

October/  
November 2022

# The Colorado Desert Archaeology

Society Bulletin

## 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.

## WHAT'S INSIDE

- 2 Calendar
- 2 CDAS Kickoff!
- 3 From the Chair
- 4 Site Stewards
- 5 BARC Book Reviews
- 6 Member Adventures

## NOTES FROM THE PARK

Hayley Elskén

Associate State Archaeologist and CDD Tribal Liaison

Summer means planning, office work and mountain time for the Colorado Desert District. Louise Jee and Patty McFarland joined me most Tuesdays and Thursdays in the BARC, working to update site records, sort through and clean-up GIS (Geographic Information System) data, and input archaeological collections into the State Park collections database. I spent most of the summer creating budgets, contracts, and project agreements or prospective work in the park.



In June and July, I escaped the heat and the country and visited Anza-Borrego Desert State Park's sister park in Mongolia, Ikh Nart Nature Reserve. The reserve is located in southeastern Mongolia in the Gobi-steppe ecosystem. The relationship between

(CONTINUED NEXT PAGE)



Overview of excavation site at  
Ikh Nart Nature Reserve, Mongolia

PHOTO BY HAYLEY ELSKEN

## CALENDAR

### COVID UPDATE

The mask mandate has been lifted

### LAB DAY

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

### LIBRARY

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

### STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

October 21, 2022  
1:30 p.m.  
Virtual, via Zoom

### FALL PUBLIC EDUCATION PROGRAM

To be announced

### CDAS KICKOFF AND SOCIAL

Sunday, October 23, 2022  
11 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
(More information below)

OCTOBER IS

ARCHAEOLOGY MONTH!

## NOTES FROM THE PARK--CONTINUED



*Cultural Ranger Choi screens at the excavation site.*

Palomar College, volunteers and archaeologists who had previously worked at Ikh Nart, and Mongolian archaeologists.

CDAS is starting off the season strong with Archaeology Month in October and a slew of events, including Archaeopalooza (October 1, Copper Mountain College, Joshua Tree), Arch in the Park (October 15, Historic Rancho Peñasquitos Adobe, Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve), and the CDAS Kickoff (October 23, Old Lake Cuyamaca Fire Station)! The first field day of the season will be Monday, October 10. Keep your eye on Better Impact to sign up for the survey and other opportunities.

*See more of Hayley's photos from Mongolia on page 6*

# CDAS KICKOFF AND SOCIAL!

**WHEN:** Sunday, October 23, 2022  
11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

**WHERE:** Old Lake Cuyamaca Fire Station

34560 Engineers Road, Julian, 92036  
The intersection of Highway 79 and Engineers Road, Julian, CA 92036



*Please bring a dish to share and mark your containers. Go green by bringing your own mess kit or utensils, and drinks. CDAS will provide water.*



## PROGRAM

11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Meet and Greet and Potluck  
12:30 to 1:30 p.m. Welcome and Introductions

Park Updates—Hayley Elsken  
Site Stewards Updates—Pat Downing  
CDAS Going Forward—Eugenie Newton

1:30 to 3 p.m. Social Time

*Please consider coming early to set up tables, meet and greet, or stay later to help clean up. And one more thing... please wear your name tag.*

## 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 pre-historic and historic cultural resources.

### ★ HAYLEY ELSKEN

ASSOCIATE STATE ARCHAEOLOGIST/TRIBAL LIAISON  
COLORADO DESERT DISTRICT  
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## 2022/23 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](mailto:tfowlerharrison@gmail.com)

**Vice Chair:** Lois Carlson  
[loiseleanor@gmail.com](mailto:loiseleanor@gmail.com)

**Secretary:** Louise Jee  
[llwalking@yahoo.com](mailto:llwalking@yahoo.com)

**Treasurer/Webmaster:** Eugenie Newton  
[eNewton8@gmail.com](mailto:eNewton8@gmail.com)

**Public Education Chair: Open**  
**Continuing Education Chair: Open**  
**Members at Large on the Steering Committee:**  
**3 Open Positions now, 5 Open Positions as of**  
**January, 2023**

Please contact **Theresa Harrison** at [tfowlerharrison@gmail.com](mailto:tfowlerharrison@gmail.com) for information on any role you are interested in. Your help is truly needed!

