

VESTIGES



March
2005
Volume 25
Number 3

Monthly newsletter of URARA, the Utah Rock Art Research Association

Table of Contents

President's Message.....	1	Think About It!	9
Upcoming Field Trips.....	3	What's in a Word?	9
25th Annual Symposium	5	Conservation & Preservation Committee	11
Call for Symposium Volunteers	6	Stolen Native American Artifacts	11
Symposium Field Trips—Help Wanted.....	6	Calendar	12
Call for Papers	7	URARA Membership Information.....	14
Major Petroglyph Site Being Documented	7	Contact Information	15
Members With Articles In Print.....	8	Editors' Message	15

President's Message

Nine Mile Canyon Update

There has been a lot happening with the Nine Mile Canyon nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. Back at the Green River symposium in the fall of 2003, our membership clearly expressed a desire for URARA to speed up this process. But the Board, despite working with the Nine Mile Canyon Coalition (NMCC) and the National Trust, has not had a lot of impact. The primary reason is that responsibility for preparing the nomination documentation lay with the federal government Bureau of Land Management (BLM). The BLM has been working on the nomination for ten years.

Recently, the NMCC has offered to take this responsibility from the BLM and accept the cost and responsibility of completing the documentation. They have contacted URARA to see if we are willing to participate in the cost if they do not have sufficient funds. We have

indicated that we are willing to participate in any capacity that will be helpful.

The Utah State Historical Preservation Office has been working closely with the BLM and the NMCC regarding the theme and land area to be included in the nomination. The theme will be prehistoric Native American with rock art as the primary component. My understanding is that the area boundaries are generally agreed upon and will go from canyon rim to canyon



rim. There are still some areas that require agreement for inclusion and the NMCC is trying to document sites in these areas to demonstrate sufficient density of significant sites.

The BLM has committed to assisting the process by supplying photos, adjusting computer GIS maps, and supplying comments from a preliminary review of the nomination.

There are still some issues to address. There are concerns that some aspects of the Price BLM resource management plan may have elements that are not conducive to the nomination. This is being reviewed by the BLM. Also, even with the documentation completed it would still have to be approved. But, overall, the news is very good.

Nine Mile Canyon will be the next place where URARA institutes a site stewardship program. We have approval from the Price BLM office and have found a volunteer who is willing to coordinate efforts in this area. Stay tuned for further details.

URARA Finances

Last month, Ben Everitt, our hardworking treasurer, reported that we have about \$12,000 in the bank and a deficit in 2004 of about \$2,000 from our operations prior to receiving some grants from the Utah Division of State History. Let me comment about our finances in a general way and provide some numbers as I do.

First, the deficit from last year was primarily due to the expenditure of almost \$1,700 for a digital projector. This was an unusual expenditure and we are grateful to the Utah Division of State History for providing a matching grant to help offset the cost. Without this expenditure, we would essentially have broken even last year. What this means is that URARA can continue to do what it currently does – provide Vestiges, lead field trips, organize symposium, and publish research. But nothing more. If we want to do something new, for example, buy a projector, restore a site, fund site stewardship, or create school education programs then we need to find grant funding. We are committed to finding that kind of funding, but we also need to figure out how to finance some of this ourselves, either by increasing our membership revenue (through higher fees or having more members) or decreasing our expenses.

Our largest expense, other than symposium, is *Vestiges*. We paid a little more than \$3,000 to print and mail Vestiges last year, that is 75% of our total membership revenue. That doesn't leave us much other cash to spend. If you receive Vestiges by mail, you can make a significant difference in our budget by choosing to receive Vestiges by email. All of the printing and mailing costs are eliminated when you do so. Contact Margaret Grochocki at: margaret_grochocki@yahoo.com if you are willing to make this change.

Last year, almost \$1,700 in publications were sold. That's great, I'm glad they are so popular. But we also spent \$1,900 in printing costs for new volumes and some small quantities of old volumes in which we were running out of stock. We have thousands of dollars tied up in inventory of publications. We need to consider ways of reducing this inventory cost by considering print-on-demand or only providing electronic versions of old publications when they go out of stock.

Symposium was a financial success and a lot of fun last year. Total revenue from symposium was \$5,800 and costs were \$4,100. We essentially break even, or lose a little money, each year on the symposium itself and then the auction provides the profit. That was the case again last year.

Division of State History

In 2004, URARA was the grateful recipient of several Utah Division of State History grants. These grants helped subsidize the cost of Vestiges, symposium, and our new projector, among other things. The Division of State History and its budget is being threatened in the current session of the Utah Legislature. I've written several emails to representatives of the Legislature expressing my concerns about H.B. 308. Not only is it of concern for our funding, but more importantly, for the independence and objectivity of the Division of State History which includes the State Historical Preservation Office. By the time you read this email, the issue will be resolved. I hope our legislators make the right decision.

URARA Board Meetings

As I discussed in the last Vestiges, the monthly meetings are being eliminated, in favor of membership meetings held in conjunction with field trips. This leaves the question of how members can participate in board meetings. The board meets the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm. We gather through an internet conference call hosted by Yahoo Messenger. You can participate in one of two ways. The easiest is to invite yourself over to a board member's house. The second is to send me an email, prior to the meeting, with your Yahoo member ID. Yahoo Messenger is a free application, but you need an internet connection and a computer with speakers and a microphone to participate.

