



# SDCAS Newsletter

May/June 2004

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Volume 32, Number 3

## Calendar

Every Saturday & Sunday — Los Peñasquitos  
Docent tours: Los Peñasquitos Adobe Ranch House

### MAY IS ARCHAEOLOGY MONTH!

The theme this year is "Lines of Time"

#### May 10 (Noon) Museum of Man

12 O'Clock Scholar  
Archaeology in the Greek Islands  
See announcement inside (Pg. 8)

#### May 13 – Southwestern College

Fiesta del Río  
Binational Conference  
See announcement inside (Pg. 8)

#### May 15 (10 a.m. – 3 p.m.) Los Peñasquitos

Arch in the Park  
Demonstrations-Excavations-Booths-Crafts-Food-Fun!  
See announcement inside (Pg. 3)

#### May 17 (Noon) Museum of Man

12 O'Clock Scholar  
The Chipaya of Bolivia: Adaptation and Change  
See announcement inside (Pg. 8)

#### May 25 [Tues.] (7:30 p.m.) Los Peñasquitos

SDCAS General Meeting (4th Tuesday)  
Speaker: Rebecca Apple  
Topic: Pathways to the Past  
See announcement inside (Pg. 7)

#### May 29—Palm Springs

Agua Caliente Preserving the Spirit Program  
California Indian Storytelling  
See announcement inside (Pg. 8)

#### June 7 (Noon) Museum of Man

12 O'Clock Scholar  
Mapuche: Chilean People of the Land  
See announcement inside (Pg. 8)

#### June 14 (Noon) Museum of Man

12 O'Clock Scholar  
Inti Raymi: Peruvian Winter Solstice  
See announcement inside (Pg. 8)

#### June 26 [Sat.] (7:30 p.m.) Los Peñasquitos

SDCAS Summer Lecture Series  
Speaker: Jerry Schaefer  
Topic: Archaeology at Ancient Lake Cahuilla  
See announcement inside (Pg. 7)

(See additional announcements inside under Members' News Corner—Pg. 3)

## President's Message

By Steve Van Wormer

May 15 is the annual "Arch in the Park" which no one should miss. This is a free event that offers a variety of archaeology related activities for the entire family. Events include demonstrations of flint knapping and stone tool manufacture, pottery making, basket making, tours of the City College archaeological site and the Peñasquitos Adobe Ranch House, and kids activities including crafts and a mock excavation. There will also be information tables from many different organizations and companies, and snacks and drinks available for purchase (see announcement on page 3).

Several members recently enjoyed a joint field trip to Anza Borrego State Park with the Colorado Desert Archaeological Society. An old homestead "soddy" (sod house), rock shelter, and Native American sites were visited (see write-up on page 5). Second Vice President Dennis Gallegos has several other interesting field trips planned for this summer and fall.

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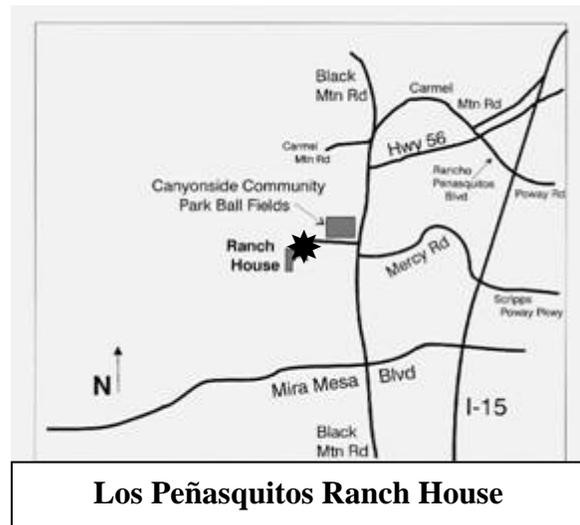
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**Los Peñasquitos Ranch House**

The SDCAS Office is located at Los Peñasquitos Ranch House. General Meetings are typically on the 4th Tuesday at the Ranch House. **There is no 4th Tuesday meeting in June.** The meeting that month is on Saturday the 26th (see pg. 5 for details).

Directions: From I-15 take Mercy Rd. west, turn right (north) onto Black Mountain Rd. and then take the first left into Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve. Follow the road all the way to the back (past Canyonside Community Park ball fields), and park either in the small parking area by the barn or along the edge of the dirt road.

Board Meetings take place on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. They are held at the California State Parks, Southern Service Center offices located in Mission Valley at 8885 Rio San Diego Drive, Suite 201.

## Editor's Message

May is California's Archaeology Month! The theme for this year is "Lines of Time". If you are interested in finding out more information about Archaeology Month visit the Society for California Archaeology's web page at: <http://www.scahome.org/> and click on "Educational Resources." There is no better way to celebrate Archaeology Month than to attend SDCAS's annual Arch in the Park event (see announcement under Members' News Corner below). There are a lot of great things planned for the day, make sure you don't miss out!

