

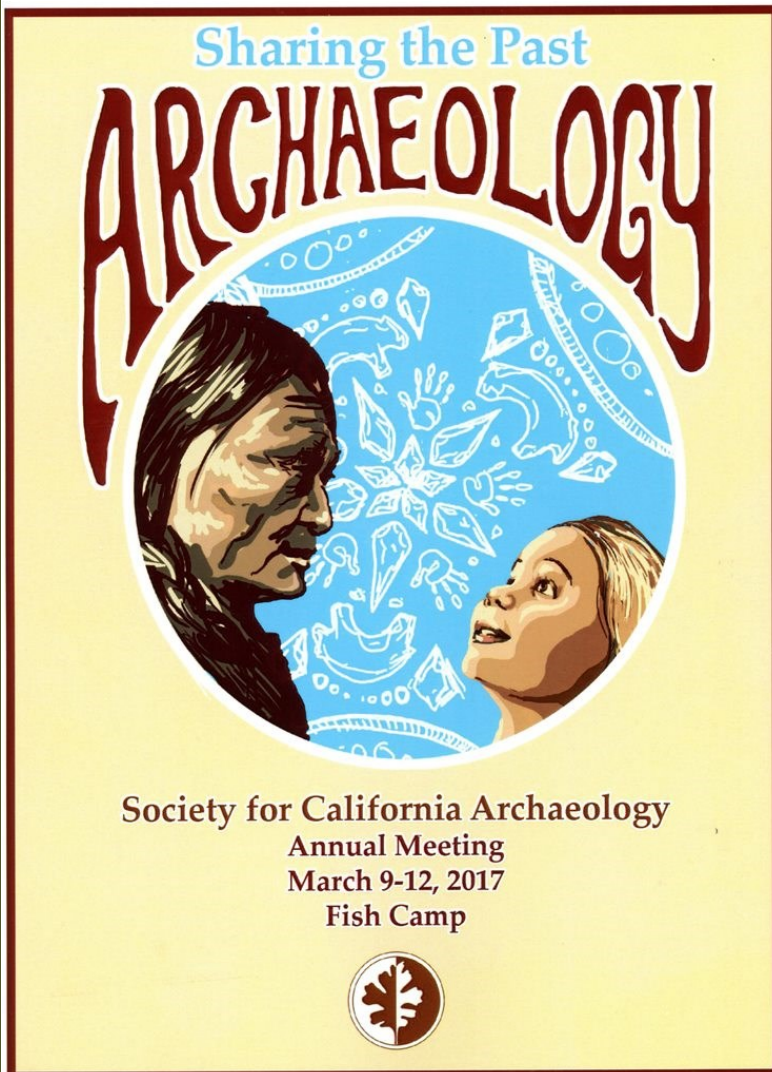


SCAN

THE SANTA CRUZ ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER SPRING 2017



SCA ANNUAL MEETING, MARCH 9-12, 2017



This year's Society for California Archaeology meeting was held at Tenaya Lodge in Fish Camp, CA. Although this year saw record snowfalls, we were fortunate to have a dry, snowless drive in on Highway 41 from Oakhurst, and the air was surprisingly pleasant for a location at over 5000 feet.

We were welcomed at the Plenary Session by SAA Presi-

dent Jelmer Eerkens and Program Chair Adrian Whitaker, and a greeting and blessing by Ron Goode of the North Fork Mono.

The plenary speakers concentrated on the theme of recent Central and North-Central Sierra research and collaborative efforts between CRM archaeologists, agencies, Native Americans and academics. Our first speaker was Diane Gifford-Gonzalez, president of the Society for American Archaeology, speaking on "Sharing the [Defense of] Our Past: SAA's Initiatives Since 11/8/16". She shared concerns that many US archaeologists have had since the election, and gave us an update on SAA's initiatives and the Coalition for American Heritage. Diane spoke with the SCAS board in February, so I will cover her remarks in a separate article, with updates from the conference.



