



THE COLORADO DESERT ARCHAEOLOGY SOCIETY



Serving the Anza-Borrego, Palomar Mountain and Cuyamaca Rancho State Parks / **MARCH 2020**

CALENDAR

LAB DAY & LIBRARY OPEN

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

NEW: Library will also be open on Thursday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

BARC Library

CDAS STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

Tue, March 10, 3:00 p.m.

BARC Library

STATE PARKS/CDAS MONTHLY PRESENTATIONS

"The Mammoth Steppe Hypothesis: New Evidence for Human Presence in North America 40,000—30,000 Years Ago"

By Steven and Kathleen Holen

Fri., March 20, 11 to 12 p.m.

ABDSP Visitor Center

CONTINUING EDUCATION

"Creating a Primary Site Record:

In the Field and in the Office"

Sat., April 4, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

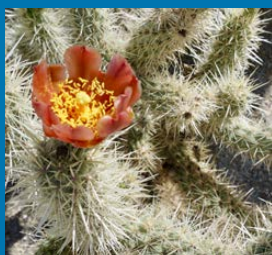
BARC Library



CDAS Steering Committee Vice Chair Dennis Connors instructs youngsters on how to make a clay pot using ancient techniques, which include patting clay over forms with paddles and drying pots in the sun. Photos by Laurie Brindle

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Heritage, culture of the Anza-Borrego Desert celebrated at Archaeology Weekend 2020

Native craft demonstrations, educational displays, lectures and field trips featured during two-day annual event

By Laurie Brindle

What a weekend it was! The sun was shining, flowers were blooming and hundreds of people of all ages —from near and far — attended Archaeology Weekend 2020 to celebrate the treasures and cultures of the Anza-Borrego Desert.

Hosted by California State Parks and the Colorado Desert Archaeology Society on Feb. 29 and March 1, the annual event offered hands-on craft projects, a lush ethnobotany display, lectures on current research being done in the Park and tours of the Archaeology Lab. Honored guest artisans from Baja California demonstrated ancient basket-weaving and pottery techniques. They also brought beautiful wares to sell. And on Sunday, CDAS members led hikes to sites where Native peoples lived thousands of years ago.

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Right: CDAS member Suzanne Emery explains how local plants have been used as food, medicine, items of clothing, tools and much more for centuries. Photo by Laurie Brindle



Archaeology Weekend 2020

Begole grant awardees bring light to their work



Kent Manchen — “Obsidian Sourcing, Protein Residue Analysis for Cuyamaca Ovals”



Susan Hector, PhD — “Research on the Harkleroad Native American Ceramic Vessel Collection, S.D. Museum of Man”



Joan Schneider, PhD — “Chronological Placement of Circular Rock Features and Rock Cairn Sites Using OSL Dating Method”



Chuck Bennett — “Aerial Photo Documentation of Archaeological Features Using Quadcopter Drone-Mounted Camera”

Continued from Page 1

Opening at 9 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 29, Archaeology Weekend offered visitors non-stop activities throughout the two-day event.

Native plants were the stars of the ethnobotany exhibit put together by Suzanne Emery, who showed how they were used by Native peoples in their daily lives.

Other displays outlined best practices to help preserve and protect irreplaceable resources in the park and well as CDAS volunteer opportunities.

Four speakers, who each received a Robert Begole grant for their specialized research in the park, discussed their methods and results, and answered questions.

Intense concentration was evident at the children’s craft tables, where little hands were kept busy making clay pots and painting pictograph images on rocks to take home.

CDAS volunteers led three hikes to popular archaeological sites on Sunday.

All this, plus honored guest artisans from Baja California displaying their wares, great shopping opportunities at the FUNdraiser Benefit and an Ice Cream Social, made for a very memorable weekend.

Photos by Laurie Brindle

Visitors tour BARC Archaeology Lab



Eugenie Newton leads a group from the Visitor Center to the BARC for a tour of the lab.



Susan Gilliland (left) and Chuck Bennett were kept busy all day Saturday leading tours of the archaeology lab every half hour.



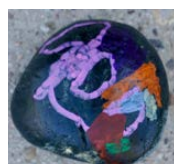
Little hands get busy with archaeo projects



A boy writes his name on a label for his clay bowl before putting it in the sun to dry and then take home.



