



THE COLORADO DESERT
ARCHAEOLOGY
 SOCIETY BULLETIN



JANUARY 2022

**LAND
 ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

The Kumeyaay, Cahuilla, Cupeño, and Payómkawichum/Luiseño are the Original peoples of the Anza-Borrego Desert, Palomar Mountain, and Cuyamaca Rancho State parks. These traditional homelands in the Colorado Desert District are rich with their heritage and cultural tradition. The Colorado Desert Archaeological Society acknowledges these places as the Peoples' homelands and offers gratitude for their stewardship of these lands from time immemorial through the present and into the future.



CDAS ANNUAL MEETING PRESENTATION — The Dripping Springs archaeological site in Cuyamaca Rancho State Park will be featured in the keynote presentation at the CDAS Annual Meeting by Site Steward and Arch Tech John Case. Please see page 3 .Photo by John Case

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NOTES FROM THE PARK



HAYLEY ELSKEN Associate State Archaeologist

Congratulations to the new CDAS Archaeology Technicians! The Fall 2021 Arch Tech training class finished on December 11 with 23 new volunteers completing the six-weekend course.

The class ended with surveys in Mine Wash and an exam on the final Saturday. During the surveys, the class recorded rock shelters, milling features with associated handstones, stone tools and at least one roasting pit. The last section to be surveyed had the densest concentration of features and artifacts, so I will be visiting the area again in January to finish recording the site.

Fieldwork for the rest of the season is scheduled and posted on Better Impact. To have an increased number of field days, I will also need more help with volunteers filling out and making the site records after the survey days.



CDAS ANNUAL MEETING — SATURDAY, JAN. 22 • See page 3

CALENDAR

COVID UPDATE

Restriction on number of people in the lab and library is lifted but masks are required.

LAB DAY

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

LIBRARY

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

Every Thursday, 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

REMINDER: The BARC library is open to CDAS members only. If you wish to check out a book, either stop by during library hours on Tuesday or Thursday, or contact Paula Huls at 206-276-8844 to schedule a pick-up time.

SITE STEWARD TRAINING

Saturday, Jan. 15 in the classroom

Sunday, Jan. 16 in the field.

CDAS ANNUAL MEETING

Saturday, Jan. 22, 11 a.m.

In-person and Zoom

Borrego Springs Library

See page 3

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

(Virtual via Zoom)

Friday, Jan. 28, 1:30 p.m.

All members are invited to attend.

Members will be sent the online link prior to the meeting.

PUBLIC PROGRAMS

(Virtual via Zoom)

• Tuesday, Feb. 1, 6:30 p.m.

“New Research into Patayan/Yuman Culture History” with Dr. Aaron Wright

See page 4

CONTINUING EDUCATION

• Saturday, Feb. 26 - “Ground Stone” with Dr. Joan Schneider

• Saturday/Sunday, March 19-20

“Flintknapping” with Dr. Jeanne Binning

ARCHAEOLOGY DAY

Sunday, March 13, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

ABDSP Visitor Center

Stay tuned for details

PLEASE NOTE:

All Park volunteers must have proof of COVID vaccination on file in order to receive Better Impact notifications and to record your hours. Send proof to

wendie.wallace@parks.ca.gov.

NOTES FROM THE PARK



Newly minted CDAS Archaeology Technicians and member volunteers gather with Associate State Archaeologist Hayley Elsken after completion of the six weekend training classes.

Photo by Rick Huls

Continued from Page 1

This means that if you plan on signing up to help with surveys – you have also signed up to assist with paperwork.

This could be transcribing the photo record or milling station record, adding and labeling photos, or writing a description.

Paperwork will be worked on through a shared drive that everyone on the survey group can access in order to add their pieces of the site record. This will make it easy for people to input information from their home.

I look forward to seeing all of you at the CDAS Annual Meeting on Jan. 22 — either in person or on Zoom! — **Hayley**



Looking out from inside a rock shelter

Photo by Hayley Elsken



ABOVE: Milling feature with mano

LEFT: A bi-facial mano

Photos by Hayley Elsken

FROM THE CHAIR



THERESA FOWLER HARRISON

This was the first year in a long time our entire family got together. Last year, our family Zoomed at Thanksgiving and Christmas. This time, we celebrated in person.

