



NOVEMBER 2020

# PCAS NEWSLETTER

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## NOVEMBER PCAS SPEAKERS

**Paul E. Langenwalter II, Lauren Biltonen,  
and Aimee L. Montenegro**

*Relocating an Ancestor's Grave from the  
Village of Cahuenga*

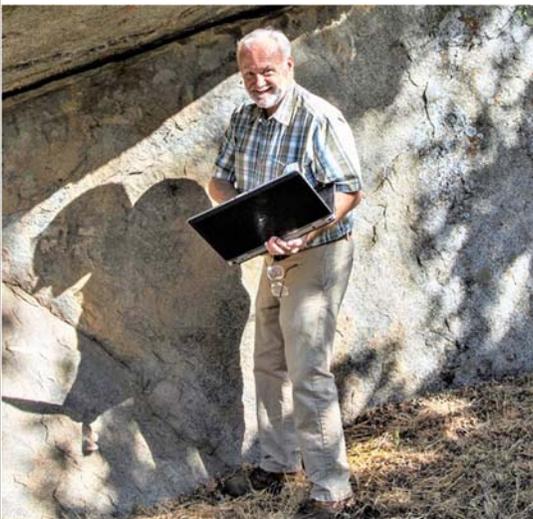
### Zoom Meeting

**November 12, 7 pm**

**Free registration required**

**Please see instructions on p. 3.**

When modern life and archaeological resources occupy the same space, the past is occasionally impacted in unintended ways. Recently, landscaping activities disturbed a burial located on an undocumented archaeological site resulting in significant disturbance to the feature. The location and extent of the disturbance lead to its removal and relocation to a secure place for the ancestor's grave. This recovery project is an example of cooperation between the



**Paul Langenwalter II.**

Native American community, archaeologists, and property owners to affect the preservation of an unintentionally disrupted grave.

The village of Kaweenga is located in the San Fernando Valley adjacent to the Santa Monica Mountains. In his diary of the Portolá expedition, Juan Crespí mentions a village encountered during the southward return to San Diego in January 1770. At this village the expedition was greeted by Natives from Siutkanga (Encino), a sister village to Kaweenga, whom they had previously met on their northbound travel in August 1769. Crespí's description of the local geography leaves little doubt as to the identity of the site where the burial was discovered. Today residential housing conceals the village, which is largely lost to memory despite the discovery of artifacts in the 1930s and another burial in 1981.

Bioarchaeological examination of the burial revealed that it contained the remains of a man who had lived during the eleventh or twelfth centuries, and who died in his late 20s or early 30s. His remains bear evidence of a violent attack which left him crippled and with a chronic infection. Some of the evidence indicates that he survived for a considerable length of time within his community and provides information about his health and life.

Paul Langenwalter is past-Chair of Anthropology at Biola University where he teaches archaeology and biological anthropology. He serves as Program Director for the Mammoth Site Project and the M.A. Anthropology Program. His current work is focused on central and southern California, with projects addressing the archaeology and history of the Fresno River area involving rock art, conflict, and subsistence. Other projects involve animal ceremonialism, patterns of animal use, the Pleistocene

*(Continued on p.3)*

**For all the latest news, visit**

**[www.pcas.org](http://www.pcas.org)**

## OCTOBER SPEAKER NOTES

### *The Portolá Expedition in Orange County*

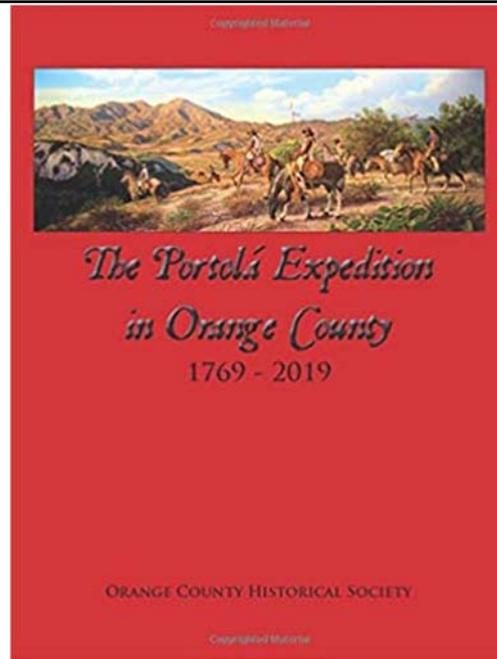
By Megan Galway

Prior to the Portolá expedition in 1769, the only Spanish contacts with what would become Alta California were various voyages up the California coast. Juan Rodríguez Cabrillo explored the coast in 1542–43 and named a number of coastal villages. The Vizcaino expedition of 1602 identified Monterey Bay as the site of the future Spanish settlement. The coast was also visited during this period by the galleons returning from Asia with trade goods. The purpose of the proposed Spanish expansion from Mexico into Alta California was to hold it against potential Russian or British occupation.

