

VESTIGES



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2012 URARA Symposium

By Jeff Allen

Vernal will be the location for the 32nd URARA Symposium. The dates are September 21-24, 2012. The Vernal area is rich in rock art as is the neighboring areas of Western Colorado. We look forward to working with our local partners in Vernal and Colorado. More information will appear in subsequent issues of *Vestiges*. Stay tuned. Volunteers welcome.

2012 ARARA Conference

By Jeff Allen

The American Rock Art Research Association (ARARA) will hold its annual conference in St George during Memorial Day Weekend (May 25-28, 2012). ARARA officers will be working with members of URARA and the Dixie Archaeological Society (DAS) to make local arrangements. Fieldtrips will be held in many locations throughout the area: Gold Butte, St George, Cedar City, Zion National Park, northern Arizona. More information will be available in November.

Annual December URARA Meeting

By Barbara Saxon

Our annual Salt Lake City meeting this year will be on Friday December 2nd at the usual facility, First Unitarian Church, 569 South 1300 East, Salt Lake City. The event will be a potluck meal with a honey-glazed ham supplied by URARA. We will need desserts and side dishes to go with the ham. Barbara Saxon will call members a few days before as a general reminder and to coordinate food selections. For more information contact Barbara Saxon at 801- 262-4432 or fredbarb100@aol.com

Symposium Auction News

By Carol Garner

A very big thank you everyone who participated in the auctions at our Price conference. We got some great items and had some great fun auctioning them off, making a total of \$2300 for URARA. Special thanks to Dell, Larry, and Iris for their amazing help in sorting and tagging items for the silent auction, as well as assigning paddles and working up a bidding fever at the live one. In the morning rush, I know I forgot to give some of you tax deduction thank you letters. If you need such a letter, please email me your name, address, and a description of your donation, and I'll be happy to send one out to you. Thanks! Carol Garner (gypschoar@aol.com)

Symposium Business Meeting Minutes

By Nina Bowen

The live auction netted \$1,300, the silent auction \$1,000.

There was the suggestion that URARA symposium information be more available through the website in a downloadable form.

Although we have volunteers already working with the school districts in education programs, it was suggested that URARA contact school districts and offer our services, for those who are not aware of our programs.

Steve Manning discussed recording efforts in Nine Mile Canyon, which are being partially paid for through URARA funds.

Bob Reed made a plea for a *Vestiges* editor. He explained that he would be willing to continue as copy editor, but we need someone to compile the articles in *Vestiges*.

There was a suggestion to help put together a "Friends of Edge of the Cedars" group, in light of the fact that they are short staff and funding.

The announcement of Vernal as the venue for next year's symposium was made. It will be the 23-24th of September 2012. There was also discussion of where 2013 symposium will be held. Since we did not get the Utah Humanities grant this year and it is not likely that we will for the next few years (share the wealth), it does not necessarily have to be held in Utah. Suggestions will be considered.

Francois Gohier was elected to the Board of Directors. One position on the board was voted upon and offered and is under consideration by the individual. Layne Miller was elected as contingent Board Member if there is a vacancy.

In Memory of John David Slay

By Shara Castle

May 22, 1938 - May 9, 2011

On May 9th, our father unexpectedly lost his life during a backpacking trip in the Fish & Owl Canyon near Blanding, Utah. John was an outstanding friend, musician, soldier, archeologist, and above all, a loving father and grandfather. His absence is deeply felt by many every day.

For years, John Slay's passion for archeology led to the continued discovery and preservation of cultures with his friend James (Jim) Benedict by his side. Once describing himself as a "life-long learner", John had an illustrious and varied career both as a musician in the military and then as an archeologist and anthropologist in the U.S. Forest Service. He spent years studying the Native American cultures both on the plains and in the Rocky Mountain regions of Colorado, Wyoming, New Mexico, South Dakota and the canyons of Utah. Additionally he spent a period of time in the Ozark National Forest in Arkansas. His love of archeology lead him to work on sites throughout Colorado, specifically in Mesa Verde, Chaco Canyon, Chimney Rock, 10 Mile Canyon and even the Hamill House in Georgetown. He had a special fondness for the Pawnee National Grasslands outside of Ft. Collins and for the Rawah and Indian Peaks Wilderness areas.

Along with his old friend and colleague Jim Benedict, they studied the high altitude game drives specifically on Sawtooth Mountain. Later, John began to develop a specialty for Rock Art and mountain lions and spent countless hours of study in the canyon lands of Utah. He died with a smile on his face, in a canyon he loved; doing the archeology he loved to do. Shara Castle.

Virgin Springs Fieldtrip

By Ben Everitt

Sitting in the shade contemplating the strange figures at the Virgin Springs pictograph panel, I kept thinking I had seen creatures something like that before somewhere. As a child, I remember seeing dragonfly larvae climb up reeds to dry out, unzip their suits like Clark Kent and fly away.

Dragonfly larvae are fat hairy beasts not at all appealing. The related family of creatures 'born of water' are the damselflies. Damselfly wings are angled back rather than straight out like dragonflies, as in the Virgin Springs image (see photo). Google "damsel fly larva" and see what comes up. There is some good nature photography out there. For example, see <http://www.naturephoto-cz.com/damselfly-larva:larva-sp-photo-5003.html>. Pay special attention to the bu eyes, triangular heads, slender bodies and appendages on the tail (gills).



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