Astrid Webb encourages youngsters to choose a pictograph to paint on a rock, which is then sealed and dried in the sun before taken home.



Archaeology Weekend 2020

FUNdraiser Benefit



Saturday, Feb. 29, 2020 Begole Archaeology Research Center



The BARC library was transformed for a day to showcase the many beautiful items that were donated for the sale. Proceeds benefit ongoing archaeology programs at the Park.



Lois Carlson, Paula Huls and Lisa Pridmore price items for sale before the doors opened.



Rick Huls reads the opportunity drawing winners as Lisa Pridmore holds prizes.



Joan Schneider (left) holds her FUNdraiser purchase of an original Sam Webb photo with the able assist of LLouise Jee.



A prized landscape painting by the late Marjorie Ransom Cummins was one of the items offered.



Paula Huls, Lois Carlson and Lisa Pridmore give Rick Huls a hard time.

Sweet treats for everyone at Ice Cream Social



Patty McFarland and Sally Bickerton serve up ice cream to an eager crowd at the conclusion of Saturday's activities.



A line forms in anticipation of ice cream.

Photos by Laurie Brindle



Complimentary ice cream is served on the BARC patio as part of Archaeology Weekend.

Archaeology Weekend 2020

CDAS welcomes artisan friends from Baja California

One of the highlights of Archaeology Weekend is the arrival of our guests from various villages in Baja California, who bring their extraordinary art, crafts and jewelry to sell during both days of the event.

Of special interest is watching several of the artisans create their wares during the weekend. Intricate baskets and ceramic vessels were fabricated using ancient techniques that they have perfected.

Many thanks to Gerardo Chavez for making their visit possible.



Gerardo Chavez, who is fluent in Spanish, French and English, expertly arranges the complex travel plans from Mexico, making it possible for the artisans to visit Archaeology Weekend.



Rosa Morales (Kumeyaay) at work creating another exquisite piece



Aurelia Ojeda (Kumeyaay) completed the snake motif basket shown during her visit to ABDSP.



Alonso Pesado (Cucapah) displays one-of-a-kind jewelry and recordings of traditional Cucapah birdsongs.



Each fanciful doll that Lydia Haros (Kiliwa) creates seems to have its own personality.



Ubaldo Arce (PaiPai) creates jewelry using colorful seeds and beads.



Linguist Daniela Leyva provided translations throughout the weekend.



Renowned potter Daria Mariscal (PaiPai) uses a paddle to shape a bowl before drying each section in the sun.



From left: Daniela Leyva, Ubaldo Arce, Daria Mariscal, Aurelia Ojeda, Rosa Morales, Lydia Haros, Alonso Pesado and Gerardo Chavez
Photos by Laurie Brindle

Archaeology Weekend 2020



Dennis and Robin Connors



John Case and Don Endicott



Sam Webb



Suzanne Emery



Sally and John Bickerton



Richard Carrico and Suzanne Emery



Dan Jellis and Pam Blake



Mary Bennett



Barbara Barnes



Sherry Mitchell



Lydia Stinson



Susan Gilliland, Joan Schneider and John Case



Lisa Pridmore and Eugenie Newton



The team from the San Diego County Archaeology Society



Roger Riolo

Thank you to all who helped make Archaeology Weekend 2020 such a success!

Barbara Barnes
Chuck Bennett
Mary Bennett
Sally Bickerton
John Bickerton
Pam Blake

Laurie Brindle
Lois Carlson
Jean Paul Carrere
John Case
Dennis Connors
Robin Connors

Lance Deibler
Kathy Dice
John Downing
Pat Downing
Hayley Elsen
Suzanne Emery

Susan Gilliland
Rick Huls
Paula Huls
LLouise Jee
Dan Jellis
Mark Jorgensen

Scott McClintock
Patty McFarland
Sherry Mitchell
Eugenie Newton
Nancy Parker
Lydia Stinson

Virginia Perrine
Lisa Pridmore
Randy Redfern
Roger Riolo
Sam & Astrid Webb
Pam Wiedenkiller

Notes from the Park



Robin Connors

Survey notes and photos:

Surveys were put on hold for most of February due to Hayley

being in Australia for vacation most of the month. The team still managed to get into the field one Wednesday out of the month.

