Calendar

July 23 (7:30 p.m.) Fourth Tuesday
Monthly Meeting
Speaker: Chuck Wallace

July 27 (6:00 - 9:00 p.m.)
Peñasquitos Ranch House
Speaker: Jack Williams
Topic: Presidio Dig

August 1 (7:00 - 9:00 p.m.) Museum of Man
Speaker: Bassam El Shammaa
“The Mysteries and Magic of Ancient Egypt”
$7 ($5 museum members)
info: 239-2001

August 3 through October 20
Museum of Man–Traveling Exhibit:
“Rainforest Visions: Pablo Amaringo and the Usko-Ayar
Amazonian School of Painting”

August 24 (6:00 - 9:00 p.m.)
Peñasquitos Ranch House
Speaker: Therese Muranaka

August 25 (10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.)
Cabrillo National Monument
Celebrate the 80th birthday of the National Park Service with free admission to the park.

August 27 (7:30 p.m.) Fourth Tuesday
Monthly Meeting
Speaker: Gerald Kuhn
“Historical Climatic Changes in Southern California . . .”

August 31 (9:00 a.m.)
Field Trip: San Onofre State Beach
“Geoarchaeology Along the San Diego Coastal Area”
Roy Shlemon and Gerald Kuhn

September 21 (6:30 p.m.)
Fort Guijarros Fiesta
Casa de España dancing, paella, and Los Californios (traditional Spanish music)

President's Message

Greetings members! Summer is in full bloom and we are lucky that the weather has been balmy. The boys of summer are playing on the grass and we await the start of the Olympics soon in Atlanta. I hope your summer has been enjoyable so far and I hope to see you at one of our events. Take a look at the schedule as there are many interesting talks on a variety of different subjects. For our historical archaeology buffs, don’t miss Jack Williams talk on his Presidio dig. For you geology buffs, show up in August for Gerry Kuhn’s unique perspective on climatic events and their implications on Native American occupation. He will be offering insight into some dramatic events that could have changed the environment in prehistoric and in historic times! Archaeology has been in the news lately as you might have noticed. Several articles have been published on local digs. We encourage you to submit articles of interest to Marla. In fact, we might consider that the best submissions might get a prize like a membership extension . . . so watch for details in the next issue of the newsletter.

For those of you who have been concerned about the renewal date on your label, let me apologize by saying we have been having trouble updating our records and we (Continued on Page 5)
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The SDCAS Office is at the Peñasquitos Ranch House, west of Black Mountain Road and Canyonside Community Park.

SDCAS Monthly Meetings are held at the County of San Diego offices at 5201 Ruffin Road, Kearney Mesa.
Editor's Message

After many years of stubbornly refusing to spend the money to get on-line – I finally broke down and shelled out the bucks for an email and unlimited internet access package (it also came with a bunch of other goodies that I haven’t yet figured out how to use). So far I’ve made three discoveries: 1) there is a lot of interesting stuff on the internet, 2) it takes a lot of time to check it all out, and 3) it takes a lot of time to check it all out.

In my meager quest for archaeology on the internet I’ve found some interesting sites (that’s web sites, not archaeological sites), but I have barely scratched the surface of the wealth of information out there just waiting to be looked at. The best place to start looking for archaeology on-line is at web sites that have links to other sites. A few I’ve found include Arch Net (http://spirit.lib.uconn.edu/ArchNet/ArchNet.html), a couple Canadian ones (the second of which is a rock art page: http://www.ucalgary.ca/~fvigneau/arky.html and http://www.ucalgary.ca/~fvigneau/rockart.html), Rock Art Links (http://www.questorsys.com/rockart/links.html) and the general anthropology/archaeology listing on Yahoo. A lot of societies and organizations also have web sites as do most colleges and universities.

I’m sure most of you who already are on-line and have internet access have already found some interesting sites out there in cyberspace. I know there must be other internet novices like me out there who would like to find out from the veterans where the interesting and “cool” sites are. So, along with my usual plea for articles, news items, site updates, cartoon, etc., please send me the addresses of your favorite web sites relating to archaeology, anthropology, and/or history, and I will put a list of them in the next issue.

Please send all items to:

Marla Mealey
c/o California Department of Parks and Recreation
8885 Rio San Diego Drive, Suite 270
San Diego, CA 92108
Phone: 220-5329
email: mmm@inet1.inetworld.net

I would also like to apologize for spelling Ginger Ridgway’s last name incorrectly in the last two issues. I think I’ve got it right now.

