

VESTIGES



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Monthly Newsletter of URARA, the Utah Rock Art Research Association

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Calendar and URARA Fieldtrips

August 7-10	Pecos Conference, Blanding, UT http://www.swanet.org/2014_pecos_conference/
August 15-18	URARA Picnic - Southern group site SG1 in Nizhoni Campground approximately 12 miles north of Blanding, Utah . See article below.
September 27-28	Price UT BLM Site Documentation TBA
October 10-13	URARA Symposium Kanab, UT www.utahrockart.org
November 1-2	Delta UT Fieldtrip--Oscar Olson and Steve Acerson
December 6-7	To be Announced

Steve Acerson and/or Oscar will provide further information including meeting time and meeting place and road conditions. To sign up for fieldtrips, please contact Oscar Olson at 801-485-0862 or Steve Acerson at 385-985-5402 or whiteh20rockart@gmail.com.

President's Letter

By Ben Everitt

This month will be Jeff Allen's last Vestiges. He has done a remarkable job for a world traveler who is on the road most of the time, not missing a month in the last year and a half. We owe him a big round of applause. Richard Jenkinson will take over the editorship with the August issue. He intends to continue Jeff's system of streamlined publication, with the editor expecting readable,

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camera-ready copy submitted on time, a week before publication date. Although there have been a few boo-boos, this system has produced a timely and newsy publication that we can be proud of. The deadline for August will be August 10. Send copy to Richard Jenkinson, rcjenkinson@yahoo.com.

Summer Picnic and Fieldtrip

Submitted by Joe Brame

Leader: Joe Brame urara.joe.brame@gmail.com or 801-993-4007. Please **sign up** for the picnic at the email address or telephone number above so that we have an accurate head count. The annual URARA picnic will be held **August 15-18, 2014** at Southern group site **SG1** in **Nizhoni Campground** in the **Manti-La Sal National Forest**, which is located approximately 12 miles north of **Blanding, Utah** at the foot of the Abajo Mountains at an elevation of 7,000 feet. Please check in after 2 PM Friday and check out before 1 PM Monday.

We will arrive and set up on Friday night, do field trips Saturday and have a potluck dinner that evening. We will have an opportunity for field trips Sunday. **Volunteers** to make up a batch of chili for Saturday night are needed. Bring a salad or dessert, and whatever you like to imbibe. Be prepared with appropriate footwear, sunscreen, camera, lunch, and plenty of water.

Note on Symposium Abstracts

From Margaret Grochocki

I have been having some trouble with my email. If I have not replied to your submitted abstract, please resend to margaret.grochocki@gmail.com.

Symposium Auction

Submitted by Carol Garner

It is time to think about donations to this year's auction at our symposium in Kanab. Anything rock-art related, interesting, educational, or just plain amusing will add to the fun(d)raising. As usual, Dell Crandall and Larry Evans will be reigning, explaining, and entertaining, and coaxing those pesky dollars out of your wallet! For questions, or to send a donation if you are not able to attend, contact Margaret Grochocki. Email: margaret.grochocki@gmail.com or phone 801-282-5850. Snail mail: 3760 W. Vistawest Drive, West Jordan, UT 84088.

Call for Symposium Presenters

Submitted by Sue Ludtke

In addition to the paper presentations at Symposium this year, the Symposium committee has decided to offer attendees an opportunity to increase their skills in various rock-art-research-related areas.

We are looking for volunteers willing to share an area of their own expertise with others at a 1-2

hour presentation on Sunday afternoon at the Symposium. Topics might include: using photoshop/d-stretch, rock art photography, rock art dating techniques, using a GPS, GIS mapping techniques, rock art site documentation, recognizing rock art styles, face recognition technology, a travelogue on a rock art trip you took, or some other topic that might interest Symposium participants.

Please contact Sue and Bob Ludtke at sue@sopris.net or 970-379-3488 to volunteer to lead one of these sessions.

Call for Symposium Fieldtrip Leaders

Submitted by Ben Everitt

We are also soliciting field trip leaders. Symposium field trips will be scheduled Friday, October 10 and Monday, October 13. If you would like to lead a field trip, contact Joe Brame at urara.joe.brame@gmail.com or 801-993-4007. Field trip proposals are welcome, including proposals for multi-day trips before or after the conference. To be sponsored by URARA, field trips must be approved by the landowner or land manager. A bonus trip for field trip volunteers only is planned for the Thursday before symposium.

