

VESTIGES



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Monthly newsletter of URARA, the Utah Rock Art Research Association

Table of Contents

Outgoing President's Message.....	1	Contact Information	9
Incoming President's Message.....	2	Calendar 2008.....	10
Annual Board of Directors Meeting/Retreat.....	3	Membership Information	10
Some Board members in the field after retreat.....	5	Editors' Message	10
For Your Information	7		
Think About It!.....	8		

Outgoing President's Message

It is with great pleasure that I announce that Steve Robinson will replace me as president this year. You know Steve, and his hardworking wife Marion, from their positions with Vestiges and membership. Those are two of the more onerous jobs within URARA which give them a unique perspective on what we do. I have great confidence in Steve and am thrilled that he is willing to take on the position of president. Layne Miller will take over the Robinsons' position as the content editor for Vestiges while Bob Reed continues in his role with the final proofing and management of the distribution process.

I remain on the board for another year. My role this year will be as a liaison to government agencies and other archeological groups. We actually spend quite a bit of time communicating with BLM, Utah Department of State History, Nine Mile Canyon Coalition, USAS, ARARA, and other groups. Since Steve is located in California, it is a bit more difficult to play this role and I am happy to do so.

Our January board meeting was approximately 14 hours in length. The discussions were sometimes intense, but always productive. We have made several changes that will have significant implications for URARA. The most important is our decision to reimburse members for expenses associated with URARA projects. I have always been proud of URARA's volunteer status. But as we ask more of the membership it is appropriate that we also give something back to those who lead our field trips and participate in documentation projects. This is a significant new expense category for URARA, but one that we are willing to pay. Another exciting decision is our decision to create a \$1000 research stipend for graduate and post graduate Utah students for work related to rock art. More information regarding the board meeting is included in this Vestiges.

I am looking forward to an exciting 2008.

Troy Scotter
2007 URARA President

Incoming President's Message

As my wife and I arrived for the board retreat, our outgoing president, Troy Scotter, greeted us. Troy has been an excellent president. I am sure all appreciate his invaluable contributions to URARA.

Following our greeting Troy asked to speak to me privately. He took me aside and asked if I would be willing to have my name placed in nomination to serve as president. I was truly surprised. It had never occurred to me that I might be asked to contribute to URARA in this capacity. And, as much as I highly regard our organization, I had no aspirations to serve in this capacity. This was true for several reasons, not the least of which is my southern California residence.

After overcoming my astonishment, we discussed some of the key issues facing URARA today. We agreed the major one is what is happening to the management of the national forests. This is important since virtually all the Utah rock art is located within these boundaries. The federal government policies and practices and their implementation directly impact the protection and preservation of our Utah rock art treasure. From my perspective, one of the key contributions Troy has made as URARA president relates to his important interaction with the governmental bureaucracy and individuals overseeing these resources. Because of my California residence, there are responsibilities and functions in which it would be very difficult for me to effectively represent URARA. In addition, it is such a vital responsibility. In our discussion, Troy agreed that he would continue to be our official representative or spokesperson. Perhaps a title something like director of government relations would be appropriate.

With Troy's agreement to continue in this area, and knowing that the acquiring of 2008 symposium speakers is already in the capable hands of Diane Orr, David Sucec, and others who helped present the Symposium last year, I agreed that my name could be placed in nomination. So here I am!

I highly value my ten-year plus membership in URARA. I am very committed to contribute to our continued effectiveness and success. I am fortunate to serve with a strong board of directors. In addition, I know, in part because of our Vestiges responsibility, that there are many other URARA members including past board members, who have been so important to the evolution of the URARA we are today. I trust that with the help of many willing hands we will have another successful year.

I will be pleased to hear from you if you have suggestions and recommendations or questions. In the meantime –

Happy Trails to all!

Steve Robinson

2008 URARA President

URARA 2008 Board of Directors



2008 Board of Directors:

L to R: Walter Layton, Troy Scotter, Kathe Liuzzi, Ann Fulton, Margaret Grochocki, David Sucec, Stephen Robinson, Ben Everitt [treasurer]. Missing are Robert Reed and Albert Copley

Annual Board of Directors Meeting/Retreat

By Ann Fulton

St. George, Utah, January 19-20, 2008. Attending were Troy Scotter, Ann Fulton, Kathe Liuzzi, David Sucec, Ben Everitt, Margaret Grochocki, Steve Robinson, Walt Layton.

