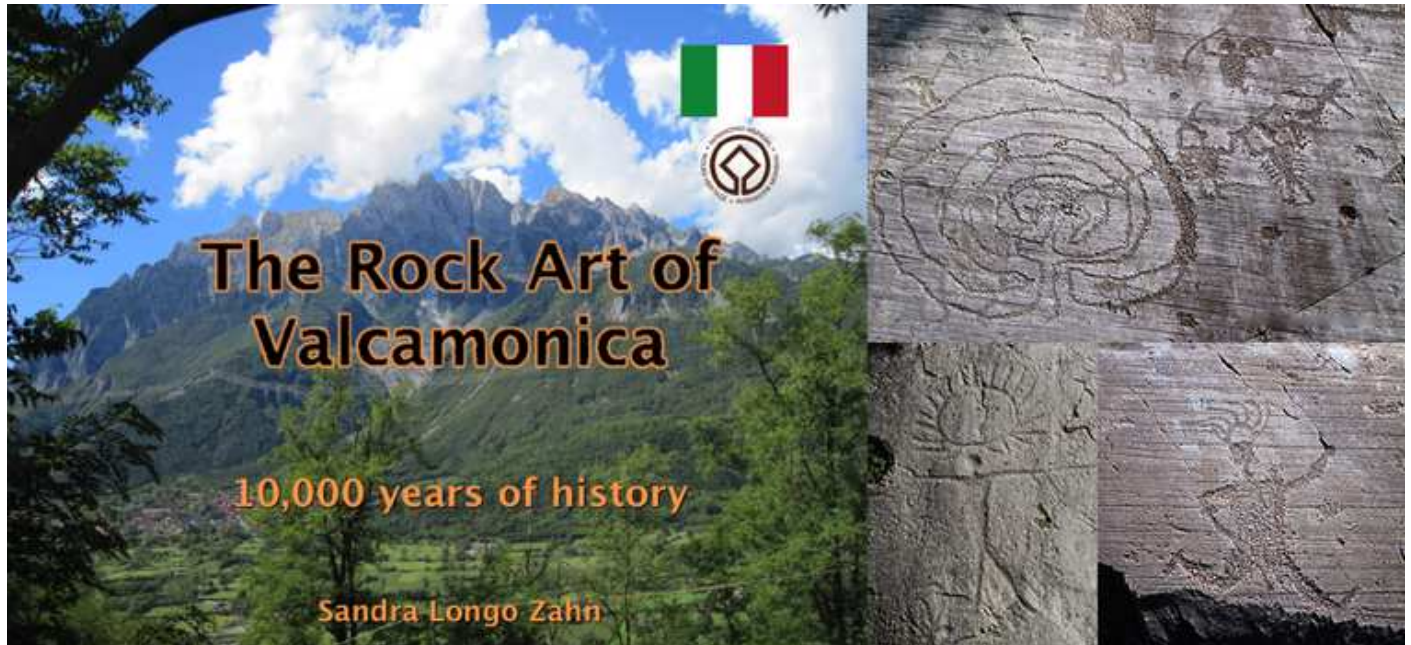




San Diego Rock Art Association Meeting

**Sunday, December 6, 2015**

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



The stone carvings of Valcamonica comprise one of the largest concentrations of rock art in the world. The number of engravings is estimated to be close to 300,000 with a time period covering 10,000 years of European history, from the Epi-Paleolithic to the Middle Ages. The rock art is located in a wide, flat valley 56 miles long in the central Italian Alps north of Milan in the province of Lombardy. The largest concentration lies between the two major Alpine peaks of Concarena and Pizzo Badile.

For centuries, the valley has been a major passageway through the Alps where different people crossed and exchanged ideas. Scholars have been studying stylistic changes in the rock art that reflect the evolution of cultural patterns throughout this long history. These images were not random pecking but a way of recording events that were understood by the inhabitants. They are a figurative documentation of the prehistoric culture.

In 1979 Valcamonica was awarded the status of World Heritage site by UNESCO because of its historical importance—the first rock art site in the world to receive this status. As Emmanuel Anati has said, “The rock art of the Camonica Valley therefore is correctly considered to be part of the cultural heritage of humanity. No other single source, for now, gives a similar quantity of data on the history of Europe and the origins of European civilization.”

Valcamonica can become overwhelming because of the vast amount of images and the immense time frame represented on the rocks. In her overview of the rock art in the Camonica Valley, our speaker will explain how the images on the rock reveal the cultural patterns of the people who lived in the valley and how stylistic changes over time reflect differences in the life of the people.

Sandra Longo Zahn has been visiting rock art sites in Europe for 40 years. She speaks Italian and has lived in Italy and Switzerland. With degrees in History and Anthropology, she taught those subjects for 30 years. Now retired, she has been spending time in Italy studying and visiting rock art sites in Valcamonica, Liguria, and the Val Pellice. Sandy has been a member of the SDRAA Core Committee since its inception.

● **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

**[www.sdraa.org](http://www.sdraa.org)**