**SUBMISSIONS:** News articles or other archaeology-, anthropology-, or history-related items should be sent to me at the address below (email works best). Digital documents in MS Word are preferred, but others will be considered for inclusion. Photos of your archaeological experiences (fieldwork, vacations, etc.), a cartoon from the newspaper, etc. should be sent as-is (slides, prints, or clippings); or if you have scanning capability or a digital camera, please email them in TIF, JPEG, or GIF format. Any hard-copy item you wish returned (such as photos or slides) should be accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

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

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### SDCAS Website:

[www.sandiegoarchaeologicalsociety.com](http://www.sandiegoarchaeologicalsociety.com)

## Members' News Corner

### Arch in the Park

Saturday, May 15, 2004 • 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

By Carol Serr

This year's SDCAS Arch in the Park FREE family event is held at the Ranch House in Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve (see map and directions on page 2). It is sponsored by the San Diego County Archaeological Society in cooperation with the Park and Recreation Department's of the City and County of San Diego and will feature archaeologically and historically related information and displays presented by California State Parks, Imperial Valley College Desert Museum Society, Palomar College Archaeology Club, Society for California Archaeology avocational societies, San Diego Museum of Man, Stein Family Farm (of National City), Save Our Heritage Organisation, SDSU Collections Dept., San Diego Archaeological Center, and the Colorado Desert Archaeological Society. Displays will also be presented by local CRM companies including RECON and Gallegos & Associates showing what sort of projects they have been working on in the County.

Demonstrations of basket weaving will be presented by San Luis Rey Band of Luiseño weavers and knapper Tim Gross will show how stone tools are made. Hands-on

pottery making will be taught by Julian potter Linda Lazer, using the Kumeyaay coil technique. Other activities for kids will be a mock excavation (or "dig") and educational games. Two tours of the adobe will be given, one at 11:30 am and another at 1:00 pm. Visitors can watch an actual excavation going on by City College students at a site on a nearby knoll. Dr. Jerry Schaefer will present a short lecture on prehistoric ceramics in the Colorado Desert. The San Luis Rey Band of Luiseño Indians will be selling fry bread, and hotdogs and sodas will be sold by the Palomar College Archaeology Club.

We still can use folks to help with set-up as well as directing parking, greeting folks, etc., and clean-up at the end. Please let us know if you would like to help. Call 619-538-0935 for more info if needed, or e-mail [sdcas@email.com](mailto:sdcas@email.com). See you all there!

### Upcoming SDCAS Events

By Dennis Gallegos

Future SDCAS outings are scheduled for the summer, fall and winter. These outings include Torrey Pines, Old Town San Diego, and Luiseño village and rock art sites.

The summer outing will be at Torrey Pines State Park, and will be led by Marla Mealey. The outing will include an overview of precontact habitation sites on the sandstone bluffs, the visitor center, and a view of the Late Pleistocene and Early Holocene setting for the earliest peoples of San Diego County.

The Old Town San Diego outing will be scheduled for the fall and will include recent findings and reconstructions of middle to late 1800s buildings in San Diego County. This outing will be led by Therese Muranaka and Steve Van Wormer.

The winter outing will be a visit to North San Diego County and a tour by Mark Mojada, San Luis Rey Band of Mission Indians. Mark will take us to a habitation site with rock art and milling and to painted rock in Vista.

Keep an eye on upcoming SDCAS newsletters for outing dates and additional information.

### Volunteer Monitors Training

By Tim Gross

As part of the package SDCAS is offering the County of San Diego as we renegotiate our lease for space at Peñasquitos Adobe, we are planning to develop a volunteer monitoring program for County Parks, though we expect that these monitors might be used by other agencies, as well. We anticipate developing a training program to prepare people for monitoring at archaeological sites. The program will familiarize the participants with the basics of artifact and feature recognition, stratigraphy, and archaeological procedures, as well as the process of monitoring and how to interface with construction personnel. At this point, as the program is being designed, we are looking for an indication of who and how many people might be interested in participating in this program. If you are interested, please contact Tim Gross at [tigr@affinis.net](mailto:tigr@affinis.net) or by mail at the SDCAS address (see page 2).

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## Secrets of the Canyon

By Patty McFarland

Several interesting finds were recently discovered in Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve during groundwork preparation for a revegetation project. In mid-January, a heavy equipment operator uncovered a concentration of rocks that stood out from the surrounding terrain. An on-site archaeological monitor recognized the irregularity as something that may have been constructed in the past. As is standard procedure in such instances, the bulldozer operator was directed to stop work in the immediate area to allow the archaeologist to take a closer look at the find and make a determination as to its potential historical significance. As a result of the monitor's inspection, it was decided to avoid further earth-moving operations in the area until a preliminary archaeological test of the rock feature could take place.

The concentration of rocks proved to be a structural foundation and it was not the only item of interest discovered at that time. In a nearby creek, another unusual cluster of rocks was visible eroding out the creek bank. The bulldozer worked in other areas while a small team of professional archaeologists under the direction of principal archaeological investigator Stephen Van Wormer, first examined then recorded and excavated the find.

As noted above, the first rock concentration was a foundation. Archaeological excavation uncovered an alignment of cobbles and fieldstones that represent a structure measuring approximately 10 feet wide by 20 feet long. Footings for all the walls except the south end were encountered. Unfortunately, no adobe melt or building materials were found that could help to identify what the walls, floor, or roof were constructed of. Stone alignments such as this one are consistent with pre-1850 Spanish and Mexican era construction techniques, but the results are inconclusive at this time.



