

# VESTIGES

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*Monthly Newsletter of URARA, the Utah Rock Art Research Association*

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## New officers

As is the custom, the new board took office at the January board retreat in St George, and organized itself for the coming year. The officers for 2015 are posted on the web page. Richard Jenkinson is President, and Ben Everitt has been kicked upstairs to the Vestiges editorship. Ben is leaning on the walking stick beautifully painted by Steve Acerson.



Photo by Oscar Olson

## Calendar and URARA Field Trip Schedule

Feb. 7/8.	Moab Area
March 21/22.	Green River Area
April 11/12.	Caliente Nevada Area
May 1/2/3.	Western Colorado
May 22-25	ARARA Symposium, Laughlin, Nevada
June 12/13.	Sawmill and Coalville sites
July 11/12.	Fillmore and Delta Areas
August.	Summer Picnic, Blanding
September.	Connor Springs, Box Elder Canyon
October 2,3,4,5.	URARA Symposium, Escalante
November 7/8.	Bluff
December 5/6	Nine-Mile and Argyle Canyons

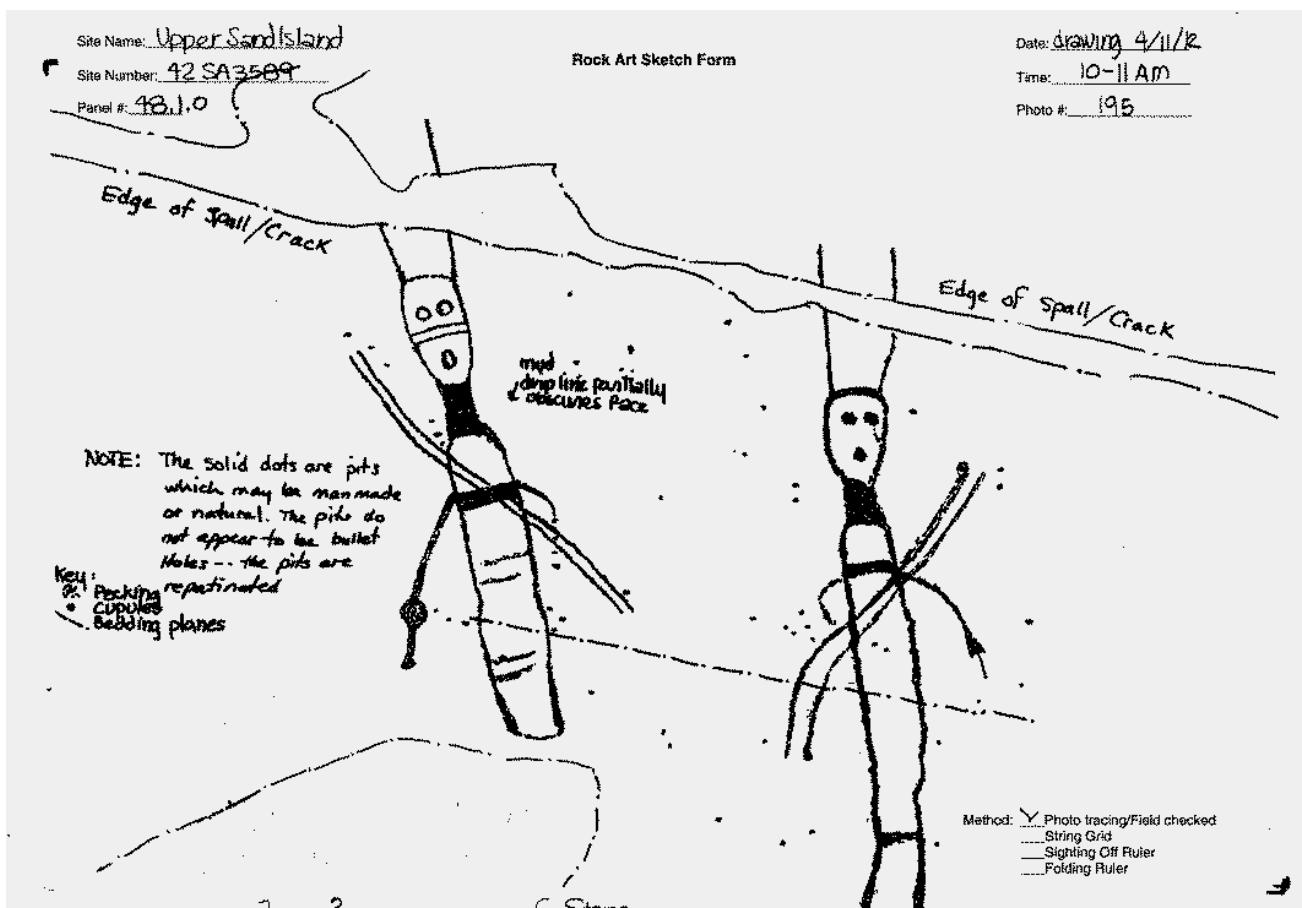
For info or sign-up, please contact Oscar Olson at 801-485-0862 or Steve Acerson at 385-985-5402 or [whiteh20rockart@gmail.com](mailto:whiteh20rockart@gmail.com).

