

VESTIGES



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Monthly newsletter of URARA, the Utah Rock Art Research Association

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President's Message

I had been looking forward to some downtime after symposium. However, such was not to be. Led by Diane Orr we have been spending lots of time reviewing regional management plans. Lots of information on this process is provided later in *Vestiges*. This is an important process and deserves our attention. It also requires a great deal of time. If you have an interest in being involved please let me know.

Troy Scotter
2007 URARA President

Annual December Meeting-Potluck

URARA's annual December meeting will begin at 6:00pm, Friday, December 7, 2007, at the First Unitarian Church, 569 South 1300 East, Salt Lake City, UT. Barbara Saxon, 801-262-4432, will be coordinating and calling members for the potluck dinner.

One of the features of the evening will be a video presentation by Barbara Green on her wanderings with Inga Nagel last spring from Page, AZ to Bishop, CA.



Preview Photos from Barbara Green. White Mountains in background, east of Bishop.



Rock art around Bishop.

URARA Board Transition

The board is in transition. Five new board members have been elected, five will retire, and four current members will continue. The bylaws are not clear how the transition occurs. Our tradition has been to transition on January 1.

Board members transitioning off the 2007 board:

Layne Miller
Nina Bowen
Steve Robinson
Ben Everitt
Diane Orr

The new board members for 2008 are:

Steve Robinson (re-elected)
Al Copley
Kathe Liuzzi
David Sucec
Bob Reed

Continuing board members are:

Margaret Grochocki
Ann Fulton
Walt Layton
Troy Scotter

URARA Membership Address List

Troy Scotter, 2007 URARA President

URARA is planning to send out a contact list to all of our members in January. This list will include name, address, phone, and email information for our membership. We recognize that not all of you may wish to share this personal information. If you wish to opt-out of the contact list please contact the Robinsons at SLRMAR@cox.net, or write to the Vestiges Editors at 26717 Grayslake Rd. Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275.

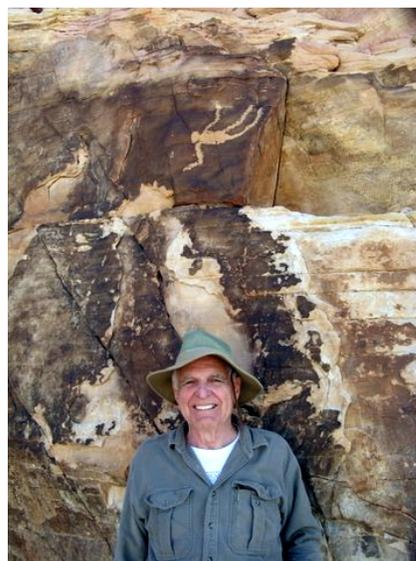
Field Trip Report

St George and Vicinity – October 26-29, 2007

Leader, Jeff Allen, photos and text by Jeff, allenjeffrey@beyondbb.com



Julie, Jeff, Laurie, Terry – Lion's Mouth Cave



Jerry Gilmore – Falling Man, Whitney-Hartman



Ben, Alan, Carina, Michael, Don, Joe, Ed, Maryanne, Lois, Leslie – Crossing the Portal, Whitney-Hartman



Carina, Paul, Alan, Linc, Don, Maryanne, Ed, Michael (back row) Jim, Sheila, Amy (front row)

Twenty-one avid adventurers gathered at St. George, divided into two groups and set out on four days of hiking, scrambling and photographing rock art. We were from Prescott, Carson City, Salt Lake City, Boulder City, Las Vegas, San Diego, Culver City, Ojai and Lancaster. No one was injured, was lost, or stuck in the sand on the way to Kohta Circus. We were scarcely deterred by the one flat tire and a failed starter. Amy Gilreath, our professional archaeologist, found an offering of pottery sherds and an ancient corncob under the boulder with the Virgin River Gorge crane. Mike Worley and Al Copley applied their photographic skills to numerous petroglyphs and pictographs.

