

# Newsletter

January/February 2000

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## Calendar

January 15 -- Museum of Man New Exhibit Opening "The Magic of Mata Ortiz" See announcement inside (Pq. 5)

January 16 (10 a.m.-4 p.m.) Los Peñasquitos Collections Management and Rehabilitation See announcement inside (Pg. 3)

January 18 (7–8:30 p.m.) San Diego Natural History Museum Free Slide Lecture "Prehistoric Caves and Medieval Castles of France" See announcement inside (Pg. 10)

January 21 (7:15 p.m.) AIA Lecture "Kennewick Man: The Peopling of the Americas" See announcement inside (Pg. 11)

January 22 (9 a.m. – Noon) SDAC Ethnobotany Workshop See announcement inside (Pg. 11)

January 25 (7 p.m.) Mission Trails Regional Park Monthly SDCAS Meeting; Fourth Tuesday Topic: "The Significance of Red Beads in the Archaeological Record"

February 5 (8 a.m. – 5 p.m.) Mission Trails Fifth Anniversary Celebration See announcement inside (Pg. 3)

February 5 (Noon) Museum of Man

Lecture "The Great Whirl of Exile" See announcement inside (Pg. 10)

February 6 (1 – 3 p.m.) Museum of Man "The Artifact Project" See announcement inside (Pg. 3)

February 22 (7 p.m.) Mission Trails Regional Park Monthly SDCAS Meeting: Fourth Tuesday Topic: "Meaning of the Crook Symbol in Native American Rock Art"

February 24 (7 – 9 p.m.) San Diego Historical Society Auditorium Lecture

"Blending Cultural and Scientific Topics: Mission Memoirs See announcement inside (Pq. 11)

## President's Message

By Glenn Russell

Greetings and Happy New Year to all members of the Society! I am both pleased and honored to serve you as President during the upcoming year. I would like to begin by recognizing Brian Glenn for the excellent job he did as President last year. At times, the work seems thankless, so I and all the members of the SDCAS want to say "Thank you!" to Brian for his tireless efforts. I know that I will be relying on his experience and sage advice often during the upcoming year.

I will be working closely with the Executive Board in order to accomplish the many goals of the upcoming year. Mick Calarco is our new Incoming President and his responsibilities will include organizing the annual "Arch in the Park"

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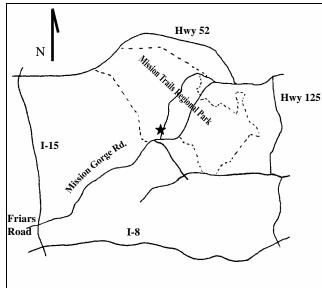
## Environmental Review

Jim Rovle

619-274-2768

## Library

Lynnette Salmon 858-274-3430



The New SDCAS General Meeting Location is at Mission Trails Regional Park Visitor Center. From Highways 52 or 125 take Mission Gorge Road to Father Junipero Serra Trail. From I-15 take the Friars Road exit east (it turns into Mission Gorge Road) to Father Junipero Serra Trail.

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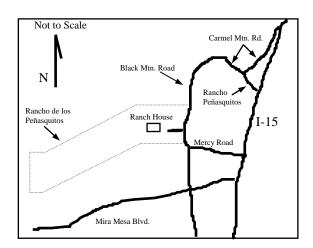
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The SDCAS Office is at the Peñasquitos Ranch House, west of Black Mountain Road and Canyonside Community Park.

## **Editor's Message**

Happy New Year! Hope you all had good holidays. It's a new year, and whether you believe the new millennium starts this year or next year, I hope everyone is excited about the new advances and new discoveries that will bring archaeology into the 21st century. I tried to include some "21st century" archaeology in this newsletter with the article on Space Archaeology (see Page 11). Let me know if you enjoy that, or any of the articles in this newsletter. I try to pick articles that I think are interesting and that our members will enjoy, but it is hard to read minds. Please write to me and let me know what you like or what you don't like, and I will see about making changes accordingly. Also if there are issues that you think are interesting or important, or something that you would like to see in future newsletters, please let me know. This is your newsletter, help make it one that you enjoy.

And now on to my usual plea for articles and items: Please send me any archaeology-, anthropology-, or history-related news items, stories, events, photographs, drawings, cartoons, or anecdotes to include in upcoming Newsletters. Items in MS Word or TIFF format are preferred, however any items are appreciated and will be considered for inclusion.

