

VESTIGES



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Monthly newsletter of URARA, the Utah Rock Art Research Association

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President's Message

Good news, spring is here and the rock art season has officially arrived in Utah. In the past two weeks I have spent three days in Moab attending the URARA training for rock art documentation and site stewardship, and three days wandering around Antelope Island as we surveyed for rock art. We had a nice turnout in Moab with some great new folks attending the sessions. We are working towards nominating the Wall Street area to the National Register of Historic Places. I really appreciate the efforts of Donna Turnipseed, our BLM leader, and of Pam and Quent Baker who are coordinating things from the URARA side.

We also had a good turnout on Antelope Island. It is a marvelous place. I am embarrassed that I have never been there before. While we didn't find any rock art, I am sure it is hiding out there somewhere.

Typically, we would have a couple of field trips in May. However, between the CRAA symposium in Colorado and the ARARA symposium in Utah many of our members are pretty active in that regard already. I apologize to those of you who are not attending those events. We'll get to work and find some interesting spots for you to enjoy in the rest of the year.

Troy Scotter
2006 URARA President

Rock Art Vanishing From Utah Lake Shores

This story appeared in The Daily Herald, "Central Utah's Newspaper", on page A1. Friday, March 24, 2006. Used with author's permission.

Cathy Allred - North County Staff

Snakes, owls, hunters, warriors and sheep – many sheep – are among the images that create a tapestry of mystery and wonder on boulders, cliff faces and cave walls for enthusiasts of ancient American Indian rock art in Utah County.

The art is disappearing from along Utah Lake's shores, as it is in other places, and specialists of the indigenous art form worry that vandals and collectors are destroying or stealing a precious public resource.

"It's a real issue for us, there is a lot of vandalism and graffiti going on right now," said Troy Scotter of the Utah Rock Art [Research] Association. Scotter recently gave a lecture on the subject at the John Hutchings Museum of Natural History in Lehi.

Rock art was once plentiful in north Utah County, particularly on the west shores of Utah Lake, but unfortunately, some is carved or painted on small enough chunks of rock that it is very mobile, he said, noting rock art here "is not the big flashy stuff."

"There is one boulder that is very interesting," he said. "We're keeping an eye on it, watching it slowly move downhill."

Those who would steal pictographs, painted figures, and petroglyphs, incised figures, can be fined up to \$200,000 according to the Archeological Resources Protection Act, he said.

While rock art may not represent written language, "figures had meaning to those who created them," he said. "The beauty of rock art is that your story is just as good as anybody else's."

In Utah County, rock art "varies from the very simple to the very complex, to the very old and to the very recent," Scotter said.

Population growth, the increased popularity of all-terrain vehicles and dirt bikes, and even e-Bay are all affecting the future of the art, he said. "We're getting a lot of people out there," he said of growth west of Utah Lake.

ATVs are damaging some of the art, he said.

"Some of it [rock art] is hard to see and you could impact it without even knowing it is there," he said.

Some archeologists around the country have installed hidden Web cams in rock outcroppings to monitor and protect rock art, he said.

While some people steal or destroy rock art, others work to protect and document it. Ronald Myers of American Fork spent Christmas vacation two years ago exploring the lake and taking photographs of the rock art he found.

Myers brought some of his photos to Scotter's lecture to share with those gathered. Museum founder John Hutchings instilled his love of American Indian artifacts.

"I spent two years ago walking the shores of Utah Lake trying to record everything on Utah Lake," Myers said. "It's a hidden secret if you will; we want to preserve it. When I was a Boy Scout, John Hutchings took us to Cherry Creek and discussed artifacts, Indians, etc. I've just lived and died his philosophy on artifacts."

The Utah Rock Art [Research] Association works to encourage appreciation, protection and research of rock art, Scotter said – but balancing appreciation with protection is a delicate task because the more who know about the art, the more at risk it is.

"Rock art is much more meaningful in real life," he said, noting he fears the day when photographs of the art will be all that is left.

