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The *Society for California Archaeology Newsletter* is a quarterly publication with information essential to California archaeology. Opinions, commentary, and editorials appearing in the SCA Newsletter represent the views of the authors, not necessarily those of the SCA Executive Board or the Newsletter editors.

**Submissions:** The submission deadline for the September 2017 issue of the SCA Newsletter is August 10. All contributions will appear on the SCA website unless otherwise specified. Please email submissions to newsletter@scahome.org or mail them to the SCA Business Office at 1692 Mangrove Avenue, Suite 153, Chico, CA 95926.

**Editors:** Jill K. Gardner, Managing Editor; Dan Burger, Shelly Davis-King, Kyle Deutsch, Pat Mikkelsen, Michelle Treviño, and Peter Von der Porten, Co-Editors.

**On the cover:** Various 2017 SCA Annual Meeting activities (see pages 4, 7, 8, 11, and 17).
SATURDAY EVENING AT THE 2017 SCA ANNUAL MEETING, it hit me: I was going to be the SCA president in a few hours. I had an overwhelming sense that there was no way I was going to be able to handle the responsibility that was upon me. I immediately thought, “What have you done, Steve!” For 20 years, I volunteered only when I could not afford the meetings, and now here I am, accepting the responsibility of becoming the president of the SCA. At the business meeting that Saturday, I was sitting in front listening to Jelmer talk about finances and how the SCA is on solid footing. As he spoke, I looked out at the crowd and saw a number of my mentors, peers, and many more of my heroes looking back at me. In my mind, they were thinking “Okay, buddy, we are handing you the keys to a well-run machine, don’t mess it up!”

Throughout Thursday’s and Sunday’s Board meetings, most of the committee chairs gave an update of their current activities. What I was to learn throughout the week talking with all of you is that there is a desire for the SCA to do something big and meaningful at this time of political change. Many of you expressed to me that the present makeup of the federal government is a cause for stress and uneasiness. Stress from not knowing if federal funding will be available to the agencies that work to protect the environment and cultural resources, and uneasiness that the current White House administration will do all it can to cut and change laws that support our cause of preserving and protecting cultural resources.

These worries are real. They are stress inducers, and at such times when it seems impossible that a single individual can cause change to occur, or make an ignorant government official understand our plight, people turn to their peers, their group, our Society for help. United with a single voice, the 800 to 1,200 individuals who make up the SCA have more power. I think we can all agree that we need sound law and policy to ensure that cultural resources are preserved and protected. Many think that the current laws and policies do not do enough, and cutting funding or weakening these existing laws certainly will not help. The primary question expressed to me in many different ways is how the SCA is going to help protect cultural resources, archaeology, and archaeologists.

I have spent many days since the Annual Meeting thinking about that question. The answer is, I do not know. However, one way to make sure our voice is heard is to work hard to support legislation...
and politicians who are on our side. It benefits everyone who cares about our past (and future) to identify and lobby people in power who will advocate for cultural resources and who are willing to help us protect those resources as a means to preserve the very fabric that makes America great.

To that end, the SCA’s primary goal over the next couple of years should be to raise money. I am talking about a huge fundraising drive. As a nonprofit 501(c)(3), we are allowed to spend about 20 percent of our working budget on political activities. At this time, the SCA assets hover around $250,000, a great and solid footing. If we decided to maximize our political activities, we would be able to spend about $50,000—not shabby, but that large of an expenditure could put our operating budget into jeopardy and is a huge risk. If we had $1,000,000 in the bank, then the SCA would have a solid base to operate soundly, and we could start exercising our right to conduct political activities.

The SCA could sponsor proactive cultural resources legislation and fight bad legislation. We could give big, meaningful, get-your-foot-in-the-door donations to politicians who will help our cause. We could donate money to nationwide organizations that have lobbyists or political power. We could hire lawyers, if need be, to help change laws or make them better. There are numerous things we could do, if we had a war chest. I propose that we work to develop that war chest, and use it to make sure that no matter what the political future may hold, the SCA will be prepared to help, and will make a difference.

We need money to fill our war chest, and I am open to ideas. I am going to start reaching out to companies, individuals, and anyone else who will listen. We can do all sorts of things within the SCA to raise funds. It may not happen overnight, but it can happen. If some of you are in good enough economic shape to make donations, please do. To maximize our efforts, I am willing to do almost anything. Some of you undoubtedly know wealthy individuals or corporations that are sympathetic to our cause. Let’s visit them, write them a letter, give them a call, or send them an email. Let’s come up with other ideas too.

One thing I do know, and it was reiterated to all of us at the Board meeting by the SAA folks, is that if we are going to be politically active we will need a lawyer to guide us. I am making a call-out to anyone in the SCA who is a lawyer or may know one who is willing to help us navigate the waters and is willing to donate their time (or maybe receive a little funding to cover expenses), or will work for beer and great stories. We need your help.

If you feel that the SCA should and can make a difference, then having political power to support our cause is needed. Together our voices will be heard, together we will effectively preserve and protect cultural resources, together we can do almost anything. I hope to hear from many of you soon with ideas, connections, and comments. If I do not see you before, you can definitely find me at next year’s meeting in San Diego.

“Passing the Buck” to Steve Hilton (President) from Jelmer Eerkens (Immediate Past President) during the 2017 SCA Annual Meeting. (Photograph courtesy of Trudy Haversat and Gary Breschini).
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SCA Business and Activities

SCA Executive Board Meeting Minutes, Fish Camp, March 9, 2017
Adam Gutierrez, Secretary

Executive Board
Jelmer Eerkens (President)
Mark Hylkema (Immediate Past President)
Steve Hilton (President-Elect)
Susan Stratton (Northern California Vice President)
Barbara Tejada (Southern California Vice President)
Maggie Trumbly (Treasurer)
Adam Gutierrez (Secretary)
Denise Wills (Executive Director)

Visitors
Kristina Roper
William Hildebrandt
Adie Whitaker
Beth and Chris Pardon
Greg Castro
Trish Fernandez
Tom Origer
Shelly Davis-King

Meeting Opening and Welcome
The meeting was opened by Jelmer, who welcomed all the attendees.

Women in California Archaeology
The Women in California Archaeology Committee (WCAC) offers a venue for discussions of women in California archaeology. They offer mentoring as well as an online forum (Facebook). The “Mind the Gap” symposium scheduled at this year’s Annual Meeting aims to bring the issue of gender to the forefront of the SCA. There is currently a discussion to change the structure of the WCAC to be a “league” (smaller leadership core) of people who will be the main drivers. They would provide the main direction to address such topics as sexual harassment, fundraising, publication, recruiting, and meeting/marketing. A formal restructuring proposal is to be presented to the SCA at the June Board meeting. The SCA will need to add a formal mechanism for fund donations/requests for the WCAC.

Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC)
The NAHC made comments on AB 52, noting two main issues: (1) designation of a tribe rather than an individual as the Most Likely Descendant (MLD); and (2) potential conflict of interest issues with MLD designations when tribal members could be on the NAHC. During the public comment session, the SCA has an opportunity to help define terminology.

James A. Bennyhoff Quilt Auction
Tom Origer discussed the Bennyhoff quilt auction and how to present the awards at the banquet while keeping it flowing. There are multiple quilts this year. All winners will be called at the same time to choose their quilt. The raffle will be drawn by the Bennyhoff Memorial Award winner.

California Archaeology Journal
This is the ninth year of the journal and Terry Jones’s ninth year as editor. He is hoping to step down next year (with Volume 10) and Mark Allen has agreed to take over. The need for a course release for Mark would cost the SCA about $18,000. One of the challenges is the volatility of the publishing world and multiple changes of publishers the journal has undergone with sold contracts. The new electronic management system the publisher has imposed is hard to use in some instances. However, they are a major publisher with a large online presence and it was suggested that the SCA should probably keep them, at least for now.

SCA Proceedings
The current issue of the SCA Proceedings is in progress, but it needs additional editors to complete it. There is a need for fresh editors as well. This year there were 27 papers totaling 330 pages. There have been requests for hard copies and it was suggested that we look into some way (possibly through Amazon) that individuals could buy bound hardcopies. We need to obtain an estimate for paying someone
SCA Business and Activities (Continued)

SCA Newsletter
The managing editor of the Newsletter, Jill Gardner, was unable to attend but provided an update. She suggested that the Newsletter become more modernized and that more diverse articles be solicited. She also suggested that the Newsletter consider becoming more political, although the Board is concerned about issues of the SCA’s tax exempt status.

Curation Issues
Wendy Teeter has been working to adjust the white papers for curation, but there is a strong need for statistical data. The next step will be using a survey of CRM groups and other interested parties to gather data that can then be employed to seek funding, which can then be used to manage orphaned collections. There is also a need for curation activities to have a web page for people seeking information. One major issue is that many collection facilities are not taking any further collections.

American Cultural Resources Association (ACRA)
Shelly Davis-King reported that ACRA is very active in working with legislation and needs more member firms. The overturning of Bureau of Land Management Rule 2.0 is an example of the need for ACRA involvement at the legislative level. National and state levels are very different. For the SCA, it would likely be better to piggyback onto an organization that has the needed connections in Washington.

State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)
The SHPO liaison, Brenden Greenaway, was unable to attend the meeting, but sent an update. The Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan is forming a council to review proposals for issues related to solar development. The proposals will focus on four main themes: (1) regional data gaps; (2) education; (3) maintenance of cultural values; and (4) acquisition of land. The SHPO is currently gathering data for an update to the State Historic Preservation Plan and is soliciting comments.

Climate Change
Currently, the SCA appears to be further ahead than many other organizations in the realm of climate change. There is potential for funding that may need to be directed through the SCA. This funding will aid in completing research and providing travel costs for researchers to bring their data to the forefront worldwide. Further steps we could take would be determining how to address these climate change impacts to cultural resources. It could take significant work to implement mitigation plans, but the best model may be Native American landscape management.

Society for American Archaeology (SAA)
There are many cultural resources concerns resulting from the current political climate, and the SAA has employed a company that supports NEPA-type legislation. The SAA has expanded its Government Affairs Committee (GAC) to 15 people to respond to issues that may arise. In addition, within the GAC is the Government Affairs Network State Representatives (GANSR) group, a key resource for providing notification of potential issues with new legislation.

Steve moves to adjourn at 4:30. Jelmer seconds the motion. Motion passes. Vote: Yes 7, No 0.

Overview of SCA members enjoying the Tenaya Lodge at Yosemite during the 2017 Annual Meeting. (Photograph courtesy of Trudy Haversat and Gary Breschini.)
SCA Business and Activities (Continued)

SCA Business Meeting Minutes, Fish Camp, March 11, 2017
Adam Gutierrez, Secretary

Executive Board
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Susan Stratton (Northern California Vice President)
Barbara Tejada (Southern California Vice President)
Maggie Trumbly (Treasurer)
Adam Gutierrez (Secretary)
Denise Wills (Executive Director)

Meeting Opening and Welcome
The SCA plans to extend the term of the treasurer position to allow an overlap year between incoming and outgoing treasurer. To do this, we need a change in the bylaws that will require a formal vote.

Treasurer’s Overview
The SCA’s holdings are up two percent from last year. This year has been the highest for pre-registration, at about 850 attendees, and we are currently up 37 percent on dues this year. After considering expenses, 2017 is set to be a good revenue year for the SCA. Currently, we have three years of operating costs saved. The Charles E. Rozaire and James A. Bennyhoff award funds are currently in a savings account, but will be moved to a money market or similar type of account that will likely accrue better interest.

Basecamp
The SCA Executive Board has been testing Basecamp for communication and collaboration. Basecamp is an online forum accessible through device apps and/or desktops. The forum allows for document postings, discussions, message boards, and chats between Board members and various committees. There is a plan in place to have an informal “how to” for SCA members who will be using Basecamp in the future. Maggie will be contacting Basecamp concerning the issue of use by members of multiple organizations beyond the SCA. There have been some issues of access in these situations.

Future Annual Meeting Issues
As reported by Kristina Roper and Myra Herrmann, book donations for the Silent Auction are becoming an issue due to the increasingly large number of books being donated. When no one bids on them, it falls on the SCA to dispose of the books, and we do not have the capacity to transport and store them. The SCA should consider limiting the number of books that can be donated and/or explore other options for using these book collections.

Another issue is that the 2018 San Diego meeting is using a hotel that is on a well-known archaeological site (the Brown site). During the last meeting in San Diego, the Silent Auction was held at the Museum of Man in Balboa Park. This caused an issue with some Native American groups that considered it insensitive. Next year’s meeting could be viewed as an opportunity to engage the local tribes and address any concerns they may have.

Business Meeting Wrap-Up
The meeting wrap-up was followed by thanks from Jelmer. The business meeting was then adjourned.

Bill Stillman, Glenn Russell, and Lynn Gamble enjoying the banquet at the SCA Annual Meeting in Fish Camp in March 2017. (Photograph courtesy of Trudy Haversat and Gary Breschini.)
Society for Historical Archaeology Liaison Report
Karen K. Swope, Society for Historical Archaeology Liaison

The Society for Historical Archaeology’s 51st Annual Conference on Historical and Underwater Archaeology will be held in New Orleans, Louisiana, between January 3 and 7, 2018, in commemoration of the Crescent City’s tricentennial. The conference theme is “Landscape, Entrepôt, and Global Currents.” The Call for Papers is open through June 30, 2017. Additional details may be accessed at https://sha.org/conferences/sha-2018-conference-call-for-papers-3.