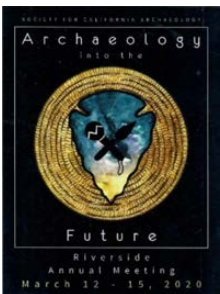
The survey team found stone tools on the western survey plots and will keep searching for the boundaries of this massive site. Surveys will continue on Wednesdays during March, please use Better Impact to sign up.

Volunteer Gala: Everyone who volunteers should attend and be recognized at the Volunteer Gala on March 10 at 6 p.m. The Gala will be held at the Roadrunner Club, 1010 Palm Canyon Drive, Borrego Springs in the Clubhouse.

CDAS is a model organization of volunteers and Hayley and I are so proud to recognize the work you have done in the last year. Surveys, trainings, site stewarding and lab work are just a few of the ways you have assisted the Colorado Desert District State Parks Archaeology Program.

SCA: The Society for California Archaeology is meeting for their annual conference, this time in Riverside. This is a chance for our California members and the general public to attend the presentations and activities,

POSTPONED



include the banquet, the reception/silent auction, beer-and-wine-tasting event and the opportunity to attend classes offered by Archaeological Specialists. State Parks will have a table in the Book Room.



“Glamour” shots of drills found recently on western survey plots



Photos by Alec Sonnier

Monitoring Class: Monitoring classes will be held on Thursday, March 19. It is a full day and start time will be that morning, exact time to be determined. Classes will include safety and safe-working practices, what to look for when monitoring, tips and techniques, and working around heavy equipment. Space will be limited, so sign up early. The class is open to all who have taken the archaeology technician training.



Sign-up will be in Better Impact under Opportunities, Monitor Training.

Status of Palm Grove: The Palm Grove at Borrego Palm Canyon is still closed to visitors. Danny McCamish, our Senior Environmental Scientist, says that as “few as 20-30 people walking in the same area can compact the soil, creating a path where nothing grows.”

The landscape is still very fragile and very small palm sprouts could be crushed or trampled. The larger young plants will experience rapid growth because they will have an open canopy for sunlight. Please encourage patience as the area stabilizes.

The good news is that Park Staff worked to secure the Trail throughout the week of Feb. 24 to Feb. 28. Now completed, the Trail is open from the Main trail through the junction at the Alternate trail and will

loop back down to the main Trailhead.

The Borrego Palm Canyon Trailhead and Hiking Trail area is a “Day Use Only” for the hours of 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. During the off hours, the area will be closed with parking pylons and patrolled by Law Enforcement.

— Robin Connors and Hayley Elsken

One last note: I, Robin, will be retiring at the end of April. I think you all know that I have made some deep friendships with so many of you. You also know that as the new archaeologist here in the biggest and most beautiful State Park in California, I had a steep learning curve. When I first walked in the door of the BARC, Carol Black was there to greet me and introduce CDAS. I knew then that I was not alone, that I had a group of people who were willing to work with me to protect, preserve and document the many cultural resources in this rich landscape. You have all wholeheartedly supported me and I am deeply grateful. Thank you with all my heart.

Of course, Hayley will be here to carry on, but will need your help more than ever. I have spoken directly with the Cultural Resource Division Chief in Sacramento, recommending Hayley as the full-time archaeologist, and she agreed that Hayley was the perfect replacement for my position. Please continue to support her efforts to the best of your fantastic abilities

— Robin Connors



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.anzaborregoaarchaeo.org



The Mammoth Steppe Hypothesis:

“New Evidence for Human Presence in North America 30,000 to 40,000 Years Ago”

Presented by Steven and Kathleen Holen

- 11 a.m., Friday, March 20
- ABDSP Visitor Center Discovery Room
- Open to the public

Steven and Kathleen of the Center for American Paleolithic Research will present new evidence from multiple North American mid-continent archaeological sites dating to this period and the Last Glacial Maximum. The Mammoth Steppe Hypothesis suggests a human movement into the Americas sometime between 40,000 and 30,000 years ago from Siberia. This period was characterized by a relatively mild climate that created a vast contiguous grassland that was capable of supporting abundant large animals. Ecological data from the Mammoth Steppe support the assertion that humans could have followed the Mammoth Steppe into the Americas.

