

The Colorado Desert Archaeology

Society Bulletin

February/
March 2023

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 Annual Meeting
- 3 Advisory Group Coordinator
- 4 Site Stewards
- 5 BARC Book Reviews
- 6 Member Profile
- 7 2023 Advisory Group

NOTES FROM THE PARK

Hayley Elsen

Associate State Archaeologist and CDD Tribal Liaison

I want to start out by thanking everyone who worked so tirelessly on creating a path forward for CDAS over the coming year and to everyone who has taken on a role in the new organizational structure. I look forward to working with everyone and seeing CDAS continue to support the archaeology program at the Park!



In mid-January, park employees from all over the state came to Palomar Mountain State Park to attend Historic Orchard Training hosted by Cal State Parks. Four other Colorado Desert District staff and I were able to join the training and learn about proper Orchard Management—pruning, grafting, tree assessment, prescribed fire in orchards, tool sharpening, and much more. Orchard Manager Keith Park and State Park Historian Kathleen Kennedy, who have years of experience working with historic orchards across the state, conducted the training. Our hands-on experience started in Quincy Orchard, the large maintained orchard at the park entrance, where we spent two days learning the art of pruning. We trimmed and removed dead weight, resulting in trees that will be much healthier in the future. I expect to do more pruning over the month of February and will share those dates if people want to assist. On the last day of class, Park Interpreter Will Meyst, two other park employees and I went on a search for one



PHOTO BY WILLE MEYST

Historic Orchard Training class

of the harder to access orchards in the Park, the Adam's Orchard.

The orchard had been previously recorded in 2001, but had been largely wiped out in the Poomacha Fire in 2007. We found the orchard over-

(CONTINUED NEXT PAGE)

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.

CDAS ADVISORY GROUP MEETINGS
3 to 4 p. m.
Virtual, via Zoom or Zoom hybrid
Third Thursday of the Month:
February 16, March 16,
April 20, May 18

SPECIAL EVENTS:

**Los Penasquitos Ranch House
Bicentennial**
10 a.m. to 3 p.m., February 11
Information: 858-484-7504

San Diego Archaeological Center
Lunch/Tour on April 1, 2023
RSVP by March 25
to Dante Farenga
Dfarenga@sandiegoarcheology.org

**PLEASE NOTE: ARCHAEOLOGY DAY
HAS BEEN RESCHEDULED TO FALL**

NOTES FROM THE PARK--CONTINUED



PHOTO BY WILL MEYER

Keith Park demonstrating proper pruning technique

grown with California Lilac, and came across two fallen apple trees near the homestead site, as well as some milled-timbers and tin cans.

I was also able to attend a local Cultural Burning Awareness Training with the La Jolla Band of Luiseño Indians, CalFire, and other groups. The Park had planned to host the training at Palomar Mountain, but it was too snowy for the group to make it up the hill. We instead held the training inside the La Jolla Band's gym. A new local media group, Tribal Nations News, did a small feature on the training: <https://youtu.be/JQaYt7Z4nq8>, a good YouTube account for learning what is happening with the local tribes.

Our archaeological survey efforts continue to be focused on the locations of the test pits for soil mapping of San Diego County. These surveys have been volunteer led and the reports written by the volunteers have been excellent—they have taken a huge amount of work off my shoulders. The other upcoming survey effort will be in the Indian Hill area where we will survey the surrounding sites for the purpose of creating an archaeological district. This will be a weekend survey with overnight camping in the south of the Park.

NOTES FROM THE CDAS ANNUAL MEETING, JANUARY 21, 2023

There was a good turnout for the CDAS Annual Meeting, held via Zoom on January 21. John Downing, who organized the event, opened the meeting. Hayley followed with State Park updates. She has a very full agenda for the year ahead and looks forward to CDAS support. She presented the annual Archy Award to Eugenie Newton for her outstanding contributions to CDAS. We all appreciate Eugenie's work to keep CDAS viable and growing, as well as all she has done over the years.