St. George has a lot of interesting public places and events no matter the season, and there is that glorious setting—especially gorgeous with the snow frosting the surrounding mountains and plateaus in winter.

Ben (a St. George resident who, with his wife Cindi, acted as default hosts) credited new member Don Harrison with arranging for us to use a room in the elegant new Sun River Community Center for our Saturday and Sunday meetings. We met from 9:00 to 5:00 on Saturday with a short lunch break at River Grill, which is located behind the community center and is a place for a pause that refreshes. The Virgin River and the northern panorama around St. George are captured through the glass walls across the back of the dining room.

We board members tore ourselves away from the almost irresistible outdoors long enough to do some serious contemplating of what activities URARA will be focusing on this year and the many weighty issues that are at the heart of what our group is all about. We had a lengthy agenda shepherded along by outgoing President Troy Scotter. There were many strategies to formulate, and a lot of brainstorming. The rest of the year, most of the board meetings will be teleconference and necessarily the essence of brevity.

Protection and Preservation

We feel URARA's emphasis this year should be the ongoing protection and preservation of rock art. In addition to the current major project of preparing written responses to the various BLM district RMPs (Regional Management Plans), URARA will continue its active involvement in preservation strategies for the rock art in Nine Mile Canyon and the west side of Utah Lake.

Financial

Treasurer Ben Everitt presented a financial report, and we discussed a number of motions for expenditures in keeping with our goals. We decided that it would be to organize an auditing committee.

We talked about the processes and requirements for grant applications. We discussed ideas for permanent housing for our growing collection of archival materials, along with the possibility of adding our IMACS input to SHPO's (State Historical Preservation Office) database, rather than trying to develop our own database. David Sucec would like URARA to take on a long-term project of high-resolution photo archiving of every rock art site in the state.

Education

We seemed to be unanimous in thinking education is a very important component of protection and preservation. We considered several approaches: Power Point presentations to various audiences, including, perhaps, outdoors people at such locations as REI; a resurrection of the "Intrigue of the Past" materials that have been made available for the state's teachers and a look at other rock art curricula that may have been developed by some of the teachers among our members; preparing package education materials to give out for home school use; topical newspaper articles about some of our projects. Walt Layton and Troy will look into some of this.

Membership

The Robinsons and Margaret Grochocki, keepers of the membership database, informed us that we have around 300 members. We spent some time exploring how we might interest a younger generation in joining URARA and becoming more cognizant of and proactive about the rock art component of the state's archaeological heritage. One concrete decision: Troy proposed, and the board agreed, that we offer a \$1,000 graduate student research stipend within the state for a Utah rock art topic to be selected.

Symposium, field trips, and more

Plans for symposium are already underway so that everyone may mark calendars and have plenty of notice for related participation and activities. For the same reason, we outlined a tentative schedule of field trips for the entire year, including two documentation projects (listed elsewhere in this *Vestiges*)

Sunday, Jon Gum, a member from St. George, representing SORA/DAS (Save Our Rock Art/Dixie Archaeology Society) came at 8:30 am with a short presentation about their activities. After this, it took us until 2:00 pm to get through the remaining items on the docket, including, among a number of topics, discussion about our next publication of papers and related materials from symposia. Kathe Liuzzi, using her laptop, recorded the minutiae and salient points of our meetings. I think the printout for this one could set some kind of record.

Post Meeting field trips

Ben took those of us who did not have to head home to see the Bluff Street rock art on the cliffs by the residential streets. Naturally, the petroglyph and pictograph panels are way up on the crowning cliff faces just below the brow of the plateau, so we scrambled up tier after tier of boulders to get up close. It was worth it, and we did not mind one bit coating our hiking boots with the red rock dust of southern Utah.

Continuing Monday morning Ben and Cindi took six of us: Walt and Ann Layton, Troy, David, my husband John and me to Little Black Mountain just over the Arizona state line. This beautiful and rich site is an ACEC (Area of Critical Environmental Concern), exemplary of how such a site is managed for public access. David took a number of photos to reference this site as a model to some

BLM offices for some ACECs in Utah. Little Black Mountain has a parking area bounded by a railing fence, and beyond that a picnic shelter, a restroom facility, and a path leading up to the foot of the mountain a little distance from the parking. Within the area of the rock art bearing boulders, there is a well-designed and informative signboard and defined pathways. Altogether, this is a park-like presentation that announces here is something significant deserving respectful use by visitors.