The latest issue of The SHA Newsletter is currently available at http://onlinediteditions.com/view/society-for-historical-archaeology/sha-newsletter/spring-2017-volume-50-number-1. The Current Research section contains three items on recent California projects. Kimberly Wooten reports on historic preservation efforts at the historic Knight Foundry, the last water-powered machine foundry in the United States, in the city of Sutter Creek. Marco Meniketti describes San Jose State University’s second field season at the Loma Prieta Mill in Santa Cruz County. Thad M. Van Bueren presents information on Irish immigrant occupations at historical sites near Timbuctoo in Yuba County.

The Bottle Research Group continues to upload entries to the Encyclopedia of Manufacturer’s Marks on Glass Containers, part of Bill Lindsey’s Historic Glass Bottle Identification and Information Website, hosted by the SHA at http://sha.org/bottle/makersmarks.htm. Among those entries recently posted is an article on the Kerr Glass Manufacturing Company.

Legislation Update
Samantha Schell, Legislation Liaison

At the end of March 2017, AB 28 was signed into law. This legislation extended the Memorandum of Understanding (MOA) between Caltrans and the Federal Highways Administration, allowing Caltrans to act on behalf of the federal government for federally funded projects. The renewed MOU is available online at dot.ca.gov/ser/downloads/MOUS/23usc326_ce_assignment_mou.pdf. Several amendments were proposed to CEQA at the start of the legislative year that may impact the SCA: (1) AB 278 CEQA (continued on page 25)

Calling All Meeting Presenters
Allika Ruby, SCA Proceedings Editor

Thanks again to everyone for making the 51st Annual Meeting so successful. We welcome your conference papers for the upcoming Volume 31 of the SCA Proceedings. The SCA website provides guidelines for submissions that are due Monday, July 1, 2017 (https://scahome.org/sca-publications/proceedings-submissions). You have already done the hard work and this is a great opportunity to reach a wider audience. Feel free to contact me at proceedingseditor@sca_home.org if you have any questions.
SCA’s Ethics and Standards Survey
Thomas Wheeler, SCA Membership Committee Chair

In January 2015, the SCA Executive Board voted to conduct a biennial survey of the membership as an integral part of membership outreach. A previous poll, conducted in March 2015, collected general demographic information on the members, including age, gender, ethnicity, and academic standing. It also sought to identify important goals of the SCA, the level of effort that should be expended in achieving them, and the Society’s current success in meeting them.

The results of the survey identified two of the most important issues to the membership: (1) ensuring that California archaeological sites are researched according to accepted professional and scientific standards; and (2) promoting professional standards and guidelines for the practice of archaeology within California.

This year, the Membership Committee was tasked with developing a survey of the members’ concerns regarding ethics and standards. This poll is divided into two components. The first component has two foci. The first focus looks at the membership’s perceptions of breaches of ethics and standards that occur in the preparation of project studies, including research designs, survey strategies, and determinations of significance, eligibility, and mitigation. The second focus is on the process and/or methods under which field studies are carried out. The second component examines potential methods to mitigate breaches of ethics and standards through educational and training approaches. I thank Trish Fernandez, Chair of the Professional Standards and Ethics Committee, for contributing this list of proposed methods to mitigate such breaches.

To provide some context for this survey, we have included the SCA’s current Code of Ethical Guidelines that may be found in the SCA Bylaws at https://scahome.org/about-sca/bylaws/#16. We have also included the Mission Statement of the SCA’s Professional Standards and Ethics Committee that reads as follows:

The mission of the SCA Professional Standards and Ethics Committee is to provide ethical guidelines for all SCA members and to provide standards and guidelines regarding the professional conduct of archaeologists practicing in the state of California. These standards and guidelines should assist both the practicing archaeologist and the individuals and entities that rely on their services to determine if the archaeologist is conducting themselves in an ethical manner (go to https://scahome.org/about-sca/society-for-california-archaeology-professional-qualifications-for-principal-investigator/).

We are very interested in your views and concerns regarding the ethics and standards of our profession and encourage you to complete the online survey at https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Z5PJBMX.

Call for Applications for SCA’s 2017 Mini-Grants

The SCA is committed to bringing the findings of archaeological research to a broad audience. This year, the Society has $10,000 to support public outreach efforts for Archaeology Month. Teachers, students, archaeologists, historians, tribal groups, avocationalists, and others who promote archaeology to the general public are invited to apply for small grants from the SCA. Costs supported under these grants include printing, supplies, web design, and mileage. Overhead, wages, and fringe benefits are not covered. Grants for projects that reach a wide audience or underserved communities are particularly encouraged. Small grants are welcome and multiple grants may be awarded. The deadline for applications is June 26, 2017. You may complete the application by going to scahome.org/archaeology-month-mini-grant-application.

SCA Newsletter 51(2) – June 2017
At the CASSP poster session, SCA members enjoyed talking with site stewards about their efforts with site protection. (Photograph courtesy of Beth Padon.)

Panelists and audience members discussed best practices for successful site stewardship programs at the CASSP session. (Photograph courtesy of Beth Padon.)

Stewards from the Friends of Public Lands Cabins presented a poster about their work to repair and protect mining cabins in the Mojave Desert that date between the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Rich Abele prepared their poster, and Jerry Kazynski and Dennis Holschlag presented it at the Annual Meeting. They enjoyed talking about the mining activities and living conditions found at these little known but interesting sites.

The poster by Karen Lacy and Michael DeGiovine, site stewards and workshop trainers for CASSP, explored future initiatives for CASSP. Beth and Chris Padon presented a poster that reviewed 18 years of volunteer site stewardship activities. All of the poster participants had a good time sharing their ideas and experiences and hearing from others about CASSP activities and plans. Thank you to everyone who stopped by the CASSP poster session. We look forward to organizing another poster session at the SCA Annual Meeting in San Diego next year. It’s not too early to start planning your 2018 site stewardship poster.

Barbara Tejada, archaeologist at the California State Parks Los Angeles District, organized a panel discussion on volunteer site stewardship programs. Panelists shared their perspectives on the best practices for starting and successfully managing such programs. Topics included getting started, how to engage volunteers after the training, maintaining interest and enthusiasm among the site stewards, and coordinating stewardship activities with other agency archaeologists. All agreed that volunteers help protect sites by reporting their current conditions that agency staff do not have time to visit. The panelists also recognized that regularly encouraging site stewards is critical for maintaining the program. This can be done by way of social gatherings (such as barbecues), sharing discoveries and views with stewards via e-mail or a site stewardship newsletter, and awarding parking and/or agency passes to site stewards with enough volunteer hours.
There was time for the audience to ask questions, and they discussed online videos and classes to improve specific archaeological skills and important tools to facilitate better communication. A more detailed summary of the forum is available from Beth Padon (bpadon@discoveryworks.com). We thank our panelists Dennis Palm, Ventana Wilderness Association; Linn Gassaway, Lassen National Forest; Robin Connors, Anza-Borrego Desert State Park; George Kline, BLM Palm Springs Field Office; Ashley Blythe, Inyo National Forest; Beth Padon, Discovery Works, Inc.; Barbara Tejada, State Parks; and all the audience members for participating in this forum.