Red Paint Fieldtrip Report (June 14)

By Steve Acerson

It was a brave group of members who joined us at Fruitland for another of Oscar and Steve's field trips.

We were glad to see some of the women of the boys who usually show up for our trips. They shared some good historical and family origin stories that really added to the trail time, and reminded us of how this country has been used by people over the years. The Forest Service was busy fighting a fire, so we tried to get to a site and back out as quickly as possible. How about that ferry at the creek crossing? Kept the shoes dry, and someone received a token appreciation gift.

The weather was a little cooler and the wind erased the tracks we left. A golden eagle blessed our path as we began our day by flying right over our vehicles. After seeing two sites, we picked up Barbara in Heber, where she had been waiting a long time for us.

These trips have been great for me, and the names of members have become people of very diverse and interesting backgrounds, with rock art adventures bringing us together. If you need any help with anything, I believe there is a member who could help.

As an addict, I'm driven in the pursuit of finding images left by those who have walked the trails we follow. I have come to a conclusion that the images are about 12 percent of the experience, and the other 88 percent is the time with people and the natural environment.

There was a ½ mile walk between Soldier Hollow and Cascade Springs that I must apologize for. I walk a little faster than a group. The hike ended up being a 3 ½ +/- mile trail hike, but the group

ended up with smiles on their faces.



We started at 8:00 am, and finally broke up about 7:00 pm. There were five red painted sites, from the Strawberry River, to the Heber valley, and ending in American Fork Canyon.

If you've not joined us yet, adjust your schedule, and come enjoy the sites in Utah.



Phoenix Solstice Site

By Terry Swanson

Nina Bowen suggested I write an article for Vestiges about a Solstice site that I found near my house in Phoenix, AZ. I talked with Todd Bostwich, who is an author and was the City of Phoenix archaeologist before taking his current position as head of the Verde Valley Archaeological Society, and he told me that he has never seen it before, it is not recorded, and he thinks it is an astro-archaeology site.

I first saw the site about 6 months ago and looking at the glyphs and geometry had a hunch it was a Summer solstice marker. The backside of the panel is blocked by a hill and the front side has an unobstructed view to the West as shown in the attached image. During the Spring, I checked out the site, and at sunset, the sun illuminated some of front portion of the Northern edge of the slot, but none of the Southern edge of the slot. As the Summer solstice approached, the Southern edge of the slot (just below the spiral glyphs) began to become more and more illuminated. On this past solstice, I went to the site and observed the whole slot is illuminated, as is almost all of the Southern wall of the slot. A few days before and after the summer solstice it also lights up the face of a boulder about 3 feet behind the slot as can be seen on the photo.

The sun sets over a peak on the North edge of a hill more than 20 miles away. When you line up behind the boulder with the face that is lighted up at sunset, it lines up through the slot to the Northern edge of a hill more than 20 miles away and then with the sun. The sun is between the two orange rays shown in the photo. After looking closer at the slot in the boulder, it appears to have been a boulder with cracks that had one section knocked out to make it into a slot to announce the furthest North the sun moves along the horizon at sunset.



Kanab Accommodations and Camping

Submitted by Ben Everitt

Bus tours to Zion, Bryce, and other National Parks book large blocks of rooms in Kanab, so rooms are not plentiful. October is high season for Kanab, so book as soon as you can.

We have secured special rates at:

- Best Western Red Hills - \$99.99 + tax per room. Call 435-644-2675 and mention the Utah Rock Art Research Association rate before September 9, 2014. After that date, rooms are subject to going rates and availability.
- Days Inn Kanab - \$89.99 + tax per room. Call 435-644-2562 and mention the Utah Rock Art Research Association rate before September 1, 2014. After that date rooms are subject to going rates and availability.

Kanab has several in-town campgrounds with restrooms, water and electrical hookup, and wi-fi, but most get highway noise. Google "Kanab Utah Camping". We are looking at group camping options at several locations.

URARA Board Contacts

Utah Rock Art Research Association: Box 511324, Salt Lake City, UT 84151-1324.
Please address all membership applications/renewals and checks to URARA, Box 1351, Washington, UT 84780. www.utahrockart.org .

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