Thirty of us live locally, while some family flew in from the east. We followed the guidelines — we were vaccinated, boosted and masked inside. Some even COVID-tested before the party. We are careful because we wish to protect each other, especially the littlest ones (under age five) who are at risk.

My family is an interesting mix, representing all points on the political spectrum, and surprisingly, we get along. We avoid certain topics, as you can well imagine, and maintain our sense of humor when we are together. Despite these strange times of COVID, some things have not changed. One brother, who runs perpetually late, was late again.



My brother-in-law, who used to own an Italian restaurant, served his specialties of lasagna and Eggplant Parmesan. My sister tried to corral the kids for a group photo, which ended as a blur. The Grinch showed up to greet and pass out candy to the kids, and offered lumps of coal (actually,

dark chocolate) to the adults. Some children took to him right away, while others hid in terror behind their parents.

What does this have to do with CDAS? We are a kind of family from different backgrounds, but shared experiences. We celebrate the rich, cultural heritage and traditional homelands of the Colorado Desert District. We support each other.

We welcome comments and input from members. Contact any steering committee members—myself, Lois Carlson, John Downing, Eugenie Newton and LLouise Jee. (Contact information is on Page 9). Please consider joining the steering committee. We still have openings.

We hope to see you at the annual meeting on January 22 from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., either in person at the Borrego Springs Library, or online via Zoom. We also hope you can attend the social hour (BYOBB) immediately following at Rick and Paula Huls' home in Borrego.

On Tuesday, Feb. 1 at 6:30 p.m., Dr. Aaron Wright will present "New Research into Patayan/Yuman Culture History" as part of the CDAS Public Education program. It promises to be an informative presentation that can add to our understanding of the cultures that came before us.

— Theresa



All members are invited!

CDAS ANNUAL MEETING

Saturday, Jan. 22
11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Borrego Springs Library
2580 Country Club Road
In-Person and via ZOOM

Meeting topics include:

- State Park & Archaeology Reports
- Site Steward & Arch Tech Updates & Introductions
- Archy Award Presentation

Keynote presentation:

**"DRIPPING SPRINGS SITE IN
CUYAMACA RANCHO STATE PARK"**
By CDAS Arch Tech & Site Steward
JOHN CASE

**Rick and Paula Huls are generously
hosting a social hour immediately
following the meeting at their Borrego home.
BYOBB (Bring your own Brown Bag)**

Details, including Zoom link, will be sent to
members prior to the event.

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

THE COLORADO DESERT ARCHAEOLOGY SOCIETY PRESENTS

“NEW RESEARCH INTO PATAYAN/YUMAN CULTURE HISTORY”

A re-examination of the Bouse Walk-in Well in far-western Arizona, partially funded by a Begole Archaeological Research Grant

Presented by Aaron Wright, PhD RPA

TUESDAY, FEB. 1, 6:30 P.M. VIA ZOOM

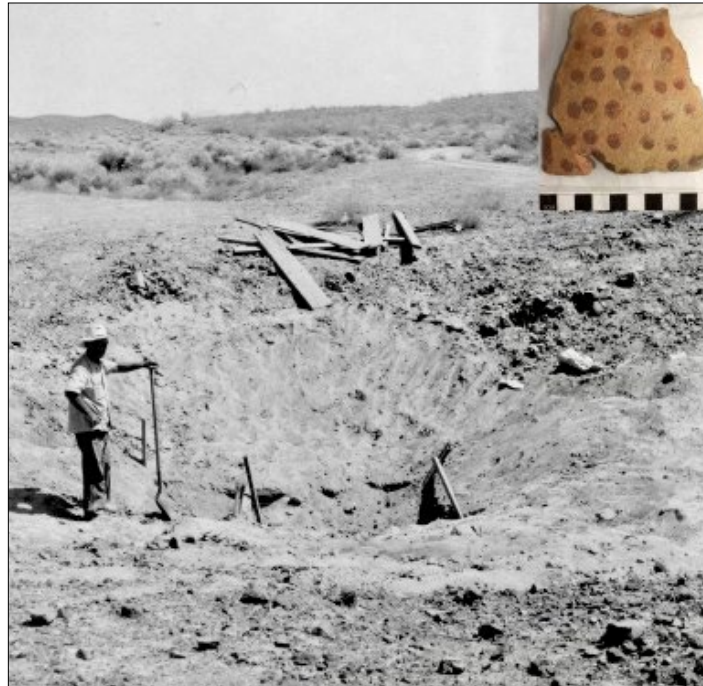
FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC • ADVANCE REGISTRATION REQUIRED

