

ANZA-BORREGO FOUNDATION AND INSTITUTE

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P PRESS RELEASE

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****For Immediate Release****

The Anza-Borrego Foundation & Institute and the Colorado Desert Archaeology Society Award 2008 Begole Archaeological Research Grants

Borrego Springs, CA.

Three research grants were recently awarded in a grant-proposal competition for the third annual Begole Archaeological Research Grant (BARG) program in the Colorado Desert District of California State Parks. The annual BARG grant funds are generated through the proceeds of an endowment set up with the Anza-Borrego Foundation & Institute through the generosity of Robert S. Begole. The three successful grant applicants and a description of the projects are below:

Title: Antiquity of the Dripping Springs Site, CA-SDI-860, Cuyamaca Rancho State Park

Grant Recipient: Lynn H. Gamble, Ph.D., (Professor, San Diego State University, Department of Anthropology). Grant Amount: \$3000

Abstract: As a result of archaeological surveys and excavations at Cuyamaca Rancho State Park, D. L. True (1970:5-6) suggested that most of the village sites and many of the bedrock milling sites in the park were probably late prehistoric or protohistoric occupations. True conducted his most extensive excavations at the large village site at Dripping Springs (CA-SDI-860) on East Mesa, however, never obtained any radiocarbon dates from this site. Just completed excavations at SDI- 860 resulted in the recovery of numerous in situ charcoal samples. Funds are requested for five AMS radiocarbon dates in order to determine the antiquity of this site.

Title: Ceramic Analysis and Cultural Interpretation of Ceramic Materials from the Stacked Stone Site, Cuyamaca Rancho State Park and the southern California region

Grant Recipient: David Broughton (Department of Archaeology, University of Sheffield, United Kingdom)

Grant Amount: \$2000

Abstract: This project will provide funds for this scholar to travel to the United States for two purposes: (1) to visit the site (Stacked Stone Site in Cuyamaca Rancho State Park, CA-SDI-17666) that is the origin of the ceramic artifacts on which he based his thesis work at Sheffield and (2) to call together scholars of southern California ceramic technology in a workshop environment to discuss his findings, to exchange information, and to further focus ceramic research in the Colorado Desert District area

Title: Chemical and Petrographic Analysis of Southern California Mainland Prehistoric Sheet Silicate Quarries.

Grant Recipient: John J. Eddy (California State University, Northridge, Department of Anthropology)

Grant Amount: \$3000

Abstract: The purpose of the research is to examine hunter-gatherer social interaction and exchange networks linked to the production and distribution of “soft stone” beads and ornaments during Middle to Late Holocene (3000 BC to AD 900). The project explores prehistoric craft production in Alta California through an examination of the production cycle (resource procurement, manufacture, and distribution) with a focus on the identification of raw material source locations used in the manufacture of “soft stone” beads and ornaments via LA-ICP-TOFMS chemical composition and petrographic mineralogical analysis.

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