Pat Downing recapped all the work done by site stewards this past year and recognized the many supportive mentors who assist new stewards.

Sally Bickerton shared that Archaeology Day has been postponed until fall, as the recent rains may cause a "superbloom," along with



PHOTO BY LAURIE BRUNDLE

Eugenie at Arch Day, 2022

overabundant crowds and chaos in Borrego.

We enjoyed a virtual field trip to Piedras Grandes, a site in the southern part of the Park stewarded by the Downs family—Mike, Sue and

daughter Lauren. Sue and Lauren led the presentation.

The most significant and exciting news from the annual meeting was Eugenie's report that the vote was unanimous for changing the structure of CDAS for 2023. An advisory group will lead and direct the activities of CDAS, with a member-driven focus. Coordinator, Pam Wiedenkiller, Secretary/Treasurer, Brenda Wills, and the many others who stepped forward will work together to keep us dedicated to our mission.

Two members, Mandy Carter and Sue Hagen, are participating in the San Diego Archaeology Center's Student Symposium on January 28—an awesome final announcement to an excellent meeting!

—Sally Bickerton

A recording of the January 21 Annual Meeting is now available on the CDAS website—<https://www.anzaborregoarchaeo.org/>
Log on to the Members page to access the recording.

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

CDAS Advisory Group

The CDAS Advisory Group meets once a month during the season. Meetings are on the third Thursday of the month from 3 to 4 p. m. They are held via Zoom or Zoom hybrid and are open to all members. If you have any comments or suggestions and cannot attend a meeting, please contact:

**Advisory Group Coordinator and Arch Tech
Coordinator:** Pam Wiedenkeller
pwiedenkeller@gmail.com

Secretary/Treasurer: Brenda Wills
Brenda.s.wills@gmail.com

See page 7 for complete roster of
Advisory Group members

CDAS BULLETIN

Co-Editor: Barbara Barnes
whitesagecafe@aol.com

Co-Editor: Sally Bickerton
sallybic@cox.net

Co-Editor: Sherry Mitchell
sherry.rokarty@gmail.com

Co-Editor: Theresa Harrison
tfowlerharrison@gmail.com

COVER BANNER: HARPER CANYON AREA,
NOVEMBER 2018

PHOTO BY BARBARA BARNES

FROM THE ADVISORY GROUP COORDINATOR



Pam Wiedenkeller
Advisory Group Coordinator

Hello, CDAS members!

I want to thank all the past steering committee members who have worked so hard to bring CDAS to this point, especially Eugenie for her determination not to give up. I look forward to helping coordinate our volunteer efforts going forward. Our primary goal is to support Hayley and our secondary goal is to create opportunities that will encourage more volunteer participation. Here's what is in the works: I will be forming an arch tech version of Pat Downing's very successful site steward program. Hayley has more than 100 USGS surveys that need to be done. I will reach out to all the arch techs and together we will create field teams of mentors/new techs to go out and get this big task accomplished. We will include a weekend schedule in addition to weekday surveys.

Our one-hour monthly meetings will have a strong focus on information OUT FLOW. By that I mean we will highlight what's happening in the site steward and arch tech areas and announce any new volunteer opportunities. We will have an education segment which may include what I call WHAT'S THAT? If you find an artifact or feature that you want to know more about, you are encouraged to send me pictures, descriptions, and GPS points. We will share what the pros know about the item(s) during a future meeting. We might include short one-minute videos taken in the field that will inform viewers about new or unique items that we find while we are out on surveys. We will also occasionally bring out items from the BARC and discuss them in detail. Last but not least, since we all enjoy visiting a new site, we will also have a 10-minute virtual site visit. Stewards will be able to share what is distinctive and unique about their site with the group. Scott McClintock will produce the segments and make the process as easy as possible. If you are interested in featuring your site, please contact Scott directly at palom-artowers@gmail.com. Future meetings will be via Zoom or Zoom Hybrid from 3 to 4 p. m. on the third Thursday of the month. Upcoming meeting dates are February 16, March 16, April 20 and May 18.

