Preserving California’s Cherished Heritage: Our Shared Responsibility

La Preservación de la Herencia Preciada de California: Nuestra Responsabilidad Compartida

California’s historic and archaeological resources reflect our state’s rich and diverse heritage – beginning with the earliest Native Americans and continuing forward with the blending of cultures and civilizations that have enriched our state. We all need to realize that our preservation of cultural resources could be damaged in a day than hundreds of years of wind, sun, and rain. Help protect and preserve our shared heritage for generations to come.

California Archaeology Month
October 2018

Society for California Archaeology
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The Society for California Archaeology Newsletter is a quarterly publication with information that is 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 SCA Newsletter editors.

Submissions: The submission deadline for the September 2019 issue of the SCA Newsletter is August 10, 2019. All contributions will appear on the SCA website unless otherwise specified. Please email all 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; Shelly Davis-King, Pat Mikkelsen, and Peter Von der Porten, Co-Editors.

Inclusion, Diversity, and Negotiating the Dynamic: It’s on Us

Rebecca Allen, President

LAST FALL, I SENT AN EMAIL TO THE WISE DR. Margie Purser, discussing what I thought were three disparate topics on work, the 2020 SCA meeting, and a personal note. Margie pointed out that there were common threads in that email: diversity, inclusion, and negotiation. These topics have been on my mind for a while, and I often think about how to integrate them during my presidential tenure.

The March 2019 SCA meeting was an extraordinarily successful conference (our biggest ever!) with the theme of “Women in Archaeology.” At first, I wondered about this; as a woman in archaeology, I felt more like a fact than a theme, and believed that women had already gained their rightful place in archaeology. I then re-read the December
2018 issue of *California Archaeology* and thought about why women are not publishing as often as our male colleagues. Bill Hildebrandt and the Women in California Archaeology Committee convinced me that the SCA membership needed this conference and this theme. Given the many smiling faces, extraordinary diversity of topics, and wildly successful Women in Archaeology Oral History Project, I can now see that they were right. It is not enough to simply take a place at the table. All of our members need to acknowledge, celebrate, and insist on gender-of-all-kinds inclusiveness. In April, my first email blast to the membership as the SCA president addressed our need to create a policy regarding sexual harassment, acceptable and respectful behavior, and creating an atmosphere of inclusivity where all members feel safe in our professional settings. We have work yet to do.

The March 2019 meeting also saw the highest number of Native Americans at the conference. I extend my thanks to Immediate Past President Bill Hildebrandt and our SCA Executive Director Denise Wills for their work on this issue, in close coordination with the Native American Programs Committee. This year I became the new Tribal Historic Preservation Director for the United Auburn Indian Community (UAIC). Matthew Moore is the UAIC Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, and after he attended the SCA meeting in Sacramento, his comment to me was “Wow. There were a lot of Indians there. For a minute, I thought I was at a THPO Summit.” There were also many in the Native American community who were not there. After my first three months on the job at UAIC, I better understand the many topics and actions that divide archaeologists and Native Americans. We have work yet to do.

I have also received a request for a new People of Color Committee to be created within the SCA. Not everyone feels comfortable and welcome at the SCA, and this new committee could assist in bridging that gap. I have heard the same from my historical archaeological colleagues; while topics related to historical archaeology are fairly common, the dominance of precontact themes remains. Other archaeological specialists may feel the same. We have work yet to do.

There are many topics of interest that can bring us together. As the SCA Board makes plans for this year and next, I come back to Margie’s note about the thread of inclusion and diversity. How can we best negotiate these issues and make sure we address them? It is on each one of us to do so. As you consider your submissions for the SCA’s 2020 Annual Meeting in Riverside, please think about how these themes intersect with your interests. Consider becoming more involved in the SCA, and think about joining one of our committees. Every member is welcome to join a group that encourages diversity and inclusion. If we all take an active role in this effort, perhaps the barriers will break down and the need for diversity-based committees will dissipate. If you see actions or groups that exclude, speak out. Silence can sometimes inadvertently promote negative patterns of behavior. Discuss these topics openly and often. Do what you can to learn how to negotiate difficult topics and to de-escalate problematic situations.

I have work to do on this, but I am looking forward to taking on the challenge, both personally and professionally. What are your thoughts and ideas? Please feel free to email them to me at rebecca@scahome.org.
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State Historical Resources Commission
Open

SCA Newsletter 53(2) – June 2019 5
Thursday, March 7, 2019

Meeting Participants
William Hildebrandt (President)
Rebecca Allen (President-Elect)
Steve Hilton (Immediate Past President)
Sarah Nicchitta (Southern Vice President)
Glenn Russell (incoming Southern Vice President)
Denise Jaffke (Northern Vice President)
Maggie Trumbly (Treasurer)
Lindsay Hartman (Secretary)
Committee chairs/members gave presentations

Meeting Convened

Maggie moves to approve Winter Board Meeting Minutes. Bill seconds the motion. All ayes.

