

THE CURATOR

Official E-newsletter of the San Diego Archaeological Center

Director's Message

BY CINDY STANKOWSKI, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Summer is here and many of us wish we were on holiday – anywhere but at home. How would you like to see some of the most famous rock art sites from around the world, without leaving your house? Many of you have visited rock art sites and we are inviting you to share your experiences with the public in a new online exhibit, *Visions: Rock Art from Around the World*. You can submit your photos through our [Rock Art Photos Submission Form](#).



Plans are underway for the next feature exhibit at the Center. (Remember exhibits? It's when you visit a museum and learn new things.) The Center will be open eventually! This exhibit will focus on the archaeology of San Diego County. Some of the famous (and not so famous) characters in local archaeology will be featured. Important archaeological sites, some of which you may have never heard of, will be explored. New ideas about the historic and prehistoric periods in San Diego will be discussed. In addition, some of the most exciting and puzzling sites and artifacts will be considered. Local archaeologists are sending in suggestions and information for the exhibit.

However, I want to hear from you. Are there things you have always wondered about? For example: Who discovered the first archaeological site in San Diego? What is the oldest site in San Diego? How many sites are there in San Diego?

Please send your questions to Cindy Stankowski, Executive Director, at cstankowski@sandiegoarchaeology.org.

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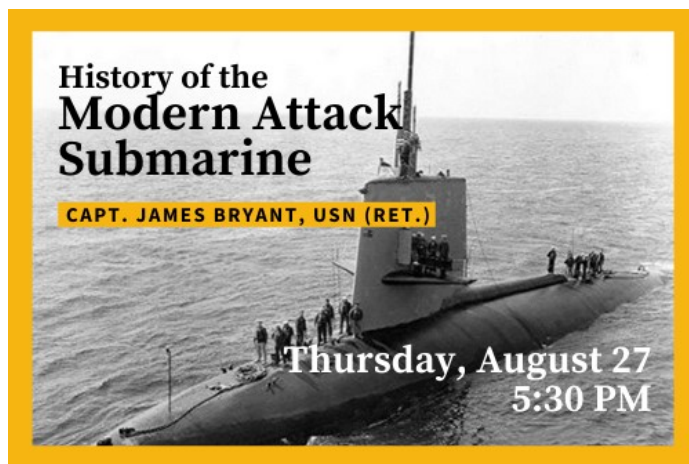
Join Us Online

BY STEPHANIE SANDOVAL, PUBLIC ARCHAEOLOGY DIRECTOR

Looking for something interesting to do while stuck at home? Stay connected to the Center and check out our Living Room Lecture series. Held monthly on Thursday evenings, these online presentations bring archaeologists, experts, and authors in various fields straight to your screen while you sit comfortably on your couch. Coming up next month, Capt. Bryant joins us again to talk about the history of modern submarines, as well as to give an update on his lawsuit against the Navy to release records on the USS *THRESHER* disaster. In September, Kathleen Dickey, a SDAC volunteer, will share insights into the archaeology of the Torrey Pines State Natural Reserve where she is also a docent. Please see our [website](#) for details on other future events.

Open to all, but geared to our professionals and students in the field, we have started [Brown Bag Sessions](#). These are informal talks about a variety of subjects, including current research and issues facing the archaeological community. At our next Session, Center Executive Director Cindy Stankowski will lead a discussion on the continuing curation crisis. Join us during your lunch break on August 12 to examine this pressing issue facing archaeology.

Virtual Events



At-Home Activities for Kids

Did you know that "rock art" is found all over the world?

Rock art, symbols that have been painted on or carved in rock, is also studied by archaeologists to help understand the past.

Check out this week's [Dr. Arty Fax's Archy Facts Blog](#) to learn more.



From the Stacks: Summer Reading

BY SUZANNE MORAMARCO, COLLECTIONS AND LIBRARY SPECIALIST

Summer is here! If you are looking for something different to read and you are interested in learning about anthropology and/or archaeology, here is a list for you. The Center's Board of Trustees and Advisory Council contributed the titles they thought to be the most beneficial in their studies in the archaeology field or work as an archaeologist. Some of the trustees also teach so the list includes books that they have their students read. The titles preceded by an asterisk are currently available in the SDAC Library or will be soon.

