



FEBRUARY 2011

# PCAS NEWSLETTER

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PACIFIC COAST ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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## FEBRUARY PCAS SPEAKER

**Dr. David S. Whitley**

### *Mojave Desert Petroglyph Dating and the Peopling of the Americas*

The question of when humans first arrived in the Americas has been debated for decades, with archaeologists divided between proponents of a short versus long chronology. Recent advances in petroglyph dating provide important evidence in this controversy, in the process yielding insight into the origins of Native American art and religion. We have used a combination of independent scientific dating methods, including the recently calibrated varnish microlamination dating technique, applied in a blind test with two different laboratories. A petroglyph of a probable extinct Pleistocene mammal, dated with three different techniques, is approximately 13,000 years old, and represents the oldest known art in the Americas. About 10 percent of the sample of dated motifs is greater than 9,000 years old, indicating that the creation of rock art was part of the cultural practices of the earliest immigrants into the continent. The scientific dates also demonstrate that petroglyphs continued to be made into the last few hundred years—a conclusion that is verified by the presence of horse and rider motifs at the sites. The combination of the scientific dates, the motif forms themselves, and other lines of evidence demonstrate that the Mojave petroglyphs represent a manifestation of the longest continually practiced belief system known in the world: the shamanistic religion of indigenous Shoshone and Paiute peoples. *(continued on page 4)*

## DINNER WITH THE SPEAKER

Please join this month's speaker, **Dr. David Whitley**, and PCAS members for dinner before the February 10th General Meeting. **We will meet at 6 pm at Mimi's Café, 4030 Barranca Parkway, Irvine.**

## PCAS MEETINGS CALENDAR

### GENERAL MEETING

*Free and Open to the Public*

**February 10 - 7:30 pm**

**Speaker:** Dr. David S. Whitley

**Topic:** *Mojave Desert Petroglyph Dating  
and the Peopling of the Americas*

**Location:** Irvine Ranch Water District  
15600 Sand Canyon Ave., Irvine

*The Irvine Ranch Water District neither supports nor endorses the causes or activities of organizations that use the District's meeting rooms which are made available for public use.*

### BOARD MEETING

*All Members Welcome*

**February 17 - 7:00 pm**

**Location:** Old Orange County Courthouse  
PCAS Library, Ground Floor  
211 W. Santa Ana Blvd., Santa Ana

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## JANUARY SPEAKER NOTES

### *The Origins of Settled Village Life in the Equatorial Andes—Recent Data, New Insights*

*Submitted by Megan Galway*

Dr. Jerry Moore presented up-to-date information on his recent work in the equatorial Andes, spanning the border between southwestern Ecuador and northwestern Peru. He noted results from data gathered within the last five years are based on three criteria: the rule of serendipity, chronological frameworks, and recognition of variations.

Previous studies in the area—notably by Donald Lathrop, Olaf Holm, Clifford Evans, and Betty Meggers—had identified the Formative period as dating to no older than 1500 BC. Work was interrupted in the late 1980s by political unrest in the area, but in 1990 the area was politically stable and studies continued. In 2003 sites were excavated for the first time in 40 years. A surprising result of these most recent studies was that dates for the Formative period are now placed at 4700-3500 BC. Sites in southwest Ecuador were determined to be the oldest known Formative sites in South America.

The study area is one of great bio-diversity, being a coastal area at the interface of two major ocean currents—the cold Peruvian Current from the south and the warm Equatorial Current to the north. This creates a dry, sandy coastal area to the south and tropical mangrove swamps in the north. This is also the lowest and narrowest area of the Andes range, allowing easier access to the east coast and the Amazon drainage.

Distinctive Valdivia ceramics from the period were once suggested to have a Japanese connection, but this has since been discredited. The ceramics include 3-6 inch female figurines, and similar groundstone figurines have also been found. Betty Meggers previously established a relative date sequence for the ceramics, but her sequence covered a much shorter period than has now been determined.