The student paper competition at this year’s meeting included several posters. There was discussion of a separate poster competition and when it should start.

Bill moves that the SCA Annual Meetings have separate competitions for student posters and papers. Rebecca seconds the motion. All ayes.

Bill moves that they be awarded the same amount. Rebecca seconds the motion. All ayes.

Bill moves to award $500 for each. Rebecca seconds the motion. All ayes.

Register of Professional Archaeologists Board Nominations

Amy Gusick asks that the SCA look for nominations for the RPA Board. The ballot is set for August.

Maritime Archaeology Committee

The Maritime Archaeology Committee is in its third year and its second year of hosting a workshop. They are working with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) about guidelines for maritime archaeologists.

Planner Training Strategies

Denise Jaffke, Tricia Dodds, and Glenn Russell are developing a brochure based on information provided by Glenn Russell (for Santa Barbara County) and Rincon Consultants Inc. to inform city/local planners about the basic California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) process. The brochure can be presented to interested parties and will direct people to the SCA website that has links to Caltrans Standard Environmental Reference, California State Parks, and other information.

Looting of Historic Sites

Archaeologists need to pair up with regional historical societies as professional representatives. Volunteers for this purpose, as well as those who would like to give talks to historical societies, should be sought.

Advanced Annual Meeting Planning

Adie Whitaker reported that the next three annual meetings are booked—in Riverside, San Francisco, and Visalia. As meetings are now regularly hosting more than 900 attendees, venue costs must consider room rates and food/beverages. A request was made that the 2023 meeting be held in late April so that South Lake Tahoe could be an option.

Bill moves to have a late April meeting in 2023 at South Lake Tahoe. Rebecca seconds the motion. All ayes.

California Archaeological Site Stewardship Program

The relationship between CASSP and the SCA was discussed. CASSP is now in a liaison role and will separate from the SCA. Beth Padon requested that CASSP retain some SCA-related amenities, such as using the oak leaf symbol on their notebooks, staying involved with the SCA Annual Meetings, and contributing to the SCA Newsletter.

Legislative Committee Update

Samantha Schell related that the Legislative Committee distributed copies of its mission statement and outreach program in the book room of the Annual Meeting. The committee needs people to join. There
will be a meeting with the Office of Planning and Research in Sacramento, at which time the committee will explain who they are and discuss some hot topics (e.g., how the government shutdown affected sites, the impact of the border wall, CEQA amendments).

**Cal Fire Letter**

Foresters are being certified as archaeologists after a 40-hour course and can then gain access to the Information Centers. Discussion ensued about how the Board should handle this issue. Steve Hilton requested that the Board write a letter to the SHPO stating our position that this is not an appropriate situation; he will draft the letter. The SCA president and incoming president would both like to sign the letter to give it more force when it is submitted to the SHPO.

**Native American Programs Committee**

Gregg Castro reported that the NAPC is creating an online form containing information that will simplify the application process for the California Native Sponsorship Program. There were 22 applications this year.

**SCA Proceedings**

Seetha Reddy provided an update on the SCA Proceedings. Jill Gardner has agreed to take on the task of copyediting and layout. Seetha requested permission from the Board to be firm with authors about the submission guidelines and to return articles if they are not followed. The Board approved the addition of the requirement to the call for submissions.

**Cultural Easements**

The SCA owns 14 cultural easements with a total of 32 sites. To dispose of these easements, quitclaim deeds could be prepared or the SCA can work with The Archaeological Conservancy (TAC) to preserve them but transfer ownership. TAC will work to identify easements that should/could be preserved.

*Bill moves we proceed with the easement transfer process from SCA to TAC, and any that are not to be preserved should have quitclaims filed on them. Maggie seconds the motion.*

A discussion was held before the vote on easement transfer was finished about whether Native American tribes should be consulted first.

*Bill moves forward with the motion, with the addition of tribal consultation and inclusion. Maggie seconds the motion. All ayes.*

**Other Business**

Tom Origer reported that VHS recordings of past Annual Meeting presentations have been converted into a digital hard drive and presented them to the Board. The hard drive contains 120+ recordings. A discussion was held about what to do with them, such as posting them on Facebook or showing them at the meetings.

