



FEBRUARY 2013

# PCAS NEWSLETTER

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## FEBRUARY PCAS SPEAKER

**Dr. Hector Neff**

### Olmec and the Origins of Mesoamerican Civilization: Evidence from Ceramic Compositional Analysis

The Olmec of Mexico's Gulf Coast produced some of the earliest monumental sculpture and architecture in Mesoamerica. Some scholars have also attributed a widely distributed Early Formative symbolic system to the Olmec. The hard data of archaeology, however, have been interpreted in two contradictory ways, one side arguing that the Olmec represent a "Mother Culture" that stimulated the rise of Mesoamerican civilization, the other side arguing that the Olmec were just one of several "Sister Cultures" that contributed equally to the evolution of complex societies in this part of the world. Some aspects of the debate between the two opposing camps can be addressed through analysis of exchange relations in Early Formative Mesoamerica. Results of a provenance study of Early Formative ceramics based on neutron activation analysis (NAA) bear directly on the directionality of material goods exchange and thus will have to be considered in future installments of the debate. Dr. Neff's PCAS talk will describe results of this study and address some of the criticisms that ensued following their publication.

Hector Neff received his Ph.D. in anthropology at UC Santa Barbara. After a post-doc at the Smithsonian, he worked as a Research Scientist at the Research Reactor Center,  
*(Continued on p. 3)*

## DINNER WITH THE SPEAKER

Please join this month's speaker, Dr. Hector Neff, and PCAS members for dinner before the February 14th 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 14 - 7:30 pm**

**Speaker:** Dr. Hector Neff

**Topic:** *Olmec and the Origins of Mesoamerican Civilization: Evidence from Ceramic Compositional Analysis*

**Location:** IRWD Community Room  
15500 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 21 - 7:00 pm**

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

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**Have you renewed your membership?  
Use the membership form in this Newsletter.**

## JANUARY SPEAKER NOTES

### Analysis of the Rock Art at Little Lake

*Submitted by Megan Galway*

PCAS member John Bretney spoke to us about a study conducted by the Cotsen Institute, UCLA, of the rock art at Little Lake, California. Little Lake is a private preserve located north of Ridgecrest on Hwy 395 and is the location of many significant rock art panels. The lake is roughly one mile long and is spring fed. Bretney noted the evaporation rate in that area of the California desert is calculated at 100 inches per year so the inflow to the lake from the springs must be substantial. The lake is on the western flyway, and up to 5,000 waterfowl per day are seen at the peak of the migration period. Little Lake is close to the China Lake Naval Air Weapons Station, on the southern edge of the Coso complex, but the rock art found at the lake indicates that it is not a Coso outlier. Of around 3,300 elements recorded at Little Lake, only five of the well-known China Lake Patterned Body Anthropomorphs (PBAs) and two Coso-style bighorn sheep have been recorded.

The project attempts to learn about the people populating the area by studying the rock art. Previous work on the preserve included the excavation of the Stahl site—claimed to be the oldest house in the US—by Mark Harrington in the late 1940s. A variety of Pinto points from the area have been classified as Little Lake points, and both obsidian hydration and carbon dating have returned dates of 9,000 years BP. Unlike usual California desert sites, the area around the lake is not static as the lake level is believed to have risen 11 m in the past 5,000 years, submerging probable evidence of earlier occupations.

The study identified eight distinct large sites, each with more than 280 elements. The analysis compared the numbers and percentages of various types of elements including angular, curvilinear, zoomorphic, anthropomorphic, and atlatls. Among the elements recorded were 246 bighorn sheep and 122 atlatls.

At the Atlatl Cliff site, 99 of the 500 recorded elements are atlatls. This site appears to have the oldest rock art and was used continuously over time. No sheep were recorded. The atlatl is suggested to be an iconic figure representing secular authority.

Site #4—the Cove area—contains the largest single panel. Elements in this site are old, new, and painted and include the most anthropomorphs, none of which are PBAs. Fifteen percent of the elements are sheep, but there are no atlatls. This is identified as a probable religious center.



PCAS Program Chair Joe Hodulik with January speaker, John Bretney.

Site #5—Lakeside area—also contains both old and new elements. A number of anthropomorphic elements appear to be female. There are many large panels, 33 percent of which have 5 or more elements. The most complex anthropomorphs and zoomorphs are found here.