*Second Rock Feature*

The second rock cluster was also excavated and proved to be a fire hearth that had been buried approximately 45 centimeters (18 inches) below the surface. In addition to fire-affected rock, several flaked stone tools, 2 flaked cores and lithic (stone) waste were found at the hearth level. Due to the presence of the lithic cultural materials, it is likely the hearth is Native Californian in origin. After taking notes, drawing, and photographing the feature, the artifacts were collected for further scientific analysis.

In the meantime, grading for the revegetation project had continued to the north of the creek and the rock features and revealed yet more interesting finds. An expanse of ashy soil that contained a mixture of Native American and mid-19th century artifacts was exposed. A controlled archaeological investigation followed the discovery. Excavation revealed Native American artifacts that included stone flakes and brown ware pottery sherds, while the historic period artifacts included ceramics, glass, and butchered bone. During excavation of the ash lens, an irregular alignment of cobbles surrounded by smaller fist-sized cobbles and pebbles was encountered. Interestingly, the ash layer continued under the cobbles. Archaeologist Van Wormer reported that the cobbles appear to have been placed on the ash lens.

The combination of Native American and historic period artifacts, plus the cobble and pebble feature overlying the ash layer is not a common find. According to Van Wormer:

This is a curious and unique feature that is not completely understood at this point. The ash lens appears to be a small refuse midden representing Native American habitation during the 19th century. The purpose of the cobble and pebble pavement is uncertain. It may be a reconstruction of a Native American dwelling or some other function. In summary this feature represents 19th century Native American occupation of the canyon and may be associated with Indian ranch hands at Peñasquitos (e-mail report: 1-27-04).

As a result of the archaeological discoveries found during grading activities in preparation for revegetation, the project design has been modified to avoid these areas of cultural significance. The number of historic finds in the relatively small project area is notable and illustrates the importance of archaeological monitoring during projects that have ground disturbing components. Without a qualified archaeologist in the field observing the soil as it is disturbed, rocks, ash, and other anomalies may not be identified as representative of past human activities, and the information they contain would be lost. Because there was a monitor on-site, further research can be conducted in order to better understand what roles the structures, the ash lens, and the hearth played in the past human occupations of Los Peñasquitos Canyon. Artifact analysis, plus a close examination of historic photographs, drawings, and documents will likely reveal some of the secrets of the canyon and its past uses by humans.



*Excavation of Hearth Feature*

## President's Message

(Continued from page 1)

I am very happy to be associated with such a dedicated Board of Directors. I would like to especially thank Carol Serr, Patty McFarland, Marla Mealey, Carmen Zepeda-Herman and our new publicity chair Nancy Mendez who do so much to make this society function. I encourage any society members who see these people at the monthly meetings or other events to thank them personally.

## Vallecito Ranch Field Trip Summary

By Dennis Gallegos

Thanks to Sue Wade, Bonnie Bruce, Heather Thomson, and Sam and Astrid Webb of State Parks and CDAS for providing a great joint outing to Vallecito Ranch on April 24.

[For more information on Vallecito Ranch, see Sue Wade's write-up below—ed.]



*Chalcedony arrow point.  
(photo by Sam Webb)*

SDCAS members who attended the outing included Dennis Gallegos, Jim Royle, Marla Mealey, Carmen Zepeda-Herman, Judy Alvarez, Melvin & Ellen Sweet; and new SDCAS members Warren Patch and Robert Bodle. In all, a total of 15 members of SDCAS and CDAS participated. Sites visited included the Campbell ranch, the Bailey Homestead, and precontact sites with milling features, a pictograph, ceramics and a range of lithic materials for tool making. It was a very enjoyable day in the desert!



*Seeing the sights at Campbell Ranch  
(photo by M. Mealey)*



*Visiting a Precontact Site (photo by M. Mealey)*



*SDCAS and CDAS Members at the Bailey Sod House  
(photo by M. Mealey)*

## Summary of Cultural Resources on Vallecito Ranch

By Sue Wade

The Vallecito Ranch contains one of very few marshes in the Colorado Desert. As well, the property lies at the intersection of prehistoric and historic transportation corridors linking the Cuyamaca Mountains with the Colorado Desert. Because of the abundant natural resources and strategic location, the property has been the focus of human attention for millennia.

Despite the lack of formal survey coverage, over fifty prehistoric archaeological resources have been recorded on Vallecito Ranch or on immediately adjacent State Park and BLM lands (CDD Resource Record Files). These resources range from isolated bedrock milling and agave roasting pits to rock art and multi-component habitation sites. The village occupation surrounding the Vallecito marsh is known to locals and was the focus of work by Malcolm Rogers in the 1930s but has yet to be formally documented. Traditional trails up Storm and Oriflamme Canyon provided important links between Vallecito and communities lying to the west in the Laguna and Cuyamaca Mountains. Within the last century, people still traveled these trails from Laguna to traditional gathering areas in Mason and Vallecito Valleys. Such trails were integral to the traditional lifeways of the Kumeyaay and Kwaaymii peoples but are little recognized in the archaeological resource record. Lying adjacent to an important natural resource area and at the hub of trails from the Cuyamaca Mountains and Colorado Desert, the valley was an important Native Californian occupation area throughout prehistory (Carmen Lucas personal communication May 2002).

