

# THE CURATOR

Official E-newsletter of the San Diego Archaeological Center

## Director's Message

BY CINDY STANKOWSKI, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

I doubt that many people will look back at 2020 and 2021 with fond memories. However, I like to focus on the positive. Despite being closed for nine months, the Center had several success stories over the past year.

- ◆ The Living Room Lecture series brought archaeologists, experts, and authors in various fields right into your home. Last year, the Center hosted 13 lectures on topics ranging from the archaeology of Torrey Pines to ancient Maya cave rituals with 1,558 attendees in total. Thank you to everyone who supported us by attending these lectures.
- ◆ Volunteers/interns returning to the lab: After having the Center lab closed for over a year, volunteers and interns are back in action. The Lab has 19 interns and volunteers for the summer. [Applications](#) are open now for the fall.
- ◆ Donations: Thank you to members and donors who have supported the Center with your gifts during our closure. A special thank you to Capt. and Mrs. Jim and Monica Bryant for their especially generous donations to the Center and to Jim Royle for his enormous support.
- ◆ Virtual exhibits: We created three new online exhibits, [Visions: Rock Art from Around the World](#), a community-curated exhibit of rock art sites; [New Acquisitions](#), a behind-the-scenes peak at recently acquired collections; and [Now Curating](#), a closer look at collections being curated at the Center.
- ◆ Blogs: We continued our blog series for kids and adults: [Dr. Arty Fax's Archy Facts](#), a blog introducing kids to the wonderful world of archaeology through news, lessons, and hands-on activities; and [The Wonderful World of...](#), a monthly blog that focuses on some of the many themes, concepts, and sub-disciplines related to the fascinating world of Southern Californian archaeology.

While we all adjust to the “new normal,” our mission remains the same: To preserve archaeological collections and promote their educational, scientific, and cultural use to benefit a diverse public. Thank you for your continued support. Please visit the Center soon and let us know what you would like to see in the future.

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# Kids Dig: Breaking News in Archaeology

BY STEPHANIE SANDOVAL,  
PUBLIC ARCHAEOLOGY DIRECTOR

Welcome to Kids Dig, where our youngest community members can discover the latest news in archaeology.

Pack your bags for Italy! For the first time in its history, the underground areas of the Roman Colosseum are open for the public to explore! This series of tunnels and chambers, called the hypogeum, worked like a backstage for the events taking place in the arena above. Gladiator fights and other events were held here and many times raised up to the arena floor through a series of lifts and trap doors. This allowed the actors, wild animals, and gladiators to suddenly appear. Talk about some ancient special effects!



Emperor Vespasian built the Colosseum in 72-80 CE, the world's largest amphitheater. His son Titus would hold the first games and the last was held in in 523 CE. This grand arena could hold between 50,000 and 70,000 spectators, watching and cheering on the bloody and brutal games. Fights between gladiators, animals, and convicted criminals as well as battle reenactments were popular during this time.

You may never want to see these gruesome games back in the day, but it sure would be interesting to walk the halls of the gladiators now!



The underground hypogeum exposed

To find out more about the Colosseum and the unveiling of the hypogeum, check out [Colosseum Opens Its Belly to the Public](#) and [10 facts about the Colosseum! National Geographic Kids](#).



## Virtual Events

A virtual event poster with a yellow border. The background is a black and white photograph of the submarine USS Thresher. The text on the poster reads: "Declassified Report UPDATE", "The Sinking of USS THRESHER", "CAPT. JIM BRYANT, USN (RET.) & STEPHEN WALSH", and "Thursday, August 5 6:30 PM".

Declassified Report  
**UPDATE**  
The Sinking of  
**USS THRESHER**  
CAPT. JIM BRYANT, USN (RET.)  
& STEPHEN WALSH  
Thursday, August 5  
6:30 PM

## From the Stacks

BY SUZANNE MORAMARCO,  
COLLECTIONS AND LIBRARY SPECIALIST

As the Center was closed much of the past year, volunteers were not available to start or continue library projects. If you are interested in naval or general history of San Diego, consider volunteering to continue the Fort Rosecrans archives inventory project. If you would like to learn more about archaeology and its associated fields, the monographs need inventorying and subjects added to catalog entries. There are manuals on how to do handle these tasks. If maps have intrigued you, the Center's map collection needs organizing. Labeling items and shelving them are occasional tasks.



