January 27 (Fourth Tuesday Lecture), 7:30 p.m.
Los Peñasquitos

Presenter: Natalie Brodie

Title: The San Diego River: An Archaeological and Historical Perspective

This talk provides an examination of the archaeology and history of the San Diego River, and how it shaped the modern perceptions of those of us living in San Diego. The use of applied anthropological theory will provide a general framework for the future of study for the San Diego River by using history, archaeology, and modern ethnography to draw conclusions about changing perceptions of water. The main focus of this study includes archaeological evidence of water use along the San Diego River, the subsequent development of the river in the form of irrigation, storage, and transport, and the future of water use for San Diegans. The goal of this paper is to provide a background and solid framework on which to build a more comprehensive understanding of water use in the San Diego region, and how to use applied anthropology to shape water policy with a greater understanding of the changing culture of water in the San Diego region.

PCAS Lecture: February 12, 2015 at 7:30pm in Irvine

Presenter: Dr. James Kennett

Title: Evidence for the Younger Dryas Boundary (YDB) Cosmic Impact 12,800 BP and Its Environmental, Biotic, and Human Consequences

The abrupt onset of the Younger Dryas cooling episode 12,800 years ago involved a complex and linked array of abrupt and enigmatic changes in the Earth’s environmental and biotic systems. Especially intriguing is the close and collective association of North American continental-scale ecological reorganization, megafaunal extinctions, and human adaptive shifts and population decline. …

Dr. Kennett will also review other YDB evidence consistent with the impact hypothesis including widespread biomass burning, continental hydrographic reorganization (plumbing change and outburst floods), the late Pleistocene North American Megafauna extinctions (mammoths, ground-sloths, sabertooth cats, horses, camels, etc.), and human cultural change (disappearance of Clovis Culture) and major human population decline across North America.

PCAS lecture meetings are held at the Irvine Ranch Water District Community Room, 15500 Sand Canyon Avenue (between the I-5 and I-405) in Irvine, on the second Thursday of each month, at 7:30 pm. Meetings are free and open to the public. Visit their website for more info: http://www.pcas.org/meetings.html

March 24th, 2015, 7:30 p.m., Los Peñasquitos

Presenter: Dr. Alex Stewart from the San Diego Chinese Historical Museum

Title: "Five Dynasties of Chinese Pottery: from Potsherds to Porcelain"
Dr. Alex Stewart has worked at the San Diego Chinese Historical Museum since 2005, as docent and then Senior Coordinator of Education and Exhibits. He holds a Ph.D. in Anthropology from the University of California, San Diego, and a B.A. in Anthropology with a minor in Chinese language and literature from the George Washington University. He conducted ethnographic research among the Hui minority people in and around Xining, Qinghai Province to produce a dissertation on Islamic revival in western China. In addition to lecturing on numerous topics in Chinese arts, culture and history, he has taught several classes at UCSD in the Department of Anthropology and the Making of the Modern World Writing Program. He often represents the museum on local television news programs, has co-curated numerous exhibitions, and designed numerous hands-on children’s lessons. He has spoken to numerous local organizations such as the San Diego Museum of Art Asian Arts Council, the UCSD Alumni Association Diversity Committee, and SDSU’s International Studies Education Project.

**Abstract:** Based on Mr. Stewart’s original research for a landmark SDCHM exhibition, this broad look traces Chinese pottery from its humble, utilitarian beginnings to its culmination as an elite art form. Inscriptions on Han Dynasty 漢朝 (206 BCE-220 CE) roof tile ends reveal ancient social structure, grave goods intended for use in the afterlife shed light on daily life and death in a bygone era. Sculptures of horses capture the dominance of the equestrian Mongol culture during the Yuan Dynasty 元朝 (1279-1368 CE). And porcelain vessels illustrate the expertise of Ming Dynasty 明朝 (1368-1644 CE) craftsmen who increased firing temperatures and used white kaolin clay to create the fine china that was coveted worldwide.

**April 28th, 2015 at 7:30pm, Los Peñasquitos**

**Presenter: Dr. Danny Zborover**

**Title: In the Realm of Three-Hummingbird: Doing Historical Archaeology in the Chontal Highlands of Southern Mexico**

The past of the Chontal people of Oaxaca, Mexico, is one of the most obscure chapters in Mesoamerican history. Early colonial accounts of this indigenous group were extremely derogatory, while heavily influencing contemporary authors. Our recent archaeological, historical, and ethnographic investigations in the region are now correcting these ethnocentric biases, and reveal a highly dynamic picture of interregional interactions before and after the Spanish conquest. This presentation will also highlight the various collaborative efforts to incorporate the Chontal host communities within the ongoing research.

