

VESTIGES



January
2007
Volume 27
Number 1

Monthly newsletter of URARA, the Utah Rock Art Research Association

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Happy New Year

From your Vestiges “staff.” 2006 was a good year, capped with a quality symposium and what we hope was a fine newsletter. This is an active organization; one we feel is productive in the protection and preservation of a national treasure. The upcoming board retreat should yield new goals, plans for field trips and social gatherings. We plan to expand the field trip schedule so that more of you can get out, meet more members, get some exercise and have fun. It’s important to encourage new memberships, volunteers and reach out for young people to cultivate an interest in our organization.

We wish you and yours health and happiness in 2007, and hope to see you in the great outdoors.

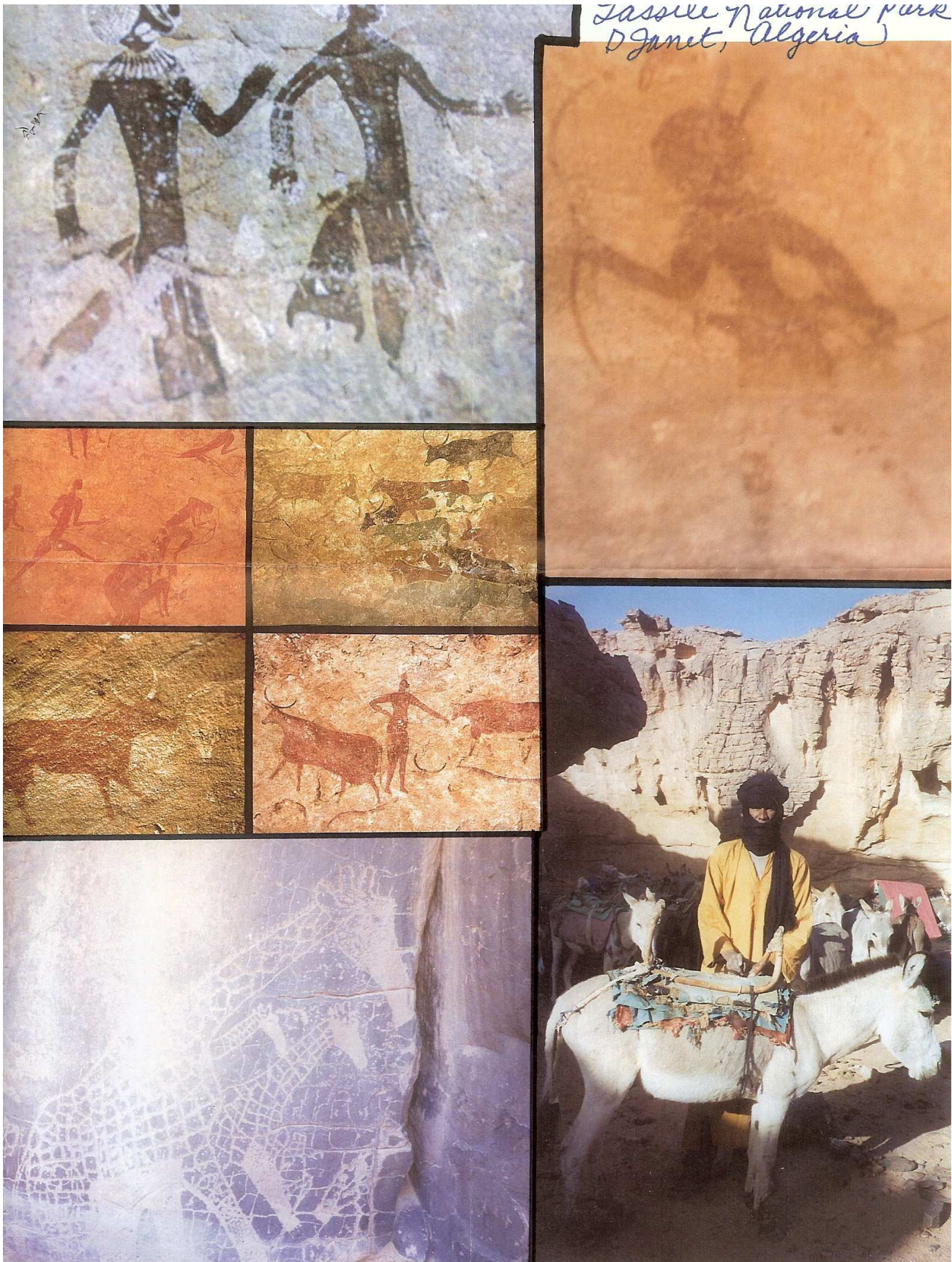
Bob Reed
Copy editor

December Holiday Meeting Report

The December Holiday meeting was a success, with over forty members attending. Troy welcomed eight new members. Barbara Green and Barbara Saxon created a lovely atmosphere, and the dinner was excellent. We thank them and all who helped with food and setup.