Pre-meeting Field Trip

John and I arrived a day early and took the opportunity to see some of St. George's attractions. The St. George Art Museum has an evocative photo exhibit on "Bear River: Last Chance to Change Course." The bases for the exhibit are the materials and book of the same title by photo documentarian and author Craig Denton. The exhibit was at the Utah Museum of Natural History in fall 2007 and will be in St. George until March 8, and is outstanding in every regard: artistically, philosophically, educationally. The Dinosaur Discovery Site, a city of St. George facility on the Virgin River in an area of rock quarrying, is a world-class museum and research center featuring fossilized bones and footprints of ancient animals that were found on the premises. I've never seen the likes of some of the displays. The Rosenbruch World Wildlife Museum adjoining the Convention and Visitors Center covers 33,000 square feet of all-natural habitat exhibits. Visitors are given a personal electronic tour guide with recorded information to accompany the 17 segments of the exhibits. All three of these places have museum shops with very tempting wares, and books galore.

Some Board members in the field after retreat.



Black Figures panel. Troy Scotter, Ann Fulton, Ben Everitt, Walt Layton. Photo by David Sucec



Little Black Mountain. Troy, Walt, Ann, Cindi Everitt, John Fulton, Photo by David Sucec



Board Members Relaxing at Dinner after Retreat.

*Walt Layton and wife Ann, Cindi and Ben Everitt. At other end of table Kathe Liuzzi and Troy Scotter
Photos by M. Robinson*

Meet Al Copley, New Board Member

Al has been incommunicado for the last month or so while traveling, some of the time in Mexico. Entire picture can be found in November 2007 *Vestiges*.



Meet New Board Member Bob Reed

Robert Reed is one of the new members on the Board of Directors. Bob is not new to URARA. He has been the copy editor of *Vestiges* for a couple of years. He has led field trips and was the coordinator for the annual picnic in August 2007. In addition, he served on the board last year to fill in for the early departure of board member Layne Miller.

Bob and his wife Carol live in Sandy, Utah. He has recently relocated his mother from Indiana to Utah to be near them.

These pictures were sent to *Vestiges* at our request in order to introduce one of the new members of the board. You will see from the pictures how loveable Bob is.



Photos by Carol Reed

For Your Information

URARA SYMPOSIUM SITE

From Bob Reed

The board has chosen Escalante, Utah as the site for the 2008 Symposium. Speaker sessions will be at the high school auditorium. The dinner and auction will likely be at the LDS church social hall, and the meal catered by a local organization such as the Lions club. Socials should be at a local park, weather permitting. Go to www.escalante-cc.com for details on the motels and lodges around the town. Escalante State Park is nearby, as are BLM campgrounds. I recommend setting up lodging/camping early since this is a popular time of year for southern Utah. Troy Scotter and I will be driving to Escalante soon to meet with the folks there and make decisions regarding facilities and food. We will keep you posted.

Attention: If you have pictures or information that would be suitable for the URARA Archives please contact Nina Bowen at 801-292-5012 or nina_bowen@comcast.net.

Dust Storm Rising Over Threat to Famed Rock Art in Utah

See a one-page article regarding Nine Mile Canyon by Keith Kloor, a senior editor of Audubon Magazine in *Science*, Vol. 319, January 25, 2008, www.sciencemag.org.

Rock Art Studies, PAAC presenting 7-week class for \$12. Provides means to obtain formally recognized levels of expertise. Contact Anne Winslow, 303-866-4670 or anne.winslow@chs.state.co.us

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. We will celebrate the last 20 years of art inspired by Utah's cultural and natural past.

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.

ARARA Library Special

ARARA is clearing their stock of out-of-print books. Libraries are being offered a special. A set of American Indian Rock Art volumes 20-33 plus Occasional Papers 1, 2, 3, & 5 are being offered to libraries for \$200 (this includes postage). This offer is limited to stock on hand. No back orders will be accepted. Please contact Peggy Whitehead whw-pjw@att.net to place an order.

Nominations for the Annual ARARA Awards

Nominating procedure is now underway.

The statement of nomination must include the action(s) or accomplishment(s) that warrant the award and the significance of the action to the promotion of rock image education.

Nominations should be sent to the ARARA Awards Chairman, Janet Lever-Wood, 608 Sunlit Lane Santa Cruz, CA 95060-9304, blueglyph@jps.net



Think About It!

