



THE COLORADO DESERT
ARCHAEOLOGY
 SOCIETY BULLETIN



MAY 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.

NOTES FROM THE PARK



Dr. Tanzhuo Liu photographing desert varnish in the southern part of Anza Borrego Desert State Park
 Photo by Robin Connors

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HAYLEY ELSKEN

Associate State Archaeologist & CDD Tribal Liaison

What a year it's been! Despite strict pandemic protocols in the beginning, it has been an exciting and productive season for CDAS and archaeology in the Colorado Desert District.

This past month, we were honored to host Dr. Tanzhuo Liu, renowned geologist from Columbia University who spent three days in the field observing desert pavement surfaces and artifacts to better understand the prehistoric timeline of the area. Dr. Liu collected samples of surface materials with desert varnish from river terraces to determine the date when the surface was formed — and the oldest dates of the artifacts. He also collected tools to determine the youngest date of the artifacts, and gathered quartz for a blind/control date. It could take two years to process the information.



CALENDAR

COVID UPDATE

The mask mandate has been lifted.

LAB DAY

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

LIBRARY

Closed to the general public until October. However, CDAS members may still use the library, but need to schedule an appointment with Hayley prior to visiting. Members may also email Hayley to find out when she will be in the office so she can open up the library.

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

(Virtual via Zoom) TBA



BE HEAT SMART!

Summer hikes, especially in the desert, can be deadly if you are not prepared. Before you go, review Don Endicott's Desert Safety presentation on the Members Page of the CDAS website.

<https://www.anzaborregoarchaeo.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/Desert-Safety-and-GPS-Refresher.pdf>

And 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

REMEMBER: 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



Left to right: Dr. Tanzhuo Liu, Hayley Elsken and Dr. Steven Holen in front of the State Park truck before searching for artifacts and varnish specimens. Photo by Robin Connors

Continued from page 1

This will provide a date range.

Robin Connors, past district archaeologist, Dr. Steven Holen, archaeologist at the Center for American Paleolithic Research, and I accompanied Dr. Liu in the field. We helped identify artifacts, specifically looking for artifacts with multiple surfaces that had been removed by humans (flake scars) or at small areas that had many tools and the discarded rock pieces from tool making (debitage). In some of the concentrated areas of tool-making, we were able to refit the broken rocks together and see exactly where the toolmaker hit the rock and how it broke.



An artifact observed in the field by Dr. Liu Photo by Robin Connors

Sentenac Cienega — As the CDD tribal liaison, I visited the Campo Band of Kumeyaay Indians Reservation with park environmental scientists and collaborators to observe a successful wetland restoration after impacts of erosion mainly from cattle grazing. The Campo EPA, led by Michael Connolly, at the time used a larger scale restoration technique that the Kumeyaay have used since time immemorial to manage waterways. This technique is referred to as a Kumeyaay rock drop and would have involved the placement of rocks in a waterway to slow down the water to prevent erosion and the buildup of silt in that area. The modern version takes a lot more rocks, but follows similar principles. The restoration on the Campo Reservation is 30 years old now and the willows and cottonwoods have returned, the water table has risen, the stream has become perennial, and the whole meadow is wetter and greener. The Park is looking into incorporating indigenous knowledge and working with the original land stewards like the Kumeyaay in restoration projects.

— Hayley



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

A PARTING NOTE

Dear CDAS Members,

After four exceedingly memorable years of editing the CDAS Bulletin, it's time for me to pass the proverbial baton. This has been a difficult decision because I do love doing it (OK, more so when an issue is done and Hayley has sent it out). It is bittersweet because of all that I have gained in the process. I have met so many fascinating people and made wonderful friends, as well as learning about archaeology and the rich cultural heritage of the Colorado Desert District. I will still be around, just working on other projects that have been on my to-do list way too long.

Of course, I owe volumes to everyone who has contributed stories, photos and inspiration along the way. And my undying appreciation goes to the valiant proofreaders for catching pesky typos and errors on a regular basis.