## CDAS BULLETIN

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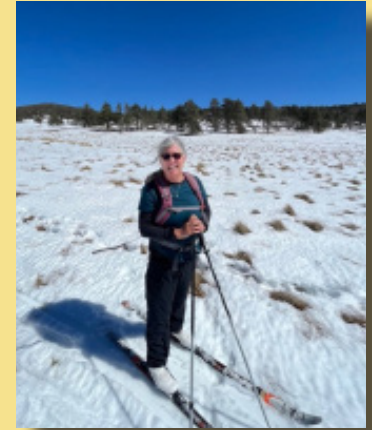
**Co-Editor:** Theresa Harrison  
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COVER BANNER: HARPER CANYON AREA, NOVEMBER 2018  
PHOTO BY BARBARA BARNES

## NOTES FROM THE CHAIR

### Theresa Fowler Harrison

Six years ago, when Dale and I retired to North Peak near Julian, an old fire station stood at the intersection of Engineers Road and Highway 79.



*Theresa, on the last day of spring skiing in the Cuyamacas, 2022*

Cal-Fire was grading the land next door to it in preparation for buildings of their own. Since our home, a mile away, was rebuilt after the Cedar Fire, we were elated to think we had two fire departments close to our home. What little we knew.

During a pancake breakfast at that same old fire station, a month after our move, we saw the work that needed to be done, and it was a lot. Two months after that, a figurative firestorm erupted among Julian Cuyamaca Volunteer Fire Department, San Diego County Fire, and Cal Fire. Eventually, Julian joined SD County Fire and the lake district resumed ownership of the old fire station, which is where we are holding our potluck. The building was completely remodeled, and a new deck was added. The interior and exterior were repainted and the outside landscaped. Photos on the wall illustrate the history of the Old Julian Cuyamaca Fire Station.

I'm telling you this so you can appreciate the work that went into the beautiful building it is now. I also hope you can see that changes, sometimes difficult when amid them, can lead to greater things. The new "Old Julian Cuyamaca Fire Station" is a special gift to the local community. Neighbors use it for meetings, barbecues, and reunions. Engagement parties and weddings happen at sunset overlooking the lake.

The Colorado Desert Archaeological Society is shifting, too. It's not the only organization to restructure following the pandemic. We look forward to seeing you all at the Kickoff on Sunday, October 23, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Arrive early or stay late to mingle with the Steering Committee. I look forward to welcoming new members and greeting familiar faces (notice I did not say "old" faces). Please bring your mess kit (Go Green), something delish to share, and your great ideas about moving forward.

## SITE STEWARDS

### You Never Know What You'll Find Out There!

by **Pat Downing**  
Site Steward Coordinator

It has been a quiet summer for Site Steward visits. Lance Diebler managed to get to his Angelina Springs site after one of the severe thunderstorms. He found no damage to the site, but said the road looked as if it had had a river flowing through it. Seeing his site in the early morning light with standing water in the cracks and crevices allowed him to see new trails and features—always more to discover! Mitch and Kathy Provoast made their visit to the Green Valley area with no issues other than hiking around in 90-degree heat. Hopefully, the winds and rains from Tropical Storm Kay have spared most of our sites.

Please remember your Site Steward commitment is a minimum of two visits a year to your assigned site. If you have had any changes to your status, or need help with this commitment, please let me know. If you have time to monitor an additional site, we have some needing stewards.