"Mamma, I'm leavin' home..." Mary Maniery and "167 Years of the Sierras Greatest Hits"

The final presentation of the Plenary Session was Mary Maniery with "A Rhapsody in Time: 167 Years of the Sierras Greatest Hits".

Years ago, Dave Fredrickson suggested to her that she sing a presentation, and today she was finally “channeling” Dave. Mary sat to one side of the podium and with each section introduced by her narrator, gave us “Mineral Extraction” set to the tune of Queen’s *Bohemian Rhapsody*, then four other songs highlighting the important themes of archaeology in the Sierra Nevada.

SCAS was represented in the Book Room by Rob Edwards and Charr Simpson-Smith selling topographic maps, handing out membership forms for SCAS and past issues of our SCAN Newsletter.



Charr Simpson-Smith and Rob Edwards in the bookroom.



Diane Gifford-Gonzalez presenting “Sharing [Defense of] Our Past”.

Raffle tickets were on sale for quilts created this year by CASSP volunteers. The volunteers amazed us with five quilted creations, including a barn-themed wall hanging size quilt designed and sewn by SCAS member Dawn Johnson. The raffle generated over two thousand dollars for the James A. Bennyhoff Memorial Fund Award. Each year, a student proposal for research in California or Great Basin prehistory is awarded \$1,500, obsidian analyses from Origer’s Obsidian Laboratory, and Geochemical Research Laboratory (Richard Hughes), and four AMS dates from Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory.

The well-attended symposia and seminars included Forum 2: *Moving Forward, While Working in the Present: An Interactive Forum Designed to Reconnect SCA Members to the California Historical Resources Information System*, moderated with Northwestern Information Center’s (NWIC) director Bryan Much. Bryan spoke at the SCAS General Meeting in January on this subject. The NWIC has been in the forefront of modernizing record searches for archaeologists.

They have digitized their maps and site reports into a Geographic Information System, and have an electronic submittal system. The NWIC stores records for 18 northern and central California counties including Santa Cruz County.

On Saturday, Symposium 5 explored “*Indigenous Persistence in Central California*”, organized by Lee M. Panich and Tsim D. Schneider. Other conference symposia and forums covered “*New Perspectives on the Study of Gender and Archaeology*”, “*Radiocarbon Dating: Problems and Solutions*” (organized by Gary Breschini and Trudy Haversat), “*Developments in Method and Theory in California Archaeology*”, “*Gender Equity, Mentorship, and Sexual Harassment in California Archaeology*”, “*Consultation with Tribes*”, “*The Scope, Role, and Socio-Political Responsibility of Archaeologists under the Trump Administration*”, (Moderator: Annamarie Leon Guerrero), “*Maritime Archaeology on the West Coast*”, “*Mining Miscellany*”, several poster sessions, and much more.



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

compared to Han Chinese or Japanese. The alleles may have flowed from the Sherpa to the Tibetans, but they did not naturally evolve in those people and are nearly identical to the allele mutations in Denisovan genes. Denisovans are “cousins” of the Neanderthals, and have contributed some of their DNA to modern people living in East Asia and Melanesia. Denisovans are only known from two small bones and two teeth about 41,000 years old which were discovered a few years ago in a cave in the Altai Mountains far to the north of Tibet. This is a fascinating and ongoing story which is evolving weekly. ■

The awards banquet featured Dr. Mark Aldenderfer of UC Merced as the Keynote Speaker. Dr. Aldenderfer spoke about his most recent work called “Living the High Life, the 2017 Edition”, an update of his work published in his book “Montaine Foragers: Asana and the South-Central Andean Archaic” published in 1998. Montaine foragers are people who live and work at elevations over 2500 meters.