Troy Scotter

Upcoming Field Trips

Lower Gila River, Arizona: March 5-6, 2005

Leaders: Will Tapp and Leslie Wertz (619-275-2862 or leslie.wertz@sharp.com)

On Saturday we will visit the Painted Rocks site. Evening and sunrise lights are best for photography. Hiking distance will vary from short to about a mile. The art is located on bluffs and rocky slopes along the riverway, which is often choked with tamarisk or catclaw. Wear long pants and long sleeved shirts. We will need to watch for rattlesnakes and bee swarms.

Sunday we will visit sites a few miles west in the Sears Point -Aztec Point areas.

There are numerous sites along the Gila riverbed, both north and west of our trip. If some want to stay longer, we can give directions on how to find them. Another option for independent exploration could be a full-day hike to a large site in the nearby Eagletail Mountains.

The BLM says they would appreciate site descriptions with photos, GPS coordinates, and topo map locations. The better-informed they are, the better they can protect rock art sites when they process applications for Use Permits. There have been no comprehensive cultural studies of the lower Gila, so anything we can give them will improve their inventory.

On Friday night the campground has tables and toilets, but no water. The campground on Saturday night has no facilities. There are motels and restaurants about an hour away in Gila Bend.

Meeting time and location will be provided to registered participants. The trip is limited to 15 participants. Roads are rough and rocky with stretches where high clearance is needed.

Moab, Utah: March 12 - 13, 2005

Leader: John Remakel (435-259-6228 jremakel@preciscom.net)

I will take URARA members down the Kane Creek Road and the Potash Road. We can also take in the sites in Seven Mile Canyon proper and the South Fork of Seven Mile Canyon. One site requires a moderately strenuous hike of less than a mile one way. Another site requires a strenuous scramble up a slickrock slope. This site can be viewed from below with binoculars.

Meeting time and location will be provided to registered participants. The trip is limited to 15 participants. Normal cars are suitable for this trip.

Nampawep, Tuweep; Arizona Strip: April 9 - 10, 2005

Leader: Diana Hawks TDHawks@sisna.com (435) 673-1878 (evenings)

On Saturday, the group will visit the Nampawep site. Sunday sites will not be guided, but the trip leader can provide advice for sites in the region including Tuweep.

Nampawep is a one-half mile long rock art site in a side canyon leading from the ponderosa pine forest of Mt. Trumbull to Toroweap Valley near the north rim of the Grand Canyon. Rock art at the site appears to date to the Archaic, Ancestral Puebloan, and Southern Paiute. It is scratched

and etched on fine grained basalt rocks on the south facing canyon rim of this side canyon. Locals call the site "Billy Goat Canyon" because of all the figures of mountain sheep on the rocks.

The site requires a 2-3 hour drive on graveled and sometimes maintained county roads from Fredonia or Colorado City, Arizona or St. George, Utah. Hiking to the site is relatively easy, consisting of about a half mile along a two-track road.

The Tuweep Overlook on the North Rim of the Grand Canyon is only 45 minutes away from the site on dirt roads. A National Park primitive campground is available at Tuweep Overlook but no water or services. The view from this campground is into the Grand Canyon itself.

High clearance vehicles are recommended. Roads may be impassable when wet - they are heavy volcanic clays. Two spare tires recommended, or strong sidewalls on the tires. No services or facilities are available. So fill your gas tank and tell someone where you are headed and when you expect to be back. If weather is extremely wet, we may postpone this trip because it is difficult to access in wet weather.

Water and camping can be found at Nixon Spring on the south side of Mt. Trumbull. The BLM Administrative Site at Nixon Spring is available Friday evening, April 8 for a group campout. It is located in a ponderosa pine forest at 6500 feet in elevation. So evenings will be cold in early April.

Information on road and weather conditions, maps, and publications can be obtained from the BLM Visitor's Center in St. George, Utah (435) 688-3200.

Meeting times and locations will be provided to registered participants.

Comb Ridge, near Bluff, Utah: April 16-17, 2005

Leaders: Ray Freeze and Carol Georgopoulos, 505-292-0877; carolgeo3@hotmail.com.

This is our annual field trip in Comb Ridge. We will try and stay away from the sites that get most of the visitor traffic. Most of the sites contain ruins as well as rock art, and will require us to observe URARA site visitation ethics to prevent damage.

There will be short steep hikes on slickrock and some bouldering in creek beds. Difficulty is low/moderate.

There may be a need for high-clearance vehicles at the very ends of the roads into Butler Wash; we'll carpool where possible.

Group size will be limited to 12 according to BLM regulations, including leaders. Meeting times and locations will be provided to registered participants. We will take names beginning March 12 and make random selections of participants on March 22.

Caliente, Nevada: April 23-24, 2005

Leaders: Inga Nagel (661-942-5211, cell 661-714-5211); Margaret Grochocki (435-865-5113)

We will visit Rainbow Canyon (Middle portion of Meadow Valley Wash). There are petroglyphs and pictographs on volcanic tuff along a 20 mile stretch of road south of Caliente. This portion of the trip will require short hikes over even to rough terrain covering approximately 1.5 miles. We will also visit Upper Condar Canyon which requires a hike of 2 miles round trip.