Finally, Steve Hilton encouraged Executive Board members to make appearances at Native American events since they attend ours.

*Bill adjourns the meeting at 3:45 p.m.*

**Sunday, March 10, 2019**

**Meeting Participants**

Rebecca Allen (President)
William Hildebrandt (Immediate Past-President)
Michelle Cross (President Elect)
Glenn Russell (Southern Vice President)
Denise Jaffke (Northern Vice President)
Melinda Patrick (Treasurer)
Maggie Trumbly (Immediate Past Treasurer)
Lindsay Hartman (Secretary)
Denise Wills (Executive Director)
Committee chairs gave presentations

**Meeting Convened**

New Board members were introduced. Maggie will remain as Immediate Past Treasurer one more year to assist Melinda in her transition to Treasurer. There was a recap of the CASSP’s new role as a liaison rather than a committee.

**Financial Update**

The 2019 SCA Annual Meeting hosted about 1,100 attendees with a large number of on-site registrations. The donations to the Annual Meeting were the most we have ever received. Interestingly, the SCA is one tenth the size of the Society for American Archaeology and is the same size as the Society for Historical Archaeology.
Financially, the SCA is looking good, especially compared to this time last year. We should make a profit from the meeting. Goals for this year include moving some money into a CD and raising member dues enough to cover business office expenses. The summer Board meeting will consider budgeting/planning and we will decide the course for the next year. The date for this meeting is set for July 12-13, 2019.

Women in California Archeology Committee

Jennifer Darcangelo reported that the child care suite at the Annual Meeting was very popular. Much was learned during the first year of offering this service, which will help in planning for it next year. The committee had a budget of $3,740 and only spent $1,700. Sponsorship was beneficial; their meeting shirts sold out in one day and made nearly $600.

The forum and committee meetings at the 2019 conference both went well and included some men. The focus this year is to be more intersectional and inclusive of everyone. Mentoring and interview practice are topics the committee would like to work on this year.

Information Centers

Amy Huberland noted that the Northeast Information Center (IC) is doing well and is financially solvent. GIS-based ICs have a large format scanner now and work is underway on a statewide system.

With the recent California fires, the ICs have been working with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), which has enlisted Native American groups to conduct surveys of sensitive prehistoric areas, and FEMA archaeologists/historians are conducting surveys of historic locations. Native Americans are not required to turn anything in to the ICs and the information that FEMA submits is on their own forms (not the typical Department of Parks and Recreation forms). The programmatic agreement the IC has with FEMA expires this year, when we may be able to correct this.

Amy requested assistance from the Board and Bill agreed to speak with FEMA representatives. Amy will probably relinquish her liaison role next year. She would like to get more of the ICs involved and maybe have a regular forum at the Annual Meetings.

Open Dialogue

There was an open dialogue regarding the ICs continuing to go digital and how to help them obtain funding. The discussion included the issue of confidential information ending up at public storage auctions and in garages.

Bill spoke with a representative of the Native American Programs Committee, and the tribes would like to review the CEQA planner brochure before it is released to SCA members. The Professional Standards and Ethics Committee would also like to review the CEQA documentation.

Identifying Cremains in Wildfire Areas

Alex DeGeorgey asked the Board for support in this new program of identifying cremated remains in wildfire areas. His group spent at least 4,000 hours with 70 volunteers after the 2018 Camp Fire recovering such remains. There needs to be a change at the federal level to make cremation identification part of disaster response. Alex requested a letter of support from the SCA to advance their mission with the policymakers and presented the Board with a written version of the program for their review.

Climate Change

Mike Newland brought up the topic of sea level rise and ocean temperature increase. He requested help from the Board to enlist volunteers to help survey coastal sites and to disseminate the information that so many sites were damaged in the recent wildfires.

Public Outreach and Education

Craig Lesh reported that the website for the Public Outreach and Education Committee (POEC) is undergoing changes. It will hopefully include a drop-down menu, a link to add to a calendar of events, and a larger link for public involvement/volunteering. For outreach to historical societies, they are working on a list of societies and contacts as well as identifying archaeologists who could be their representatives. The Alan Alda Center for Communicating Science would be a good group to present their class “How to Present to the Public,” which costs $5,000.

The Board directed the POEC to continue creating a list of people who would like to work with historical societies.
SCA BUSINESS AND ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED)

Native American Programs Committee

Gregg Castro reported that the NAPC suite at the 2019 Annual Meetings was very important and went well, although the room was a bit small. Next year, the Annual Meeting will be spread over two hotels and Gregg requested that the Marriott be the place for the NAPC suite (not the Mission Inn). Because of issues this year with the suite not being ready on time, he asked that the suite be made available next year on Wednesday rather than Thursday.