From Trustees

G. Timothy Gross, PhD, Professor of Anthropology, San Diego City College; Author

- *Bird Songs Don't Lie: Writings from the Rez* by Gordon Lee Johnson
- *Debating Archaeology: Updated Edition* Lewis by R. Binford
- *Frauds, Myths, and Mysteries: Science and Pseudoscience in Archaeology* by Kenneth Feder
- *Skull Wars: Kennewick Man, Archaeology, and the Battle for Native American Identity* by David Hurst Thomas

Martin Rosen, MA, RPA, Archaeologist

- *1491** by Charles Mann
- *Guns, Germs, and Steel* by Jared Diamond
- *One Vast Winter Count: The Native American West before Lewis and Clark* by Colin Galloway
- *Undaunted Courage: Meriwether Lewis, Thomas Jefferson, and the Opening of the American West* by Stephen E. Ambrose

James W. Royle, Jr, Chair County of San Diego Historic Site Board, Environmental Project Commentator

- *Sea People: In Search of the Ancient Navigators of the Pacific* by Christina Thompson and William Collins. It covers the history, anthropology and archaeology of the Polynesian Triangle and some of the personalities who contributed to it.



From Advisory Council members

Bruce Gallagher, Esq, Washington State Attorney; Business Owner

- *Earth Pigments and Paint of the California Indians** by Paul Douglas Campbell

As there was not enough room for all the suggested titles here, the list will continue in the next newsletter. Titles not found in the SDAC Library are on the Library's wish list. Many of the titles that can be found in the SDAC Library are older editions. If you have newer versions of these titles, or copies of any of the others, that you would like to donate, they would be welcomed. Items no longer needed in the library go into the Recycled Knowledge corner in the Center's gift shop. For any questions, contact the Center's librarian Suzanne Moramarco at library@sandiegoarchaeology.org.

The SDAC online catalog can be accessed on our [website](#).

Collections Happenings

BY JESSICA MCPHETERS, COLLECTIONS MANAGER

While the San Diego Archaeological Center has remained closed to keep staff, volunteers and interns, and our community safe, the SDAC staff are working hard continuing to further our mission to preserve archaeological collections and promote their educational, scientific and cultural use to benefit a diverse public.

One way we are able to achieve this is by using social media to engage with archaeologists and community members, near and far! For the past couple of years, we have been producing content on different social media outlets to give insight into collections and artifacts that are preserved at the SDAC. One of our more popular (and now weekly!) posts is called What is it Wednesday? Each Wednesday, we produce content highlighting different archaeological concepts and artifacts. Do you know what these artifacts are?

Take a guess then check your answers! Interested in learning more? Check out our [Instagram](#) weekly for 'What is it Wednesday?', 'Find out Friday!', and 'Dig Deeper' Saturday to learn more about archaeology and get a closer look at Center collections!



1. What is it? Hint: This material has been used for tool making by many hunter-gatherer societies.

2. What is it? Hint: This type of artifact helps grind food by hand.

Answers:

1. Bone Tools

It's bone! Bone tools have been used throughout human existence to make many different types of tools. Softer than stone and harder than wood, the resilience of this material has made it very useful for humans.

2. Mano:

This is a mano! A mano is a ground stone tool used to grind different foods by hand. A mano would be used with a larger stone called a metate.



3. What is it? Hint: These shells are different, but were often used for the same purpose.

4. What is it? Hint: These artifacts are created during a process called flintknapping.

Answers:

3. Shell ornaments

These are ornaments! Shells were often used as ornaments or jewelry as well as currency for trading.

4. Debitage

Debitage, translating to 'waste' in French, is the waste produced when creating chipped stone tools. By studying debitage, archaeologists understand how tools were made.

For questions about Center collections, or to learn more about volunteering in the lab in the future, email Collection Manager Jessica McPheters at jmcpeters@sandiegoarchaeology.org.

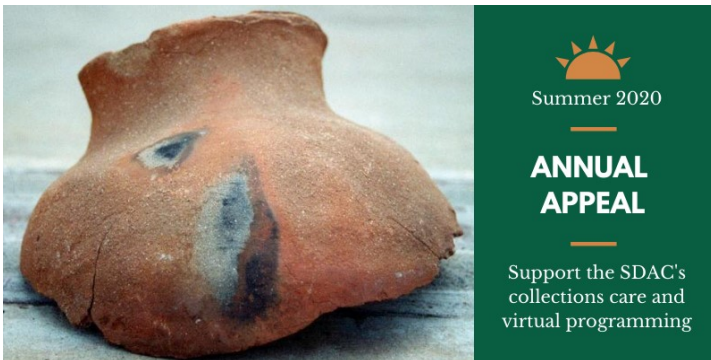
We Need Your Support

BY DANTÉ FARENGA, DEVELOPMENT & MARKETING DIRECTOR

Thank you to everyone for your continued support of the San Diego Archaeological Center.

