

VESTIGES



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Monthly Newsletter of URARA, the Utah Rock Art Research Association

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President's Letter

By Ben Everitt

To top off a great symposium with good talks on wide-ranging topics, we had a lively membership meeting, with an interesting discussion of the location of future symposiums and the future direction of URARA, with several fine speeches. The membership seemed fairly evenly divided between the imperialists, who don't mind URARA expanding its range beyond the borders of Utah, and the provincialists, who believe that we have enough to do here at home, and should stick to that goal. Certainly in the areas of conservation and preservation, we have more than enough to keep us busy right here in Utah, and that is what the organization was originally founded to accomplish.

On the other hand, the Anasazi and Fremont people knew nothing of the European concept of sovereignty. The Utes cared even less about the 1878 Reeves Survey that marked the 109th meridian through the middle of their country. These were migratory people, carrying their cultural attributes to the far corners of the Colorado Plateau and beyond. In studying their art and writing, we need to see the big picture. Should URARA expand its presence to include all of Anasaziland? Are there other organizations already filling that niche?

URARA has grown into an internationally known organization, with members from all over the United States and beyond. Only 1/3 of our members are Utahns. The size of our meetings has outgrown the facilities available in some of our smaller towns. Should we meet in locations beyond our political borders but within the economic sphere of Utah and within reach of Utah sites? Places like Mesquite, Page, Wendover, or Grand Junction? There are several different issues here, as well as different perspectives on each issue.

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The passion of the discussion shows that members have a lot of energy invested in our organization and care deeply about its future. I came away from the meeting encouraged and invigorated.



Calendar of Events

Nov 7	Polly Schaafsma on Rock Art, Zion Lodge, Zion NP
Dec 9	URARA Holiday Party, Sandy UT

Polly Schaafsma on Rock Art

Submitted by Ben Everitt

On Thursday, November 7, at 7:00 pm in the Zion Lodge auditorium inside Zion National Park. Polly Schaafsma will present a lecture entitled "Prehistoric Rock Art." The talk is part of the weeklong Fifth Annual Zion National Park Plein Air Art Invitational taking place from November 4 through 11 at various locations and venues inside Zion National Park. Go to www.zionpark.org for more details. The talk is sponsored by the Zion Canyon Field Institute, is the educational arm of Zion Natural History Association. All lectures are free and open to the public. For info call 435-772-3264.

URARA Holiday Party

Submitted by Barbara Green

We are excited to have the same venue as last year, Bicentennial Park.

Date: Monday, December 9, 2013

Time: 5:30 pm, potluck.

Place: Sandy City Parks Pavilion, Bicentennial Park, 440 East 8680 South

Easy to find: there is a traffic signal light at Main Street and 8720 South. Drive east to the end (about nine blocks), take a left and then a right. The building is east of the tennis courts. Lots of parking. Parks Department rules apply (no alcohol).

Barbara Saxon will be calling you to organize the potluck. Please bring your favorite dish. URARA will furnish the honey-baked ham. If you have questions, please contact Barbara Saxon (801-262-4432) or Barbara Green (801-466-7702). Please come and enjoy your fellow URARA members and an interesting program.

URARA Membership Meeting

By Ben Everitt

I can't say these are minutes, because I spent more time listening than writing. Maybe someone else has more detail.

The meeting began with election of board members. Francois Gohier, Richard Jenkinson, and Joe Brame agreed to stand for a second term, and were approved unanimously. Additional nominees Steve Acerson and Jim Farmer were also approved. There remains one position to be filled on the board, which has traditionally had 9 members. The new board term begins on January 1st, 2014.

Lois Mansfield gave a brief membership report. Membership numbers are similar to last year's. Paula Quay gave a preliminary financial report, showing income and outflow much like last year's at this time.

Ben Everitt gave a summary of the proposal to hold the 2014 symposium in Page Arizona, which initiated a substantial discussion on the issue of holding symposium out-of-state. Objections to Page included the feeling that URARA should stay in Utah for philosophical and economic reasons, that there was not enough easily accessible rock art near Page, and that Page was too expensive. A poll was taken by show of hands for or against holding symposium anywhere outside of Utah. The result was an even split. Then a vote was taken on whether to hold the symposium in Page in 2014, showing a majority opposed. Alternate suggestions for the 2014 symposium include Kanab, Escalante, and Salt Lake City, which hasn't seen a symposium in more than a decade.

Out of time at this point, the meeting adjourned to allow staff to set up the room for the banquet.

New URARA Board Members

Submitted by Ben Everitt

I would like to welcome two new members to the URARA Board of Directors, Jim Farmer and Steve Acerson. I'll let them introduce themselves.

James D. Farmer

James Farmer is Associate Professor in the art department of Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond. He holds a BFA in studio art and a Ph.D. in Art History from the University of Texas at Austin. His primary interest is Precolumbian art in the Americas, including Peru, Ecuador, Mayan and the Archaic and Puebloan traditions of the American Southwest. He teaches several undergraduate courses in the Art and Architecture of the Ancient Americas, has published several

papers on aspects of ancient rock art in the Southwest, and is co-author of a book recently released by University of Texas Press entitled *Art and Archeology of Challuabamba, Ecuador*. He also serves as current board Chair of the BCS Project, a non-profit organization in Salt Lake City conducting ongoing documentation of Barrier Canyon Style sites in the region.

Steven Acerson

I have always loved to wander and explore the red path of life. My family circle is the main concern, and first action of each day. I'm completing a 40-year tenure with the Utah Department of Transportation, maintaining the highway system, so families can get where they want to be safely, and in any road conditions. Some of you might remember an explosion on Highway 6 in Spanish Fork Canyon. I was there on the repair for 60 hours, so the road could be reopened. I was an outfitter/guide for a whitewater raft company, and continue to do whitewater trips each year. With these two activities, I've traveled a lot of routes all over the western United States. After waiting for a permit for 10 years, I was able to spend 21 days in the Grand Canyon, which was one of my (Bucket List) items. These red paths have taken me past many canyons, and symbols (rock art) of earlier people.

Having people share these adventures, trying to get them to slow down and observe, feel, and be affected with what nature has to offer, has brought peace and harmony to me, as I've dealt with life's happenings. The best about rock art adventures are the people you meet. I look forward to doing what URARA needs to do to protect and visit these special places today and others in the future.

Respect and Honor the path you walk.

Coalville Fieldtrip Photo



URARA Board Contacts

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