On April 29 and 30, 2017, new trainers Karen Lacy and Mike DeGiovinne conducted a CASSP workshop for California State Parks, Northern Buttes District, at the Lake Oroville State Recreation Area. Karen hails from the museum world and has a passion for archaeology. Mike comes from a CRM background. They both love the public outreach aspect of CASSP and how the program helps archaeologists better manage the resources in their charge. Both Karen and Mike are excited to join CASSP and the Padons in helping to preserve California’s archaeology through seamless cooperation with agency archaeologists and the public.

Brian Walsh, incoming district archaeologist, hosted this workshop. We greatly appreciate the support of the Northern Buttes District, especially the efforts of Brian, Mike Hubbartt, Bryan Taylor, Kim Preston, and Shawnee Rose. The Northern Buttes District is one of the largest districts within California State Parks and it has a large and very active team of volunteer site stewards. Park visitors are not the only source of site damage. Stewardship projects at this district will include a new effort to record damage during a program to trap and remove feral pigs from State Parks lands. Thanks to all the site stewards, new and old, at Lake Oroville State Recreation Area for their commitment to site protection.

If you would like to be contacted by e-mail as soon as future workshops are confirmed, please contact Beth Padon at bpadon@discoveryworks.com. You may also check our web site (www.cassp.org) for the latest news.
“Sharing The Past” Program Recap for the 2017 SCA Annual Meeting

Adie Whitaker, 2017 Program Chair

The 2017 SCA Annual Meeting included 298 presentations and posters by 281 primary authors in 16 symposia, seven forums, five general sessions, and seven poster sessions. The theme of the meeting was “Sharing The Past,” chosen for its multiple meanings. The theme reflects the SCA’s goal of learning about the past and presenting results in academic settings and to the public. It also reflects our shared cultural heritage and interest in all aspects of our history. In organizing the program, it became evident that there are several topics that reflect the current state of California archaeology. These themes were highlighted in the Plenary Session, Sharing The Past: Archaeology, History, and Collaboration. The topics included political advocacy and protection of cultural resources, presenting our findings, examination of our profession (including Native American collaboration and gender bias), and finding innovative ways to reach the public.

Diane Gifford-Gonzalez, President of the Society for American Archaeology, opened the Plenary Session with a discussion of their efforts to advocate for legislation that protects cultural resources. She encouraged the audience to contact federal representatives with concerns about changes to laws and regulations that affect those resources. Concerns about resource protection within the new administration echoed in a forum titled The Scope, Role, and Socio-Political Responsibility of Archaeologists Under the Trump Administration, organized by Annamarie Leon Guerrero.

The Plenary Session and a majority of the individual presentations and posters focused on current research in California archaeology. Eric Wohlgemuth, Carly Whelan, and Kathleen Hull presented syntheses of recent research and methodological/theoretical issues related to archaeology in the Sierra Nevada. A symposium on Sierra Nevada archaeology further elaborated on current research in the area. The program included talks and posters spanning the state from northwestern California to the Modoc Plateau, from the Mojave Desert to the Channel Islands, and everywhere in between.

Native American collaboration was the topic of two plenary talks and three forums. Reba Fuller talked about the progress in consultation and partnership with tribes that she has seen over the decades of working with agencies and archaeologists, while Brian Codding and Ron Goode (who also gave the opening blessing at the conference) discussed efforts to reintroduce prescribed burning to foothill habitats under Native American management. The theme of collaboration was also reflected in a forum organized by Jennifer Darcangelo that paired Native Americans and archaeologists to talk about successful cooperative efforts on projects across the state.

Examining how we function as a profession, two sessions looked at gender in California archaeology. Kaely Colligan organized a symposium that included a mix of presentations on gender in the archaeological record interspersed with modern gender issues in the practice of archaeology. A second session, organized by Amber VanDerwarker, explored the results of membership surveys on gender equity, mentorship, and sexual harassment in California archaeology.

A final theme was finding innovative ways to present our research results to the public. The most striking example was the final presentation to the Plenary Session, in which Mary and Kelly Maniery performed songs on five historic-era archaeological topics in the Sierra Nevada (video of the performance is available at www.facebook.com/79463167761/videos/10154612397627762). Another approach included a “Three-Minute Artifact Forum” organized by Rebecca Allen and Mark Hylkema, where presenters had three minutes to discuss an artifact related to the themes. Finally, Allika Ruby organized a symposium that combined poster and oral presentations designed to foster discussion. We look forward to discovering new and innovative ways to present our findings.
Wrap-Up of Activities for the 2017 SCA Annual Meeting

Denise Wills, SCA Executive Director

The 51st ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY for California Archaeology was held at the beautiful Tenaya Lodge in Fish Camp. Registration for the event was robust, with 955 members and guests in attendance. And while snowy winter weather forecasts had the meeting team biting nails for a solid month before the event, the week of the meeting the roads were dry and the weather was delightfully warm and sunny.

The Silent Auction was kept within the venue, and the Tenaya Lodge served us well. Although there was space to spread out, folks stayed near the beverages and auction items, leading some to complain about space—although one member likened the shoulder-to-shoulder coziness to folks gathering in the kitchen. The tri-tip buffet was excellent, and extra seating, allowed by staying at the hotel, was greatly appreciated. The auction brought in $5,789!

Six workshops were offered at the meeting this year, including two great new topics: Subsurface Survey with Ground-Penetrating Radar, hosted by Scott Byram and Nicholas Tripievich, and Keeping Up and Telling Time with Radiocarbon, presented by Jack Meyer. Samantha Schell and Lori Hagar conducted two ever-popular osteology workshops (thank you to Pacific Legacy for sponsorship!). The program was rounded out with two legislation workshops: Judy Brown and Glenn Gmoser of Caltrans led an introduction to federal and state law; and Anmarie Medin, Brendon Greenaway, and Jessica Tudor, all from the Office of Historic Preservation, presented Consulting with the SHPO under Section 106. Many thanks to the workshop organizers for bringing these topics to the SCA Annual Meeting.

My heartfelt appreciation for our rock-solid group of perennial volunteers: Darren Andolina, in his third year as volunteer coordinator; Mandi Martinez, for her three years of Silent Auction item coordination; Kristina Roper, Local Arrangements co-chair (she has served in many roles many times!); Greg Burns, our long-time audiovisual guru and this year’s local arrangements co-chair; the lovely Shelly Davis-King, third year banquet coordinator; Gregg Castro, long-time leader of the Native American Programs Committee; Kimberly Cuevas, in her third year as fundraising coordinator; and Sannie Osborn, who one again coordinated the book room and kept our vendors happy. This year we also welcomed the fabulous Courtney Higgins as registration coordinator, who stepped in and took charge of registration with grace and intelligence. I am happy to say that she has committed to another stint in 2018. Special thanks go to the program chair, Adie Whitaker, with whom it is always a joy to work and is was unfazed by the many demands, details, and changes inherent to the process of bringing a program like this to fruition. These people are truly a dream team, and I am beyond grateful for the intelligence, work ethic, and kindness these folks bring to the meeting crew.