The Bouse Walk-in Well is an important archaeological site that contains a significant assemblage of artifacts, primarily ceramic, in the Patayan archaeological tradition.

Please join us as Aaron Wright, PhD RPA, a preservation anthropologist with Archaeology Southwest, shares his research into the nature of the site's stratigraphy, coupled with new radiocarbon data, to assess the site's chronology and that of its ceramic assemblage.

So named from the Yuman word pataya (“ancestors”), this tradition is centered on the lower Colorado River and extends into southeastern California, western Arizona, southern Nevada, and northern Baja California.

This archaeological pattern is generally regarded to be ancestral to contemporary Indigenous communities whose traditional languages are of the Yuman family, including the Mojave, Piipaash, Kwatsan, Cucupa, Kumeyaay, Yavapai, Hualapai, Havasupai, and Pai-Pai.



A 1952 photo of the Bouse Walk-in Well site

Photo by Michael Harner

About the Speaker
Aaron M. Wright, PhD RPA, is a preservation anthropologist with Archaeology Southwest, a nonprofit cultural heritage conservation organization based in Tucson, Arizona. Aaron leads the organization's research efforts along the lower Gila River. He has been practicing archaeology in academic, nonprofit, and contract settings for over 20 years, the last 15 of which across the northern reach of the Sonoran Desert. Aaron's current research concerns the Indigenous cultural landscape of the Great Bend of the Gila River.



Patayan ceramic artifact

Photo courtesy of Aaron Wright



Aaron Wright, PhD RPA

Screen shot from video courtesy of Archaeology Southwest

ADVANCE REGISTRATION REQUIRED • DEADLINE: 5 P.M. MONDAY, JAN. 31

To register, please click on the link below

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcl-fuuqqzquHtKso9calr3A013LBy4dQqGB>

SITE STEWARD NEWS

TIME TO WRAP UP YOUR 2021 REPORTS AND LOOK AHEAD



CDAS Site Steward and Arch Tech Pam Wiedenkeller hamming it up on a site visit.