“The investigation of rock art as art can be advanced in two overlapping areas. The most available is through analysis of the form, or what can be seen by the eye. Visual distinctions can be found between forms. A complex or conglomerations of particular forms are designated as a style. Styles may

suggest temporal and spatial relationships within and between culture groups. Less accessible, and more problematic, is the aesthetic approach, which seeks to discover the relationships, or configurations of forces, embodied within the totality of the pictorial materials, including, for example, attention to the creative process, the relationships of visual forms, the culture and psychological meanings (iconography) ascribed to and emanating from images and their arrangements, and the style – the sequence of styles within a culture and a comparison with the styles of other cultures. Cross-cultural interpretation remains a difficult and sensitive area.”

Sacred Images: A Vision of Native American Rock Art, Text by Leslie Kelen and David Sucec, Foreword by N. Scott Momaday, Photographs by Craig Law, John Telford, Tom Till, Phillip Hyde, Gibbs Smith Publisher, 1996, p. 12.

[Editors’ note:] Our board member, David Sucec, is noted as one of the authors. Actually, he wrote the very interesting 7-page section (no pictures) of the book, which is entitled “A Configurations of Forces”. We reviewed the book for the December 2004 *Vestiges*. At that time, we made the following comments about his contributions to the book. “His essay is an excellent, insightful, heuristic discussion of the history, styles and aesthetic qualities of Utah’s rock-art. His text powerfully projects the respect he has for this invaluable treasure. His essay is at once a succinct, knowledgeable, well-expressed lesson in art appreciation (aesthetics and iconography), as well as the archaeological evolution, cultural anthropology and human history of Utah.” We think we could all agree with his closing observations, i.e., “Utah is blessed with many world-class prehistoric rock art sites. Our panels are a significant part of the cultural history of Utah and North America. Yet they are unprotected.”

Contact Information

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www.utahrockart.org

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

Board of Directors 2008

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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 which members are encouraged to use.

Calendar 2008

Mar 28-30	Proposed Field Trip to Great Gallery, Leader David Sucec, 801-359-6904, davids@networld.com
Apr	Proposed, St, George documentation, Jackson Spring area, Dawna Ferris of BLM
Apr	Proposed, Seven Mile, or Mill Creek, Moab, Craig Barnery
May	Proposed, Ferron area, Layne Miller and Troy Scotter in conjunction with local Historical Society
May 2-4	CRAA Symposium, La Junta, CO. Contact www.coloradorockart.org
May 3-10	Utah Prehistory Week 2008 poster contest and art show. Contact Ronald Rood, rrood@utah.gov , 801-533-3564
May 23-26	ARARA annual conference, Farmington, New Mexico, Contact www.arara.org
June 5-8	USAS Convention, Price, UT. Contact hack2ney@emerytelcom.net
June	Proposed, Nine Mile Canyon, Steve Manning. Transitional figures in the canyon demonstrating the migration of people
July	Proposed, Brown's Hole, Larry Evans
Aug 16-17	URARA Annual Picnic, Henry Mountains
Sept	Proposed, Fillmore documentation, Joelle McCarthy, BLM
Oct 10-13	URARA Symposium
Nov	Proposed, Bluff, UT, Bob and Sue Ludtke
Dec 5	URARA Holiday Meeting and Potluck
Dec 13-14	Proposed, Arizona, Al Copley
Jan 2009	Proposed, Arizona, Arthur and Marie Cloutier

Membership Information

Our year 2008 begins with a total membership of 324 individuals. Of this number, 94 – slightly less than 1of 3 live in Utah.

Looking at the information by address only, we find the following:

Arizona 15, California 30, Colorado 34, Nevada 7, New Mexico 9, Utah 56 for a sub-total of 151. All others equal 59, making a total of 210 mailing addresses.

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

First, as you will have noticed, reports from the St. George board of directors retreat have been included regarding my nomination as president. I appreciate the vote of endorsement from the board members who were there. Though this item of business was taken care of early on in our meetings, I suggested to Troy that he finish his term as president by conducting the meeting. He agreed and came with a well-considered plan, which we all appreciated. He did a great job leading us through the discussions of a full agenda.

It was nice to see how the board members demonstrated their willingness to serve, to share ideas, and to give and take on many issues and to reach a consensus. There was clearly a feeling of cooperation and concern during the entire retreat.

With this issue, Marion and I have served as Vestiges editors for 45 issues! This is an appropriate time to thank all who have contributed in important ways to the production of Vestiges. Thanks for the writing, editing, computer help, mailing and ultimate publication of Vestiges. We truly appreciate all those who have contributed and the association we have enjoyed with you in the endeavor.

We look forward to another great URARA year!

Happy Trails,
Steve and Marion Robinson

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