The Holens suggest that human populations from northern Siberia were able to disperse across Siberia and Alaska and down the eastern edge of the Rocky Mountains, when an interior corridor was open prior to 22,000 years ago.



Steve Holen (standing) breaking elephant bone in Africa.

Photos courtesy of Steven and Kathleen Holen

Support for the hypothesis is based on evidence from multiple North American mid-continent archaeological sites dating to this period and the Last Glacial Maximum. The dispersal of these small populations left a sparse archaeological record in North America that warrants ongoing investigation through systematic research in geological deposits greater than 20,000 years old.



Kathleen Holen

This presentation is one of a monthly series co-sponsored by CDAS and California State Parks. Seating is limited and available on a first-come, first served basis. Please note: The \$10 parking fee will be waived if you place your current Volunteer Card on the dashboard of your car.

Standing room only at February presentation by Brendon Asher, PhD

Seating went quickly at the monthly State Parks/CDAS presentation by Brendon P. Asher, PhD, director of the Blackwater Draw National Historic Landmark and Museum in Portales, New



Brendon Asher, PhD at the ABDSP Visitor Center on Feb. 21. Photo by Laurie Brindle

Mexico. CDAS member Lois Carlson welcomed the audience and renowned archaeologist Steven Holen, PhD, provided a personal introduction.

Brendon talked primarily about Blackwater Draw Locality 1, which was discovered in 1929 and is “the type-site for the Clovis culture: the oldest



Dr. Asher’s talk about Clovis and Folsom sites proved to be of great interest to the community. Photo by Sam Webb

positively identified cultural group in North America ...The earliest human activity at Blackwater Draw dates to about 13,500 years ago.”*

Using time lines and historical photos to illustrate excavations by archaeologists since the 1930s, he explained how the Clovis site came to be accepted as the earliest evidence to date. He also talked about research at the impressive South Bank Excavation Area at Blackwater Draw, a popular destination that is open to the public. The area is covered by a large steel structure that protects a portion of the ongoing excavations of the Archaic and Paleo-indian kill-site.

A question-and-answer session followed Brendon’s presentation.

— Laurie Brindle

*Source: Blackwater Draw brochure published by Eastern New Mexico University

“Creating a Primary Site Record: In the Field and Office”

9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, April 4

Begole Archaeological Research Center Library

This one-day class taught by past CDAS Steering Committee Chair, Susan Gilliland, will give participants the tools needed to document and record a new archaeological site with a Primary Record. Archaeologists use this fundamental skill to ensure a site is properly documented and placed into the California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS).



Susan Gilliland
Photo by Laurie Brindle

One of the primary goals of the CDD Cultural Resources program is to survey and record new cultural sites. Therefore, learning how to record a previously unknown site is one of the most useful and satisfying things we can do as CDAS volunteers – especially if we have the skills to do it on our own. During class we’ll review archaeological site-recording terms, recommend the necessary equipment to carry, teach participants how to look at a

site, and breakdown the required data to collect in the field. We’ll then go outside in small groups to practice recording “sites” near the BARC. After that, we’ll de-mystify and simplify filling out the DPR Form 523a – Primary Record – and go over how to submit the information to Robin and Hayley.

You will need to bring a notebook, pen/pencil, GPS if you have one, compass if you have one, tape measure if you have one, and camera or smart phone. Extras will be available. Please also bring water and a lunch. Coffee and tea will be in the classroom all day.

Susan learned how to create primary records by completing dozens of them in four years of field work at Ikh Nart, our ABDSP Sister Park in Mongolia. By teaching this skill to other CDAS volunteers, she hopes members will gain the confidence to get out into the field to see, document, and record more sites.

To register for this class or to ask questions please contact Susan Gilliland by email at shgilliland@mac.com. You may also sign up with Better Impact.

CDAS members learn finer points of artifact illustration

By Suzanne Emery

About two hours into the artifact illustration class, it became clear why the effort is superior to photographing the same artifact. This Continuing Education class for all archaeology technicians and site stewards is the second offering this season arranged by Robin Connors and Chuck Bennett. The class, on Feb. 15 and 16, was held at the Library of the Begole Archaeological Research Center.