Photo by Pat Downing

By Pat Downing Site Steward Coordinator

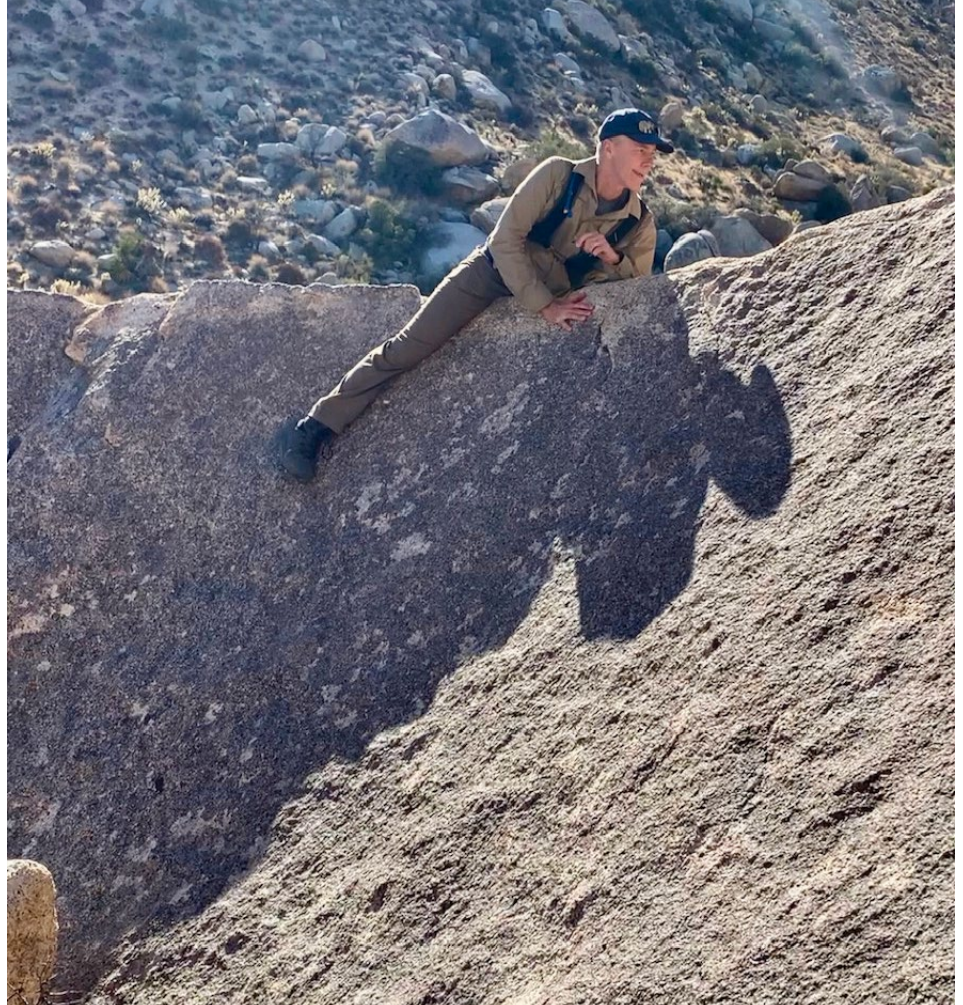
Hello Site Stewards. As we have completed another successful year of site visits with relatively few impact reports, please make sure the reports for all your visits have been submitted. Several of you have mentioned that you have made unofficial visits to your sites.

Please write up a short monitoring report for these visits, even if you did not photograph all photo stations, as you do for your two required annual visits. This at least tells us someone was there and gives an extra opportunity for discovering any impacts.

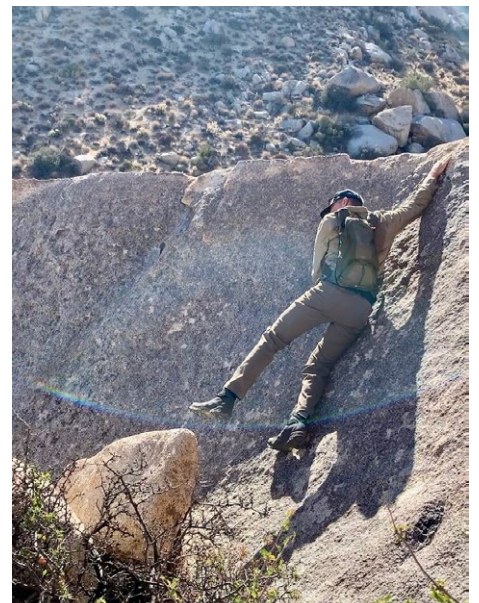
Are you ready to change your site or take on a new site to monitor? I would like existing stewards to have first choice on sites, prior to assigning sites in the January 15 training class for new stewards. If you would like more information on available sites, please contact me. Thank you for all you do!

— Pat

pdsnewmail@gmail.com



OH YEAH. I CAN GET DOWN FROM HERE — Site Steward Scott Hansen displays his considerable mountaineering skills as he successfully descends a precipitous ridge near the Indian Gorge site. Fellow steward Pam Wiedenkeller recorded the event on her phone and created screen shots from the paused video.



CDAS MEMBER PROFILE

SUSAN GILLILAND

As told to Sally Bickerton

“I grew up in Northern California and Oregon, attended Oregon State and Stanford Universities, and majored in anthropology and natural history. My lifelong interest in other cultures began at a young age. Not seeing career opportunities, I received an MBA at Dartmouth and spent several decades in the corporate world.