Camping will be available for the group. The cost is \$14 per night per campsite. There are flush toilets and showers available along with stargazing and camp programs. There are also four motels in Caliente and Panaca.

This trip is suitable for normal cars. Please contact the trip leaders by April 3. Meeting time and location will be provided to registered participants.

Butler Wash and Comb Ridge, Near Bluff, Utah April 30-May 1

Leaders: Sue and Bob Ludtke 970-945-8722, sue@sopris.net

Saturday, April 30: We will tour down Lower Butler Wash, south of Hwy 163. If there is time, we will also visit some sites just north of Hwy 163.

Sunday, May 1: We will visit sites on Comb Ridge including some better-known sites such as Procession Panel, and several sites containing ruins as well as rock art.

This is a fairly strenuous schedule. Saturday will be an all-day hike, with short climbs up to rock art sites as we travel down the bottom of the wash. Sunday will involve some short drives between sites, with some short hikes from our parked cars and at least one hike up to the top of Comb Ridge. Almost all the sites on Comb Ridge are accessed by crossing the wash and then climbing up on the slickrock or in the canyons. We will limit the group to 12 including ourselves. Please call us for reservations. We will select people on a first come first served basis.

San Luis Valley, Colorado: April 30 – May 1, 2005

Leader: Ken Frye 719-852-6233 kfrye@fs.fed.us

On Saturday we will visit a site on private property which E. B. Renaud described as "... one of the largest and most complex sites in Colorado." The owner requests that we do not take photographs or make sketches of the rock art. The owners are very protective, and entry to this site may not be possible in the future. This should not be missed! Sunday will be on your own. There is a lot of rock art in the region and Ken is willing to help with careful directions.

The number of participants is limited to 20. High clearance vehicles are not required and site access is by easy walking.

The nearest town is Monte Vista. There are two campgrounds on Rock Creek, near our first site. There are several motels in Monte Vista, if you prefer. There is also a rock art exhibit at the Rio Grande County Museum.

This is a joint field trip with URARA and CRAA.

Brown's Park/Vermillion Canyon/Cross Mountain: May 28-29

Leader: Bill Lawrence 970-824-6322 or williamvlawrence_22@msn.com

This trip concentrates on the Brown's Park area, which is 70 miles west of Craig Colorado. We will be viewing Classic Vernal style rock art. In addition, we can view a medicine wheel.

There are numerous motels in Craig, which is approximately 1½ to 2 hours from Brown's Park. See http://www.colorado-go-west.com/craig_motels.html. There are also several campgrounds in Brown's Park. See <http://www.colorado-go-west.com/public.html>.

This trip is limited to 25 participants, in good physical condition. Most hikes are short, but several are very steep. Two wheel drive vehicles are appropriate for this trip.

This is a joint field trip with URARA and CRAA.

Mill Creek, Moab, Utah: June 18-19

Leader: Claudia Berner, 435-260-8560, glyphics@preciscom.net

The group will be hiking in the south part of Mill Creek, approximately three to four miles roundtrip. Hiking is moderate with some climbing to the panels. Most of the day we will be exploring. Four wheel drive necessary to get to the trailhead, carpooling encouraged. Sunday we could look at sites along Potash Road.

25th Annual Symposium

Price, Utah, October 7- 10, 2004

Layne Miller, Symposium Co-Chair

Preparations are underway for this year's symposium. The URARA Board selected Price, Utah for the location and they asked me to look for a likely spot to host it. We have decided to use the Holiday Inn as the center for those wishing to stay in a motel and the College of Eastern Utah for

the meetings. We tried using the Holiday Inn for the meetings too, but its conference room is just not big enough. But the meeting rooms at the CEU Student Center are very nice and it will suit our needs nicely.

Holiday Inn has offered a group rate of \$59 a night, which is almost \$30 below their normal rate and \$20 below their normal group rate. You must mention you are with URARA to get the special rate. They have reserved a large block of rooms for us, with a few before and after the symposium for those wishing to attend before and after symposium field trips.

We have arranged our first keynote speaker. Ray Matheny, retired archaeologist at BYU, has agreed to talk about his 15-year documentation and research in Nine Mile Canyon. He recently edited a new book on rock art and has spent a great amount of time in Nine Mile. I have heard him speak and he is very good. We are researching a second speaker.

Fred Jenkins and Diane Gorman are chairing the committee arranging field trips. If you have expertise regarding rock art sites around Price, please contact them to lead a field trip. We are expecting a large crowd, so we need plenty of field trip leaders. Please contact them.

The symposium will be October 7-10. Please prepare your paper abstracts and send them to Diane Orr at beeherllc@aol.com.

The Board has decided to target rock art conservation at this year's symposium, which gives us an opportunity to discuss the gas wells being targeted for Nine Mile and highlight the coal-haul road being proposed for Quitcupah. Special field trips are planned into each of the areas, with updates being provided by experts in both areas.

I'm excited about helping with the symposium this year and thrilled it's being planned for Price. I promise it will be an event you will remember for a long time. The partying will be something you can brag about to your grandkids!