Do you have experience mending books or papers? The Spring Bazaar and Book Sale raised \$370, and these funds were used to purchase repair supplies. Two shelves of books await attention.

Is selling items on eBay or other auction sites more your speed? If so, there is a project for you. The Recycled Knowledge section has many titles that are worth more than the normal Recycled Knowledge prices. By selling these titles online, they will reach a wider audience than what they have in the Center's Recycled Knowledge section of the gift shop. You would be helping the Center raise funds and clear up some space.

Scheduling is flexible. Volunteers can come for half a day or a full day, once a week, every other week, or once a month. For any questions about these tasks contact Suzanne Moramarco at [library@sandiegoarchaeology.org](mailto:library@sandiegoarchaeology.org).



## Summer Sale



Explore the Recycled Knowledge section of our gift shop during our Summer Sale.

Not ready for traveling abroad? Try traveling through space with *Contact* and *The Meaning of Relativity*. Or go *In Search of Schrodinger's Cats*.

Get into nature this summer. Among the Recycled Knowledge shelves are numerous guidebooks on all kinds of birds, wildflowers, and wildlife.

All Recycled Knowledge on sale! Members receive 50% off; Non-members receive 25% off. Visit the Center Thursday through Saturday to browse our selection.

## New Acquisitions

BY JESSICA MCPHETERS, COLLECTIONS MANAGER

This past winter, the SDAC launched the new virtual exhibition *New Acquisitions*!

*New Acquisitions* is a virtual exhibit where we share information about collections coming into the Center. The exhibit is featured on the SDAC [website](#) and is being updated as new collections are acquired.

Most of the collections that are curated at the SDAC come to us from Cultural Resource Management (CRM) firms. These CRM firms work with developers from around the county to make sure that construction is done using ethical methods and that archaeological sites are protected and documented. Once their work is complete, CRM firms curate collections at the SDAC for long-term preservation and care, allowing for community research and access. Let's see what's new!

### SDAC 743 Delivered January 28, 2021



Catalog Number: CA-SDI-278-2014-05  
Material Class: Chipped stone  
Object Type: Hammerstone  
Material: Granite  
Quantity: 1  
Weight: 249.7 grams

Project Name: The Miller Road Project  
Site(s): CA-SDI-278  
USGS Quad Location: Valley Center 7.5'  
Year of Excavation: 2014

During the monitoring for this project fourteen cultural resources were recovered from disturbed earth, including debitage, a hammerstone, manos, metate fragments, and ceramic fragments.

### SDAC 744 Delivered April 6th, 2021



Catalog Number: P-37-039071-2019-167; -172; -180; -182  
Material Class: Historic  
Object Type: Plate or bowl  
Material: Ceramic  
Quantity: 4  
Weight: 30.6 grams

Project Name: The Kettner Project  
Site(s): P-37-039071  
USGS Quad Location: Point Loma 7.5'  
Year of Excavation: 2019

This project was conducted in what is now known as Little Italy and according to historic map review, there were five historic residential occupations identified in this project area. Historic records indicate that the residences were occupied by many tenants from 1892 to 1909 including an attorney, a plasterer, a widow, a teamster, and many laborers.

## Job Seekers Database

BY DANTÉ FARENGA,  
DEVELOPMENT & MARKETING DIRECTOR

The San Diego Archaeological Center now offers access to our Job Seekers database as a benefit for our Corporate Members. This platform provides a database of qualified, entry-level applicants for field and laboratory work. Members can access the database, filter candidates, and request contact information.



Other Membership Benefits: In addition to access to the Job Seekers database, your company will be recognized in our e-newsletter, on the Center website, and on social media platforms. Membership is valid for one year from date of purchase.