Over the course of two one-day workshops for a dozen students each day, the very skilled instructor Donna Walker

brought hesitant artists and non-artists into her world of measurement, stippling and black and white.

Students chose their item to draw from a stack which included manos, flakes, stone tools and an old medicine bottle.

When attempting to demonstrate fractures or wear zones revealed in an obsidian piece, a photograph simply shows a shiny black stone. It takes a careful pen-and-ink rendering to capture the exquisite work of the person who worked the stone.

Donna is currently a contract illustrator for the anthropology

department at the University of California, San Diego, where several of her illustrations are being published for research reports.

She creates artifact illustrations of stone tools found throughout the Southwest region. Her work appears in professional archaeological reports and presentations.

Attending one of the two classes held on February 15 and 16 are Barbara Barnes, Lois Carlson, Kevin Collins, Kathy Collins, Lance Deibler, Suzanne Emery, Susan Gilliland, Brian Glenn, Paula Huls, Rick Huls, LLouise Jee, Laurie Mauser, Alec Sonnier and Pam Wiedenkeller.



Pam Wiedenkeller at work.
Photo by Chuck Bennett



Concentration is key to creating an accurate illustration. Photo by Chuck Bennett



Saturday class members proudly show their work. Front row: Kathy and Kevin Collins. Back from left: Barbara Barnes, Rick and Paula Huls, Pam Wiedenkeller, instructor Donna Walker and Lance Deibler.
Photo by Suzanne Emery

SCOTT MC CLINTOCK

By Sally Bickerton

CDAS Site Steward Scott McClintock retired after 30 years with the San Diego County Sheriff’s Department. He has always been a history buff, so what better way to understand local history than through archaeology in the Anza-Borrego Desert State Park?

Scott shared that he was in law enforcement at the time of the Sept. 11 World Trade Center attacks. He was still reeling, as was our country, when President Bush made his State of the Union speech the following January.

Scott remembers President Bush saying that citizens could do their part to help keep the country resilient and strong by volunteering their time to worthy causes.

So after retirement, Scott found ways to actively volunteer. He first joined the Forest Fire Lookout Association and volunteered at the lookout towers on Palomar Mountain. There he worked with Pat and John Downing, who talked about their volunteer work in the CDAS Site Steward program.

And, he states, it took little to convince him to begin volunteering in the ABDSP as well.

He is now in his third year of site stewarding at a site near Indian Hill – the well-known “Blue Sun Cave.” Scott said that the beautiful and prolific polychromatic rock art site is heavily visited, as there is a “tremendous amount of chatter” about it on the Internet.

Because the site gets heavy visitation, he visits much more often than the required two visits a year – and is honored to do so. He doesn’t mind writing the additional impact reports after each visit, as people have dug for artifacts, built campfires and even broken through vehicle barrier fences in the area.

Scott enjoys taking other site stewards to visit this site since he seems to discover something new and awe-inspiring each time.

One example is his amazing find of potsherds with the potter’s finger impressions embossed on the inside – “What a personal connection with that long-dead, mysterious individual Native Californian!”

And, Pat Downing adds that he has been her go-to Site Steward to help others with their site set-ups and sends a big thanks to Scott!



Finger impressions from long ago are evident on a potsherd that Scott McClintock found at the Blue Sun Cave site. Photo by Mike Hurley