Danny Zborover is a historical archaeologist specializing in Mesoamerican literate societies. He received his master’s degree from the University of Leiden and his Ph.D. from the University of Calgary, and is currently a visiting scholar at the Center for US-Mexican Studies at UCSD. He participated in various archaeological projects in Mexico in the states of Oaxaca, Chihuahua, and Campeche, as well as others in Ecuador, Peru, Canada, and Israel. At present Danny co-directs two ongoing field projects in Mexico: the ‘Ethnohistorical Archaeology Field Program’
and the ‘Sherds to Words’ multidisciplinary project, working together with historians, art-historians, linguists, and geographers from UCLA and Cal State LA.

**May 26th, 2015 at 7:30pm, Los Peñasquitos**

**Presenter on Kumeyaay Ethnobotany: Mike Wilken**

*Title: Contemporary Environmental Knowledge and Prehistoric Lifeways*

The Kumeyaay Indians (also Ipai–Tipai, or Diegueño in the United States, or Kumiai in Mexico) have inhabited the landscapes of northern Baja California, Mexico, and southern California since long before European contact, originally making a living as mobile hunting, gathering, and fishing peoples in the region’s varied environments. The division of Kumeyaay territory in 1848 by two distinct nation states imposed on the region an international boundary as well as separate political and economic structures, cultures, and languages. Historical processes have reduced Kumeyaay territory and population, and transformed indigenous lifeways, yet some Kumeyaay still speak their native language and maintain extensive knowledge of the environments of the region.

This knowledge of the natural world passed on over generations has allowed the Kumeyaay to interact with local native plants, animals and natural landscapes in ways that have provided them with food, medicine, tools and shelter and ritual resources. They have developed technologies for the production of basketry, pottery, bows and arrows, cordage and carrying nets, stone tools and housing. This talk will explore some of the interactions between native peoples and native plants of our region, and how these might shed light on prehistoric lifeways.

Anthropologist Michael Wilken’s research and advocacy work with Native Baja Californians has explored traditional arts (pottery, basketry, oral narratives and song), ethnobotany, history, languages and cultural landscapes of the indigenous peoples of the northern Baja California region. He has worked closely with native artists and traditional authorities to foster cultural revitalization and sustainable community development. Wilken teaches in the anthropology department of California State
June 27th, 2015 at 8:00pm, Los Peñasquitos in the courtyard of the adobe

Presenter: Douglas Mengers, PanGIS, Inc. for ASM Affiliates

Title: Flat bottom vs. Iron cladding:

Determining the Use of a Distinctive Boat Discovered along San Diego’s Waterfront

Excavation for a hotel along San Diego’s waterfront in 2014 uncovered a small wooden boat. It was overturned and lay on the former mud flat level, approximately 30 feet below today’s street level. The boat was intact, with no obvious hull damage, but because it was stripped of all deck hardware, identification of the boat’s function was inhibited. Research at the San Diego Historical Society, the Maritime Museum of San Diego, and the Center for Wooden Boats in Seattle provided several possibilities for identifying the boat’s use, as well as a clearer picture of San Diego’s bayfront commercial development. This presentation will detail the excavation and research process of this unique maritime resource.

Doug Mengers is a historical archaeologist and GIS specialist with PanGIS, Inc. of Carlsbad, CA. His early fieldwork training took place at the Los Peñasquitos Adobe with San Diego City College. Mengers holds degrees in history and archaeology from UCSD, and is about to defend his master’s thesis at SDSU on the historical archaeology of San Diego’s early trolley suburbs. He spent five years living aboard a sailboat on San Diego Bay, and has been a life-long sailor.

July 25 (Saturday Evening Lecture), 8:00 p.m. *

Presenter: Chris Webster

Title: “CRM Archaeology in the 21st Century”

Field sciences are changing on an almost daily basis. Technology is being incorporated into every facet of our personal and professional lives. Archaeology has historically been on the backside of the technology curve as new ideas are adopted by other fields. How can we bring CRM Archaeology into the 21st century without breaking the bank and the budget? Can technology be incorporated into fieldwork simply and easily? Absolutely. By using robust tablets and existing third party applications, firms can increase productivity, reduce waste, and improve the quality of life for their employees.

The presentation will be recorded and broadcast in the CRM Arch Podcast:
http://www.archeologypodcastnetwork.com/crmarchpodcast/

Chris Webster, a Great Basin and California Cultural Resource Management Archaeologist, received his BA in Anthropology from the University of North Dakota and his MS in Archaeological Resource Management from the University of Georgia. In 2013, Chris started his own CRM firm called Digital Technologies in Archaeological
Consulting LLC (DIGTECH). DIGTECH is focused on being a different kind of CRM firm. They focus on changing the way archaeology is practiced by incorporated innovative technology and techniques. From tablets in the field to running a lean operation, Chris Webster and DIGTECH are changing the way we do field archaeology in the west, and beyond.