On Friday, we traveled up the Virgin River in fall color and visited several wonderful sites. We then drove up the Smithsonian Buttes Scenic Byway to see Yellow Man and the large boulder with an intriguing kachina face and decorated burden basket. We ended at Canaan Gap with its deeply pecked glyphs on a wall of hematite. On Saturday, we hiked into the Virgin River. We then went to Snow Canyon and hiked to four sites. We continued on to Lion's Mouth and its Paiute pictographs, and to Black Point and its excellent Fremont petroglyphs.

On Sunday, we drove south to the Gold Butte area of southern Nevada to see the high panel at Mud Wash, Kohta Circus, the Sheep Panel, and the extensive site at Whitney Hartman. On Monday, we stayed close to St. George, saw several intriguing petroglyph panels in Fort Pierce, and scrambled to other sites. For lunch, we visited the Little Black Mountain site and its trails, and in the afternoon, we went to Anasazi Ridge, ending at the blanket pattern glyph, complete with fringe and its weaver.

Thanks to Ben Everitt, Joe Brame, and Lois Mansfield for being co-leaders, sweeps, and fellow rock art seekers.

Update on BLM Regional Management Plans

Troy Scotter

The various BLM regional offices are responsible for creating plans that describe how they intend to manage the many resources over which they have responsibility. It must be a daunting task. The contradictory views of people interested in mineral rights, off-road vehicles, wilderness, and archeology combine to make this a task that even Solomon would wisely choose to avoid. URARA is committed to reviewing the plans for each of the following areas that require comments in the next couple of months:

- Moab
- Richfield
- Kanab
- Vernal
- Price
- Monticello

We have completed our comments on the Moab regional management plan and have a first draft of our thoughts on the Vernal supplement. We will work through the others as time permits over the next month. We will share what we can with you through email broadcasts so you can participate should you choose to do so.

Our biggest concern has to do with methodology for rock art protection. In general, the BLM is not using their known site inventory in planning. Rather they are using computer modeling to make best guesses as to whether archeological sites will occur. The computer uses multiple factors that tend to be associated with archeological sites and then assigns weights to regions based on how many factors they exhibit to determine the likelihood of sites. You and I do the same thing. We arrive in an area, look around, and say "I bet there is a site over there." We know that sites tend to be on smooth rock faces, south facing, and at canyon junctions. The difference between our approach and that of the BLM is that we strap on a pack and hike over to look. We also know that most of the time we are wrong in our prediction. The BLM is satisfied with using its theoretical modeling without ever having taken that look. In addition, the BLM approach identifies the likelihood of a site occurring rather than the importance of sites.

If you wish to participate in this process, the following list gives you important dates and contact information.

Moab: Comment period has expired

Richfield: The comment period ends on Jan. 23, 2008.

Written comments may be addressed to the attention of John Russell, Assistant Planner, Richfield BLM Field Office, 150 East, 900 North, Richfield, UT 84701. They may also be e-mailed to UT_Richfield_Comments@blm.gov

Public Meetings:

Snow	Admin Bldg Rooms 147 B&E; 800 W	Mon Dec 3	5:00 p.m.
College	200 S, Richfield		
SLC	210 East 400 South, SLC	Wed, Dec	6:00 p.m.
Main		12	
Library			

Kanab: The comment period will conclude on January 10, 2008.

To submit electronically: <http://www.blm.gov/rmp/ut/Kanab/involve.php>

To submit your comments by mail:

Bureau of Land Management

Kanab Field Office

RMP Comments

318 North 100 East

Kanab, UT 84741

or using email: UT_Kanab_Comments@blm.gov

Public Meetings:

Dixie Center	1835 Convention Ctr Dr,	Tue, Dec 4	6:00
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St. George p.m.
 SLC Main Library 210 East 400 South, SLC Wed, Dec 5 6:00 p.m.