Site #7 is unusual in that there are many pictographs on exposed surfaces rather than in caves or shelters. Activity on the site appears to have increased in the last 1,000 years and possibly indicates a movement of resources from north to south in the area.

The Pottery Cliff site was named for a brownware pot found among the boulders. There are extensive scratched petroglyphs on the site, which is close to, but separate from, Atlatl Cliff. The pot and a pestle found here suggested to the researchers that this was an area where women were active and possibly made the scratched rock art.

The complete study area shows continuity over time, from 9,000 years BP possibly into the historic period, and none of the sites were abandoned. The atlatl was a constant iconic symbol, but there are no depictions of bows and arrows or hunting scenes. The distribution and location of elements and panels are seen to indicate different functions for the various sites.

## FEBRUARY CURATION WORKDAY

**When:** February 16, 2013, 1 pm

**Where:** Red Car Building

Everyone is welcome. Please contact **Mark Roeder** (714-299-4150, [curator@pcas.org](mailto:curator@pcas.org)) or **Scott Findlay** (714-342-2534, [fieldtrips@pcas.org](mailto:fieldtrips@pcas.org)) for directions and to let us know you will be coming.

## OCTOBER BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

President **Scott Findlay** called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm at the Old County Courthouse in Santa Ana, California. Board members present: **Bob Brace, Gail Cochlin, Sherri Gust, Joe Hodulik, Hank Koerper,** and **Kathleen Shada.** New Board members present: **Megan Galway, Steve O'Neil,** and **Brian Steffensen.** Member present: **Rene Brace.**

The Board approved the minutes of the November 2012 meeting. The Treasurer's report was approved noting that over \$500 of Quarterly issues were recently sold.

### Old Business:

Nametags were given to the new Board members.

### New Business:

The following were unanimously elected as Board officers: President, **Megan Galway**; Vice President, **Joe Hodulik**; Secretary, **Brian Steffensen**; Treasurer, **Bob Brace.** Committee chairs and members will remain the same.

The Board unanimously voted to add President **Megan Galway** as a signatory on our bank accounts. **Scott Findlay** will be removed. Additionally, the Board authorized any necessary minute order requested by a bank.

The new Irvine Ranch Water District meeting room was discussed. There may be a need for more chairs, and Board members were asked to bring folding chairs. We will provide an entry table for sign-ins and information.

### Committee Reports:

The next curation workday will be February 16. **Joe Hodulik's** Award-Donation table raised \$151 at the January meeting for the scholarship fund! Field Trip Chair **Scott Findlay** will investigate a field trip to the Motte Rimrock Preserve. A field trip to the Anza-Borrego Desert State Park is being planned for late March. PCAS will have a table at the Society for California Archaeology meeting in Berkeley, March 7-10.

Joe Hodulik has speakers booked through November 2013. The Publications Committee continues to work on the California ceramic papers, which will likely be three double issues. The website will be updated with current officers and contact information.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm.

## PCAS Scholarships Available

Are you a university or college student entering your junior or senior year this fall and majoring in anthropology? Do you know such a student?

PCAS is offering two \$1,000 scholarships in 2013 to such students. Applicants must have gained junior or senior status by fall 2013, must live or be attending university in California, and be able to display a proven interest in archaeology. Complete application guidelines and an application form are available on our website, [www.pcas.org](http://www.pcas.org).

In addition to our undergraduate scholarship program, we have research and presentation grants available to graduate students. Guidelines for these awards can also be found on our website.

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

Should you know any qualified students who have not heard of our program, please direct them to our website, or questions may also be directed to [scholarship@pcas.org](mailto:scholarship@pcas.org) or by telephone to 714-539-6354.

## MARCH FIELD TRIP

**When: March 23-25, 2013**

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

PCAS members will dry camp within the park and visit archaeological and rock art sites. Please be aware you will be required to sign a code of ethics and waiver of liability. Contact **Scott Findlay** for more information: [fieldtrips@pcas.org](mailto:fieldtrips@pcas.org) or 714-342-2534.



**Morteros at Anza-Borrego Desert State Park.**

## February Speaker *(Continued from p. 1)*

University of Missouri-Columbia before joining the faculty of California State University, Long Beach, in 2002. At CSULB, he became one of the founding members of the Institute for Integrative Research in Materials, Environments, and Society (IIRMES). His research emphasizes the application of analytical chemistry to archaeological questions. He also carries out fieldwork in southern Mexico and Guatemala.