The submission deadline for the next issue is **February 25**. Please send all items to:

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Phone: (619) 220-5329 / FAX: (619) 220-5400

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Visit the SDCAS web page: http://groups.sandiegoinsider.com/sdcas

## Members' News Corner

## Mission Trails Regional Park Fifth Anniversary Celebration

Submitted by Brian Glenn

Mission Trails Regional Park (MTRP) will be observing their fifth anniversary with a gala celebration at their magnificent facility off Mission Gorge Road. As you probably know, the SDCAS has moved our monthly meetings to this state-of-the-art facility. We are continuing to find ways to reciprocate for this magnanimous gesture by providing MTRP and the MTRP Foundation with support in educating the visiting public regarding the important cultural heritage of San Diego County and especially the resources in and around the park. The celebration will be on Saturday, February 5th from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the MTRP headquarters. There will be displays and award presentation throughout the day.

We have been asked by Senior Park Ranger Tracy Walker to contribute a booth and display for the festivities. I am in the process of putting together a flintknapping demonstration for the event and hope to prepare a display accentuating our contributions to the community. Though we sometimes take these activities for granted, the SDCAS has a long history of lectures, field trips, public outreach and education, and cultural resources oversight. I believe our continued interactions with MTRP and the MTRP Foundation will allow us to convey this important information to the public more effectively.

If you have flintknapping skills and wish to participate, please give me a call at 760-765-1289 or e-mail BKPacWest@aol.com. If not, just come down and enjoy the day.

## **Collections Volunteer Opportunity**

Where? Los Peñasquitos Ranch House When? Sunday, January 16 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Please come and join us in a day of collections management and rehabilitation. We will be rehabilitating and reorganizing the large collections that have resulted from the various excavations that have taken place in and around the Ranch House. These collections include materials from both the extensive prehistoric and historic occupations at Rancho Peñasquitos. It is a great opportunity to see, handle, and learn about the artifacts and meet other Society members. Absolutely no previous experience is necessary! Come one and all!

Refreshments will be provided. Meet at the barn next to the dirt parking lot. For more information contact Glenn Russell by e-mail at: grussepl@co.san-diego.ca.us or by phone at: 858-694-2981.

## **Volunteer Opportunities**

Submitted by Maisie Morris

The Fort Guijarros Museum Foundation is looking for volunteers in the following areas: exhibits, photography, data input, artifact stabilization, publications. We are a small group of enthusiastic, interesting people with a love for the history of San Diego. If you are interested or curious you may e-mail Maisie Morris at maisie@juno.com and/or maisie2@netzero.net or call 619-479-9474.

## **Special Event**

"The Artifact Project"
Sunday, February 6: 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.
Museum of Man

Fifth grade students from Mrs. Kaa's World Cultures and Archaeology class at La Jolla Country Day School will display artifacts they have created by hand. The students each select an artifact from any culture prior to 1900, study the impact the artifact had on the history and the culture, and create a reproduction of the chosen piece. Past examples of artifacts have included jewelry, clothing, architecture, and technology. Students will be available to meet with the public to discuss their artifacts and the effects these artifacts have had.

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## A Recent Visit to Naval Weapons Station, Seal Beach, Detachment Fallbrook

By Rebecca Apple

Recently some members of San Diego County Archaeological Society (SDCAS), representatives of the San Diego Archaeological Center (SDAC) and the Navy, along with former students from a San Dieguito Adult Education Class took a brief trip down memory lane. This group of travelers included Jim Royle, Cindy Stankowski, Janet Hightower, Lori Lilburn, Lauralee White, Lisa Bosalet, Ralph Bosalet, Robbie Knight, and Rebecca Apple.

What brought these folks together was the discovery that the SDAC's recently acquired orphan collection from the 1971-1972 San Dieguito Adult Education Archaeological dig class (the starting point of interest in local archaeology that eventually culminated in the birth of SDCAS!) came from a site that was not listed on the maps at the South Coastal Archaeological Information Center (SCIC) at San Diego State.

Jim and Cindy took the lead in organizing a field trip to relocate the site, which was on Naval Weapons Station in Fallbrook. Lisa obtained all the needed clearances and passes to get on to the Fallbrook facility and served as tour director. Janet and Rebecca were students in the original dig class.

