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## IN MEMORIAM

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# Sylvia Brakke Vane

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IT IS WITH GREAT SADNESS that we note the passing of Sylvia Brakke Vane—anthropologist, writer, publisher, and friend and mentor to many—who for thirty years was an important and active member of the Malki community. Sylvia died in Menlo Park on July 13, 2009 at the age of 91.

Sylvia graduated from the University of Minnesota in 1939 with a major in medical technology and chemistry, but marriage and a growing family kept her from pursuing an active career outside the home for many years. However, in 1973, at an age when most people are beginning to plan their retirement, she returned to

school, and in 1975 earned her M.A. in anthropology at California State University, Hayward. It was there that she developed an interest in California's native peoples, and began what was to prove to be a long and fruitful collaboration with Lowell Bean that over the next thirty years resulted in the production of a significant body of both published and unpublished books, articles, and research reports.

In 1978, Sylvia and Lowell Bean founded Cultural Systems Research, Inc. in order to develop environmental impact and federal recognition reports for native groups not recognized by the federal government. Sylvia served as vice-president and financial manager, directed nearly a hundred different research projects in various parts of California, and co-authored and edited almost forty research reports stemming from that research.

In 1981, the partners bought and managed Ballena Press, an academic publishing house that produced numerous influential monographs on topics of interest to both academics and Native Americans, and that was recently subsumed under the rubric of Malki/Ballena Press. Sylvia served as president, business manager, and editor, and played a major role in ensuring the reputation that the Press garnered over time for publishing significant intellectual contributions to the growing literature on California's native peoples. Sylvia also served on the Malki Editorial Board for many years, where her business acumen and wide expertise in all matters relating to Native Americans were greatly valued by her fellow board members.

Sylvia was a frequent participant in academic symposia (many of which she helped to organize) and was a familiar figure at professional conferences, where she was recognized as one of the preeminent authorities

on Southern California Indian culture and history. In 1998, she was honored by the Society for California Archaeology with the Martin F. Baumhoff special achievement award, and in 2005 was presented with a lifetime achievement award by the California Indian Conference.

Typically, Sylvia stayed actively involved in her business and research interests until the last few months of her life. She was an active member of the Board of Directors of XEI Scientific in Redwood City, and at the time of her death was busy editing a book on the stories of the Cahuilla Indians, a biography of Francisco Patencio, a history of the Agua Caliente Indians, and a monograph on Cahuilla ethnozoology.

An award for young scholars interested in California Indian studies has been established in Sylvia's name. It will be awarded at the annual conference of either the Society for California Archaeology or the Southwestern Anthropological Association. Contributions to the Sylvia Brakke Vane Scholarship Fund may be sent to Wells Fargo, 735 Santa Cruz Avenue, Menlo Park, CA 94025, for deposit in Account #1763279922.

## PUBLICATIONS AND RESEARCH REPORTS CO-AUTHORED BY SYLVIA B. VANE

### *Published Works*

Bean, Lowell J., and Sylvia B. Vane

1977 *California Indians: Primary Resources. A Guide to Manuscripts, Artifacts, Documents, Serials, Music and Illustrations*. Ramona: Ballena Press.

1978a Shamanism: An Introduction. In *Art of the Huichol Indians*, Kathleen Berrin, ed. New York: Harry W. Abrams, Inc. [Revised and reprinted as "The Shamanic Experience" in 1992 in *California Indian Shamanism*, Lowell J. Bean, ed., pp. 7–19. Menlo Park: Ballena Press.]

1978b Cults and Their Transformations. In *Handbook of North American Indians, Volume 8*, California, Robert Heizer, ed., pp. 662–672. Washington, D.C.: Smithsonian Institution.

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1991b *Ethnology of the Alta California Indians: Volume II: Postcontact*. [The Spanish Borderlands Sourcebooks.] New York: Garland Publishing Co.

Vane, Sylvia B., and Lowell J. Bean

1990 *California Indians: Primary Resources. A Guide to Manuscripts, Artifacts, Documents, Serials, Music and Illustrations*. Menlo Park: Ballena Press. [A revised and expanded edition of Bean and Vane 1977.]

### *Unpublished Research Reports*

Bean, Lowell J., and Sylvia B. Vane

(as authors, editors, and compilers)

1978a *Persistence and Power: A Study of Native American Peoples in the Sonoran Desert and the Devers-Palo Verde High Voltage Transmission Line*. Report by CSRI [Cultural Systems Research, Inc.] submitted to Southern California Edison.

1978b *The Coolwater Project: An Archaeological Assessment* by Charles Rozaire. Report by CSRI submitted to Southern California Edison.

1979a *Cultural Resources and the High Voltage Transmission Line from San Onofre to Santiago Substation and Black Star Canyon. A Study of the Ethnography, Archaeology, and History of the Vicinity of the Line*. Report by CSRI submitted to Southern California Edison.

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1979c *Cultural Resources and the Devers-Mira Loma 500kv Transmission Line Route (Valley to Mira Loma Section): A Study of the Paleontology, History, and Archaeology of the History of the Line*. Report by CSRI submitted to Southern California Edison.