Now is one of the most exciting times to be involved with CDAS because of the recent archaeo discoveries, enthusiastic new members and increased opportunities to better understand and appreciate the legacy of the Native Peoples.

I do hope that anyone interested in working with the Steering Committee on the next iteration of the CDAS Bulletin will contact Lois Carlson (loiseleanor@gmail.com). It will be exciting to see what lies ahead.



— Laurie Brindle

FROM THE CHAIR



THERESA FOWLER HARRISON

This month brings the CDAS active season to a close, and since it's also award season, here is my list of special commendations. So many people worked hard to keep CDAS a vibrant organization.

Thank you first to our archaeologist, **Hayley Elskén**, for giving us guidance and direction.

Thank you, **John Downing**, for setting up the three well-attended public education programs. Hundreds of people have benefited from John's tech talents at hosting Zoom lectures.

Thank you, **Susan Gilliland**, for bringing engaging programs such as flintknapping and groundstone technology for Continuing Education. The highlight of both programs was being able to see everyone in person (albeit masked up), being able to identify ground stones, hitting rocks, and of course, making something besides debitage.

Thank you, **Pat Downing**, for coordinating the 36 site set-ups with stewards since January and managing 68 sites.

Thank you to **Eugenie Newton** and **John Downing** and the CDAS volunteers for a highly successful Archaeology Day. We look forward to next year's event in early spring next year.

Thank you to **Sally Bickerton** and **John Downing** for running a smooth annual meeting last January. Thank you to site stewards **John Case** and **Sue Hagan** for their site presentations at the meeting.

Thank you, **LLouise Jee**, for keeping straight our agenda, calendar, and notes every month.

Thank you, **Eugenie Newton**, for your financial and budgetary work.

Thank you, **Lois Carlson**, for your sense of humor and calm in the haboob of these pandemic times.

A most important thank you goes to **Laurie Brindle**, who has shared her publishing talents with us for these last few years. Best of luck on your next endeavor. I know that whatever you do, it will be award-winning

— Theresa

NEW STEWARDS TRAINED AND MONITORING THEIR SITES

By Pat Downing
Site Steward Coordinator

Our busy desert season is winding to a close as the heat sets in for the lower elevations. Our 16 new site steward trainees all have been introduced to their new sites, and more than half of the group have taken on a second site. In addition, several of our previously trained arch techs have now taken a site. Bravo! That, combined with some stewards trading sites, has resulted in 36 steward set-ups since our January training.

Long-time steward and Arch Tech Alan Schmidt and his new steward partner, Diana Langley, took John (Downing) and me to their site, the Olin Bailey Cabin and Campbell Ranch water features, to set up formal photo stations. The still-standing cabin, built in the early 1900s, is the oldest standing building in the Colorado Desert District. The earthen sod structure is a tribute to desert ingenuity. Fortunately, a sturdy cover was constructed above the structure to protect it from the elements in 2007.



The still-standing Olin Bailey Cabin was built in the early 1900s and is the oldest standing building in the Colorado Desert District. The protective shelter structure, added in 2007, was designed by CDAS Site Steward and Arch Tech Alan Schmidt, who was also the project's contractor.

Photo by John Downing



Neil Cadwallader on a recent visit to the Sun Cave

Photo by Pam Wiedenkeller

Alan designed the cover and was the project's contractor.

For the Hellhole Canyon area, Pam Wiedenkeller mentored Arch Tech Chris Blake and his wife, Lauren Otsuki, who completed the January Site Steward training. Arch Techs Pat Trussell and wife Linda Mercurio have taken on a newly established site in Cuyamaca.

Thanks to Lance Deibler and Mary Lou White for mentoring that set-up. New stewards Eli Vasquez and Brenda Wills, who are monitoring the Morteros Trail, volunteered to also monitor the Pictograph Trail. I was relieved to hear that after their visit to the Pictograph trail last week, there were no impacts to report. After last year's many incidents of graffiti, this is welcome news for this popular trail.