In this talk Dr. Aldenderfer compared and contrasted the physiological differences between two high-altitude people: Tibetans, and the Andeans of the Altiplano. The two people differ in how they deal with hypoxia, the altitude-induced lack of sufficient oxygen in the bloodstream. The research into Tibetan response to altitude is particularly frustrating because Tibet is closed to western researchers, and ancient Tibetan genetic material is impossible to come by. Genetic studies by Chinese scientists have shown that the alleles for genes related to hypoxia are very different in living Sherpa and Tibetans as



Mark Aldenderfer speaking about human adaptations to high elevation environments.



Dawn Johnson’s CASSP quilt was raffled off for the Bennyhoff Award fund. Raffle winner Tom King claimed Dawn’s quilt.

A STUDENT'S PERSPECTIVE FROM A FIELD SEASON AT TOMS POINT, TOMALES BAY, CALIFORNIA

BY ALEC J. APODACA

When you're an undergrad studying archaeology, opportunities to apply the theories we learn in the classroom to fieldwork are few. I recently had such an opportunity to climb out of the anthropological armchair and jump into Marin County and the world of Coast Miwok people who, in the 18th and 19th century, confronted four different waves of colonization. Rather than tell the age-old story of Native American loss and village abandonment, however, Drs. Tsim Schneider (UC Santa Cruz) and Lee Panich (Santa Clara University) are researching instances of change, as well as refuge, resiliency, and economic opportunity for Coast Miwok people.

In the summer of 2016, Schneider and Panich led a team of graduate and undergraduate archaeologists into the field to explore the local political economy at Toms Point on Tomales Bay. Here, scattered about the now-shrubby landscape, we searched for the material remains of Indigenous power structures, social organization, and traditional resource use during a time more often understood as a time when Native people fully adopted European and American ways.

Some of the earliest encounters between California Indian communities and European explorers took place at nearby Point Reyes, but few archaeologists have examined western Marin County as a landscape of hope and change for Coast Miwok people. As Schneider and Panich point out, *space* plays an important role when considering the ways Coast Miwok negotiated various colonial enterprises established in their homelands. That space is the thing that buffered impacts from a shifting cast of colonial interests

(Spanish, British, Russian, German, French, and American) and at places like Toms Point Coast Miwok found safe harbor and opportunity.

Toms Point is located at the mouth of Tomales Bay and this long, linear body of water lays atop the San Andreas Fault. The region is dominated by remnant grasslands and coastal prairies. Toms Point is ringed by intertidal sandy bottoms and salt marshes. During low tide, sandbars emerge and once can walk out into this shallow tidal flat for several meters. The Tomales Bay region is known for abundant waterfowl, deer, Bishop pine groves, scenic pastures, commercial shellfisheries, and recreational clamming. During historic times, the strategic location may have served as an excellent stop-over for merchant ship traffic, travelers, and locals to haggle and exchange valued media.

Our research team applied a broad spectrum of archaeological field techniques that were specifically selected based on the wishes of the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria, whose ancestral lands include Tomales Bay, as well as by historic documents, prior geophysical survey, and previous archaeology in the vicinity. We strode the terrain with eyeballs keyed to the ground. Scanning and flagging as we walked amongst the greasy-shell-specked surfaces. After a morning of delineating site boundaries and dodging a stealthy brigade of stinging nettles, stadia rods began to sway in the distance. With roughly two-hundred meters of coyote brush and lupine between us, I fiddled with the Total Station apparatus (**Figure 1**) until I was able to successfully hurl a beam of infrared light at that elusive prism that was upheld by my colleague. Accurately mapping the boundaries of sites is a key step for under-

standing how this space was used.

At two sites, we recorded and collected surface artifacts scattered about the sandy topsoil. With a little imagination, our 1-x-1 meter units became “windows” onto the past that we could open with our fingertips. We placed several transects of surface units to efficiently collect a sample of artifact and material types from each site. Among the finds from our work at Toms Point were many shapes and colors of glass beads, obsidian tools, and copious amounts of clamshell.

