2016 California Archaeology Month
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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 Board or Editors.

**Submissions:** The submission deadline for the March 2017 issue of the *SCA Newsletter* is February 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 2016 California Archaeology Month activities (see pages 14-16).
LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Creative Mitigation in Archaeology
Jelmer Eerkens, President

SUMMER 2016 HAS NOW PASSED, TEMPERATURES HAVE cooled, and acorns have started falling from the oaks. We have even had our first significant rainstorm here in northern California, a much-needed soaking for our dry landscape. While there has not been any major flooding in California this year, the southern and eastern U.S. were often in the news over the last several months due to experiencing major floods. Seeing these events, and thinking about our own natural disasters in California, made me think about impacts to the archaeological record.

Of course, there is little archaeologists can do directly to prevent natural disasters from occurring, although limiting our fossil fuel use certainly could not hurt. But we can be forward-looking and attempt to mitigate some of the possible effects to the archaeological record. This record is our collective heritage and belongs to everyone, but it falls to us as professional archaeologists to protect and learn from it. Indeed, the SCA and its members have been involved in several innovative programs to quantify and document potential losses. Most notably, for the last few years, past SCA president Michael Newland has been organizing a massive survey of the California coastline to record sites threatened by predicted rises in global sea levels. Likewise, archaeologists working within the U.S. Forest Service and National Park Service have continued to undertake proactive surveys in their respective areas that are expected to burn in the future. Additionally, virtually every SCA member at some point in their careers has been involved in some project that mitigated against not natural disasters but anticipated human-caused damage due to development projects.

As an academic, I have not been directly involved in the business of mitigating adverse impacts to archaeological sites. Yet, I often work with materials from such efforts, either by collaborating with CRM firms and tribal groups on recently mitigated materials, or by conducting museum research on items that have previously been excavated or gathered during surveys from long-ago projects. Such collections hold tremendous value to me. Further, as a consumer of archaeological data, I am always keenly interested in the results of mitigation efforts, even if I do not work with the actual items.

Along these lines, I recently received an invitation by email for an online seminar/workshop regarding “creative mitigation” offered through the Society for American Archaeology. The advertisement for the seminar asks “Tired of doing the same old ‘dig, document, and destroy’ mitigation for archaeological sites? Do you worry that...
LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT (CONTINUED)

no one will ever read that multi-volume report and that the artifacts will languish in a dungeon where they will never see the light of day again? I have not taken the seminar, so I do not know the actual content. Advertisements are not always representative of the actual product, but on the face of it, I was annoyed by the implication that (a) archaeology is tedious, (b) what we do is unimportant, and (c) an analogy is drawn between museums and prisons!

Although popular media often portray archaeology as a “discovery-a-minute” discipline, we all know that breakthroughs and novel insights come more slowly. Piecing together ancient human behaviors from the traces of material remains is hard detective work on many levels, politically, technically, and intellectually. There is the occasional “yumba” discovery of a bead, a painted atlatl foreshaft, or rock art, and some might initially be attracted to archaeology because of the promise of such finds. However, such discoveries are relatively meaningless without the slow and careful work necessary to determine their stratigraphic context, chronological age, and association with other materials. It is this slow and careful research that brings behavioral meaning to artifacts.

Like most sciences, archaeology builds incrementally on previous knowledge and insights. Some of the greatest contributions in California archaeology have come from the analysis of large data sets across many sites and time periods to recognize large-scale shifts in human behavior. Of course, these data have been drawn from large numbers of “same old” site and/or survey reports. Like an atlatl system, the value of the end product is greater than the sum of the parts. The suggestion that we do not need such traditional mitigation anymore because it is considered boring or “same old” and instead focus our resources on other types of more exciting “creative mitigation” is, in my opinion, extremely short-sighted.

Furthermore, the suggestion that artifacts end up in some type of dungeon, never to be seen again, is also short-sighted. It is denigrating to curation facilities and museums, and inconsistent with the careful research they do before accepting collections. If a collection really has no future research value they will not accept it. While the public may not line up to pay admission to see the flakes from CA-SOL-XXX, such items are often reanalyzed down the chronological road by other researchers, especially undergraduate and graduate students, many of whom will become the next generation of California archaeologists. We never know what types of analytical techniques will be developed in the future that may unlock hidden behavioral information in such collections. It is true that many museums are short on space, but we owe it to future generations of archaeologists and the general public to preserve representative samples of our archaeological heritage.

I certainly support creative ways of reaching out to and engaging with tribal communities, historical and other special interest groups, and the general public. Embracing new technologies to present results of archaeological work is an important part of our job to outreach. In and of itself, however, this cannot be creative mitigation. We cannot let irreplaceable data be destroyed, even if some people think it is “boring,” and divert our resources only towards mitigation banking (i.e., allowing some sites to be destroyed while preserving others), producing films instead of conducting data recovery, or simply burying sites under fill (with unknown long-term consequences).

Rather, creative mitigation should include new ways to analyze materials (e.g., novel archaeometric techniques), to record artifacts (e.g., 3D digitized models of artifacts), and to make databases and results more available (e.g., YouTube videos, websites with downloadable databases). These methods should be in addition to the “same old” data recovery endeavors, the publication of “boring” technical reports, and the curation of artifacts. In other words, we desperately need to continue “non-creative” mitigation efforts, to build regional databases, and to preserve materials from endangered sites. Time has repeatedly shown the long-term value of such efforts, as evidenced through countless Master’s theses and other projects that are based on reanalysis of data in site reports and artifacts in museum collections.