Gregg also discussed conducting an orientation at the 2019 meeting on how to make good use of the conference. This would be particularly helpful for students. He suggested that the Board revisit the budget if there are more people signed up for next year and look into daily or shared tribal passes. For the SCA meeting app, he requested a link to the NAPC and a section for new attendees.

Closing Discussion

It was suggested that groups and companies be approached and asked to support the California Native Sponsorship Program. A committee to find a replacement for Denise Wills was created. A candidate is needed to start transitioning before the next Annual Meeting. The committee will consist of Tom Origer, Adie Whitaker, Maggie Trumbly, Rebecca Allen, Bill Hildebrandt, Denise Wills, and Michelle Cross. They will report on their progress at the next meeting and the Board will then vote on the final decision. Finally, just before the meeting closed, Board members were assigned to various committees.

Rebecca moves to adjourn the meeting. Bill seconds the motion. All ayes.

Archaeological Poster Award from the SAA

At the 2019 SAA meeting in Albuquerque, New Mexico, CASSP coordinator Beth Padon accepted the third place archaeology poster contest plaque for the SCA. When California was announced as the third place winner for their 2018 Archaeology Month poster (see cover page), Beth realized that no one was heading to the front of the theater to accept the plaque. Having no fear, and sitting on the aisle, she walked up front and accepted it! Later, she entrusted the plaque to Michael Glassow to transport it to California. Beth said, “I was happy to accept the plaque and glad to have the chance to represent the SCA.”

Beth Padon (right) accepting the third place award for the archaeology poster competition from SAA past president Susan Chandler (left). Photograph courtesy of the SAA.
Important Changes to the Standards and Ethics Advisory Committee
Glenn Russell, Professional Standards and Ethics Committee

Some changes have been made to one of the SCA’s important committees, the Standards and Ethics Advisory Committee. After a discussion by the Executive Board, a new mission statement has been drafted that emphasizes the important advisory role of this committee (see below). The current task is to develop anti-harassment policies and procedures. The committee will follow up on the message sent recently by the SCA’s new president, Rebecca Allen, to all SCA members. The Board is committed to the development of effective policies on sexual harassment, acceptable and respectful behavior, and creating an atmosphere of inclusivity where all members feel safe in our professional settings. The committee will consider:

- An Anti-Sexual Harassment and Discrimination Policy as an integral component of the SCA Annual Meetings
- Conference programming that addresses how to handle and defuse situations where one’s safety and dignity are at risk
- Monitoring participants to ensure that any individuals who have been sanctioned by other organizations for harassment, assault, or other discriminatory behaviors are not present (to the best of our abilities)
- Creating a structure that will generate a reporting mechanism for unwanted behaviors and follow-up communications

The Board has asked me to chair the committee, which I am happy to do. If you would like to provide input and/or participate on the committee, please contact me at Glenn@SCAHome.org.

Standards and Ethics Advisory Committee Mission Statement

The mission of the Standards and Ethics Advisory Committee is to serve in an advisory capacity to the SCA Board concerning professional standards and ethical guidelines for all SCA members, and to regularly bring issues and solutions to the Board. These standards and guidelines should assist and advise practicing archaeologists, individuals, agencies, and other entities in how to maintain high professional archaeological standards of conduct, documentation, and reporting.

2019 Fredrickson-Bennyhoff Quilt

The quilt raffled at the 2019 SCA Annual Meeting in Sacramento was created by Sannie Osborn (right) using fabric collected by Dr. David Fredrickson. Dave was a first-class archaeologist as well as an accomplished quilt maker. Since his death, volunteers have used his abundant scrap material to create quilts that are raffled off to support student research that expands on Dr. James A. Bennyhoff’s interests—existing museum collections, time-sensitive typologies, and revisions to culture historical taxonomic frameworks. The 2019 raffle generated $1,750, more than enough to cover the monetary part of the award for one year. The Bennyhoff Memorial Fund Committee thanks Sannie for crafting such a splendid quilt and we thank all who purchased a raffle ticket to support future archaeologists. Under the guidance of Julia Huddleston, Caltrans will be making next year’s quilt. Anyone interested in creating future quilts, please contact Tom Origer at origer@origer.com.
A Special Thank You to the 2019 SCA Annual Meeting Underwriters

OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATES (ESA) - SUPPORTING MEETING TOTE BAGS
ICF - SUPPORTING WCA CHILDCARE
STANTEC - SUPPORTING THE MOBILE PROGRAM APPLICATION
GEI CONSULTANTS, INC.
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON (SCE)
FAR WESTERN ANTHROPOLOGICAL RESEARCH GROUP, INC.
APPLIED EARTHWORKS, INC.
ASM AFFILIATES, INC.
HDR, INC.
PACIFIC LEGACY, INC.
LYNN GAMBLE AND GLENN RUSSELL
ROBERTA JEWETT AND KENT LIGHTFOOT
SRI, INC.
CODIFI, INC., AND PALEOWEST ARCHAEOLOGY
SWCA ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS, INC.
THOMAS LAYTON
RISA AND ALEX DEGEOERGEY | ALTA ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONSULTING
MARY AND JAMES GARY MANIERY | PAR ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
HANNAH BALLARD | PACIFIC LEGACY, INC.
KAREN AND KEITH JOHNSON
SAMANTHA SCHELL | PACIFIC LEGACY
MAGGIE TRUMBLY
2019 SCA Annual Meeting Award Winners

David A. Fredrickson Lifetime Achievement Award
Julia G. Costello

Martin A. Baumhoff Special Achievement Award
Lynn H. Gamble

Mark Raymond Harrington Award for Conservation Archaeology
Richard A. Gould

Helen C. Smith Award for Individual or Society Avocationalist Achievement
Astrid and Samuel Webb

Thomas F. King Award for Excellence in Cultural Resources Management
Elaine Sundahl (see Spotlight on page 13)

California Indian Heritage Preservation Award
Valentin Lopez

Golden Shovel Award
Charlotte A. Smith

Outstanding Student Paper Presented at the Annual Meeting
Noel Jones

Orphaned Collections Grant Recipients
Liz Niec (Sonoma State University) and Koji Lau-Ozawa (Stanford University)

James A. Bennyhoff Memorial Fund Award
Kristina Crawford (University of Nevada, Reno)

Charles E. Rozaire Award for Student Research in California Archaeology
Kaitlin Brown (University of California, Santa Barbara)

Some of the award winners. Top (left to right): Julia Costello, Lynn Gamble, Richard Gould, and Astrid and Samuel Webb. Bottom (left to right): Elaine Sundahl, Valentin Lopez, Liz Niec, and Kristina Crawford. The top left photograph is courtesy of Julia Costello; all other images are available at https://scahome.org/sca-annual-meeting/sca-meeting-awards/.
Spotlight on Elaine Sundahl, 2019 SCA Annual Meeting Award Winner of the Thomas F. King Award for Excellence in Cultural Resources Management

Eric W. Ritter

OUR SAFEGUARDING AND UNDERSTANDING of northern California prehistory and history have significantly increased owing to the work of one productive archaeologist, Elaine Sundahl. This unpretentious scholar was a late arrival to the field, returning from an earlier teaching career and motherhood to anthropological pursuits in the 1970s and continuing to this day. The northernmost reaches of California, some would say, are not always given their due in broader perspectives on California prehistory, history, and cultural resources management (CRM). This is through no fault of Elaine, who has at least 50 major professional reports and articles to her credit as well as numerous other documents focusing on the northern reaches of the state.

Elaine’s research has centered on Shasta, Tehama, Trinity, and Siskiyou counties, the heart of the proposed State of Jefferson. This is the location where she and her husband, Bill, chose to settle near the shadow of the great Shasta Dam. Elaine’s first contribution, delivered at the Society for California Archaeology Annual Meeting in 1976 (43 years ago!) dealt with a possible pre-Clovis flaked stone assemblage near Redding. Lithic analysis is a specialty of hers, as evidenced in her many reports and articles. Her graduate work at California State University, Chico, culminated in her 1982 M.A. thesis on better defining the late prehistoric Shasta Complex. Educators such as archaeologists Ed Clewett, Mark Kowta, and Keith Johnson have greatly influenced her, the latter two being past recipients of the SCA Lifetime Achievement Award.

Elaine is a “nuts and bolts” archaeologist and CRM aficionado, not straying much into broad theoretical polemics in her writings, but oh so productive. Since this northern zone has not been subjected to numerous detailed examinations like some other areas of California, cultural-historical questions are still very important and Elaine has been at the forefront of such regional definitions. She has clarified various regional schemes and postulated other chronologies where they did not exist or have been poorly defined, such as in the Sacramento Valley portions of Tehama County and the mountainous areas of Shasta and Trinity counties. These include a better definition of the Borax Lake Pattern, the Bend chronology and, with Ed Clewett, definition of the Tehama Pattern.

