



THE COLORADO DESERT
ARCHAEOLOGY
 SOCIETY BULLETIN



MARCH 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.



Cuyamaca Rancho State Park received a hefty blanket of snow during the recent storm, as did the mountain ranges surrounding Anza-Borrego Desert State Park. CDAS members captured some of the rare vistas with their cameras. See their photos on page 12. Photo by Theresa Harrison

INSIDE

- 2** CALENDAR
- 4** FROM THE CHAIR
- 5** CONTINUING EDUCATION
- 6** SITE STEWARD NEWS
- 8** CDAS MEMBER PROFILE
Scott Hansen
- 9** PHOTO SHOW WINNERS
PUBLIC PROGRAM RECAP
- 10** BOOK REVIEW
- 11** HELP WANTED &
REGIONAL ARCHAEO
MUSEUMS & CENTERS
- 12** PHOTO GALLERY:
"SNOW DAYS"

NOTES FROM THE PARK



HAYLEY ELSKEN

Associate State Archaeologist & Tribal Liaison

It has finally felt like winter in the desert. The mountains surrounding Borrego Springs have received snow several times this month! Windy and stormy weather has canceled field days and forced me to retrieve my long johns from the closet to wear up in the mountains.

We squeezed in a field day at the beginning of February, and continued recording the Cherry-on-Top site, which we started recording with the Arch Tech class in December. Every time we have gone out to survey and think we have finally found the end of the site, it has continued. During the next visit to the site, we will look at natural washes and landscape features that can act as the site boundaries — or else we may never finish. →

ARCHAEOLOGY IN THE DESERT!
SUNDAY, MARCH 13 See Page 3

CALENDAR

COVID UPDATE

Restriction on number of people in the lab and library is lifted but masks are required for those who are not vaccinated.

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.

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

(Virtual via Zoom)

Friday, March 18, 1:30 p.m.

All members are invited to attend.

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

CONTINUING EDUCATION

• Saturday/Sunday, March 19 & 20
“Flintknapping” with Dr. Jeanne Binning
(See page 4)

ARCHAEOLOGY DAY

Sunday, March 13, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
ABDSP Visitor Center (See page 3)

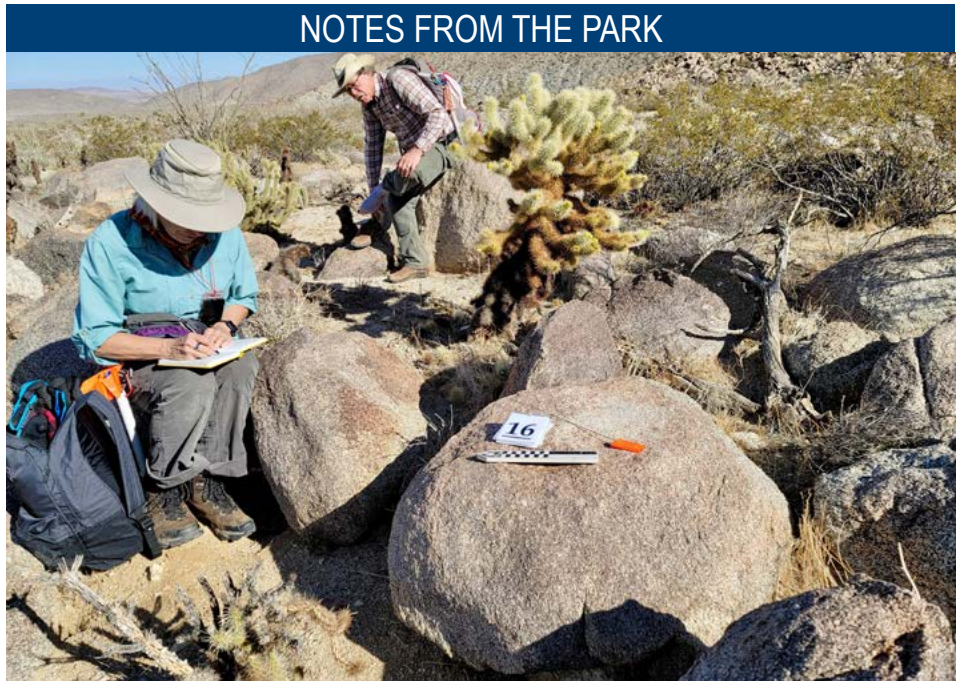
PLEASE NOTE:

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.