Since closing our doors in March, we have lost nearly \$15,000 from programs that would have been held in the community. This includes programs for kids, adults, seniors and visitors to the Center. Unfortunately, there are no indications that we will be able to open anytime soon.

Please consider a donation to the San Diego Archaeological Center. Our doors have been closed to the public for nearly four months. This spring, we were unable to host our Annual BBQ fundraising event, which provides support for our curatorial efforts and public programming throughout the year.



We need your help to ensure that we can continue to preserve archaeological collections and promote their educational, scientific, and cultural use to benefit a diverse public. Your contribution funds collections care, virtual programs like the Living Room Lecture series and Brown Bag Lunch series, and transition of our K-12 programs into a virtual format.

If you would like to make a donation to the Center's Annual Appeal campaign, you may do so online on our [website](#), by phone at 760-291-0370, or by mail with a check sent to the following address:

San Diego Archaeological Center
ATTN: Development Department
16666 San Pasqual Valley Road
Escondido, CA 92027

Thank you for protecting the past.

#HalfMyDAF Challenge

We have learned about a chance for your money to go further than ever, through the #HalfMyDAF matching-grant challenge. If you have a donor advised fund (DAF), you can help the Center at this critical time.



Like other non-profit organizations, we are working harder than ever to connect with our community. Meanwhile, over \$120 billion sits unused in Donor Advised Funds in community foundations across the country. The #HalfMyDAF challenge aims to put these charitable dollars to work now, when and where it's needed most.

Anyone who makes a grant to us and commits to granting half the money from their DAF before September 30th gives us the chance to be one of 150 non-profits to get a matching grant of up to \$25,000. The more people who nominate our organization, the better our chances.

You can learn more about the #HalfMyDAF challenge at halfmydaf.com.

Shop and Support the SDAC

Are you practicing social distancing by shopping online instead? You can support the Center by shopping on [AmazonSmile](#). What an easy way to give back!

IN APPRECIATION

We are grateful for the time and talents, membership, donations, and in-kind support we received from 4/1/20 - 6/30/20.

Welcome New Members

Kimberly Applebaum
Ben Frable

Thank You to Our Purveyors of the Past

Karen Crawford
James Eighmey
Maureen Steiner
Jim Royle

Thank You for Your Donations

Anonymous
Donna Beddow
Jeanne & Jim Bonk III
Quentin Russell Gregg
Kristen Reinicke
Adriana Tamayo

Thank You to Our Volunteers and Interns

Hope Cruickshank
Jim Royle
Gillian Wong



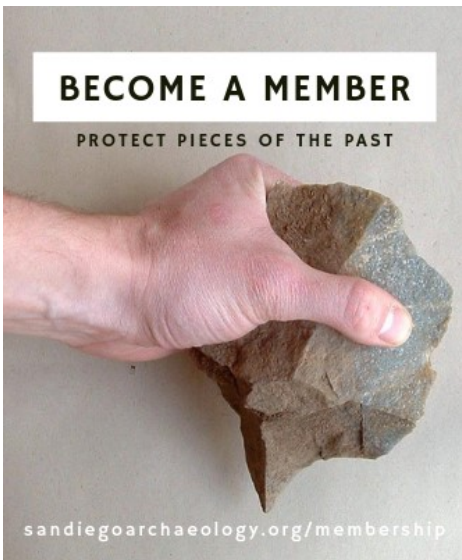
MUSEUM AT HOME

Have you visited the Museum at Home section of our [website](#)?

You can find

- Recordings of virtual lectures
- Free digital tours of our exhibits
- Our Dig Deeper monthly blog focusing on the basics of archaeology
- Dr. Arty Fax's Archy Facts weekly blog introducing kids (currently stuck at home) to the exciting world of archaeology
- GIS StoryMap projects from Center interns
- And more!





BECOME A MEMBER

PROTECT PIECES OF THE PAST

sandiegoarchaeology.org/membership

The Center is the only local organization dedicated to the collection, study, curation and exhibition of San Diego County's archaeological artifacts. Your membership helps save our history and heritage. **Membership** can be purchased [online](#), over the phone, or by mail.