Call for Symposium Volunteers

Diane Orr, Symposium Co-chair

Fall 2004 Nina Bowen did a terrific job encouraging members to create quilt blocks and stitching the blocks into a fabulous quilt. The annual URARA quilt is a big fundraiser at the symposium auction every year. We need a volunteer to organize the creation of URARA's 2005 quilt. You do not need to be a seamstress, but you do need to be able to talk members into making rock art quilt squares and then, talk someone into stitching the quilt together.

For several years, Jan Gorski has organized vendor registration and tables. She's made the process of selling rock art related goods fun and well organized. This year we need a member to take her position. If you are willing to volunteer for either position, please contact: Diane Orr, 801-583-4354; beeherllc@aol.com

Symposium Field Trips – Help Wanted

Fred S. Jenkins and Diane Gorman,

Diane and I have agreed to help coordinate the field trips during the 2005 URARA Symposium, to be held in Price this October 8-10. We are looking for volunteers who are willing to lead field trips in the Nine Mile Canyon, San Rafael Swell, and Quitcupah areas. We have some specific suggestions for fieldtrips if you are willing to help, but are unsure of locations. Diane and I will lead a driving trip to 9 Mile Canyon.

Please contact us if you are willing to help. fjenkins@emerytelcom.net 435-637-3411

Call for Papers

The URARA Symposium Committee invites papers and presentations for URARA's 25th Annual Symposium. All interested presenters should submit an abstract, which clearly expresses the main topic of the presentation, not to exceed 200 words. **Deadline for abstracts is June 1, 2005.**

The Symposium Committee will give preference to papers that relate to Utah rock art but will consider all relevant topics. Presentation times will be determined in individual discussions with presenters.

The Committee will review abstracts for suitability, interest, balance and available time. Presentations may use a 35-mm slide projector or a digital projector.

We encourage you to make 2005 the year that you present your ideas, research, and observations to the URARA membership.

Please send abstracts to Diane Orr, at 1240 Harvard Ave., SLC, UT 84105 (801-583-4354) or email to: beeherllc@aol.com

Major Petroglyph Site Being Documented

The Desert-Mountain Times, Alpine Texas, 2/10/05, with permission. By Bob Miles, Correspondent



Photograph courtesy Center for Big Bend Studies

A circular-shaped petroglyph, top right, is among the unusual rock art designs found at the extensive site on a flat rock outcropping.

While early Spanish explorers referred to the Big Bend region as the "despoblado," or uninhabited area, more and more evidence is being found to the contrary.

Another piece of the puzzle concerning the prehistory of the Davis Mountains area is being studied by a team of volunteers who are recording an Native American rock art site on a ranch near Balmorhea. The previously

unstudied site consists of a large number of petroglyphs carved on a limestone shelf.

The site was recently brought to the attention of the Center for Big Bend Studies at Sul Ross State University. After a visit to the site by center director Robert J. Mallouf, arrangements were made to study and record the site. To protect the site and the privacy of the ranch, the location will not be mentioned here.

The petroglyphs occupy a roughly crescent-shaped area around a low hill. The pecked and abraded designs on a large, flat limestone outcropping consist of many obscure shapes - concentric circles, wagon-wheel-like circles, long meandering lines, random, curving lines and other designs.

Bedrock mortars - holes ground into the bedrock, which were normally used for grinding and processing wild plant foods - and shallower holes - known as cupules - of unknown use were also found. Nearby was a ring "midden," a fire-cracked rock pile that is the remains of what basically was a pit oven for roasting sotol, yucca, mescal or other wild plants used as food.

Mallouf said the site is one of only a few known rock art sites in Texas that consists of petroglyphs carved across a large, open bedrock shelf (in this case Wichita Formation limestone).

"It is, as far as I am aware, also the highest in elevation of such sites and the farthest west in the state," Mallouf said. "I believe it would be fair to say that this site contains a number of rock art

motifs not found in the other sites, as well as some similarities, such as long, meandering lines of unknown meaning.”

Reeda Peel of Ennis, a research associate with the center and a knowledgeable rock art researcher, is conducting the recording project. She agreed that the site is important, because, while the rock art shares some motifs with other sites, most of the art is unique and like nothing she’s seen before.

The first phase of the documentation took place the last week of December involving about 20 volunteers from different areas of Texas. Several more documentation sessions will be necessary to complete the project, Peel said.

“The site is very large and will take some time to document,” she said.

Peel said that the documentation process consists of laying down a string grid of carefully measured one-meter squares and drawing the art in each square meter to scale. An accurate map of the site can be constructed by placing the drawings of the meter squares together.

“We use both drawings and photographs because sometimes the human eye can see details that are lost in the photographs and vice versa,” she said. “We take both analog and digital prints, and because some of the petroglyphs are very, very faint, we hope we’ll be able to use computerization to enhance the photos to see more detail.”

Peel said the documentation process is slow and tedious. She said she’s thankful for the help of members of the Center for Big Bend Studies staff and volunteers from several other organizations.

Petroglyphs are extremely difficult to date. Mallouf speculated that they date either to the Late Archaic Period (c.a. 1000 B.C. - 700 A.D.) or Late Prehistoric Period (700 A.D. - 1535 A.D.). It is possible they were made by different people over a period of time. He said there was no evidence they date from the historic period and were most likely made by hunters and gatherers rather than agricultural groups.