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## Summary of Cultural Resources on Vallecito Ranch

(Continued from page 5)

Historically, the property lies along a major transportation route from the Colorado River to Coastal Southern California. Vallecito was an early crossroads where Spanish, Mexican, and American travelers stopped for water and pasturage and continued their journey along well-traveled corridors leading west to San Diego, north to Los Angeles and San Francisco, and east to Yuma. The earliest traveler, Spaniard Pedro Fages, stopped at Vallecito in the 1780s and reported the camps of the indigenous peoples. Vallecito was an established stop along the Sonoran/Southern Emigrant Trail in the late 1840s/1850s, when thousands of gold-rushers and numerous military expeditions (Kearny's Army of the West, Cooke's Mormon Battalion, and the United States Boundary Commission) traveled the route (von Till Warren and Roske 1981). By this time the Kumeyaay clearly recognized the trade opportunities represented by the European travelers, as most journals describe acquiring food and other items from the Indians living there. Trade and interaction between the Kumeyaay and Europeans at Vallecito continued for another several decades (Rivers 2002).

Another important Kumeyaay occupation area and watering camp along the Southern Emigrant Trail was El Puerto, located within the northern portion of Vallecito Ranch in Mason Valley (Brigandi 1995, Van Wormer and Wade in progress). A reminder of the travel route and El Puerto's importance, are contemporary carvings in the patinated boulders at the site (reading "1849 T. Bacon" "1860 T. B---" and "1897 R.A. F.P. O-- C.R.") still to be seen at El Puerto today.

The first structures along the Sonoran/Southern Emigrant Trail were constructed at Vallecito by the U.S. Army in 1852, as a provisioning station for Fort Yuma. Later occupations and constructions were completed by James Lassitor, who established a supply stop for emigrant and military travelers in 1854 (Wray 1996), and by the San Diego and San Antonio Mail and the Butterfield Stage operations in 1857/8 (Van Wormer and Wade in progress). The sod structure located at Vallecito County Park today is the restored ranch/station building from this period.

Livestock have been at Vallecito Ranch for over 150 years. Beginning with the Army and Lassitor in the 1850s, small numbers of horses and cattle were kept at the Ranch. However, by 1878, James Mason and Charles Ayres were raising cattle and mules. Mason obtained a patent in 1884 and in 1888 sold the land to C.F. Holland who leased it to cattlemen until the 1930s. James Mason moved to the northwestern portion of the property, in the southern end of the valley that bears his name. There he established a ranch at the site of El Puerto, the earlier Southern Emigrant Trail watering camp, raising cattle until after the turn of the twentieth century. The archaeological remains of Mason's homestead are still in existence at El Puerto on the northwestern portion of Vallecito Ranch. Everett and Lena Campbell ran cattle on the ranch from 1916 until 1959. Moving their cattle seasonally between the desert and the mountains (where they leased grazing land from Tom Lucas), the Campbells continued the use of the traditional Indian trail that traveled down Storm Canyon between Laguna and Vallecito (Carmen Lucas personal communication July 2002, Brigandi 1995). Olin Bailey, rancher at the turn of

the century, constructed an adobe structure on the southeastern portion of the ranch, also still in existence today.

In 1934, C. F. Holland deeded six acres, including the Vallecito Stage Station soddy, to the County of San Diego. The structure was restored soon after, with public aid program funding, to be used as a Butterfield Stage museum. This structure is one of only two standing San Antonio and San Diego Mail/Butterfield Stage Stations in the County. Its ownership by San Diego County Parks presents an excellent opportunity to fulfill the vision of museum development in cooperation with California State Parks.

References Cited:

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1995 The Livestock Industry on the Anza-Borrego Desert. Unpublished manuscript prepared for Anza-Borrego Desert State Park on file at California State Parks, Colorado Desert District, Stout Research Laboratory.

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2002 Historic Accounts of Four Desert Villages: San Sebastian, San Gregorio, Vallecito, San Felipe. Appendix A in Archaeology of Barrel Springs, Joan Oxendine, editor, edited for publication by Joan Schneider. Unpublished Manuscript on file at California State Parks, Colorado Desert District.

von Till Warren, Elizabeth and Ralph J. Roske

1981 Cultural Resources of the California Desert, 1776-1880: Historic Trails and Wagon Roads. Unpublished manuscript prepared for Anza-Borrego Desert State Park on file at California State Parks, Colorado Desert District, Stout Research Laboratory.

Van Wormer, Stephen and Sue Wade

2004 An Isolated Frontier Outpost: Historical and Archaeological Investigations of the Carrizo Creek Stage Station. Unpublished manuscript prepared by California State Parks, on file at Colorado Desert District, Archaeological Research Laboratory.

Wray, Christopher

1995 The James Lassator Hay Road and the Dan Diego Trail: Their History and Remaining Evidence. Unpublished manuscript prepared for Anza-Borrego Desert State Park on file at California State Parks, Colorado Desert District, Stout Research Laboratory.

## Membership News

By Carol Serr

Welcome to new members: Nancy Mendez (SDCAS's new Publicity Chair), Jo Anne Gilmer, Dr. Warren Patch, David Robinson, and Robert Bodle; and a Big Thank You to our newest Life member - Owen W. Sutton! It's always good to see new faces at our monthly meetings, so if you haven't come to one yet, please do so, and introduce yourself. Hopefully some of our enthusiastic members will get involved with helping make our Arch in the Park event in May a success (or get inspired to serve on next year's board of directors). Please contact me if you are interested in helping with the event.