Our membership is filled with many creative people with a wide range of skills that can help with creative mitigation. If creative outreach is the goal, the SCA is also a hub for students and professionals, a good way to reach the broader archaeological community. We maintain a website, Facebook page, and newsletter that reach the broader public. Consider using the SCA’s digital infrastructure and expertise as part of your efforts. Talk to a board member!
# Committee Chairs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Committee</th>
<th>Chair/Contact Information</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Advanced Annual Meeting Planning</td>
<td>Adie Whitaker, <a href="mailto:Adie@farwestern.com">Adie@farwestern.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual Meeting Local Arrangements</td>
<td>Kristina Roper, <a href="mailto:kristina.roper3r@gmail.com">kristina.roper3r@gmail.com</a>, Gregory Burns, <a href="mailto:gburns@gmail.com">gburns@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual Meeting Program</td>
<td>Adie Whitaker, <a href="mailto:Adie@farwestern.com">Adie@farwestern.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Archaeology Month Representative</td>
<td>Annemarie Cox, <a href="mailto:annemarie.cox100@gmail.com">annemarie.cox100@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bennyhoff Memorial Award</td>
<td>Pat Mikkelsen, (530) 756-3941, <a href="mailto:pat@farwestern.com">pat@farwestern.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California Archaeological Site Stewardship</td>
<td>Beth and Chris Padon, (562) 595-3995, <a href="mailto:bpadon@discoveryworks.com">bpadon@discoveryworks.com</a>, <a href="mailto:cpadon@discoveryworks.com">cpadon@discoveryworks.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Climate Change</td>
<td>Sandra Pentney, <a href="mailto:spentney@gmail.com">spentney@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Curation</td>
<td>Wendy Teeter, (310) 825-1864, <a href="mailto:wteeter@arts.ucla.edu">wteeter@arts.ucla.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Curation</td>
<td>Cindy Stankowski, (760) 291-0370, <a href="mailto:cstankowski@sandiegoarchaeology.org">cstankowski@sandiegoarchaeology.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants and Fundraising</td>
<td>Kim Cuevas, <a href="mailto:fundraising@scahome.org">fundraising@scahome.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Journal (California Archaeology)</td>
<td>Terry Jones, <a href="mailto:californiaarchaeology@calpoly.edu">californiaarchaeology@calpoly.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership Committee</td>
<td>Tom Wheeler, <a href="mailto:twheeler1743@att.net">twheeler1743@att.net</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Native American Programs                      | Gregg Castro, napc@scahome.org                                |
| Nominations Committee                        | Patricia Mikkelsen, (530) 756-3941, pat@farwestern.com        |
| Lynn Gamble, gamble@anth.ucsb.edu            |
| Proceedings                                  | Allika Ruby, allika@farwestern.com                            |
| Professional Standards and Ethics            | Trish Fernandez, tfernandez@incontext.co                      |
| Publicity and Social Networking              | Greg Collins, Greg.Collins@parks.ca.gov                       |
| SCA Newsletter                               | Jill K. Gardner, newsletter@scahome.org                       |
| Site Conservation                            | John W. Foster, parkarky@yahoo.com, Greg White, gwhite@subterraconsulting.com |
| Student Members Committee                    | Melanie Beasley, (916) 524-4258, melbeasley@yahoo.com         |
| Kaitlin Brown, kbtbrown@yahoo.com            |
| Volunteer Coordinator                        | Darren Andolina, andolinadarren@gmail.com                     |
| Website Coordinator                          | Denise Wills, (530) 342-3537, office@scahome.org              |
| Women in California Archaeology              | Seetha Reddy, reddyanthropology@gmail.com                      |

# Liaisons

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Liaison</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>American Cultural Resource Association Liaison</td>
<td>Shelly Davis-King, (209) 928-3443, <a href="mailto:shellydk@frontiernet.net">shellydk@frontiernet.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California Council for the Promotion of History Liaison</td>
<td>Shelly Davis-King, (209) 928-3443, <a href="mailto:shellydk@frontiernet.net">shellydk@frontiernet.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California Office of Historic Preservation Liaison</td>
<td>Brendon Greenaway, (916) 445-7036, <a href="mailto:brendon.greenaway@parks.ca.gov">brendon.greenaway@parks.ca.gov</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information Center Liaison</td>
<td>Amy Huberland, <a href="mailto:ahuberland@csuchico.edu">ahuberland@csuchico.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legislation Liaison</td>
<td>Samantha Schell, <a href="mailto:schellsamantha2012@gmail.com">schellsamantha2012@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Society for American Archaeology Liaison</td>
<td>Arleen Garcia-Herbst, (858) 333-7202, <a href="mailto:arleen@spindriftarchaeology.com">arleen@spindriftarchaeology.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Society for Historical Archaeology Liaison</td>
<td>Karen Swope, (505) 323-8300, <a href="mailto:kswope@sricrm.com">kswope@sricrm.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Historical Resources Commission Liaison</td>
<td>C. Kristina Roper, (559) 561-3816, <a href="mailto:kroper@wildblue.net">kroper@wildblue.net</a></td>
</tr>
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SCA Executive Board Meeting Minutes, October 2, 2016

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
Beth and Chris Padon

Meeting Opening
Convene meeting, approve minutes, review of summer meeting minutes. Susan moves to approve the last minutes. Barbara seconds the motion. The motion passes, vote: Yes 7, No 0.

Bennyhoff Award
The Bennyhoff Award Committee has been operating independently, with little input from the SCA Board. There is a need for better communication between the Bennyhoff Committee and the Executive Board, especially the time needed by the Board to prepare for the award ceremony. Nate Stephens is the new chair for the Bennyhoff Award.

California Archaeological Site Stewardship Program
Mark has talked with CASSP about the necessity to rewrite the Mission Statement and MOUs, and CASSP supports this. CASSP fulfills the SCA mission of outreach and public education. Now may be a good time to retool the program as Chris and Beth transition out of the CASSP role and Mike and Karen DeGiovine plan to step in. A more systematic approach is needed to engage agency archaeologists in acquiring and retaining site stewards. The idea of extra eyes on the ground is paramount. One approach could be a meet and greet during agency annual meetings where agency archaeologists can meet and discuss best practices in obtaining and utilizing site stewards.

The Board and the Padons discussed rewriting the CASSP Mission Statement and questioned whether Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) are still necessary. MOUs were originally used as a means for CASSP get buy-in to establish the program. They are still useful in agencies like the Forest Service where turnover is high and changing leadership may question the role of CASSP. The MOUs provide a reference for what is taking place and show that all agree that the work is worth doing. Issues discussed included the loss of off-highway motor vehicle funding and the need to retool CASSP on this issue. It was suggested that CASSP and agency archaeologists meet and discuss the use of site stewards during the federal meetings held just prior to the 2017 SCA Annual Meeting. Susan will check about setting a meeting time during the week of the SCA conference.

2017 Annual Meeting Update
Shelly Davis-King has agreed to be the 2017 banquet coordinator. This year’s Yosemite venue has fewer food options and higher prices, which will be noted on the SCA website. Steve contacted Michael Schwab to design the SCA poster and is waiting to hear back. The 2018 meeting will be held in Sacramento.

Formalizing SCA Grant Guidelines
We need to formalize guidelines for the Archaeology Month mini-grant and Orphaned Collections grant. Barbara will look at the guidelines and draw up new ones for these grants. The Orphaned Collections grant guidelines will be voted on via email. The new guidelines for the Archaeology Month mini-grant will be voted on at the January Board meeting.