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

NOTES FROM THE PARK



Susan Gilliland and Lance Deibler record features at Cherry-on-Top site.

Photo by John Kuraoka

Continued from page 1

The area on the other side will need to be recorded later as a separate site.

Surveys have been exciting in this area with well used milling features, lithic tools, large pot sherds and a huge amount of manos and pestles.

The next field visit to this site is Friday, March 4. Field days will also be held on Friday and Saturday, March 25 and 26.

Clean-up work began at the Southern Heritage and Visitor Center site, which is located at the 1980s Ranch House near the Hawi-Vallecito Cultural Preserve and the Campbell Rancho Historic Complex. During the clean-up, trash that had piled up around the property was hauled away and the vegetation in the back yard that had started to creep onto the concrete patio was removed.

There is still a lot of clean-up work to do around the outside of the house, but the property is already starting to show potential as the Southern Heritage and Visitor Center.

Hope to see you at Archaeology Day on Sunday, March 13!

— Hayley



ABOVE TOP: Before clean-up at the Southern Heritage and Visitor Center
CENTER: An almost full load going to the dump
BOTTOM: Backyard patio after clean-up

Photos courtesy of Dennis Stephen

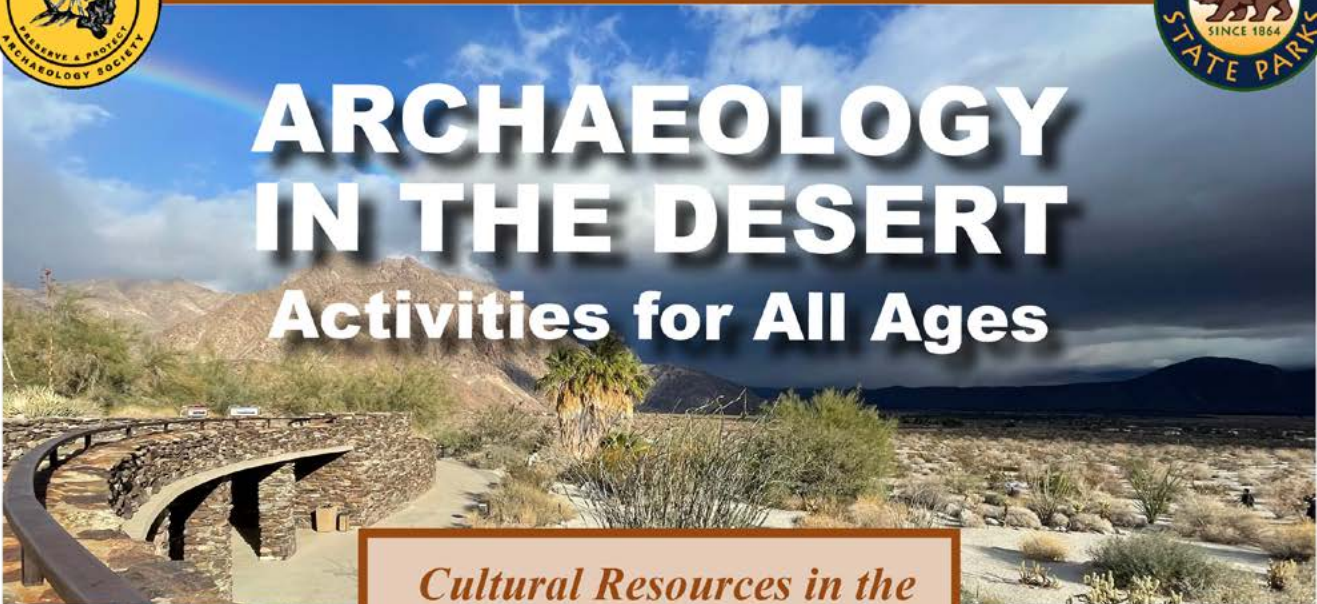


THE COLORADO DESERT ARCHAEOLOGY SOCIETY PRESENTS



ARCHAEOLOGY IN THE DESERT

Activities for All Ages



Cultural Resources in the Colorado Desert District

SUNDAY, MARCH 13

9 a.m – 4 p.m.

**Anza-Borrego Desert
State Park Visitor Center**

ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:

- How to visit an archaeology site
- Demonstration of Native plants and their uses by the Kumeyaay-Ipai Interpretative Center in Poway
 - Kids activities, including pottery-making using paddle-and-anvil construction techniques.
- Exhibits by Barona Cultural Center, Imperial Valley Desert Museum, Malki Museum and the SD County Archaeological Society.
- Guided tours of the CDAS Archaeology Lab
 - In-person field trip to Mine Wash Indian Village

FREE ADMISSION



For information, please visit:

<https://www.anzaborregoarchaeo.org/arch-day-2022/>



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

2021/2022 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

CDAS Bulletin Editor: Laurie Brindle
bulletin@anzaborregoarchaeo.org



Photo by Laurie Brindle

COLORADO DESERT ARCHAEOLOGY SOCIETY



*“To keep you current
as we explore the past”*

Be sure and visit the **Members page** on our website often for past CDAS bulletins, resources, photos and additional helpful information!

www.anzaborregoarchaeo.org

FROM THE CHAIR



THERESA FOWLER HARRISON