As of April 1st, new members can pay half-rate dues (and their membership is good through Oct. 2004). Please let  
(Continued on page 7)

## Membership News

(Continued from page 6)

us know if the society is not what you expected or hoped for. Inform the Board what it is that you would like to get out of the organization; ideas for programs/speakers, field trips, etc. We try to please our members with a variety of events and speaker topics, but without input from you—our members—we can't know what you would like to see/do.

And remember to send your e-mail address to me if you haven't been getting notices via e-mail. I will gladly add you to our growing list of cyber-using folks.

See you at Arch in the Park!

Carol Serr, Membership Chair  
858-578-8964 ext. 319 (work)  
ArkyLabGds@aol.com (please use "SDCAS" in the subject line)

## Upcoming Speakers

**May 25, 7:30 p.m. Los Peñasquitos**

**Presenter: Rebecca Apple**

### Pathways to the Past

Information from Native American and ethnographic accounts identify the Colorado Desert as an area of extensive travel during prehistoric times. Preservation of these trails is important to the local Native Americans who maintain ties to the area and to the public agencies that own most of the land. Most of the archaeological data collected are from small block units or narrow linear corridors, which mean that linear archaeological sites such as trails tend to be poorly represented in the regional database. This study integrates archaeological field investigations, archival research, and GIS modeling to address routes and associated materials of prehistoric trails.

**June 26 (Saturday), 7:30 p.m. Los Peñasquitos**

**Presenter: Jerry Schaefer**

### Recent Research at Ancient Lake Cahuilla

Dr. Jerry Schaefer, an authority on Colorado Desert Prehistory, will make a presentation concerning archaeological research on ancient Lake Cahuilla on Saturday evening, June 26. Lake Cahuilla was a large body of fresh water that stood where Salton Sea and portions of the nearby desert lands now are situated. Lake Cahuilla represented critical habitat for prehistoric peoples living in the Colorado Desert. Dr. Schaefer will provide a review of previous archaeological research around the old shores of Lake Cahuilla, and then detail the results of recent research on Lake Cahuilla.

The June meeting will be the first program of the Saturday Night Summer Lecture Series. The Saturday Night lecture will replace the usual 4th Tuesday General Meetings during the summer months only (**There will be no 4th Tuesday meetings in June, July, or August**). The public is invited to arrive around 6:30 p.m. and bring a picnic dinner, chairs, and drinks. SDCAS will provide desert. The lecture begins at 7:30 p.m.

**July 24 (Saturday), 7:30 p.m. Los Peñasquitos**

**Presenter: David Whitley**

### History of Rock Art Research

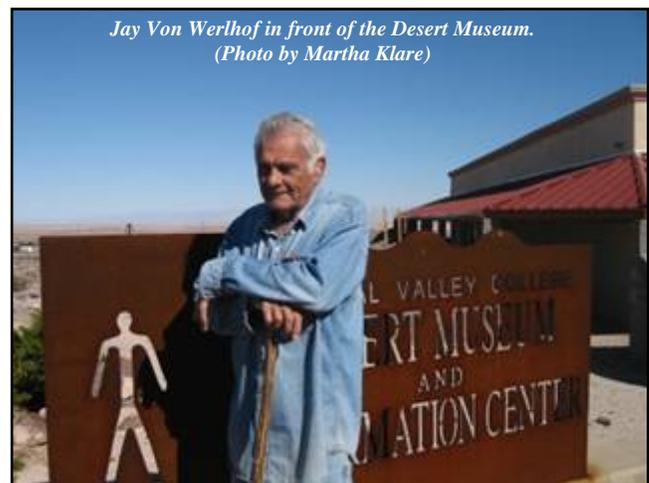
Dr. David Whitley, an internationally known expert of prehistoric rock art, will make a presentation on the history of rock art research on Saturday evening, July 24, 2004. Dr. Whitley, a graduate of UCLA, has conducted research on rock art in many parts of the world, including, South Africa, Central America, and the western United States. Recently, Dr. Whitley completed a study of Chumash rock paintings in the Carrizo Plain of south-central California. Dr. Whitley will provide details on his hypotheses concerning the ritual significance of rock art. Copies of his engaging and well-illustrated 2000 book entitled *The Art of the Shaman* will be available for sale at the time of the presentation, and then Dr. Whitley will sign each.

## Help Build the Imperial Valley College Desert Museum

SDCAS recently donated \$110 from the general fund to the Imperial Valley College Desert Museum construction fund in appreciation for Jay von Werlhof's time that he donated over the years to guiding fieldtrips for the society.

If you would like more information or wish to donate money to this project, please visit their web site at <http://www.imperial.cc.ca.us/ivc-dm/society.htm>.

Donations of \$55 or more will result in having your name inscribed on the museum wall and in receiving a subscription to the Society newsletter.



