

VESTIGES



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Monthly newsletter of URARA, the Utah Rock Art Research Association

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Symposium Report

By Troy Scotter

Great speakers, wonderful field trips, perfect weather, new friends, old friends, food, vendors, great fun. What more could you ask for? Vernal treated URARA well.

About 150 members enjoyed over 20 speakers, two days of field trips, a special session dedicated to the Sand Island Project, and multiple socials. Highlights included an awesome watermelon social, a great speaker session on the rock art of the Vernal area, the attendance of Jean McKenzie (McConkie) at our dinner, and the usual great field trips with clear directions to the location of the rock art.

Several speakers addressed aspects of the Sand Island Project which documented the complex rock art upstream from the Sand Island Campground near Bluff. On Sunday afternoon a social event allowed URARA members to talk to Sand Island Project members about their work. URARA provided financing for the project and the BLM was instrumental in supporting the project. Leigh Grench from the Moab BLM office and Don Simonis from the Monticello BLM office were given certificates of appreciation for their support of the project.



David Sucec (left) and Bill Lawrence (right) on the Cross Mountain trip. Photo: Ned Clem



Leigh Grench (left) and Don Simonis (right) receive certificates of appreciation from Quent Baker. Photos: Pam Baker

URARA Membership Meeting

By Ben Everitt

Reports

Ben Everitt gave a brief report of URARA finances, stating that there was about \$50,000 in the bank, and that so far this year outflows were approximately equal to inflows.

He also gave a summary of the membership report from Lois Mansfield. As of September 15 there are 215 memberships in the database, of which 116 are single memberships, 97 are family memberships, and 2 are student memberships. These numbers do not count gratis mailings to sister organizations and agencies. Of the 215 memberships, 76 are from Utah, 47 Colorado, 31 California, 13 Arizona, 11 Nevada, and 37 elsewhere.

Ben reviewed the year, listing conservation-preservation projects that URARA has been involved in, including Mansard, Meeteetse, Moab, Sand Island, and West Mountain.

Elections of Board Members

By unanimous vote, 2 new members, Paula Quay and Oscar Olsen, were elected to the board, and Ben Everitt was re-elected to a second 2-year term. New board members will assume office on January 1st, 2013. During its annual retreat in January, the board will organize itself and assign duties. Board meetings are open to the public, and everyone is invited.

2013 Symposium

It is proposed that the 2013 symposium be held in Moab. Richard Jenkinson summarized symposium planning. A date was discussed. Several of the Moabites said that September is still too hot, and recommended moving symposium back to the traditional date of Columbus weekend (October 11-14). This was adopted by consensus. Richard called for volunteers. Several folks stepped forward to help, but no one accepted the post of overall symposium chair. Rumor has it that Dell Crandall is already twisting arms to find field trip leaders.

2014 Symposium

The floor was opened for suggestions regarding location for a 2014 Symposium. Kanab was the favored location. Ben asked if it was time to consider an out-of-state location, like Page. Troy disagreed with holding symposium out of state. Discussion will be postponed until the board retreat.

New Board Members

Two new members were elected to the URARA Board of Directors at the September membership meeting:

Paula Quay grew up somewhere east of the 100th meridian. She moved to Utah 10 years ago and began exploring rock art on her own until she ran into some enthusiastic URARA folks. She has been a member since 2010. Paula has degrees in both art and accounting, one for fun, and one for income, she says. She presently lives in Logan and is the payroll accountant for Utah State University.

Oscar Olson grew up in Salt Lake City and graduated from Granite High. He has always loved the Utah back-country, and is one of those fortunate few to have floated Glen Canyon before the dam was finished. He has been a member of URARA since about 2002, and also belongs to the Old Spanish Trail Association, the Oregon-California Trail Association, and the Lincoln Highway Association. Recently retired as a driver for Greyhound, he theoretically has more time for these pursuits.

URARA Christmas Party

By Barbara Green

We are excited to have a new venue this year, Bicentennial Park.

Date : Monday Dec. 3, 2012

Time: 6 PM, pot luck

Place: Sandy City Parks Indoor Pavilion, Bicentennial Park

440 East 8680 South, 8680 South runs from State Street to 7th East

Lots of parking and a great building,

PARKS DEPARTMENT RULES APPLY (no alcohol)

We will be calling you to organize the pot luck, please bring your favorite dish. URARA will furnish the ham. If you have questions: please call Barbara Saxon [801] 262-4432 or Barbara Green [801] 466-7702.

Please come and enjoy your fellow URARA members and an interesting presentation.

Harold Widdison

Harold Widdison was a long-time member of URARA. The following obituary is courtesy of the Norvel Owens Mortuary.

Harold A. Widdison, born in Salt Lake City, Utah on September 10, 1935 to Harold E. and Margaret Atwood Widdison, died unexpectedly at his home in Flagstaff on November 1, 2012. Harold grew up in Utah until age 12 when his family moved to Helena, Montana where he graduated from high school in 1953. Harold served a twoyear mission for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints starting at the age of 17 and attended Brigham Young University upon his return. He earned a BS degree in Sociology in 1959 and an MS in Business in 1961 from BYU. He was employed for five years at the Atomic Energy Commission in Washington,



D.C. before returning to graduate school at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio where he received a Ph.D. in 1970.

Dr. Widdison taught at Northern Arizona University for 30 years before his retirement in 2002. His field was Medical Sociology and he was instrumental in establishing some of the earliest courses in the country on death, grief, and bereavement. He was extremely interested in research on the near-death experience phenomena and wrote two books on the subject. He served for many years on the Board of Directors of the Hozhoni Foundation having a very personal concern for the plight of the handicapped.

Since his retirement, Dr. Widdison served another mission for the LDS Church this time with his wife, Marie, to whom he was married for 52 years. Harold was an excellent photographer and enjoyed visiting and photographing sites of Native American rock art. He was a lifelong active member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints serving in many positions of responsibility.

He was preceded in death by his father, mother, and a sister. He is survived by his wife, Marie; four children—Harold K. “Hal” (Amy), Anthony L. “Tony” (Amy), Diana Sapp (Steven), and Valerie; a sister, Joan Tenney (Roy); six grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

2013 IFRAO Conference

By Jeff Allen

The American Rock Art Research Association will host the 2013 International Rock Art Congress in Albuquerque, New Mexico from May 26 through May 31, 2013. There will be four days of presentations and one day of field trips. The theme “Ancient Hands Around the World” is designed to bring together the diverse interests of the many people who study and work to conserve pictographs and petroglyphs throughout the world. About a thousand people are expected to attend. There will be special cultural events throughout the week including evening lectures, dances by Pueblo groups, and vendor offerings of rock art related merchandise.
http://www.arara.org/2013_ifrao_conference.html



Section 106 Training

At symposium many members expressed interest in receiving training in the Section 106 process. This refers to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act which requires the federal government to have a public process to review undertakings on federal lands. When URARA gets involved in oil and gas development in Nine Mile Canyon or reviewing the location of a new electricity line or gas pipeline it is through the section 106 process.

The State Historical Preservation Office and Utah State BLM and have offered to support this training for us. We will try to set up a web based component of the training that will explain the basics of the process. Then we would like to follow-up with an in-person training session in Cedar City on March 23, 2013. We will combine our training with a field trip to Parowan Gap to see the work the BLM has been doing to preserve that area.

We believe this process will help you be effective consulting parties in areas in which you are concerned.

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