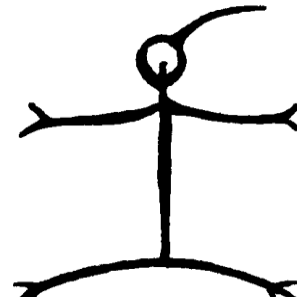


NEWSLETTER
 ANTELOPE VALLEY
 ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

P.O. BOX 4233
 Lancaster, California 93539-4233
www.avarchaeologicalsociety.org



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The Antelope Valley Archaeological Society is an avocational, educational, and scientific organization dedicated to the interests of archaeology in the Antelope Valley and surrounding areas. General meetings are normally held at 6:30 P.M. on the third Monday of the month. Check the website for location. The public is invited to attend all meetings. Membership in the Society is open to all persons with an interest in the field of archaeology. Annual membership begins on June 1 of each year. View the AVAS Code of Ethics and access the **Membership application** via our website.

MEMBERSHIPS:	<u>REGULAR</u>	<u>STUDENT</u>	<u>FAMILY</u>	<u>PATRON</u>	<u>LIFE</u>
	\$15.00	\$10.00	\$20.00	\$50.00	\$500.00

CALENDAR

AVAS MEETINGS ARE FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

September 10, 2011: **AVAS TRADITIONAL POTLUCK/BBQ**, begins at 5:00. Board Member Jay Tremblay has generously made the Lazy T Ranch available for our get-together and will also supply the drinks and meats for the BBQ. Bring a side dish and a friend. Details on Page 2.

September 19, 2011: AVAS meetings resume following our summer break. Program and location unconfirmed at press time. **Check our website**, www.avarchaeologicalsociety.org prior to meeting date for meeting details.

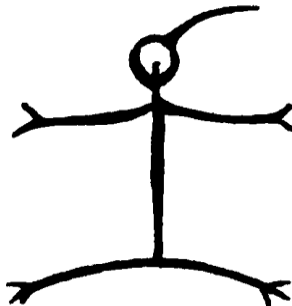
IT'S THE TRADITIONAL AVAS SUMMER GET-TOGETHER BAR-B-Q & POT LUCK

THE LAZY-T RANCH 4218 ELIZABETH LAKE ROAD
PALMDALE, CALIFORNIA

SEPTEMBER 10, 2011, BEGINNING AT 5:00 P.M. UNTIL ?

Once again our annual summer Get-Together is to be held at the Lazy "T" Ranch just outside of Palmdale on Elizabeth Lake Road. All members, family and friends are encouraged to attend.

MENU: Chicken, hot dogs and drinks will be provided by Jay Tremblay. Bring a friend & your favorite side dish or salad to share.



The Lazy "T" is just 3 ½ miles west of 10th Street West on Palmdale Boulevard, which is also Elizabeth Lake Road when heading west. If you have any questions, call Jay (661)435-9837

A BIG **THANKS** TO JAY FOR LETTING US USE HIS PLACE!!!

JUNE MEETING/ELECTIONS: Our June 20, 2011, **General Membership Meeting** was held at the Sizzler Restaurant located at 853 West Palmdale Boulevard, Palmdale. (Corner of Palmdale Boulevard & Tenth Street West).

- **Elections were held.** All Officers of the Board were re-elected, the entire slate of Board members was re-elected, and a vacant Board position was filled by Jo Matranga. Mark Campbell has vacated his position as board member. Current slate:

President - Barbara Tejada Secretary – Shannon Kelley-Clark
Vice-President - David Earle Treasurer – Judy Hoppe

Board Members:

Janet Buckley	Inga Nagel	Jay Tremblay
Mark Campbell	Jo Matranga	Melinda Walton
Vicky Harvey	Robin Mitchell	
Jim Johannesmeyer	Kathy Reece	

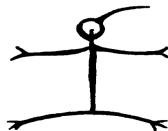
- **JUNE PROGRAM:** Our program was presented by Alexander (Sandy) Rogers. Mr. Rogers' presentation, concerned the Coso Rock Art National Historical Landmark in southern Inyo County, California, which contains an extensive variety of rock art images, mostly petroglyphs, or carved images. Mr. Rogers explained that rock art is a manifestation of ancient cultures in the area, and it is likely that the art has evolved over time. Rock art is important because it is one of the few artifacts which could give insight into how people thought, but assigning dates to petroglyph images is notoriously difficult. Mr. Rogers discussed evidence of how Coso rock art may have evolved, including multi-source dating techniques, and how the art relates to cultural developments and paleoclimatic change in the Coso area, as suggested by archaeology. Thank you, Mr. Rogers, for such an interesting program.