Rock art etiquette :

Do not touch rock art – the oil from your hands will affect the art surface.

Do not make a fire near the site.

Do not camp near a rock art site.

Leave artifacts exactly where you find them.

Do not dig when at a site.

Rock art survival: If you see someone digging, do not attempt to confront or stop him or her, as that person may be armed. Get their license plate number and call law enforcement.

For information about rock art in Utah, visit UtahRockArt.org

Welcome to URARA Members New in 2006!

Welcome to 26 new members who have joined since the first of this year. You are a diverse group with a third of you from Utah and a third from California and Colorado combined. The rest are sprinkled from Arizona and Nevada to Nebraska and Illinois and on to New Hampshire. It is a pleasure to have you as part of our URARA organization.

Donald Austin, Culver City, CA

Rick Berry, Moab, UT

Alice Daniel, Glendale, CA

Sheila Day and Vicki Jedlicka, Cortlund, NE

Melanie and John Dutcher, Salt Lake City, UT

Terry and Glenda Dwyer, Lakewood, CO

Tom and Ginny Cree, Longmont, CO

Annie and Garland Jones, Sutton Hills, NH

Glenn and Marilyn B. Goodrich, Bountiful, UT

Lawrence and Shari Guymon, Blanding, UT

Barron "Bear" Haley, Las Vegas, NV

Jona and Brendan Magan, San Carlos, CA

James Rauff, Decatur, IL

Judy Rounds and Rand J. Losey, Carefree, AZ

Tim Vaughan, Fort Collins, CO

Terry and Terri Wright, West Jordan, UT

ARARA Annual Conference, May 19 -22, 2006, Bluff, Utah

In May, ARARA will be holding its annual symposium in Bluff. This is a great opportunity to learn about the best rock art in the United States. Featured Speaker will be Fred Blackburn, the co-author of *Cowboys and Cave Dwellers*, the reverse archaeology study of the Grand Gulch.

The ARARA planning committee is pleased to announce the appearance of "The Lab Dogs" as the entertainment at the Sunday evening Awards event. "The Lab Dogs" features Kevin Jones, the Utah State Archaeologist! For further information, go to ARARA.org.

ARARA is seeking donations of high-quality rock-art-related items for sale to raise money for the Archives Fund. Don't forget to bring your saleable, tax-deductible auction items to Bluff. There will be a table in the vendor area where you can leave your donated items to be catalogued. See Rick and Carol Bury at the conference.

Press Statement

On Friday evening, May 19, **URARA** members are invited to the 2006 ARARA conference opening reception at the Edge of the Cedars Museum in Blanding Utah. The celebration includes the opening of Diane Orr's panoramic photographic exhibit, "*Utah's Vanishing Rock Art*" and a special program featuring Orr and several well-known writers of the southwestern landscape. Refreshments and snacks will be served from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. The program will begin at 6:30. Come early and enjoy the terrific displays at the Museum. The event is free and open to the public.

"*Utah's Vanishing Rock Art*" is a photographic story about a disappearing mindscape. For the past four years, filmmaker/photographer Diane Orr packed (with the help of good friends and a large dog) a heavy 360-degree Hulcher film camera and engineering survey poles which extend over fifteen feet to capture the relationship between rock art, landscape and light.

Everywhere Orr noted natural deterioration and human vandalism: rock art sprayed with bullets, images cut from cliff faces and marred with visitor's names and dates. Motivated by the destruction, she created "*Utah's Vanishing Rock Art*," a tribute to the strange and beautiful messages from the earliest inhabitants of our landscape.

Many URARA members contributed to this exhibit. Nancy Mason generously guided Orr through a winter storm to a key rock art panel. Mary Allen, Carol Georgopoulos, Ray Freeze, Susan Martineau, Dorde Woodruff, Morris Wolf, Ben Everitt, Layne Miller, and Nina and Craig Bowen also generously shared their knowledge of sites and trails. Steve Hansen and Jerry Vaculin provided a great haven in Nine Mile Canyon. Pam Miller supported the project with expertise and assistance in obtaining funding. Steve Manning, Layne Miller, Nina and Craig Bowen, Stephen B. Douglas, Howard Sain, and Troy Scotter contributed the photographs for the Wall of Shame, which Troy showed at the exhibit. Steve Manning and Nina Bowen contributed their broad knowledge of Utah rock art and editing skills to the written descriptions of each photograph.