Finally, THANK YOU to our meeting underwriters: Albion Environmental, Inc. • Applied Earthworks, Inc. • Browning Cultural Resources, Inc. • Environmental Science Associates • Cogstone Resource Management Inc. • Far Western Anthropological Research Group, Inc. • Lynn Gamble and Glenn Russell • PAR Environmental Services, Inc. • Pacific Gas & Electric • Keith Dixon • Karen and Keith Johnson • Mary and Mark Kowta • Kent G. Lightfoot and Roberta Jewett • Office of Historic Preservation • Southern California Edison • Pacific Legacy • Mary and Adrian Praetzellis.

Thanks again to the folks at Tenaya Lodge for making this a great SCA Annual Meeting!
2017 Annual Meeting Awards

David A. Fredrickson Lifetime Achievement Award
Shelly Davis-King

Mark Raymond Harrington Award for Conservation Archaeology
Gary Breschini and Trudy Haversat

Martin A. Baumhoff Special Achievement Award
Jon M. Erlandson

Thomas F. King Award for Excellence in Cultural Resources Management
Robert J. Jackson

California Indian Heritage Preservation Award
Reba Fuller, Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk Indians

Golden Shovel Award
Maureen Carpenter

James A. Bennyhoff Memorial Fund Award
Explaining Tubatulabal Territorial Establishment and Maintenance in the Far Southern Sierra Nevada
David C. Harvey, University of Nevada, Reno

Charles E. Rozaire Award for Student Research in California Archaeology
Archaeological and Ethno-Archival Investigation of the California Historical Landmark (#217) Black Star Canyon Village
Nathan Acebo, Stanford University

2017 Outstanding Student Paper Award
A Preliminary Ancient DNA Analysis of Middle and Late Period Human Burials from Ryan Mound
Nichole Fournier

SCA Orphaned Collections Grants
Sarah Heffner, PAR Environmental, for the Yreka Chinatown Collection
and
Teresa Saltzman, Museum of the American Indian, for the North Coast Archaeology Society Collection

(Go to scahome.org/sca-meeting-awards for complete award descriptions.)
Robert Jackson, winner of the 2017 Thomas F. King Award for Excellence in Cultural Resources Management, presented by Jelmer Eerkens (left) and Anmarie Medin (right). (Photograph courtesy of Trudy Haversat and Gary Breschini.)

Reba Fuller, recipient of the California Indian Heritage Preservation Award, presented by Mike Taggart (left) and Jelmer Eerkens (right). (Photograph courtesy of Trudy Haversat and Gary Breschini.)

Maureen Carpenter, winner of the 2017 Golden Shovel Award, presented by Seetha Reddy (left) and Jelmer Eerkens (right). (Photograph courtesy of Trudy Haversat and Gary Breschini.)

David Harvey, recipient of the 2017 James A. Bennyhoff Memorial Fund Award. (Photograph courtesy of David Harvey.)

Nathan Acebo, who received the 2017 Charles E. Rozaire Award for Student Research in California Archaeology. (Photograph courtesy of Nathan Acebo.)

Nichole Fournier, recipient of the Outstanding Student Paper Award for 2017. (Photograph courtesy of Nichole Fournier.)
SCA News and Announcements (Continued)

Kristina Roper and Alex DeGeorgey (both sitting) promoting Bennyhoff quilt raffle tickets to unidentified individuals. (Photograph courtesy of Trudy Haversat and Gary Breschini.)

Megan Galway (left) and Robert Brace (right) staffing the book table for the Pacific Coast Archaeological Society. (Photograph courtesy of Trudy Haversat and Gary Breschini.)

Tom Layton (left) and Dawn Johnson (right) displaying her creation. Dawn is also a CASSP site steward. (Photograph courtesy of Chris Padon.)

Susan Torello at the book table for the Dr. John D. Cooper Archaeological and Paleontological Center (aka Cooper Center). (Photograph courtesy of Trudy Haversat and Gary Breschini.)

Left to right: Gary Breschini, Char Simpson-Smith, and Rob Edwards at the Santa Cruz Archaeological Society book table. (Photograph courtesy of Trudy Haversat and Gary Breschini.)

Kyle Crebbin working the SCA display table in the book room. (Photograph courtesy of Trudy Haversat and Gary Breschini.)
James A. Bennyhoff Quilts and Quilters at the SCA Annual Meeting
Beth and Chris Padon, CASSP Coordinators

THIS YEAR, CASSP VOLUNTEERS TOOK ON the challenge of making the Bennyhoff quilt with Dave Fredrickson’s fabric collection. But rather than one quilt made by several site stewards, the CASSP volunteers created individual quilts. The quilt crafters were site stewards Dawn Johnson and Kathy and Fred Clewell; USFS archaeologists Ashley Blythe and Jacqueline Beidl; and CASSP coordinator Beth Padon. Kathy and Fred monitor sites in the BLM Palm Springs Field Office and Joshua Tree National Park. Kathy has made many quilts and she is working on another one for next year’s raffle! Dawn monitors sites in the California State Parks Monterey District. Jacquie and Ashley coordinate volunteer activities with site stewards for the Inyo National Forest in coordination with the BLM Bishop Field Office.

Jacquie’s quilt showed her design talent by deconstructing the material and rearranging it for her quilt. Ashley and Dawn showed their creativity by breaking the rules. Instead of a traditional quilt, Ashley made a great quilted bag, and Dawn made a lovely quilted wall hanging. Beth’s quilt was created on a sewing machine she received in high school, which makes it a potentially historical artifact! CASSP volunteers were pleased to help with the raffle for the James A. Bennyhoff Memorial Fund Award. We thank Tom and Janine Origer and the other members of the Bennyhoff Committee for the opportunity to participate in their yearly fundraising event.

This year’s ticket sales raised $2,403. The five lucky winners included Taylor Alshuth, Tom Layton, Mike Lerch, Mike Newland, and Jennifer Rovanpera.

The 2017 James A. Bennyhoff quilts. (Photograph courtesy of Chris Padon.)

Standing by their 2017 quilt projects are (from left to right) Dawn Johnson, Beth Padon, Jacquie Biedl, and Ashley Blythe. (Photograph courtesy of Chris Padon.)

The quilt display attracted much attention at the meeting. From the left are Tom Origer, Janine Origer, Beth Padon, William Kerwin, and Greg Haverstock. (Photograph courtesy of Chris Padon.)