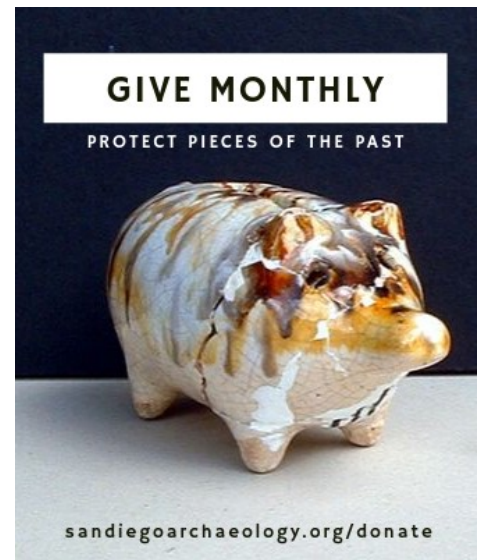


MAKE A DONATION

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sandiegoarchaeology.org/donate

Cash donations may be made to the Center by visiting our [website](#), or with a check made to the San Diego Archaeological Center. **In-kind gifts** are contributions of goods or services to our organization. Please [contact us](#) if you would like to make this type of donation.

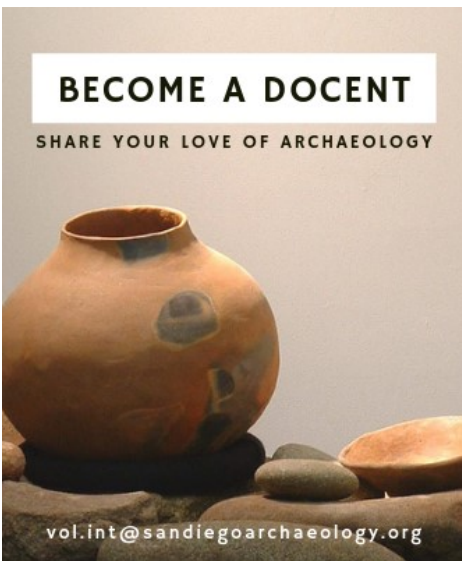


GIVE MONTHLY

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sandiegoarchaeology.org/donate

Purveyors of the Past Monthly Donation Program is an easy and convenient way of supporting the many important projects at the Center. You may determine the amount to donate per month and the specific campaign, project, or program to fund. Please [contact us](#) for more information.



BECOME A DOCENT

SHARE YOUR LOVE OF ARCHAEOLOGY

vol.int@sandiegoarchaeology.org

Docents welcome visitors and answer general questions regarding the Center and exhibits. Hours are flexible. To apply for a volunteer position in the fall or for more information, please email vol.intern@sandiegoarchaeology.org.

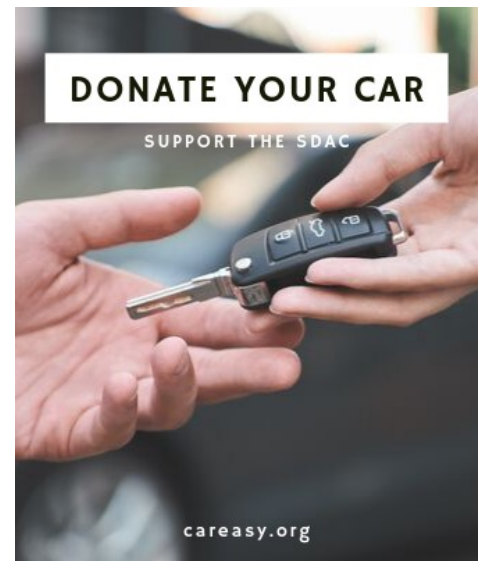


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DONATE YOUR CAR

SUPPORT THE SDAC

careasy.org

Purchasing a new car or truck this year? **Donate your old vehicle** to benefit the Center through the [C.A.R.S](#) program. Your generous gift is tax-deductible and will support the Center's exhibitions, programs, and curatorial efforts.



San Diego Archaeological Center

MUSEUM • EDUCATION • RESEARCH

CONTACT US

16666 San Pasqual Road
Escondido, CA 92027
760-291-0370
sandiegoarchaeology.org

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MARKETING

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information in this e-newsletter. For corrections, please contact the editor, Danté Farenga, at dfarenga@sandiegoarchaeology.org.

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