

CASSP newsletter

Volume 6, Issue 1, September 2010



Daphne Greene, Deputy Director, OHMVR Division, California State Parks (standing at far right) speaks at the CASSP workshop in Sacramento, December 2009.

OHMVR Division of California State Parks and California State Office of the BLM support CASSP

The Society for California Archaeology (SCA) recently received a grant from the California State Office of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) for CASSP activities with the BLM and the US Forest Service (USFS). This grant is part of an award from the Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation (OHMVR) Division of California State Parks to the BLM.

Jim Keeler, California OHV Lead for the BLM, directed the grant application. In addition, several SCA members, CASSP volunteers, and members of the general public independently submitted letters of support directly to the OHMVR Division.

This grant provides funds for volunteer training workshops and advanced training workshops, the CASSP newsletter, and other volunteer support efforts. Funds are matched by BLM and US Forest Service support in hosting the workshops and supervising the volunteers, by SCA support for the workshops and volunteers, and by the many volunteer site stewardship hours given by public participants in CASSP.

This grant reinforces partnerships between the BLM, USFS, OHMVR Division of State Parks, SCA, and the general public to protect cultural resources on our public lands. The growth and success of site stewardship in California is due in large part to the support from the OHMVR Division and the California State Office of the BLM. We thank them very much. We look forward to another productive year for CASSP. ◇

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New CASSP web site

The CASSP web site recently received a complete revision and update. Although it looks similar to the old web site and retains much of the structure, there are new sections and a lot of new information.

There are new pages that contain information about the Society for California Archaeology, agencies that work with CASSP, other volunteer opportunities, and a memo for public agency archaeologists who may be interested in hosting a CASSP workshop.

The front page presents important announcements, including newly scheduled training workshops. Other pages provide more details about workshop agenda, fees, and registration. All of the dates and locations of scheduled workshops are listed together on their own page under the "How to join" section.

The CASSP web site address is

<http://www.cassp.org/>

The CASSP listserv sends occasional announcements about CASSP events by e-mail to subscribers. To join this listserv, send an e-mail message to

cassp-events-subscribe@yahoo.com



CASSP is the California Archaeological Site Stewardship Program, where trained volunteers work with professional archaeologists to protect archaeological and historical resources by regularly visiting sites and recording changes. CASSP is a program of the Society for California Archaeology (SCA).

- In order to become a CASSP volunteer, you must attend a two-day, training workshop (see [Sign Up Here](#)). Pre-registration must be made by e-mail, mail, or phone by the Monday before the workshop. The initial training workshop fee is \$25 per person. Attendance usually is limited to 25.
- (updated August 14, 2010) The next volunteer training workshop will be held on September 4-5, 2010, at the Sequoia National Forest, Western Divide Ranger District, 32908 Highway 190, Springville, CA 93285.
- (correction August 24, 2010) The volunteer training workshop on October 2-3 for the BLM Ukiah Field Office will be held at the Mendocino College Field Station at Point Arena, not at Ukiah. ([More Information](#).)
- (updated August 24, 2010) The volunteer training workshop on October 23-24 for BLM Hollister Field Office in partnership with California State Parks, Monterey District, will be held at the district office at 2211 Garden Road, Monterey 93940. ([More Information](#).)

New ideas and directions

A year ago, as we celebrated the tenth anniversary of CASSP, we began asking how the program could improve—how we might change direction or procedures. After the SCA annual meetings this year, we sent a brief questionnaire to people who attended the symposium on site stewardship or the CASSP committee (about 42 total) to solicit their ideas. The questions asked about specific aspects of the current organization, and suggested some new initiatives. In general there was agreement to:

1. Send out a welcome letter to volunteers who are new members of the SCA.
2. Use the CASSP web site to post announcements about site stewardship activities at Parks, Field Offices, and Ranger Districts.
3. Solicit questions about archaeological resources or site visits from site stewards, and then develop the answers into articles for the CASSP newsletter and web site.

4. Increase communication with the Office of Historic Preservation about CASSP activities.

5. Develop a better system for recording volunteer hours and efforts. Because CASSP volunteers work for agency archaeologists, make sure that any new system is compatible with their needs.

6. Maintain local supervision of the site stewards and choice of sites by the agency rather than centralize supervision at one, statewide office.

7. Explore partnerships with Native American organizations, and with groups not usually involved in archaeology, such as OHV clubs (adopt-a-site), Sierra Club chapters, other social organizations.