Vernal: The comment period will end Jan. 3, 2008.
 Comments may also be submitted electronically at UT_VN_RMP_Supplement@blm.gov Written comments should be sent to Bureau of Land Management Vernal Field Office RMP Comments Attention: Kelly Buckner 170 South 500 East Vernal, Utah 84078

Price: The comment period will conclude on December 13, 2007.
 To submit comments: <http://www.blm.gov/rmp/ut/Price/involve.php> or Bureau of Land Management Price Field Office RMP Comments 125 South 600 West Price, UT 84501 or emailed to: UT_Pr_Comments@blm.gov

Monticello: The comment period will conclude on February 8, 2008.
 Comments can be submitted electronically at <http://www.blm.gov/rmp/ut/monticello/involve.php> , mailed to: Bureau of Land Management Monticello Field Office RMP Comments P.O. Box 7 Monticello, Utah 84535 or emailed to: UT_Monticello_RMP_Comments@blm.gov

Public Meetings:

Grand Center	182 North 500 West, Room 1, Moab, Utah	Jan. 9, 2008	6:00 p.m.
Red Butte Gardens	300 Wakara Way, SLC, Utah	Jan. 10, 2008	6:00 p.m.

The following are the comments that URARA submitted about the Moab RMP:

COMMENTS ON THE MOAB BLM REGIONAL MANAGEMENT PLAN

We thank the BLM for this opportunity to reply to the Moab Regional Management Plan (RMP).

The Utah Rock Art Research Association (URARA) is the largest organization dedicated to Utah rock art. Our mission is:

- To lead in the preservation and understanding of the value of rock art.
- To encourage the appreciation and enjoyment of rock art sites.
- To assist in the study, presentation, and publication of rock art research.

Our 300 members have professional, academic, and avocational interest in Utah rock art. Combined, our membership represents the largest body of knowledge regarding Utah rock art. In October 2007, our membership held their annual symposium featuring over 20

speakers in Moab. Our membership has a strong interest in the cultural resources in the Moab area.

We recognize that alternative C provides more protection than the current management plan. That said, Alternative B offers superior protection to cultural resources. In the words of the RMP:

Alternative B offers the most protective plan for cultural resources within the MPA, because it would place greater restrictions on surface-disturbing activities such as mineral development, recreation use, and OHV travel. Additionally, it would provide more special designations, which, in turn, would reduce the possibilities for inadvertent adverse impacts to cultural resources. Alternative B also provides a proactive approach to cultural resources through the development and implementation of integrated cultural-recreational management plans.

Long-term beneficial impacts to local economic conditions resulting from cultural resource management decisions would be greatest under Alternative B. The identification, preservation, and restoration of sites within the MPA would attract the greatest number of visitors interested in the area's cultural history. Economic contributions to local towns from these visitors would be greatest under this alternative.

The social benefits resulting from cultural resource management decisions such as visitor experience, Native American connections to historic sites, and social connections that tie the landscape to a rich cultural history would be greatest under Alternative B. The long-term social benefits would be directly related to the restrictions on surface-disturbing activities, the opportunities for public interpretation, and the implementation of cultural-recreational management plans. (Page 4-254)

This statement alone is enough for us to recommend Alternative B. We believe that the BLM has failed to protect the rich cultural resources with Alternative C.

We believe that the BLM has done a poor job of cultural resource management associated with this RMP. We are especially concerned with the use of computer modeling to determine cultural resource locations.

A limited percentage of lands within the MPA have been physically inspected for the presence of cultural resources, and such an effort is cost-prohibitive as part of preparing the RMP. Therefore, the relative site density potential for areas within the MFO was estimated using environmental factors known to influence site location and type. All areas of the MFO were then ranked as having high, medium, or low potential for containing cultural sites. (Page 3-19)

This problematic approach does not acknowledge that people and their archaeological footprint are not entirely predictable. Nor does it consider the significance of sites, only density. We recognize that complete surveys have not been done. However, there has been extensive documentation of cultural resources. "The MPA has approximately 5,200 inventoried cultural sites." (Page 4-253) It is not clear to us that these documented site locations have been given consideration in the RMP. We do not support a decision-making process, which is not based on actual rock art and archeological site inventories.

The RMP is bereft of information regarding the amount of protection that will be provided to cultural resources. Pages 2-2 through 2-6 provide helpful information regarding the coverage of Off-Highway Vehicle designations, Special Recreation Management Areas, Oil and Gas Leasing and Development, River Classifications, Wildlife, and Wilderness under the various proposed alternatives. No information is provided for cultural resources. There

is no way to determine what percentage of the modeled high, medium, or low site probability acreage (Table 3-7, Page 3-19) is covered by an ACEC or special management consideration. Nor is there any way to determine how many of the 5200 inventoried cultural sites are protected.