Elaine worked for several decades as an archaeologist for the Shasta-Trinity National Forest, where many CRM reports were produced and important sites were studied and protected. Since the 1970s, she has been one of the driving forces behind the archaeology program at Shasta College, where she organized the archaeology lab and prepared publications on field work completed through the college, initially with Ed Clewett and often through cooperative agreements with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the U.S. Forest Service. Most famously, she and Clewett published a report on a large village at the north end of Shasta Lake with 8,000 years of prehistory. She also reported on a lowland Borax Lake location near Big Bar in Trinity County. She has published reports on many other CRM-related historic (e.g., Shake Cabin, Chinese mining cabins, St. Rose Catholic Church in French Gulch), prehistoric, and protohistoric sites, such as those along the Sacramento River and adjoining foothill/mountain villages as well as open and sheltered residential sites in the Red Bluff locality through the program at Shasta College. Elaine has teamed with archaeologist Trudy Vaughan of Coyote & Fox Enterprises and other firms to complete CRM reports on a number of important places in northern California (see https://core.tdar.org/browse/creators/16928/elaine-sundahl for a downloadable list of these and other reports).

Aside from descriptive archaeological site reports, Elaine has gone beyond her lithic analysis expertise and cultural-historic contributions to examine topics
such as trade/exchange, ethnolinguistic boundaries, the dynamics of culture change/movement, mobility, settlement-subsistence, culture patterning, and architecture. She has delivered lectures to students at Shasta College on regional prehistory. She has prepared educational displays on research results and is currently a consultant on a BLM-SCA sponsored public school Project Archaeology teaching module on California Indian roundhouses using a type example from one of her reports. She has also involved herself in historic research and publications on local pioneers and settlers.

Elaine epitomizes what a good scholar should be, dedicated to her field, a hard worker, appreciative of others’ studies, not self-promoting or overly critical of other scholars’ work, humble, trying to make a contribution to the archaeology of northern California, and multidisciplinary in focus. She has often said it was fun doing all this work. She is a downright nice person! We all appreciate her and her ongoing contributions to CRM and California archaeology and history.

California Archaeological Site Stewardship Program Activities
Karen Lacy, Mike DeGiovine, Beth Padon, and Chris Padon, CASSP Coordinators

CASSP Workshops

We are pleased to announce that two volunteer training workshops were scheduled in 2019; one with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Ukiah Field Office and the other with the BLM Arcata Field Office. We thank Tony Overly and James Barnes at the BLM State Office for assistance in funding these workshops. Archaeologist Sharyl Ferris-Kinnear hosted the BLM Arcata workshop on May 30-31, 2019, and archaeologist Chris Lloyd will host the BLM Ukiah workshop in October (date to be determined). Please check our website at www.cassp.org and the CASSP listserv to learn more about these volunteer training workshops.

Poster Session at the 2019 SCA Annual Meeting in Sacramento

CASSP held a poster session at the SCA Annual Meeting on Saturday, March 9, 2019. We were very pleased that more than 40 people attended the session and had the opportunity to speak with CASSP organizers, archaeologists, and site stewards. State Parks archaeologist Brian Walsh and site steward Jan Bales presented a poster for the Northern Butte District of California State Parks that showed their site stewardship activities around Lake Oroville for the past year. A big thank you to Joan Schneider for bringing Astrid and Samuel Webb’s poster that highlighted their volunteer efforts at Anza-Borrego Desert State Park. Astrid and Samuel are volunteer site stewards with archaeologist Robin Connors. They were honored at the 2019 SCA Annual Meeting, where they received the Helen C. Smith Award for Individual Avocationalist Achievement (see page 12). Congratulations, Astrid and Samuel, for your volunteer archaeology work over these many years.

Site steward Ed Fox presented a poster titled “A Day in December 2018.” Ed travels about 200 miles round trip to his sites in the BLM Central Coast Field Office, and then hikes about five miles, a commitment that inspires us all. CASSP coordinators Karen Lacy and Mike DeGiovine presented the poster “What It Means to Work as a Volunteer Site Steward,” displaying stewards’ experiences with their sites and their contributions to protecting them. CASSP organizers Beth and Chris Padon presented a poster that traced the many contributions of California State Parks to site stewardship. Stewards volunteer at many State Parks in California, including those in the Angeles District (with Barbara Tejada), Monterey District (with Rae Schwaderer), Northern Buttes District (with Brian Walsh), Colorado Desert District (with Robin Connors) and State Vehicle Recreation Areas of Carnegie, Hollister, and Ocotillo Wells (with Jay Baker).