How to Join: Corporate Membership starts at \$250 and can be purchased on our [website](#), over the phone at 760-291-0370, or by mailing a check made out to the San Diego Archaeological Center.



Looking for a CRM job? There is no cost for applicants to be listed in the database, and applicants can update their application at any time. Visit our [website](#) to join our database.

## Become a Member

The San Diego Archaeological Center is the only local facility dedicated to the curation of artifacts from San Diego's archaeological sites. Your support preserves these cultural treasures and makes them available to both the public and researchers. Help share the stories that these artifacts have to tell by becoming a member.



Membership at the San Diego Archaeological Center entitles you to special membership advantages, such as free admission to the Museum, borrowing privileges for the Library, invitations to member events, discounts on lectures and workshops, and our monthly member newsletter.

Center Membership can be purchased [online](#), over the phone at 760-291-0370, or by sending a check made out to the San Diego Archaeological Center.

## Monthly Giving

Do you prefer a monthly payment plan instead of an annual membership? Join our Purveyors of the Past Monthly Giving Program. As a recurring donor, you will automatically receive Center membership as our gift to you.

Making recurring donations is quick and easy. Just select Monthly under Donation Frequency on our [online form](#). You may donate the amount that you are comfortable giving each month. No matter how big or small the sum, we consider every gift essential to sustaining the Center!

## IN APPRECIATION

We are grateful for the time and talents, membership, donations, and in-kind support we received from 4/1/21 to 6/30/21.

### Welcome New Members

Mathrew Behrand  
Peter Csanadi  
Linda Curry  
Jacob Lashbrook

### Thank You to Our Purveyors of the Past

Susie Arter  
Karen Crawford  
Kathy Dickey  
James Eighmey  
Susan Gilliland  
Marty Rosen  
Cindy Stankowski  
Maureen Steiner

### Thank You for Your Donations

Anonymous  
Jeanne & James Bonk III  
Colleen Conaway

### Thank You for Your In-Kind Donations

Jeanne & James Bonk III  
James Brown  
Dr. Timothy Gross  
Jim Royle

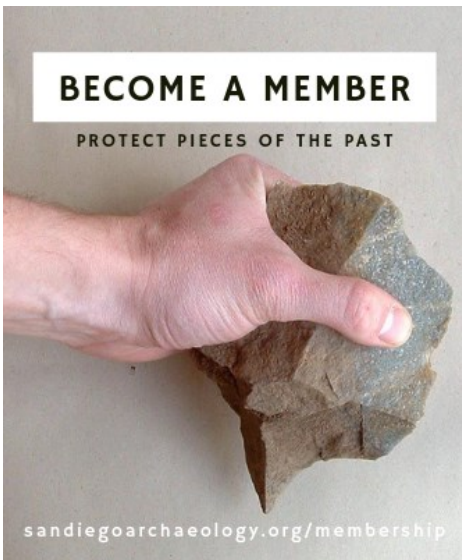
### Thank You to Our Volunteers and Interns

Vanessa Chappins  
Linda Coulson  
Kathy Dickey  
David Gauss  
Neah Johnson  
Rickey Ketchem  
Wanmei Liang  
Bianca Loyola  
Valerie Neale  
Chris O'Connor  
Melanie Parker  
Jim Royle  
Kathy Russell



 Commission for  
Arts and Culture



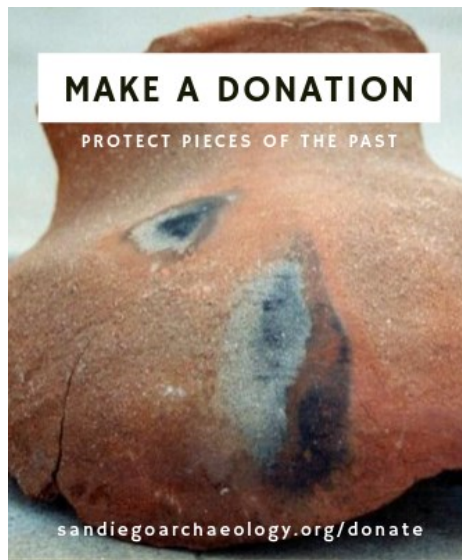


## BECOME A MEMBER

PROTECT PIECES OF THE PAST

[sandiegoarchaeology.org/membership](http://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.