At another site, we used an auger to locate site depth and boundaries. The team took turns cranking away at the ratchet-driven hand auger. Our magical, galvanized auger came with three, 1-meter extension attachments, which we eagerly added on. In no time, we found ourselves snaking a 3-meter auger up and down the test hole in hopes of understanding whether Toms Point had a much older record of Coast Miwok residence than the historic trading post. It does, and the experience was priceless.

We rounded out our battery of field tests with a few carefully-placed 1-x-1 meter excavation units. By the power of Marshalltown trowels, small geology picks, and coffee-fueled wrist action, we carefully peeled back incremental layers of a historic sheet midden. Screens with 1/16th-inch hardware mesh was used to catch fish vertebrae, glass beads, and obsidian and flaked bottle glass debitage.

At first, the uppermost sandy matrix of Toms Point was soft enough for any excavator to take pleasure in. Our pleasure soon turned into sweat and determination as sand gave way to harder, clayey sediments that clogged our screens. Being able to see the soil type change before our eyes was an invaluable experience as a student. Reading about stratigraphy and the neat “horizons” that distinguish different sediments can be elusive until you see it with your own eyes. Paying attention to strata tells



Figure 1: Alex Apodaca and the Total Station

us about geological phenomena like colluvium and how erosion impacts how sites are formed and preserved.

Toms Point was as scenic as it was educational. We’ve barely scratched the surface, but the landscape embodies a rich cultural and ecological history. Our three-week stint at Toms Point was a multisensory experience.

Cool winds chapped our lips, nettles numbed our limbs, and ticks were constantly removed. Friendships and palm calluses were formed. And yet the salty smell of marine air filling our nostrils, the lush fragrance of herbaceous scrubs crushing beneath our boots, and the sweeping views of Tomales Bay will stay with me for the rest of my life. In all, we left the field with bags of sandy artifacts and minds full of empirical observations, both destined for months in the lab. 🌿

SCAS BOARD MEETING REPORT:

A PRESENTATION BY DIANE GIFFORD-GONZALEZ

REPORTED BY MARY GERBIC

At our last SCAS board meeting, held on February 27th, Diane Gifford-Gonzalez, President of the Society for American Archaeology (SAA) and Distinguished Professor Emerita of Anthropology at the University of California Santa Cruz, spoke with board members about the current political environment and how it may affect archaeology in the United States. According to recent news reports, there is much to be worried about, as it appears the Trump administration intends to bypass or rollback some environmental law in the United States, as well as defund the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA). Diane said these organizations, particularly the NEH, help fund research and field work for archaeologists and other scientists.

Diane asked the Society to join SAA's nation-wide coalition of non-profit archaeological societies, called the Council of Affiliated Societies (CoAS), so that we will receive timely updates on issues that concern us: cultural heritage, laws protecting our heritage, agency practices and the funding of scientific research. We wanted to know what CoAS is, and what were the implications and expectations for the SCAS if we join?

The SAA and other professional archaeological and anthropological organizations in the United States are joining together to share information and to speak with one voice. They want to educate, influence and speak out on issues of cultural heritage and law. They are willing to work with anyone from anywhere on the political spectrum. The SAA also wants to provide a structure and forum for avocational non-profits, like SCAS, to participate in this process, hence the creation of CoAS. The cost to the Society is \$35/year for membership. It does not affect our non-profit status. We would be one among many Societies which have already joined. (See: <https://ecommerce.saa.org/saa/staticcontent/staticpages/adminDir/affiliates.cfm>)

The SAA has also made it possible for their members, affiliated societies and the general public to easily translate their opinions into action such as letters to federal and state representatives. They have added a "letter-writing widget" to their home page for anyone to use.