Update on Office of Historic Preservation
OHP is planning to host a Section 106 workshop, which has been scheduled. The OHP’s five-year State Preservation Plan is up for renewal and they would like assistance from the SCA for outreach.

Jelmer moves to adjourn the meeting. Mark seconds the motion. The motion passes, vote: Yes 7, No 0.
It is time for everyone to vote for the 2017 SCA Executive Board. To vote by U.S. Mail, enclose your ballot in the small envelope provided, seal, then endorse the envelope and return it to the SCA Business Office. Vote for one individual for each position or add a write-in name (hard copy ballots submitted via U.S. Mail only). Note that ballots were mailed out in October, along with meeting registration and membership renewal notices. If you have opted out of hard copy mailers, you may vote online by logging on to your Member’s page.

Hardcopy ballots must be postmarked on or before January 1, 2017. The Business Office will not open ballot envelopes that are not signed on the flap, and your ballot will not be counted. Be assured, the voting process is confidential, with the endorsements used only to validate individual ballots.

Position Statements

President

William R. Hildebrandt
Far Western Anthropological Research Group, Inc.

Education

Present Positions
Past President and Principal Investigator, Far Western Anthropological Research Group
Research Associate, Department of Anthropology, University of California, Davis

Research Associate, Division of Anthropology, American Museum of Natural History, New York
Editor, Journal of California and Great Basin Anthropology

Awards and Appointments
Martin A. Baumhoff Special Achievement Award from the Society for California Archaeology (2015)
State Historic Resources Commission, Appointed by Governor Gray Davis (2001-2005)
Society for American Archaeology Award for Excellence in Cultural Resource Management (1996)

Research Interests
My research has been focused on prehistoric hunter-gatherer adaptations within California and the Great Basin using data generated from cultural resource management projects. I have often relied on evolutionary ecology to interpret these findings, and have published them through a variety of outlets, including American Antiquity, California Archaeology, Journal of California and Great Basin Anthropology, Journal of Anthropological Archaeology, Journal of Field Archaeology, University of Utah Anthropological Papers, American Museum of Natural History Anthropological Papers, California Department of Parks and Recreation Publications in Cultural Heritage, Contributions of the University of California Archaeological Research Facility, UCLA Institute of Archaeology, Smithsonian Institution Scholarly Press, and University of California Press. I have also written numerous compliance reports, research designs, and management plans for a variety of landholding agencies, helping them manage their resources into the future.

Position Statement
I have been a member of the SCA for almost 40 years, and benefitted from this membership in many ways. On a social level, it has always been great to attend the Annual Meetings because I can always count on seeing my friends, some I have known for decades but only get to see once a year, and others I see all the time (some co-workers) but not within the informal (and productive) contexts of our gatherings.
On a professional level, I have gone from being a student giving my first papers, to organizing symposia, to being a symposium discussant, a plenary session presenter, and a contributor to *Sands in Time* providing remembrances for those that have passed before us. All of these experiences have enhanced my career as a person and as an archaeologist.

Although I have contributed to the SCA as the local arrangements and program chair for the Annual Meetings, it is time for me to give back in a much more significant way. That is why I am running for president. If elected, I will do my best to keep the SCA alive and well, relying on advice from current and past officers, as well as those running the multiple committees, programs, and publications that continue to provide great service to our members. As president of Far Western for over 20 years, I have learned that good leadership takes many forms, including providing people with the resources and freedom they need to succeed, but also stepping in to develop strategic plans when appropriate, and resolving conflicts when they arise. It will be my goal to keep the important traditions of the SCA moving forward in a positive way, giving special emphasis to the recruitment of young people so that the SCA remains viable and successful well into the future.

**SOUTHERN VICE-PRESIDENT**

**MICHAEL M. DEGIOVINE**

Atkins Global

**Education**

B.A. in Anthropology (2006) with an archaeology concentration, from UC San Diego after transferring from San Diego City College

**Professional Background and Research Interests**

My professional background is rooted mostly in San Diego and southern California CRM, including project experience in coastal San Diego and Orange counties, inland and desert San Diego County, and the Mojave Desert. To a lesser extent, my work has taken me to central and north-central California and as far north as Alaska. My research interests lie primarily within the study of lithics, including issues of mobility and exchange as represented in the archaeological record. My wife, Karen Lacy, and I have also begun the process of transitioning into the CASSP, in order to ultimately replace Beth and Chris Padon.

**Position Statement**

Communicating within the archaeology community and the public at large has always been a touchy issue, to some extent. As a CRM archaeologist, I have experienced a variety of the issues of working in the archaeology community and matters related to disclosure, information sharing, and public outreach, as many of us have. These issues are indiscriminate of position of agency archaeologist, academic professor, or CRM archaeologist. One of the responsibilities of the southern vice president is “facilitating cooperation among members,” as well as program coordination. Fostering that cooperation within the membership (and our community at large) enriches our ability to work better together and find ways to promote greater outreach to the general public. This allows us to better serve the cultural resources and archaeological record with which we are entrusted.

As your southern vice president, it will be my honor to help bridge the gaps between public and private; academic, agency, and contractor; and the archaeological community and general public. Thank you.

**SARAH NICCHITTA**

Albion Environmental, Inc.

**Education**

M.A. in Anthropology (2011) with a focus on California archaeology, UC Santa Barbara

**Professional Background and Research Interests**

I have more than nine years of experience working within cultural resource management. Throughout my career, I have been employed with various firms in the private sector as a field and laboratory technician and as a contract installation archaeologist for the California military. Currently, I am a principal and senior archaeologist at Albion Environmental, Inc., an environmental consulting company. My research interests include economies and social interaction spheres, zooarchaeology, public archaeology and conservation, and cultural resource stewardship.

**Position Statement**

As southern vice president, I will continue the current public outreach efforts and build on them. I think it is important to educate the public about the rich cultural heritage of California, especially elementary school children. As the pace of technological innovation quickens and demands more of our attention, our
children risk losing touch with the environment and California’s history. My aim is to use technology as a way to communicate about archaeology with the next generation. I envision archaeology as the perfect tool to engage young minds and get them passionate about California archaeology, site stewardship, and environmental sciences. Along with instilling positive ideas about site stewardship, it is my hope that the next generation can use archaeological data to inform their decisions about how best to tackle the pressing issues of social equity, climate and environmental change, and our evolving relationship with technology.