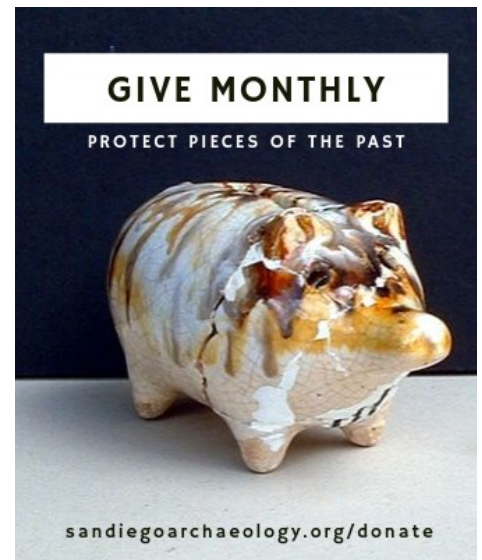


## MAKE A DONATION

PROTECT PIECES OF THE PAST

[sandiegoarchaeology.org/donate](http://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.

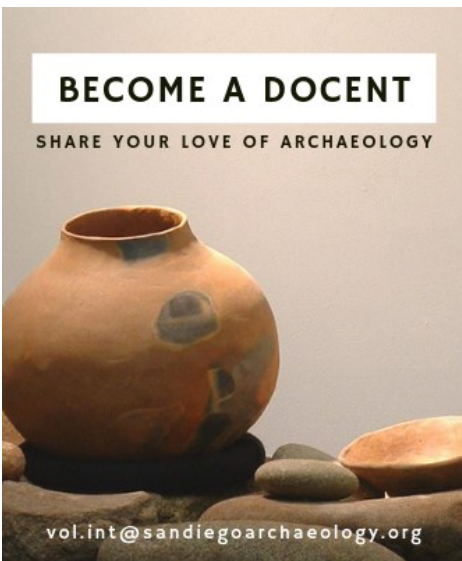


## GIVE MONTHLY

PROTECT PIECES OF THE PAST

[sandiegoarchaeology.org/donate](http://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](mailto: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 or for more information, please email [vol.intern@sandiegoarchaeology.org](mailto:vol.intern@sandiegoarchaeology.org).

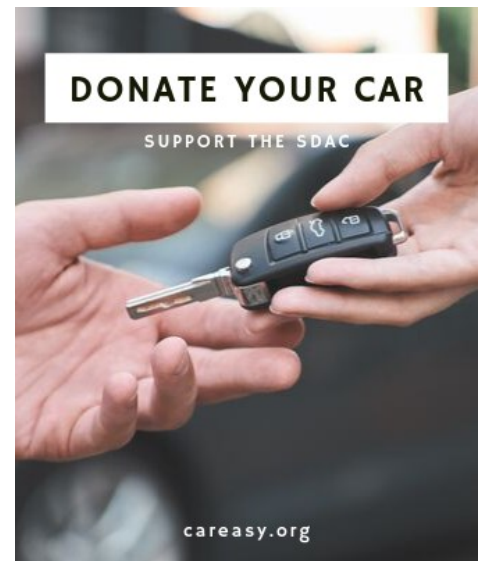


## SHOP AMAZONSMILE

SUPPORT THE SDAC

[smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com)

**AmazonSmile** lets customers enjoy the same wide selection, prices, and convenience as shopping as Amazon.com. When you [shop on AmazonSmile](#), the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price to the Center.



## DONATE YOUR CAR

SUPPORT THE SDAC

[careasy.org](http://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

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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](mailto:dfarenga@sandiegoarchaeology.org).



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