Visit: <http://saa.org/Home/tabid/36/Default.aspx>

What do we do with the information we receive from the SAA? Ideally, we would pass on to our membership the Action Items we receive through some method yet to be determined. It is up to individual members to decide what action to take, if any. Are SCAS members interested in receiving information, or participating in this process? In the past, the SCAS board has avoided emailing members about issues that weren't of local interest or membership-related. Would members be willing to accept more email from the Society notifying them of upcoming votes in Congress or other important issues so they can more easily participate? The board has decided to consider membership in CoAS and will discuss it at our next board meeting. We would like to hear from you. 🌿

LIVES IN RUINS: ARCHAEOLOGISTS AND THE SEDUCTIVE LURE OF HUMAN RUBBLE

BY MARILYN JOHNSON

PUBLISHED BY HARPER IN HARDCOVER 2014, PAPERBACK 2015

A BOOK REVIEW BY KÄREN JOHANSSON

Lives in Ruins is a book that thinks, acts, and does archaeology from the outside-in, written by Marilyn Johnson, a well-known author whose other books include, *This Book Is Overdue: How Librarians and Cybrarians Can Save Us All*. In the book discussed here, she touches upon all kinds of archeology from controversial and experimental, to historical and Classical, and her narrative compels us into the trenches with her as if together, a new kind of virus will drive us deeper into the past.

Buried within the trajectory of this narrative is the author's desire for us to know what makes archaeologists tick. Alongside a sampling of prehistoric, maritime, and Classical archaeologists, Johnson looked for places and things that get to the heart of the past and was not focused on a single story. Many voices were represented in the projects she participated in as well as in the archaeologists she grew to know in the process. This book is a series of stories that reveal why archaeologists do what they do and why the field is compelling and important.

Quoting Kathy Abbass, Director of the Rhode Island Marine Archaeology Project (RIMAP), Johnson tells us that archaeology is a science of "ground truthing." Its proofs lie beneath oceans and sand, landscapes and sky-scapes, decades of discards and dirt. Its processes are research-driven, investigative, and at times adventurous. When Johnson lands on another project on a dig on Cyprus, she must navigate with her new found peers to the island within a narrow window of time that ensures a safe mooring. A novice among well-schooled students, Johnson is welcomed by them and experiences their generosity, their challenges, and their celebrations of success.

Johnson writes about archaeology as an outsider. She learns about this area of interest by stepping into its new tastes and flavors. In this book, she takes on the persona of an anthropologist, participating in lectures, field-work, and conferences while keenly observing practices, ethics, and commitments of a range of archaeologists, professors, students, and others. This book is what she has left behind: an experience-based introduction to the science and technology of observing, touching, assessing, and recording elements of people and cultures from the past. Johnson portrays the beauty of these processes, the guidance of theories and hypotheses, the interruptions of new questions, and new cycles of thought in a particular moment when she quotes Dr. Laurie Rush, an archaeologist in charge of cultural resource management at U.S Army Fort Drum, New York: "Our most exciting days are the days we discover we were wrong."

Although I might have been happier with fewer references to Indiana Jones – will the discipline ever be free of its images? – the book playfully salvages all the right things. We see the author with dirt under her nails, fatigue in her bones and, sunburn on her forehead and we are thankful she landed on the side of archaeology. Keep a lookout for this book. It is a goldmine of motivation for those new to the discipline or contemplating entering the field. Most importantly, it is an invitation to everyone to appreciate the multitude of ways available within archaeology to learn about and preserve knowledge of the past. 🌿

