

VESTIGES

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Monthly Newsletter of URARA, the Utah Rock Art Research Association

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President's Letter

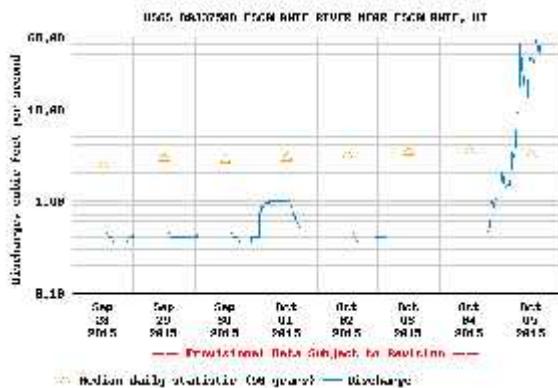
By Richard Jenkinson

A big thanks to those who helped out in any way at our symposium in Escalante. It went well in all ways except for Monday's weather, and even with the power of the URARA presidency, I can't control that. The location for next year's symposium will be determined at the January board meeting.

Welcome to our two new board members, Dennis Devore and Keith Fessenden. Both are residents of Colorado. We look forward to having your insight and experience on the URARA board.

At symposium I forgot to announce the winner of the Logo vote. We planned to have it up on the screen at the beginning of the day on Sunday, but it wouldn't cooperate with Troy's computer so we had to put it off, and I got too busy and forgot about it. Choice #5 was a clear cut winner. It is an image from Mill Creek in the Moab area. Diana Acerson is working on converting the photo into a drawing that can be used as a logo and on our newsletter. Thanks to all who voted.

Don't forget about the URARA Christmas party and upcoming field trips. There is much to do, so stay involved and enjoy great company and fantastic Utah rock art.



Hydrograph, Escalante River near Escalante,
Monday October 5, USGS. Zero to 60 in 8 hours.