When we first moved to the back country close to Cuyamaca Rancho, we noticed many cars with popped hoods—vans, wagons, jeeps, small cars, big cars, old ones, new ones. I thought that is so odd. Why do so many people out here have car problems? It didn't take long, like about a week, to figure it out.

That one morning, when we went to start our Prius and the dashboard lit up like a decorated Christmas tree in yellows, greens, and reds with various warnings from the ABS Warning Light, Malfunction Warning Lamp to Charging System Warning Light, we understood. A check under the hood revealed a well-woven rat's nest, made of a few twigs, but mostly tubing, wires, and insulation.

Our favorite mechanic, Jonathon (everyone should have a trusty mechanic) called us an hour later with our first estimate: a few thousand dollars for electrical repair. A second call upped the total to over \$4000. Before the day was over, we were in the market for a new vehicle, as our insurance totaled out the Prius.

Why am I telling you this? I'm sharing a segment of my steep learning curve of living out in the country. Reminding you to pop your car's hood, if you are on a long hike or a visit to the mountains or desert. Many animals, including mice and snakes, seek shelter in car engines to escape extremes of heat and cold.

I may be retired, but my education is not over. I attended the Ground Stone class Feb. 25 and 26 and have signed up for the Flintknapping class March 19 and 20. I attend the public lectures arranged by John Downing. I look forward to attending Archaeology Day on Sunday, March 13. I participate in field studies.

If you recently joined the CDAS team as a site steward or an archaeology technician, welcome. There are many outstanding opportunities to learn and grow with CDAS that I hope you will take advantage of.

Please join us at the next virtual Steering Committee meeting on Friday, March 18 to get to know fellow members.

— *Theresa*

CONTINUING EDUCATION

LIMITED SPACES STILL AVAILABLE FOR FLINTKNAPPING WORKSHOP — SIGN UP BY MARCH 7

By Susan Gilliland

Continuing Education Coordinator

FLINTKNAPPING AND LITHIC TECHNOLOGY

March 19 - 20, 2022

A few openings remain for the “Flintknapping and Lithic Technology” taught by Dr. Jeanne Binning, a well known national authority on this subject. The class will be held all day Saturday, March 19, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, March 20, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

A preliminary class agenda includes an overview of lithic technology and experimental flintknapping; materials; spalling and initial percussion reduction; fracture types; biface reduction practice; pressure flaking practice; notching practice; hafting and using stone tools; and tool identification. Participants will spend several hours actually flintknapping. It’s fun and very challenging.