Alexander (Sandy) Rogers, is Archaeology Curator at the Maturango Museum in Ridgecrest, California, next door to the Coso petroglyphs. He had a 37 year career with the Navy at China Lake as a physicist and executive, retiring in 2002. In retirement he returned to graduate school in archaeological anthropology, earning an MA in 2004. His research interests are obsidian hydration dating, Great Basin hunter-gatherers, and rock art, and he has published in all three areas. His paper on dating of the Coso rock art appeared in Vol. 37 of American Indian Rock Art, published by the American Rock Art Research Association. He is also co-author of Land, People, and Rock Art of the Coso Range, a popular overview of the Coso petroglyphs, published in 2009 by the Maturango Museum. Mr. Rogers is a Registered Professional Archaeologist.

IN ARCHAEOLOGY NEWS

► **SPRING MOUNTAINS NATIONAL RECREATION AREA- NEVADA:** A petroglyph stolen in 2008 was returned to the canyon from which it came on July 1, 2011. For safety reasons, officials decided to return the boulder to a nearby site rather than its original resting place closer to the cliff's edge. A helicopter moved the boulder without damage or injury to those involved in its return. With the petroglyph in place, the bighorn sheep images once again look out over the canyon, but they can no longer be seen from the wash below. The 300-pound boulder has seven bighorn sheep chipped into its front panel with another darker sheep on its back side. The stolen boulder was spotted in Michael Cook's remote Pahrump front yard when Nye County sheriff's detective Morgan Dillon went to Cook's residence to serve a search warrant in an unrelated matter in June 2009. Cook initially claimed the boulder was on the property when he bought it. After investigators disproved that story, Cook admitted he had taken it himself. Cook, a real estate agent and auto mechanic, was sentenced to six months in prison, highlighting the serious nature of the theft. This case is noteworthy because it yielded Southern Nevada's first felony conviction under the federal Archaeological Resources Protection Act since 2003. An additional petroglyph depicting three bighorn sheep remains missing from the Spring Mountains National Recreation Area. The BLM, Forest Service and National Park Service frequently get calls about looting, but investigators rarely catch the criminals, and stolen artifacts are rarely returned to their original locations.

While admired for aesthetic and historical value, all rock art- both petroglyphs and pictographs – have importance to Native Americans who consider them sacred and do not view them as objects of art. "They're important religious objects that tell stories," says Richard Arnold, chairman of the Pahrump Paiute Tribe, one of seven Southern Paiute tribes. Members of the Pahrump Paiute Tribe recognized the petroglyph Cook had stolen from photographs. Leroy Howell, a member of the Pahrump Paiute Tribe, was on hand for the boulder's return and has known the petroglyph since childhood. He also effectively testified at Cook's hearing. The courtroom grew silent when Howell and his mother, Clarabelle Jim, addressed the judge, Senior U.S. District Judge Edward Reed Jr. At 84 or 85, depending on the source, Jim is a tribal elder and often slips back into her native tongue. Jim remembers visiting the petroglyphs as a little girl while horseback riding with her father. Known to Southern Paiutes as "grapevine" because of the wild, spring-fed grapes that grow there, the area is considered sacred. During an interview at her son's home, Jim recounted how she learned from her mother about the "little people" who live among the rocks of the canyon and made the designs that now decorate many of them. "It's done by spiritual beings," Howell explains. The Paiute word for petroglyph, "tutugove po-ohp," literally means "the writing of little people." Both Jim and Howell think Cook deserved a longer prison sentence.