October 3 Membership Meeting Notes

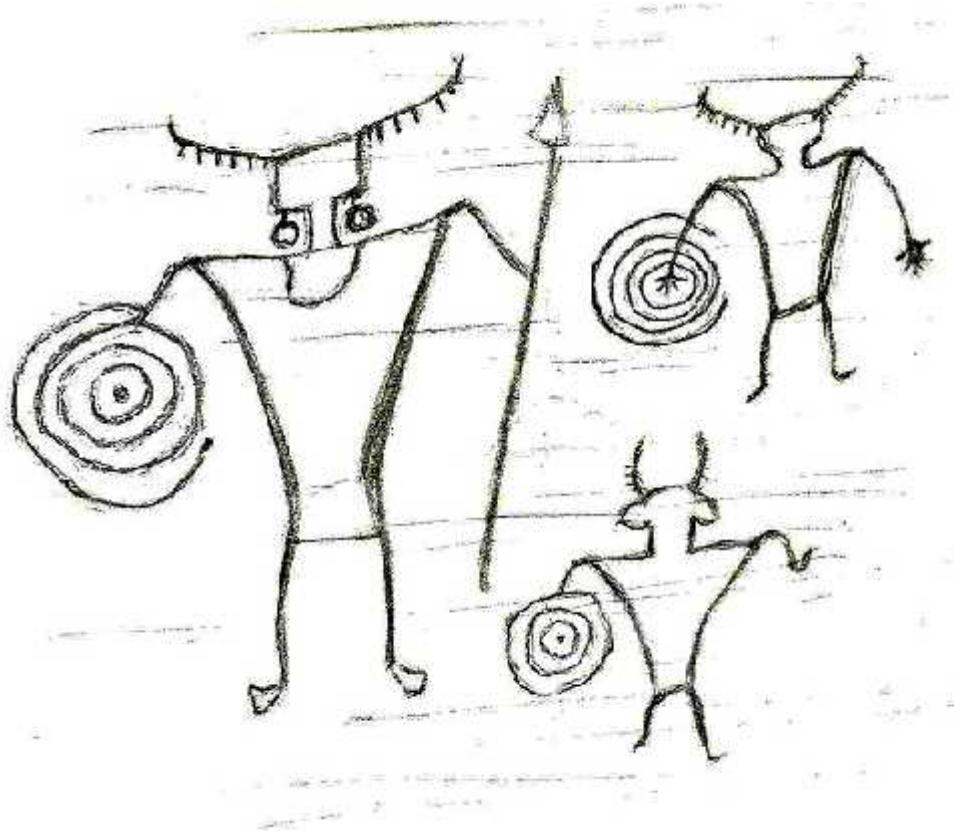
Ben Everitt

Board. - Present board members Steve Acerson, Nina Bowen, and James Farmer were elected to a second term. Two new members, Dennis DeVore and Keith Fessenden, were nominated from the floor and elected by acclamation.

2016 Symposium. - Several locations were proposed: up north (SaltLake City); down south (St George), and central (Richfield). The Board will study these in upcoming meetings.

Other issues. - We also discussed pros and cons of online registration and dues payment; better hike difficulty ratings for the field trips (videos maybe); and splitting off preservation and conservation to a separate meeting, to encourage attendance by land managers who may not be interested in the entire symposium.

URARA logo. - Membership was polled on proposed new logos. The "Mill Creek Figures" won the poll with 31 votes. A strong second was "Keep the old owl" with 22 votes.



Mill Creek Figures by Diana Acerson

New Board Members

Dennis DeVore

I live in Grand Junction, Colorado with my wife Judi. I am retired from the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) where I was the regional manager of the right-of-way section. Basically I was a real estate appraiser for most of my career, which allowed me to travel all over the state. I first came to rock art in 1982 while visiting a friend in Craig, Colorado. He asked if I wanted to go see some petroglyphs, and we spent the day doing just that. Up to Irish Canyon and Browns Park, to see the Fremont style petros of northwestern Colorado. If you know that area, the rock art is exceptional (like Vernal), and from then on I was hooked.

Judi and I moved to Grand Junction in 2000 (from Greeley, which is 50 miles north of Denver), and that's when things really changed for me. It was now only 90 minutes to Moab. Red canyons and rock art were all around, and it got better if I drove west.

I turned 67 this fall, and my long-range plan is to hike until I am 97, then look at my pictures from then on. So there is plenty of time. And the good news, no matter what, I know there will always be another unexplored canyon.

Keith Fessenden

I grew up in mining towns scattered across the mountains of Colorado and the Uintah Basin. Growing up surrounded by the beauty of the West I became fascinated by rock art and the history of the Western United States. I am now a member of several groups involved in researching, investigating, discussing, and publishing facts and stories about the history including social, political, economic, and religious background of the Western United States.

To these and other groups I have given talks, and had articles published, on many topics including, "The Evolution of the Danites & the Mormon War of 1838", "The History of the Gilsonite Industry of the Uintah Basin", "The National Western Stock Show", "Colorado First Tourist Railroads", "The Last Killing in a Sheep and Cattle War in Colorado", and "When Two Became One - The Story of Two East Denver Parishes and a Monsieur or Two".

I retired from a long career with the government as a National Senior Appeals Program Analyst in January 2012. Since retiring I have served as the Archivist/Historian for the National Western Stock Show where I have volunteered for 22 years.

I am proud to serve on the board of IMPACT Personal Safety of Colorado; a nonprofit organization that teaches personal safety techniques and boundary setting to people of all ages. URARA's work of visiting, documenting, and protecting rock art is something I wish I had discovered twenty years ago. I am proud to be able to assist URARA as a director in furthering its goals.

Active Preservation Projects 2015

Diane Orr

At the 2015 Symposium in Escalante, we announced the current BLM projects that many URARA members are involved with. The three projects listed here need your support and input:

1. Lake Mountain Target Shooting Closure- Pony Express Resource Management Plan Amendment.

The proposed amendment is to extend the no target shooting area on Lake Mountain, west of Utah Lake. The proposed comment period on this amendment to the Resource Management Plan will be announced soon. Please help us protect the unique 10-13,000 year old petroglyphs at Lake Mountain.