We strongly encourage the BLM to do a better job of managing and protecting cultural resources in the development of future regional management plans. Maps need to be larger with better-defined borders and known archeological sites need to be considered in the management plan.

As a result of the above considerations, we recommend the adoption of Alternative B since it provides the greatest protection to cultural resources.

Comments regarding proposed ACEC designations:

Behind the Rocks

We strongly advocate an ACEC oriented to archeological protection designation for the entire 17,836 acres included in this area because of the high archeological site density in the area and the potential for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places as an Archaeological District. Rock art in this area is extensive, from multiple cultures over thousands of years, and is acknowledged as being of national significance.

We believe all roads should be closed beyond the existing spur road to "Old Folks Home". Additional protection as described in Alternative B (Page 2-33) is appropriate.

Book Cliffs

From a cultural resource viewpoint, we believe that there is a middle ground between alternatives B and C that is appropriate. Alternative C does not establish an ACEC in the Book Cliffs. Alternative B would manage 304,252 acres. Cultural resources are primarily located along the Green River, the base of the Book Cliffs, and in major drainages from the highlands of the Book Cliffs. We advocate the establishment of an ACEC oriented to archeological protection in these more restricted areas of Alternative B, specifically the Green River corridor, East Canyon, Middle Canyon, Hay Canyon, Spring Canyon, Crescent Junction, Sego Canyon, Thompson Canyon, Coal Canyon, and Tusher Canyon. The current maps appear not to include the rock art at Crescent Junction. These are significant sites and should be included.

Highway 279/Shafer Basin/Long Canyon

We find Alternative C to be an acceptable alternative from a cultural resource viewpoint except that the map appears to exclude the Wall Street rock art district from the ACEC. We believe that it is important for the entire river corridor including Wall Street to be protected in an archeologically focused ACEC. For the past two years, URARA (Utah Rock Art Research Association) has been working in cooperation with the Moab Field Office archaeologist for the BLM to document the sites along Wall Street with the objective of nominating it to the National Register. We would like to see this project continue when a new archeologist is named for the district. The Wall Street area receives high visitation and should be managed to minimize visitor impact and to provide interpretation and education.

Canyon Rims

The BLM recommendations for the Canyon Rims potential ACEC says that the area qualifies for an ACEC but Alternative C does not include this area as an ACEC, which is a bit confusing. It is difficult to determine the boundaries of this district from the maps

provided. However, we are concerned that it includes Lockhart Basin, which has many documented archaic archeological sites. Alternative B provides no cultural resource protection. We would like to see cultural protection in the Lockhart Basin portion of this district.

Mill Creek Canyon

We strongly advocate Alternative B for this district. Mill Creek may be the richest source of archeological information within the Moab District. To quote the proposed management plan document “Cultural resources are extensive and span the entire prehistoric context” (page 3-130) and “Mill Creek Canyon’s cultural resources have also been identified as being of exceptional importance to Native Americans” (page 3-131). Rock art panels are extensive and meet National Register qualifications. Potential for research questions may be addressed in Mill Creek Canyon because many of the sites have greater depth and integrity than those in other areas.

The supplied maps are insufficient to indicate whether the culturally rich uplands are included. It is imperative that these lands be protected within an archeologically focused ACEC.

We are concerned about a proposed residential development on SITLA land immediately adjacent to this area. We believe that strong cultural resource protection needs to be in place prior to the completion of this development.

Upper Courthouse

We recommend Alternative B for this proposed ACEC. Upper Courthouse with its riparian areas has a high density of archaeological sites. Known sites exist near Hidden Valley, Brink Spring, Bartlett Wash, and unnamed drainages to the north. The Courthouse Rock area has already experienced vandalism to rock art panels (The Blue Buffalo was rubbed out several years ago) and recreational use in this area continues to be high and is increasing in intensity each year. We believe the active protection of archeological sites needs to extend beyond grazing to include visitation.