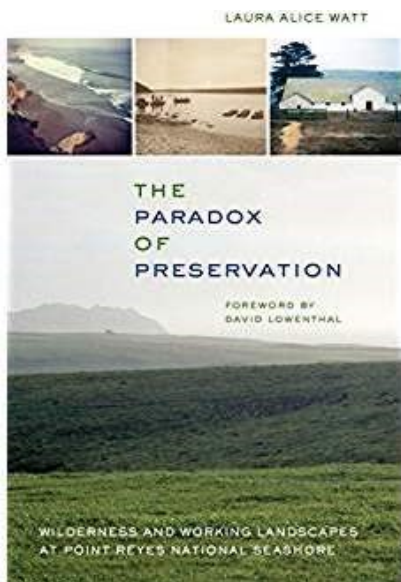
FROZEN IN TIME

THE PARADOX OF PRESERVATION

BY LAURA ALICE WATT

PUBLISHED BY UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA PRESS, 2017

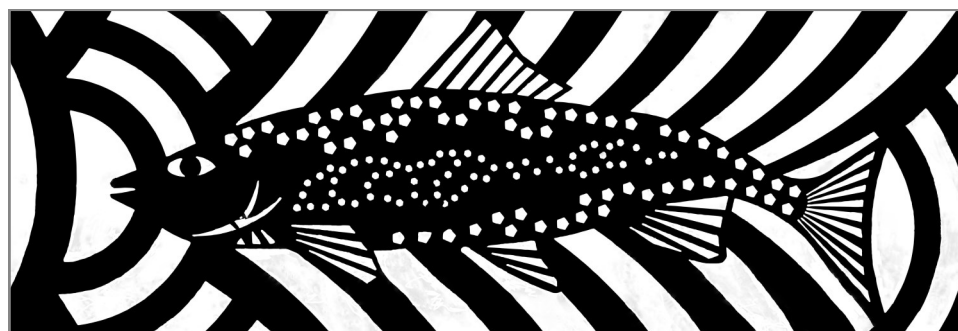
A BOOK REVIEW BY MARY GERBIC



If you, like I, grew up with the idea of the preservation of America's Last Wild Places and the romance of the National Park, you will want to read this book. Watt says be careful of what you ask for: "preservation is not neutral". By preserving a landscape, we alter what we preserve, and we are in danger of losing what was special about the place. For example, consider the visual elements of Yosemite Valley after the suppression of fire.

There are few if any true "untrammelled" lands on Earth. Anywhere people have settled, they have changed the landscape for their own purposes. In California, the park-like landscape early European explorers extolled exists because of the millennia of horticultural modification by Native Californians. The word hasn't gotten out to everyone, however. There are different ideas of what a national park should be: idealized or "pure" wilderness, a showcase of awe-inspiring scenery easily accessible to the general public, or a park which includes cultural elements such as the "working landscapes" which we have inherited. Which version will prevail? Which ideas should prevail?

Laura Alice Watt takes us through the history of the National Park concept from its conception to the present, and, using the history and lessons of Point Reyes National Seashore, West Marin, the Appalachian parks in the East, and the Cuyahoga Valley of Ohio, she will show you how a great idea can have unintended consequences, as the sensibilities and rootedness of local people, agency policy, and outside groups pushing their own agendas collide over the decades since Point Reyes National Seashore was created. #





Porcelain spoon from Jacksonville, Oregon. Photo by Shana Sandor. Courtesy of Southern Oregon University Hannon Library.

NEW! ONLINE COLLECTION AT SOUTHERN OREGON UNIVERSITY HANNON LIBRARY

Chinese migrants played a large role in the settlement and development of the American West. For more than 50 years archaeologists have been working on sites associated with Chinese participation in the gold fields, railroad construction and maintenance, agriculture, fisheries and canneries, and urban settlements. The *Chinese Material Culture Collection* was created to standardize terminology and provide accurate information about the suite of artifacts most commonly found on archaeological and historical sites documenting the Chinese immigrant diaspora from the mid-19th through the early 20th century.

The *Chinese Material Culture Collection* project is a collaboration between Southern Oregon University and PAR Environmental Services Inc. The project was funded in part by the Jacksonville Friends of the Library. The digital collection is maintained by the Hannon Library.

FROM THE EDITOR

If you would like to access back issues of the SCAN, visit:
<http://www.santacruzarchsociety.org/newsletters>

UPCOMING EVENTS

Summer Archaeology Program

at Mission Santa Cruz State Historic Park, Summer 2017!