Excavations identified a variety of structures. At the Santa Rosa site, circular cobblestone foundations may have supported a pole and thatch structure 1-3 meters in diameter, while the Tumbes sites had structures that were larger but dated earlier. Dr. Moore's team identified rectangular structures, dating to 900-500 BC, but both



**Program Chair Joe Hodulik with January speaker Dr. Jerry D. Moore.**

before and after this period the foundations were generally round. Other sites had probable public architecture built on mounds—some covered in red stucco. Some mounds were stratified and artifacts—possibly offerings—were placed on the older surfaces prior to reconstruction.

There is no evidence of agriculture in the study area, but the population was certainly moving towards more structured settlement patterns. Rio Alto, in particular, was believed to have a population of around 2,500. While individual village sites display variations, there is also evidence of interaction, sharing of technologies, possible specialization, and long-distance trade.

Dr. Moore noted that some of the results he was presenting had just been received in the past few days, so we look forward to hearing even more about this project in the future.

## OPEN BOARD POSITION

The PCAS Board is asking members interested in appointment to a vacant position on the Board of Directors to contact a Board member by February 10. Recently elected Linda Christison has relocated and will be unable to serve. The appointment will be for a three-year term. The Board plans to appoint the new Board member at its February meeting.

The PCAS Board is a working board, and applicants must be willing to attend monthly lecture and Board meetings, assume working Board committee positions, and take an active part in PCAS activities.

## JANUARY BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

President **Scott Findlay** called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm at the Old County Courthouse, Santa Ana, California. Board members present: **Scott Findlay, Steve O'Neil, Megan Galway, Rene Brace, Gail Cochlin, Jane Gothold, Sherri Gust,** and **Kathleen Shada**. Members present: **Bob Brace, Joe Hodulik,** and **Hank Koerper**.

The November 2010 minutes were approved (there was no Board meeting in December). The treasurer's report and expenditures were approved.

Unprovenanced and replicated items from our collection have been loaned to Fullerton Museum Center for a new exhibit, expected to run until May. These items are used in our regular outreach events and are being made available to other organizations on request.

**Bob Brace** and **Hank Koerper** were welcomed to the board for 2011, and outgoing members, **Rene Brace, Gail Cochlin,** and **Sherri Gust**, were thanked for their past three years of service. Our third new board member, **Linda Christison**, has advised us she will be unable to accept the position due to a pending move out of the area. The board will appoint a member to fill this position and would appreciate inquiries from interested members. The following board officers were elected unanimously: President, **Scott Findlay**; Vice-president, **Steve O'Neil**; Secretary, **Megan Galway**; Treasurer, **Bob Brace**. All committee chairs agreed to continue in their positions for the coming year. Expenditures for a book table and silent auction donation for the SCA Annual Meeting in March were approved. We are often asked—particularly at conferences—if we accept credit cards. **R. Brace** has been researching our options, and we hope to be able to do this very soon. The board approved a \$250 grant to Wendy Whitby, a Ph.D. student studying cache caves in California. Our 2011 scholarship campaign will begin this month, and the board acknowledged a \$750 donation from Life Member **Tom Bogdan** in honor of his late wife, Gloria. The board also agreed to raise the award amount of this year's Myrtle Soderberg Memorial Scholarship to \$750.

**Joe Hodulik's** donation/award table generated \$67 in January! A field trip to Corn Springs will take place the weekend of January 29-31. Joe Hodulik has offered to make calls to local professors and instructors to be sure they're receiving and posting our meeting information. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15pm.

## 2011 PCAS SCHOLARSHIPS

With the beginning of the spring semester, PCAS is again inviting applications for our annual undergraduate scholarship program.

Our annual Myrtle Soderberg Memorial Scholarship is being increased this year to \$750. We are also pleased to acknowledge a generous donation from life member **Tom Bogdan** in honor of his late wife Gloria. Gloria was a supporter of our scholarship and outreach efforts, and we will award the Gloria Bogdan Memorial Scholarship (also for \$750) in her memory. Both scholarships will be awarded to students entering their junior year in the fall. Applicants must be California residents or attending a California university. The deadline for applications is April 30th.

Our scholarship program is funded by donations from our members, including funds raised by our monthly donation-awards table run by Joe Hodulik.

Should you know any qualified students who have not heard of our program, please direct them to our website, [www.pcas.org](http://www.pcas.org), for application guidelines and forms. Questions may also be directed to scholarship@pcas.org or by telephone to 714-539-6354.