Only a few artifacts were found at the site, but as these could have been left by other groups merely moving through the area, they cannot be directly associated with the petroglyphs.

“The identification, documentation and interpretation of major, scientifically important archaeological resources,” Mallouf said, “is of great concern to the Center for Big Bend Studies and is the focus of the Center’s Trans-Pecos Archaeological Program.”

He said that, whenever feasible, field crews of professional archeologists and interested volunteers are assembled to work on documentation.

“A heart-felt thanks is extended to the Texas Archaeological Rock Art Task Force volunteers and especially to owners and managers of the site,” Mallouf said, “for their cooperation with the center in getting this highly significant rock art site recorded and studied.”

Members With Articles In Print

An article in the March 2005 *Smithsonian Magazine* titled **Traces of A Lost People** discusses Barrier Canyon rock art. This article is based on the efforts of URARA members David Sucec and Craig Law, amongst others, who are documenting this rock art through their BCS Project organization. Check out the following link to see the story:

<http://www.smithsonianmag.com/smithsonian/issues05/mar05/nomad.html>

The Jan/Feb 2005 issue of *Preservation*, the Magazine of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, contains an excellent article on Nine Mile Canyon. Diane Orr’s fantastic 360-degree panoramas, which help orient the eye, give the reader an interesting angle on many favorite Nine Mile sites – some of the panoramas will make you do a double-take. Join the Nine Mile Coalition to support preservation of this incredible art gallery or stay tuned for the much anticipated URARA site stewardship program.

Think About It!



“The special merit and the special attraction, of rock-art as the subject of archaeological enquiry is its directness. These are images from ancient worlds as ancient human minds envisioned them; these are neither stray fragments of ancient garbage nor chance stumps of perished buildings. They are all direct material expressions of human concepts, of human thought. The directness carries a matching special obstacle. While one hopes speedily to deduce from the grubby old stones and bones reasonably secure facts about these ancient objects, the rock-art is a more immediate record, both easier to see and harder to make sense of. So interpretations of its nature and meaning have been famously eccentric; some still are.”

The Archaeology of Rock-Art, Edited by Christopher Chippindale and Paul S. C. Taçon, Cambridge University Press, 1998, p2.

What's in a Word?

A response to the article on censorship of "Anasazi" in *American Archaeology*

Ray Freeze and Carol Georgopoulos

Ray and Carol are URARA members who also happen to be retired professors of linguistics. The following article is their view on the difficult subject of the use of the traditional term Anasazi vs. the recently-coined term Ancestral Puebloan. See the February 2005 Vestiges, for the article they refer to.

You can get into an endless downward spiral once you try to give too much significance to particular words. Since the *American Archaeology* article shows this is apparently a growing problem, we would like to offer some relevant facts and background on the “Anasazi” issue. We preface quotes from the article with “AA”, and follow with our comments.

AA: “The use of the word ‘Anasazi’ to describe the ancient Puebloan people of the Four Corners has become controversial in recent years because of its Navajo origins, and Mesa Verde and other parks are replacing it with ‘Ancestral Puebloan’.” This comment follows “concerns expressed by some Pueblo people”.

Ray and Carol: First, the word Anasazi, as it's used descriptively in archaeology, has no relation to the meaning of the word in Navajo. In archaeological research, Anasazi designates a prehistoric cultural group that left certain styles of rock art and other artifacts. In contrast, in the Navajo language it means “4th person's ancestor”, where “4th person” means “not of (or alien to) the speaker's group”. Some analyses extend the “alien” component to mean “enemy”. The only common thread is that both archaeological usage and the Navajo language assume that Anasazis were not Navajo. It also should be clear from these two usages that “Anasazi” does not refer to modern Puebloans.

Second, why do the parks feel that an English term is better than a Navajo word? And why choose “Puebloan”? This choice incorporates a claim of descent made by modern Puebloans (see below). This is a political issue. It is inappropriate for individuals in the National Park Service to inject themselves into the issue, and to exacerbate the issue by banning books for the sake of political correctness.

AA: “According to Mary A. Willie, a linguist at the University of Arizona and a Navajo, Anasazi is a ‘conglomerate of two separate words meaning “non-Navajo” and “ancestor”.’ A

reasonable translation of 'Anasazi' would thus be 'Puebloan ancestors', ironically confirming the Puebloans' claim."

Ray and Carol: This doesn't follow! "Non-Navajo" does not mean "Puebloan." By this reasoning one could just as well call them Comanche ancestors, French ancestors, or ancestors from a thousand other groups. Essentially, the word connotes "not Navajo" only, something Puebloans would presumably accept. Nor did the Navajo give Anasazis their name; this was the infelicitous choice of an anthropologist many decades ago.

AA: "Both Navajos and Puebloans have claimed to be descendants of the Anasazi in order to control human remains from Mesa Verde and influence the archaeological work on related sites, many of which are on Navajo lands."

Carol and Ray: The motives for claims of descent are clear. However, it's known that the Navajos (and the Apaches) are part of the Athabaskan language/cultural group, the homeland of which is in the Canadian west and the American northwest, and which didn't arrive in the American southwest until after AD 1200. From the National Park Service's web site nps.gov/nava/nav.htm: "'The Dineh', or 'The People', as the Navajo call themselves, migrated to the Southwest from the North around the 15th century. They were first noticed by other peoples between the 14th and 15th century, between the Champa and upper San Juan rivers." Athabaskan groups and Anasazi groups do not coincide, since Anasazi artifacts date earlier.