In 2014 Chris started the Archaeology Podcast Network: (http://www.archaeologypodcastnetwork.com/). The APN incorporated three existing archaeology podcasts, including the long-running CRM Archaeology Podcast, and started several more. Now, there are seven shows on the network with more in production. The APN gets over 7000 downloads a month from across the world and is proving to be a resource for enthusiasts and professionals alike.

Finally, Chris published the Field Archaeologist’s Survival Guide: Getting a Job and Working in Cultural Resource Management (Left Coast Press 2014) to help new and experienced field archaeologists improve their quality of life while living on the road. It’s also designed to prepare them for a career in CRM Archaeology by teaching some of the things you just don’t learn in a typical university program.

August 22, 2015 at 8:00pm, Los Peñasquitos in the courtyard of the adobe

Title: An Unusual Archaeoastronomical Site

Presented by Jose "Pepe" Aguilar, City College along with his students: Andrew Stoltzer, Dustin Waits, Eduwiges Davis, Sonia Mendoza, and Sara Shouse

The apparent north-to-south and south-to-north movement of the sun across the eastern and western horizons in San Diego County and Northern Baja California was well-known by certain members of the Native American groups that inhabited these areas. Particular to this astronomical knowledge were the extreme northern and southern locations, or solstitial points, of the sun across the said horizons. Several solstitial sites have been recorded on both sides of the US-Mexico border, but, to our knowledge, no sites with other than solstitial meaning have ever been found. Mr. Aguilar will present information on a site located in San Diego County whose purpose has not been deciphered yet in spite the fact that it is archaeoastronomical in nature. The site, apparently, does not "work" during the solstices nor during the equinoxes; it does "work," however, sometime between the summer solstice and the spring equinox.

Mr. Aguilar received his Master's degree in Anthropology at San Diego State University in 2010, with emphasis in human osteology and paleopathology, Pepe specializes in human skeletal remains, burial practices, and ancient astronomy, and possesses more than 13 years of archaeological field experience in Southern California. He has also spent six field seasons in
September 22, 2015 at 7:30pm, Los Peñasquitos in the adobe

Title: "What does Junipero Serra represent today and to whom?"

Presented by: Patti Dixon

I am a member of the Pauma Band of Luiseno Indians, born and raised in north county. I graduated from the University of San Diego with a Master's in history. Since then I have regularly taken courses in history and American Indian law. Have taught at SDSU, AIIant and my career has been at Palomar College. My colleagues and I founded the American Indian Studies department at Palomar and presently I am the Chair. Being present and available to my tribal community is very important so I have served multiple years on the tribal council and various tribal communities. In addition, it was my privilege to have been the Chairman of the Sherman Indian high school board and Chairman of the California Indian Legal Services.

History utilizes various tools to unravel the complexities of humankind's choices and to determine the legacy the future will hold about that unraveling. Who does the unraveling and why it is done can vary from generation to generation. This is what we would discuss.

October 27, 2015 at 7:30pm, Los Peñasquitos in the adobe

Title: Vampires

Presenters: Karen Lacy and Sandra Pentney

Vampires, zombies, and werewolves. Stars of the Halloween season. Tales of silver bullets and crucifixes have entertained and terrified us for countless generations. But, if there is no truth behind the myth, why is evidence of these otherworldly monsters so pervasive across countries, continents and centuries? Karen Lacy, Co-Curator of the current ‘Monsters!’ exhibit at the San Diego Museum of Man, and Sandra Pentney, archaeologist, geek and horror fan, investigate the cross-cultural phenomena that have stalked our nightmares and fueled our imaginations since childhood. From modern lore, to cross-cultural interpretations over time, and even into the archaeological record they examine the origins of the myths. This presentation will include photos or sketches of human remains, please be advised.

November 24, 2015 at 7:30pm, Los Peñasquitos in the adobe

Variety, the Spice of Life

Native American Foodways at the Coastal Village Sites of Spindrift (CA-SDI-39) and Rinconada de Jamo (CA-SDI-5017)

Native American consumption of small mammals is well documented from prehistoric sites in San Diego County. However, recent analyses of zooarchaeological remains from the village sites of Spindrift and Rinconada de Jamo indicate consumption of an incredible variety of terrestrial, avian, and marine fauna, possible only with the aid of extensive modern comparative collections. The presence of over 90 different types of animals at each site, procured from a broad range of
habitats, highlights the tremendous knowledge of and skill-sets possessed by indigenous native peoples.

Susan Arter is Co-Director of the Zooarchaeology Laboratory at the San Diego Natural History Museum. She holds B.A. and M.A. degrees in Anthropology from San Diego State University and The George Washington University respectively. Susan has over 30 years combined experience analyzing vertebrate faunal remains in the Near East and U.S. She has conducted zooarchaeological studies on vertebrate remains from historic and prehistoric archaeological sites in San Diego County for the past 18 years.