Outside of our monthly meetings, we anticipate having field trips to museums, cultural exhibits and/or some local outings, such as visiting the fish traps in Truckhaven. The future is whatever we want it to be! If you have an idea of an event, education opportunity, or something fun that you would like to share with CDAS membership, please contact me directly at pwiedenkeller@gmail.com or call me at (201) 960-0622. Thank you for being a CDAS volunteer. We could not do any of this without your help.

—Pam

SITE STEWARDS

Updates and Reminders

**By Pat Downing
Site Steward Coordinator**

It has been a busy season for site stewards. Many rushed to do their second site visit for the calendar year in December. For those of you who missed this visit, please schedule it as soon as you can. This is an important visit after the summer and fall rains.

Coyote Canyon update . . . After reports of the worst road conditions ever for the bypass road in October through December, John Case and Jean Paul Carrere visited Cougar Canyon on January 13. John Paul’s comment in the monitoring report was “Impressive work by Adam on the bypass road. The best I’ve seen it in the last 20 years.”



Lance Deibler on the bypass road in November



Lance checking under Mary Lou’s Bronco for damage

Impact reminder . . . This year has not been too bad for impacts. We have the ongoing fence cutting near Indian Hill, illegal fire pits in many sites, and bicycle tracks through sites. About the worst were the initials ground into a large boulder at the beginning of the Pictograph Trail. After consulting with Hayley, Pam Wiedenkiller was able to use her sculpting tools to grind out the initials.

When reporting an impact, please send it and related photos in a separate email from your monitoring report and photos. This helps us give it the proper attention. Also, please take your Site Action Guidelines into the field with you. If your version is not January 2022, please print a new one from the website. **Level One impacts such as artifact piles, manos on features, or minor trash no longer need an impact report. Just describe the Level One impact in the narrative of your monitoring report and report a “1” in the impact box.**

Thank you all!

— Pat

How do you pronounce *atlatl*?

Scott McClintock has found at least one answer to the question of how to pronounce the name of the traditional weapon, *atlatl*. Scott had heard it pronounced several ways and decided to check with a more definitive source: Dictionary.com.

Per the website, an *atlatl* is defined as *a rigid device for increasing the speed and distance of a spear when thrown, usually a flat wooden stick with a handhold and a peg or socket to accommodate the butt end of the spear.* The term was first used in records dating from 1870 to 1875.

For pronunciation, here is a phonetic respelling:

At’ lat l

(Three syllables, emphasis on the first. *Hint: It rhymes with Fat Cattle.*)



FROM SDAS GLOSSARY FOR CDAS

IN THE BARC LIBRARY

THREE BOOKS ON THE CAHUILLA'S REMARKABLE SURVIVAL

The Cahuilla story continues with more books, papers and facts. Reading these books and noting the research involved and publication sequence reveals the development and growing comprehension of the quite remarkable survival of the Cahuilla people.

Several publications contain intricate descriptions and lists of names, clans, moieties and places that attempt to describe Cahuilla social organization. In general, people grouped themselves in patrilineal clans, chose spouses outside their familial line, and survived quite well in their environment, which ranged from Banning (or San Gorgonio Pass) to the Salton Sea and San Ysidoro Mountains.

Edward W. Gifford's, "Clans and Moieties in Southern California" in *University of California Publications in American Archaeology and Ethnology*, that was published in March 1918, is based on a five-week trip taken in December-January of 1916 and 1917, to study kinship patterns. Gifford attempted to find a social organizational pattern based on linguistics and totems between groups ranging from the central Sierra Nevada to Yuma. The lists are daunting and the creation stories seem similar, but with unique differences. Gifford's five-page summary is succinct. (This is in the BARC reports collection.)