Santa Clara University and California State Parks are gearing up for the third season and hope that you can join us!

This is an exciting opportunity to volunteer at the Santa Cruz Mission! We are home to the only remaining original building in all of the California Missions that actually housed the Native Americans. Because of this, our park focuses on teaching about the lives of those who lived in the Missions. This is why Mission Santa Cruz State Historic Park has partnered with Santa Clara University in creating our Summer Archaeology Program. Santa Clara University has conducted numerous archaeological excavations on its own local mission, and the most recent excavation was at the site of the Indian Rancheria, which is where the Native Americans lived at Mission Santa Clara. The excavation has yielded numerous new findings on Mission life.

As a volunteer in the Summer Archaeology Program, you will be working with archaeological materials (NO human remains or burial associated artifacts) from the excavation at Mission Santa Clara and learning about Mission life. **The program will be held on Mondays from 10am to 2pm from June 26th to August 21st** and will be held at the Santa Cruz Mission State Historic Park. The program is geared toward adults, although applicants under 18 years of age will be considered on a case by case basis.

If you would like to apply, please fill out the volunteer application at:

http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=28339 and send it to Mission Santa Cruz State Historic Park at **144 School Street, Santa Cruz 95060**.

If you have any questions please email erik.hylkema@parks.ca.gov or call [\(831\) 425-5849](tel:(831)425-5849).



UCSC Archaeological Research Center
3rd Annual Research Conference
Critical Conversations in Cultural Heritage
Alumni Room, University Center, UCSC Campus
Friday, April 14th, 2017
9:00AM-5:30 PM
Admission is FREE and open to the public.
Advance registration is REQUIRED.
Please visit www.arc.ucsc.edu/conferenceregistration.html
for registration form.

SCAS GENERAL MEETING SCHEDULE

General Meetings take place on the second Thursday of the month, 7:30 p.m., at the Santa Cruz Live Oak Grange Hall at 1900 17th Ave, Santa Cruz, CA 95062.

This building is on 17th Avenue between Capitola Road and Mattison Lane.

April 13, 2017	Adela Morris, Institute for Canine Forensics
May 11, 2017	Pete Morris, ICF/Jones and Stokes
June 8, 2017	Theadora Fuerstenberg, Cardno
September, 14, 2017	Al Schwitalla, LSA
October 12, 2017	Jesse Phillips, InContext
November 9, 2017	Sarah Peelo, Albion Environmental

SCAS Officers and Contact Info

Position	Name	Email	Phone
President	Kevin Hildreth	kevinhildreth59@gmail.com	
Vice President	Pat Paramoure	patsunicorn@sbcglobal.net	831-465-9809
Treasurer	Cathy Phipps	archecat@hotmail.com	831-465-1335
Outreach Coordinator	Kären Johansson	johans161@gmail.com	831-316-7127
Secretary	Open	n/a	
Membership Coordinator	Kevin Hildreth (acting)	kevinhildreth59@gmail.com	
Professional Advisor	Tsim Schneider	tdschnei@ucsc.edu	
Newsletter Editor	Mary Gerbic	editorscan@gmail.com, mgerbic@yahoo.com	831-331-7173

Santa Cruz Archaeological Society
P.O. Box 85
Soquel, CA 95073



Join us in our efforts to study and preserve
the Past for the Future ...

☐ Individual \$20 ☐ Students \$15 ☐ Seniors \$15 ☐ Family \$25 ☐ Lifetime \$400 ☐ Institution \$30

☐ New Member ☐ Renewal ☐ Gift Membership (from) _____

Name: _____

Street Address / Apt.#: _____

City, State, ZIP: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone: _____

Please share any archaeological interests or experience:

Mail completed application with dues to: SCAS Membership, P.O. Box 85, Soquel, CA 95073, or visit our website:
<http://www.santacruzarchsociety.org/join>