One of the things I enjoy most about coordinating the Site Steward program is the opportunity to have exchanges with many stewards. Often, the subject of



*Rock Shelter Discovery—M. Miller's Trusty Boots*

these exchanges may just be something they think I might find interesting. I have been able to “see” far corners of the park through their descriptions and photos. My favorite from last season is from Tom Teske. An accomplished hiker, he has a keen eye for detail. Last year he sent me an email titled “Boots in a Kumeyaay Rock shelter.” Inside the shelter was a well-worn pair of hiking boots filled with concrete and attached together with a metal plaque. It appears M. Miller used these boots to hike various mountain peaks between 1984 and 2012. Other than that, we know nothing about this interesting man. You never know what you will find out there.

See you at the Kickoff meeting.

— Pat



*Close-up of metal plaque attached to boots*

## IN THE BARC LIBRARY

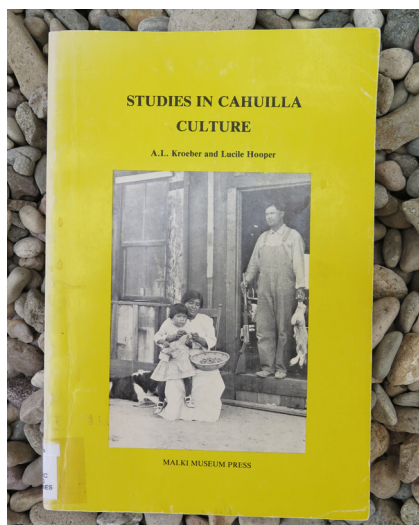
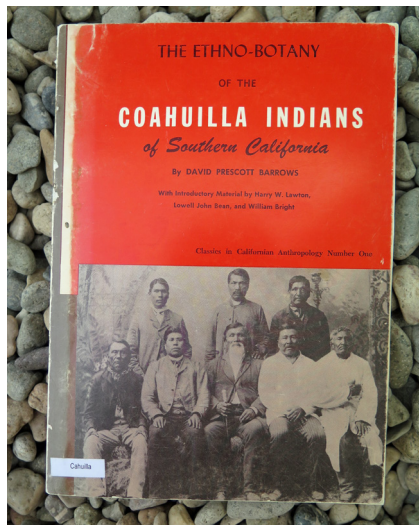
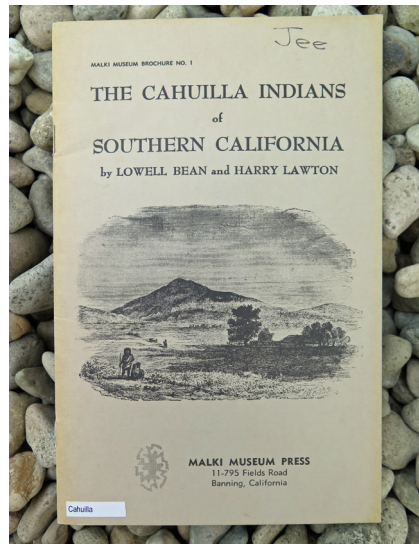
### THREE BOOKS ON CAHUILLA CULTURE

The BARC Library Cahuilla shelf has some interesting volumes, many illustrated with historic photographs.

There is a concise booklet, *The Cahuilla Indians of Southern California*, by Lowell Bean and Harry Lawton, that was first printed in 1965 by Malki Museum Press. It is a distilled description of the Cahuilla with some gems of history at the end.

Look for *The Ethno-Botany of the Coahuilla Indians of Southern California*,\* by David Scott Barrows from 1900, especially the Bean and Lawton introduction version. Barrows does an incredible 1900 description of culture and names and plant usage by the Cahuilla that reminds us to check out *Temalpakh*, (Bean and Saubel, 1972). Fascinating reading and phonetic detection allow you to read both books together, plant by plant, and feel your knowledge increase. The Bean and Lawton introduction gives additional descriptions and a bibliography. In that bibliography, there is a citation to a report of three excavations done by Joan Townsend in Culp Valley and Grapevine Canyon in the UCLA Archaeological Survey Annual, 1959-1960. This report, unknown to CDD until 2022, is conveniently in the BARC reports collections.

\*Coahuilla was a common spelling in 1900.