Mr. Plunkett told of the first Spanish overland exploration of California with a view to settling and establishing missions along the coast. In July 1769 Capt. Gaspar de Portolá began his overland expedition from San Diego to explore the country between there and Monterey Bay. The group consisted of Catalonian volunteers, some Baja Natives, and two priests, Fathers Francisco Gomez and Juan Crespi, who served as chroniclers of the expedition. They traveled northwest at a rate of just 1 to 4 leagues a day, moving mostly in the morning. Scouts were sent ahead to determine the route for the next day and, most importantly, to locate a suitable place to camp with a water source. Their rations are recorded as flour, chick peas, beans, lentils, ham, and cheese. On reaching the Camp Pendleton area, they turned inland to avoid the “mountains” and entered what is now Orange County east of San Juan Capistrano on July 23rd.

On their first two nights in the county, they camped at sites that have now been identified as San Juan Canyon and Trabuco Creek where they were visited by the local Natives. The priests noted these Natives were easy to get along with and traded seeds for ribbons and beads. Two children had been baptized earlier in the march, but here the first adult Native was baptized. From here they traveled west to Oso Canyon and west again to Trabuco. The Natives they met along the route began to speak of people just like them that had been seen to the north.

On the plains north of El Toro, Fr. Gomez located what is now Tomato Springs. During this time they also recorded crossing higher land from which they could see the ocean and Catalina Island. While



camped near the Santa Ana River at the mouth of Santa Ana Canyon on July 28th, the expedition experienced four large earthquakes. They again traded with the Natives here and were surprised to be shown metal tools which may have been traded in from Arizona or obtained on the coast from the Manila Galleon Trade. On July 29th they were in Brea Canyon and identified a village of about 70 people, where they declined an invitation to attend a dance. They then crossed the La Habra Valley and Puente Hills at the northern border of Orange County.

The expedition continued north, missing Monterey, and discovered San Francisco and barely survived the return to San Diego. A number of the missions we know today were later established along this route on sites suggested by Portolá.

*The Portolá Expedition in Orange County, 1769–2019* by the late Phil Brigandi and Eric Plunkett is available on Amazon.



**Historical marker above Portolá Springs Elementary School in Irvine. Tomato Springs is in the low hills to the right. The expedition camped just west of the small hill.**

## November Speakers *(continued from p. 1)*

paleontology of the eastern Los Angeles Basin, and the renovation of orphaned collections.

Lauren Biltonen is a 2019 graduate of the Anthropology Department at Biola University, where she studied both archaeology and paleontology fields and laboratory methods, serving as a Senior Teaching Assistant for three and a half years. During her field practicum in the summer of 2018, she worked in Cache Cave on the Wind Wolves Preserve with the University of Central Lancashire Field School, acting as a Crew Chief for logistics. She works as Field Director for HRC and has experience in perishables, pictograph documentation, and burial recovery.



**Lauren Biltonen.**

Aimee Montenegro graduated Magna Cum Laude from Biola University in 2017 with a B.A. in Anthropology and is a member of Epsilon Kappa



**Aimee Montenegro.**

Epsilon (scholastic honor society). During her tenure, she developed competencies in both archaeological and paleontological field and laboratory methodologies and served as Senior Teaching Assistant for three years. Her practicum centered on museology and the curation of Egyptian material culture collections through the UCLA Extension program in Turin. This was followed by internships at the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County in paleontology and Bowers Museum in archaeology. She serves as Crew Chief for HRC projects and has experience in pictograph documentation, digital photography, and burial recovery. Presently, she is a field and laboratory technician for Applied Earthworks.

Both Ms. Biltonen and Ms. Montenegro are members of the Madera County Research Group.



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## PCAS ZOOM MEETING

- ... Email a registration request to [membership@pcas.org](mailto:membership@pcas.org) by **noon on Thursday, November 12.**
- ... You will receive an email shortly with a link to the Zoom meeting.
- ... Guests (non-PCAS members) are welcome with registration.
- ... When the presentation starts, please **mute your microphone and turn off your webcam.**

PCAS host Steve Dwyer will open the Zoom meeting at 7 pm to allow time to resolve any technical problems prior to the beginning of the PCAS General Meeting and lecture at 7:30 pm.