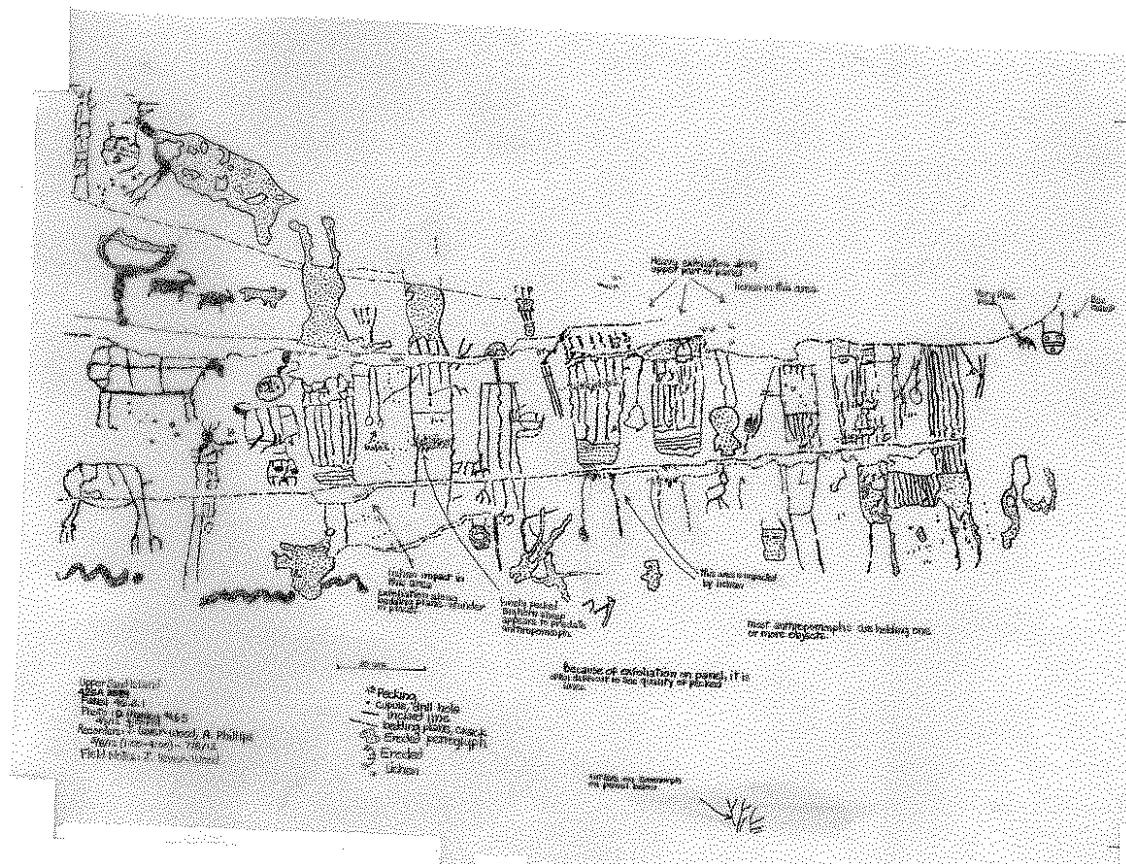
## Sand Island Documentation Completed

Pam and Quent Baker

The Upper Sand Island rock art recording project was first presented in the April 2012 *Vestiges*. Since that time all the drawings have been compiled, corrected, and scanned by URARA volunteer Ann Phillips. She estimates she spent an additional 820 hours on this phase of the project and made a total of 441 scans. As in many rock art recording projects it is important to compile a tally of images, this helps researchers quickly identify any type of image they may be researching. This task was taken on and completed by URARA volunteers Janet Lever-Wood and husband Dan Wood with help from Ann and Dave Phillips. In total there were 4886 elements, 1400 of which were graffiti. A final report has been completed by the Canyon Country Fire and Fuels archaeologist (and URARA member), Leigh Grench, that compiles all the information gathered for this project. An important component to this report is a comprehensive geology section that provides an understanding of the geological ages of the cliff face, and the terraces and benches that comprise the Sand Island area. This portion was completed by volunteers Mary Gilliam, Lillian and Jim Wakely. All this and more information on the Sand Island Petroglyphs is now available to researchers at the Utah SHPO, the Monticello and Moab Field Offices and at The Edge of the Cedars State Park and Museum in Blanding, Utah. Needless to say, without all the dedicated volunteer help this project would not have been accomplished as completely, professionally nor as comprehensively, the BLM is truly grateful to all the volunteers that worked on this project to see it to completion.

Attached are two sets of images showing the photograph of a panel and the resulting drawing with field notes.





# Regional Contacts

Diana Acerson

As you know, we, as an organization, have been working, through our Preservation Committee, to protect the petroglyphs and pictographs we all love from oil and gas lease sales that the BLM conducts each quarter. The intent is to protect sites from negative impacts due to oil and gas exploration and other types of potentially damaging development.

