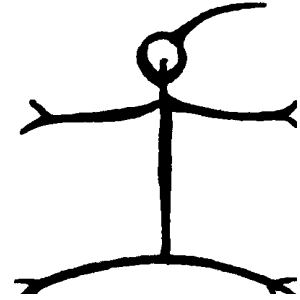


**NEWSLETTER
ANTELOPE VALLEY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY**

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

March 21, 2011: 6:00 PM General Membership meeting. To be held at the Sizzler Restaurant meeting room, located at 853 W. Palmdale Blvd., Palmdale, California. Meet for dinner, then speaker will begin at 7:00 PM. AVAS Board Member Jim Johannismeyer will give us an update on the cultural resources program at Edwards AFB.

April 16 & 17, 2011: 20th Annual California Poppy Festival at Lancaster City Park. For more information: www.poppyfestival.com. AVAS will be teaming up with the Lancaster Museum on an informational booth; anyone interested in volunteering should contact Barbara at btejada75@yahoo.com.

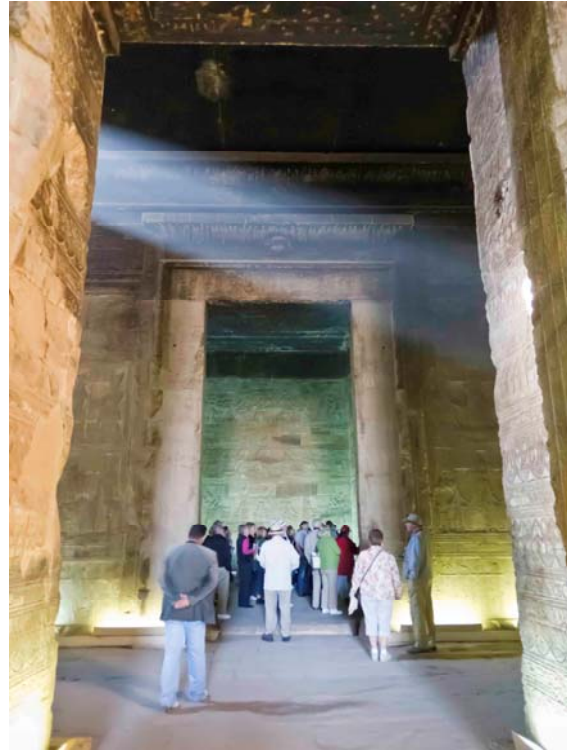
April 18, 2011: 6:30 P.M. General Membership meeting. To be held at the Antelope Valley Indian Museum, located at 15701 E. Avenue M, Lake Los Angeles, California. Museum Curator [Peggy Ronning](#) will provide AVAS members with a special tour. There is no charge for this tour, but donations are welcome.

LAST MONTH: FEBRUARY 21 2011, GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING:

We met again in the “Lab” at Antelope Valley College, the Archaeology Classroom, Room LS1 124. AVAS member Alex Sim and his wife Kathy gave a brief talk about their recent trip to Egypt, and shared hieroglyph bookmarks and CDs of his photos (see some below!). And as a special surprise, AVAS Board Member David Earle gave a fantastic last minute talk on his research into the Old Spanish Trail.



Kathy on a camel at Giza



Dandara Temple



Balloon Ride over Valley of Kings



Wall Painting at Luxor

► **THIS MONTH'S FIELD TRIP: To the Tehachapi Museum Book Signing Event, March 5, 2011.** By Katherine Leggiero. Tehachapi Museum sponsored a book signing and cultural presentation on Saturday, March 5th. The event began with a purification ritual. Mrs. Lucille Hicks, a Nuwa elder, said an opening prayer in her native language. The prayer was followed by a drum and chanting performance. Knapping demonstrations were offered by Kern County Archaeological Society. Also, on display were willow baskets constructed of willow, deer grass, juncus, rosewood, and devils claw. Three basket weavers were in residence including Nuwa Consultant, Jon Hammond. A demonstration on milkweed cordage was also provided. Inside the museum, a natural history, prehistoric and historic exhibits were displayed. Authors, Alan Garfinkel, an archaeologist with AECOM and Harold Williams, a Nuwa tribal elder were signing copies of "The Handbook of the Kawaiisu," in the room that held the prehistoric exhibit about the Nuwa material culture. The book documents the archaeological and cultural practices of the Nuwa, more commonly known as the Kawaiisu.

► **UPCOMING FIELD TRIP: To Red Rock Canyon State Park, April 30, 2011.** Mark Faull will lead us on Part Two of our fantastic explorations of Red Rock. The trip will include a visit to an incredible rockshelter, a complex of rock rings, and perhaps a mining site, along with whatever else catches our fancy. Mark does a wonderful job on leading these trips and is so knowledgeable – this one is not to be missed!

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

► The Draft San Gabriel Watershed and Mountains Special Resource Study will soon be available for public review. We expect to publish it in summer 2011. If you would like a physical copy of the executive summary, the full draft study report or a CD-ROM for your individual use, please use the link below to let the study team know your preferred format and provide us with your mailing address. We need to receive your request by April 29, 2011, in order to guarantee that a copy will be available for you. You may also e-mail us your preference at: pwr_sangabriel@nps.gov.

Online Information:

- [San Gabriel Watershed and Mountains Special Resource Study](#)
- [San Gabriel Watershed and Mountains SRS Public Comment Site \(PEPC\)](#)

► Check out information on proposed projects in and around the Antelope Valley through this new website: www.avopenspace.org.