And finally, Lance Deibler and John Case mentored Sherry Mitchell on her site set-up in Cuyamaca.

While 2022 has seen some impacts such as vehicle incursions with barriers removed, it is heartening that no major damages to resources have been reported. The vigilance of our Site Stewards is some of the best defense we have. Thank you to each of you!

—Pat

More site steward photos



SITE STEWARDS



ABOVE: Lauren Otsuki and Chris Blake on their site set-up in Hellhole Canyon
Photo by Pam Wiedenkeller



UPPER RIGHT: Lance Deibler mentoring Linda Mercurio and Pat Trussell at their new site in Cuyamaca.
Photo by Mary Lou White



RIGHT: Sherry Mitchell and John Case at a second site-up in Cuyamaca
Photo by Lance Deibler

BELOW: (L to R) Diana Langley, Pat Downing and Alan Schmidt at a photo station at the Olin Bailey Cabin site
Photo by John Downing



KATHY AND FRED WOLLMAN

As told to Sally Bickerton

Kathy grew up in Tennessee and Fred was raised in South Dakota. They met when both were working in Nashville after college ... and no, they were not singers, songwriters or musicians. They moved to San Diego in 1980.

Kathy was a second-grade elementary school teacher in Valley Center until retirement. She stays very busy, with several part-time non-paying “jobs.” She volunteers at the Zoo Safari Park, Palomar Observatory (still waiting to open post-Covid) and is working on her CERT Certification.

Fred is the founder of a financial planning and investment firm in Escondido and is still working full-time.

Both Wollmans are forest-fire lookouts on Palomar Mountain for the Cleveland National Forest and Palomar State Park. Fred is President of the Valley Center Trails Association and volunteers for the annual Sheep Count in Anza-Borrego Desert State Park.

Friends from Valley Center Trails Association and Forest-Fire Lookout are also involved with the CDAS site steward program. Kathy said that she and Fred were an easy sell to join the group.

Their daughter, JC, and her husband, Adam Niesley, are also site stewards in ABDSP. All four were active volunteers at the recent Archaeology Day, which allowed them to meet many more CDAS volunteers.

They say that they are rookie site stewards and have been to their site only two times so far. But Fred commented that it is fascinating to discover the wealth of features and artifacts in the field, and that without the CDAS education and training they have received, he would probably walk by most of them on a typical hike.



Kathy Wollman shows how to make a clay pot to visitors at Archaeology Day.

Photo by Laurie Brindle

BELOW: Fred and Kathy Wollman with daughter JC and son-in-law Adam Niesley

Photo by John Downing



Fred Wollman helped staff the information booth at Archaeology Day. Photo by Laurie Brindle



PUBLIC PROGRAMS

ANALYSIS OF FINDINGS AT INDIAN HILL ROCKSHELTER DISCUSSED AT VIRTUAL PRESENTATION



Meg McDonald, PhD

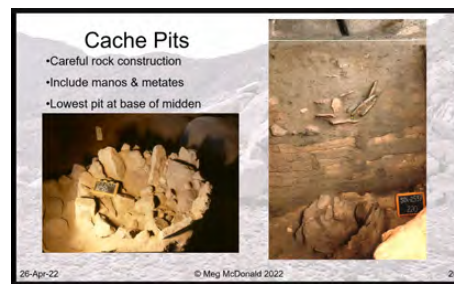
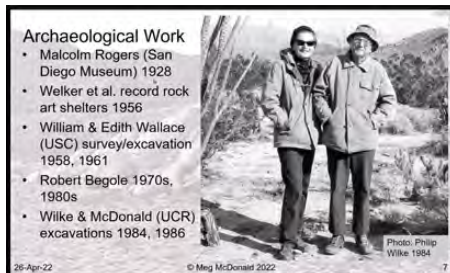
Screen shot taken from Zoom presentation

On Tuesday, April 26, renowned archaeologist Dr. Meg McDonald discussed the research and analysis of the Indian Hill Rockshelter, an important site in the prehistory of Southern California. This site contains a deep, culturally stratified deposit with abundant cultural remains dating back 5,000 years. It is in the eastern foothills of the Jacumba Mountains within the Anza-Borrego Desert State Park. Dr. McDonald was involved in the most recent excavation of the site in the mid 1980s.