As southern vice president, I will also continue to work to increase Native American participation in the SCA and California archaeology at large. California has a vibrant tribal community that constantly advocates with local, state, and federal officials for greater inclusion within the environmental review and cultural resource management processes. Native American community members often provide valuable insight, ideas, and interpretations that deepen our understanding of the past and provide an enriched perspective to our Society.

Lastly, I will work to keep the SCA a thriving place to share research and ideas, troubleshoot problems, and foster professional development. Throughout my career as a student and professional archaeologist, I have often turned to the SCA for guidance, and I will work to ensure that the Society continues to be a vital resource and a place to find needed support. Thank you for your consideration.

**TREASURER**

**MAGGIE TRUMBLY**

Pacific Gas & Electric

**Education**

B.A. (1999) in Anthropology, California State University, Chico

**Professional Background/Research Interests**

I have 15+ years of experience working in California archaeology. Most of my experience has been in the private sector, first as a contract archaeologist, then as a cultural resources specialist at Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E) and then moving into leadership in the environmental department at PG&E. I started my career in 1998 as an intern for the Department of Water Resources, working on CalFed projects on the west side of the Sacramento Valley. From there, I worked at the California State University, Chico, Archaeology Lab, in field schools, and for contract firms throughout the northern part of the state.

In 2005, I started at PG&E as a cultural resources specialist working on Federal Energy Regulatory Commission hydroelectric projects, eventually supporting new energy development and transmission projects. I am currently the supervisor of Electric Transmission/Environmental Management at PG&E in San Francisco. In this position, I supervise a group of environmental professionals, including cultural resources specialists. My interests in archaeology have included California prehistory, geoarchaeology, and regulatory/compliance management. I also serve as a commissioner on the City of Benicia’s Historical Preservation Review Commission. I served as the SCA secretary from 2012 to 2013 and as the SCA treasurer from 2015 to the present.

**Position Statement**

I am excited to be running again for the position of SCA treasurer. In my first term, we have made a lot of progress toward a more automated accounting system. First, we moved our QuickBooks system from computer based to QuickBooks Online, giving more visibility to the executive director and creating a platform for linking accounts to Quick, including direct reconciliation of books between bank accounts and QuickBooks. Additionally, we have simplified and enhanced reporting to the Board to increase financial understanding. We are also looking into a solution to simplify PayPal deposits. Over the next term, I would like to have an audit completed, update the Treasurer Manual, and look into costing support for day-to-day accounting needs.

I believe the key skills for being successful in this position include being organized, providing accurate and timely information, and keeping communication open. I possess these skills and practice them on a daily basis in my current role at PG&E. I regularly work on a number of teams where I both lead and contribute to various projects and initiatives. I work constructively in teams, and have always brought my enthusiasm to all of my endeavors.
SCA BUSINESS AND ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED)

I am passionate about community involvement in archaeology, as well as training the next generation of archaeologists. I am thrilled about the continued opportunity to work with the executive board in finding innovative and exciting new ways to involve the community & students in California archaeology. I have been a member of the SCA since 1999 and in this time prepared papers and volunteered for local arrangement committees, and served as the SCA secretary and treasurer.

The SCA treasurer is the caretaker of funds that help make the SCA goals possible. For this position, it is important to have a good understanding of both accounting and finance. Working at PG&E, I have gained extensive experience maintaining budgets and accurate accounting records. I am also now working on an M.S. in Management and Leadership. I am committed to the success of the SCA and am enthusiastic to tackle the responsibilities of the SCA treasurer. Thank you for your consideration.

The 2017 James A. Bennyhoff Quilt Raffle
Tom Origer, Bennyhoff Award Committee Member

The 2017 SCA Annual Meeting at the Tenaya Lodge at Yosemite includes the opportunity to win the third quilt made from Dave Fredrickson’s vast hoard of materials. The quilt is being created by members of the California Archaeological Site Stewardship Program under the direction of Beth and Chris Padon. Be sure to stop by the table where the quilt will be displayed and purchase your tickets. The money generated by the ticket sales will augment the James A. Bennyhoff fund, which provides funding and services for student research.

An Opportunity to Shape the Future of Historic Preservation in California
Brendon Greenaway, Office of Historic Preservation

Preparation of a State Historic Preservation Plan (State Plan) is required by the National Park Service every five years as a condition of the grant each state receives from the federal Historic Preservation Fund. The Office of Historic Preservation is beginning the process of public outreach and garnering input for the next State Plan for California. The current State Plan expires at the end of 2017, to be replaced by a new, updated plan covering the years 2018 through 2022.

As part of the information gathering process, we are conducting a general survey and public listening session held throughout the state and online. Your input is critical to developing a plan that reflects the issues and directions in historic preservation that are most important to Californians. Participate in the State Plan Survey now through December 16, 2016, and share your vision for historic preservation in California. For additional details, go to http://ohp.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21756.
HE CURRENT RESEARCH SECTION OF THE latest SHA Newsletter (49[3], Fall 2016), which may be accessed at http://onlinedigeditions.com/publication?i=347179, contains two items related to California. The first item describes the dedication of the new Drakes Bay National Historic Landmark at Point Reyes National Seashore. The second item is a report by Connor Buitenhuys that presents the results of research on a faunal assemblage from the San Diego Presidio Chapel.

A recent post to the Society for Historical Archaeology blog considers the potential contributions of CRM professionals under a new presidential administration; it is available at https://sha.org/blog/2016/11/presidential-election. Other posts present information on public education and interpretation, including recommended approaches for youth archaeology camps, as well as logistics and considerations for engaging visitors in urban site settings (for details, go to https://sha.org/blog/category/public-education-and-interpretation).

You may also review updated information about the 50th Annual Conference on Historical and Underwater Archaeology, to be held in Fort Worth, Texas, January 4-8, 2017. The preliminary program and registration details are available at https://sha.org/conferences.

Society for Historical Archaeology Liaison Report
Karen K. Swope, Society for Historical Archaeology Liaison

October Archaeology Month: Always a Great Time
Annemarie Cox, Archaeology Month Representative

CALIFORNIA ARCHAEOLOGY MONTH THIS year was an exciting time of great presentations, lectures, hands-on activities, and much more. I thank everyone who participated in any way. International Archaeology Day was held on Saturday, October 15, during which a record 18 events were held throughout California. A particular highlight for the Archaeology Month Coordinator was promoting the Joshua Tree National Park and their “reach for the sky” schedule with numerous programs and multiple collaborators throughout the month. A special thank you goes out to Jeremy Freeman and Jay Theuer! I look forward to seeing next year’s lineup. Continue to send me events to post to our Facebook page and website (also see pages 14-16).
WE THANK THE MANY SITE STEWARDS who have sent us their volunteer hours to help us complete the in-kind match for the California State Parks Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation grant that is administered by Region 5 of the U.S. Forest Service. If you have not submitted a record of your volunteer hours for October 1, 2015, through September 30, 2016, it is not too late to do so. CASSP wants to hear from every site steward so that we can accord recognition to everyone who has contributed to the protection of archaeological sites.