CASSP Table at the SCA Annual Meeting

Numerous people stopped by the CASSP table in the book room of the 2019 SCA Annual Meeting. We
thank Codifi Paperless Solutions and Michael Ashley for sponsoring the CASSP table. Karen and Mike talked with more than 100 people about site stewardship and future volunteer training workshops, and 75 people signed up for further information.

**CASSP Committee Meeting at the 2019 SCA Annual Meeting**

CASSP held its committee meeting at the SCA Annual Meeting with over 25 archaeologists, site stewards, and other interested people. We distributed the CASSP Annual Report 2018 during this gathering. Some agency archaeologists asked for additional site stewards, and several stewards at the meeting wanted to volunteer for more sites. Karen and Mike reported on their activities as coordinators for the program and about the volunteer training workshops they lead. Beth and Chris formed Partners for Archaeological Site Stewardship, a non-profit corporation, to support CASSP and site stewardship programs and activities beyond California. If you have any questions about CASSP, please e-mail Karen at karen.elizabeth.lacy@gmail.com.

Karen and Mike also reminded everyone that Linn Gassaway would love to have more CASSP news to post on our Facebook page. Linn’s e-mail address is lgassaway@fs.fed.us. She is the zone archaeologist for Lassen National Forest and she will make sure that only informational materials and photographs, not confidential data, are posted. Thanks to Linn for providing the CASSP Facebook page.

Karen Lacy and Mike DeGiovine presented their poster at the 2019 SCA Annual Meeting. Photograph courtesy of Chris Padon.

The CASSP committee at its meeting held at the 2019 SCA Annual Meeting. Photograph courtesy of Chris Padon.

Brian Walsh (center), flanked by Krysty Emery (left) and Leslie Hartzell (right), presented his poster at the 2019 SCA Annual Meeting. Photograph courtesy of Chris Padon.
The Yreka Chinatown Project: Research Update
Sarah Heffner

Approximately two years ago, I became involved with researching a collection of artifacts from the 1969 excavations of Yreka’s third Chinese community. The excavations were conducted prior to the construction of Interstate 5 through Yreka, which destroyed the last remnants of Chinese homes and businesses occupied between 1886 and the 1940s. From January to March 1969, archaeologists with the California Department of Parks and Recreation, under contract with the California Department of Transportation, directed a salvage excavation at the location of Yreka’s last historical Chinese community, near the Miner Street Interchange west of downtown Yreka (Figures 1 and 2). The project was one of the earliest of a Chinese community in California and one of the first major historical archaeological salvage projects in the state. At that time, archaeologists excavated 73 units and two trenches (Figure 3), recorded nine features, and catalogued nearly 5,000 artifacts. For various reasons, the Yreka report was never finalized.

Analysis of the Yreka excavation materials began in 1978, nearly a decade following the project, when State Parks was trying to build their collections and money had become available through Federal Title II funding to analyze and catalogue the collection. Researchers, led by former State Parks archaeologist Larry Felton, analyzed artifacts by functional category and produced detailed hand-drawn maps, charts, and diagrams, in an effort to study artifact distribution and use areas. Makers’ marks on ceramic tablewares and glass bottles were researched and their dates of production and manufacturer were identified. Additional research on the collection was conducted in the early 2000s by San Francisco State University graduate student Danny Liu, whose thesis provided a detailed discussion of Chinese ceramic patterns, decorative techniques on Chinese and Euroamerican ceramics, manufacturing techniques, and company histories (Liu 2006). Translations were provided for some of the ceramics and medicine vials containing Chinese characters.

Figure 1. Project location map for the Yreka Chinatown Project. Map courtesy of Amber Rankin at PAR Environmental Services, Inc.

The Yreka Chinatown collection is currently housed at the State Archaeological Collections and Research Facility (SACRF) in McClellan, California. In addition to the collection of artifacts from the Yreka excavations, SACRF also has all the documents associated with the original excavations and later cataloguing efforts, including site/artifact photographs, field notes, catalogue forms, and artifact distribution maps.

Very little of the previously recorded detailed artifact information has been entered into the current The Museum System (TMS) catalogue. Entries are limited to catalogue number, a brief description, site contextual information (unit, level), and information on their location within SACRF.
My interest in researching this collection stemmed from a desire to expand on my dissertation research that focused on health care practices of Chinese immigrant communities in rural Nevada mining and railroad towns during the nineteenth century, as well as a desire to further my knowledge of Chinese material culture as it appears in the archaeological record. When I learned that the report had never been finalized, I saw an opportunity to update the draft report with additional archival research, newer graphics, and clear artifact photographs. Additionally, I hoped to share the excavation results with my fellow archaeologists, interested members of the public, and descendants of Yreka’s Chinese community.