For those who wish to learn more about the ancient peoples who populated these lands long ago, Dr. McDonald recommended reading ***The Forgotten Artist: Indians of Anza-Borrego and Their Rock Art*** by Manfred Knaak.

Nearly 120 people viewed the evening Zoom presentation, which was coordinated by CDAS member John Downing. Many thanks to John for the outstanding series of public programs he arranged this season.

Screen shots of Dr. McDonald's slides from the April 26 Zoom presentation



MINE WASH TOUR DRAWS A CROWD

A tour of the Mine Wash site proved to be a popular offering during Archaeology Day 2022 on Sunday, March 13. Space was limited and reservations could be made online prior to the event, as well as day of. A total of 18 people participated. The tour was organized and led by CDAS member John Downing and ably assisted by CDAS Site Steward Pam Wiedenkeller,

Photo by Pam Wiedenkeller

SUMMER READING RECOMMENDATIONS

By LLouise Jee

O*rigins*, by Richard E. Leakey and Roger Lewin, was published in 1977, before we discovered ancestry on the internet, DNA and other tools and concepts that are now part of everyday life in much of the world.

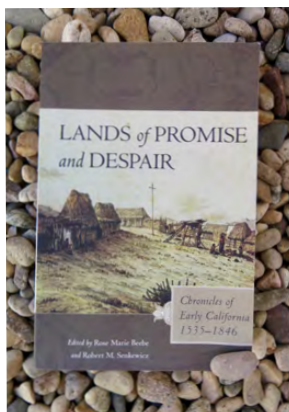
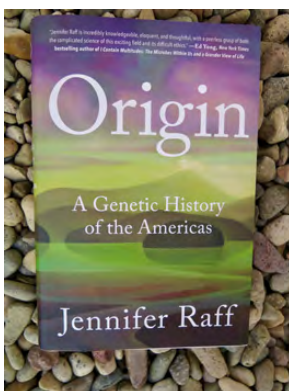
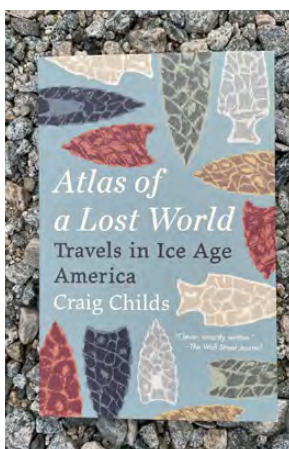
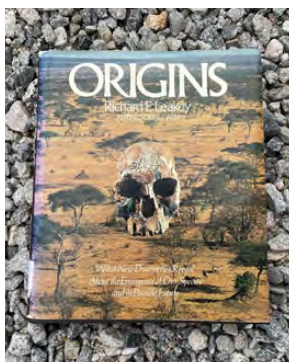
Leakey and Lewin provide detailed documentation of archaeological thought up to that time of the evolution of mankind. Discussions of becoming upright, with changes that allow humans to walk, speak, and develop tools and conceptual thought, are contrasted with the evolution of chimpanzees, gorillas and baboons that did not include these abilities.

Distribution throughout Europe and Asia is described and includes the demise of the Neanderthal. The authors discuss social development and customs in detail, and compare human behavior with other animals concerning conflict resolution.

In all, *Origins* is a snapshot of what was thought in 1977. Some beliefs are still valid, but the discoveries in the intervening forty-five years lead to reinterpretation — or at least questions.

On one topic, however, Leakey and Lewin were very forward thinking. The last chapter is about climate change and environmental destruction and what could happen.

Craig Childs, author of *Atlas of a Lost World — Travels in Ice Age America*, is not an archaeologist. Instead, he is a travel writer who researches and experiments with environments to experience what life could have been like during the ice age. Childs writes about humans arriving in North America via the Bering land/ice route.