This past year we have heard from many of our site stewards about their experiences, including several who have participated in presenting talks about their volunteer activities in celebration of Archaeology Month. We are pleased to share their comments and photos below.

Mary and Martin Jesperson and Mike Savala are site stewards for the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) at the Barstow, Palm Springs, Needles, and El Centro Field Offices, and with Cleveland National Forest. They work with public agency archaeologists George Kline, Jim Shearer, Chris Dalu, and Carrie Simmons. On October 15, 2016, Mary and Martin shared their site steward experiences by operating the CASSP booth for the Archaeology Expo at the Hidden Valley Nature Center in Riverside. There were fewer people this year, but the enthusiasm was just as great. The Jespersons were able to create a long list of people who are interested in CASSP and distributed all of their Archaeology Month posters.

Mary and Martin also delivered presentations about some of their sites at the Southern Data Sharing Meeting held at the Steele/Burnand Anza-Borrego Desert Research Center in Anza-Borrego Desert State Park on October 29. Martin presented new information about two sites within the Palen McCoy Wilderness in Riverside County. He compared the rock art elements at these sites, which are located only 180 meters apart, and surprisingly found major differences between them. He also compared these two rock art sites with others nearby and showed how style, elements, and superimposition of the Palen McCoy sites differ from other rock art sites.

Mary’s presentation was related to two sites within Indian Pass Wilderness in Imperial County. She told of finding and re-recording a rock art site (CA-IMP-12402) that Malcolm Rogers had originally located in the early 20th century but did not document. Mary also talked about a new site (CA-IMP-12403) that she and Martin had found when they relocated CA-IMP-12402. An aboriginal trail connects this rock art site and the other prehistoric site. Mary was excited about discovering both of these sites because CA-IMP-12402 had not been relocated since Rogers reported it, and CA-IMP-12403 consists of dense ceramics over a 50 m² area.

On October 15, 2016, long-time site stewards Judy Palmer, George Ross, and Ila Ross presented new information about their sites at the Preservation 50 Symposium held at the Furnace Creek Visitor Center in Death Valley National Park. Wanda Raschkow, an archaeologist at Death Valley, organized the symposium to honor the 50th anniversary of the National Historic Preservation Act. Beth Padon also gave a presentation on CASSP at the symposium.
SCA BUSINESS AND ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED)

Judy, George, and Ila often work with archaeologists Wanda Raschkow at Death Valley Park and Jim Shearer at the BLM Barstow Field Office. Judy talked about recent visits to Death Valley where she found a puzzling artifact that had not been identified until recently. Her presentation “Death Valley: Land of Many Mysteries (Both Large and Small)” showed how our site stewards contribute to knowledge of the past. Judy visited this portion of Death Valley for several years, took photographs of the puzzling artifact, asked others what they thought about it, and conducted research at the archives housed at Death Valley. Her work resulted in new and important information about the historical uses of Death Valley.

George Ross, along with Judy Palmer and Ila Ross, spoke about the road-building activities through Death Valley in the 1920s and 1930s. George also talked about growing up in Shoshone-Tecopa. His mother, a Southern Paiute, was well known throughout the region for her basketry. George recalled that Shoshone was a booming mining town in the first half of the 20th century. Their presentation was an oral interview, asking questions of George while they sat around a table on the stage. Their conversation was illustrated with on-screen archival photographs and maps. George had some interesting and colorful things to say about those early days.

The work of CASSP volunteers will be displayed in their posters during the SCA Annual Meeting at the Tenaya Lodge on March 9-12, 2017. There will be posters about historic mining sites and agricultural activities, rock art, coastal prehistory, public outreach, and other topics. Also, there will be a CASSP panel discussion that focuses on how workshops are conducted and how agency archaeologists can use volunteer site stewards most effectively. This Annual Meeting continues to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the founding of SCA and will feature many special events. Further details about CASSP events and workshops are available at www.cassp.org, 562-595-3995, or bpadon@discoveryworks.com.
As part of California Archaeology Month in 2016, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Eagle Lake Field Office hosted our third Annual Public Archaeology Day. Archaeologists and other staff from the BLM Redding and Applegate Field Offices, Modoc National Forest, and Susanville Indian Rancheria participated in the events. This year’s Archaeology Day was held at Hobo Camp Day Use Area in Susanville, California, on October 1, 2016. Hobo Camp is located along the Susan River and the Bizz Johnson Trail, a Rails-to-Trails corridor.

The family friendly event, which was attended by the general public and all elementary and middle school students in Lassen County, highlighted the rich prehistory and history of northeastern California. Various stations were set up so that visitors could wander freely throughout the Hobo Camp area. The station activities included atlatl throwing, making your own rock art, observing native plants, orienteering and compass use, and a mock excavation.

Other stations included flintknapping, bone tool making, and tule mat manufacturing demonstrations and tutorials. “In the Lab with Microscopes” and “Historic Games” were popular additions this year. Melany Johnson, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer for the Susanville Indian Rancheria, exhibited basketry and papooses and demonstrated how to strip willows. Visitor turnout was better than expected.
On October 16, the San Luis Obispo County Archaeological Society (SLOCAS) hosted Archaeology Day 2016 at downtown Mission Plaza, between 11:00 am and 3:00 pm. The objective of the event was to share how archaeology, as a scientific method, helps the community achieve a better understanding of the past. SLOCAS applied for and received an SCA Archaeology Month Mini-Grant of $500, which greatly offset the costs of the event.

The Archaeology Day 2016 theme was the Chinese heritage of San Luis Obispo (SLO). Over the past several years, there have been many archaeological projects in SLO’s Chinatown, and SLOCAS received many calls from interested citizens and newspaper reporters seeking information about archaeology and the Chinese Americans who played a large role in the development of SLO after the Mission Period. SLOCAS saw an opportunity to organize a public archaeology event that would offer the public more information on both topics. Despite the inclement weather, more than 100 people attended. The day was a success and SLOCAS is committed to hosting a similar Archaeology Day each year.