Issues not mentioned in the ACEC designations which require attention to protect cultural resources:

Kane Creek Canyon

We do not see any proposed protection under ACEC for the BLM land along the south side of the Colorado River downstream from Moab and up Kane Creek. This area is dense with rock art and other archeological sites of national register quality. It is being documented as part of the proposed Wall Street rock art district. This area receives high visitation, is experiencing non-approved off-road vehicle use, and needs appropriate protection and interpretation at highly visible rock art sites. We believe this area from the Moonflower Site up canyon for approximately 6.5 miles needs to be protected under an archeologically focused ACEC.

Page 2-8 proposes scientific restoration of archeological sites from Highway 191 to Kane Creek Canyon. We see no reason to stop at Kane Creek Canyon and suggest that this restoration continue within our proposed area.

Seven Mile Canyon

Seven Mile Canyon is an area with many national register quality rock art sites spanning thousands of years. The Intestine Man site is one of the finest examples of Barrier Canyon

Style and world famous. This extraordinary site needs to be part of a thoughtful management plan.

The campground located at the mouth of the canyon and the road through the canyon recently washed out. We recommend that this road and campground should not be re-established. We also recommend that this area be included in an archeologically focused ACEC.

Hellroaring Canyon

An unauthorized off-road vehicle road has been created from the Green River to the Barrier Canyon Style pictograph site in this canyon. We recommend that this road be closed to protect the rock art site.

Klondike Bluffs

It is not clear from the maps if there is any special protection for the rock art sites located at Klondike Bluffs outside of Arches National Park. We recommend an archeologically focused ACEC for this region if it is not protected.

Levi Well

We are concerned about a road segment that bisects an area with a high archeological site density. It is south of Levi Well located in the south half of section 25 Township 23S, Range 18E. In addition to a very extensive lithic scatter, there are rock art panels and dinosaur bone in the area. Recently a Site Steward encountered remains of a new campfire and camping activity on the site. The area needs to be managed to protect site integrity.

Rock Art Nomination Districts

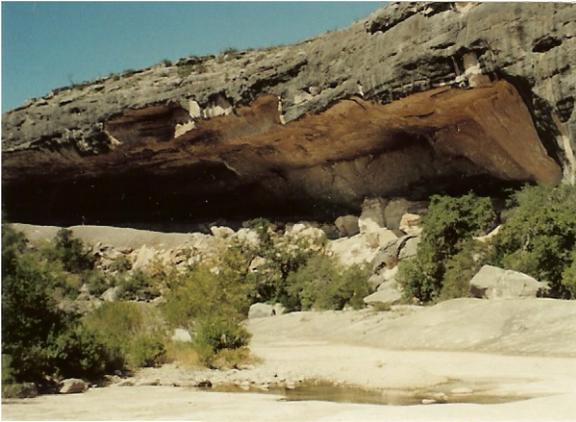
URARA is committed to the documentation and preservation of Utah rock art sites. The Moab district contains one of the highest densities of rock art in the state. We are willing to donate our time and resources to assisting the BLM in creating the Rock Art Districts described on Page 2-8 under Alternative B. Mill Creek Canyon needs to be added to this list.

Development

We are concerned with development near rock art sites including camping, roads, oil and gas exploration and development, and mining. It is clear to us that the greater the number of people that have access to a site, the higher the probability that the site will be vandalized. Unless sites are actively managed and hardened for visitation we suggest that development be kept away from rock art sites that qualify for national register status. We are very concerned that surface disturbances in the form of mining, energy development and routes are being planned or sanctioned before field inventories are completed.

Tribute to Jim Zintgraff

Galal Gough



Seminole Canyon Fate Bell Shelter



Fate Bell Shelter Pictographs



Unfortunately there was insufficient time at the URARA Symposium, while giving my paper on "Sacred Landscape and Native American Rock Art" Part II, to project the Lower Pecos River sites which show why Jim Zintgraff is such an inspiration to us all for his dedication to protecting these sacred places. His photos in *Pecos River Rock Art*, and his 250 photos in the *Rock Art of the Lower Pecos DVD*, are magnificent.