Bennyhoff raffle winner Taylor Alshuth. (Photograph courtesy of Chris Padon.)
ISSUES RELATED TO GENDER PARITY AND equal employment opportunities are at the forefront of our current political climate, transcending public, private, and academic sectors. The field of archaeology has its own unique set of circumstances that affect gender parity, including field, laboratory, and office environments. At the 2017 SCA Annual Meeting, the Women in California Archaeology Committee (WCAC) sponsored two sessions: Minding the Gap: New Perspectives on the Study of Gender and Archaeology, organized by Kaely Colligan; and Gender Equity, Mentorship, and Sexual Harassment in California Archaeology: A Diachronic and Comparative Analysis of the Public and Private Sectors, hosted by Amber VanDerworker. Colligan’s session brought together a variety of papers ranging from gender studies in prehistoric California to gender parity issues in the archaeological field setting. VanDerworker’s session presented the results of an online gender equity and sexual harassment survey sent out to all members of the SCA. These papers showed important trends among our membership in gender, race/ethnicity, and sexual orientation issues over the last several decades, including publication rates, sexual harassment, and differences between academia and the private/public sectors. Both of these sessions were a great success and we received a great deal of positive feedback. Stay tuned for news regarding the publications of these two outstanding sessions.

The WCAC was started five years ago in 2012 with 10 members. Between 2012 and 2017, the committee has worked to deliver on its primary objectives of providing a venue for discussions related to women in California archaeology and offering support and mentorship to women and men practicing archaeology in the state through individual and/or group interactions. We have done this through open sessions at the SCA Annual Meetings, a Facebook page, an online forum, and individual interactions.

Beginning in March 2017, the WCAC was restructured with a change in leadership. The leadership of the Board is now composed of the chair (Jennifer Darcangelo, jdarc623@yahoo.com), vice-chair (Seetha Reddy, reddyanthropology@gmail.com), and secretary (Kristina Gill, kristinamariegill@gmail.com). The Board positions have a two-year term and will rotate annually so that there are two experienced and one new member each year. Election to the WCAC leadership will be open to all SCA members starting with the 2018 term.

In addition to the leadership positions, the WCAC is organized into various task groups aimed at tackling a number of issues. Each task group has leads that report directly to the WCAC Board every quarter. Task group leader positions will rotate every two years. Each of these groups is open to all SCA members and we encourage you to get involved. We also seek and encourage additional volunteers to participate in task group leadership roles, as noted below.

Task Groups

**Sexual Harassment and Gender Parity**

Leads: Kristina Gill and Jennifer Darcangelo; additional volunteers welcome

This group will be the main contact for all questions regarding sexual harassment, unfair disparity, and related issues. One of the responsibilities will also include being a conduit for sharing information and updating ethics guidelines to the SCA Committee on Professional Standards and Ethics. The WCAC is keen on providing support through discussion and on issues related to how we can improve gender parity in California archaeology. Discussion topics may range from pragmatic questions posed by new archaeologists to those from seasoned archaeologists faced with dilemmas that may be nuanced and complex.
Nominations for SCA Awards

Leads: Seetha Reddy and Jennifer Darcangelo; need volunteers

One of the WCAC’s goals is to increase the number of nominations of women for different SCA annual awards. Members of this task group will solicit nominations and ensure that women are represented in as many award categories as possible.

Nominations for WCA and SCA Leadership

Lead: Seetha Reddy; need volunteers

The responsibility of this task group will be to solicit nominations for leadership positions on the WCAC and SCA boards. This group will solicit names for the WCAC Board and task group leads, contact the individuals, and be responsible for running the WCAC election every year. For the SCA, the group will solicit nominees to run for Board positions to ensure that women are well-represented in leadership positions for the entire membership.

Media and Marketing

Lead: Kristina Gill; need volunteers

An important aspect of the WCAC is outreach to achieve greater visibility and membership. Towards this goal, this task group will post updates and information on social media, and write newsflash items for the SCA website.

Fund Raising

Lead: Patti Garcia; need volunteers

At present, the WCAC does not have any funds that we can use to organize workshops, bring in speakers, or conduct related activities. This task group will work together, in concert with the WCAC and the SCA, to target specific grants and funds that may be available.

Publications Peer Group and Mentoring

Leads: Kaely Colligan, Lynn Gamble, Kristina Gill

The focus of this group is to encourage publishing, presenting talks at professional conferences, and related scholastic development. Publishing support includes advice about writing styles, compiling slides and images, organizing sessions, and transforming ideas presented at a conference into a manuscript that can be submitted for publication. A common reason we have heard from people who do not publish their work relates to anxiety about whether their work is important or good enough. This task group can help build a support network for providing advice on manuscripts prior to submission. Discussions can range from how to start working on a publication, identifying an appropriate publication venue, and peer review, among other issues. Regardless of whether we are in a “publish or perish” situation, we all have something important to contribute and can benefit from encouragement in the publication process.

Professionalism, Career Building Jobs, Interviews, and Resumes

Lead: Lynn Gamble; need volunteers

This group will provide a venue for individuals seeking input on how to strengthen their resumes and how to prepare for job interviews at all levels, including entry level technicians, management positions in CRM and the government sector, and academic positions.

SCA Annual Meeting Planning

Leads: To be identified; need volunteers

The WCAC has had sessions and open discussions at the SCA Annual Meetings over the past five years and will continue to do so. This task group will work with the WCAC Board to identify themes and organize speakers and sessions for the meetings.

Special Speakers

Leads: To be identified; need volunteers

The WCAC would like to bring in speakers for special topics during the SCA Annual Meetings. Through consultation with the WCAC Board, this task group will solicit speakers and arrange for their presentations.

Conclusion

Finally, we invite our SCA membership to join the WCAC to participate in the discourse of bringing gender parity and equal opportunity issues in California archaeology to the forefront. If you are interested in participating in any of the task groups listed here, or want to organize one of your own, please contact us at wcarchaeology@gmail.com.
Older Than Dirt: A 1973 Whale’s Tale from the Seri of the Sonora Coast

John W. Foster, Senior State Archaeologist (Retired), California State Parks

[Editor’s Note: “Older Than Dirt” is an occasional contribution by John W. Foster that features archaeological (or closely related) topics that may be of interest to SCA members.]

It’s a familiar story. An impressionable young student moves to a new town and falls in with the wrong crowd. It happened to me when I finished my M.A. at Long Beach and moved to Tucson to begin my Ph.D. studies there. The only people I knew there were marine biologists, friends of my pal Lloyd Findley. It wasn’t long before I was running with them on regular forays south to Seriland along the Sonora coast. I seined coastal inlets to identify fishes and crustaceans, collected invertebrates from tide pools (including wolf spiders that survive tidal submersion by living in a bubble), and sorted the many shellfish species represented in ancient middens. I was also introduced to the native Seri Indians.