Class size is strictly limited to 24 due to safety concerns. Dr. Binning is bringing an assistant to help supervise. Sign up on Better Impact. I took this class with Dr. Binning and it improved my understanding and identification of lithics by 100 percent.

This course will help arch techs become better surveyors and site recorders.

The course is open to arch techs and site stewards.

There is no charge for this class; however, you must commit to both days to receive credit for the volunteer training hours. CDAS is covering the price of this course, so that members can take it for free.

This is a rare opportunity to learn valuable skills in person with Dr. Binning that will undoubtedly help you understand more about your findings in the field.



CDAS member Sally Bickerton at the 2015 flintknapping class. Photo courtesy of Susan Gilliland

CDAS MEMBERS ATTEND GROUND STONE TECHNOLOGY CLASSES



On Friday, Feb. 25 and Saturday, Feb. 26, Dr. Joan Schneider gave an information-packed presentation on ground stone technology.

During the Friday evening Zoom session and the two half-day, hands-on sessions on Saturday, 39 CDAS members learned how to identify ground stone artifacts (both portable artifacts and bedrock features), gather the data required to fill out site record forms and how to carry out preliminary cataloging of artifacts.

More photos of the class will publish in the April edition of the Bulletin.

LEFT: Dr. Joan Schneider discusses artifact surfaces during the Saturday morning session. Photo by John Case

SITE STEWARD NEWS



From left: Pat Downing, "Super Mentor" Sam Webb, Brenda Wills and Eli Vasquez at the Morteros Trail site

Photo by John Downing

NEW SITE STEWARDS INTRODUCED TO THEIR SITES

By Pat Downing
Site Steward Coordinator

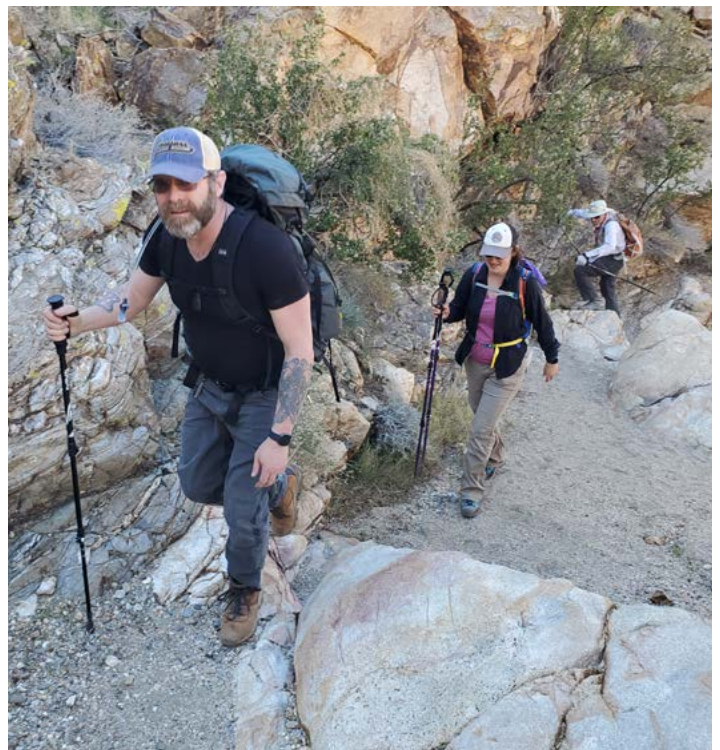
It is an exciting time with so many new Site Stewards sharing their enthusiasm as they are introduced to their sites to steward. As I write this, four set-ups have been completed and three more are scheduled in February, weather permitting.