Jim was hunting in Seminole Canyon when he came across the pictographs in Fate Bell Shelter. He put his gun away, got out his camera, and spent the rest of his life photographing, recording and protecting the Lower Pecos rock art. The Rock Art Foundation he established purchased the White Shaman Shelter area. He was a foremost example of how an amateur can save sacred sites. Sadly, Jim died on March 5, 2006, hence this tribute.

For Your Information

Canteen Found. From: Carol Georgopoulos, goecar27@gmail.com.

Nicely tooled leather-covered canteen, still full of water, in the area of lower Mule Canyon, Utah. Monogrammed. Found Friday November 16, 2007. If you lost it, call 505-292-0877, tell us what the monogram is and describe the item a bit and we will send it to you.

An Up-date from Alex Patterson, URARA member, Greenwich, CT,

[To Vestiges Editors] Thanks for passing the word about my slide collection. Have had numerous inquiries. Unfortunately, Mary has been in the hospital recently with a rather challenging illness that has the "docs" scratching their collective heads. We are concentrating on solving her puzzle. You might pass this "word" which means we will not be dealing with the collection until we get a better handle on Mary's problem. Best regards, Alex Patterson.

[Repeated from November Vestiges.]URARA was one of our favorite bunches of folks. My book *Field Guide* still keeps selling and we are up over 25,000 copies so far. My worry is my collection of

rock art photos (maybe 80,000) which covers some 200+ sites Mary and I visited. With it is a set of diaries Mary kept of our travels. Here in the East no one is interested. We would be delighted to give them to someone in the West who is interested in the field...Alex and Mary Patterson. alex_pttrsn@yahoo.com, 203-869-1394.

Utah Prehistory Week 2008 Poster Contest and Art Show

From Ronald Rood, rrood@utah.gov, 801-533-3564

Utah Prehistory Week is scheduled for May 3 through May 10, 2008. This will mark the 20th anniversary of Utah Prehistory Week. State History and the Antiquities Section will sponsor the Utah Prehistory Week Poster Contest but we also think it is a good idea to celebrate the last 20 years (or more) of art inspired by Utah's cultural and natural past.

With the help of the Utah Arts Council, we will have an art show at the Rio Gallery featuring the photographs, artwork, sculptures, replicas etc., done by amateur and professionals alike, inspired by the archaeology and paleontology of Utah.

Your photographs, sculptures and replicas inspired by Utah's archaeological and paleontological heritage will be on display at the Rio Gallery, 300 Rio Grande in Salt Lake City from April 18th through May 10th.

Photographs of archaeological sites, rock art and even photographs of archaeologists working are encouraged. Historical photographs of archaeological sites are also encouraged, especially if you have recent ones showing the same sites. Replicas of ancient artifacts such as pottery or stone tools are welcome as well.

This exhibit is free and open to the public. Entries need to be delivered by March 15th, 2008. If you want your photograph or original artwork to be considered for the 2008 **Utah Prehistory Week** poster, please submit your entry by January 15, 2008.

To enter your artwork or photographs in the 2008 Utah Prehistory Week poster contest, please send your submissions to the Utah Antiquities Section, 300 Rio Grande, SLC, UT 84101 by **January 15th, 2008**. Please label your entry with your name, address and telephone number. For more information, go to www.history.utah.gov or contact Ron Rood at 801-533-3564 or at rrood@utah.gov.

ARARA Annual Conference

Farmington, New Mexico

May 23-26, 2008 www.arara.org

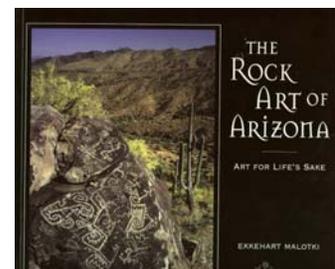
ARARA Photos Wanted

Photos of ARARA's early days are wanted for a presentation at the 2008 ARARA meeting in Farmington, NM. We are also looking for early members who remember ARARA in the 1970's and who are willing to share their stories. Phone numbers, street addresses, and/or email addresses would be most helpful. Original photos and all other materials will be returned. If you know of an early member, who was active in ARARA and is deceased, that information would also be most appreciated. Contact Anne Stoll at 909-621-7521 or annestoll@verizon.net.