## A Rare Carte de Visite Picturing a Native Californian at Marysville

*Henry C. Koerper and Joe Cramer*

The image of a California Indian posed in a circa mid 1860s photograph (Figure 1) offers one small window onto the rapid acculturation that befell Native lifeways during the Gold Rush era. Standing barefooted, crowned with a traditional headdress, and clinging to what was possibly a medicine pouch, this elder wore white man's trousers, was buttoned up in a cloth coat, and carried a Euro-American



**Figure 1. Photograph of California Indian taken in Marysville between 1862–1871.**

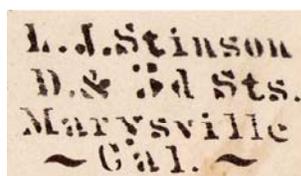
style walking stick. In his then present circumstances, straddling two worlds, one wonders how this survivor might have reconciled to varied estrangements from his material and spiritual roots.

The photograph is mounted on a white mat measuring 61 mm x 101 mm. The reverse (Figure 2) was stamped with the photographer's name (L. J. Stinson) and studio address in Marysville (Figure 3), below which the same imprint canceled a required two cent Internal Revenue stamp. Figure 4 illustrates what that tax stamp would have looked like before cancellation.

Marysville, Yuba County, is near a border that separated a Nisenan dialect and a Konkow dialect (see Figure 5).



**Figure 2. Reverse side of Marysville carte de visite.**



**Figure 3. Enlargement of photographer's mark.**

defeating the Confederacy. The R15c type continued to be printed as late as 1871.

Certainly, directly and/or indirectly, the Native person seen on the carte de visite had been no stranger to hardships and tragedies that unfolded especially subsequent to the signing of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo (1848) and John Marshall's discovery at Coloma (1848). Massive Euro-American migration into the California Mother Lode precipitated episodes of land dispossession, despoilment of native resources, forced hunger and starvation, labor exploitation, disease for which Native peoples had little immunity, slavery, rape, and genocide (see e.g., Heizer 1974; Castillo 1978; Phillips 1997). An excerpt from a Marysville editorial lists some of the kinds of outrages that would have been familiar to the elderly soul whose likeness was recorded for posterity by L. J. Stinson.

But it is from these mountain tribes that white settlers draw their supplies of kidnapped children, educated as servants, and women for purposes of labor and lust ... It is notorious that there are parties in the northern counties of this state, whose sole occupation has been to steal young children and squaws from the poor Diggers...

The Nisenan, Konkow and Maidu languages all belong to the Maiduan linguistic family of the Penutian stock (see Shipley 1978:82, 89). A best guess is that the man pictured in Figure 1 spoke either a dialect of Nisenan or a dialect of Konkow as his first language, but Marysville is not far from Patwin territory just to the west, where the language is of the Wintuan family (also Penutian stock).

L. J. Stinson took the photograph perhaps as the Civil War was being fought or within some few years following Lee's surrender at Appomattox. The Internal Revenue stamp affixed to the back of the mat (Figure 2) carries the philatelist's designation, "R15c." It was but one of many kinds of stamps issued following Congress'

1862 passage of a stamp law intended to raise funds to help



**Figure 4. Internal Revenue stamp of the type affixed to the back side of carte de visite.**



## DIG THIS...



### Exhibits

***Lucy's Legacy: The Hidden Treasure of Ethiopia.***  
Bowers Museum, February 10 through May 12, 2013. Fee: \$10-\$15 (children under 12 free). Information: [www.bowers.org](http://www.bowers.org) or 714-567-3677.

### Lectures

***Dr. Lowell Bean*** will speak at the Coachella Valley Archaeological Society meeting. Portola Community Center, 45-480 Portola Ave, Palm Desert, February 1, 7 pm. Free. Information: [www.cvarch.org](http://www.cvarch.org).

***The Saviors of Egyptian Tomb Paintings: A Look at the Work of Norman and Nina De Garis Davies in the Early 1900's***, by Dr. Nigel Strudwick (University of Memphis, Tennessee). An ARCE lecture, Bowers Museum, February 9, 1:30 pm. Free. Information: [www.bowers.org](http://www.bowers.org) or 714-567-3677.