The event was arranged as four self-directed stations, with the public cycling through to learn about archaeological methods and Chinese-American culture. Each station was supervised by at least four volunteers who provided an explanation of and assistance with each station. Station 1 contained a sandbox set up as a mock excavation, Station 2 involved artifact screening, Station 3 was artifact identification, and Station 4 consisted of artifact and site interpretations.

The day’s events included a poster session with CRM companies and graduate students from Sonoma State University in Rohnert Park introducing the public to other archaeological projects going on in the county. In addition, the Lion Dance Team from the Cal Poly San Luis Obispo Chinese Students’ Association (CSA) performed a dance for the attendees.
SCA NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS (CONTINUED)

Excavation and screening stations (photo provided by Environmental Science Associates).

Artifact Identification Station (photo provided by Environmental Science Associates).

Caitlin Chang and Lauren Carriere, Sonoma State University graduate students (photo provided by Environmental Science Associates).

Caitlin Chang showing her poster about the faunal collections from SLO’s Chinatown (photo provided by Environmental Science Associates).

Artifact and Site Interpretation Station (photo provided by Environmental Science Associates).

Caitlin Chang showing her poster about the faunal collections from SLO’s Chinatown (photo provided by Environmental Science Associates).

Cal Poly CSA Lion Dance Team member performing the Lion Dance (photo provided by Environmental Science Associates).
Apply Now!

$1,500.00
Cash Award for Student Research

James A. Bennyhoff Memorial Fund

The Society for California Archaeology (SCA) invites interested undergraduate and graduate student members to submit research proposals. The award is intended to support original research on the prehistory of California and the Great Basin.

• Up to $1500.00 CASH!
• Up to 50 obsidian source identifications (donated by Richard Hughes, Geochemical Research laboratory)
• Up to 100 obsidian hydration readings (donated by Origer’s Obsidian Laboratory)
• Up to four AMS dates (donated by Center for Accelerated Mass Spectometry [CAMS] Facility, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory)

Deadline to apply is January 9, 2017, but don’t delay!

CONTACT
Pat Mikkelsen, Committee Chair at pat@farwestern.com
2017 Orphaned Archaeological Collection Grant Available

THE SCA UNDERSTANDS THE IMPORTANCE and ethical obligation of caring for archaeological collections with respect and ensuring their availability to current and future researchers. We recognize that many collections representing California’s rich heritage have fallen victim to the curation crisis and have not been properly cared for over the years.

Grant Guidelines

The SCA invites students, collections managers, archaeologists, and curators who work on these so-called “orphaned collections” to apply for small support grants from the SCA towards cataloguing and researching an existing collection.

A total of $1,000 is available to administer to one recipient annually. Supported costs include materials and supplies for rehousing collections in archival quality storage, wages, travel and per diem, and research access costs such as photocopying.

Eligibility Requirements

♦ Preference will be given to student research leading to a graduate degree, but the grant is not restricted to applicants associated with a university. Recipients shall be members in good standing with the SCA.

♦ The collection must have been “orphaned” for at least 10 years, and cannot be associated with a current or ongoing project.

♦ Chain of ownership of the collection must be unambiguous, with rights to study the collection granted to the collection facility that holds the artifacts.

♦ The collection must be either lacking previous research on part or all of the collection, or the research be incomplete.

♦ The completed project must include a digital database of the material sorted, catalogued and researched.

♦ The SCA shall be acknowledged in any reports, exhibits, or other literature that are produced as part of the collections project.

♦ Grantees shall submit two photos along with a description of the project to the SCA Newsletter no later than one year after the grant award.

How to Apply

Grant applications should be submitted to the SCA Business Office via email by December 15, 2016. Applications should consist of a cover letter that contains contact information and a one-paragraph summary of the project, with no more than three (3) pages of additional supporting information outlining the history of the collection, proposed research, and methods and means for circulating the final product. Letters of support are encouraged and can be submitted along with the supporting information. Please note that a letter of support from the facility granting access to the collection is required as part of the application. Please identify your application as such by placing 2017 Orphaned Collections Application in the subject line. The winner will be announced at the 2017 Annual Meeting.
Charles E. Rozaire Award for Student Research in California Archaeology

As a young man in the 1940s, Charles Rozaire was an active volunteer at the Southwest Museum, working with Mark Harrington and others at various sites in western North America. Inspired by these experiences, he received his Ph.D. from UCLA in 1957, writing about ancient twined weaving techniques. Following his Ph.D., he worked at the Nevada State Museum until he accepted a job at the Los Angeles Natural History Museum, where he spent the majority of his career. Dr. Rozaire made lasting contributions to California and maritime archaeology through his work on the California Channel Islands. The collections he made, as well as his field notes, continue to be important sources of research material for archaeologists today.

Throughout his career, Dr. Rozaire spent significant time conducting archaeological fieldwork across California. He greatly valued these experiences, and he wished there had been more funding to support field and laboratory projects during his career. This award is intended to promote such experiences among young archaeologists and to bring greater attention to California’s rich past.

This award supports undergraduate and graduate student research in California archaeology that includes a fieldwork or collections component. Funds from the award are intended to help pay for the various costs associated with fieldwork, analyzing a curated collection, and/or preparing materials for long-term curation. The award promotes original research on the history or prehistory of California.

Allowable Expenses

Funding from the award (up to $2,000) may be used for fieldwork or collections expenses directly related to the study. These include travel to and from the field or museum; lodging, camping, and food to support a field crew; data collection; and/or the purchase or maintenance of minor field equipment.

Expenses may also include initial stages of laboratory analysis associated with preparing the collection for further study and curation. Expenses that are not allowed include salary/stipends to field participants, tuition, or purchase of equipment over $300.

How to Prepare Your Research Proposal

Complete proposals must contain all of the following. Incomplete proposals will not be considered.

♦ Research proposal (see below)
♦ Detailed budget and justification for all expenses
♦ Schedule for conducting and finalizing research and for presentation at the annual SCA meeting (not to exceed one year)
♦ Curriculum vitae
♦ Letter of support from a faculty advisor

The research proposal should be no more than three pages in length, consisting of: (1) a research statement and design; (2) the field and/or laboratory methods to be employed; (3) how the data that will be gathered from fieldwork or museum work relate to the research design; (4) the significance of the site or area to California archaeology; and (5) the objectives and scientific or educational significance of the proposed research.