Book Review – The Rock Art Of Arizona

By Steve Robinson

The Rock Art of Arizona: Art for Life's Sake, Text and Photography, Ekkehart Malotki; Illustrations by Mary Jordan;



r 2007

Contributors to text by Donald E. Weaver, Jr.; Foreword by Janet Napolitano, Governor of Arizona, Kiva Publishing, Walnut, California, 2007.

[Malotki, a member of URARA, invited me to review his book for *Vestiges* when it first came out, perhaps because I had reviewed his book *Stone Chisel and Yucca Bush: Colorado Rock Art* in July 2004 *Vestiges*. Before the new book arrived we [as *Vestiges* Editors] received URARA member Harold Widdison's review of the book, which appeared in the September 2007 issue of *Vestiges*. This was followed in the October 2007 issue by "A Different View of Ekkehart Malotki's Book . . .", an essay written by Galal Gough, also a URARA member. Both Widdison's and Gough's names appear among a list of many, many other names whom Malotki acknowledges in the preface to his book.]

In the Preface, the author notes the need for "a comprehensive statewide summary of its rock art heritage." Certainly a daunting challenge. And, for the benefit of all, the challenge was beautifully realized! The author identifies a two-fold purpose for the book. "As one who enjoys a photographic dialogue with rock art, I wish to showcase the entire gamut of Arizona's stunning rock art paintings, engravings and ground figures." Secondly, "as a scholar of rock art and one primarily interested in its symbolic and cognitive aspects, I also address the challenging yet intriguing question of interpretation, with such important issues as descriptions, classification, and cultural affiliation of the art playing only a minor role here. In prioritizing my goals in this way, I hope to shed new light on what motivated Arizona's earliest artists to produce the art and what function it had in their lives." Research around this issue, particularly within the field of evolutionary psychology helped direct him to the conclusion "that rock art, too, is fundamentally 'art for life's sake' and it is foremost against this premise that Arizona's rupestrian wealth will be viewed and analyzed." Therein the basic reason for the book's sub-title, i.e. "Art for Life's Sake".

The book is 10"x10". This generous size provides the flexibility to include a variety of sizes of excellent rock art photographs. They are reproduced in dramatic color on a very suitable high-grade paper. The size and number of pictures per page varies. Each picture is identified by the appropriate style or tradition of the rock art followed by a few words and the county in which it is found. Usually these comments make a point about the specific rock-art; however, on rare occasions they are educational in a broader sense. Each comment is relevant. I found no duplication among the almost 400 rock art photographs. All tie in well with the text. It is apparent that great care was taken in the book layout to heuristically blend the selected photographs with the book text.

The book has an excellent seventeen-page introduction. Ekkehart makes the point that rock art once was "almost exclusively the domain of avocational archaeologists and dedicated aficionados" – folks like us. Now it is a recognized "scientific discipline in its own right." These are very insightful pages. They include such issues as rock art as art and interpretation, dating, style and iconography. With respect to style, Ekkehart has developed a "Rock Art Motif Index" which he feels is applicable to rock art worldwide.

The author provides "a succinct summary of the principal rock art traditions and styles that are known or can be posited at this time within the regions." However, this is done with a caveat pointing out that the stylistic analysis is quite subjective and "cannot always be stated with a high degree of confidence." This is largely due to the "paucity" of archaeological research in some parts of the state.

The last section of the book, Interpretation of Arizona Post-Archaic Rock Art is very interesting. It is an excellent discussion of issues to which Malotki provides an "interpretative approach". It is "governed in part by the concept of human universals, those commonalities that underlie the physical and psychological make-up of human beings." He takes the position of E. Dissanayake, who is quoted several times. This is, "the making of art, including such images as rock art, is a natural behavior of human beings that is 'something that humans do because it helps them to survive, and to survive better than they would without it'."