We want to continue the conversations about site stewardship for California. If you would like a copy of the questionnaire, or if you would like to send comments and suggestions about CASSP, please contact Beth Padon at:

bpadon@discoveryworks.com



Workshop schedule

At the time of printing, two initial volunteer training workshops are confirmed. Please check the CASSP web site for the latest schedule.

Point Arena, California. On October 2-3, 2010, a training workshop will be held for the BLM Ukiah Field Office at the Mendocino College Field Station at Point Arena. Christopher Lloyd, archaeologist at the Field Office, will be our host. Registration closes on Monday, September 27.

Monterey, California. On October 23-24, a training workshop will be held for the BLM Hollister Field Office in partnership with the Monterey District of California State Parks at the district office, 2211 Garden Road, Monterey, 93940 (near the airport and fairgrounds). BLM archaeologist, Erik Zaborsky, will be our host, along with Rae Schwaderer, Associate Archaeologist, California State Parks Monterey District.



FIELD REPORT

Corn Spring petroglyphs: Photos from Today and 50 Years Ago

In 2002, Jon and Suzanne McBride attended the CASSP volunteer training workshop at the BLM Palm Springs Field Office, and became site stewards at the Corn Spring petroglyph site (CA-Riv-32). Jon and Suzanne have helped to protect the site by inspecting it frequently and talking with the visitors they meet. In addition, they have studied the old site records and photographed the rock art and other site features to record their conditions. Their extensive documentation provides the most complete current reference for the site. A small sample of their photos appear in the left columns.

In 1960, two young friends, C. Wesley Morse and Bill Frambach, visited the Corn Spring petroglyphs. They took many photos of the amazing rock art, some of which appear in the right columns.

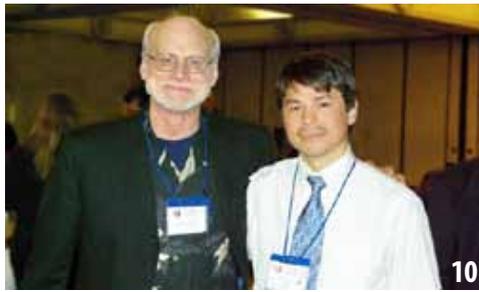
The water and oasis at Corn Spring have attracted people for thousands of years. The cultural resources at the site are amazing. Hundreds of petroglyphs cover the patinated granite walls of Corn Springs Wash, especially on the north side. Most of the rock art is curvilinear—circles, curvy lines, and U-shaped and semicircle forms. Also there are dot patterns and cross-hatching and anthropomorphic figures. Grinding slicks and bedrock mortars can be found near the rock art, a prehistoric campsite area has been identified on a nearby ridge, and at least one Native American trail crosses the desert from this area.

Except for some hardy prospectors and sundry, slightly eccentric, adventurers, there were few visitors to the Corn Spring oasis before Wesley and Bill's trip in 1960. That has changed in recent years, and if you visit Corn Spring on a weekend, it's almost certain that you will encounter other visitors. It's encouraging that the sample of petroglyphs shown in these photographs show only a few examples of modern disturbance. Because people like Jon and Suzanne McBride, C. Wesley Morse, and Bill Frambach, care and appreciate these heritage resources, we can hope that they will be preserved for many more years. ◇





SCA 2010 A Meeting at



Annual at Riverside



SCA

SCA Annual Meeting

The Society for California Archaeology (SCA) 2010 Annual Meeting was held at The Riverside Convention Center and the Mission Inn, on March 17–20. This year, the meetings offered over 25 symposiums, general sessions, and poster sessions, which contained almost 200 papers and presentations.

Two symposiums and two poster sessions featured site stewardship. Kathy Lindahl, California State Parks chaired a symposium about the ways that private consultants and public agencies are working on site preservation and stewardship. Stephen Horne, Basin and Range Heritage Consultants, chaired the other symposium, which examined how members of the public can participate in site stewardship. This symposium was held immediately after the SCA Site Stewardship Committee meeting, and on the same day as posters about site stewards at work were presented by Beth and Chris Padon (Discovery Works, Inc.) and by Gina Griffith and Travis Mason (San Bernardino National Forest).

Also at the Annual Meetings there was a workshop on curation; a plenary session on curation, stewardship, and cultural heritage management; the silent auction; awards banquet; and the always-busy bookroom.

For this meeting, the program chair was Georgia Fox and the local arrangements chair was Gwyn Alcock.

Next year, the annual meeting will be held at the Doubletree Hotel Sonoma Wine County in Rohnert Park, on March 10–13.

Garry Gillette photographed the awards banquet for the SCA. Photos from Garry, and a few others, are presented here.