Deadlines

Applications are due by January 15 of each year. Applications will be reviewed by committee, with the winner contacted by February 15 of the same year. The winner will be announced and honored at the banquet at the Annual Meeting later that year. Applications should be submitted to the Business Office at cer_student_award@scahome.org, with Rozaire Award Proposal in the subject line.

Recipient’s Obligations

By accepting the award, the recipient commits to presenting a paper or poster at the next SCA Annual Meeting and submitting it to California Archaeology or the SCA Proceedings. If additional papers are published in other venues, the recipient is asked to acknowledge financial assistance from the award.
The Annual Meeting of the Society for California Archaeology (SCA) will take place between March 9 and 12, 2017, at the Tenaya Lodge in Fish Camp, just outside Yosemite National Park. The address is:

Tenaya Lodge
1122 Highway 41
Fish Camp, CA 93623

View the Meeting Registration Page
Download the Hard Copy Packet

Hotel Registration
The SCA’s negotiated room block at the Tenaya Lodge for the 2017 Annual Meeting is full. In fact, SCA members have booked virtually the entire hotel. Additional lodging can be found in Fish Camp and Oakhurst.

Airbnb Properties
There are many Airbnb properties available for rent in Fish Camp (see www.airbnb.com). Many of these are houses that can accommodate a group. Get a group together, enjoy a great place to stay, and save money.

Hotels/Motels
There are also several hotels and motels in Oakhurst, about 12 miles from the Tenaya Lodge. You will find a good selection of lodgings at https://www.tripadvisor.com/SmartDeals-g32809-Oakhurst_California-Hotel-Deals.html.

Plenary Session: Sharing the Past
The Plenary Session is planned for Friday morning, March 10. We have a great line-up of speakers who will explore our theme of “Sharing the Past” through highlights of recent research in the central and north-central Sierra Nevada foothills and mountains and the importance of collaborative efforts by Native Americans, academic and CRM archaeologists, and government agency cultural resource managers. This year we will honor some of the 2017 award winners at the Plenary Session, rather than at the banquet.

Reception/Silent Auction Fundraiser
The 2017 Silent Auction and Wine/Beer Tasting fundraiser will be held on Friday, March 10. This year we will remain at the Tenaya Lodge; no e-ticket ride on a school bus this year! Support the SCA while enjoying friends, your favorite beverages, and a light catered meal. Be sure to purchase tickets before the February 16, 2017, deadline. This is a catered event and we must turn in the head count to the caterer before the meeting. For this event, TICKETS WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE ON SITE.

Banquet/Keynote Speaker
The Annual Banquet will be held on Saturday, March 11. Our keynote speaker is Mark Aldenderfer, who will talk about his recent research on human cultural and biological adaptations to high-elevation environments. Dr. Aldenderfer received his Ph.D. from Pennsylvania State University in 1977, and taught for many years at the University of California (UC), Santa Barbara, and the University of Arizona, prior to coming to UC Merced in 2010 as the Dean of the School of Social Sciences, Humanities, and Arts. He has conducted archaeological research around the world, and is best known for his high-elevation work in Peru and Tibet, as well as the development of quantitative methods in archaeology. He has published 10 books and more than 100 articles.

Workshops
We have six great workshops lined up on Thursday, March 9. View full details here.

Workshop 1: Introduction to Comparative Osteology
Instructors: Lori Hager and Samantha Schell, Pacific Legacy

Workshop 2: Advanced Human Osteology
Instructors: Samantha Schell and Lori Hager, Pacific Legacy

Workshop 3: An Introduction to Federal and State Historic Preservation Legislation
Instructors: Glenn Gmoser and Jody Brown, Caltrans Cultural Studies Office, Sacramento
**Workshop 4: Consulting with the SHPO under Section 106**

Instructors: Anmarie Medin, Supervisor, Archaeology Review Unit, Brendon Greenaway, OHP Associate State Archaeologist, Jessica Tudor, OHP Associate State Archaeologist

**Workshop 5: Subsurface Survey with Ground-Penetrating Radar**

Instructors: Scott Byram and Nicholas Tripcevich, UC Berkeley

**Workshop 6: The Dating Game: Keeping Up and Telling Time with Radiocarbon**

Instructor: Jack Meyers, Far Western Anthropological Research Group

**Just Added! Field Trip to Mariposa Grove**

Staff from Yosemite National Park and Reba Fuller of the Tuolumne Band of Miwok will lead a tour of the newly renovated Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoia just inside the South Entrance of Yosemite National Park. The new walking paths and renovations to the visitor center were designed with Native American perspectives of the historic and pre-contact use of the grove in mind. The tour will include descriptions of ethnographic and modern Native American significance of the biggest trees on earth, as well as the archaeology of the grove. We will carpool up to the grove from Tenaya Lodge. The trip is free, but it is limited to the first 20 people who sign up and is subject to cancellation if the grove is snowbound or if the weather is not agreeable. [Register for the Field Trip here.]

**Let’s Do Lunch Student Event**

The Let’s Do Lunch event will be held on Saturday, March 11, at 12:00 p.m. The event pairs students with long-time SCA members for lunch, providing an opportunity to meet archaeological professionals and ask questions about securing a job, building a resume, or getting into graduate school. These pairings provide students a chance to connect with professionals that they might not otherwise meet at the conference. This also gives the senior members of the SCA a chance to mentor the next generation of California archaeologists and to pass along knowledge about how to be successful in the field.

Let’s Do Lunch participants will gather in the meeting registration area at 11:45 am. The SCA will arrange for the luncheon venue. Regular members are asked to “treat” the student members by buying them lunch. While regular members will be paired with a single student, the venue will likely seat multiple pairs together, so there will be an opportunity for students to chat with more than one professional.

This is a wonderful event, so please check the box in your registration packet to participate in Let’s Do Lunch. Buying lunch for a student member is one of the best investments in the future of the SCA.

**Annual Meeting Underwriters**

Kimberly Cuevas will once again lead our team to encourage businesses and corporations engaged in archaeological work in our state to demonstrate their appreciation of the efforts of the SCA by making generous (tax deductible!) donations. These contributions enable the SCA to continue its good work in both the public and private sectors, in education and advocacy, representing professional archaeologists throughout California. For further information, please contact Kim at fundraising@scahome.org. Donations can be made on the SCA website or may be sent to: SCA Business Office, 1692 Mangrove Avenue, #153, Chico, CA 95926.