Barbara Green shared a video of her experience in Algeria, which included one week of trekking and one week of 4X4 camping in the Sahara desert. She saw very interesting arches and rock art, and she reported that the food prepared by the guides was delicious despite conditions of sand and little water.

Tassili National Park
Djanet, Algeria



Barbara Green's montage of photos from her Algerian trip. Tassili National Park, Djanet, Algeria.

January 2007 Board Meeting

The first meeting of the 2007 Board of Directors will be a retreat. It will take place on January 13, 14, & 15 at the home of Ben and Cindi Everitt, 170 West 300 North, Ivins, Utah; 435-986-0075, rockdoc@xmission.com. One or more field trips will be planned in conjunction with the retreat.

URARA policy provides that these meeting are open to all members. Please contact Ben if you plan to attend.

New Members

We have received applications from the following people who joined since our last list was published in the August 2006 issue. Welcome all!

Kathy Chilson and Blake Horrell	Park City, Utah
Larry Fogleman	Anaheim, California
Janice and Douglas Frost	Kaysville, Utah
Robert and Tiffany Hall	Lehi, Utah
Gary and Joyce Johns Hutchinson	Peralta, New Mexico
Bob Preston	Pasadena, California
Michele Rabideau	Carson City, Nevada
Gene and Delores Winn	North Las Vegas, Nevada

New member Michele Rabideau writes:

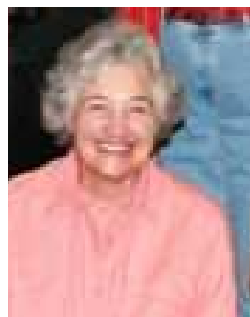
I am a direct descendant of Antione Robidoux, who has an inscription located in the Westwater, Utah area dated November 13, 1837. The area is being vandalized at an alarming rate. Within 200 yards of the inscription are two panels of pictographs and petroglyphs from what I think are Barrier, Fremont and Ute cultures. I would like to learn more about these cultures and, because of my family connection combined with a deep desire to preserve this and other sites, I have joined URARA.

Introducing New URARA Board Members

Ann Fulton

By Marion Robinson,

Photo by M. Robinson



Ann Fulton, one of URARA's two new board members, is a busy lady. She and her husband John just returned from a month in South America, including a visit to Machu Picchu, and with a quick turn departed on another trip. Because of this, *Vestiges* editors are introducing her, using information she submitted when her name was placed in nomination for the elections.

She may be remembered as the member who purchased, for a generous amount, the handmade quilt offered at the 2005 Symposium auction.

Then, shortly after the symposium that October, she and John, along with their neighbors George and Jacque Johnston, who are also URARA members, led a field trip to the rock art within the Volcanic Tablelands north of Bishop, California, where the two couples live. [See Dec 2005 *Vestiges* for her field trip report.]

When asked for her personal information in order to place her name in nomination to the board Ann offered the following:

"My main avocational interest revolves around rock art. My husband and I spend the major part of our annual travels seeing rock art sites and attending meetings and events having to do with rock art. Even our Mojave River Valley Museum 4WD group's outings are also almost exclusively for rock art and archaeological site visiting, and are concerned with preservation efforts. My current organization membership is as follows:

American Rock Art Research Association; the Nevada Rock Art Foundation; Utah Rock Art Research Association; California Native Plant Society-Bristlecone Chapter; Board Member for 3 years through present as Historian and Publicity Chair, Museum of Northern Arizona; Audubon Society-Bishop Chapter; Mojave River Valley Museum, Barstow, CA; Desert Explorers 4WD Group of the Mojave River Valley Museum; Bishop Museum & Historical Society.

My interests are in:

Rock art and archaeology; western history; current western geopolitical issues; reading; journalism and writing. I have been the Sierra Club chapter newsletter editor for 9 years, and I contribute frequently to various group newsletters and newspapers.