1. Symposium on site stewardship (photo by Garry Gillette [GG]).
2. Exterior of the Mission Inn (GG).
3. Cindi Alvitre received the California Indian Heritage Preservation Award (GG).
4. Ken Wilson (left) received the Lifetime Achievement Award (GG).
5. SCA President C. Kristina Roper presided over the awards banquet (GG).
6. Lobby of The Riverside Convention Center during registration (GG).
7. SCA Native American Programs Committee California Indian Scholarships, Janet Eidsness (left), chairperson (GG).

8. Welcome slide at the awards banquet (GG).

9. Local arrangements chair Gwyn Alcock received a certificate of appreciation (GG).

10. Kent Lightfoot and Sven Haakanson (keynote speaker at the awards banquet) (GG).

11. The San Bernardino National Forest Volunteer Program participated in a site stewardship poster presentation (photo by Chris Padon [CP]).

12. Kent Lightfoot and Otis Parrish received the Martin A. Baumhoff Special Achievement Award (GG).

13. Rich Olson, underwriters coordinator for the meeting, received a certificate of appreciation (GG).

14. The President's Award was presented to Robert Begole (GG).

15. Speakers and discussants at Symposium 12, Site Stewardship Programs (photo by Travis Mason).

16. At the awards banquet, Glenn Gmoser became SCA President and C. Kristina Roper became Immediate Past-President (GG).

17. Gina Jorgenson and David Copper (www.davidcopperlive.com) provided music in the lounge at the Mission Inn (photo by Beth Padon).

18. The Mark Raymond Harrington Award for Conservation Archaeology was presented to the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) (GG).

19. Gina Griffith (left) and Wanda Raschkow (right) at a poster session (CP).

20. The Thomas F. King Award for Excellence in Cultural Resources Management was presented to Far Western Anthropological Research Group, Inc. (GG).

21. One of the entry ways to the Mission Inn (GG).

22. Melanie Beasley received the James A. Bennyhoff Memorial Fund Award (GG).

23. SCA Southern Vice-President Colleen Delaney-Rivera (left) and friends (photo by Sue Myers).

24. Interior courtyard at the Mission Inn (GG).

25. Ruth Musser-Lopez, Donna Gillette, and Beth Padon (CP).

26. Program Chair Georgia Fox received a certificate of appreciation (GG).



WORKSHOPS

NASSP workshops

Volunteers in the Nevada Archaeological Site Stewardship Program (NASSP) visit their assigned sites four (or more) times a year to observe and report on its condition. They take a Basic Training class and make a Baseline Visit to their assigned site with the agency archaeologist responsible for that area. NASSP recently published a list of upcoming trainings in their newsletter, *Nevada Pastwatch*.

- Photo Documentation Workshop, Sept. in Las Vegas
- Prehistoric Pottery of S. NV, Nov. in Pahrump
- Basic GPS, Spring 2011 place TBA
- ARPA Workshop, March 2011 in Carson City/Reno
- Historic Artifact ID, Spring 2011, in Winnemucca
- Lithic II workshop, May 2011 in Fallon
- Field Photography, Early Summer 2011 in Carson City/Reno
- Photo documentation Workshop, Summer 2011 in Carson

City/Reno

Sali Underwood coordinates NASSP. She can be reached at 702-486-5011 or sunderwood@nevadaculture.org.

Current and past issues of Nevada Pastwatch are available on-line at:

http://nvshpo.org/dmdocuments/PW_vol13_I2.pdf

Information about the Nevada Archaeological Site Stewardship Program is posted at:

http://nvshpo.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1309&Itemid=437 ◇

SCA

SCA Data-Sharing Meetings

Site stewards and the general public are invited to the SCA Data-Sharing Meetings which will be held in northern and southern California in October. The SCA celebrates October as Archaeology Month.

The southern California data-sharing meeting will be held on Saturday, October 2, 2010, at Palomar College in San Marcos, California. Parking is free only in Lots 1 and 2. The meetings will be held in the Governing Board Room, SCC Building, on campus. Colleen Delaney-Rivera, the Southern Vice-President of the SCA, is organizing this meeting.

The northern California data-sharing meetings will be held on October 16 at CSU Chico, in Ayers Hall, Room 106. Adrian R. Whitaker, Northern Vice-President, is arranging this meeting.

The data-sharing meetings are informal, free, and open to the public. Local archaeologists will present short papers on recent projects. For more information, visit the SCA web site at:

http://www.scahome.org/meetings_events/index.html

If you want to celebrate Archaeology Month by visiting a local resource about California archaeology, go to the SCA web site at:

http://scahome.org/about_ca_archaeology/index.html ◇

WORKSHOPS

Advanced workshop studies point types

US Forest Service archaeologist Jamie Moore presented regional information on chipped stone artifacts at the CASSP advanced workshop held earlier this year at the Feather River Ranger District, Plumas National Forest. We learned how to describe, measure, and characterize projectile points. The descriptions and terms provided below summarize a portion of this workshop.