Using notes and maps from the students, it was a relatively simple task to relocate the site. To the chagrin of those involved, the area was a well-known cultural resource, with part of the site actually fenced for its protection. Photographs and a global positioning system (GPS) reading were taken to confirm the location, but after viewing the famous "gossip rock" there was no doubt that this was the site where the students had excavated

A little more sleuthing by Lisa and Cindy and the site number was found: CA-SDI-10,158. Apparently the site had been recorded in 1985 and an update prepared in 1996, however, neither had been mapped at the SCIC. This story has a happy ending with the orphan collection receiving its correct site number and joining another collection from evaluation work done at the site in 1996.

## **Membership News**

By Carol Serr

Welcome to the following people who joined SDCAS at the end of 1999: Jerry Schaefer (ASM), Christy Dolan (KEA), Tanya Wahoff (KEA), Don Smithana, and Barbara Morris. Hope to see you at our monthly meetings.

And thanks to the many of you who renewed your dues! Our current membership is only 84; so many past members still need to Renew. They will not be receiving this newsletter however - so if you know anyone who thinks their dues are current but they didn't get this

newsletter, please remind them they need to renew today! Thanks.

Also, with the change of the area codes - I am not certain who's numbers have changed and who's haven't, so please let me know if you are now in the 858 (or 760) area code so I can update the membership roster. You can e-mail me or call my voice mail where I work to leave your message or inform me of any other changes such as your address. Does anyone know Anna Burgan, Stephanie Corlan, or Gigi Manno? I need current addresses for them if anyone can help.

Thanks for supporting our society...and see you at the meetings!

Carol Serr Membership Chair 858-578-8964 ArkyLabGda@aol.com

## President's Message

(Continued from Page 1)

event and Summer Evening Lecture Series at the Rancho Peñasquitos adobe. Included in this year's summer lecture series will be the first Mary Ward memorial lecture, which is being co-organized by SDCAS and the Peñasquitos Preserve Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC). I look forward to working with the CAC on this and many other projects to help preserve and enhance the jewel that is Peñasquitos. Our new First Vice President is certainly an old hand in the Society, Ron May. We welcome him back to the executive board and look forward to the stimulating monthly lecture series that he will be organizing. Don't forget that these lectures take place at the monthly Society General Meeting on every fourth Tuesday evening of the month at Mission Trails Park Headquarters. Mark your calendars! I would like to take this opportunity to thank Kaylene Fleming for the excellent lecture series that she organized during her tenure as First Vice President. But, we are not saying goodbye to Kaylene. I am happy that she will be continuing on the Executive Board as Second Vice President and will be organizing interesting and exclusive field trips for Society members. Watch the newsletter and our web site for more information. Our new Third Vice President is Al Verna, who will be the Society liaison with government and other organizations, such as the CAC. Our new Secretary is Patrick McGuiness, a first time member of the Executive Board. He takes over from outgoing Secretary Lynnette Salmon, whose minutes were of the highest professional quality. I am please that Lynnette will remain active on the Library Committee as well as other Society activities. Lynnette will be taking over the Library from Patty McFarland, whose efforts significantly expanded the library holdings. Our trusted and fiscally astute Treasurer continues to be Maisie Morris, who is assisted by Howard Schwitkis, the sage chairperson of the Legal Research Committee.

The Executive Board also includes the chairs of various standing committees, including Fred Buchanan, who is our liaison with the Fort Guijarros Museum Foundation, (Continued on Page 5)

## President's Message

(Continued from Page 4)

as well as our own in-house historical architect. Last year's dedication of the Peñasquitos Spring House, restored under Fred's direction, was a high point of the Arch in the Park event. I am very pleased that Jim Royle will continue to chair our Environmental Review Committee. His reviews of Negative Declarations and Environmental Impact Reports issued by the various jurisdictions in San Diego County are absolutely critical to the preservation of the County's precious cultural resources. Kaitlin Meadows will continue to chair the very important Public Outreach Committee. I look forward to working with Kaitlin to expand and enhance the public outreach activities of the Society. Our new Membership chairperson is Carol Serr, who also serves as the Web Master. Carol is working very hard to bring our membership roles up to date and has discovered that many of you reading this newsletter have forgotten to renew your membership or are not members. Our members are the lifeblood of the society and the annual membership fee is a small price to pay for the programs and services that the Society provides. Support the Society by joining or renewing your membership today!! Membership and renewal forms may be found in this newsletter or by visiting the SDCAS web site. I am very pleased that Cyndi Duff will continue to be in charge of sales at Society events. Please stop by her table at the next monthly meeting to see what she has available in terms of books, native crafts, and Society memorabilia. And don't forget to buy a few raffle tickets, the proceeds of which go to expanding our library. Jan Bennett recently stepped down as the long-time chair of the Hospitality Committee. The entire Society wishes to express their sincere gratitude to Jan for many years of dedicated service. This position is currently open and the Board is seeking someone to fill Jan's shoes. Finally, I would like to thank Marla Mealey who has agreed to continue to edit the newsletter that you currently have in your hands. I am sure that you all agree that Marla puts together a newsletter of the highest professional quality.