The Seri are a wonderful people. As the only non-agricultural people in the region of Sonora and Sinaloa, their traditional subsistence has revolved around turtling on the Sea of Cortez. In ancient times, this took them in tule balsas out to Tiburon Island and the steppingstones across to the Baja California peninsula. They also fished the sea and gathered clams and desert plants, but sea turtles were their staple. They were hunters on a vermillion sea.

At an evening gathering over libations, my friends and I were excited. A new book had just appeared on the fishes of the Sea of Cortez. It was a detailed compilation with hundreds of color plates in a systematic presentation. Common names and Linnaean terms were given, but my friend Lloyd noted that what was missing was the Seri name for those fishes. A purpose for our next expedition was born. We were determined to collect an ethnoichthyology of the Seri and add those names to the scientific record.

It took a few months for everyone to find the time but soon we were off to meet with the Seri. We camped outside Punta Chueca, one of their principal towns, and arranged for a local named José Luís to come to our camp and share observations about the fishes he knew. He was a friendly and knowledgeable man who had spent decades in small pangas on the desert sea. In Spanish and some Seri that Lloyd had picked up, we made our guest comfortable in our camp and familiar with our intentions. He was eager to describe the fishes of his world. I handled the tape recorder and we methodically went through the reference book page by page recording characteristics for the illustrated fishes. It took several hours. In some cases, the Seri had more than one term for a particular species. In others, there were variations of type, color, or shape that biologists had not yet recognized. It was an impressive catalogue of fishery knowledge passed down for generations.

Seri pangas used for fishing and turtling (photograph dated 1973). These small craft were used to access the northern Sea of Cortez and its islands. Seri boatmen have extensive knowledge of the fishes and cetaceans of their homeland. (Photograph courtesy of John W. Foster.)

We arrived at the last pages of the book and I came to a page where there was a photograph of a California gray whale (Eschrichtius robustus), José Luís never hesitated. He provided the Seri name and remarked that they are seen regularly south of Kino Bay where they come to mate and calve within the coastal
José Luis (left) and Lloyd Findley (right) discuss observations of the California gray whale in the Sea of Cortez. Seri fishermen and turtle hunters regularly see these whales as they migrate annually to the Seriland coast to mate and calve.

shallows of Sonora and Sinaloa. The biologists shook their collective heads. What? They stared at each other in disbelief.

At the time, marine biologists had identified only three lagoons on the Baja California peninsula used by the eastern Pacific gray whales in their southern migration. Warm water inlets at Magdalena Bay, San Ignacio, and Laguna Ojo de Liebre (sometimes referred to in English as Scammon’s Lagoon) were the known calving locations frequented by different gray whale families. What was not known to science was that a fourth population continues their annual migration south around Cabo San Lucas and into the Sea of Cortez. The biologists told me they first heard of this from José Luis around the campfire under a Sonoran sky.

Every now and then you get the chance to appreciate ancient knowledge—the heritage of humans on our planet.

Exhibit on Stockton Chinatown Extended by Popular Demand

California Council for the Promotion of History

WASHINGTON STREET: THE HEART AND Soul of Stockton Chinatown," a special exhibit at the San Joaquin County Historical Museum, has proven so popular that it has been extended through August 13. The exhibit, which opened in late January, is a collaborative effort between the museum and the Chinese Benevolent Association of Stockton. “Washington Street” chronicles Sam Fow (Cantonese for “third city” or Stockton) from the early 1900s through redevelopment in the 1970s. Memories and artifacts from the bygone era are shared, thanks to the efforts of Julie Blood, Collections and Exhibit Manager for the museum, and many community members.

The museum is located within Micke Grove Regional Park at 11793 North Micke Grove Road, Lodi, California. Regular museum admission is $5 for adults (18-64), $4 for seniors (65+) and teens (13-17), and $2 for children (6-12). Admission is free for children five and under and for members of the San Joaquin County Historical Society. There is a parking fee for each vehicle entering the park, waived for members of the Historical Society. The museum is open Wednesday through Sunday, and is closed Mondays, Tuesdays, and selected holidays. For more information, go to www.SanJoaquinHistory.org.
Picture the Past: Forest History Society Repeat Photography Project
Sara Pezzoni, Project Photo Archivist, Forest History Society

Repeat photography is the practice of taking photographs of a specific location at two or more different times. It is a powerful visual resource for scientific study and education in forest and landscape management. From forests to wilderness areas, such photographic sequences can help us understand ecosystem processes, as well as the effects of human and nonhuman disturbances. They can inform our concepts of sustainability, help us understand the implications of public policy, and assess the results of management decisions.

While many repeat photos of forested land exist, they are scattered in many locations, occur in widely different formats, and are relatively difficult to find. Thus, the Forest History Society (FHS) has undertaken a project aimed at collecting sets of repeat photographs related to land management and environmental research. Details of the project may be viewed at www-repeatphotography.org.

This centralized database will allow for photos to be searched by subject keyword, location, date, format, and photographer, among many other characteristics. Additionally, repeat photography sets will be presented with contextual information, and individual images will be displayed at detailed resolution for comparison and analysis.

FHS aims to provide a centralized location on the internet for users to access, compare, and interpret the images. The project is a collaboration between FHS and several institutions and individuals. By providing an authoritative site on the subject, we hope to identify previously unknown repeat photographic pairs and sequences, promote the creation of new repeat sets, and foster interest in future uses of this technique.

The project leads welcome insights, recommendations, and collaboration in making this valuable historical information more widely available. If you have photos, research ideas, or any other input that might help, please contact Project Photo Archivist Sara Pezzoni at sara.pezzoni@foresthistory.org.

Flintknapping With James Bowden on June 17, 2017
Cherryl Castro-Lector, San Diego Archaeological Center

The San Diego Archaeological Center (SDAC) will host a stone tool workshop featuring James Bowden on Saturday, June 17, 2017. The SDAC is located at 16666 San Pasqual Valley Road in Escondido, California. Bowden has more than 30 years of experience in flintknapping using traditional tools and techniques. His work has been featured in Modern Lithic Artists Guild Journal, Gold Prospector's Magazine, and many museum and visitor centers across the country.

Part I of the two-part workshop is for beginners and will focus on components that make up the Native American stone toolkit. Participants will observe, learn, and recreate stone beads using traditional techniques. Part II of the workshop is for intermediate to advanced flintknappers. Participants will receive instruction on advance flintknapping techniques and will learn to pressure flake their own tool. Previous flintknapping experience is required, or participation in Part I.

