, the Colorado Desert Archaeology Society presented Archaeology Weekend 2019, its annual signature event on February 23-24 at the ABDSP Visitor Center and the Begole Archaeological Research Center.

Complementing the displays, lectures and BARC tours, honored members of the PaiPai people from Baja returned to the event, bringing much sought-after collections of handmade craft items. Artisans demonstrated traditional pottery and basketry techniques on site.

Saturday's events also included a successful silent auction and ended on a sweet note with an old-fashioned ice cream social.

On Sunday, CDAS members led hikes to the Blair Valley and Mine Wash archaeology sites.

Many thanks to everyone who contributed to this wonderful event.



To the delight of his audience, "Running Grunion" (AKA Abel Silva) shared first-hand knowledge of tribal history and culture through his unique and lively storytelling. Regina Reiter (left) and Ava Ciaramella Webb assisted with the narration.

Story and photo by Laurie Brindle



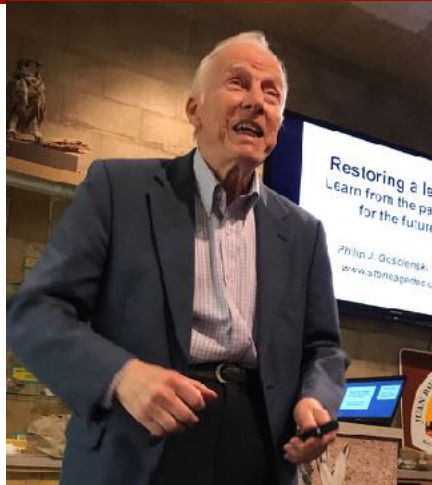
Members of the PaiPai people from Baja display exquisite handmade wares at Archaeology Weekend 2019.

Photo by Sam Webb

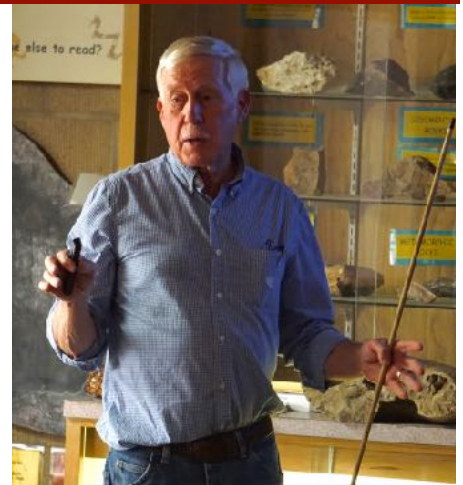
ARCHAEOLOGY WEEKEND 2019



Steven Freers, author
"Rock Art of the Colorado Desert"



David Goscienski, MD "Stone Age Doc"
"How the Cahuilla and Kumeyaay maintained good health" Photo by John Case



Steven R. Holen, PhD
Co-Director, Center for American Paleolithic Research, South Dakota
"The Early Peopling of America: From Time Immemorial"



Eleanora (Norrie) Robbins, PhD
"Desert varnish experiments in the Anza Borrego Desert"



Abel Silvas, (in character as "Running Grunion") Juaneño/Diegueño
Native folklore and storytelling

Renowned speakers share wealth of specialized knowledge at lecture series

Those who attended the featured presentations were treated to hearing from some of the most respected leaders in the archaeology field. Topics ranged from rock art, desert varnish and the early peopling in America to the history, customs and health of regional tribal societies.

CDAS Steering Committee member Suzanne Emery assembled the outstanding slate of speakers. Patty McFarland assisted in the introductions.



Patty McFarland



Suzanne Emery

LEFT: Norrie Robbins, PhD, gives a spirited presentation on desert varnish in the Discovery Room at the ABDSP Visitor Center.

Photo by Sam Webb

Photos by Laurie Brindle — and Sam Webb and John Case as indicated

ARCHAEOLOGY WEEKEND 2019



Gary Holmes discusses the variety of knapping patterns on projectile points to visitors.



Dennis Connors shows how to make a clay pot to eager participants.



Famed PaiPai potter Daria Mariscal from Baja crafts a clay pot using traditional techniques handed down from generation to generation.



Don Endicott leads a tour of the BARC research lab. Photo by Sam Webb



To learn more about pictographs, children were encouraged to tell a story using ancient symbols and then paint them on a rock to take home.



A little girl incises her clay bowl with designs.



LEFT: Gerardo Chavez holds a vessel carved from an agave root.



RIGHT: Rosa demonstrates her expert weaving skills. Photos by Laurie Brindle — and Sam Webb as noted

Thank You, CDAS Volunteers!