Chris Maust was joined by veteran steward Mike Hurley to monitor in Jacumba. Chris was able to use his considerable d-stretch skills to locate a "missing" pictograph.

Thank you, Sherry Mitchell, for sharing your many years of experience with Mike and Chris.



Brenda Wills and Eli Vasquez working at the Morteros Trail Photo by Pat Downing



Adam and JC Niesley climb to their site with John Case.

Photo by Don Endicott

Continued on next page

SITE STEWARD NEWS



Chris Maust and Mike Hurley go for the best shot.
Photo by Sherry Mitchell



Chris Maust and Mike Hurley explore rock overhang at Jacumba. Photo by Sherry Mitchell

Continued from previous page

Don Endicott and John Case set up Adam and JC Niesley on a newly stewarded site. They not only set up their photo stations, but also were able to locate 28 previously recorded features and provide photos for many missing in the site record.

John (Downing) and I set up Denise Du Breuil on her intaglio sites, but she could not resist using her tracking skills to identify the many non-human visitors to the site.

The most fun was Morteros Trail. Eli Vasquez and Brenda Wills got the full benefit of Sam

Webb's 20 years of experience on the Morteros Trail site. Sam not only monitored the site with wife Astrid, but also lead interpretive hikes there and was the photographer for the most recent site survey.

Sam's stories made the set up a fascinating and fun experience. If we could only have a Sam for every site that we monitor!

We still have several open sites in Blair Valley area, and Cuyamaca for you to consider. Please contact me for more information.

— Pat

pdsnewmail@gmail.com



Denise DuBreuil at work with John Downing
Photo by Pat Downing



JC and Adam Niesley with Don Endicott
Photo by John Case

SCOTT HANSEN

By Sally Bickerton

Site Steward Scott Hansen has been a San Diego resident since his earliest years. Thanks to his parents, the family left Minnesota in the 1970s for sunny California. His childhood dream of becoming a Naval aviator was dashed when he applied for his driver's permit at 15 and couldn't read the eye chart. But a new interest soon grew when a wildfire erupted near their home and forced their evacuation.

Watching the drama of that event, plus a high school visit from the Poway Fire Department to recruit students as reserve firefighters, led to a career in fire service.

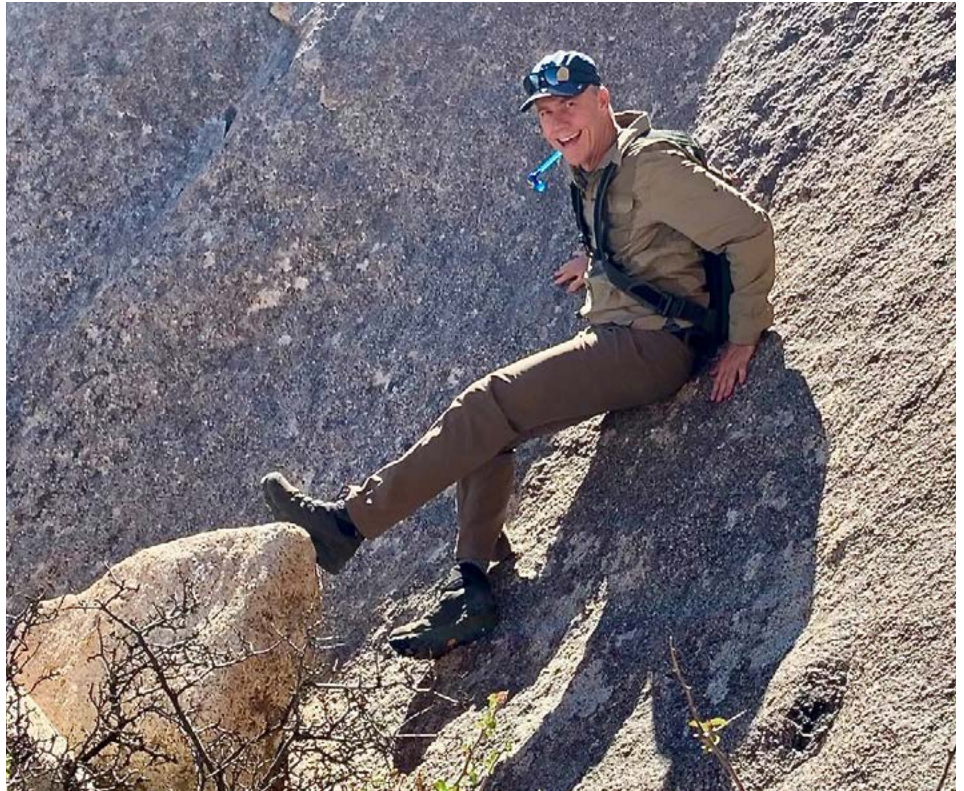
Scott retired from the San Marcos Fire Department as a Battalion Chief in 2018, and then completed three addition years with the US Forest Service. As of 2022, he is officially retired after 38 years of dedicated fire service.