–Marla Mealey

Volunteers Improve Creek Flow at Peñasquitos Ranch Historic Site

F. Buchanan

Sunday May 12, volunteers from SDCAS, Friends of Peñasquitos, and County Parks gathered again to continue the job of clearing Peñasquitos Creek and flood plain of flood causing debris and overgrowth where it flows past the ranch. This was the third in a series of work sessions, the goal of which is to improve stream flow and reduce flooding of historic structures at the south edge of the ranch complex. In the recent past a relatively small storm resulted in six inches of flood water over the floor of the lath barn and adjacent historically important acequias (irrigation channels).

This latest effort of 17 volunteers removed 35 pick-up truck loads of palm fronds and debris in 68 person-hours of work. To date, in nearly 600 person-hours, 81 truck loads have been removed. As a result, the creek as it passes the ranch, runs clear and swift with fish and ducks returning to enjoy it.

The following dedicated volunteers contributed time, tools, trucks, and expertise, which together with the efforts of past work sessions, have made this project a success.

Thanks to:

SDCAS: Fred Buchanan, Mike Nabholz, Jim Royle, and Howard Schwitkis;

Friends of Peñasquitos: Don Albright, Doug Fenske, Jacob Gould, Mike Kelly, Linda King, Philip Misiawiec, Robert Nubel, Newton Quan, Liz Rozgelo, and Cris Wesson; and

County Parks: Bill Lawrence, Reneene Mowry, and Guy Relaford.
How An Archaeologist Looks at Stone Tools (or)
An Archaeologist Looks at Stone Tools (or)
Stone Tools: What Are They?

T. A. Muranaka

For about 4.0 million years hominids (humans and their ancestors) have lived on earth. For many of those years, stone tools are the only object left over to study their past ways of life. Many people have asked how an archaeologist looks at stone (or lithic from the Greek lithos) artifacts. Perhaps a quick summary would be useful?

When an archaeologist looks at stone tools, he/she looks for which rocks occur naturally and locally, and which have been brought in by human agency (rather than rolling down a stream bed or tumbling down a cliff). There are many kinds of rocks: igneous (both plutonics and volcanics like obsidian), sedimentary (like the siltstones at the bottom of oceans or lakes), and metamorphic. Prehistoric (and even historic peoples, sometimes) worked with the ones known as crypto-crystalline silicates, the ones that break conchoidally. A conchoidal break is like the fracture of a BB gun on the windshield of your car, or that of a rock dropped in a lake, same-centered (concentric) rings of force around the point of impact. Materials such as fine and coarsely grained volcanics, quartzites and quartzites, cherts, the transparent chalcedonies, and even jaspers, petrified wood and petrified palm root have been flaked. San Diego County people have also flaked seashells, bone, bottle glass and porcelain. Stone materials have even been heat-treated, heated slowly in the sand around a campfire, to make them more easy to flake.

An archaeologist next looks for which rocks show signs of continuous, even, or patterned chipping. A cobble falling down a river will knock end over end but still have a random pattern of damage. Continuous, even edge damage can only have been done by humans. The overall shape of the human-made tools will be patterned, but still vary at different times and places: La Jolla tools being different from Late Prehistoric, from Historic or Mission Period stone. The way the finished tool is made, how the chips, or flakes, come off the parent rock, or core, varies as well. Some say that the same finished arrow, or projectile, point can be made in many different ways. The sequence of steps in the making of a tool are known as the reduction sequence and are as characteristic of that cultural group as a fingerprint.

The archaeologist's job, therefore, is to document the type and source of the stone and the sequence of its reduction down from core to finished tool. This includes how elaborately the core was prepared at the quarry, preformed and finished (notched, polished, hafted, etc.), as well as whether it was resharpened and/or used for a number of different tasks. In the lab, they classify these bits and pieces of stone as to what phase in the reduction sequence they represent. It is a little like walking into your grandfather's garage and looking up at all the old tools on the ceiling and along the walls. You see the numbers and types of tools he has, as well as their materials, relative ages and amount of use. You will never see the flurry of activities they have been involved in, but you can second guess the kinds of crafts and general products he made.

They say the recent evolution of Homo sapiens sapiens, that's us, has produced a group of people who are too dependent upon modern technology. It may be true: during a recent thunder storm, the electricity went out, computers everywhere went down and San Diego was stopped still. No banking, no sales, no streetlights were evident. Perhaps we should keep knowledge of older technologies on hand, just in case. In preparation for the next earthquake, your car should have a first-aid kit, water, food, comfortable walking shoes, matches and . . . your stone tool kit.