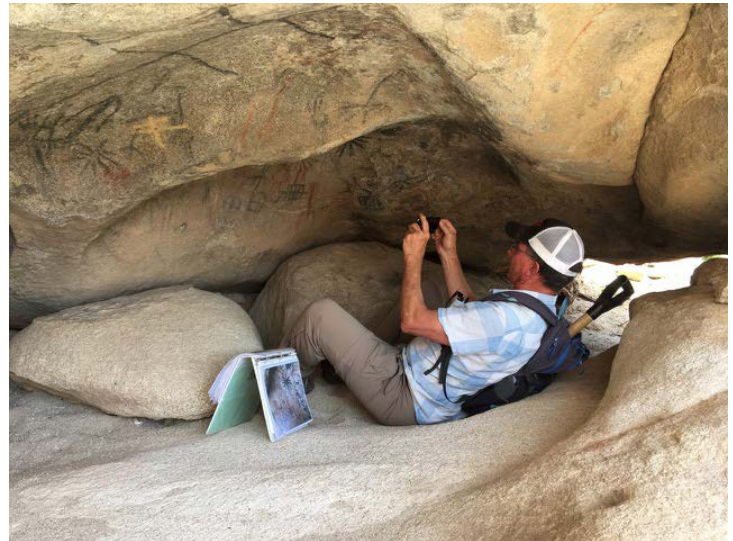


Pictographs at the Blue Sun Cave site Photo by Mike Hurley



CDAS Site Steward Scott McClintock volunteering at Archaeology Weekend 2020 held on Feb. 29 and March 1 at the ABDSP Visitor Center.

Photo by Laurie Brindle



Scott McClintock carefully documents rock art at the Blue Sun Cave site.

Photo by Mike Hurley

Additional Resources



CALIFORNIA STATE PARKS AND RECREATION

The Colorado Desert District includes Anza-Borrego Desert State Park, Cuyamaca Rancho State Park and Palomar Mountain State Park.



COLORADO DESERT ARCHAEOLOGY SOCIETY

The CDAS mission is to assist park staff with the documentation, preservation and protection of the district's prehistoric and historic cultural resources.

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

Hayley Elsken Associate State Archaeologist
hayley.elsken@parks.ca.gov
760-767-4403

CDAS 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:

Vice Chair: Dennis Connors dennis_connors@yahoo.com

Treasurer: Eugenie Newton evnewton8@gmail.com

Secretary : Paula Huls randphuls@gmail.com

Member: Chuck Bennett desrtratz@aol.com

Member: Lois Carlson loiseleanor@gmail.com

Member John Downing johndowning2014@outlook.com

Member: Rick Huls randphuls@gmail.com

WE WANT YOUR NEWS, PHOTOS & STORIES!

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

COPY DEADLINE: The 25th of each month, September to April. The Bulletin publishes October through May.

Barona Cultural Center and Museum
"Projectile Point Knapping"
Saturday, March 14, 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Barona Cultural Center and Museum \$30
"Yucca Cooking Class"
Saturday, April 18, 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Barona Cultural Center and Museum \$30
<https://www.baronamuseum.com>

California Rock Art Foundation
"The Great Murals of Baja California — Sierra de San Francisco"
Three trips scheduled in March 2020: 1-8, 12-19, 22-29
www.carockart.org

Imperial Valley Desert Museum
"Indigenous Cultures Day"
Saturday, March 21, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free admission
"Traditional Crafts Days"
Saturday, April 11, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free admission
"Special Hike! Palm Springs Aerial Tramway"
Saturday, April 18, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Reservations required by March 18. Charter bus and tram ticket included in sign-up fee
www.ivdesertmuseum.org

Malki Museum
"Acorn Processing Workshop" with Aaron Saubel
Saturday, March 21, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. \$20 per person
<https://malkimuseum.org>

San Diego Archaeological Center
"Geoglyphs of the Desert Southwest"
Friday, March 27, 7 p.m. Free admission
<https://sandiegoarchaeology.org/category/events-and-more/>

San Diego County Archaeological Society
"San Diego County Pioneer Nathan 'Nate' Harrison and the Historical Archaeology of Legend"
Tuesday, March. 24, 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.
Los Penasquitos Ranch House
www.SDCAS.org

Society for California Archaeology
<https://scahome.org/>
"Annual Meeting"
Thursday, March 12 to 15
Riverside Convention Center



Attention Site Stewards!

This is just a gentle reminder to please make sure you log all your hours for your site visits and your paperwork submissions. It is important to CDAS that we are recognized by parks for all of the volunteer hours our dedicated volunteers perform. If you are having Better Impact issues please contact Hayley at hayley.elsken@parks.ca.gov

If for some reason you don't have a partner for your spring visit, you will find a resource of people who have volunteered to be substitute Site Stewards on our website. Please visit <https://www.anzaborregoarchaeo.org/membership-login/>

— Pat Downing