1979d *Allen-Warner Valley Energy System: Western Transmission Systems*. Report by CSRI submitted to Southern California Edison.

1980a *Cultural Resources and the Valley-Villa Park and Mira Loma-Serrano Transmission Line: A Study of the Ethnography and History of the Vicinity of the Line*. Report by CSRI submitted to Southern California Edison.

1980b *The Ethnography and Ethnohistory of Potrero Canyon, Morongo Indian Reservation*. Report by CSRI submitted to Science Applications, La Jolla, Cal.

1980c *Ethnography of the Edwards Air Force Base*. Report by CSRI submitted to Greenwood and Associates, Pacific Palisades, Cal.

1980d *Snow Creek Ethnography*. Report by CSRI submitted to Westec Services, Santa Ana, Cal.

1981a *Native American Places in the San Bernardino National Forest*. Report by CSRI submitted to U.S. Forest Service, South Zone Contracting Office.

1981b *The Soboba Peoples: An Historic Overview, 1882 to 1936*. Report by CSRI submitted to Leubben, Hughes, and Kelly, Attorneys.

- 1982a *Intermountain Power Project Intermountain-Adelanto Bipole I Transmission Line: Phase III Studies: Ethnographic (Native American) Resources*. Report by CSRI submitted to Applied Conservation Research, Fullerton, Cal.
- 1982b *The Ivanpah Generating Station Project: Ethnographic (Native American) Resources*. Report by CSRI submitted to Southern California Edison.
- 1983a *Paniktum hemki: A Study of Cahuilla Cultural Resources in Andreas and Murray Canyons*. Report by CSRI submitted to the Andreas Cove Country Club, Palm Springs, Cal.
- 1983b *Grindstone Ethnography*. Report by CSRI submitted to Basin Research Associates.
- 1986 *Interim Report for Federal Recognition Case*. Report by CSRI submitted to San Luis Rey Band of Mission Indians.
- 1987 *Ethnographic Resources Study: Candidate Sites Selection Phase*. Report on research performed by CSRI for U.S. Ecology in conjunction with California Low-Level Waste Disposal Project.
- 1988 *Preliminary Report on the Tahquitz Canyon Data Recovery Program, Phase I: Archeological Testing, Ethnography, and Ethnohistory*. Report by CSRI submitted to the Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, Riverside, Cal.
- 1989a *Ethnographic Resources Study, Phase III*. Report on research performed by CSRI for U.S. Ecology in conjunction with California Low-Level Waste Disposal Project.
- 1989b *Ethnography and Native American Issues*. Contributions by CSRI in *Report on Cultural and Paleontological Resources for an Integrated Solid Waste Management System for Los Angeles County*, prepared for Brown and Caldwell by Infotec Research.
- 1989c *Report on Ethnographic Resources*. In *Interim Technical Report for Siting Alternatives, Eastside Reservoir Study, Cultural Resources*, prepared for Metropolitan Water District of Southern California by Infotech Research.
- 1990a *Report on Ethnographic Resources*. Report by CSRI in *Reports on Siting Alternatives, Eastside Reservoir Study, Cultural Resources (Phase II)*, prepared for Metropolitan Water District of Southern California by Infotech Research.
- 1990b *A Cultural Resource Assessment of the Canyon Club Development Project (Phase I)*. Report by CSRI submitted to Canyon Club Project, Beverly Hills, Cal.
- 1991a *Expert Witness Report: Water Use and Irrigation by Cuyapaipe Band of Mission Indians, La Posta Band of Mission Indians, Morongo Band of Mission Indians, Pechanga Band of Mission Indians, Santa Rosa Band of Mission Indians, San Luis Rey Band of Mission Indians, for use in the Cuyapaipe Band of Mission Indians et al. vs. United States, Docket No. 80-A-2*. [With Florence Shipek.]
- 1991b *Phase II. Cultural Resource Study: Archaeology, Ethnography, Canyon Club Ethnography Project*, Palm Springs, California. Report by CSRI submitted to Smith, Peroni, and Fox, Planning Consultants, Palm Springs, California.
- 1991c *Petition to the Government of the United States from the American Indian Council of Mariposa County for Acknowledgement as the Yosemite Indian Tribe*. Report by CSRI submitted to American Indian Council of Mariposa County.
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- 1994 *The Ethnographic Resources and Native American Concerns, Twentynine Palms, MCAGCC*. Report by CSRI submitted to Ogden Environmental and Energy Services, San Diego, California.
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- 1998 *Eastside Reservoir Project, Phase III. Ethnography and Ethnohistory*. Report by CSRI submitted to Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.
- 1999 *Ethnographic Review of Gold Mountain/Baldwin Lake Area*. Report by CSRI submitted to KEA Environmental, San Diego, California.
- 2001 *Eastside Reservoir Project: Native American Ethnography and Ethnohistory*. Report by CSRI submitted to Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.
- 2003 *Traditional and Contemporary Uses of Bautista Canyon Floral Resources*. Report by CSRI submitted to Riverside County Transportation and Land Management Agency, Riverside, California. [With Dawn Wellman.]
- 2004 *Ethnographic Overview of the San Bernardino Forest, Parts A and B*. Report by CSRI to Northwest Economic Associates, Vancouver, Washington.