Barbara Barnes
Steve Barnes
Sally Bickerton
John Bickerton
Josh Breslow
Laurie Brindle
Kathy Bryson

John Paul Carrere
Mandie Carter
John Case
Dennis Connors
Lance Deibler
Tony Delorenzo
John Downing

Pat Downing
Hayley Elsen
Suzanne Emery
Don Endicott
Pat Fuller
John Hampton
Carol Hampton

Gary Holmes
Dan Jellis
Scott McClintock
Patty Mcfarland
Linda Mercurio
Sherry Mitchell
Eugenie Newton

Andrew Page
Nancy Parker
Virginia Perrine
Lisa Pridmore
Randy Redfern
Becky Rusk
Jan San Nicolas

LuAnn Thompson
Pat Truxell
Astrid Webb
Sam Webb
Mary Lou White

ARCHAEOLOGY WEEKEND 2019



Robin Connors



Becky Rusk, John Downing and Dan Jellis



LuAnn Thompson And Ava Ciaramella Webb



John and Sally Bickerton



John Case and Jean Paul Carrere



Linda Mercurio



John Hampton



Eugenie Newton and Kathy Bryson



Sherry Mitchell



Carol Hampton



L to R: John Downing, Pat Fuller and Jan San Nicolas



Pat Truxell

ARCHAEOLOGY WEEKEND 2019



Silent Auction brings in \$3,574 for CDAS programs

Many thanks to one and all who contributed to the success of our Silent Auction! Some donated items, some donated their time and energy, while others brought their wallets! Total proceeds from our Silent Auction is \$3,573.75!!! Special thanks to Virginia, Lisa, Randy, Jean-Paul, Andrew, Pat, Nancy, Mr. Dennis, Laurie and John. Without their help and humor, this event would not have happened!

Again, many heartfelt thanks to all who contributed to the success of not only our Silent Auction, but to the whole Archaeology Weekend!

— Rick and Paula Huls

It's always a party with Rick and Paula Huls and Pat Downing!



Lisa Pridmore



Randy Redfern



Sam Webb



The CDAS Silent Auction display in the library at the BARC Photo by Sam Webb

Photos by Laurie Brindle — and Sam Webb as noted

Sweet tradition continues at CDAS Ice Cream Social

Attendees were treated to tasty root beer floats and sundaes with toppings on Saturday afternoon at the BARC. The social coincided with the closing of the silent auction, and selecting the opportunity drawing winner.



The ice cream serving station

Photo by Sam Webb



The winner is drawn!

Photo by Sam Webb



The winner displays his prize

Photo by Laurie Brindle

ARCHAEOLOGY WEEKEND 2019



Sunday hikes conclude CDAS annual event

After a full day of activities on Saturday, two groups of hikers explored archaeology sites in the Anza-Borrego Desert State Park on Sunday. Warm sun and glorious views of snow-capped mountains enhanced the experience.

Yes, that is a real snowball. CDAS Steering Committee Chairman John Downing took advantage of the rare snow along the trail to the Blair Valley site.

Photo by Laurie Brindle



Photo credit Don Endicott

Don Endicott and Tony DeLorenzo, CDAS archaeology technicians, site stewards and volunteer naturalists for Anza-Borrego Desert State Park, led the hike to Mine Wash, a 1,100-year-old Indian Village.



Photo courtesy of Laurie Brindle

CDAS archaeology technicians and site stewards John Downing and John Case, along with site steward Laurie Brindle, led the hike to the Blair Valley pictographs and mortars archaeological site.

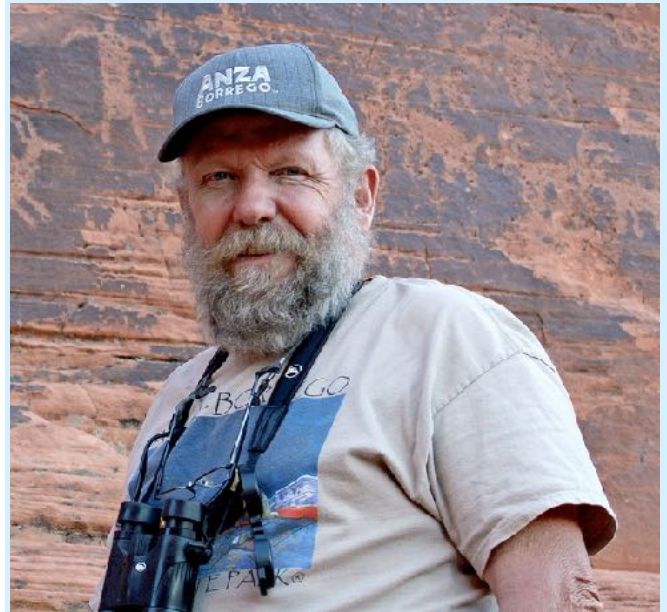
CDAS / VISITOR CENTER SPEAKER

Desert bighorn sheep topic of March lecture

FRIDAY, MARCH 15 • 11 a.m.