## PCAS QUARTERLY UPDATE

*PCAS Quarterly* Volume 44, Number 3, will be printed in February. The issue will have three papers: "A Revised Culture Sequence for the Monterey Peninsula Area, California," by Gary S. Breschini and Trudy Haversat; "More on Samuel Cary Evans, Jr. and His Cogged Stone Research," by Henry C. Koerper and Bobby McDearmon; and "A Unique Early Discoidal from CA-ORA-85, Bolsa Chica Mesa, Huntington Beach, California," by Henry C. Koerper and Joe Cramer.

The Publications Committee is presently working on a Baja California issue with papers compiled by Matthew Buxt. This single issue should be printed in the spring. Shortly thereafter, we hope to publish a double issue on California ceramics with Matthew Buxt as guest editor. Also in process is a Jay von Werhlof memorial double issue with Russell Kaldenberg as guest editor.

The Publications Committee continues to actively solicit papers for publication. Information is available on the PCAS website, [www.pcas.org](http://www.pcas.org), or contact the editors at [publications@pcas.org](mailto:publications@pcas.org).

## CURATION WORKDAYS

### February Workday

**When:** February 12, 1 pm

**Where:** Red Car Building

Everyone is welcome. No experience necessary! Please contact **Mark Roeder** (714-241-8880, [curator@pcas.org](mailto:curator@pcas.org)) or **Rene Brace** (714-544-6282, [info@pcas.org](mailto:info@pcas.org)) for directions and to let us know you will be coming.

### January Workday

The inventory, rebagging, and reboxing of PCAS's CA-ORA-236 (Coyote Canyon Cave) collection has been completed! The Board will be asked to consider returning culturally sensitive materials from this collection at a future Board meeting. Volunteers inventoried and consolidated the CA-ORA-231 (French Cave Collection). January volunteers: **Bob and Rene Brace, Candice Brennan, Gail Cochlin, Scott Findlay, Megan Galway, Sherri Gust, Mark Roeder, and Susan Underbrink.**



**Bowl rim decorated with shell in asphaltum from the CA-ORA-231 (French Cave) collection.**



**Points from the CA-ORA-231 (French Cave) collection.**

## FEBRUARY FIELD TRIP

**When:** February 19-21, 2011

**Where:** Anza-Borrego Desert State Park

This can be a 1 to 3 day trip. We plan to dry camp within the state park.

Please sign up for this field trip by contacting **Scott Findlay** at 714-342-2534 or [fieldtrips@pcas.org](mailto:fieldtrips@pcas.org). Please be aware that you will be required to sign a code of ethics and waiver of liability, which acknowledges that some areas we plan to visit have inherent natural dangers. If you are unable to attend a field trip for which you have signed up, contact Scott as soon as possible. For contact the day of the field trip, call cell phone 714-342-2534.



**Groundstone in Anza-Borrego Desert State Park. Photo taken on previous PCAS field trip.**

### February Speaker *(continued from page 1)*

David S. Whitley, Ph.D., is a California prehistoric archaeologist and Principal at ASM Affiliates, Inc. Whitley's archaeological publications include 17 books and approximately 100 articles, and his writing has been translated into five languages beyond English. Included among his recent books are *Introduction to Rock Art Research* (2005), which received a *Choice* Outstanding Academic Book Award for 2006; the edited *Handbook of Rock Art Research* (2001); and *The Art of the Shaman: Rock Art of California* (2000). His latest book is *Cave Paintings and the Human Spirit: The Origin of Creativity and Belief* (2009). According to the *South African Archaeological Bulletin* (55:81, 2000), Whitley is: "North America's (and perhaps the world's) foremost researcher on rock art."