Scott and his wife, Emily, in Izamal, Mexico.
Photo courtesy of Scott Hansen

Scott and his wife, Emily, have been married for 27 years and have one daughter, Stella, a freshman at Boise State University.

Scott has been an active outdoor person his entire adult life. He enjoys everything from backpacking to mountain biking, and trail running to fishing. Scott's family has enjoyed visiting Anza-Borrego Desert SP for many years, and we can thank Scott McClintock for recruiting him for the Park's site steward program. Scott has always been fascinated by history and often views the world



Scott Hansen smiles after completing a challenging descent during a recent hike near the Indian Gorge site. Fellow steward Pam Wiedenkiller recorded the event on her phone and created screen shots from the paused video.

from a historical perspective. Being a site steward combines these two passions: hiking and history.

He completed the site steward training program in 2019 and was soon assigned the Sun Cave site with Pam Wiedenkiller.



The rock shelter at the Sun Cave site.
Photo courtesy of Scott Hansen

Many of us have heard about this site, as long-time site steward, Stan Rohrer, loved to share his fascination with its unique characteristics. As many of us also know, visiting this site is not for

everyone! This amazing site is an arduous 90-minute hike through rough desert landscapes without an established trail. Scott and Pam are still exploring various routes to best access it. On each of their last two visits, they have made new discoveries, including what may be yonis. His advice is to keep your eyes open as there are discoveries to be made everywhere.

As he has several volunteer interests, he is currently participating mainly as a site steward within CDAS. He has enjoyed learning more about the desert park and its earliest inhabitants, and

meeting many wonderful CDAS volunteers.

Left: A previously unreported feature (possible yoni?) that Scott and Pam noted on their way to the Sun Cave.

Photo courtesy of Scott Hansen



TAKE NOTE

CDAS MEMBERS HONORED AT PHOTO EXHIBITION



Rick Huls' photo of Don Endicott earned First Place honors in the "People Enjoying the Park" category. Photo by Paula Huls

New CDAS site steward Chris Maust and longtime member Rick Huls each earned prestigious awards at the recent annual photo contest sponsored by the Anza-Borrego Foundation.

Chris earned first place in the landscape category and the Best of Show award for his photograph titled, "Yoni Explosion." He also took home an honorable mention for his black-and-white photograph, "Kumeyaay Morteros."

Rick Huls was awarded a first place blue ribbon in the "People Enjoying the Park" category. Rick's photo depicted CDAS member and Naturalist Don Endicott photographing flowers in the Park

The exhibition was held at the Borrego Art Institute. Congratulations, Chris and Rick!



Chris Maust stands in front of his photo, "Yoni Explosion," that earned First Place in the landscape category and the Best of Show award.

Photo courtesy of Chris Maust

BOUSE-WALK-IN WELL ARTIFACTS DISCUSSED AT PATAYAN/YUMAN CULTURE HISTORY PRESENTATION

On Tuesday, Feb. 1, Aaron Wright, PhD RPA, presented "New Research into Patayan/Yuman Culture History" via Zoom, the third in this season's Public Education programs. Organized and hosted by member John Downing, more than 240 viewed the virtual lecture.