Hiking is a favorite, especially on local mountain trails and peaks.

Jewelry design and fabrication is also of great interest to me. My husband is John. We have a son in Montana, a son in San Diego, and a daughter in Truckee, CA.

I am now retired from the telecom industry where I was Vice-President of Business Affairs and Contract Administration."

Walter Layton

Photo by M. Robinson

It would seem that as part of some small print initiation process, each new board member is to write a biographical sketch. Not understanding why you would be the least interested, here goes. "It was a very cold January night in 1942 on the wintry plains of the prairie province of Alberta that a cry went up throughout the small city of Medicine Hat, breaking the crisp air. It was a small voice that would be heard repeatedly throughout the ensuing years bringing dismay to community members, neighbors, school teachers and principals." Are you nodding off yet?

I am the father of seven children and twelve grandchildren with number thirteen scheduled to arrive by UPS sometime in March. I have spent thirty-nine years as a public educator in the Granite School District in Salt Lake City -- twenty-five of these years as an elementary school teacher and the remaining years as an elementary principal. My wife, Ann, has worked as a teacher in the resource department of the Jordan School District for eighteen years. Ann and I enjoy traveling, and membership in URARA has provided some great additional opportunities.



I have always wanted to be an archaeologist and history teacher but I never made it out of elementary school. I believe the association has a very interesting diversity of members, each with a desire to share the knowledge in their minds, the love of the land and culture in their hearts, spread an increasing concern of a disappearing heritage, and absorb the same from others whom they meet. I was asked to submit a picture with this bio, which obviously I have not done. At this time of year, most of you will visit your local Post Office and have to wait in line to mail packages. There you will get the opportunity to look at pictures on the wall – you probably get what I am trying to say. By now, you can tell that although my children survived their vulnerable teenage years, their father was not so lucky, as noted in the writing of this article.

May this coming year be one of appreciation for what we have, strength in challenges that lie before us, and an added year to complete goals set in years past.

Vandal Pursued for Rock Art Damage

By Dorde Woodruff

Cathy Dodt-Ellis, an archeologist for the Ferron/Price District of the Manti La Sal National Forest, sent a message to an email list:

"I'm doing an ARPA investigation on a vandalism incident where the perp scratched his name twice around and through a panel of three petroglyphs. Does anyone have a recent estimate per cm for restoration/repair of petroglyphs (both for the varnish and the pecked figures) AND an estimate for the rock art value (per cm.)? I would contact an expert myself, but my heritage budget is so puny this year that my salary for this incident is going to eat up most of it!"

Conservator Claire Dean kindly contacted Ms. Dodt-Ellis via email and volunteered that she would provide the information needed.

Since the vandal kindly provided his name, the ARPA investigation under Don Riddle, the Forest enforcement person, and the feds' Wayne Dance, of San Juan County enforcement fame, were able to pursue this case quickly. The rock art in question is at the north end of the series along the bottom of the cliff in Birch Creek that URARA visits frequently.

Ms. Dodt-Ellis is working on her report (as of this writing), and Riddle has sent his to Salt Lake, so as soon as Dean gets her estimate in, they will prosecute. Riddle says this will come to court in less than two months, which is very speedy for a rock art vandalism case. But this one is not as complicated as some, in fact it's the quickest that he's had an ARPA case come to trial.

The vandal is a man who has lived in a local town two years but is originally from back east.

News of this sort needs to get into the local newspapers. Nevertheless, Riddle says he has had a lack of cooperation in reporting of his cases. Two OHV cases this fall were successfully prosecuted and restitution of over \$5000 paid after several riders badly damaged riparian areas near Miller Flat. He sent news releases to the local papers and neither was published.

In the OHV cases, also, the Forest was lucky in that the vandals could be identified. The OHV of one rider was stuck in the mud in the riparian area. Riddle has been working in enforcement for over 20 years, so it's gratifying when he can get positive results like in these cases.



Looking down Birch Creek area of vandalism.



Nina and Craig Bowen, Lester Carr Jr., facing.



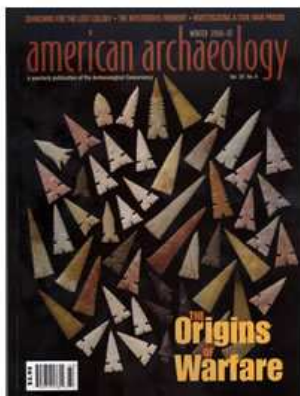
Famous fake elephant at Birch Creek.