MEETINGS, EVENTS, EXHIBITS AND LECTURES & PLACES TO GO

► **ANTELOPE VALLEY CALIFORNIA POPPY RESERVE SNR:** The Visitor Center opens for the season on March 12th and guided tours will be available. The Jane S. Pinheiro Interpretive Center, offering a short video, wildlife and plant displays and gift shop, is open daily during the wildflower season. Nearby, shaded picnic tables are available on a first-come, first-served basis year-round, with an interpretive display and a serene view over the valley to the San Gabriel Mountains. Parking during wildflower season is \$10 per car. Located at 15101 Lancaster Road. http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=627

► **INTRODUCTION TO FLINTKNAPPING AND STONE TOOLS (ANT 495),** by Daniel J. Reeves, a two-day introduction to flintknapping, incorporating background lectures with hands-on activities. The course assumes no previous knowledge of stone tools and is designed for the beginning archaeologies and for avocationalists. Offered through Extended and International Education, CSU Dominguez Hills, April 23-24, 8 am-5pm. Fee: \$218. To enroll, call 310-243-3741. Contact: Jerry Moore, jmoore@csudh.edu. Information: www.csudh.edu/ee/flintknapping.html.

► **RACE: ARE WE SO DIFFERENT?** This exhibit explores race from biological, cultural, and historical points of view. San Diego Museum of Man, 1350 El Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA 92101. February 12 through May 15, 2011. Fee: \$7.50-\$10.00. Information: 619-239-2001 or www.museumofman.org

► **NATIVE AMERICAN PLANT USES** (March 27, 2011; 9:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M), by Daniel McCarthy (Tribal Relations Program Manager, San Bernardino National Forest). Classes of the Desert Institute at Joshua Tree National Park. Fee: \$60.00 for each class. For information and registration: desertinstitute.homestead.com, or 760-367-5535.

► **41st ANNUAL CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY LONG BEACH POW WOW** (March 12-13, 2011). The largest spring event of its kind in Southern California, this two-day event, which will feature American Indian dancing, arts, crafts and food begins at 11 AM each day and runs until 10 PM on Saturday and 7 PM on Sunday. In addition to contests and inter-tribal dancing, there will be Gourd dancing with Dancer Registration closing at 2 PM on Saturday, March 12. All dancers and drums are invited. Native foods such as mutton and beef stew, Navajo tacos, fry bread and Indian burgers will be on sale at the event, and American Indian vendors will be selling both traditional and contemporary American Indian art. http://www.csulb.edu/divisions/students/sld/american_indian_services/pow_wow/

► **13th CHUMASH DAY POWWOW AND INTERTRIBAL GATHERING** (April 16-17, 2011, Saturday 11am-7:30pm; Sunday 10:00am-5:00pm). At Malibu Bluffs Park, 24250 Pacific Coast Highway. Free and open to the public. <http://www.ci.malibu.ca.us/calendar/index.cfm/fuseaction/Detail/EventID/2637/>

► **PLAY: THE FRYBREAD QUEEN** (March 12 through 27th). *Native Voices at the Autry* presents this play about three generations of Indian women who come together for the funeral of a beloved son. Autry National Center, Griffith Park, Los Angeles. <http://theautry.org/programs/performing-arts/the-frybread-queen>

ARCHAEOLOGICAL NEWSBRIEFS

▶▶▶ **CHANNEL ISLANDS, CALIFORNIA** - 12,000 year-old toolkits and the remains of fish and birds found in caves on San Miguel and Santa Rosa islands may indicate that North America was settled by more than one wave of immigrants from Asia. A “Paleocoastal tradition” consisting of seafarers traveling along the Pacific Coast and practicing a diverse sea-based economy, appears to be separate and distinct from the more well-known “big-game hunters” of the inland Clovis and Folsom traditions, according to recent research by Jon M. Erlandson and a 15-member team. Finely manufactured serrated and barbed projectile points and crescents, similar to 16,000 year old tools from Japan, have been found along the Channel Islands and at other sites in the Great Basin and the Columbia Plateau.

▶▶▶ **NEW MEXICO** – A Loyola University, Chicago archaeology professor pleaded guilty to stealing 17 artifacts from public lands, including Folsom and Clovis points, without a permit during a June 2007 site visit. Daniel Amick agreed to a plea deal in exchange for testimony that may be used against two others who may have collected artifacts for commercial purposes. Amick claims his collections were for research purposes, and that he regrets the incident.

▶▶▶ **WALES** – A small-scale excavation will take place in a pub garden in April in the community of Tregaron to look for the remains of a circus elephant reportedly buried there after dying of water contamination in 1848. Dr. Jemma Bezant, with the University of Wales Trinity St. David’s archaeology department, is leading the effort. “This project is about celebrating the story of the Tregaron Elephant,” she says. According to local lore, the elephant was part of Batty’s Traveling Menageries, and sickened after drinking lead-contaminated water.

▶▶▶ **ITALY** – A new model of the Iceman Oetzi is now on display at the South Tyrol Museum of Archaeology in Bolzano. Dutch experts Alfons and Adrie Kennis created the model based on three-dimensional images of the mummy’s skeleton. The 5,300 year-old Iceman was discovered in the Oetzel Alps in 1991, and is believed to have died at the age of 45. Results of DNA studies on Oetzi are expected to be released in April.

▶▶▶ **EGYPT** – Zahi Hawass, the longtime head of Egypt’s antiquities office has warned that the country’s antiquity sites were being looted by criminals amid the country’s political upheaval as he announced he would no longer serve in his ministerial post in the new government. In a series of postings on his website, he says that he is no longer able to protect the country’s antiquities because of the absence of police protection and because he was a victim of a campaign against him by senior officials at his ministry. For more than a decade, Hawass has been the international face of Egyptian archaeology, but he has recently come under protests by archaeology graduates, accusing him of corruption, being too close to the Mubarak regime, and seeking publicity for himself.

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY**

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**SUBMISSION DEADLINE FOR
2011 APRIL NEWSLETTER:**

MARCH 21, 2011

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