*Jay Von Werlhof in front of the Desert Museum.  
(Photo by Martha Klare)*

## Members' News Corner

(Continued from Page 3)

### Malki Museum's Fiesta

The Fiesta is scheduled for Sunday, May 30. This is the 40th Birthday of Malki, and this year's Fiesta will have special events and offers to celebrate. For more information visit their website at: <http://malkimuseum.org/>

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## Members' News Corner

(Continued from page 7)

### “Fiesta del Río” Binational Conference

**History\*Geology\*Biology\*Archeology\*Ecology\*Paleontology**

This FREE conference on May 13 (Thursday) will trace the relationship between humans and the natural environments of the Tijuana River Estuary, and highlight how this historical ecology can guide current conservation efforts. It is unique in that it has cultural and environmental specialist that are presenters and participants. The conference is open to both professionals and the general public and will take place at Southwestern College, Student Union East. You must register to attend. To register or for more information visit: [www.fiestadelrio.com/fiesta-del-rio-binational-conference.htm](http://www.fiestadelrio.com/fiesta-del-rio-binational-conference.htm)

### Costen Public Lecture Series

There is no entrance fee to any of the regular Thursday evening Institute Public Lectures. All are held in the Harry and Yvonne Lenart Auditorium, A103 Fowler, UCLA. There is a \$7 fee for campus parking. For further information, call the Institute's Public Lecture Program office at 310-206-8934.

#### “Raising H.L. Hunley: A Lost Crew and Civil War Submarine”

Thursday, May 13 at 7:30 PM in the Lenart Auditorium

Presenter: Robert S. Neyland, Hunley Project Director, Chief Underwater Archaeologist for US Navy at Naval Historical Center in DC.

#### “Excavating the Viking Past at Mosfell in Iceland”

Thursday, May 27 at 7:30 PM in the Lenart Auditorium

Presenter: Jesse L. Byock, Professor of Old Norse and Medieval Scandinavian Studies, UCLA

### Preserving The Spirit: Agua Caliente Living Traditions

Native crafts classes such as pottery, basketry, cooking, and tool making. All classes are held outside on the Museum's patio. Participants should dress appropriately for activity and weather. Participants may bring a lunch, or purchase one from one of the nearby eateries. Pre-enrollment is required to attend classes. Please call our Education Department at 760-778-1079, ext. 105 for more information or to enroll.

**California Indian Storytelling** – Saturday, May 29, 2004 9:00am – 5:00pm

The ACCM has the distinct honor of being a co-sponsor for the 2004 California Indian Storytelling Festival. Come and hear traditional storytelling, presentations, and various examples of tribal languages. During the afternoon, there will be a special story time just for kids. This one-day event is free to the public and will be held in the Cahuilla East Room at the Spa Resort Hotel.

Fee: FREE EVENT – All ages

### San Diego Museum of Man's 12 O'Clock Scholar Presentations

All programs are free for Museum of Man members, and are included with regular admission for the general public. The one-hour programs are held either in the Orientation Center or the Gill Auditorium.

Family 12 O'Clock Scholars on the second Mondays of June, July, and August from noon until 1:30 p.m. These special programs include a short illustrated lecture followed by a hands-on craft suitable for adults or children.

May 10—*Archaeology in the Greek Islands*. Docent, and former Museum curator Galen Saylor takes us on a slide-journey to visit archaeological sites he has visited (Gill Auditorium).

May 17—*The Chipaya of Bolivia: Adaptation and Change*. Henri Migala, Director of Health Programs for International Relief Teams, will show how one of the most ancient living cultures in South America has maintained its identity for centuries despite the influences of Incas, Spanish, Aymaras, and modern day influences (Gill Auditorium).

May 24—*Japanese Flower Arranging*. Join Akiko Bourland, President, San Diego Chapter of the Ohara School of Ikebana International, to learn the basics of this centuries-old aesthetic arranging of floral elements (Gill Auditorium).

June 7—*Mapuche: Chilean People of the Land*. A Curator's Walk-Through of the new exhibit with Grace Johnson, Curator of Latin American Ethnography (Museum main floor).

June 14—*Inti Raymi: Peruvian Winter Solstice* (Family Program). It will soon be summer solstice here, but not south of the equator. Join Educators to learn about Inti Raymi, the Winter Solstice celebration in the Southern Hemisphere. Make a Sun Ritual craft (Orientation Center, noon-1:30 p.m.).

June 21—*Nunavut: Our Land*. Another in the series of videos written, directed, and acted by the Inuit production team that produced *The Fast Runner*, followed by discussion (Orientation Center).

June 28—*Seven Wonders of the Ancient World*. In a reprise of his earlier popular program, Educator Jake Fabozzi introduces us to the ancient Seven Wonders, including one that still exists (Gill Auditorium).

July 12—*Origami* (Family Program). Join Education Staff to learn the history of Origami, Japanese paper folding, and practice the basics to make a bird, animal, or paper box (Orientation Center, noon-1:30 p.m.).

July 19—*Rock Art*. Join Ken Hedges, the Museum's rock art specialist, to explore the fascinating world of petroglyphs and pictographs (Gill Auditorium).

<http://www.museumofman.org>

### Archaeology Seminar

The Ghost Ranch in northern New Mexico will hold its annual two week archaeology seminar in July, 2004

Research at Ghost Ranch indicates that prehistoric peoples were visiting the Chama Valley in New Mexico, 10,000 years ago. Our ongoing archaeological field explorations of two rock shelters indicate that some groups were seasonally camping here during the Archaic period about 5,000 years ago. Get down and dirty as you experience excavation techniques in the field. Back at the lab, clean and catalog artifacts from previous research. Participate in evening lectures with professionals in soil

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## Members' News Corner

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science, lithic technology, prehistoric ceramics, and other related fields. For all levels of experience.