Thanks URARA!

URARA Symposium-Vernal,UT October 6-9, 2006

Margaret Grochocki, Chair

The Annual URARA Symposium will be at the Western Park Convention Center in Vernal Utah, October 6-9, 2006. Friday will be a reception, Saturday and Sunday morning will be presentations. Field Trips will be Sunday afternoon and Monday. Lodging information is available at utahconvention.org/lodging. Margaret Grochocki can be contacted for camping availability at 801-282-5850 or Margaret_grochocki@yahoo.com.

Presentations chair, Diane Orr, is still looking for people to give presentations. She can be contacted at 801-583-435

CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS and PAPERS

Twenty-Sixth Annual Symposium, Vernal, Utah, October 7- 9, 2006

I would like to invite all interested URARA members to submit proposals for presentations for the 2006 Symposium. The 2006 Symposium Committee is interested in a broad range of subject matter. For example, presentations which:

- further the study and understanding of Utah rock art
- consider rock art preservation issues
- explore the current threats to rock art
- heighten the experience of visiting rock art
- bring historical understanding to rock art studies
- are aesthetically inspired by rock art visitation

The Symposium Committee focuses on Utah rock art but realizes the importance and relevance of out of state work. State lines should not limit research. We are very interested in effective out of area conservation programs. The content of your presentation should dictate the length of your presentation. Most presentations will be limited to a maximum of thirty minutes. Presentation times will be determined with your input upon proposal acceptance. Interested presenters should submit a short abstract or description, which expresses the main topic or goal of the presentation. Deadline for proposals is August 1, 2006. We greatly appreciate early submissions!

We encourage presenters to make their research, ideas and observations available in a final written paper suitable for publication. However, we realize that publication may not be practical for all presenters. **We encourage you to make 2006 the year that you present your ideas, research or observations to the URARA membership.**

Please send abstracts to Diane Orr at 67 R Street, SLC, UT 84103 (telephone 801-583-4354) or email to: beeherllc@aol.com

All presenters will receive an honorarium to help defer travel costs.

Field Trip Reports

Joint URARA and CRAA, San Rafael Swell, March 25-26, 2006

Troy Scotter

A group of URARA and CRAA members gathered in Castledale, [UT] on Saturday morning, March 25, to visit Barrier Canyon sites within the San Rafael Swell. On Saturday, we visited many of the larger, well-known sites. Sunday was dedicated to the smaller, more intimate Barrier Canyon sites. A tremendous windstorm on Saturday night threatened bad weather but daytimes remained pleasant and the temperature was perfect for wandering in the desert. Despite sugar highs from copious quantities of Mrs. Field's cookies and chocolates, one missed turn, and a few rough roads the group survived the trip unscathed. We were even joined by Steve Manning for a few hours on Saturday morning.

A windblown group gathers for a picture. (L to R) CarlGutknecht; Julie Tipton; Gary Halbersleben; Carol Reed; Chris Rudolph; Robert Reed; Gale Rudolph; Richard Jenkinson; Jim Colson; Jeff Allen

Photo by Troy Scotter



Three Day San Juan River Trip- April 12-14, 2006

Robert Mark



Panoramic photo from San Juan River Trip. Robert Mark photo

This was a delightful trip, organized by Kelley Hays-Gilpin, for a class she is teaching at NAU [Northern Arizona University], Flagstaff, in connection with instructors Bob Mark and Evelyn Billo [URARA members]. From April 11 to 14, the group floated from Sand Island to Mexican Hat, Utah.