Dr. Wright's presentation centered on the Bouse Walk-in Well in far-western Arizona, which is an important archaeological site that contains a significant assemblage of artifacts, primarily ceramic, in the Patayan archaeological tradition. 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.

During his presentation, Dr. Wright expressed his appreciation for the Begole Archaeological Research Grant that he received to help fund his work in this area.

TURN OF THE CENTURY TRAVEL LOGS DELIVER FASCINATING LOOK AT OUR LOCAL GEOGRAPHY

By LLouise Jee

Two books in the BARC library invite armchair touring of our local geography. You need the books and a good map of the area to understand and travel with the authors as they describe their journeys.

Letters by Charles Parry have been collected in “**Parry’s California notebooks, 1849-51.**” Fifty years later in 1919, J. Smeaton Chase wrote “**California Desert Trails.**” Both authors describe what they see and encounter on their travels.

Parry was part of the boundary survey that established the border between Mexico and (the not yet state) California. The surveyors were tasked to determine the official line from the California coast to Yuma, accompanied by Mexican officials to make sure all was correct.

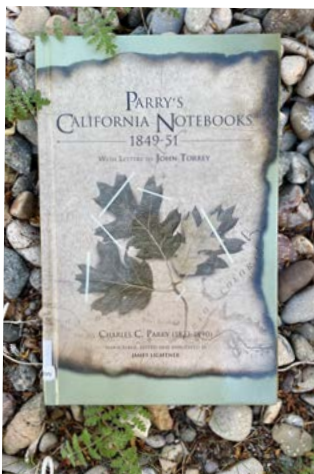
Parry, a botanist with partial medical school training, served in both capacities. He made botanical collections and wrote scientific descriptions that were saved and sent on to his mentor, John Torrey (yes, the namesake of Torrey Pines and well-respected botanical authority) that give 2022 readers a glimpse of what was present in 1849.

Aside from the scientific names, now changed due to reclassifications, his observations are surprising. Parry describes most of the California missions as being decrepit and used as stables — and the churches in disrepair.

This is in 1849, when — according to most history that we were taught in California — those missions should have been going strong. Parry also notes that the land he traverses frequently has been burned. The Native American population was practicing husbandry and agriculture in promoting growth that could sustain them. Parry traveled north to Monterey, California and west to Yuma, Arizona.

Some of Parry’s botanical collections were destroyed when they were entrusted to a “respected authority” to transport them through the yet-to-be-designated Panama Canal Zone to New York, where Torrey eagerly expected them. They never arrived.

The transporter had dismissed the importance of the “dried plant specimens” and failed to protect the cargo



from the intense tropical heat and humidity. They were ruined. The transporter eventually reported that was all was lost.

The introductions to **California Desert Trails** by Chase were written by others during his era, and reflect sentiments of the early 20th century.

I first read a copy in 1995 that did not include later discussions of the volume. I was enchanted by a historical tour of Anza-Borrego. Today, being more familiar with the local geography, I can better place Chase’s travels.

He starts in the Palm Desert area and journeys north to Joshua Tree National Park and comes south via Thousand Palms on the east side of the Coachella Valley that marks out the San Andreas fault zone and the water source for the *Washingtonia filifera* fan palms.

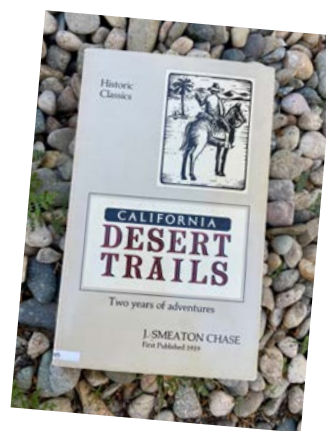
Chase then heads south to ABDSP beginning at Fish Traps, Seventeen Palms, Borego Spring (spelled with only one ‘r’ then) and across and up to Collins Valley and Thousand Palms Canyon to the Los Coyotes Reservation. There he traverses to Warner’s Hot Springs, and down through San Felipe.