Jaime Moore demonstrates how to use calipers to measure a projectile point.

The following illustrations (not to scale) show some of the important types of projectile points found in the Great Basin, and especially in eastern Plumas County. The type or style of a projectile point often helps with dating the archaeological site where it was found and provides information on the stone material used which leads to rock sourcing and possible trade routes.

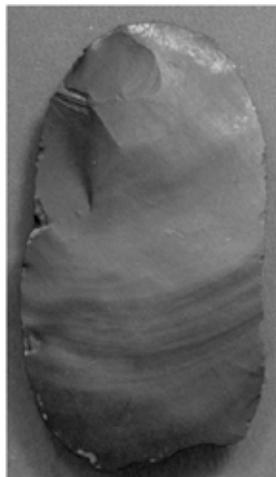
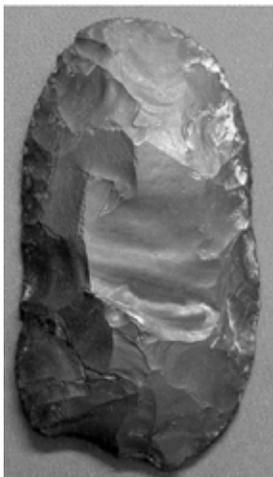
We thank Jamie Moore and Mary Kliejunas for organizing this workshop. And thanks to USFS archaeologists Cristina Weinberg, Doug Baughman, Wendy Parker and Alden Neel who provided their expertise and helped supervise the cataloging. (They did a great job and any errors appearing here are the responsibility of the CASSPnewsletter editors.)



Edge modified piece: An EMP is an artifact (usually debitage) that is modified along at least one edge. Modification can be unifacial or bifacial in nature.



Biface: Bifaces are artifacts that have had flakes removed from both the dorsal and ventral sides. Typically, they are elliptical in cross section.



Uniface: Unifaces are modified on one face (left side) with the other side containing little to no modification (right side).



Expanding-Stem Point.



Contracting-Stem Point.



Wide-Stemmed / Square Stemmed Point.



Stemmed-Leaf Point.



Side-Notched Point.



Corner-Notched Point (also serrated).



Basal-Notched Point (also serrated).

Some references for chipped stone artifacts:

Justice, Noel D.
2002 *Stone Age Spear and Arrow Points of California and the Great Basin*. Indiana University Press, Bloomington, Indiana.

Thomas, David Hurst
1981 How to Classify the Projectile Points from Monitor Valley, Nevada. *Journal of California and Great Basin Anthropology* 3(1):7-43.

Whittaker, John C.
1997 *Flintknapping Making and Understanding Stone Tools*. University of Texas Press, Austin. ◇

California Archaeological Site Stewardship Program
c/o Discovery Works, Inc.
10591 Bloomfield Street
Los Alamitos, CA 90720

BACK PAGE

The typical CASSP volunteer

The typical CASSP volunteer is between 18 and 80 years of age, and is male or female. The CASSP volunteer either studied archaeology and anthropology in college or did not, lives in the city or country, and drives an ATV or motorcycle or car, or rides a bicycle or bus, or some combination of these.

Also, the typical CASSP volunteer has a sincere interest in preserving prehistoric and historic resources. CASSP volunteers enjoy being outdoors and learning new things about the landscape and how things came to be the way they are. The freedoms and comforts that we enjoy are made possible by the hard work and efforts of many people, past and present. CASSP volunteers want to honor these people and want to make things better for future generations by giving some of their talent and time to help preserve heritage resources.

If you or someone you know might fit this description, then please attend a training workshop to become a CASSP volunteer. You will meet a terrific group of people. ◇



CASSPnewsletter

CASSPnewsletter is a publication of the Society for California Archaeology (SCA), Site Stewardship Committee. Newsletter editors are Beth and Chris Padon. The President of the Society for California Archaeology is Glenn Gmoser. Current issues can be downloaded in PDF format from <www.cassp.org>.

Submissions

We welcome submissions to the Newsletter; however, articles may be edited for length and content, and all submitted materials become property of the Society for California Archaeology.

Subscriptions

The newsletter is provided at no cost to CASSP volunteers and other interested parties. To receive the newsletter by mail, or by e-mail in Adobe Acrobat Reader PDF format, or to submit items for publication, please contact:

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