Preliminary Results of Excavations and Surface Collections at Torrey Pines State Reserve

M. Mealey

Archaeologists from the California Department of Parks and Recreation performed limited testing and data recovery at two sites (CA-SDI-9605 and CA-SDI-10637) in Torrey Pines State Reserve in March and April 1996. Both sites are located along eroding bluff edges, and site CA-SDI-9605 is further disturbed by a park trail that bisects the narrow promontory on which the site is situated. This study was undertaken to assess the condition and content of these sites before that information is lost to erosion. The two sites were surveyed, mapped, and surface collected, and five 1-x-1-meter units were excavated at site CA-SDI-9605.

(Continued on Page 6)
Fort Guijarros News
Fort Guijarros 1996 Field Excavation Season
R. May

So when are we gonna dig? Long time followers of the Fort Guijarros excavation project are probably wondering why the summer’s dig has not yet begun. We normally are in the field by June busting dust at Fort Guijarros, so here’s the scoop on what’s going on.

The major roadblock is that the Navy has not yet granted our 1996 Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA) permit - but we expect that it will be issued in July. This year we propose to address the last major question regarding the shape of the inside wall and plaza of Fort Guijarros.

This year has been very busy so far. One of the most exciting accomplishments has been the opening of the Collection Repository. Departing from our past arrangement to have San Diego State University house the collections, Fort Guijarros archaeological materials are secure in the Ballast Point Repository.

Much of the winter season has been devoted to compliance with the Native American Graves and Repatriation Act’s requirements for collections management. This has involved preparing a complete inventory of all of the artifacts in our various collections. This has been a laborious and time consuming project, and many thanks should go to the Guijarros volunteers who gave hundreds of hours to this endeavor.

As we plan for the 1996 field season, we now need to send out a call for volunteers to dig. If you would like to help with this season’s excavation, please call 229-9743 and leave your name and phone number. We’ll call you back to answer any questions you may have about the project. Our dig season lasts from July to the end of September, and you will need to be available on Saturdays from 10:00 to 4:00.

National Register Nomination of Fort Guijarros.

Hardlines, Inc. of Ohio nominated Fort Guijarros to the National Register of Historic Properties in 1994. Although determined eligible, the State of California deferred until the Fort Guijarros archaeology report had been produced. The final report has been submitted and we are now awaiting a determination to see if the nomination has been accepted. We should throw a party when the site has been registered!

President’s Message

(Continued from page 1)

are way behind. We hope to have it cleared up by the next mailing but suffice it to say, that you will be credited for your renewals, even if it doesn’t show on the label for another issue or two. We will be getting a new membership chairperson to help us. So thank you in advance for your patience. Members whose membership have lapsed will no longer be getting a free newsletter as the new postal regulations are going to force us to change the way we mail, until we catch up with the new technology the Postal Service is requiring of us. All 3rd class mailings need to have the scannable bar codes. So, if you have moved, please drop us a line.

We will be opening up nominations next month for positions on the board of the Society. So if you know of someone who would make a perfect candidate for a position, let me know. Or if you would like to be a member of the Society Board, I encourage you to become involved with your Society.

Finally, I would like to welcome the newest member of our Society, Donald Michael Guerrazzi born, April 22 at 11:17 p.m. Congratulations from all of us to Jennifer (our Secretary) and father Paul. They are all doing fine. Welcome and we look forward to visits from Donald. Things are changing here as we bid a tearful good-bye to our First vice-president Ginger Ridgway, who accepted an enticing new challenge with the Agua Caliente Museum as their new coordinator. I will certainly miss her dedication, resourcefulness, and can-do attitude. We wish Ginger good luck with her new challenges. Till the next issue have a great summer!

Herb Dallas

National Park Service Sends Inventory of Remains to Tribes, Native Hawaiian Groups.

News Release

Bringing an end to an arduous five-year task, the National Park Service (NPS) has sent inventories of Native American human remains and associated funerary objects under its control to 139 culturally affiliated Indian tribes and Native Hawaiian organizations.

NPS Director Roger Kennedy praised the effort of those who brought the task to completion. “This accounting required the hard work of ethnographers, curators, Indian liaison officers, archaeologists,

(Continued on Page 6)
Preliminary Results of Excavations and Surface Collections at Torrey Pines State Reserve

(Continued from Page 4)

A single whole Saxidomus nuttalli shell from the 20- to 30-cm level of Unit 3 at CA-SDI-9605, a sample of charcoal from the 40- to 50-cm level of Unit 3, and a single piece of charcoal from the 10- to 20-cm level of Unit 2, were sent to Beta Analytic in Florida for radiocarbon dating purposes. The shell sample (Beta-92481) produced a conventional C14 age of 2,120 ± 70 radiocarbon years before present (RCYBP), or 1,900 ± 80 RCYBP adjusted for local reservoir correction. The charcoal sample from 40- to 50-cm of Unit 3 (Beta-92482) produced a conventional C14 age of 1,500 ± 60 RCYBP. The charcoal sample from the 10- to 20-cm level of Unit 2 (Beta-92480) was analyzed using Accelerator Mass Spectrometry (AMS) and produced a conventional C14 age of 500 ± 50 RCYBP. The calibrated results of the samples give dates of A.D. 345 to 670 for the shell sample, A.D. 430 to 660 for the Unit 3 charcoal sample, and A.D. 1395 to 1470 for the Unit 2 charcoal sample.