Photos, Dorde Woodruff.

“Who Were the Fremont?” Magazine Article Commentary

By Steve Robinson, *with permission from the Editor.*

Undoubtedly, many URARA members are familiar with The Archaeology Conservancy; however, for those who are not, this organization “is the only non-profit organization that identifies, acquires, and preserves the most significant archaeological sites in the United States.” It is “building a national system of archaeological preserves to ensure the survival of our irreplaceable cultural heritage.” It has a very admirable and greatly needed organizational purpose and process - ones with which we can immediately identify and support, since an invaluable element of this cultural heritage is rock art!



The conservancy has a very interesting publication, which appears quarterly—*American Archaeology*. It describes itself as “the only magazine devoted to protecting the rich diversity of archaeology in the Americas.” The preceding quotations are from the current issue: Winter 2006-07, Vol. 10, No. 4, page 4, a full quarter page entitled “Welcome to the Archaeological Conservancy.” There it states that “since its beginning in 1980, the Conservancy has preserved more than 335 sites across the nation, ranging in age from the earliest habitation sites in North America to a 19th century frontier army post.”

“Who were the Fremont?” is addressed in one of the feature articles of the current issue. (pp 26-33). The author, Tamara Stewart, is an assistant editor and the Conservancy’s southwest project’s coordinator. She provides an excellent overview of the Fremont culture, which she describes as ranging from the Parowan Gap in southern Utah to Allen village in the northeast corner of the state. Nine Mile and Range Creek Canyons are an integral part of the author’s very interesting presentation. The very good companion photographs in the article include the Three Kings panel, the Pilling Figurines discovered in Range Creek in 1950, and a Range Creek granary “perched hundreds of feet above the canyon floor.”

From a theoretical archaeological perspective, the author points out that contemporaneously several “researchers focus less on the categorical definitions of the Fremont that had preoccupied earlier archaeologists, and more on understanding past behavior.” They employ a “*behavioral ecology approach* that uses cost-benefit ratios to explain their behaviors” (p. 30). This analytical

methodology is helpful in understanding issues around farming and foraging in the context of environmental and social conditions as they change over time. Clearly these are fundamental vital considerations in any cultural study of the Fremont. On the other hand, it is not obvious to this writer how pertinent or relevant their approach may be to our efforts to understand the rock art. Furthermore, it would seem to lack relevancy to the esthetical and affective considerations, which are such an intrinsic dimension to our appreciation of the rock art.

The article includes an interesting side bar, which is quoted below. It includes a photo of a Nine Mile Canyon petroglyph, which has been damaged by bullet holes.

Preserving Fremont Sites [the side bar] By Tamara Stewart

Beyond the gates and boulder wall that block public access to Range Creek Canyon, vandalism is rampant. Much of Utah is public land, and with federal land managers under increasing pressure to open pristine areas to oil and gas development and public recreation, archaeological sites are suffering. Nine Mile Canyon, located north of the Range Creek, is called the longest gallery in the world because of its density of rock art. Unfortunately, its petroglyphs are riddled with bullet holes and recent graffiti.

"We would sit around the camp at the end of a long day of surveying and marvel at how pristine the [Range Creek] sites were compared to other ones we had worked on, and we worried about what would happen if the state were to open Range Creek up to ATVs and commercial tours and oil and gas—not ill-founded concerns, as it turns out," says Jerry Spangler. Spangler founded the non-profit Colorado Plateau Archaeological Alliance (CPAA), a coalition of archaeologists, historians, scholars, and preservationists, in December 2005. "The inspiration for CPAA came about because of Range Creek, although its mission is much, much bigger."

CPAA already has projects underway throughout the Fremont region, where they are studying the connection between road access and site vandalism, as well as the impacts of illegal surface collecting and ATVs on sites. "We are losing the archaeological record at an alarming rate, and federal land managers need tools to better manage these resources for future generations," says Spangler, who is currently working to nominate Mine Mile and Range Creek canyons to the National Register of Historic Places as archaeological districts. More information about CPAA and its ongoing projects can be found at www.cparch.org.

This very interesting article concludes with a discussion of the abandonment of the Fremont from the area between 1250 and 1350 with which we are familiar. For further discussions on this topic, refer to Think About It in this issue.