Aboriginal Society in Southern California is William D. Strong's 1929 classic work republished by Malki Museum Press. During the winter of 1924-25, Strong carefully interviewed informants who remembered

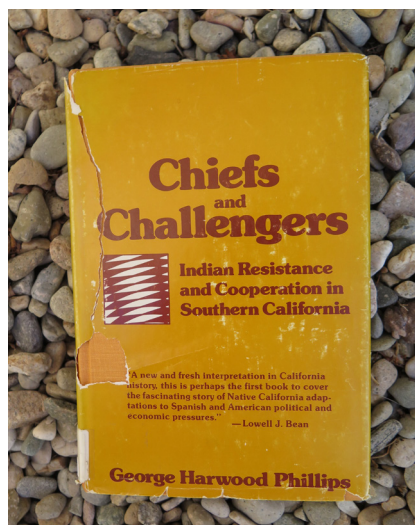
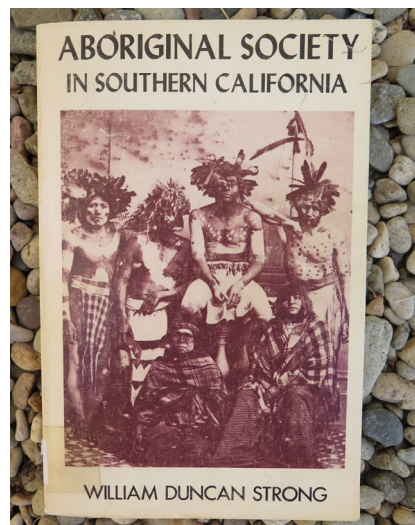
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA PUBLICATIONS IN AMERICAN ARCHAEOLOGY AND ETHNOLOGY	
Vol. 14, No. 2, pp. 155-219, 1 figure in text	March 29, 1918
CLANS AND MOIETIES IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA	
BY EDWARD WINSLOW GIFFORD	
CONTENTS	
Introductory note	Page 155
Yuman class	156
Colorado River tribes	156
Diegueno	157
Piman class	174
Shoshonean class and moiety	177
Serrano	178
Cahuilla	180
Cupeno	182
Luiseno	182
Moiety, class, and totemism in California	215

INTRODUCTORY NOTE

In December, 1916, and January, 1917, a five weeks' trip was made to southern California for the purpose of studying the kinship systems of various Yuman and Shoshonean groups. The preliminary data concerning social organization presented in the following pages were secured at that time. The data on Shoshonean social organization are of particular interest as they make clear that the southern California Shoshoneans form a connecting link between the totemic group in the north, consisting of the Miwok, northern Yokuts, and Mono, and the totemic group in the south, formed by the Yuman and Piman tribes.

Acknowledgment is due Dr. A. L. Kroeber for the use of his unpublished data on Mohave and Papago clans.

—See E. W. Gifford, *Sociological Social Organization in South Central California*, Univ. Calif. Publ. Am. Arch. Ethn., 21, 329-326, 1914.



the ways they and their people lived before 1900 in Serrano, Cahuilla, Cupeño, and Luiseno territories. Lists, clans, and social organization descriptions are arranged geographically in chapters. One element arises in all of the descriptions: European diseases, often smallpox, destroyed entire communities leaving few behind who then chose to go live with another group, sometimes related, or with friends nearby. This impact of communicable disease was repeated many times and squatter incursions into Cahuilla space increased. Although traditional social organization persisted, it was often ignored when an appointed "chief" or "captain" was selected because the American government wanted to deal with only one person, not the three or four who traditionally were accepted as leaders of a group. Strong's closing summary is brief.

Chiefs and Challengers, Indian Resistance and Cooperation in Southern California, George H Phillips' 1975 history follows Strong's. Phillips carefully presents in detail the setting and staging of what we call the Garra Revolt. Each chapter explains and sets the stage for the next situation and leads forward to the culmination. When Katherine Siva Saubel, Cahuilla Elder, visited Coyote Canyon, or "Los Coyotes Canyon," as Phillips calls it, she was in her home territory, and knew the history. Reading Phillips' history after reading the two ethnographers' (Gifford and Strong) earlier views presents the reader an organized sequence of intertwined events without diminishing the disastrous results.