In addition to the radiocarbon samples, seven artifact and soil samples were sent in for floral analyses including pollen, protein, and phytolith studies.

A small concentration of fire affected cobbles and associated charcoal was found in Unit 2 at CA-SDI-9605 and was designated Feature 1. A soil sample from below this feature was sent in to Paleo Research Laboratories (Paleo) in Colorado for pollen and phytolith analyses and macrofloral flotation procedures. The pollen spectrum for this sample was dominated by high spine Asteraceae (sunflower family) pollen. The next most common pollen type was Artemisia sp. and indeterminate pollen, followed by smaller quantities of Alnus sp., Juniperus sp., Pinus sp., Quercus sp., low spine Asteraceae, Liguliflorae, Eriogonum sp., Lamiaceae, Onagraceae, Poaceae, Rhamnaceae, and Selaginella sp. (Scott Cummings et al. 1996:9). The sample did not appear to be contaminated by historic or modern pollen, but it also did not appear to contain “any evidence suggestive of plant utilization at the site” (Scott Cummings et al. 1996:9). The macrofloral study resulted in the recovery of a charred Salvia sp. seed, an uncharred Convolvulaceae (morning glory family) seed, charred dicot leaf fragments, and charcoal from the Asteraceae family. Two bifaces that were collected at CA-SDI-9605 prior to this study (P1141-00-170 and P1141-00-171) were also sent in to Paleo for protein residue analysis, but the results for these two artifacts were negative.

Additionally, two groundstone samples (a mano and a metate fragment) from CA-SDI-10637 were sent in to Paleo Research Laboratories for phytolith and protein residue analyses. A comparison of the soil control samples (taken adjacent to each artifact) with the phytolith wash results appears to indicate that both of the groundstone artifacts were used to process grass seeds. This is evidenced by the presence of “starch granules with hila” that were identified in the phytolith washes from the artifacts, but were not present in the control samples (Scott Cummings et al. 1996:7-8). The metate fragment also yielded a positive protein residue result for deer antiserum (Scott Cummings et al. 1996:8). The corresponding soil control sample tested negative to all antiseras, suggesting that the positive result on the metate fragment was not due to soil contamination (Scott Cummings et al. 1996:8)

REFERENCE:

National Park Service Sends Inventory of Remains to Tribes, Native Hawaiian Groups.

(Continued from Page 5)

The effort is being carried out under the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), passed in 1990. NAGPRA requires that federal agencies and institutions receiving federal funds inventory the Native American remains and associated funerary objects in their collections in consultation with culturally affiliated Indian tribes and Native Hawaiian organizations. The inventories, completed last November, had to be turned over to the appropriate Native groups by May 16.

The NPS inventory identified 4,982 human remains from 100 different parks. Approximately 77 percent were identified as culturally affiliated with present-day tribes and Native Hawaiian organizations; 1,170 were culturally unidentifiable. The NAGPRA review committee, a federal advisory group, will make recommendations on the disposition of the culturally unidentifiable remains.

“This is only the first step in returning these remains to where they rightfully belong,” said Kennedy. “This is an expression of our intent to do what is right.”

For more information, contact Dr. C. Timothy McKeown, NAGPRA Team Leader, Archaeology and Ethnography Program, National Parks Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, D.C. 20013-7127. Phone: (202) 343-4101, fax: (202) 523-1547.
San Diego County Archaeological Society Membership Application

Name ______________________  Phone ______________
Address __________________________________________
State _______________  Zip _______________
Occupation/School ________________________________
Special Skills, Interests ______________________________

The SDCAS membership year begins October 1. Please check the membership desired and enclose payment for the amount shown in the table below. Renewals are at the October-March annual rate. Membership is subject to approval of the Board of Directors.

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<th>Month of Application</th>
<th>Oct.-Mar</th>
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<td>_____ Individual</td>
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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 members to expulsion proceedings.

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

Signature ____________________________ Date ________

Sponsor ____________________________ Date ________

(Minor must be sponsored by an adult member)