***The Rock Art of Joshua Tree National Park***, by Don Chistensen, a presentation of the San Diego Rock Art Association. Kumeyaay-Ipai Interpretive Center, 13104 Ipai Waaypuk Trail, Poway, February 10, 6 pm (Potluck begins at 4 pm). Fee: \$5 (members free). Information: [www.sandiegorockart.org](http://www.sandiegorockart.org).

***Julius Caesar, The Imperial Cult, and St. Paul***, by Paul Scotton, presented by the AIA, Orange County Chapter. DeNault Auditorium in Grimm Hall, Concordia University, February 17, 2 pm. Fee: \$5; members and students free. Information: <http://aia-oc.org>.

***Hopi Farming in Harmony***, by representatives of the Natwani Coalition (an affiliation of Hopi organizations and individuals), will discuss the traditional farming calendar and ceremonies. The Autry Center, February 23, 2-4 pm. Fee: included in museum admission. Information: [theautry.org](http://theautry.org).

(Lectures continued)

***The Processing and Technological Application of Asphaltum in Southern California***, by Kaitlin Brown. A lecture of the San Diego County Archaeological Society, Los Peñasquitos Ranch House, February 26, 7:30 pm. Free. Information: [www.sdcas.org](http://www.sdcas.org).

### Classes, Meetings, and Events

***Southern California Native American Basketry***, by Abe Sanchez, a class of the Anza Borrego Foundation. February 2-3, 9 am-5 pm. Fee: \$110; members \$100. Information: [theabf.org](http://theabf.org).

***Introduction to Archaeological Illustration***, by Donna Walker. Three two-hour classes will be held 10 am-noon: 1) artifacts, San Diego Archaeological Center, February 9; 2) historic structure, Sikes Adobe, February 16; 3) site features, Kumeyaay Ipai Interpretive Center, February 23. Fee: \$40 per class; members \$30. Information and registration: Annemarie Cox, [acox@sandiegoarchaeology.org](mailto:acox@sandiegoarchaeology.org) or 760-291-0370.

***The 47th Annual Meeting of the Society for California Archaeology*** will be held March 7-10 at the Doubletree Marina, Berkeley. Information and registration: [www.scahome.org](http://www.scahome.org).

***Dillard Flintknapping Workshop***, by Tim Dillard. The Desert Studies Center, March 22-24. Fee: \$225. Information: Jeanne Binning, 559-433-1424 or [Jeanne\\_binning@juno.com](mailto:Jeanne_binning@juno.com).

***The Society for American Archaeology Annual Meeting*** will be held in Honolulu, Hawaii, April 3-7. Information: <http://www.saa.org>.

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.

### RALPHS'S REWARDS

Please help our society by signing up for Ralphs' Community Rewards and designating PCAS as your organization of choice.

1. Go to [www.ralphs.com](http://www.ralphs.com) and create an account or sign in (email and password) to your account.
2. Click on "My Account."
3. Link your card to PCAS by clicking on "Community Rewards." The PCAS organization number is 90417.

You can also designate PCAS as your choice by using a "scan letter" that you simply give to the Ralph's cashier along with your Ralphs card (or phone number linked to your card). You only need to present the scan letter one time to link PCAS to your account. "Scan letters" are available at monthly meetings or by contacting [info@pcas.org](mailto:info@pcas.org)

PCAS thanks Ralphs and all our participants for this opportunity to earn a donation of at least 1 percent of your Ralphs's purchases.

### PCAS SPEAKER CALENDAR

**March 14, 2013**

**Steven Schwartz**

***Sifting Fact from Fiction: The Lone Woman of San Nicolas Island***

**April 11, 2013**

**Dr. George Crawford**

***Eighty Years of Paleoindian Research on the Southern Plains: A View from the Clovis Site.***

**May 9, 2013**

**Dr. Edward J. Knell**

**June 13, 2013**

**Celso D. Jaquez**

## 2013 PCAS BOARD MEMBERS AND COMMITTEE CONTACTS

<u>Office</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Email</u>	<u>Phone</u>
*President	Megan Galway	president@pcas.org	714-539-6354
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*Secretary	Brian Steffensen	secretary@pcas.org	714-348-9179
*Treasurer	Bob Brace	treasurer@pcas.org	714-544-6282
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\*Denotes PCAS Board Member

## PACIFIC COAST ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

### 2013 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](http://www.pcas.org)