## PCAS 2010 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

### INCOME

Donations	
Scholarship	\$815.00
Other Donations	\$645.90
Interest	\$357.35
Member Dues	\$6,155.00
Quarterly Sales	\$2,153.21
Subscriptions	\$2,836.00
Misc Income	\$15.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$12,977.46</b>

### EXPENSES

Curation	\$1,276.38
General Administration	\$170.50
Membership Exp	\$62.39
Newsletter	\$1,960.02
Quarterly	\$13,975.60
Scholarship	\$1,751.56
Web Site	\$1,299.38
Lecture Program	\$378.56
Outreach	\$436.04
Holiday Dinner	\$33.25
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$21,343.38</b>

**TOTAL (INCOME - EXPENSES) (\$-8,365.92)**

### ASSETS

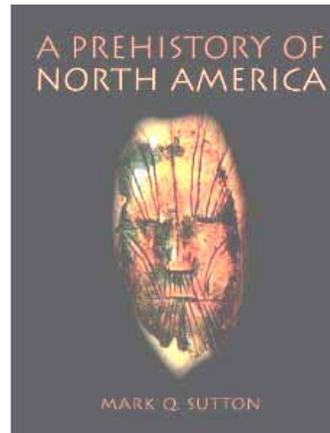
	12/31/09	12/31/10
Checking, CD & Money Market Accts	\$11,713.63	\$7515.10
Reserve for Curation	\$19,800.00	\$17,000.00
C14 Fund	\$4,406.04	\$4,406.04
Scholarship Fund	\$1,374.30	\$437.30
Outreach Fund	\$1,094.39	\$657.95
Postage Account	\$36.28	\$41.89
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$38,424.64</b>	<b>\$30,058.72</b>

### LIABILITIES

**Paid Subscriptions \$10,368.50 \$6,098.00**

**Please Note:** PCAS liabilities are based on memberships and subscriptions that had been prepaid for specific PCAS Quarterly volumes. In the last two years, PCAS has published 14 issues of the Quarterly. Therefore, expenditures for Quarterly production have increased. Correspondingly, liabilities have decreased.

## JUST OFF THE PRESS

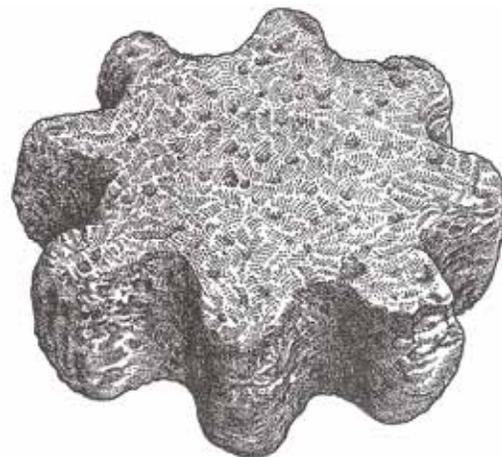


**Dr. Mark Sutton**, a frequent contributor to the *PCAS Quarterly*, has recently put the finishing touches on a new book, *A Prehistory of North America*. Written particularly for the upper division college classroom, this very readable work should be of interest to avocational archaeologists among others. Now published,

this overview of the prehistory of the continent north of Mesoamerica covers peopling of the New World, Paleo-Indian cultures, and archaeological culture areas. Separate chapters deal with the Arctic, Subarctic, Northwest Coast, Plateau, California, Great Basin, Southwest, Great Plains, Northeast, and Southeast.

In the chapter on California Indian prehistory, Southern California comes in for much discussion. Orange County professional and avocational archaeologists will undoubtedly be pleased that Sutton has chosen to use an illustration by Joe Cramer of a cogged stone discovered in recent excavations at CA-ORA-83, the Cogged Stone site.

**Dr. Sutton** is scheduled to talk to PCAS members and guests at the May monthly meeting. His topic will be "The Tatic Expansions and a New Interpretation of Southern California Prehistory." **Dr. Sutton** will not have copies of his new book at the meeting but will sign those that are brought to the May 12 get-together.



**Illustration of cogged stone from the Cogged Stone site in *Prehistory of North America* (courtesy of Nancy Anastasia Desautels-Wiley, drawing by Joe Cramer).**

## DIG THIS...



### Exhibits

***Gold from the Ancient Cemetery Site of Sitio Conte*** will exhibit over 100 Precolumbian gold pieces from the University of Pennsylvania's 1940s excavation in central Panama. The Muzeo, February 3 through May 29. Fee: \$13. Information: [www.muzeo.org](http://www.muzeo.org) or 714-956-8936.