For more details go to [www.ghostranch.org](http://www.ghostranch.org). Click on Seminars, then Abiquiu, then Week 6. Scroll down to the Archaeology Seminar information.

All travel, registration and cost details are on the web site. Maisie Morris and Howard Schwitkis have been attending these exciting seminars for over 10 years. Please don't hesitate to call if you have questions. Phone number is 619-479-9474.

### Partnership Lecture to feature Dr. Craig Stanford

The San Diego Museum of Man and the San Diego Natural History Museum (SDNHM) will sponsor "Upright: Walking and Human Evolution," an evening lecture presented by Craig Stanford Ph.D., author of *Upright: The Evolutionary Key to Becoming Human*. Dr. Stanford will discuss the origin of humanity as revealed in upright posture and bipedal walking. Dr. Stanford is Chair of Anthropology and Co-Director of the Jane Goodall Research Center at the University of Southern California. He currently directs the Bwindi Impenetrable Great Ape Project, and is author of nearly 100 scientific papers and five books, including *Significant Others: The Ape-Human Continuum* and the *Quest for Human Nature* (Basic Books, 2001).

The lecture will be held Monday evening, May 17, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. in the theater at SDNHM. Proceeds from tickets sold directly through the Museum of Man will benefit Footsteps Through Time teacher training programs, and can be purchased by calling Denise at 619-239-2001. Tickets are \$6.00 for Museum of Man members and \$8.00 for the general public.

<http://www.museumofman.org>

## "You Know You Are An Archaeologist When..."

Submitted by P. Mitchell

From the shovelbums.org Internet site

### You know you are an archaeologist when:

- People bring you rocks.
- Your library is worth more than your car.
- Ramen noodles change from a soup to a meal.
- Seeing a porta-potty gives you a nostalgic smile.
- You put things in your mouth to see what they are.
- Your backseat looks like an army surplus store.
- You walk for miles without looking up.
- People ask if you find dinosaurs.
- Alcohol replaces water.

## Obituary: Dr. George Francis Carter

Author of *Pleistocene Man at San Diego Dies at 91*

By G. Timothy Gross

One of the more colorful characters in the history of San Diego archaeology passed away recently. George F. Carter, who was a Distinguished Professor Emeritus in Texas A&M's Geography Department died at age 91 in Bryan, Texas, on March 16. Carter has a long history of association with San Diego and its archaeology, although most of his views, particularly those on the antiquity of humans in the Americas, were not shared by most practicing archaeologists.

George Carter was a native San Diegan who credited Malcolm Rogers of the San Diego Museum of Man with starting him off in archaeology. Dr. Carter worked with Rogers on Santa Rosa Island, in the Colorado and Mojave deserts, and along the Pacific Coast. He began to see the evidence he felt pointed to human occupations of California that were considerably earlier than Rogers was comfortable with, and so he parted ways with the Museum of Man.

After leaving the Museum, Carter, who had earned a BA in anthropology at the University of California at Berkeley in 1934, returned to the UC for graduate study. He had taken a position as a teaching assistant at San Diego State College from 1937 to 1938, and faculty members there (including Alvena Storm for whom Storm Hall is named on the SDSU campus) urged him back to Berkeley. He took up Geography for his doctoral work, and in 1942 he earned a PhD, writing a dissertation titled "Plant Geography and Culture History in the American Southwest" (published in 1945 as Viking Fund Publication in Anthropology No. 5 and reprinted in 1965 by Johnson Reprint Co.). He returned to San Diego State from 1940 to 1941. It is during this period that my roundabout association with Dr. Carter began – my father took geography from him there.

In 1943 Carter joined the faculty at Johns Hopkins University and moved to Texas A&M in 1967. As a new faculty member at Johns Hopkins, he returned to the San Diego area for research trips and began following up on his ideas about early occupations of the New World. In 1957 he published his research in *Pleistocene Man at San Diego* (Johns Hopkins University Press), detailing his work on local geography, including the sequences of marine terraces and soils, and describing sites and artifacts he believed provided evidence of human occupation dating back perhaps 100,000 years. One of his most noted sites is Texas Street in Mission Valley. Here he found what he believed to be hearths, along with quartzite items he described as bipolar cores, large blades, and core tools. The site, and indeed the entire body of archeological research, was greeted with skepticism by many archaeologists, and the quartzite artifacts soon came to be known as "carterfacts" rather than artifacts. Although a few archaeologists accepted his claims, Texas Street and his other sites were generally discounted as collections of naturally broken rock.