Atlas of a Lost World is a book of questions and possibilities. Results, that may conflict, are cited, authors are noted, and then he's off to the next place where the Americas were occupied.

DNA is discussed, and varying authors are presented, letting the reader decide which option to choose or credit.

Child's book is like a tour of possibilities for the trip to the New World. Be ready to go mammoth hunting, or to go online to look up the locations that Childs mentions, as each one has a site description or journal article. He roves far and wide discussing what is at a particular site and what is revealed there. This is a readable tour of the ice age Americas, taken in a time machine of imagination and research.

Summer reading recommendations also include *Origin, A Genetic History of the Americas*, published this spring by Jennifer Raff — and *Lands of Promise and Despair, Chronicles of Early California 1535-1846*, edited by Rose Marie Beebe and Robert M. Senkewicz.

Raff's *Origin* is all about DNA, the uses, misuses and appropriation of without consultation, permission or benefits derived from the study of for the DNA donors. Raff takes us on this journey while exploring the genetic clues that may answer "where did they come from?"

The editors of *Lands of Promise and Despair* also edited *Testimonios: Early California through the Eyes of Women, 1815-1848* (Reviewed in the April 2022 CDAS Bulletin). This time, however, the entries start earlier and are sometimes more graphic. They are by Native Peoples and all the others who passed through. Bear hunts, chasing down Mission 'escapees', disputes with government, and life as they lived it are in this volume.

REFRESHER

KNOW YOUR ACRONYMS

By Laurie Brindle

This information first ran in the October 2019 issue of the CDAS Bulletin. I was relatively new to the archaeology community and was often confused by frequently used expressions and acronyms. No sooner did I learn why it's the *Colorado* and not *California* desert, than I realized there were multiple entities with very similar names. I had to keep track of which groups are a society, a center or association. And which names include the noun "archaeology" and which use the adjectival form "archaeological."

I still get confused. So for all our new members, and those who may need a refresher, here is a reference list that might help a bit.

ABDSP — Anza-Borrego Desert State Park

One of three parks in the Colorado Desert District.

ABDNHA — Anza-Borrego Desert Natural History Association

You will hear this referred to as "Ab Nuh," with the emphasis on the first syllable.

ABF — Anza-Borrego Foundation is the official nonprofit partner of Anza-Borrego Desert State Park.

ARARA — American Rock Art Research Association

is a diverse community of members with wide-ranging interests who are dedicated to rock art preservation, research, and education.

BARC — Begole Archaeology Research Center

The BARC is named after Borrego's pioneer archaeologist, Robert Begole

CDAS — Colorado Desert Archaeology Society

Let's hope everyone knows this one!

CDD — Colorado Desert District, which includes Anza-Borrego Desert State Park, Cuyamaca Rancho State Park and Palomar Mountain State Park, is part of California State Parks and Recreation.

SCA — Society for California Archaeology

Based in Chico, the SCA promotes archaeology in California.

SDAC — San Diego Archaeological Center

Located on San Pasqual Road in Escondido, it is a curation facility and museum.

SDCAS — San Diego County Archaeological Society

Based at the Los Peñasquitos Ranch House, AKA the "Adobe." It is the site of the annual "Arch in the Park" event.

STEELE/BURNAND — (Yes, I know this is not an acronym) The full name is the Steele/Burnand Anza-Borrego Desert Research Center, University of California, Irvine. Set up on a hill in a stunning mid-century building that was once a country club, it is where many CDAS events have been held.

VC— Visitor Center, as in the The ABDSP Visitor Center on North Palm Canyon Drive in Borrego Springs.