Rock Art Exhibit in Moab

By Pam Baker, running from Dec. 8-Jan. 5

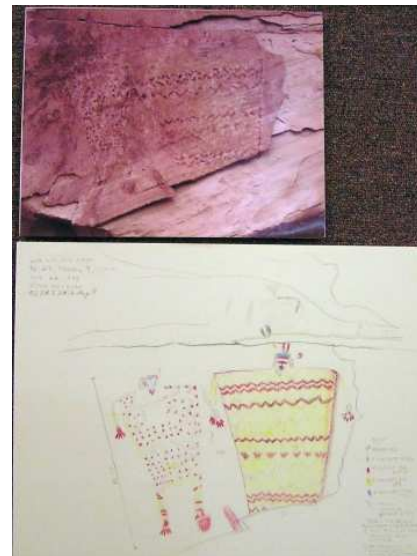
Sally J. Cole and Sheri Bowman are guest curators at the Moab Arts and Recreation Center, [MARC], 111 E 100 North, Moab, Utah for their exhibit "On Either Side of the Blues: Rock Art and Diversity from 2000 B.C. to A.D. 1300." The exhibit originally was created for the Edge of the Cedars Museum in Blanding, which is south of the Blue (Abajo) mountains, and now travels north of the Blues.

If you missed the exhibit in Blanding, you will want to catch it in Moab. It explores similarities and differences in rock art created by Archaic hunter-gatherers and Ancestral Puebloans living north and south of the Abajo Mountains over time. Photographs and drawings of petroglyphs and rock paintings illustrate the techniques employed to record the images.



Sally on the left and Sheri on the right.

Photographs by Quent Baker



Photograph and drawing of the same panel.

Think About It!



The use of fort-like masonry structures such as those in Nine Mile and Range Creek canyons suggests increased competition for resources and possible conflict of the sort that was evident across much of the Anasazi region in the late 1200's. The latest Fremont sites, such as Allen Village and Texas Creek Overlook, are found in northeastern Utah and northwestern Colorado, a considerable distance from the postulated migration routes of Numic-speaking nomads that passed through western and southern Utah.

Due to the mysteries concerning their origins and disappearance, researchers have not been able to clearly identify direct descendants who might have ethnographic information about their Fremont ancestors. Preliminary comparative DNA tests of Fremont individuals buried around the Great Salt Lake with Anasazi remains from southeastern Utah and northeastern Arizona suggest the two people were closely related, perhaps sharing a common founding population. Similar tests of late Fremont remains from the Tavaputs Plateau, where Anasazi-style architecture and artifacts are more abundant, has yet to be done.

"Lots of groups claim to be descendants, and they could all be right, the Fremont were so diverse and adaptable," says Madsen. "The name 'Fremont' may be more reflective of our own need to categorize things than it is a reflection of how closely related these people were. Variation is the key word in describing them."

American Archaeology, "Who Were the Fremont?" Tamara Stewart, winter 2006-07, Vol. 10, No.4; pp. 26-33.

[Editors note: Madsen, referenced above, is identified in the article as David Madsen, an archaeologist at the University of Texas who has investigated Fremont sites all over Utah since 1967 and served as Utah State Archaeologist from 1973 to 1991.] He is quoted in the first paragraph of the article: "The Fremont are the epitome of the archaeological puzzle. The interesting thing about the Fremont is that they are recent enough in history that we are likely to know a lot about them, and there are many well-preserved sites like Range Creek that are just being discovered. On the other hand, we have no idea what happened to them, so there are no clear descendents to compare with them. We have to figure it out archaeologically."

January 2007

ARARA Conference, June 29th-July 2, 2007

[Press Release]

Phoenix, AZ. Beautiful Billings, Montana will be the setting for the 34th annual conference of the American Rock Art Research Association (ARARA), to convene June 29th – July 2nd, 2007. Billings, located northeast of Yellowstone Park on the Yellowstone river, is a gateway to the abundance of southeastern Montana archaeological sites including Pompey's Pillar (where William Clark of Lewis & Clark fame inscribed his name on the rock among many Native American figures), Pictograph Cave (a state park with Native American paintings, which have been restored by a conservator), and the Little Bighorn Battlefield (one of the best known Native American/US Military battles of the 1860s occurred here).