As the new President, it is tempting to set too many goals. A year passes ever so quickly and I hope to accomplish something. All organizations such as SDCAS need to constantly reexamine and reinvent themselves. This is particularly important at the current time. There was a time when SDCAS was the only archaeology show in town. This is not the case any more, with such organizations as the Fort Guijarros Museum Foundation, the San Diego Archaeology Center, and others making significant contributions to regional archaeology and historical preservation activities. I look forward to collaborating with these organizations in order to achieve our common goals, which include the preservation of the County's significant cultural resources and the education of the public. Toward those ends, I am happy to announce the reformation of the County's Historical Site Board. Since I became an Environmental Planner for the County, the resurrection of this essential board has been one of my primary goals. The ordinance that reestablishes the Board will be presented to the Planning Commission on January 21 and to the Board of Supervisors soon

thereafter. Please contact me if you would like to review the text of the proposed ordinance. I foresee significant opportunities for the Society for participation in historical preservation activities related to the work of the Site Board. These include the recordation and nomination of both prehistoric and historic sites to the County Register of Historical Resources. Look for upcoming workshops and fieldwork projects that will focus on site recordation, management, and stewardship.

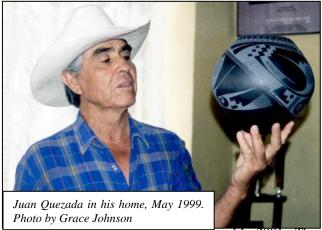
Thanks for reading and I look forward to hearing from you all. I am most easily reached by e-mail, which I have turned on at my desk all day long, Monday through Friday. I may be reached at grussepl@co.san-diego.ca.us.

## The Magic of Mata Ortiz

#### **New Exhibit at Museum of Man**

Reprinted from Museum of Man's *Discovery Magazine* Winter 2000: vol. 17, no 1 http://www.museumofman.org/discovery/

In the early 1970s, the small village of Mata Ortiz in Mexico's state of Chihuahua saw the re-birth of an astonishing ceramic tradition based on the prehistoric Casas Grandes pottery style of the ancient city of Paquimé. This pottery renaissance was brought about by a single man: Juan Quezada. An in-depth retrospective of Quezada's pottery--from his initial attempts to his most recent masterpieces--will be showcased during the exhibition *The Magic of Mata Ortiz*, opening January 15,



2000 and continuing through January 14, 2001. The exhibit spotlights the vibrant, intricate pottery of Juan Quezada and the work of two other renowned Southwest potters--Nampeyo and Maria Martinez.

The major focus of the show will be the Juan Quezada pottery collection and the associated archives of anthropologist Spencer MacCallum, who discovered and supported Juan from the inception of the artistic movement. The Museum of Man recently acquired MacCallum's stunning 340-piece collection of pottery as well as personal and professional documents and memorabilia. Along with the work of Juan, Maria, and (Continued on Page 6)

## The Magic of Mata Ortiz

(Continued from Page 5)

Nampeyo we will show contemporary pieces by other members of these illustrious families.



Maria, from San Ildefonso Pueblo, New Mexico, is known for her popular black-onblack pottery. At the end of the 19th century, Nampeyo, a Hopi woman from Arizona, helped to establish the Southwest art movement when she began to produce pottery

based on the designs of prehistoric Sikyatki pottery sherds. Combining Hopi ceramic technology with her imagination and perception, Nampeyo restored interest in this ancient Hopi pottery tradition. All three potters were inspired by ancient pottery found near their villages and, in turn, used their talents to launch artistic movements while increasing awareness and resources for their native lands.

Congratulations are due Juan Quezada, who has just been honored with Mexico's highest award granted to a living artist, the *Premio Nacional* (also awarded to Diego Rivera in his lifetime), presented by President Ernesto Zedillo on December 10, 1999.

The opening of *The Magic of Mata Ortiz* will be marked by a weekend of festive events. On Friday, January 14, the Sponsor's Gala dinner and exhibit preview will take place from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m., co-hosted by the Board of Trustees and the Consulate General of Mexico and featuring Juan Quezada as the guest of honor. The opening reception at the *Mata Ortiz* exhibit will be

followed by dinner at Balboa Park's newest restaurant, *The Prado*. Tickets for this one-of-akind event are \$100 per person.

