

The history of our club thru past newsletters



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## **Our Club Logo**

Thanks to Ed Spaw of Digital Design and Illustration for help in creating this logo. It is based on an original Chumash pictograph found in this area. Kathy Conti of the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History documented the original design in a journal publication entitled *The Aquatic Motif in Chumash\_Rock Art.* I feel that this type of design reflects our local heritage wonderfully. Mike Clevenger, President

(Note: The Aquatic Motif had important spiritual and ritualistic meanings to Chumash as it is found 29 times in 19 different sites over a wide area (San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, & Kern Counties). Anthropologists believe the figures represent aquatic animals, most likely porpoises and swordfish which were important in Chumash myths. The central disc may represent Polaris, the most important star around which Chumash believed all others revolved, while the outer circle represents the "Upper World" with the celestial porpoises circling the great oceans of the Upper World. The motif indicates the sacred connection and reverence the Chumash felt towards their world, the oceans and aquatic life. Our understanding of earth and the universe is much greater but those elements depicted in the motif are just as significant to us today. Our club logo, the Aquatic Motif, represents our connection to conservation and environmentalism while paying homage to the indigenous fishermen who lived along the Central Coast for thousands of years before us. Larry Basham)