But are the Anasazi the direct ancestors of modern Puebloans? Early Puebloans could have adopted various aspects of the surrounding Anasazi culture without having been related to it. Compare the spread of US cultural artifacts around the world (clothing, Coca-Cola, music, etc.). Many non-US and non-English-speaking groups have adopted this culture because, for various reasons, it is dominant. Such processes are widely attested in the world's history.

We realize that we are departing from the accepted view here, but we are skeptical about the theory of direct descent; we do not claim it is not true, simply that it has not been proven. There are several problems with the concept of modern Puebloans being descended from the Anasazi.

- (1) A people is pretty much defined by its language, and direct relation between groups would be based on direct relation of their languages, for example, French, Spanish, and Italian being cognate with each other and descended from Latin. But the languages spoken by modern Puebloans vary widely and are from several unrelated language families. Hopi is Uto-Aztecan; Acoma is Keresan; Zuni is an isolate (unrelated to other languages); Jemez may be Tanoan, etc. So, linguistic continuity is absent, and the modern unrelatedness of languages spoken in the Pueblos contradicts the notion of direct descent from one group.
- (2) Only artifactual evidence is offered and we believe it suggests cultural borrowing.

We don't know exactly who the Anasazi were. The above points suggest they were not a single coherent group. They were a much less easily defined people than the Navajo, though with roots in the Southwestern Archaic (roughly 5000 BC to AD 600) tradition, though identified as a group by archaeologists at least by AD 1, probably earlier. From John Kantner, author of *Ancient Puebloan Southwest*, on the Anasazi and their precursors (sipapu.gsu.edu/timeline): "... Some archaeologists believe that a general hunting-and-gathering Archaic lifeway persisted to AD 400. Other scholars believe that this lifeway ended around AD 1 as subsistence turned to agriculture. They use the term 'Basketmaker II' to identify the period from roughly AD 1 to AD 400. In theory, this marks the beginning of the 'Anasazi' as a separate cultural trajectory, although clearly there is continuity from the Archaic into the Basketmaker period."

Thus the Anasazi, as a prehistoric group who produced the rock art we are interested in, are clearly distinguishable from both the Navajo (and Navajo words), and from the modern Pueblo communities, and there is no basis to reject the word *as it is used in modern archaeology*.

AA: "Included in rock art to which the Pueblo people object are "human figures, masks, and four-pointed stars. "

Carol and Ray: As for objections to particular images, how far does this go? Does it cover photographs of masks in African or Australian aboriginal art? Pre- or non-Anasazi petroglyphs in the Southwest? Human figures in caves in France or Portugal? How is objectionable "Anasazi" rock art distinguished from other rock art?

To conclude, we will continue to use "Anasazi" to refer to certain "rock art", and we encourage you to do so, too.



Anasazi Basketmaker style rock art from Grand Gulch. Photo: Troy Scotter

Conservation & Preservation Committee

Jan Gorski, Committee Chair, jangorski@msn.com, 303.521.8094

See the Nov/Dec 2004 issue of *Archaeology* magazine for a very informative article on Range Creek titled "Utah's Ancient Ones" by Melissa Sanford (the cover of the magazine grabs the audience with the byline "Utah's Secret Site"). "Closely guarded ruins on a cattle ranch may unlock the secrets of a Great Basin culture." Range Creek is a pristine, culture-rich Fremont site that we need to do everything in our power to protect while it is still mostly untouched by our current human civilization. There are many new discoveries about the Fremont people that are just waiting to be unleashed and documented for future analysis.

Contact Jan Gorski at janglyph@msn.com or 303-521-8094 to contribute to this column or provide assistance to the Conservation and Preservation Committee.

Stolen Native American Artifacts

Federal Bureau of Investigation and Cabazon Tribal Police Department

Below are photos of items taken during an early morning burglary on January 11, 2005, of the cultural museum at the Cabazon Band of Mission Indians located in Indio, California. These artifacts are valued at more than \$100,000 and were comprised of personally loaned items as well as items loaned from the State of California. Any and all information should be directed to Special Agent Joseph K. Stuart, Palm Springs Resident Agency, (760) 320-0800, ext 23 or Commander Paul Manning, Cabazon Tribal Police Department, (760) 342-1797.