With an early retirement, I was able to travel extensively. Eventually winter blues in NorCal drew me to the desert and serendipity led me to Borrego in 2010. It was love at first “site.” After first volunteering at the Visitor Center, I joined CDAS 10 years ago. I took the Arch Tech training from Dr. Joan Schneider in early 2012 and have been an enthusiastic archaeology volunteer since. I was a site steward at Indian Hill with Lisa Pridmore for a number of years, joined the CDAS Steering Committee in 2013, and was elected Chair in 2015.

In July 2017, I resigned my position on the steering committee to return to graduate school. I was admitted to the George Washington University’s Graduate Certificate Program in Collections Management and Care. This was a distance learning graduate course of study, so I was able to stay in Borrego Springs. I completed the program in December 2018. As one of my projects, I completed an updated emergency plan for the BARC.

Although archaeological collections are a primary interest, I cut my field chops with four field seasons in Ikh Nart, our sister park in Mongolia. In 2015, 2016, 2017



Susan cleaning up impacts at the Indian Hill rock shelter.

Photo by Lisa Pridmore

and 2019, I joined ABDSP archaeologists, volunteers, and Mongolian archaeologists to study and record cultural history. These summers were gratifying and educational as well as rugged and challenging. I plan to return to Ikh Nart once again this summer if COVID allows.

I have worked on two archaeological grants recently. Dr. Joan Schneider and I were awarded the 2020 Society for California Archaeology Orphan Collections Grant.

We completed documenting, cataloging and archiving a large neglected collection that had been excavated from San Diego County in the 1960s, but never properly curated. This was

completed in August 2021, and the collection now is held in the UCLA Fowler Museum.



Susan sharing a laugh with Mongolian dancers at a Nadam Festival near Ikh Nart Nature Reserve in Mongolia.

Photo courtesy of Susan Gilliland



Cataloging the SCA Orphan Collection Grant project with Joan Schneider

Photo by Anne Challoner

I was also awarded a Begole Grant in late 2019 to locate and document archaeological collections from ABDSP that are held in museums or universities. COVID has made work on this grant largely impossible because of travel restrictions and facility closures.

In the meantime, I’ve been sorting through historical records and early collections in the BARC with fascinating results. Stay tuned!!

Of all the places I have visited and adventures I’ve been privileged to undertake, Borrego Springs is very special and I’m grateful to call this place home. I plan to keep working in the BARC and supporting ABDSP archaeologists to the best of my abilities as long as I’m able.”

IN THE BARC LIBRARY

WRITERS PROVIDE VARYING FACETS OF KUMEYAAY LIFE

By LLouise Jee

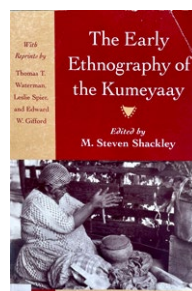
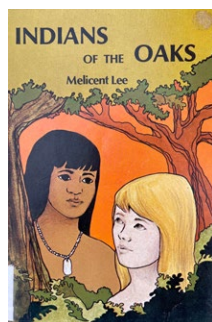
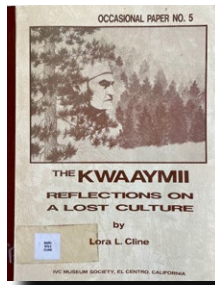
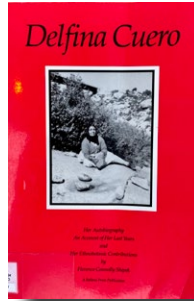
There are five books in the BARC that together describe an overlapping time and space in the world we think of as Southern California and northern Baja California. In all volumes, the informants relate what they know — or are comfortable revealing.

Florence Connolly Shipek's "**Delfina Cuero**," is a single ethnographic account. Cuero told her own story to Shipek, a tale of 1900-1970s places we, in 2021, know and probably have visited. Yet, we have never lived a life without proof of who we are or where we were born as Delfina did. In spite of all, she shared her world, and how she managed circumstances that we might give up on.

Tom Lucas, last full-blood Kwaaymii (1903-1989), is presented by Lora L. Cline in "**The Kwaaymii, Reflections on a Lost Culture**" and "**Just Before Sunset**." Lucas grew up on the family's traditional land, surrounded by adults who taught him everything. Cline speaks of him as her friend. The renowned local archaeologist and ethnographer, Jay C. von Werlhof, (1923-2009), thanked Cline for her careful treatment of Lucas in his introduction to "**Just Before Sunset**."