Half the travelers were students, and the others added to keep the price down for the students. Hays-Gilpin involved the students in checking their knowledge of archaeology and of cultural periods, in evaluating alternatives for site management, and in checking the spread of the invasive species camel thorn at several sites. Outfitters were the NAU Outdoors department, which recently received a gift of a San Juan River permit along with the equipment (boats, dry-bags, etc.) to make

trips possible. This was their first trip on the San Juan after this gift. They were unfailingly friendly, and despite a small delay getting started the first morning, very good.

Meals were excellent. We had perfect weather, warm and sunny. The rock art is of course fantastic. We saw the main panels both upstream and downstream at Butler Wash and visited Sand Island, River House and some smaller sites along the way. Seeing the rock art in context is a real pleasure.

What a wonderful, friendly introduction to the San Juan area! For my research interests, which I will talk about at ARARA in Bluff, it was ideal. Using published photos, I was able to develop around eighteen hypotheses concerning the headdress stacks of the San Juan Anthropomorphic style, and am trying to correct them using the published literature.

Cultural Resource Signs Installed during Moab Training Session

Pamela Baker

There was a training session for those interested in site stewardship and rock art recording in Moab April 20-22, during which we installed cultural resource signs. This is a joint project of the BLM and URARA.

Moab site stewards under the direction of Donna Turnipseed, archaeologist for the BLM Moab Office, have begun placing cultural resource signs at sensitive rock art sites. Dell Crandall, a dedicated site steward, has taken responsibility for preparing the signs and has placed the first ones. URARA has contributed funds for the steel posts and installation hardware. The Moab Site Stewardship program is excited to be reporting this progress.

Donna Turnipseed and Dell Crandall placing sign at site.



Photo by Quentin Baker

Think About It!

SOUNDS

*The ruin clings to the cliff
 Under the arching sandstone
 It is quiet now
 No longer do you hear the laughter
 The everyday sounds:
 Women making pottery-the slap, slap of clay,
 People cookin,
 Men returning from the hunt
 The builders
 Children playing
 The cries of sorrow when a loved one passes on.
 They are gone now –
 The Anasazi
 The survivors
 The adaptors
 The only sounds now
 Are those of the wind
 The raucous sound of the raven, and
 The descending sound of the canyon wren
 The guardians*



Poem by Larry Davis, an archaeologist in Boulder, Utah.

“By now, the town of Boulder has hundreds of this poem in its possession. They hang in the schoolhouse, where the children are taking up the mystery. The community still wonders who is responsible for these writings, questioning just how long they will continue to be found. However, poems keep appearing in the strangest places: in milk cans, on tractor seats, church pews, and irrigation ditches. In addition, rumor has it; the canyons are filled with them. It just may be that the man who buries poems in the desert has turned the whole damned town into archaeologists. The next thing we’ll hear is that the locals want to preserve the wilderness for its poetry.”

Coyote’s Canyon, Photographs by John Telford, Text by Terry Tempest Williams. Gibbs Smith, Publisher, 1989, pp 55, 58.

Regional Activities

CRAA Annual Symposium, May 5, 6, 7, Monte Vista, CO

Any questions: Suzi Martineau, Symposium Coordinator, susanmartineau@gmail.com 303-499-4410.

UPAC Prehistory Week, May 6-15

The Utah Professional Archaeologist Council will sponsor Prehistory Week, May 6-15. Prehistory week features paleontology as well as prehistory. www.upaconline.org.

Petrified Forest Centennial, May 17-19, 2006, Holbrook, AZ

Pat Thompson, 928-524-6228x267 or William Parker, 928-524-6228, ext. 262, 86028. Petrified Forest, AZ.

Mogollon Rim Ruins and Rock Art, June 21-25, 2006

This Old Pueblo Archaeology fund-raising tour from Tucson includes stays in Payson and Holbrook and day learning about the Arizona Archaeological Society excavation project at the Q-Ranch Pueblo. Old Pueblo Archaeology Center in Tucson is a nonprofit educational research organization. Contact Steve Buck, PhD., steve.buck@healthtrio.com.

Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument 10th Anniversary Science Symposium, September 12-14, 2006

The symposium will focus primarily on research on the Monument, with findings relevant to the Monument from a larger area. We encourage proposals for thematic sessions or posters. Proposals for papers or posters are due June 1, 2006 and should be submitted electronically.

Sessions will consist entirely of volunteered papers, designed to promote the exchange of current scientific information with respect to thematic topics. Sessions will include, geology, paleontology, archaeology, history, botany, wildlife, range, hydrology, climate, soils, and social sciences. Call (800) 435-644-4320 (Marietta Eaton) for information.

April 2006 Board Meeting Report

Steve Robinson, board member

On April 5, the URARA Board meeting was at the home of Craig and Nina Bowen at 7:00 pm MST. The following board members and advisers were present: Troy Scotter, Nina Bowen, Margaret Grochocki, Robert Reed, Jesse Warner and guest Steve Manning. Participating by conference call were Tom Getts, Ben Everitt, Diane Orr, Layne Miller and Steve Robinson.

The following were discussed with actions determined as indicated:

- Symposium speaker honoraria

This subject was discussed at length with the agreement that speakers should receive an honorarium of \$100 to help with travel costs. The board discussed the possibility that symposium fees may need to be increased to cover the additional costs.

- Membership Fees

The issue of membership fees was considered. The Board asked Ben Everitt to research alternatives to our current system including electronic payment, a single date for membership renewal, and new membership categories.

- Membership Roster

The need for an accurate and current membership roster was emphasized.

- Utah Prehistory Week - May 6-15th

Our participation was considered, with agreement that it would be appropriate for URARA to be represented with a display table at Salt Lake. Ben Everitt will look at possibilities for events in St. George, and Troy Scotter for events in Provo.

- URARA field trips

The need to develop several appropriate field trips for this year was emphasized. Some possibilities were discussed. Steve Manning has accepted the Field Trip Coordinator responsibility. Troy Scotter will follow up and find some field trip leaders.

- The American Rock Art Research Association Annual Symposium in Bluff-May 19-22. We are helping on the field trips. Members who would be willing to help lead a field trip are encouraged to contact Troy (troycotter@comcast.net) We are also participating in the Saturday presentations as follows:

Troy Scotter: Overview of Utah Rock Art

Layne Miller: Ute Style Rock Art

Anne Phillips: Lobed Circles and the Procession Panel

Jesse Warner: Art of Sacred Coupling

In addition, URARA (Troy) has arranged for Scott Edwards, a Ranger at the Grand Gulch, to give a presentation on rock art preservation in that area.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm

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

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Library, Archives, and Publications

Nina Bowen nina_bowen@comcast.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.

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 under Contact Information.

Calendar 2006

- May 5-7 Colorado Rock Art Association Symposium, San Luis Valley, Monte Vista CO.
Suzi Martineau, Coordinator, suzimartineau@gmail.com, 303-499-4410.
- May 6-15 Prehistory Week, Utah Professional Archaeologists Council.
- May 17-19 Petrified Forest Centennial, Holbrook, AZ. Platform talks and field trip. Pat Thompson, 928-524-6228x267 or William Parker, 928-524-6228, ext. 262, Petrified Forest, AZ 86028.
- May 19-22 ARARA Symposium, Bluff, UT. Guest Speaker, Fred Blackburn. "The Lab Dogs", featuring Kevin Jones, the Utah State Archaeologist, will entertain at the Sunday evening Awards event. See ARARA.org
- June 3-9 "Ancient Visions: Rock Art of the Wind River Basin", Lucas Burch Center at Trail Lake Ranch, Dubois, WY. Cost \$895. Contact Jane or Dioc Bandr Wayden, traillakeranch@dteworld.com, 307-455-2353.
- June 21-25 Old Pueblo Archaeology fund raising tour, Old Pueblo Archaeology Center, Tucson, AZ. Cost \$795. Contact Steve Buck, steve.buck@healthtrio.com.
- Sept 12-14 10th Anniversary of the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument Science Symposium, Cedar City, UT. Contact Marietta Eaton, 435-644-4320, www.learningfromtheland.com.
- Oct 6-9 URARA Symposium, Vernal, UT, Chair: Margaret Grochocki, 801-282-5850.
- Oct 19-22 30th Great Basin Anthropological Conference, Golden Nugget, Las Vegas, NV.
- Nov 11-12 NMAC Conference, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM; David Phillips, dap@unm.edu.
- Dec 1 Christmas Meeting.