On Saturday morning, January 15, from 9:00 to noon, the Members' Preview and Annual Meeting will feature coffee and



pan dulce refreshments with a pottery demonstration by Juan Quezada. The Annual Meeting will be convened in the Administration Building at 10:00 a.m. The Members' Preview is free for Museum members, \$10 for guests. The general public will be admitted to the exhibit at noon, and at 2:00 p.m. photographer and publisher Ross Humphreys

will present the story of the making of his new book, *The Many Faces of Mata Ortiz*. At 3:00 p.m., Juan Quezada will demonstrate the firing of Mata Ortiz pottery.

Sunday, January 16 marks the public opening of *The Magic of Mata Ortiz*, on view from 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The day will feature a book signing by Ross Humphreys and additional pottery demonstrations by Juan Quezada, with firing scheduled for 3:00 p.m.

On Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and on Sunday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., each day's events will be accompanied by a major sale of Mata Ortiz pottery arranged by Galería Pérez Meillon of Ensenada and featuring a large selection of Mata Ortiz pottery by the Quezada family and many other skilled artists from the village. Don't miss this chance to add to your collection of Mata Ortiz pottery!

Mark your calendars now for the magical opening of *The Magic of Mata Ortiz*, which will remain on view at the Museum until January 2001.



Pottery by Juan Quezada

## San Juan Capistrano

By Kenneth Ma

Thursday, December 9, 1999

Submitted by Lynne Christenson

Orange County Supervisor Tom Wilson on Wednesday presented Mission San Juan Capistrano officials with a check for \$1.1 million for restoration and preservation of the Great Stone Church.

State Sen. Bill Morrow (R-Oceanside) and representatives from Rep. Ron Packard's (R-Oceanside) office also attended the ceremony, which fell on the 187th anniversary of a powerful earthquake that destroyed most of church, killing 40 people. The mission was selected last month as one of 16 countywide projects to receive money from the Orange County Transportation Authority because of the mission's importance to the county and the urgency of the project. The restoration work will include retrofitting the building to better withstand earthquakes, stone conservation, waterproofing and repairs necessitated by water damage and erosion.

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## Members' News Corner

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#### **SCA YR2000 Annual Meeting**

Submitted by Mike Sampson From the SCA Newsletter

The annual meeting of the Society for California Archaeology will be held in Riverside, April 19 through the 22, 2000. The meeting will be held at the newly renovated Riverside Convention Center, just across the downtown pedestrian plaza from the (also) newly renovated Holiday Inn, which will host the conference delegates at special rates....The nearby famous and fabulous Mission Inn will also provide a number of guest rooms at reduced rates.

The SCA is planning an exciting and unusual program in historic downtown Riverside with events planned at local museums, places of interest, and the University of California, Riverside.

Volunteers are actively sought for planning and implementation of SCA YR2000 in Riverside. Please call or e-mail Joan Schneider, Local Arrangements Chair (909-787-3517; e-mail:jschneid@citrus.ucr.edu) if you are interested in helping in any capacity.

#### Free Slide Lecture

"Prehistoric Caves and Medieval Castles of France" Tuesday, January 18; 7:00-8:30 p.m. San Diego Natural History Museum Auditorium

Join Lorraine Bellas from Travel Plans International for an illustrated slide lecture on the prehistoric caves and medieval castles of France. Her presentation will feature prehistoric sites painted between 30,000-12,000 years ago; one of the most scenic regions of France, the Périgord; and the Renaissance châteaux.

#### San Diego Museum of Man Lecture

#### "The Great Whirl of Exile"

Leroy V. Quintana, Prize winning Poet and English Professor Saturday, February 5, 2000

Leroy V. Quintana will present selections of his contemporary poetry from his new book *The Great Whirl of Exile*, published by Curbstone Press. Mr. Quintana is one of the most recognized Chicano poets. His work addresses some of the central dilemmas of modern American life, including tradition, progress, self-fulfillment, and alienation. Books will be available for purchase and the author will conduct a book signing after the presentation.

The 12 O'clock Scholar lectures are presented at noon in the Museum of Man's Gill Auditorium. These lectures are free for members, \$5 for non-members.

#### **Latin American Symposium**

The 10th Latin American Symposium, *Ancient Casas Grandes: Spheres of Influence*, will be held on Saturday, March 25, 2000. The Symposium is designed to complement the San Diego Museum of Man's main floor

exhibit, *The Magic of Mata Ortiz*. Its theme focuses on evolving theories of relationships and interchanges between the Southwest and northern Mesoamerica from late prehistoric to modern times.