REGIONAL RESOURCES & EVENTS

BARONA CULTURAL CENTER AND MUSEUM

"Kum 'Enyaawapch Ewuupch"

Barona Indian Charter School Student Exhibition Opening at the Mingei International Museum Thursday, May 26, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Museum 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.

malkimuseum.org

IMPERIAL VALLEY DESERT MUSEUM

"Stargazing: Aquarids Meteor Shower"

Speaker: Michael Rood

Friday, May 6, 7:30 to 10:00pm

Museum hours: Wednesday -Sunday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Admission: \$5 (Waived, but donations accepted)

<http://www.ivdesertmuseum.org>

SAN DIEGO ARCHAEOLOGICAL CENTER

Museum hours: Wednesday – Friday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Saturday — 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

<https://sandiegoarchaeology.org>

SAN DIEGO COUNTY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

"The Ruiz-Alvarado Adobe, the History and Archaeological Research of El Cuervo"

Speaker: Elizabeth (Betsy) Pain

Tuesday, May 24, 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

12122 Canyonside Park Driveway San Diego, CA 92129

<http://sdcas.org/upcomingevents>

SOCIETY FOR CALIFORNIA ARCHAEOLOGY

<https://scahome.org>

**COLORADO DESERT
ARCHAEOLOGY
SOCIETY**

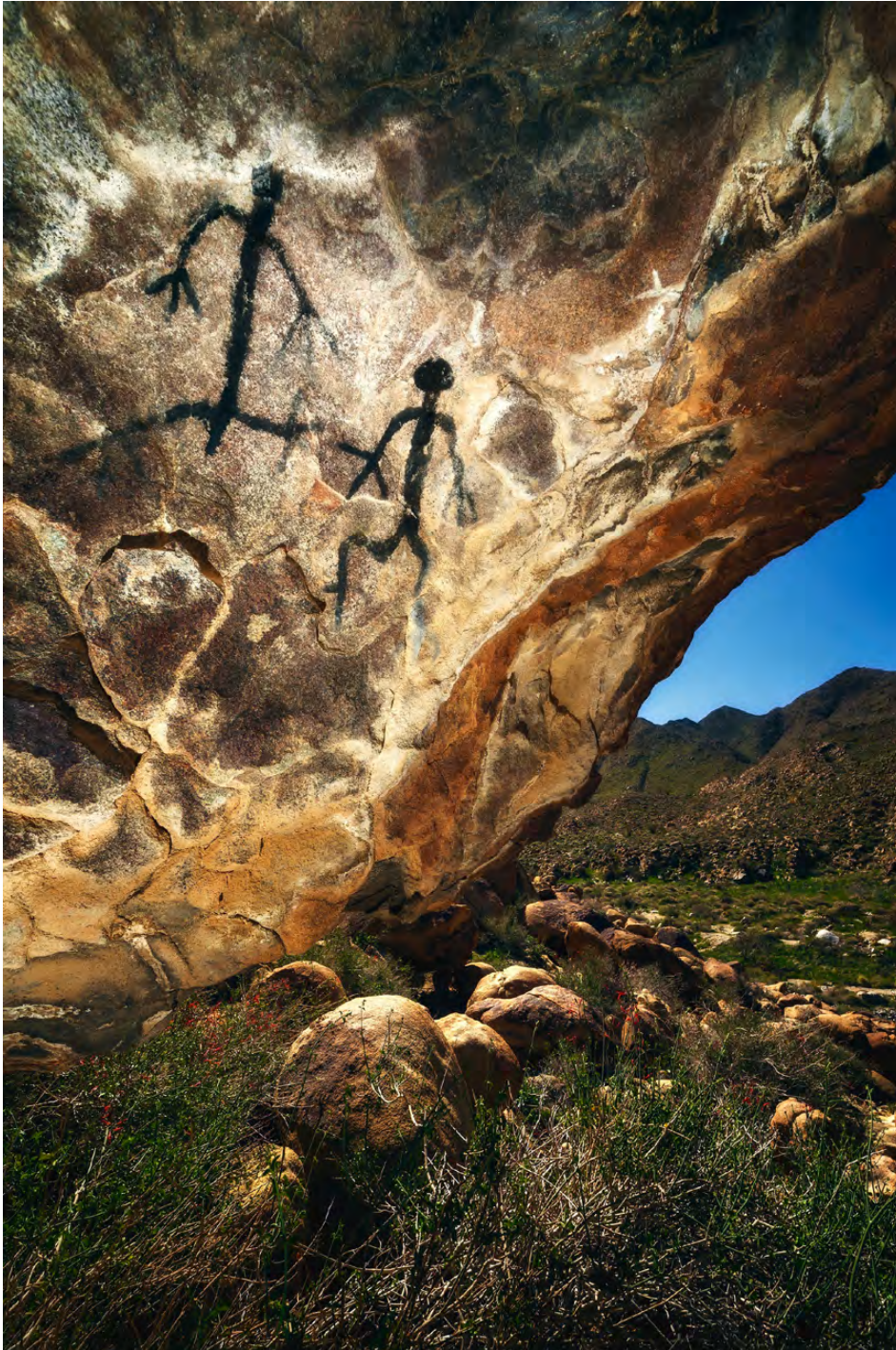


*"To keep you current
as we explore the past"*

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

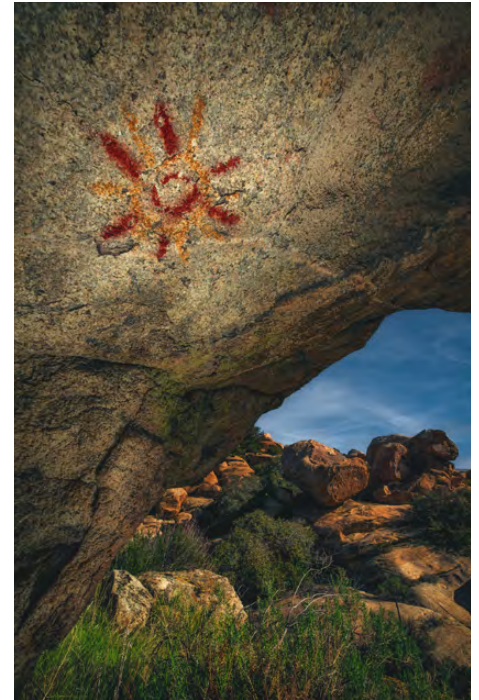
www.anzaborregoarchaeo.org

Many CDAS members are also accomplished photographers. We thank Chris Maust and Pam Wiedenkeller for sharing these stunning images.

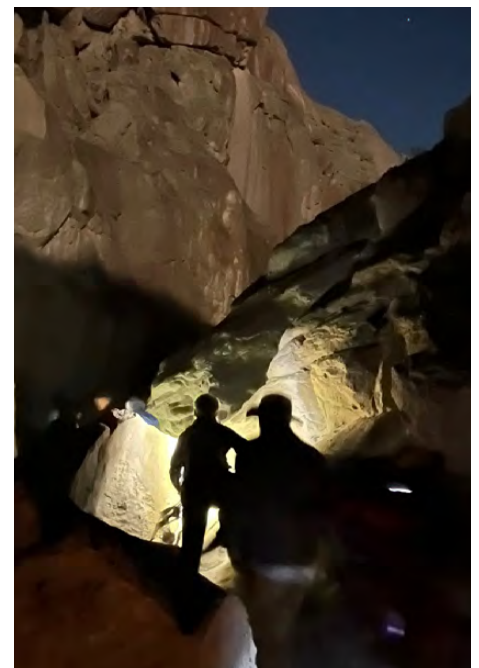


“Carrizo Dancers” by Chris Maust

Chris uses a Canon 6D, with an Irix 15mm lens, and an off-camera flash with remote trigger to light the caves.



“La Rumorosa Sun” by Chris Maust



“Moonlight Hike” by Pam Wiedenkeller

Pam experimented with her new iPhone 13 Pro in night mode to create this intriguing image.

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND

CDAS member Randy Redfern's potted cacti once again produced fantastic spring blooms. The exquisite flowers, sprouting from such heavily armored parent plants, are a wonder to behold. Thank you, Randy, for the beautiful photos!



Photos by Randy Redfern