He turns west to Banner and proceeds south along Chariot Canyon to Mason Valley, where he decides to join up with a fellow at Agua Caliente. The two go north to Split Mountain and out around the Fish Creek Mountains to Signal Mountain.

This is done in about two months in the summer with a horse that he purchased from the Cahuilla tribe and named Kaweah. (Phonetic spelling).

There is more as Chase goes to Yuma and explores part of the Colorado, so get your reading ‘shoes’ on and travel.

Both authors use native names (often spelled phonetically) and also comment on the lack of respect and treatment that the local inhabitants receive from the people who moved in over the top of them. Considering the times in which Parry and Chase were writing, that is something to behold.



REGIONAL ARCHAEO 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*

"Forensic Analysis of Moai Transport"

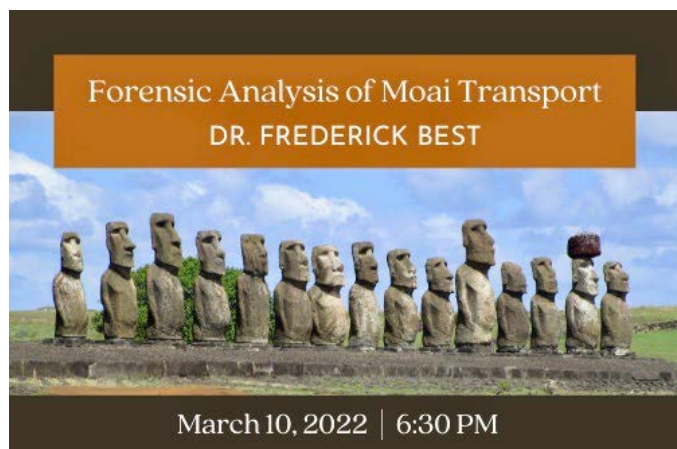
By Dr. Frederick Best

Thursday, March 10, 6:30 p.m.

Online Zoom — Cost: Pay what you wish

Registrations required. Registration closes at 4 p.m.

<https://sandiegoarchaeology.org/moai/>



SAN DIEGO COUNTY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

<https://sdcas.org>

SOCIETY FOR CALIFORNIA ARCHAEOLOGY

<https://scahome.org>

HELP WANTED

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 volunteer a colleague! Contact Eugenie Newton (evnewton8@gmail.com) or Theresa Harrison (tfowlerharrison@gmail.com)

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

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
- 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

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.

CDAS PHOTO GALLERY

The storm that blew in last week left our local mountain areas covered in snow — creating some rare photo opportunities that our members took advantage of. Even Indian Head peak, at only 3,573 feet, was dusted with the stuff for a short time. Thanks to all who ventured out and captured some amazing shots!



Alcoholics Pass

Jean Paul Carrere



Julian

Lance Deibler



Looking north from Borrego Springs

Rick Huls



View of Santa Rosa mountains

Lisa Pridmore



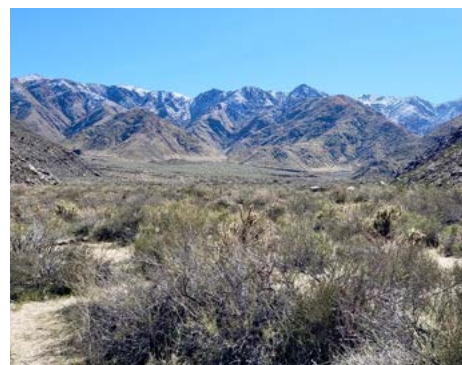
Ranchita

Scott McClintock



The second Coyote Creek crossing

Scott McClintock



Indian Canyon off Coyote Canyon

Neil Cadwallader



Alcoholics Pass

Jean Paul Carrere