We do our best to notify the BLM of the presence of sites in the area of the lease sale parcel areas early in the process, without providing specific site locations. This is done in the "scoping period", or during the Environmental Impact Study, (EIS), which begins 9 months prior to the lease sale. From the information gathered during the scoping period, the *draft* Environmental Assessment (EA) is created. If we can prepare our comments appropriately enough to convince them to pull the parcels before they draft the EA, our work is done for that lease sale period without having to provide specific site locations.

If the BLM does not pull the parcels in question, then we will have to pursue the process. During the protest period we will have to provide site locations to justify why we want specific parcels pulled from the lease sale. Prior to the protest period, all information is public. Once the protest period begins, the public does not have access to any new information provided. Therefore we only give the site locations to the BLM at that time. No one else gets this information and it is *not* published.

If the time comes that we have to pursue a protest, we need to be able to contact people within URARA who have petroglyph and/or pictograph, or other archeological site information in the proposed parcel areas. Without site information, we cannot do anything to protect the sites from potential development impact. What URARA is hoping to do as an organization is devise a way to easily and quickly collect the information to deliver to the BLM at the appropriate time if needed. We envision assigning a resource coordinator to each of the 10 BLM field offices. The resource coordinator would then be responsible for rounding up knowledgeable regional contacts within each field office area.

Utah has four (4) main BLM Districts – West Desert, Green River, Canyon Country, and Color Country. Within those 4 areas are 10 field offices of the BLM.