► **CANADA-BRITISH COLUMBIA: Calvert Island:** Dr. Farid Rahemtulla, anthropology professor at the University of Northern British Columbia, believes he and his anthropology students have found evidence of human occupation on the island, from approximately 10,000 years ago. Dr. Rahemtulla worked in conjunction with the Heiltsuk and Wukinuxv bands, which claim the area as part of their traditional territory, and the Hakai Beach Institute, a non-profit organization that supports science and conservation work and which has a facility on Calvert Island. Dr. Rahemtulla moved a team of students in this spring and began to dig. When the team began sinking pits in a shell midden in the forest floor, he realized it was a much bigger site than he imagined, so large he now believes it is part of a long-lost, ancient village called Luxvbalis. The site spreads over 150 meters and could only have been created by a large group of people. The site on Calvert Island was first documented about 40 years ago by researchers from Simon Fraser University, and also happens to be in the area where Heiltsuk legend said the lost village of Luxvbalis (pronounced looks-bal-ease) was located. Dr. Rahemtulla says nobody is sure where the village was located but believes this site is a good candidate. The excavators found ample proof the people who once lived there subsisted largely on a marine diet of clams, mussels, salmon, herring, sea lions and seals. Stone tools were found in the inter-tidal zone adjacent to the bank of the site of a type which have been dated at another site between 6,000 and 10,000 years ago. Dr. Rahemtulla's team was only able to dig down about a meter and a half this year, but he estimates-after coring- that the site is probably between three and four meters deep, suggesting an older component not yet reached. Artifacts made from deer antler, rocks used to grind points on hunting tools, and weights for fishing nets were recovered. Radio carbon dates are not yet in for the artifacts found this season. Harvey Humchitt, an hereditary chief of the Heiltsuk, said the find is exciting and the location fits with the oral history. The story is that Luxvbalis had existed for a very long time when it was abandoned after a smallpox epidemic swept the coast in the 1800s. "Luxvbalis was one of the winter villages of the Heiltsuk," he said. "Growing up, we didn't know too much about it, but we often went over there [to Calvert Island] for family gatherings." Relocating the site, he said, would mean a lot to his people. Dr. Rahemtulla hopes to resume excavation next year.

► **UPDATE-CALIFORNIA -ANTELOPE VALLEY INDIAN MUSEUM TO REMAIN OPEN**

Most readers are aware that the State of California announced plans to close 70 of the 278 California State Parks as a result of cuts in the state parks budget of \$11 million this fiscal year and \$22 million next fiscal year. The budget cuts were passed by the legislature earlier this year. One park slated to be closed was the **Antelope Valley Indian Museum**, the site of significant natural and cultural resources. **We are pleased to learn that the Antelope Valley Indian Musuem will not be closed at this time.** The Antelope Valley Indian Museum, located on Avenue M between 150th and 170th Streets East, is currently open to the public on Saturdays and Sundays, with scheduled group tours available Tuesday and Thursdays for schoolchildren. (Also see **Page 6**).

MEETINGS, EVENTS, EXHIBITS AND LECTURES & PLACES TO GO

► NEWS FROM THE FRIENDS OF THE AGUA FRIA NATIONAL MONUMENT

MARK YOUR CALENDARS..... On Saturday, **September 10, 2011**, there will be a really fantastic, one-day symposium regarding current studies of the prehistoric cultures in the Perry Mesa area. You won't want to miss this special event. Not only will you be brought up-to-date on some new studies and theories with exciting ideas about the many waves of people who inhabited the area, but you will also find out what it is that we don't know. Professional archaeologists, advocational archaeologists and students of archaeology can all learn. There will be a great series of presentations and than a panel comprised of archaeologists experienced in the area including David Wilcox from the Museum of Northern Arizona, Scott Wood from Tonto National forest and Connie Stone from the Bureau of Land Management along with others to review and comment on the studies presented. Registration information will be coming out over the next few weeks and will be on the Friends of the Agua Fria National Monument web site, <http://aguafriafriends.org/>