Reference: Cabazon Tribal Police Department file number, L04-0066

Calendar

- Until-Mar 12 "Utah's Vanishing Rock Art", Gallery at Library Square (4th Floor), 210 East 400 So., Salt Lake City, UT
- Mar 5-6 Lower Gila River field trip, Leaders Will Tapp and Leslie Wertz, 619-275-2862 or leslie.wertz@sharp.com.
- Mar 12-13 Moab field trip, Leader John Remakel, 435-259-6228, jremakel@preciscom.net. Kane Creek and Potash Roads; Seven Mile Canyon.
- Mar 19-20 Rock Art and Archeology of the Lower Pecos, Fee \$150. Joseph Labadie, Big Bend Natural History Association, 432-477-2236, P.O. Box 196, TX 79834, <http://www.bigbendbookstore.org>
- Mar 30-Apr 3 Annual Meeting, Society for American Archaeology, to be held in Salt Lake City. To volunteer see <http://www.saa.org/meetings/volunteerForm.asp>
- Apr 9-10 Arizona Strip - Nampaweap, Tuweap field trip. Leader: Diana Hawks tdhawks@sisna.com (435) 673-1878 (evenings)
- Apr 16-17 Comb Ridge field trip. Contact Carol Georgopoulos 505-292-0877 carolgeo3@hotmail.com
- Apr 23-24 Caliente Nevada field trip, Leaders Inga Nagel, 661-942-5211 or cell 661-714-5211, and Margaret Grochocki, 435-865-5113.
- Apr 30-May 1 Butler Wash field trip, Leaders Sue and Bob Ludtke, 970-945-8722, sue@sopris.net
- Apr 30-May 1 San Luis Valley Colorado field trip, Leader Ken Frye 719-852-6233 kfrye@fs.fed.us
- May 6-9 Colorado Rock Art Association 1st Annual Symposium, Norwood, CO
- May 25-30 ARARA, American Rock Art Research Association Annual Conference, Reno/Sparks, Nevada
- May 28-29 Brown's Park/Vermillion Canyon/Cross Mountain, Leader: Bill Lawrence 970-824-6322 or williamvllawrence_22@msn.com
- June 4-10 "Ancient Visions: The Origins of Art and Belief", Dr. David Whitley, Trail Lake Ranch, near Dubois Wyoming.
- June 18-19 Mill Creek, Moab, Utah, Leader Claudia Berner, 435-260-8560, glyphics@preciscom.net, 3-4 mile roundtrip, moderate. Four wheel drive
- Aug 11-14 2005 Pecos Conference, Los Alamos, New Mexico.
- Sept 15-18 Rocky Mountain Anthropological Conference, Park City, UT

Oct 7-10	URARA Symposium, Price, Utah
Oct 22-23	Volcanic Tablelands – Bishop, CA field trip
Nov 13	China Lake, CA field trip
Nov 19	Rock Art in Big Bend National Park, Bob Hext, Fee \$75. Big Bend Natural History Association, 432-477-2236, P.O. Box 196, TX 79834, http://www.bigbendbookstore.org
Dec	Christmas Party

Ancient Visions Program: The Origins of Art and Belief, June 4-10

This program focuses on the rock art of the Eastern Shoshone Indians. It is taught by noted Archaeologist Dr. David Whitley, who helped pioneer the ethnographic approach to rock art interpretation. Lucias Burch Center at Trail Lake Ranch, P.O. Box 1464, Dubois Wyoming, 82513, traillakeranch@dteworld.com. \$795 includes lodging, meals, local transportation, and instruction. Contact Jane or Dick Vander Weyden, 307-455-2353, traillakeranch@dteworld.com

Pecos Conference 2005-Los Alamos, NM, Aug 11-14

By Dorde Woodruff

Preliminary information about the Pecos Conference at swanet.org/2005_pecos_conference.



A record number of URARA members attended last year when it was in Bluff. Let's keep up the momentum and go to Los Alamos for the next one. Some members are already planning to go. This conference is a potpourri of archeology of the Southwest. Meet the people who write the books.

Spring Archaeology Lecture Series

Prehistoric Peoples of the Southwest and Great Basin Regions

March 31 *In Search of Chaco: New Approaches to an Archaeological Enigma.*

7:00-9:00 pm, University of Utah, Marriott Library Gould Auditorium

Moderated by David Grant Noble

Fresh interpretations and fervent debates have emerged from the "Chaco Phenomenon" in recent years. Four key Chaco researchers and contributors to the new book, *In Search of Chaco: New Approaches to an Archaeological Enigma*, will speak on their findings and views about what happened in Chaco Canyon and its world.

- David Grant Noble (freelance writer on SW archeology) – Introduction
- Steve Lekson (Associate Professor of Anthropology and Curator of Anthropology, Museum of Natural History, University of Colorado- Boulder) – Chacoan Architecture
- John Kantner (Assistant Professor of Anthropology, Georgia State University) – Great House Communities and the Chaco World
- Ruth Van Dyke (Assistant Professor of Anthropology, Colorado College) – Sacred Geography
- Thomas C. Windes (Archeologist, National Park Service) – The Rise of Early Great Houses

April 1st *The Peopling of Bandelier: New Insights from the Archaeology of the Pajarito Plateau*

Moderated by Robert P. Powers

7:00-9:00 pm, Salt Lake City Main Library, 210 East 400 South, Salt Lake City

Cracking the mysteries of Bandelier has been an archaeological obsession for over a century. Five noted researchers and contributors to the new book, *The Peopling of Bandelier: New Insights from the Archaeology of the Pajarito Plateau*, will discuss how the Puebloan people transformed their lives on this grand, but unforgiving plateau.