Malotki goes on to discuss related issues in sections entitled Shamanism, Sympathetic Magic, Fertility Magic and Sexuality, and More Secular Motivations. In this case, “the deep-seated human desire to express the self creatively may explain an image made purely for decorative reasons.”

In his closing section, Landscape and Site Function, he takes the position, very correctly I believe, that “among the universals that humans share is their tendency to humanize and enculturate the land in which they [we] live”. Furthermore, whatever the reasons or motivation may have been to select a certain rock art site, the possible functions “must have been manifold”.

Malotki has written an outstanding book on the rock art of Arizona. In the process, he educates the reader while providing a rewarding, emotional and intellectual experience. I whole-heartedly embrace his “art for life’s sake” concept from the sub-title. However, at times I find Malotki’s writing to be almost overly academic or technical it fully deserves the widespread distribution and broad acceptance of Arizonians as well as all others with an interest in rock art. I am pleased to have the opportunity to recommend enthusiastically this book to our URARA Membership. One cannot help but wish for a comparable volume for our Utah rock art treasures.

[A signed copy of the book is available from the author at Ekkehart.malotki@nau.edu.]

Think About It!



“One of the most burning questions when confronting rock art pertains to its function and meaning, two major goals of interpretation. As to the immediate meaning, there is a well-established consensus that it is unknowable because all the creators are now gone and can no longer be debriefed as to what literal, metaphoric or symbolic message they intended to convey. Nor did the early cultures that produced the art leave behind any *ethnographic* or *ethnohistoric* [italics added] accounts that might be consulted for interpretative information. This is especially true for Arizona’s earliest art – both its ‘geocentric’ (geometric abstractions) and ‘biocentric’ (representational life forms) manifestations. Possible interpretations are achieved mainly by investigating the markings themselves in terms of their iconographic make-up, associations, and placement in the landscape. As pointed out in the introduction, such disciplines as neuroscience, evolutionary psychology, and human ethology, provides clues to what motivated the production of rock art, as does the study of human universals. Of paramount significance in this context are the realms of art/aesthetics, and religion/spirituality, which are among the most fundamental characteristics of human culture.”

Ekkehart Malotki, *The Rock Art of Arizona: Art for Life's Sake*, Kiwi Publishing, Walnut, CA, 2007, p. 21.

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 2007

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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 which members are encouraged to use.

Calendar

Dec 7 December holiday meeting, 6:00pm Friday, potluck Dinner, First Unitarian Church, 569 South 1300 East, Salt Lake City, UT. Contact Barbara Saxon, 801-262-4432. Special feature will be a video presentation by Barbara Green on her rock art trip with Inga Nagel.

2008

May 23-26 ARARA Annual Conference, Farmington, New Mexico, www.arara.org

Membership Information

A single annual renewal date for membership dues has been established as October 31. The Membership includes electronic *Vestiges*, the monthly newsletter. Annual dues are Student \$12, Single \$17, Family \$20. Add \$5 if you prefer to receive a printed black and white version of *Vestiges* by mail.

Editors' Message

We congratulate Jeff Allen and those who assisted him for organizing and leading a series of very interesting field trips in the St. George area the last weekend in October. We are sure the 21 who participated enjoyed it very much. We were sorry we were not able to be there.

As reported in last month's *Vestiges*, there will be a change in the Board of Directors, which operationally becomes effective at the beginning of the New Year. We recognize our going Board members Nina Bowen, Ben Everitt, and Diane Orr. They have all made very valuable contributions to our organization. On behalf of all we say "THANK YOU for a Great Job!" In addition, we welcome our five new board members.

We thank all who have assisted us in anyway with *Vestiges* this past year. To them, and all our URARA members, we wish the happiest of holidays and a great 2008!

Happy Trails,
Steve and Marion Robinson

PS We call your attention to the plan to distribute a URARA membership list to all member households in January. If you do not want your name on this list, please let us know. For details, see the announcement on page 2.

Fools Names and Fools Faces”



Photo sent by Dell Crandall with caption "Fools Names and Fools Faces". Photo by Quentin Baker
Dell says, "This photo was taken on one of our sign projects." Dell and Quentin are part of a Site Stewardship group working in Upper Ten Mile Canyon.

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