Space is limited and you must register in advance. Spots are filling up quickly, so book your ticket now! You may purchase tickets online at www-sandiego-archaeology.org. To register for the event or for more information, please contact Stephanie Sandoval at sjsandoval@sandiegoarchaeology.org or at 760-291-0370. Tickets: $30 per workshop (general public), and $25 per workshop (students and SDAC members).
Doing More to Stop Archaeological Crime

Dan Burger, SCA Newsletter Co-Editor and CASSP Volunteer

IN FEBRUARY 2017, BRIAN GENE SMITH pleaded guilty to unlawfully possessing ancient American Indian artifacts. A sheriff's deputy from Lake County, California, had arrested Smith six months earlier a few days after the deputy learned about archaeological crime for the first time. Smith was sentenced to jail time, probation, and possible restitution. Sadly, convictions for such crimes are rare. What is worse is the frustration and even apathy that exists among those most closely involved with protecting cultural resources.

Safeguarding cultural sites is difficult due to their sheer number and often remote locations, as well as the limited resources available for their protection. This situation has stymied many archaeologists working for public agencies. Discoveries of criminal activity take place most often weeks or months after the crime has occurred, making investigations more difficult and law enforcement interest problematic.

I spoke on the phone with three individuals familiar with the Lake County arrest and conviction of Smith—namely, Martin McAllister, Dino Beltran, and John Parker. Portions of our discussions are included here. Martin McAllister, a forensic archaeologist on the Heritage Protection and Emergency Management staff at Northland Research, Inc., stated that “There are a lot of archaeologists that don’t seem concerned about archaeological crime.” He added that, “In my mind, it takes priority over all other research and compliance activities. It has to be our number one priority to protect these resources.”

McAllister is an instructor and investigator of archaeological crime. He was a presenter at a seminar in Lake County that occurred just prior to Smith’s arrest, and by his own estimation has taught hundreds of crime awareness classes attended by law enforcement officers, archaeologists, and Native Americans. “It's all about awareness,” McAllister said, “and reaching out to the various groups that are involved.”

Some law enforcement agencies are unaware of the laws pertaining to the removal of cultural artifacts from public lands or that these crimes are often tied to other types of crimes, such as drug trafficking, weapons offenses, and wildlife violations. It is also not commonly known that perpetrators have criminal histories that include assaults, thefts, and even child pornography. Knowledge of archaeology laws is a critical tool for law enforcement in their efforts to prevent many other serious crimes. As McAllister explained, “When law enforcement becomes aware of this as another way to go after the criminals they are already pursuing, this gets their attention. An officer who isn't aware of the potential felony when he finds archaeological artifacts while serving a search warrant is missing an opportunity to take a criminal off the streets. And damages beyond $500 become a felony. When you talk felonies, you get the attention of law enforcement. There are forfeiture provisions in ARPA—vehicles, artifacts, and equipment are subject to forfeiture. Officers need to understand this is not some petty offense. It's potentially a felony and it often can be tied to other felonies.”

Raising law enforcement awareness is only one step in the investigation and prosecution of archaeological crime. Equally important is gaining the involvement of prosecutors, agencies, archaeologists, tribal members, and the public. Most cases are made known because of a public report from someone using public lands for recreation. Someone sees something that does not look right (like digging) and reports it. Encouraging public support (i.e., see something, say something) is an effective tool. To promote awareness of such crimes, it is important to interact with service organizations (e.g., Kiwanis, Rotary, and Optimists clubs), churches, and other types of groups.

Site monitoring programs are also essential tools for curbing archaeological crime. Volunteer site monitors are assigned specific sites to observe and update between two and four times per year. McAllister said he is “a big supporter of site monitoring programs.”

The SCA’s California Archaeology Site Stewardship Program (CASSP) provides training of volunteers and works with county, state, and federal agencies to organize and manage site monitoring programs. As
of September 2016, the CASSP reported more than 100 volunteer site stewards who had accrued more than 4,100 hours visiting sites and attending CASSP workshops.

In Lake County, members of the Koi tribe are involved in site monitoring at two parks. The frequency of monitoring varies between three and six times per week. One member, Dino Beltran, has been instrumental in coordinating efforts with local law enforcement, including the district attorney. He attended one of McAllister’s heritage protection training programs in 2013 and was involved in setting up the Lake County training class in 2015. Local law enforcement and the Koi tribe shared the cost of that training.

John Parker, an archaeological consultant based in Lake County, commented that “Dino realized it was politically necessary to get the district attorney on his side before talking to law enforcement and he got a letter from the D.A. stating he would agree to prosecute archaeological crimes.” Parker emphasized that “The word has to come down to law enforcement from above. If the D.A. agrees to prosecute, law enforcement will listen.”

Beltran has pursued the protection of cultural artifacts and sacred sites with great determination and commitment. One of his primary goals has been to increase the awareness of archaeological crimes by advocating, managing, and succeeding in the completion of signed memorandums of understanding (MOUs) between the city of Clearlake in Lake County and California State Parks pertaining to the protection issue. While they are not legally binding, the MOUs show that agencies are committed to working with the tribes and have respect for the tribes and their ancestors. In the process, Beltran garnered the support of two members of Congress, a state senator and assembly member, the county sheriff, and the district attorney.

Beltran is working with filmmakers at Chico State University to create an educational tool documenting archaeological crime and to navigate the MOU process. He noted that his intent is to make several hundred copies of the new documentary, which he “will send to city and county law enforcement agencies throughout the state, to let them know there are archaeological crimes going on, that their district attorneys can prosecute these crimes, and that law enforcement can use asset forfeiture in these cases.”

He further wants to “let communities know that they need to abide by CEQA and AB 52 (adding tribal cultural resources to the categories of cultural resources in CEQA) and SB 18 (requiring cities and counties to contact and consult with California Native American tribes before adopting or amending general plans or designating land as open space for the purpose of protecting cultural places).”

Working closely with law enforcement to raise awareness of archaeological crime, enlisting the support of recreational users of public lands, and collaborating with local Native American tribal members will strengthen efforts to protect our country’s cultural resources. This should be a priority for everyone who is involved with the stewardship of public lands.

Legislation Update (continued from page 9)

Amendment to provide for exemptions to “existing infrastructure,” introduced by Marc Steinorth (Rancho Cucamonga); (2) AB 1055 amends CEQA to establish standards for persons performing historic and archaeological evaluations for CEQA, introduced by Marie Waldron (Escondido); and (3) AB 1117 amends CEQA Sections 21005, 21080, 21091, 21167.6, 21168.5, 21168.9, and 21177, and makes additions to Sections 21166.5 and 21175, introduced by Vince Fong (Bakersfield).

These three bills were up for consideration in the Natural Resources Committee of the California State Assembly and none of them made it out by the 2017 legislative calendar deadline. All are two-year bills; therefore, it is possible that each one may be brought back up in committee, but not until January 2018. We will continue to follow them.

Natural Resources Committee:
Chair: Cristina Garcia (D-58)
Vice Chair: Dante Acosta (R-38)
Committee phone: 916-319-2092

For additional information or any questions, please contact Samantha Schell, SCA Legislation Liaison, at schellsamantha2012@gmail.com.