***Before Fullerton: the Prehistory of North Orange County.*** Fullerton Museum Center, February 12 through May 8. Opening reception February 12, noon-2 pm (free with museum admission). Fee: \$4 ; students and seniors \$3. Information: 714-738-6545 or [www.cityoffullerton.com](http://www.cityoffullerton.com).

***Race: Are We So Different?*** Will explore race from biological, cultural, and historical points of view. San Diego Museum of Man, February 12 through May 15. Fee: \$7.50-\$10. Information: 619-239-2001 or [www.museumofman.org](http://www.museumofman.org)

### Lectures

***Tony Soares*** will demonstrate the art of flint knapping and arrow making as guest lecturer at the Coachella Valley Archaeological Society. Cathedral City Community Center, 37-171 West Buddy Rogers, February 1, 6:30 pm. Free. Information: [www.cvarch.org](http://www.cvarch.org).

***Ritual and Ceremonial Objects***, by Dr. Henry Kopper. A lecture of the Native American Institute. Orange Education Center, 1465 N. Batavia, Orange, February 18, 6:30 pm. Free. Information: [www.ocnai.org](http://www.ocnai.org) or 714-879-1337.

***Digging Iran: The American Archaeological Exploration of Iran 1900-2000***, by Ali Mousavi, Ph.D. (Assistant Curator of Iranian and Near Eastern Art, LACMA). Bowers Museum, February 19, 1:30 pm. Fee: \$10 Information: [www.bowers.org](http://www.bowers.org) or 714-567-3677.

(Lectures continued)

***Rancho La Brea: Past, Present, and Future***, by Trevor Valle (Assistant Laboratory Supervisor, Page Museum). San Bernardino County Museum, February 23, 7:30 pm. Free. Information: 909-307-2669 or [www.co.san-bernardino.ca.us/museum](http://www.co.san-bernardino.ca.us/museum).

***San Nicolas Island***, by Rene Vellanoweth (Cal State LA), a Friday Seminar of the Cotsen Institute. A222 Fowler, UCLA, February 25, 4-6 pm. Free; charge for parking. Information: [www.ioa.ucla.edu](http://www.ioa.ucla.edu).

***Visit to the Sakkara Necropolis Near the Pyramids***, by Dr. Elaine Sullivan (UCLA) and Eric Wells (Doctoral Candidate, UCLA), an ARCE lecture. Bowers Museum, February 26, 1:30 pm. Free. Information: [www.bowers.org](http://www.bowers.org) or 714-567-3677.

### Classes, Meetings, and Events

***Intaglios Along the Colorado River*** (March 5, 8 am-6 pm) and ***Native American Plant Uses*** (March 27, 9 am-4 pm), both by Daniel McCarthy (Tribal Relations Program Manager, San Bernardino National Forest). Classes of the Desert Institute at Joshua Tree National Park. Fee \$60 (members \$50) for each class. Information and registration: [desertinstitute.homestead.com](http://desertinstitute.homestead.com) or 760-367-5535.

***Natural History of the Mojave National Preserve – The Low Country***, by Robert Fulton. Desert Studies Center, April 15-17. Fee: \$325. Information and registration: 951-827-4105 or <http://biology.fullerton.edu/dsc>.

### Websites

Visit [www.pcas.org](http://www.pcas.org) for all the latest news.

***Editor's Note: Please confirm time and place of listing prior to the event. Submit items for Dig This to [newsletter@pcas.org](mailto:newsletter@pcas.org).***

## PCAS CODE OF ETHICS

The Pacific Coast Archaeological Society (PCAS) is a non-profit group of professional and avocational people dedicated to proper management of our cultural resources, public education, and the protection and preservation of archaeological materials and collections.

The following principles have been adopted by the PCAS:

1. Professional methods and forms will be used on all archaeological field surveys, excavations, and laboratory sessions.
2. A complete record of field and laboratory work will be filed with the PCAS Curator and stored at a facility approved by the Society's Board of Directors.
3. No archaeological materials will be removed without proper permits, landowner permission, and a field research design.
4. Unless otherwise legally stipulated before activity commences, all materials collected will be deposited for further research with the Curator at a facility approved by the Society's Board of Directors.
5. All generated reports will be the property of the Society and distributed as deemed appropriate.
6. All Society field activities will be performed only under the direction of a qualified field archaeologist (Principal Investigator) and the supervision of field or site directors.
7. The above principles will be observed on both Society approved projects and projects performed under the direction of an authorized institution or organization.
8. The Society and its members will strive to educate the public of the importance and proper management of our non-renewable cultural resources and to discourage the collection and commercial exploitation of archaeological materials.
9. PCAS members shall not benefit from the acquisition, purchase, sale, or trade of archaeological artifacts, materials, or specimens.
10. All members shall adhere to City, County, State, and Federal antiquities laws.