Carter was not to be dissuaded, however. Since archaeologists had criticized his notions based both on the timing and nature of the opening of the Bering Land Bridge, and on the degree of cold adaptation of humans in the Pleistocene, he encouraged students at Johns Hopkins to explore these topics. In the early 1970s work at Calico

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## Obituary

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in the Mojave desert raised the possibility of very early occupations of the New World again for serious consideration, especially since L.S.B. Leakey had been involved in the work at the site. Also, early in the 1970 Jeffrey Bada of Scripps Institution of Oceanography was researching amino acid racemization dating. Carter believed some of the skeletal material that Malcolm Rogers had collected at the Museum of Man was quite old, and he pointed Bada to these specimens. The initial amino acid racemization dates produced dates ranging from 28,000 to 48,000 years, much earlier than the 14,000- to 15,000-year dates commonly accepted at the time. Also at this time one of George Carter's boyhood friends, Herb Minshall, found material at Buchanan Canyon. In 1973 Dr. Carter excavated portions of what was left of the Texas Street site and at Buchanan Canyon, along with Minshall and James R. Moriarty III. All this work led to a number of journal articles, primarily in the *Anthropological Journal of Canada*. In 1980 he published another book on the topic—*Earlier than You Think: A Personal View of Man in America* (Texas A&M Press), which detailed his studies and also provided insights into Carter's views of why his ideas were not accepted. Included were stories of his dealings with a number of archaeologists, including Malcolm Rogers, Paul Ezell, James R. Moriarty, III, Robert Heizer, and Dee Simpson, to name but a few.

In 1985, accelerator dating of small bits of bone demonstrated that the calibration specimens used to figure the amino acid racemization rate for Southern California had been misdated and, therefore, the method had produced dates that were considerably too old based on that calibration. All of the specimens were well within the accepted range for human occupation of the west. A number of critiques of Calico also appeared, and again, most archaeologists continue to maintain that most of Carter's broken rocks are just that—naturally broken rock.

I had the pleasure of meeting Dr. Carter at the opening of the Lucy Exhibit at the Museum of Man in the late 1980s. I introduced myself to him and told him the story of my father having taken geography from him. I accompanied him and several other archaeologists (including Susan Hector and Mike Sampson) out to Texas Street the next day and we listened to him discuss the geomorphology of the area and his notions about the broken rocks that had come to be known as carterfacts. It was an interesting day, but I came away unconvinced. Later I was tasked with investigating two sites that were recorded as having

the same kind of broken rock (carterfacts) by people who believed them to be artifacts. In both cases, one at Cuyamaca Street in El Cajon (working with Susan Hector) and the other at Rancho Del Rey (working with Sue Wade) in Chula Vista, we found broken quartzite cobbles that matched the illustrations in Carter's publications. These were found alongside unquestionable flakes and cores. While the carterfacts lacked clear platforms, bulbs of percussion, and other flake characteristics, the flakes and cores all obviously had these characteristics. I spent considerable time flaking cobbles to see if I could replicate the carterfacts, but I could not. Almost all of the products of my replicative experiments were identifiable as the products of human activity using standard criteria. Those pieces that were not recognizable as human products were pieces that broke along natural planes in the rock to produce blocky pieces without flake characteristics, but they in no way resembled the illustrated carterfacts. Further, geologist Pat Abbott of San Diego State examined the contexts of the finds and concluded that there was no reason to assume that the broken rocks were particularly old. I was left to conclude that the carterfacts were naturally broken rock, most likely heat-spalled cobbles, and that the definite artifacts at both sites were the result of expedient raw material collection by people representing the generally recognized archaeological complexes of the area. In short, the association of the spalled cobbles and the genuine artifacts was fortuitous and the context was not necessarily old.

It should be clear by now that I am not a follower of George Carter's claims about Pleistocene occupations of the New World, although I tried to be impartial while evaluating those claims at the sites I investigated. That said, I think Dr. Carter did archaeologists a service by pushing for the early dates. Many of us were forced to examine our understandings of the early archaeology of North America and to make sure our notions were well grounded. We and our professors (particularly Ezell and Moriarty) really had to come to grips with what distinguished human rock breaking from that of natural forces. In addition, Carter's work on plant geography has made substantial contributions to the understanding of the past, particularly in the American Southwest. I find myself turning to his books for their treatment of local geology and for the insight they provide on some of the early archaeologists of California.

I will miss Dr. Carter. My brief encounter with him was very interesting, and his books and articles were engaging. The world of California archaeology is somehow not quite as interesting without his presence.



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## San Diego County Archaeological Society Membership Application

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
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 E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
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 Special Skills / Interests \_\_\_\_\_  
 How did you hear about us? \_\_\_\_\_

The SDCAS membership year begins **October 1**. 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.

	1-Year*
_____ Individual	\$20.00
_____ Family	\$30.00
_____ Student	\$10.00
_____ Institutional (Company, University, College, Etc.) (non voting)	\$15.00
_____ Life	\$250.00

\* Half-year rates (at 1/2 the full-year price) are available for New Members Only after April 1.

Check here for 1/2-year rates.  Check here for Renewal

### Code of Ethics

1. The collecting in any manner of archaeological material or data shall be done using contemporary scientific techniques, and shall have as its express purpose the finding and dissemination of information relative to the history and prehistory of California.
2. Provisions shall be made for the housing of archaeological materials and data in accordance with accepted professional practices, and such materials and data shall be made available to qualified individuals through accumulated field notes and records or to the general profession through the publication of findings.
3. 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.

All members will adhere to this Society's Code of Ethics, and to State, Federal, and International Antiquities Laws.

I have read and agree to abide by the above Code of Ethics.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor\* \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

\* Persons under 18 years of age must be sponsored by an adult SDCAS member

Please send completed form and payment to San Diego County Archaeological Society, P.O. Box 81106, San Diego, CA 92138.