In 2017, I received funding from the SCA through their Orphaned Archaeological Collections Grant program, and in 2018 from the California State Parks Cultural Resources Management Program, to update and finalize the report and publish it as a volume in California State Parks Cultural Heritage Publications (CHP).

Additional aspects of my research have involved: (1) conducting interviews with individuals who worked on the early excavations to gain a sense of working conditions and archaeological methods used at the site; (2) scanning, digitizing, and organizing the archival materials associated with the excavations and later artifact studies; (3) working with a graphics specialist to gain a better understanding of the layout of units and features in relation to historical Sanborn maps, modern aerials, and as-builds; and (4) taking high-resolution photographs of diagnostic artifacts to include in the Chinese Material Culture Collection, an online database and identification guide of Chinese artifacts from archaeological sites and museums (see https://soda.sou.edu/chinese/index.html).

My report on the Yreka excavations and collections is scheduled to be published this fall and is the 36th volume in the CHP series. I am in the process of applying for a second grant from State Parks to update and finalize the archaeological catalogue for Yreka, bringing together all previously recorded data (e.g., artifact notes/drawings, measurements, dates) collected on the Yreka Chinatown artifacts, and combining this with professional photography of diagnostic artifacts, translations of Chinese characters, and residue analysis of medicine bottles.

References


SCA Activities of Note in 2019 and 2020

SAVE THE DATES FOR THE SCA DATA SHARING AND ANNUAL MEETINGS IN 2019 AND 2020

2019 Northern Data Sharing Meeting
Saturday, September 28, 2019
Camping will be available on September 27 and 28
Donner Memorial State Park Visitor Center
12593 Donner Pass Road, Truckee, CA 96161

2019 Southern Data Sharing Meeting
Saturday, October 19, 2019
Camping will be available on October 18 and 19
Sedwick Reserve
3566 Brinkerhoff Avenue, Santa Ynez, CA 93460

2020 SCA Annual Meeting
54th SCA Annual Meeting
Riverside Convention Center
March 12-15, 2020

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS, SCA PROCEEDINGS

Did you present a paper at the 2019 SCA Annual Meeting? Consider submitting it to the Proceedings of the Society for California Archaeology so that your research will reach all our members. Papers that are published in the Proceedings are available online at https://scahome.org/sca-publications/articles-of-the-sca-proceedings/. All papers presented at the meeting are eligible for publication, provided they have not been previously published. Submissions are due July 1, 2019.

Articles submitted for publication in the Proceedings must follow the style guide of the Society for American Archaeology; please review the SCA submission guidelines prior to submittal.

Submission Guidelines:
https://scahome.org/sca-publications/proceeding-submissions/

 Formatting Guidelines:
https://scahome.org/formatting-guidelines/

Manuscripts not formatted according to the style guide will be returned to the author for revision. Please be sure to submit tables and figures as separate files and do not include embedded links in your text. Listed references must be complete and electronic media cited accurately (refer to the SAA guidelines).

Do not hesitate to contact Seetha Reddy, editor of the Proceedings, at reddyanthropology@gmail.com, proceedingseditor@scahome.org, or at 530-902-3818 with any questions or concerns. She will be happy to help you.

OCTOBER CALIFORNIA ARCHAEOLOGY MONTH

Craig Lesh of the SCA’s Public Outreach and Education Committee reminds us that October is always California Archaeology Month and that International Archaeology Day (IAD) will be celebrated on October 19, 2019. IAD events can include a wide range of activities, such as archaeology fairs, laboratory open houses, classroom visits, special tours of museums and sites, symposia, conferences, meetings, student presentations, and lectures. We hope that all SCA members will participate in some type of public outreach event.

If your organization is hosting an outreach activity in October, please visit https://www.archaeological.org/archaeologyday/CollaboratingOrganizationInfo to become an official Collaborating Organization. Track your volunteer hours and report them to the SCA.

SOUTHERN DATA SHARING MEETING CALL FOR PAPERS

As noted above, the 2019 Southern Data Sharing Meeting will be held on October 19. The venue facilities for a small conference are first rate. Attendance is limited, so if you plan to present a paper, send the title and a brief abstract ASAP to Glenn Russell at Glenn@SCAHome.org. Attendance is expected to be at capacity, so even if you are not giving a paper, let Glenn know right away if you are planning to attend.