Melicent Lee's "**Indian's of the Oaks**" is a fictional account of her interactions and instruction by her Kumeyaay neighbors about their lives and practices while she lived at her Dehesa ranch. Author Lee shared what was told and taught her as she joined her neighbors' lives.

"**The Early Ethnography of the Kumeyaay**," edited by M. Steven Shackley and Steven Lucas-Pfingst, contains three reprinted accounts by well-known ethnographers: Thomas T. Waterman, Leslie Spier, and Edward W. Gifford. The accounts by Spier and Gifford are also single volumes in the BARC.



The three reprinted accounts in **The Early Ethnography of the Kumeyaay** rely on informants to capture information that weaves together with Delfina Cuero's story — all supporting a fuller description of life in the same geography.

Waterman's "**The Religious Practices of the Diegueño Indians**" (1910), Spier's "**Southern Diegueño Customs**" (1923), and Gifford's "**The Kamia of Imperial Valley**" (1931), describe Delfina's early years. Times of abundance, harvesting techniques, games, courtship and marriage, death, ceremonies and tattoo are related from different angles, but overlap instead of conflict.

The identity and associations of the editors of the book were a surprise. Steven Lucas-Pfingst is the grandson of Tom Lucas. Both editors grew up in San Diego, know the area well, and let their localness add to the discussions ahead of the reprints. Lucas-Pfingst talks about times with his grandfather and enriches our knowledge of the area. The editors give a critique of the three reprints and their place in the abundance of information about the Kumeyaay.

There are language pronunciation guides, definitions and instructions in all volumes. Mythology and stars, house construction and arrow making are present, too.

Geographically, all five volumes are in the Kumeyaay homeland desert, mountains and coast.

These books are a fraction of the many historical books, magazines and reference materials in the BARC library. We hope that all CDAS members will visit the library and discover the wealth of information inside those straw-bale walls.

REGIONAL ARCHAEOLOGY MUSEUMS & CENTERS

BARONA CULTURAL CENTER AND MUSEUM

The museum is open. Visitors are encouraged to wear masks, but they are optional only for those who are fully vaccinated.

Hours: Thursday and Friday, Noon to 5 p.m.

Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

<https://www.baronamuseum.com>

CALIFORNIA ROCK ART FOUNDATION

www.carockart.org

MALKI MUSEUM

Now open and implementing COVID19 restrictions

Hours: Tuesday - Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

951-849-7289

malkimuseum.org

IMPERIAL VALLEY DESERT MUSEUM

Now open! Hours: Wednesday -Sunday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Admission: \$5

• *We are currently waiving the admission fee during the development of our Phase 3: Geology Exhibit. However, we are accepting donations to allow us to continue providing exceptional events, programs, and exhibits that focus on preserving, interpreting, and celebrating the deserts of Southern California.*

<http://www.ivdesertmuseum.org>

SAN DIEGO ARCHAEOLOGICAL CENTER

• *Living Room Lecture Series*

"Looking Down the Rabbit Hole — Santee Greens Revisited"

By Stan Berryman

Thursday, Jan 27, 6:30 p.m.

Online Zoom — Cost: Pay what you wish

Registrations required. Registration closes at 4 p.m.

<https://sandiegoarchaeology.org/santee-greens/>

SAN DIEGO COUNTY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

<https://sdcas.org>

SOCIETY FOR CALIFORNIA ARCHAEOLOGY

<https://scahome.org>

SUNBELT PUBLICATIONS / SUNBELT SPOTLIGHT ONLINE

• *"A Natural History of the Anza-Borrego Region with Santa Margarita Sierra Club"*

Thursday, Jan.13, 2022, 6:30 p.m.

Details TBA

Online Registration Free Admission

<https://sunbeltpublications.com/events/>

BORREGO STUDENTS GIVEN TOUR OF MINE WASH

On December 2nd and 3rd, students from Borrego Springs High School were given a tour of the Mine Wash cultural site.

The 18 students are taking a credit elective in interpretive education and will acquire certifications as Interpretive Host and Interpretive Guide after successful completion of their one-year program. The tours were organized by Dave Duncan and led by CDAS member John Downing, who is an archaeology technician and site steward.