► **BUENA VISTA MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY (BVMNH) Is pleased to announce FALL PALEONTOLOGICAL DIGS AT THE ERNST'S QUARRIES. The Ernst Quarries are located near the World Famous Sharktooth Hill. Join the museum on a Friday, Saturday and Sunday (one day or all three) for an adventure hunting the fossils treasures at the Ernst Quarries. The Fall 2011 Schedule, Dig Dates available: September 16th, 17th 18th, October 7th, 8th, 9th & Nov 4th, 5th, 6th. You choose a one day, two or a three day Dig. For registration forms and more information please go to BVMNH's Website www.sharktoothhill.org or call the museum at 661-324-6350. All attendees must be BVMNH members*. Prices listed are for each individual with several options available. One day dig Museum Members \$85 per day. Two day dig: Friday, Saturday and Sunday dig (any two consecutive days) \$160.00. Three day dig: Fri, Sat and Sun \$240.00. All Diggers will be allowed to keep all teeth (including Megs) and fossils found with exception of scientifically significant assemblages or articulated fossils and skulls will be the property of the land owners. Registration forms, rules and regulations are available on the museums website www.sharktoothhill.org**

* BVMNH one year membership: Individual \$25.00, Senior \$20.00 or Family \$75.00.

► **ANTELOPE VALLEY INDIAN MUSEUM:** The museum is open on weekends from 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Admission is \$3 for adults. Children age 12 and under are free. The museum reopened on September 18, 2010 after completion of a \$2 million, 4-year project to install a geothermal heating and cooling system in the museum and stabilize the historic building. The museum offers exhibits, hands-on activities, a gift shop, and a nature trail. The museum is located at 15701 East Avenue M, in Lake Los Angeles, east of Lancaster, California. From the 14 Freeway in Lancaster, go east on Avenue K to 150th Street East, then follow the signs to the museum. For more information, phone the museum at (661) 946-3055, 711, TTY relay service, or visit the website at www.avim.parks.ca.gov.

► **RED ROCK CANYON STATE PARK:** Visit the Ricardo Visitor's Station and Interpretive Center for an overview of the history and pre-history of the Kawaiisu peoples and historic mining activities. Exit Highway 14 at Abbott Drive and follow the signs to the campground. For more information: (661) 942-0662. <http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?Pageid=25204>

► **2011 EVENTS AT THE TEHACHAPI MUSEUM**

310 S. GREEN STREET

TEHACHAPI, CALIFORNIA

October 8, 2011: 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Field Trip to Carrizo Plains, led by BLM Archaeologist, Tammy Whitley. Carpool from the Tehachapi Museum. For reservations and more information:

rsvpmuseum@gmail.com. Fee: \$10.00

LINKS

► **Check out these links to various NATIVE AMERICAN CULTURAL CENTERS around Southern California:**

- <http://www.haramokngna.org>
- <http://satwiwa.org/>
- <http://chumashindianmuseum.com/>

► **MORE LINKS**

- **Kern County Archaeological Society (KCAS)**
<http://www.kerncountyarchaeologicalsociety.org/>
- **San Diego County Archaeological Society (SDCAS)**
www.sandiegoarchaeologicalsociety.com
- **Pacific Coast Archaeological Society (PCAS):** <http://www.pcas.org/>
- **The Archaeological Conservancy:**
<http://www.americanarchaeology.com/aawelcome.html>
- **The Albuquerque Archaeological Society:** www.abqarchaeology.org
- **Archaeology Magazine:** <http://www.archaeology.org/>, A publication of the Archaeological Institute of America.
- **BETA Analytic Inc.** www.radiocarbon.com BETA Analytic Inc., is an accredited ISO/IEC 17025:2005 testing laboratory operating in conformance with ISO 9001:2008 management system requirements. Email: beta@radiocarbon.com.
http://www.nps.gov/history/history/online_books/band/historic_period.pdf

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY**

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VICE PRESIDENT: David Earle
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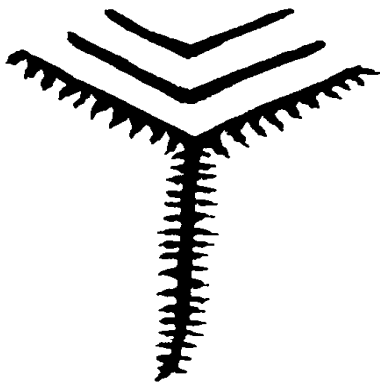
EDITORIAL STAFF:

Kathy Reece, Editor
intrikater@att.net

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE FOR
2011 OCTOBER NEWSLETTER:**

SEPTEMBER 30, 2011

**ANTELOPE VALLEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
P.O. BOX 4233
LANCASTER, CA 93539-4233**



AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2011