The third Cahuilla book pulled off the shelf is a two-for-one. Look for *Studies in Cahuilla Culture* printed by Malki Museum Press, containing articles by A.L. Kroeber and Lucile Hooper. Malki Museum has been reprinting old studies, and this one was reprinted in 1987.

Kroeber wrote *Ethnography of the Cahuilla Indians*, and completed it in May 1907, according to the last manuscript page. Bean says that Kroeber's visit was brief, as he was on a purchasing mission for items to go in the yet-to-be-developed UC Berkeley collection. Kroeber's writing indicates he relied heavily on Barrows and others for information. While Kroeber wrote the study, his interest was not on the Cahuilla, but in comparing them to other Native American groups. His photographs of artifacts provide comparative examples of construction and stylistic differences. Kroeber wrote of the Salton Sink, as the flooding happened just as his article went to press in 1908.

In the same 1987 reprint is Hooper's *The Cahuilla Indians*. The details Hooper reveals show that she spent time with the Cahuilla, learned legends and their language, and respected them. Hooper, in 1920, described the ways they lived, documenting a disappearing way of life.

By LLOUISE JEE

# MEMBER ADVENTURES

## ICELAND



PHOTO BY DON BARRIE

*John Case and Laurie Brindle sport the equipment required for a group walk on the Falljökull glacier.*

On July 27, CDAS members John Case, Laurie Brindle, Pam Wiedenkeller, and Dan Jellis, along with Dan's wife, Pam Blake, traveled to the island country of Iceland on one of two summer tours offered by the Anza-Borrego Desert Natural History Association. Located just south of the Arctic Circle, Iceland is indeed the land of fire and ice, featuring towering waterfalls, glaciers, volcanoes (one erupted during their trip), icebergs and bubbling mud pools in geothermal fields. Trip leaders were Don Barrie, geology professor at San Diego Mesa College, and Matt Ebner, retired geography professor and owner of GeoTours.



PHOTO BY LAURIE BRINDLE

*Pam Blake and Dan Jellis flash big smiles despite fierce winds and cold rain at the spectacular Godafoss waterfall site.*

## MOJAVE DESERT



PHOTO BY LANCE DEIBLER



PHOTO BY JOHN DOWNING

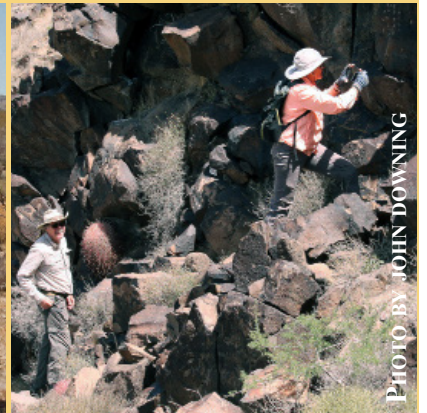


PHOTO BY JOHN DOWNING

*Is Anza-Borrego too hot for you in April/May or October? Take a few days and make a visit north to the Mojave National Preserve. This beautiful preserve ranges in elevation from the 4,000-foot level to the 7,500-foot level New York Mountains. It boasts seasonal wildflowers, Joshua trees, pinyon pines and junipers, many areas of extensive petroglyph panels, abandoned mines, two campgrounds, and open dispersed camping. Last May, CDASers, Lance Diebler, Mary Lou White, Pam Wiedenkeller, and John and Pat Downing made a visit to the area, camping in Hole in the Wall campground. John has been camping there since he was 16 years old and is always happy to share information for a visit.*

## MONGOLIA



*More photos from Hayley of her visit to Mongolia—clockwise from top left: Sunset at Ikh Nart; Ger at night; Working at excavation site*

### EDITORS' NOTE:

**WE WELCOME YOUR ADVENTURES, TOO!**

ALL CDAS MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO SHARE NEWS, STORIES, AND PHOTOS IN OUR BIMONTHLY BULLETIN, PUBLISHED OCTOBER THROUGH JUNE

PLEASE SEND ITEMS TO SALLY BICKERTON AT:

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