"Leading these tours and informing the students about the lifeway of the Kumeyaay peoples who lived here long ago is so rewarding. They demonstrate a high level of interest and ask pertinent and penetrating questions," said John.

Some of the students from last year's class, who had also previously toured the site, have gone on to participate in the internship program with ABDSP this year.



CDAS Site Steward and Archaeology Technician John Downing with Borrego Springs High School students at the Mine Wash site. Photo by Dave Duncan



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

★ HAYLEY ELSKEN

ASSOCIATE STATE ARCHAEOLOGIST / TRIBAL LIAISON
COLORADO DESERT DISTRICT

760-767-4403 hayley.elsken@parks.ca.gov

2020/2021 CDAS STEERING COMMITTEE

The Steering Committee convenes once a month during the season. Meetings, which are virtual, 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: Theresa Harrison — tfowlerharrison@gmail.com

Vice Chair: Lois Carlson — loiseleanor@gmail.com

Secretary: LLouise Jee — llwalking@yahoo.com

Treasurer/Webmaster: Eugenie Newton —

evnewton8@gmail.com

Member: John Downing — johndowning2014@outlook.com

CDAS Bulletin Editor: Laurie Brindle

bulletin@anzaborregoarchaeo.org

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

WE WANT YOUR NEWS, STORIES AND PHOTOS!

All CDAS members are encouraged to contribute photos, events, items of interest, or “Tales from the Trail” to our monthly bulletin. Perhaps there is an archaeology topic that you would like to know more about? If so, please contact Laurie Brindle at bulletin@anzaborregoarchaeo.org

COPY DEADLINE: the 20th of each month, September to April. The CDAS Bulletin publishes October through May.

Make sure you have the Park rangers' contact number with you in the field at all times in case of an emergency!

SURCOM 951-443-2964

HELP WANTED

JUST SAY YES!

PUBLIC PROGRAMS SUB-COMMITTEE

CDAS Public Programs are presentations open to the general public and are conducted by guest speakers who are experts in their field of study. This season, they will be presented to the public via Zoom.

CDAS has a Zoom coordinator who schedules and hosts all presentations. In the past, this program has been coordinated by one person. While this is satisfactory, it could also be a small group of CDAS members working as a subcommittee.

DUTIES:

- Identify potential speakers by polling the park archaeologists and steering committee members, past and present; or any other individuals or institutions that may suggest potential speakers.
- Contact speakers, determine subject matter, coordinate meeting times, introduce or arrange introductions for speakers at the beginning of Zoom meeting. If you are interested in helping, please email John Downing at: johndowning2014@outlook.com

ARCHAEOLOGY DAY COMMITTEE

Scheduled for Sunday, March 13, Archaeology Day will be held at the Visitors Center and is a fun event for volunteers. We will want help with set-up, clean-up, staffing information tables, taking visitors to the BARC for tours, publicity and many other activities. Email Eugenie Newton at evnewton8@gmail.com for more information and to offer your assistance.

MARKETING/PUBLICITY

Would you like to put your creative skills to work? Projects include producing the monthly CDAS Bulletin, creating flyers, brochures and posters, and publicizing CDAS special events to outside media sources. If any of these sound interesting to you, please email Laurie Brindle at bulletin@anzaborregoarchaeo.org

CDAS STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBER

The CDAS steering committee assists Hayley as the District Archaeologist in her work protecting the Park's cultural resources. CDAS supports members with continuing education, events and public education. Monthly SC meetings all occur via Zoom. Other work preparing trainings and events happens on an ad hoc basis in between. Nominate yourself or a volunteer colleague! Contact Eugenie Newton (evnewton8@gmail.com) or Theresa Harrison (tfowlerharrison@gmail.com)

CDAS PHOTO GALLERY



Photo by Lisa Pridmore

Stormy skies can provide exciting photo-ops in the desert. These iPhone shots were taken by CDAS members Lisa Pridmore (top photo) and Laurie Brindle (bottom photo) on a morning walk around the ABDSP Visitor Center on December 14.



Photo by Laurie Brindle