By LLOUISE JEE

MEMBER PROFILE: DENISE DUBREUIL



Denise at a wildlife underpass

Denise DuBreuil, one of our newer members to CDAS, grew up in San Diego and currently lives in Escondido. Her education was in finance at San Diego State University. She has owned an electronics manufacturing company, worked in venture capital, and then nonprofit conservation organizations before retiring.

Denise took site steward training in January of 2022 and is already stewarding four sites! She became involved with site stewarding because of encouragement from her wildlife tracking friend, Pam Wiedenkiller, and her curiosity to see how well the observation skills that she had honed as a tracker would translate to archaeological site work. Two of her sites are intaglios which present special preservation challenges because people don't see or realize they are walking on them.

An affinity for the desert and volunteering in the desert for years also drew her to archaeology work. She gained much of her wildlife tracking education and experience with the San Diego Tracking Team and the Anza-Borrego Tracking Team. Other desert wildlife activities include being a biological monitor for the desert tortoise and flat-tail horned lizard, participating in several sheep counts, and leading a wildlife guzzler maintenance project.

Other special interests make her unique. She participated in a nine-day Vision Quest in Death Valley last year. Sleeping out under the stars in the summer makes her happy. In Pearlblossom, California, there is a raven couple she befriended, who months later, still remember her. As a court-appointed advocate (CASA), she makes a life-changing difference for many foster children.

Denise most enjoys the fact that wildlife tracking, guzzler maintenance, and archaeological site stewardship provide her the ability to see and preserve things that many people are completely unaware of. We're grateful that she's a contributing member of CDAS.



Following a bobcat trail in Pearlblossom

— by Sherry Mitchell

Help us update the CDAS website



Your opinion counts!

One of the recently formed CDAS activity working groups is planning to expand and refresh the CDAS website. Do you have ideas and suggestions as to how we can make it more useful for both members and the general public? Are there new features you would like to see? Is it easy to navigate? Please let us know.

Send your suggestions to lauriebrindle@yahoo.com at your earliest convenience. Thank you!

*The CDAS Website Group
Laurie Brindle, Chris Maust and Eugenie Newton*

anzaborregoarchaeo.org



CDAS ADVISORY GROUP VOLUNTEERS 2023

ADVISORY GROUP COORDINATOR:	PAM WIEDENKELLER
SECRETARY/TREASURER:	BRENDA WILLS
BULLETIN:	BARBARA BARNES, SALLY BICKERTON, THERESA HARRISON, SHERRY MITCHELL
ARCH TECH COORDINATOR:	PAM WIEDENKELLER
CONTINUING EDUCATION:	LIZ FLINT (MORE VOLUNTEERS WANTED!)
LIBRARY:	PAULA HULS, RICK HULS, LLOUISE JEE
MEMBERSHIP:	PATTY MCFARLAND
PUBLIC PROGRAMS:	MANDIE CARTER, JOHN DOWNING
SITE STEWARDS:	PAT DOWNING
WEBSITE:	LURIE BRINDLE, CHRIS MAUST, EUGENIE NEWTON
ARCHAEOLOGY DAY:	SALLY BICKERTON, JOHN DOWNING, EUGENIE NEWTON, ELI VASQUEZ, PAM WIEDENKELLER, BRENDA WILLS
MEMBERS-AT-LARGE	LOIS CARLSON, SCOTT MCCLINTOCK, ALAN SCHMIDT

WINTER BLOOM



PHOTO BY BARBARA BARNES

**EDITORS' NOTE:
WE WELCOME YOUR
ACTIVITIES!**

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:
SALLYBIC@COX.NET

*Left: Sand Verbena on
Christmas Day, 2022, in
Borrego Springs*