URGENT: Special PhD Fellowship Opportunity -- May 15 Deadline

Forwarded by Jan Gorski, Member Conservation and Preservation Committee

The Center for Desert Archaeology announces the funding for a special South Mountain Petroglyphs Fellow Ph.D. Fellowship opportunity for the recipient to implement a four-year program of research, public involvement, and preservation planning in partnership with the Center, the City of Phoenix, and Arizona State University's School of Human Evolution and Social Change. The complete, revised program announcement and application materials can be found and downloaded at www.cdarc.org.

Book Report

Inside the Neolithic Mind. David Lewis-Williams and David Pearce. 320 pp. Thames and Hudson, 2005. \$34.95.

Brian D. Hayden, [Prehistoric Imaginings.]

The greatest prehistoric monuments in Western Europe, including among many others the megaliths at Stonehenge, Avebury and Carnac, were erected between 7,000 and 4,000 years ago, during the Neolithic. The religions and minds that inspired the building of these monuments have always intrigued thoughtful people, and there is no shortage of diverse theories that purport to explain why they were built. The latest contribution in the quest to understand such motivations is *Inside the Neolithic Mind*, by David Lewis-Williams and David Pearce. This is the sequel to Lewis-Williams's previous tour de force, *The Mind in the Cave*, which dealt with Paleolithic ritual, shamans, altered states of consciousness and art.

This is a very enjoyable book on Neolithic religion. The authors pepper the pages with fascinating vignettes on archaeological discovery and the history of human thought and consciousness (for

example, Jean-Jacques Rousseau's ideas about human nature and the innate religious notions of people are touched on). These asides render many parts of the book eminently readable. However, I must emphasize at the outset that the authors sometimes endorse cognitive interpretations that are quite different from the more economic and practical interpretations that I generally favor. Nevertheless, I fully concur with their basic premise that the physical structure of the human mind creates specific kinds of images (or ways of viewing the world) under altered states of consciousness and that it is individual cultures that determine what aspects (if any) of the altered states and their associated images to recognize.

Reviewer Information: Brian D. Hayden is a professor of archaeology at Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, British Columbia. He is the author of several books, including *Shamans, Sorcerers, and Saints: A Prehistory of Religion* (Smithsonian Books, 2003).

[Editors Note: Only the first two paragraphs of this review are included here. For complete review, see www.americanscientist.org.

Editors' Message

The Calendar Section includes information regarding the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument, which is sponsoring a "Learning from the Land" Science Symposium September 2006, in Cedar City, Utah. It is interesting to note that Marietta Eaton, Science Program administrator for the Monument is directing this event. Her name quickly brings to mind Eaton's participation at our 2004 Symposium in Kanab. She accepted URARA's invitation to speak at the concluding session. She expressed her concerns regarding the protection and preservation of our Utah rock art treasure. Her comments were constructive, though not all in attendance fully agreed with her suggestions. She wrote a follow up article for *Vestiges* December 2004 "A BLM Manager's Observation".

As noted in the symposium information, archeology is one of the subjects for the Science Symposium. This will be an opportunity to present information about URARA and our policies and practices regarding the research and protection of rock art.

We congratulate all those URARA members assisting, presenting, and leading at the ARARA Symposium in Bluff, UT this month. There is no doubt that our folks will be making a very significant contribution to the success of this event. We are sorry we can't be there, we will be at our granddaughter's wedding reception in California. However, we will be thinking of you and hope to have a full report for *Vestiges*.

Happy Trails,
Steve and Marion Robinson

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