Speakers will address communication and belief systems, ceramic production and trade networks, the role of rock art throughout the area, and similar research interests. Confirmed speakers to date include Dr. Stephen Lekson, Kiara Hughes, Maria Sprehn, Mitch Henderson, Robert Estes, Christine van Pool, and Arthur MacWilliams. For further information as plans develop, please call the San Diego Museum of Man Education Department or Curator Alana Cordy-Collins (619-239-2001).

## San Diego Museum of Man Progress Report The Maya Hall

Major changes are underway in the Maya Hall. By the Opening in late Spring 2000, a brilliant rainforest mural will grace the apse wall, below which will rise a sacred ceiba tree connecting the underworld, earth, and heaven. Made possible by a generous donation from Las Patronas, Stela D--recast by sculptor Michael Neff--will once again stand majestically alongside its companion, Stela C. The great Zoomorphs will be cleaned and restored. Large data panels will furnish the latest information on decipherment of the hieroglyphic writing, history, and cosmology. Redesigned exhibit cases will display the ball game, royal pageantry, and religious activities. New lighting and sound systems will complement the ambiance provided by the innovative landscaping around the monuments. Living Maya culture will appear as a continuum to the grandiose spirit of the ancient Maya. Make a visit to the new Maya Hall a top priority for the new year.

#### **Visit Mata Ortiz**

Re: The Magic of Mata Ortiz (See Article on Page 5)

Want to see *The Magic of Mata Ortiz* first-hand? A special tour is being planned for Museum members and friends and is timed for the annual Festival of San Isidro Labrador (the Patron Saint of agriculture) on the 15th of May, when the *matachines* (a society of dancers) perform.

The quiet village of Mata Ortiz is the home of about 400 potters making their distinctive works of art that rival any hand-built ceramics in the world. The tour will include a visit to the home of master ceramic artist Juan Quezada, who began this art movement that has swept through the entire village. If interested, call Curator Grace Johnson at the Museum of Man (619-239-2001).

#### **Ethnobotany Workshop**

Presented by Ken Hedges, Curator of California Collections at the San Diego Museum of Man and author of *Santa Ysabel Ethnobotany*. Workshop will be held on Saturday, January 22, from 9 a.m. to Noon at the San Diego Archaeological Center. A \$15 donation suggested. Call 619-239-1868 to register.

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## Members' News Corner

(Continued From Page 7)

## Faunal Analysis Workshop

Presented by Lynne Christenson, PhD, Professor of Anthropology, SDSU and San Diego City College. Workshop will be held on Saturday, March 18, from 9 a.m. to Noon at the San Diego Archaeological Center. A \$15 donation suggested. Call 619-239-1868 to register.

## Natural Heritage Lecture

#### Blending Cultural and Scientific Topics Mission Memoirs

Thursday, February 24; 7-9 p.m. At the San Diego Historical Society Auditorium. \$4 for Natural History Museum/Historical Society members, senior citizens, full-time students, military, or children; \$6 non-museum member.

Co-sponsored by the San Diego Natural History Museum and the San Diego Historical Society.

Terry Ruscin's presentation will highlight the history of the California missions and its presidios. He will focus on the way the missions used to be before modern intrusions, offering a balanced view of native Californians and mission fathers. In addition, he will weave together his keen observations with an abundance of historical facts and information based on research and interviews.

# **AIA Lecture: Kennewick Man, The Peopling** of the Americas

January 21; 7:15 p.m. At Palisades Presbyterian Church, 6301 Birchwood Street.

Dr. James Chatters, archaeologist and paleoecologist will present the evidence to date about Kennewick Man, his environment, and cultural contexts, and discuss the implication of finds like the Kennewick Man, Wizards Beach Man, and Spirit Cave Man for the biological history of the search for America's first inhabitants. Call Ron Fellows (619-465-3841) for more information.

## **Eagle Feathers**

Reprinted from: the American Committee for Preservation of Archaeological Collections (ACPAC) Newsletter: Nov. 1999

California Governor Gray Davis was given an eagle feather while negotiating with Native Americans about casinos. Unfortunately, the penalty for a non-Native American having such a feather is six months in jail and/or a \$1,000 fine. Luckilly, the *state* can possess a raptor feather and Davis *represents* the state. A non-Native American representing the Indian tribe delivered the feather and the tribe is now explaining that they did not "give" the feather but "entrusted" it to him. (Friendly advice: Don't you try it.)