The conference attracts rock art researchers from around the country and the world, including professional archaeologists, avocationalists and the interested public.

A lively and diverse program is in the works, which will explore the many and varied facets of the study of rock art, comprised mainly of petroglyphs (images pecked or incised onto stone) and pictographs (painted images). Presentations by experts in the field on the rock art of Montana and beyond will provide the centerpiece for the conference. Highlights will include a reception at a local rock art attraction, pre- and post-conference field trips to some of the many notable rock art sites in the vicinity, and the keynote address by Dr. Lawrence Loendorf, Billings native, archeologist and rock art specialist, who has written numerous articles and books on the rock art of the region. Other activities include an ever-engaging auction, vendor room, ARARA publications for sale, poster sessions, networking opportunities, and forums on education, rock art recording and a conservation workshop at a local rock art site.

ARARA, the oldest rock art association, is a diverse community of members dedicated to the preservation, research and communication of the significance of rock art, which is a non-renewable resource of enduring cultural value, and an important expression of shared human cultural heritage.

For more information about ARARA, please visit: www.arara.org

Contacts: Mavis Greer, President, American Rock Art Research Association, (307) 473-2054 phone mavis@GreerServices.com, Donna Gillette, (408) 223-2243, Conference Coordinator, rockart@ix.netcom.com

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

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Library, Archives, and Publications

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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. The current cost is \$17 for one person, \$20 family, \$12 student, for one year's membership. However, this will be discussed at the January Board Retreat and is subject to change. The membership form, including liability release, is available on our website at www.utahrockart.org. If you do not have access to the Internet, send a self-addressed stamped envelope to the URARA post office box address listed under Contact Information.

Calendar 2007

- Jan 13-15 Board of Directors Meeting. Annual Retreat, members welcome. Home of Ben & Cindi Everitt, 170 West 300 North, Ivins, Utah; 435-986-0075, rockdoc@xmission.com. One or more field trips will be planned in conjunction with the retreat.
- Jun 29-Jul 2 ARARA Conference, Billings, Montana, Crown Plaza Hotel. Contacts Donna Gillette, rockart@ix.netcom.com, Mavis Greer, mavis@GreerService.com, arara.org.

Editors' Message

We look forward to the annual Board of Directors retreat scheduled for January 13-15. It will be held at the home of Ben and Cindi Everitt in Ivins. We appreciate their hospitality. For those not familiar with the area, Ivins is a small (but rapidly growing community) located just south of the entrance to the beautiful red rock Snow Canyon. Ivins is a close neighbor to St. George. URARA board meetings are open to all URARA members.

We will be welcoming two new board members, Ann Fulton and Walter Layton, introduced earlier in this issue. The full board is listed under Contact Information. Members who have issues or questions may contact board members.

The article "Who Were the Fremont?" commented on earlier has a side bar which includes information regarding a new organization, Colorado Plateau Archaeological Alliance (CPAA) which, like URARA, is non-profit. "It is a coalition of archaeologists, historians, scholars and preservationists" who share, in common with us, a deep concern regarding the protection of the archaeological record and resources of our state. It was organized in December 2005. Upon reading about CPAA, we contacted its leader, Jerry Spangler. We had a brief conversation, but he was leaving for a trip. We will attempt to learn more about his organization and perhaps invite him to submit something to *Vestiges*.

It is good to see a growing and more organized concern dedicated to the protection of our wonderful archaeological resources in our state. A coalition between CPAA, URARA, ARARA, The Nine Mile Coalition, SUWA, and like-minded organizations dedicated to protecting the resources offer a lot to consider.

Dorde Woodruff called and advised us of an article by Joe Baird in the Salt Lake Tribune dated 12/18/2006, calling attention to Emery County where a group of officials have issued a statement expressing alarm at how growing OHV activity, both legal and illegal, is negatively “impacting the county’s resources and other users.” The statement also indicates the county’s patience is wearing thin, citing impacts ranging from trampled grazing fences to deeply rutted dirt roads and the creation of new illegal trails. The statement calls for stiffer fines and penalties for violators, and increased funding from state and federal agencies to help enforcement. We applaud the officials in Emery County for taking a stand to protect the environment for all of us.

Happy Trails,

Stephen and Marion Robinson

URARA
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Attendees at rapt attention.

Barbara Green presents video at holiday meeting.



Photos by Bob Reed