- Robert Powers (Archeologist, National Park Service) – A Grand and Isolated Place
- Tineke Van Zandt (Chair, Department of Social Sciences, Pima Community College) – Creating the Pueblo Landscape of Bandelier
- Marit Munson (Assistant Professor of Anthropology, Trent University) – Bringing the Rocks to Life
- James Snead (Assistant Professor of Anthropology, George Mason University) – Ancient Trails of the Pajarito Plateau
- Timothy Kohler (Professor of Anthropology, Washington State University) – Time of Deer and Pinon, Turkey and Corn, Cotton and Obsidian

Colorado Rock Art Association 1st Annual Symposium

The theme of the symposium is *Rock Art in Cultural Landscapes*. The symposium will be held in Norwood, CO, May 6 - 9.

The CRAA Symposium Committee announces a call for papers and presentations. Preference will be given to presentations that reinforce the conference theme, but all subjects will be considered. Abstracts should be long enough to clearly express the main topic of the presentation, not to exceed 200 words. Deadline for abstracts is March 15, 2005. Please send abstracts to Peter Faris, 18603 E. Crestridge Dr., Aurora, CO 80015 pcfarris@juno.com



Range Creek Exhibit Opens At Powell Museum

The Powell museum in Green River is hosting an opening reception for the Range Creek Exhibit on Thursday, March 10. There will be a reception, with refreshments, between 5:00 and 7:00 pm. At 7:00 pm, Dr. Duncan Metcalfe will present a film and lead a question and answer discussion.

The exhibit will demonstrate why archeology sites are irreplaceable and in need of stewardship.

During the day, starting at 1:00 pm five Learning Centers will be set up:

Center 1: Nature's Grocery Store - explores how the Fremont people used native plants.

Center 2: Hunters - explores hunting practices and tools used by the Fremont.

Center 3: Pottery and Baskets - Explores how the Fremont stored and transported their food.

Center 4: Fremont Art - Explores the distinctive figures and rock art of the Fremont.

Center 5: Science of Archaeology - Explores the basics of archaeology.

For more info call Tom Burr 435-564-3448. This exhibit is sponsored by the Utah Humanities Council.

URARA Membership Information

Membership is open to anyone interested in the study, protection, enjoyment, and preservation of rock art. Cost is \$17 for one person, \$20 family, \$12 student, for one year's membership. The membership form, including liability release, is available on our website at www.utahrockart.org. If you don't have access to the Internet, send a self-addressed stamped envelope to the URARA post office box address listed below.

Address Changes

Please send change of postal or email address promptly to the URARA address below, or email to the secretary.

Contact Information

Utah Rock Art Research Association, Box 511324, Salt Lake City UT 84151-1324

www.utahrockart.org

With financial support from Utah State Historical Society/Division of Utah State History

Board of Directors 2005

Troy Scotter	President	801-377-6901	troyscotter@comcast.net
Tom Getts	VP and Website	970-533-1861	getts@mindspring.com
Margaret Grochocki	Secretary	435-865-5113	margaret_grochocki@yahoo.com
Ben Everitt	Treasurer	435-986-0075	rockdoc@xmission.com
Craig Bowen	Publication Sales	801-292-5012	bch8@qwest.net
Diane Orr	Education	801-583-4354	beecherllc@aol.com
Layne Miller	Field Trip Coordinator	435-637-8954	layne@emerytelcom.net
Jan Gorski	Conservation, Preservation	303-521-8094	janglyph@msn.com
Steve Manning	Con. & Pres. Committee	801-936-4630	sjmanning@yahoo.com

Publication Chair Carol Patterson urracapro@aol.com

Vestiges Staff

Editors: Marion and Stephen Robinson, slrmar@cox.net, 26717 Grayslake Rd, Rancho Palos Verdes CA 90275-2241, 310-378-0320; Copy Editing: Troy Scotter; Proofreading: Nina Bowen, Carol Georgopoulos, Barbara and Fred Saxon; Printing and Mailing: Barbara and Fred Saxon, fredbarb100@aol.com 801-262-4432

Library and Archives Nina Bowen bch8@qwest.net 801-292-5012

URARA has an extensive library of rock art publications, a collection of articles, and Clifford Rayl's photo collection, which are available for use by members. URARA also has educational materials: a slide presentation on Utah rock art; a slide show with accompanying notes oriented for the fourth grade; and we are working on new presentations in Powerpoint.

Editors' Message

We express URARA's condolences to Elna and Steve Manning who experienced the loss of both of their mothers within hours of each other early in February. Their funerals were held a day apart.

Congratulations to the Colorado Rock Art Association, which will hold its First Annual Symposium. It will be in Norwood, Colorado May 6-9, 2005. We wish them every success.

And now URARA is quickly implementing the planning and preparation process for the 25th Annual Symposium. The call has gone out for volunteers and papers. We are sure there will be an enthusiastic response.

As can be seen from the Calendar and Field Trip sections this is already shaping up as a very busy year. Thanks to all who have stepped up to lead the Field Trips and help in other ways.

We thank Ray Freeze and Carol Georgopoulos for their well-informed, thoughtful and passionate article regarding the use of the term Anasazi. They make an excellent point.

At the same time that our busy year is being planned and implemented, our leadership is working hard with various governmental and private organizations to protect Utah's wonderful rock art resources. Speaking for our membership, we are confident in expressing the appreciation of all for their dedicated, knowledgeable and hard work.

Steve and Marion Robinson

URARA
Utah Rock Art Research Association
Box 511324
Salt Lake City UT 84151-1324