



San Diego Rock Art Association Virtual Meeting
Sunday, December 12, 2021, 4:00 p.m. Pacific Time



Columbia Plateau Rock Art: Images of Forgotten Dreams

A Presentation by James D. Keyser

American Indian rock art is widespread in the Columbia Plateau, from central British Columbia to central Oregon and from the Cascades to the Rocky Mountains. In this region we have some of the world's best rock art ethnography that helps us understand the art and the reasons it was made. Both pictographs and petroglyphs were drawn for a variety of reasons, but the most common images were made as part of the vision quest ritual wherein individuals acquired guardian spirits to help throughout their lives. Other images were made by shamans during their curing and spell-casting rituals, while still others commemorated mythical beings, creation events, and hunters' magic.

James D. Keyser, a Montana native who earned his PhD in anthropology (University of Oregon, 1977), has conducted rock art research across western North America from Alaska to New Mexico and in the Valcamonica in Italy. He has more than 200 rock art publications and is the author of eight books on the subject including *Indian Rock Art of the Columbia Plateau* (1992), *Plains Indian Rock Art* (2001), *The Five Crows Ledger: Warrior Art of the Flathead Indians* (2000), *Art of the Warriors: Rock Art of the American Plains* (2004), and the forthcoming *War Stories: Reading Plains Indian Biographic Rock Art*. He was an Assistant Professor at the State University of New York at Buffalo and the University of Tulsa before he retired as Regional Archaeologist from the U.S. Forest Service. He now splits his time between a home in Portland, Oregon, and a home in northern Italy.

**This meeting will be held via Zoom
December 12, 2021, Starting at 4:00 p.m. (Pacific Time)**

Meeting room will open approximately 15 minutes early

Free Registration Required, limit 100 participants

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