- West Desert –
  - **Salt Lake Field Office** (Tooele, Box Elder, Cache, Rich, Weber, Morgan, Summit, Davis, Wasatch, Salt Lake, and Utah Counties)
  - **Fillmore Field Office** (Juab & Millard)
- Green River –
  - **Vernal Field Office** (Uintah & Duchene)
  - **Price Field Office** (Carbon & Emery)
- Color Country –
  - **Richfield Field Office** (Sanpete, Sevier, Wayne & Piute Counties)
  - **Cedar City Field Office** (Beaver & Iron Counties)
  - **St. George Field Office** (Washington County)
  - **Kanab Field Office** (Kane & Garfield Counties)
- Canyon Country –
  - **Moab Field Office** (Grand County)

▪    Monticello Field Office (San Juan County)

What we need is 10 URARA members to volunteer to be "Resource Coordinators" in one of the 10 field office areas of the state. This person would be the individual to collect your information **only when it's needed**, and then forward it to our Preservation Committee for action. The Resource Coordinator would also be encouraged to get to know their area BLM field office archeologist.

Example: Let's say a lease sale is proposed for parcels in the Kanab Canyon area within the Kanab Field Office Jurisdiction.

1. We email/mail a notice to you, our members, to notify you of the need for information for sites in Kanab Canyon.
2. Those of you who know of, or can prove site locations in the canyon would then call or email the Resource Coordinator confirming you have information if needed.  
*(Only if we cannot get the parcels pulled before the protest period would we need the GPS locations, pictures, or other specific information.)*
3. You would then be notified to forward your specific information to the Resource Coordinator for collection.
4. Then it would be forwarded to the Preservation Committee member working on the Comment Letter to the BLM. *(no other distribution of your information will take place)*

As URARA members we love our rock art, and hope to continue to enjoy it for generations to come. Thank you for your efforts in helping us protect and preserve it.

## RESOURCE COORDINATOR/CONTACT VOLUNTEER FORM

Please indicate your field office area preference \_\_\_\_\_

Would you accept the position of Resource Coordinator for that field office area    YES    NO    (Please circle)

Would you be willing to offer information when needed    YES    NO    (Please circle)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number (best contact) \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred email contact address \_\_\_\_\_

*We will notify the membership with contact information of all our Resource Coordinators and the areas they cover when they have been selected.*

Additional Comments or ideas you would like to share: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send completed forms to:

URARA  
PO Box 511324  
Salt Lake City, UT 841511324  
ATTN: Diana Acerson

## **URARA 2015 Symposium - Escalante**

**By Richard Jenkinson**

The Board has accepted the invitation from Escalante to host the 2015 Symposium. The dates will be the first weekend in October (Octoberf 3-4), NOT the traditional Columbus Day weekend.

## **Soldier Pass Shooting Range Proposal UTU-89553**

**Troy Scotter**

URARA has reviewed the Soldier Pass Shooting Range proposal and provided comments to the BLM. Unsupervised shooting in the area has caused grass fires, damaged rock art, and created safety concerns. Partial and temporary closures of some areas without providing a designated shooting area has caused shooters to spread out to nearby open other locations. Dispersed shooting has limited the recreational use by hikers, bikers, and off-road vehicle users. We support the transfer of land to Utah County and encourage Utah County to create a designated shooting facility. Not only should shooters have an opportunity to enjoy their sport, but a designated shooting range will allow for greater safety of other recreational users in the area.

## **Christmas Party**

**By Oscar Olson**

URARA's holiday social was Monday December 8 at the Sandy Utah Rec Center, with about 28 attendees. Jennifer Morrison brought her two children. The food was splendid. Thanks to Barbara Green and Barbara Saxon from planning this event. The planned power-point presentations were cancelled because the computer refused to talk to the projector, but we had some good verbal presentations on rock art preservation. Steve Manning celebrated his birthday with song and cake. It was good to visit with the old-timers.

The following day a small group gathered at Delle for an impromptu rock art trip, visiting several sites between Delle and Indian Knolls. In attendance were Barbara Green, Barbara Saxon, Ben Everitt, Gary and Janet Burningham, Oscar Olson, and Craig Anderson from Grantsville, who knows many of the sites in the area. A cold but sunny day, it was a great way to round out the year's activities.