### SCA MEETING TABLE

PCAS will have a Quarterly sales and information table at the March 10-13 Society for California Archaeology Annual Meeting in Rohnert Park. The table will be staffed by PCAS volunteers whenever the book room is open. If you will be attending the meeting and would be willing to assist in manning the table for a few hours or during a lunch break, please contact **Bob Brace** at [orders@pcas.org](mailto:orders@pcas.org) or 714-544-6282.

We plan to have copies of all PCAS Quarterly issues available for sale. If you are planning on purchasing back issues, please let us know at the above email address, and we will have your order ready to pick-up.

### PCAS SPEAKER CALENDAR

#### March 10, 2011

**Dr. Nancy Anastasia Wiley**

*Industries and Tool Kits at Bolsa Chica*

#### April 14, 2011

**Dr. Nancy Anastasia Wiley**

*Bolsa Chica Bead Chronology*

#### May 12, 2011

**Dr. Mark Sutton**

*The Takic Expansions and a New Interpretation of Southern California Prehistory*

## 2011 PCAS BOARD MEMBERS AND COMMITTEE CONTACTS

<u>Office</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Email</u>	<u>Phone</u>
*President	Scott Findlay	president@pcas.org	714-342-2534
*Vice-President	Steve O'Neil	vicepresident@pcas.org	949-548-7934
*Secretary	Megan Galway	secretary@pcas.org	714-539-6354
*Treasurer	Bob Brace	treasurer@pcas.org	714-544-6282
*Historian/Librarian/Archivist	Jane Gothold	librarian-archivist@pcas.org	562-947-6506
*Quarterly Co-editor	Henry Koerper	publications@pcas.org	714-633-9287
*Voting member	Kathleen Shada	kshada@pcas.org	714-381-8182
*Voting member	Ivan Strudwick	istrudwick@pcas.org	949-553-0666
Curator	Mark Roeder	curator@pcas.org	714-299-4150
Donation-Awards Coordinator	Joe Hodulik	donation-awards@pcas.org	949-300-1864
Field Trips	Scott Findlay	fieldtrips@pcas.org	714-342-2534
Membership	Megan Galway	membership@pcas.org	714-539-6354
Native American Liaison	Steve O'Neil	nativeamericanliaison@pcas.org	949-548-7934
Newsletter Editor	Sherri Gust	newsletter@pcas.org	714-245-0264
Programs	Joe Hodulik	programs@pcas.org	949-300-1864
Publicist	Sandy Kennedy	publicity@pcas.org	714-915-7726
Quarterly Co-editor	Sherri Gust	publications@pcas.org	714-245-0264
Refreshments	Gail Cochlin	refreshments@pcas.org	714-997-0852
Scholarship	Megan Galway	scholarship@pcas.org	714-539-6354
Website	Rene Brace	info@pcas.org	714-544-6282

\*Denotes PCAS Board Member

## PACIFIC COAST ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

### 2011 Calendar Year Membership and Subscription Form

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Yes, I would like to receive my Newsletter by email. Please be sure email above is legible.**

*I have read and agree to abide by the PCAS Code of Ethics* \_\_\_\_\_

Signature

**Membership** (Includes Quarterly/Newsletter)

- Active Member - \$45
- Family Membership - \$50
- Supporting Member\* - \$55
- Donor Member\* - \$75
- Lifetime Member\* - \$1000

\* May be individual or family membership

**Subscription Only**

- Quarterly* - \$37
- Newsletter* - \$18
- Student Associate - \$10 (email Newsletter only)

**Scholarship Fund**

Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Return form with payment to:**

**PCAS Membership  
PO Box 10926  
Costa Mesa, CA 92627-0926**

**www.pcas.org**