



San Diego Rock Art Association Meeting

Sunday, February 9, 2014

Kumeyaay-Ipai Interpretive Center
13104 Ipai Waaypuk Trail (formerly Silver Lake Drive)
Poway, CA 92064



A Sampling of Scandinavian Rock Art

Thousands of rock art sites pepper the edges of the ancient fjords in Sweden and Norway and two large areas have been designated as UNESCO World Heritage sites. Compared with the rock art of Tassili n'Ajjer featured in our December meeting, the animals, culture, and landscape of Scandinavia stand in stark contrast to those of North Africa. Scandinavian rock art appeared shortly after the retreat of the ice sheet in Mesolithic times and continued through the age of the Vikings. Most rock art panels in Sweden face south or east, carved on rock surfaces where water runs down the surface, apparently to create a deliberate association with rays of morning sun reflected by the water. Ethnographic data suggests that much of the iconography refers to the sun and its return each day. Much of the Bronze Age rock art is surprisingly similar to some found in Italy. The rock art of Norway was created on similar surfaces but portrays more animals and is associated with the ancestors of the indigenous Saami people who still live there.

Margaret Berrier (AKA Marglyph) was first drawn to rock art as an artist, inspired to create jewelry using the images and experiences. Then she became interested in the reasons for rock art production and, finally, in finding ways to help protect these images. She has been recording and studying rock art throughout the western U.S. since 1986. On a 2010 visit to see the rock art of Scandinavia she experienced a totally different landscape. She returned in 2011 for a rock art documentation course and will be going back there again this summer.

Marglyph will have examples of her rock art jewelry available for purchase at the February meeting.

- **4:00 Potluck: Bring food of your choice to share**
- **5:00 Meeting • 6:00 Presentation**

Meetings are included in your SDRAA Membership. Suggested Donation for Guests is \$5.00.

www.sandiegorockart.org