



Tuesday, February 21, 2012
California Native Plant Society
Balboa Park, Casa del Prado room 104
Pre meeting seminar at 6:30pm
Valerie Phillips of Las Pilitas Nursery "Care of Ok Trees and Companion
Plants"
More info: CNPSSD.org or 619-282-8687
Books and posters available
coffee and expert advice

Speaker - Dr. G. Timothy Gross

This presentation will examine what archaeologists have found in the archaeological record in the San Diego region that informs us about the use of native plants. Stone and ceramic artifacts give clues to plant use, and the remains of plants help to fill in the story. Charred seeds, charcoal, pollen and phytoliths give information on plants used by prehistoric Native Americans, as well as those used in the historic period. Although food is the most often considered aspect of ethnobotany, other aspects of plant use such as their use as building material, firewood, and mastics will also be discussed. The San Diego area will be compared to other areas like the Southwest and Great Basin where much more detail is preserved in the archaeological record about the interaction of plants and humans.

Dr. Gross earned his bachelor's in Anthropology from San Diego State University. His masters and doctorate are from Washington State University. He has been involved in the archaeology of the Western US for over 40 years. He teaches at the University of San Diego and consults for Ecology and Environment, Inc.

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