Christmas lineup. The usual suspects. Oscar Olson

# End-year Membership Report

Lois Mansfield

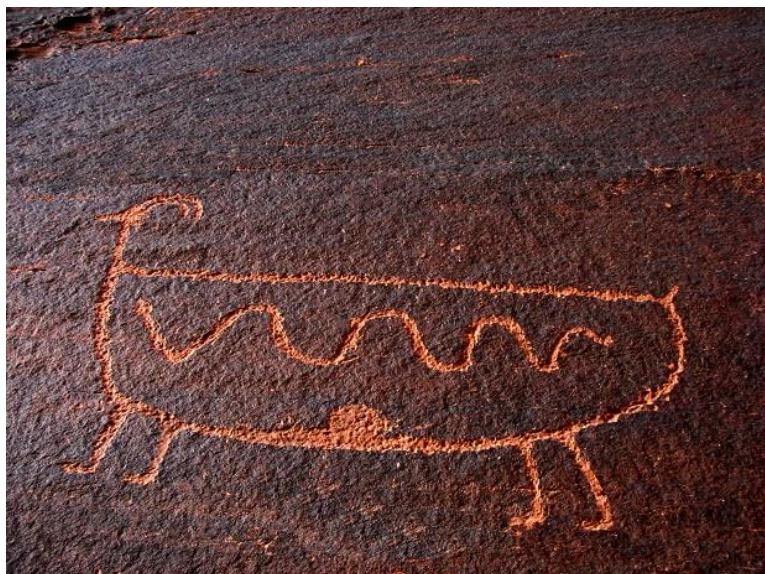
## URARA Membership Report Jan. 16, 2015

Number of Members, Jan. 16, 2015	171 entries in database
This includes: 95 Single	
70 Family	
3 Student	
3 Honorary (Banek, Hedges, Loosle)	
Number of Members, Oct. 7, 2014	252 entries in database
Number of Members, Oct. 9, 2013	216 entries in database
Number of Members, Sept. 15, 2012	215 entries in database
Number of Members, Sept. 21, 2011	248 entries in database
Number of Members, Jan. 14, 2014	182 entries in database
Number of Members, Jan. 9, 2013	144 entries in database
Number of Members, Jan. 6, 2012	190 entries in database
Number of Members, Jan. 22, 2011	166 entries in database
Number of 2014 Members not yet renewing membership	101

Overall membership is holding fairly steady, but there is a profound annual cycle. Membership peaks in October and then declines in January when the database drops the names who have not re-upped. Then it slowly recovers during the year. Remember that the dues year ends October 31. You have two months to get your dues in before the database shucks you off into outer darkness. If you are not in the database, you still have success to Vestiges on the web page, but you won't get the Vestiges reminder or the occasional bulletin. You MUST have current membership to attend field trips.

# Hanksville FieldTrip

By Steve Acerson



The trip found the group staying in motel rooms, and using the shortest days of the year. The areas we visited were close to the road, and with warm clothes we were able to see some interesting panels. It's easy to assemble a group in Hanksville; just drive past Blondies Restaurant and look for rock art bumper stickers. Hanksville resident Morris Wolfe joined us for both days. His hand-painted T-shirts and hats made us look like moving rock art panels.

Wayne County had graded the road

into Poison Springs Wash, and pushed the boulders out of the way. This road is just a wash and usually involves like driving over one boulder to get to another one.

The second day found us looking at the Temple Wash area, then into a couple of canyons in the Swell. The weather and sun was warm and pleasant. The conversation and photos were exciting, and informative.

Those in attendance where: Morris Wolf, Jerry Hansen, Richard Jenkinson, Dave Manley, Leigh Grench, Ben Everitt, Zsuzsa V.Naag, Dennis DeVore, Diana and Steve Acerson.

Thanks for a great year, and we'll see you on the trail !!!!

Steve and Oscar

## 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](http://www.utahrockart.org) .**

### 2015 URARA Board

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Steve Acerson, Vice President	385-985-5402	<a href="mailto:dace1950@gmail.com">dace1950@gmail.com</a>
Francois Gohier		<a href="mailto:fgotier@simplyweb.net">fgotier@simplyweb.net</a>
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Oscar Olson, Fieldtrips	801-485-0862	
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### URARA Appointees

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