## **Archaeology of Space Garbage**

# We're Loading the Final Frontier with Technology's Trash

By W.L. Rathje

Reprinted From: *Discovering Archaeology*. Issue 5, September/October 1999 (http://www.discoveringarchaeology.com/0599toc/5commentary1-space.shtml)

A huge piece of "space junk" - a spent Russian booster rocket - was spotted June 17 on a collision course with the International Space Station. Ground controllers sent frantic instructions to the still-unmanned station, but the onboard control systems would not fire a "collision-avoidance burn" to get out of the way. The space station survived by sheer luck: The Russian relic missed blowing it to smithereens by just five miles.

My first response: It's in keeping with recent human history that our garbage should come back to haunt us, even in space. Then I envisioned a science of "exoarchaeology" - the study of the artifacts of outer space.

As it turns out, my wishful thinking was already outdated. Thomas Mallon (in a 1997 issue of Preservation) wrote that on November 19, 1969, when astronauts recovered the Surveyor 3 unmanned probe that had soft-landed on the moon's surface, human's had already begun the archaeology of their presence there.

But are we earthlings conducting the first exoarchaeology? Perhaps not. As recently as August 1996, a NASA team examined a potato-sized chunk of Mars that hit Antarctica 13,000 years ago. They concluded it might contain signs of life. While their evidence is not widely accepted, the announcement led London bookmakers to lower the odds of finding intelligent life somewhere else in the universe.

If there are exo-archaeologists working on other planets, I wonder what they make of our first ventures into their realm. As any Earthbound archaeologist knows, what most defines our humanness is our indefatigable urge to create garbage, which turns into archaeology's bounty. What could an extraterrestrial archaeologist learn of us from studying our garbage in space?

Earth is surrounded by chunks of orbital flotsam that, says Nicholas Johnson (Scientific American, 1998), "resemble angry bees around a beehive, seeming to move randomly in all directions." Look at their numbers, and you can almost hear them buzz.

First, there are about 10,000 "resident space objects" - and only 5 percent of them were functioning spacecraft in 1997. The artifacts include more than 1,500 empty upper-stage rockets and a myriad of explosive bolts, clamp bands, springs, even lens caps jettisoned from assorted payloads.

Then there is real garbage. During its first decade in orbit, for example, more than 200 objects drifted away from the (Continued on Page 9)

## Archaeology of Space Garbage

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Soviets' Mir space station, most of them cloaked inside garbage bags.

But the greatest source of significant space stuff is the approximately 150 satellites that have blown up or fallen apart, either deliberately or accidentally. They left a trail of 7,000 fragments large enough (over 10 centimeters, or almost four inches) to be tracked from Earth.

To make matters even messier, NASA estimates another 400,000 space artifacts are too small to detect. Then there are about one million flakes of paint and other tiny spots of debris. In 1990, the surface of a satellite recovered after six years in orbit was found to be speckled with urine and fecal matter - another discard of Russian and American space missions.

This gaggle of space junk may sound like a laughing matter - unless you happened to be in the outback of Australia when the 150-ton Skylab crashed there in 1979. Or unless you can imagine the result of the Russian booster crashing into, or even grazing, the space station. Then you'd know why understanding the causes and trajectories of space junk is important to our future in space. That's why the Air Force and NASA have their own brand of exo-archaeologists tracking and modeling the future of these space orphans.

By now, extraterrestrial exo-archaeologists must have some theories about why we continually shoot ourselves in the foot with our garbage. Perhaps they have discovered one of the most consistent human/artifact relationships: Whenever we humans try something new, we throw everything we can into the attempt. The result is a tremendous accumulation of leftover junk.



The International Space Station, seen in a computer-generated image, is being built by the United States, Europe, Canada, Japan and Russia

In fact, frontiers, both physical and theoretical, are junk magnets. We worry about our immediate goal - settling an "untamed" land, "conquering" Mount Everest, or "harnessing" nuclear power - and not about cleaning up the mess we leave behind.

American pioneers abandoned so much of what they had loaded onto their Conestoga wagons that professional scavengers followed their trails West. Fields of discarded oxygen bottles, climbing equipment, and camping gear create eyesores on Mount Everest. And then there is our nuclear-waste dilemma: tons of radioactive material with no disposal plan in place.

Space exploration has been no different. So now we are stuck with two kinds of space artifacts - those in the heavens and those on Earth.

