



San Diego
Rock Art
Association



San Diego Rock Art Association Meeting Sunday, December 8, 2019

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

4:00 Potluck: Bring food of your choice to share • 5:00 Meeting and Presentations
Meetings are included in your SDRAA Membership. Suggested Donation for Guests is \$5.00



Mike Wilken walks with Teodora Cuero Robles

Kumeyaay Ethnobotany: Traditional Lifeways As Insights Into Ancient Artists

A Presentation by Mike Wilken

For thousands of years, native peoples have made their homes in the coasts, valleys, mountains, and deserts of northern Baja California and southern California. Through lifetimes of interactions with the diverse landscapes of the region, they have continuously refined their botanical knowledge, passing it on from generation to generation. Today, many Kumeyaay Indians in the far-flung ranches of northern Baja California still regularly practice the skills necessary to transform native plants into food, medicine, arts, tools, regalia, construction materials, and ceremonial items, among others. How can these ways of interacting with the land, and the cosmology imbued in them, help us think about the region's rock art, and the artists who created it?

Kumeyaay Ethnobotany explores the remarkable interdependence between native peoples and native plants of the Californias through hundreds of vivid photographs and lively narratives. This carefully researched work provides archaeological and historical background, descriptive passages from early chroniclers and ethnographic accounts, explorations into the endangered Kumeyaay language, and interviews with contemporary plant specialists, as well as discussions of ongoing cultural revitalization efforts. Out of this comprehensive perspective emerges a fascinating portrait of the region's ancestral peoples, their living cultures, and the native plant specialists who have enthusiastically shared their ever-relevant wisdom for future generations. Copies of *Kumeyaay Ethnobotany* will be available for purchase at the meeting.

Show & Tell gives members the opportunity to share brief presentations on rock art topics of their choice. If you have about 20 digital images to share, contact Program Coordinator Steve Freers at sfreers@icloud.com

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