Anticipated Timeline:

- Draft Plan Amendment and Environmental Assessment preparation Fall/Winter 2015
- 30-day comment period on Draft Plan Amendment and EA Winter 2015
- Prepare Plan Amendment and EA Winter 2015/Spring 2016
- Protest Period on Proposed Plan and EA Spring/Summer 2016
- 60 day Governor's Consistency Review Summer 2016
- Issue Decision Record/RMP Amendment Winter 2016 Moab Master Leasing Plan and Draft Resource Management Plan Amendments/Draft Environmental Impact Statement

Please direct your comments to Pam Schuller, pschulle@blm.gov

SEE SAMPLE COMMENT LETTER BELOW

2. The Moab Master Leasing Plan and Draft Resource Management Plan. Environmental Impact Statement is available for public review. On line link: [Moab Master Leasing Plan and Draft Resource Management Plan Amendments/Draft Environmental Impact Statement](#) (if link doesn't work, cut and paste to your browser).

*The official public comment period began August 21, 2015, and ends on November 19, 2015. This document includes four alternative proposals for managing mineral leasing and development pertaining to oil, gas, and potash on public lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). The BLM formulated a reasonable range of alternatives based on issues raised during scoping, planning criteria, public comments received on the preliminary alternatives, guidance applicable to specific resources, and the use of an interdisciplinary team of BLM resource specialists and cooperating agencies.

Paper copies of the Moab MLP and Draft EIS are available for public inspection at the Grand County (257 East Center Street, Moab, Utah 84532), Monticello (80 North Main Street, Monticello, Utah 84535) and Salt Lake City (Reading Room, 210 East 400 South, Salt Lake City, Utah 84111) public libraries. Paper copies are also available for public inspection at the following BLM locations:

Moab Field Office, 82 East Dogwood, Moab, Utah 84532

Monticello Field Office, 365 North Main Street, Monticello, Utah 84535

Utah State Office, 440 West 200 South, Suite 500, Salt Lake City, Utah 84101

The BLM appreciates the information and suggestions you contribute to the planning process. For additional information or clarification regarding this document or the planning process, please contact Brent Northrup, Project Manager, BLM Canyon Country District Office, at 435-259-2100.

3. February 2016 Oil & Gas Lease Sale. The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Utah Canyon Country District just completed the public comment period on an environmental assessment (EA) analyzing the BLM's proposal to offer seven parcels covering 8,121 acres in the Moab Field Office at the February 2016 oil and gas lease sale. Additional information about the proposed parcels is included in the EA, which is available for public review. An electronic copy of the EA can be found online at: http://www.blm.gov/ut/st/en/prog/energy/oil_and_gas/oil_and_gas_lease.html Hard copies of the EA can be obtained in person at the Moab Field Office, 82 East Dogwood, Moab, Utah, 84532. The public review and comment period closed at 4:30 p.m. on Oct. 19, 2015.

*The protest period will begin November 13th and ends December 14th.

*PLEASE NOTE: When commenting on any project during its comment/protest periods, and before including an address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in any comments to the BLM, be aware that the entire comment—including personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. Requests to withhold personal identifying information from public review can be submitted, but the BLM cannot guarantee that it will be able to do so.

As Requested by URARA members, here is the **SAMPLE COMMENT LETTER** you can use to support protection of the ancient rock art for the area west of Utah Lake, Lake Mountain; Pony Express Resource Management Plan Amendment. Please Note - Comment Period dates for comment letters **to be determined:**

_____ 2015

Pam Schuller
Bureau of Land Management
2370 South Decker Lake Boulevard
West Valley City, UT 84119

I/ we _____ am/are writing regarding an amendment to the Pony Express Resource Management Plan (RMP) and associated environmental assessment (EA) for the Eastern Lake Mountains area west of Utah Lake, to determine the suitability of and potential for target shooting restrictions on public lands in this area.

We are strongly opposed to target shooting in the area due to the impacts and threats to cultural resources, public safety, and due to the threat of wildfires triggered by shooting. To fully protect the unique prehistoric petroglyphs and recreational users we recommend and support closure of all

of the BLM's public lands in Township 7 South - Range 1 West in sections 13, 24, 26, 27 and 28 to the discharge of all firearms.