## DIG THIS ...



### Lectures

**Getty Conservation Institute Field Projects: 3 cases: Tutankhamun, Mosaikon, Peru**, by Jeanne Marie Teutonico. A Cotsen Institute Zoom online lecture, October 30, 11 am. Free. Information and required registration: <https://ioa.ucla.edu>.

**Living Room Lecture: Amelia Earhart Archaeology Lecture: Testing the Nikumaroro Hypothesis**, by Tom King (Historic Aircraft Recovery [TIGHAR] archaeologist). A San Diego Archaeological Center Zoom lecture, November 12, 5:30 pm. Donations suggested. Information and required registration: <https://sandiegoarchaeology.org>.

**Managing Cultural Resources in the Mojave National Preserve**, by David Nichols. A virtual Old School House lecture sponsored by the Twentynine Palms Historical Society and the Joshua Tree Desert Institute, November 13. Fee: \$5. Information and required registration: [www.joshuatree.org/live](http://www.joshuatree.org/live).

**A Zimbabwe Love Story: San Rock Art and 40 Years of Copying**, by Anne and George Stoll. A Coachella Valley Archaeological Society Zoom lecture, November 13, 6:30 pm. Free. Information: [www.cvarch.org](http://www.cvarch.org); required registration: [cvasnews@dc.rr.com](mailto:cvasnews@dc.rr.com).

**Princeton-Institute of Fine Arts, NYU North Abydos Expedition 2018–2020 Seasons**, by Dr. Debbie Vischak (Princeton University). An ARCE/Bowers Museum online lecture, November 14, 1:30 pm. Fee: \$5; ARCE and Bowers members free. Information and required registration: [www.bowers.org](http://www.bowers.org).

**Scotland's Castle Craig**, by Dr. Connie Rodriguez, November 1, 2 pm; **Passion for Preserving the Past: Showcasing Archaeology at La Sierra University**, November 14, 3–6 pm. Zoom lectures of the AIA, Orange County Chapter. Information and registration: [www.aia-oc.org](http://www.aia-oc.org).

*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 Field Trips

By Steve Dwyer

The rock art of Black Canyon, Inscription Canyon, and Opal Mountain has been well documented, most notably by Don Christensen (1993) and Wilson Turner (1994), but there is always more to be found.

Martin and Mary Jespersen were kind enough to lead a socially-distanced trip to the area to see known sites, plus some that they have discovered and are documenting. Petroglyphs were numerous. They are famous for appearing or disappearing, but there was one panel that simply could not be seen in sunlight, even if you looked right at it. But if a shadow is cast on it, it suddenly appears. Also in the area were rock rings, commonly called hunting blinds or house rings, and a site with dozens of cupules. There was so much to see, it took two Saturdays, and there is still much more to be seen.

Christensen, Don D.

1993 Rock Art and its Archaeological and Environmental Context: A Study of Opal Mountain, Mojave Desert, California. *Pacific Coast Archaeological Quarterly* 29(2):27–63.

Turner, Wilson G.

1994 Rock Art of Black Canyon. *San Bernardino County Museum Association Quarterly*, 41(1&2),



## ROCK ART 2020 VIRTUAL SYMPOSIUM

The San Diego Rock Art Association will present a virtual Rock Art 2020 Symposium on November 7. There will be three sessions at 10 am, 1 pm, and 3 pm. Free registration required: [www.sandiegorockart.org/index.htm](http://www.sandiegorockart.org/index.htm).

## PCAS CODE OF ETHICS

The Pacific Coast Archaeological Society (PCAS) is a nonprofit 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.

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## PCAS SPEAKER CALENDAR

**December 10, 2020**

**William D. Hyder**

*Revisiting the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History 1935 Hurricane Deck Expedition*

**January 14, 2021**

**Dr. Richard J Chacon**

*Tibenuk and Chuji: Status Attainment and Collective Action in Egalitarian Settings*

**February 11, 2021**

**Jon Harmon**

## 2020 PCAS BOARD MEMBERS AND COMMITTEE CONTACTS

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\*PCAS Board Member

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

Signature

**Membership** (Includes Quarterly/Newsletter)

- Active Member – \$45
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- Donor Member\* – \$75
- Lifetime Member\* – \$1000

\* May be individual or family membership

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- Newsletter* – \$20

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

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**Costa Mesa, CA 92627-0926**

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