**Volunteer**

Help! The success of the Annual Meeting and the overall health of the SCA are directly related to the participation and generosity of our members. Please consider supporting the organization by volunteering for one or more of the following:

**Volunteer as staff during the meeting.** Provide on-site assistance by staffing the registration desks, helping with setup and cleanup of the Silent Auction, or being a meeting room monitor. Sign up online at [https://scahome.org/sca-annual-meeting/2017-annual-meeting/annual-meeting-volunteer-form](https://scahome.org/sca-annual-meeting/2017-annual-meeting/annual-meeting-volunteer-form).

Questions? Please Contact Volunteer Coordinator Darren Andolina at andolinadarren@gmail.com or at 530-908-6713.
Cuyama Valley: A Corridor to the Past

Receives the 2016 Governor’s Historic Preservation Award

Far Western Anthropological Research Group, Inc.

In November 2016, Far Western was awarded one of the coveted Governor’s Historic Preservation Awards for the Cuyama Valley: A Corridor to the Past project. The California Office of Historic Preservation chose the Cuyama project as an exceptional example of historic preservation efforts on behalf of California’s cultural heritage. The project, directed by Far Western’s Project Manager and Principal Investigator Patricia Mikkelsen, was a collaborative effort among the Native Chumash community, the District 5 Central Coast Specialist Branch of the California Department of Transportation, the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, Foothill Resources, and Tiley Research.

Project Background

_Cuyama Valley: A Corridor to the Past_ showcases seven archaeological sites that had undergone initial salvage excavations in the late 1960s and early 1970s, with final analysis nearly 40 years later. The California Division of Highways (precursor to the California Department of Transportation [Caltrans]) had carried out three highway realignment projects along State Route 166 in Cuyama Valley. As the project predated the birth of modern cultural resources management practices (i.e., funding was not set aside for the analysis of cultural materials unearthed during infrastructure projects), the assemblage was never formally documented. As a result, the collection sat untouched in the UC Santa Barbara archives. Dr. Valerie Levulett, Chief of the Caltrans Central Coast Environmental Specialist Branch, and one of the archaeologists who participated in the salvage work, submitted a Caltrans Transportation Enhancement grant proposal to address long-delayed processing of these important collections.

With the grant approved, Far Western, under a Caltrans cultural resources on-call contract, was tasked with analyzing the collection and recreating the excavation itself through numerous field and photograph logs, field notes, and maps. Far Western reached out to others who were part of the original project, including Dr. Jeanne Binning, Al McCurdy, and Max Farrar, to help set the scene.

Prior to this endeavor, little was known about Cuyama Valley prehistory. Minimal formal archaeological work and few publications have focused on the valley—a corridor that once connected the prehistoric population centers of the Central Valley and Central Coast. The compiled data brought to light a wealth of information about the history and lifeways of the Native people of the region.

Far Western catalogued approximately 3,000 flaked and ground stone tools (including more than 400 projectile points), as well as nearly 5,000 shell, stone, and glass beads and other ornaments. These finds provided an array of research opportunities and contributions to the archaeology, ethnography, and history of the region.
Archaeological Contributions

♦ A graphic representation of the local temporal indicators across time, as well as temporal charts of local projectile point and bead types
♦ The identification of and focus on site-specific temporal components
♦ Extensive original research and discussions on landscape evolution and geoarchaeological sensitivity, including a map of buried site potential in the Caltrans right-of-way in the Cuyama Valley
♦ Detailed description and discussion of a fully exposed Chumash structure
♦ Analysis of yucca roasting ovens, including feature descriptions, plant identifications, and preparation methods
♦ Contribution to the ongoing debate on artiodactyl abundance
♦ Patterns of technology, settlement, and social interactions

Ethnographic Contributions

♦ Estimates of non-mission populations in Cuyama Valley, and the effects of European-borne diseases, especially on children
♦ Complex diagrams of social interactions between Cuyama Valley inhabitants and nearby villages
♦ Detailed kinship charts of individuals associated with Cuyama Valley villages
♦ First-hand accounts from court dockets of Cuyama Valley Native Americans in the 1840s and 1850s
♦ A focus on the concerns and activities of today’s Chumash who are carrying on the traditions and languages of their ancestors

Contributions to the History of the Region

♦ A documented history of Cuyama Valley’s early settlement and land use, with special reference to the occupation of sites during the Spanish and Mexican periods in California
♦ Evolution of transportation corridors in the valley
♦ Development of adjacent road- and highway-related features that have encroached upon the seven Cuyama Valley sites.

Public Outreach Efforts

The project produced four genres of public-oriented interpretive material designed in collaboration with individuals from the Northern, Barbareño, and Ventureño Chumash tribes for use in educating the public about the unique prehistory of Cuyama Valley. These genres include a booklet, exhibits, bookmarks, and tool replicas.

Far Western Art Director Tammara Norton worked with members of the Northern, Barbareño, and Ventureño Chumash tribes to create the displays depicted above for their use in educating the public about the unique prehistory of Cuyama Valley. Each tribe received a set of three exhibits designed to their specifications for public outreach and education.

Far Western prepared a full-color, 70-page booklet titled The Long Road Traveled—Archaeology, Native Americans, and Europeans in Cuyama Valley, which discusses the Cuyama Valley project, the region’s prehistory and history, Chumash culture, and living descendants. It concludes with a short glossary of archaeological terms and suggestions for further reading. Caltrans printed 1,000 booklets and distributed them free to Native Americans, Cuyama Valley residents, the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, and archaeologists, as well as local libraries, museums, and schools.
The project could not have been accomplished without the assistance of the following individuals:

**Far Western Anthropological Research Group**
Pat Mikkelsen  
Jack Meyer  
Adrian Whitaker  
Eric Wohlgemuth  
Nathan Stevens  
Deborah Jones  
Molly Fogarty Starr  
Tammara Norton  
Elizabeth Honeysett  
Laura Harold  
Jill Eubanks  

**Caltrans**  
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Jeanne Binning  
Krista Kiaha  
Paula Carr  
Ed Schefter  
Terry Joslin  
Rochelle Vierra  

**Foothill Resources**  
Julia Costello  

**Tiley Research**  
Michelle Tiley  

**Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History**  
John Johnson  

**Other Individuals**  
Robert Gibson  
Kenneth Gobalet  
Gregory White  
Emma Britton  
Ronald Bishop  
Richard Hughes  
Chester King  
Jeff Parsons  
Thomas Origer  
Helen McCarthy  

For additional information regarding the Cuyama Valley project from Far Western's web site, go to:  

For more information on the Governor's Historic Preservation Awards Program, go to:  
[www.ohp.parks.ca.gov/governorsawards](http://www.ohp.parks.ca.gov/governorsawards)