Since 2010, BLM law enforcement has documented 18 incidents of theft, vandalism, and other crimes involving the cultural sites in this area. Motorized access needs to be restricted and shooting needs to be stopped permanently.

We recommend the following:

1. Close these public lands to recreational target shooting
2. No Motorized Vehicle traffic except on permitted and/or designated access roads ONLY to be implemented immediately
3. Prohibit overnight camping and other associated activities for prevention of wild fires
4. Provide enforcement of closure to insure public safety and protection of cultural resources and the surrounding environment

Protection of the cultural resources of the Lake Mountain area will help preserve Utah's heritage. Once again, we strongly encourages the permanent closure of the Lake Mountain Area to recreational shooting, motor vehicle access, fires and overnight camping.

Sincerely,

Send your notification request via e-mail or regular mail as follows: (Next Comment Period Date to be determined)

Email: pschulle@blm.gov

Regular Mail:

Pam Schuller

Bureau of Land Management

2370 South Decker Lake Boulevard

West Valley City, UT 84119

Thank you for all your comments for the above projects. The more that are received by the BLM during the comment periods for each project, the better chance we have of accomplishing our goal to protect the rock art.

Bears Ears in the News

Salt Lake Tribune 7 August 2015

<http://www.sltrib.com/news/2812195-155/bears-ears-monument-debate-is-splitting>

Deseret News 5 October 2015

www.deseretnews.com/article/865638309/Letter-Native-voice.html?pg=all

Volunteer Needed – Preservation Coordinator

Diana Acerson

The URARA Preservation Committee is looking for one of our members to be the "Coordinator" of contact information for URARA's preservation efforts within the Vernal, Utah, BLM field office jurisdiction.

URARA's Preservation Committee is in the process of setting up this program to gather information through 10 coordinating members who may or may not know of rock art locations within BLM field office jurisdictions around the state. Initially these key members will be responsible for the collection of contact information from URARA members, or other persons, who may know of rock art sites that could be affected by land use activities in any given BLM field office area. Specifically, when oil and gas leases are up for sale, or some activity that we know will definitely impact known rock art locations.

At the present time we have a Coordinator for 9 of the 10 BLM field offices around the state. We need someone for the Vernal field office. That member does not need to live in the area of the field office, although that would help. Knowing sites in the area would be beneficial, but not a prerequisite. Being able to collect contact information from persons who do know of sites is the focus.

The Vernal field office now has 3 archeologists, hired within the past 3 months. They are enthusiastic about working with URARA in preservation of rock art sites. This will be a great opportunity to meet and get to know them. If you think you would be interested in representing the Vernal BLM field office area for URARA, please contact Diana Acerson, dace1950@gmail.com or call 435-262-7044, for more information.

Annual Holiday Party

Barbara Saxon

Date: TUESDAY December 8, 2015

Time: 5:30

Place: Sandy City Bicentennial Park, 530 East 8680 South, Sandy

URARA will furnish a honey-baked ham, plates and utensils. Bring a salad, side dish or dessert. Call Barbara Saxon (801) 262-4432 or Barbara Green (801-466-7702) for information or instructions.

The park is easy to find. There is a traffic signal at State Street and Main Street (8720 South). Drive east on Main St to the end (about 9 blocks), take a left and then a right on 8680 South. The building is east of the tennis courts. There is a lot of parking and room inside. Parks Department rules apply (no alcohol). Please come and greet your fellow rockarters. Friends are welcome. Google "Sandy City Bicentennial Park". REMEMBER IT'S TUESDAY!

Calendar and URARA Fieldtrips

Note that the Christmas party is on TUESDAY this year.

November 7/8.	Field Trip Bluff
December 5/6	Field Trip Nine-Mile and Argyle Canyons
December 8 TUESDAY	Annual Christmas party potluck at the indoor Bicentennial Pavilion, 530 East 8680 South, Sandy, Utah.

To sign up for the November and December fieldtrips, please contact Oscar Olson at 801-485-0862 or Steve Acerson at 385-985-5402 or whiteh20rockart@gmail.com.

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 .

2015 URARA Board

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Steve Acerson, Vice President	385-985-5402	dace1950@gmail.com
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Oscar Olson, Fieldtrips	801-485-0862	
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