The airborne detritus of our space past already is affecting our space future. Since junk in Earth orbit races along at 20,000 feet per second, collisions are considered the most serious threat to the International Space Station and its future occupants.

Space artifacts on the planet aren't such a problem, thanks to our uncontrollable urge to collect. People have been hoarding space memorabilia for decades. But their monetary value pales beside the educational potential of items that have been out in space. Museums' demand for space artifacts is as strong as their turn-of-the-century lust for Egyptian mummies. The Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum already holds legal title to Viking I, a robot probe that's still sitting on the surface of Mars after 20 years.

Since the Smithsonian and NASA had first dibs on items in pristine shape, the Cosmosphere in Hutchinson, Kansas, chose a strategy of restoring battered and unwanted artifacts, such as a pair of unused spacecraft that were saved from the trash heap.

If we look at all the Earth-generated debris in space as a great metaphor for the profligate discard practices of humanity, we might learn a few lessons. We created our spacebound gizmos with little thought about disposal. Lesson 1: Whether designing a new box for burgers or the next flight to Mars, ultimate disposal should be considered during development. Our collection-mania is far from sated. Lesson 2: There will be gold out there for whoever figures out how to recapture, renovate, reuse, and recycle what we have already wrought.

The first, and so far only, man-made object to leave our solar system and sail among the stars is a little Pioneer 11 robot-spacecraft, launched in December 1974, that spectacularly fulfilled its task of exploring Jupiter and Saturn. On its side is a plaque that shows a woman and a man, plus the location of the sun in relation to several prominent stars, and Earth's status as the third planet out. In the vacuum of space, the little messenger will last essentially forever. The idea is that someday some spacefaring civilization might stumble across Pioneer 11 and know that life exists on this small, blue planet. How fitting that our first emissary to the stars is our trash.

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## Remembering A Village Artist

#### New Exhibit at San Diego Museum of Man

Reprinted from Museum of Man's *Discovery Magazine* Winter 2000: vol. 17, no 1 http://www.museumofman.org/discovery/

An exhibition of 40 religious, secular, and abstract wood carvings by renowned Hispanic artist Patrocinio Barela are part of a national tour that will have its only California stop at the Museum of Man from February 19 to March 14.

The acclaimed exhibition *Barela: Remembering a Village Artist*--held in cooperation with the Centro Cultural de la Raza--brings to life the illustrious carving career of the nationally recognized Mexican-American artist Patrocinio Barela. His unique self-taught sculpting style is representative of both the New Mexican *santero* and the American modernist traditions. Barela's distinctive wood sculptures, described as modern yet reminiscent of ancient Mesoamerican roots, have been collected by all of New Mexico's major museums and by numerous private collections around the country.

According to the Museum of Man Director Douglas Sharon, "this is a very special exhibition for the Museum because it brings together many of Barela's important works in a context that reflects his time and the



community in which he lived."

Patrocino Barela, Untitled. Collection of the Roswell Museum and Art Center

In addition to the captivating collection of wood carvings, the exhibit spotlights paintings and oral histories of the sculptor, vividly capturing the life and times of Barela from his childhood in Taos in the early 1900s to his work as an itinerant laborer during the Great Depression and his early successes supported by the Works Progress Administration (WPA). Barela was just reaching artistic acclaim when he died in a studio fire in 1964.

Noted Taos artist Ed Sandoval's special portrait, "BARELA, 1996," was created for the exhibition, which was made possible by grants from the Rockefeller Foundation, the M.A. Healy Family Foundation, the Dharma Foundation, and New Mexico Arts. Works in the exhibition have been borrowed from a variety of institutions around the country, with recognized Barela scholar Vicente A. Martinez serving as project director and the Millicent Rogers Museum in Taos, New Mexico, providing the institutional base for the project.

## **OBITUARY**

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City State Zip		have as its express purpose the finding and dissemination of information relative to the history and prehistory of California.
E-mail Address:		materials and data in accordance with accepted professional practices, and such materials and data shall be made available to qualified individuals though accumulated field notes and records or to the covered profession through the publication of findings.
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How did you hear about us?		
The SDCAS membership year begins <b>October 1</b> . Please check the membership desired and enclose payment for the amount shown in the table below. Membership is subject to approval of the Board of Directors.		<ol><li>The gathering of archaeological specimens or the destruction of archaeological sites for purposes of selling artifacts or personal acquisition shall in all cases be forbidden and shall subject member to expulsion proceedings.</li></ol>
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