ABDSP Visitor Center, 200 Palm Canyon Drive

— Open to the public —



Mark Jorgensen

Photo courtesy of Sunbelt Publications, Inc.

On Friday, March 15, Mark Jorgensen will speak in the Discovery Room at the Visitors Center on desert bighorn sheep. (NOTE: Old timers from the desert can quit reading here and move on to the next article.)

But for those of us who are not quite as familiar with Anza-Borrego Desert State Park history, you probably should know that Mark has spent five decades studying and tracking desert bighorn sheep throughout their range.

In his 36-year career in California state parks, he has served as a state park ranger, a resource ecologist, and as superintendent of the Anza-Borrego Desert State Park.

He is currently a member of the technical staff of the Desert Bighorn Council, Incorporated, and is an advisor to the Bighorn Institute. Show up way before 11 a.m. because the room will be full.

— Gary Holmes

This lecture is one of a monthly series co-sponsored by CDAS and the Anza-Borrego Desert State Park Visitor Center. PLEASE NOTE: There 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 Volunteer Card with you if attending.

CDAS MEMBER PROFILE

PAT DOWNING

By Sally Bickerton

We are so fortunate to have Pat Downing keeping all us CDAS site stewards organized and well-trained! We have benefited from her long hours and awesome organizational skills, which have created a much more cohesive group. But how did she get involved in ABDSP and CDAS?

Pat was the associate vice president of finance for an Orange County university, who relished the weekends for the chance to get outdoors and camp and hike, especially in the Eastern Mojave. She and husband John enjoyed exploring rock art sites, mines and other historical areas of the desert.

After moving to Valley Center and retiring in 2013, the Downings began exploring ABDSP in their new Jeep. On a guided tour of the Morteros site (led by Sam Webb of course!), they signed up for the CDAS Archaeology Tech class in 2014, followed by Site Steward training in 2015.

John and Pat first monitored a site known as Chuparosa, a “seasonal occupation site with extensive milling surfaces and several rock shelters,” which, luckily, has not seen any



Pat Downing at the Chuparosa site

Photo by John Downing

disturbances other than pottery stacking and a few footprints.

Pat remembers well a special day when she “... picked up a relatively plain piece of pottery, turned it over, and found two small fingerprints on the back — chills!”

In 2018, they also began monitoring the Indian Hill site with Scott McClintock. This area sees more visitors and more damage, and Pat says Scott visits regularly to keep track of its condition.

Pat now puts in very long hours for CDAS as coordinator of the Site Steward program. She helps train the new stewards, researches sites that need

monitoring and helps match stewards to sites, based on their interests and abilities. She also helps set up site visits for new stewards and volunteer mentors. She also will “chase you down” with a gentle reminder to submit your reports!

In addition, Pat and John founded and edited the monthly bulletin for nearly two years.

Keeping track of all this takes both time and energy and Pat uses her accounting skills to file and organize all the in-coming information and reports.

She truly enjoys getting out in the desert to help stewards set up their photo stations. Thank you, Pat!

SITE STEWARD NEWS



New site stewards Steve Lacy, Steve Sarcano and Chris Clark braved icy winds and weather with Hayley Elsken, Lisa Pridmore and Randy Redfern on a recent site set-up.

Photo by Lisa Pridmore

UPCOMING CLASSES

“GPS & Beyond” — April 13

Don Endicott will lead the next CDAS Continuing Education class on Saturday, April 13, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. (with a break for lunch). It will be held in BARC Library and is open to all members. Details will be forthcoming.

“Rock art conservation management” — October 26 & 27

SAVE THE DATE!! Jeremy Freeman will conduct a class on Rock Art Conservation Management the week-end of October 26 and 27. Saturday will be a classroom session and Sunday will be out in the field applying what was learned on Saturday. Stand-by for more details!

CONTINUING EDUCATION

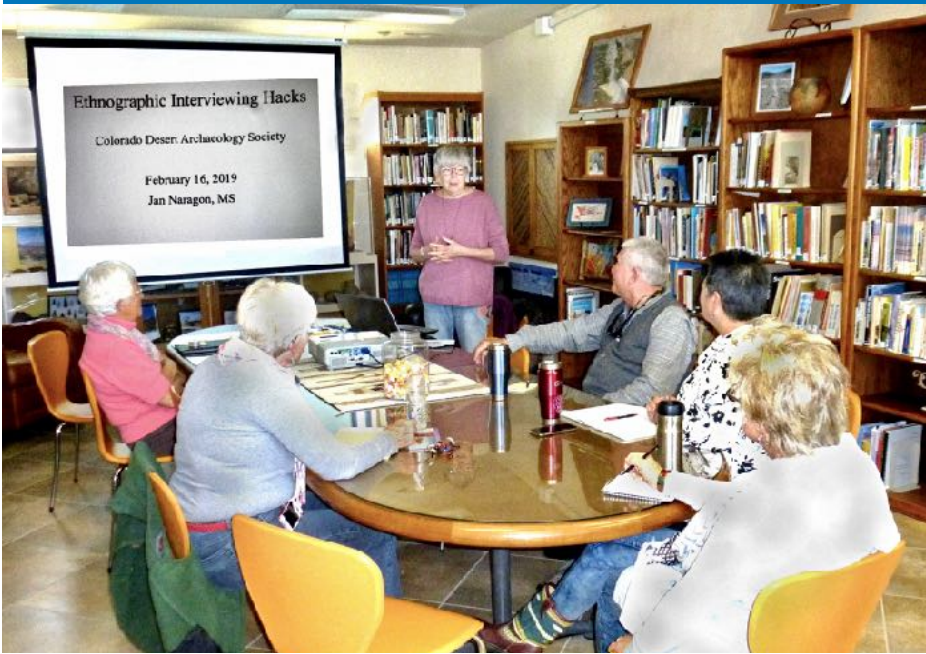


Photo by Sam Webb

Lecture provides insight into sensitive and productive interview techniques

“Ethnography Hacks”

Presented by Jan Naragon

Held at BARC Library on Saturday, Feb. 16, our first continuing education class of 2019 was fun and a great learning experience, expanding the way we can interact with others.

During the presentation, we learned that ethnology uses ethnographic data. Ethnography uses qualitative data to look for patterns/trends within a given population. One of the ways to collect such data is through human discourse (interview). Jan explained to us that there are three different informal formats of interviews. The **informal** interview is what we do most often; it is “on the fly” oral conversation — no written questions. It is free flowing. The **unstructured** interview involves some planning with some knowledge on the interviewer’s part. However, there is no

control of what the interviewee will say, so the interviewer needs to keep things on track. The **semi-structured** interview ideally opens up with finding out about the interviewee, making them comfortable with answering questions and moving question by question to the topic. There is a script of questions and the answers are used to generate a hypothesis.

The class did a couple of practice sessions of the unstructured interview. Jan covered some very handy hacks (shortcuts) to help with any interview process. For example, be mindful of the interviewee’s culture (taking notes or recording may be seen as invasive or threatening, so stop!), watch facial expressions or body language (may need to put interviewee at ease or rephrase question), and sometimes the best thing to do is to just keep quiet. This was a very insightful class and one never knows when this will come in handy!

— *Paula Huls*



Lance Deibler models the signature CDAS polo shirt

LAST CHANCE!

An order for the official CDAS polo shirts is being placed soon. Don’t miss this opportunity to buy one at our cost. **Only \$32!**

Email **Mary Lou White**

NO LATER THAN MARCH 18

with quantity and sizes.

marylouizard@gmail.com

Volunteer Resources

Don’t miss the new section on our website “Resources for Volunteers.” <https://www.anzaborregoarchaeo.org/membership-login/> There you will find :

- 1) **Archaeology Pictionary Glossary 2018-01**
A list of simple definitions for terms used by Southern California archaeologists modified for Colorado Desert District purposes
- 2) **Better Impact Instructions**

Regional Resources

California Rock Art Foundation
New Moon Great Murals Pack Trip
Baja, Mexico March 6-13, 2019
<https://www.carockart.org/field-trips.html>

Society for California Archaeology
Annual Meeting — Sacramento
Thursday, March 7 to Sunday, March 10
<https://scahome.org>

Imperial Valley Desert Museum
<http://www.ivdesertmuseum.org>

San Diego County Archaeological Society — Free Class “Coronado Islands”
Saturday, March 23, 1 p.m.
<https://sandiegoarchaeology.org/archaeology-on-the-coronados-islands/>

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

COPY DEADLINE:

The 25th of each month —
September through April
(Bulletin publishes October through May)



Colorado Desert Archaeology Society

“To keep you current as we explore the past”

Be sure and visit our website often for past CDAS bulletins, resources, photos and additional helpful information!

www.anzaborregoarchaeo.org