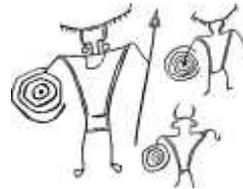


VESTIGES

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Monthly Newsletter of URARA, the Utah Rock Art Research Association

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President's Letter

Richard Jenkinson

The board held its annual retreat in St. George in January. We enjoyed the hospitality of Nina Bowen. Our URARA officers remain the same:

Richard Jenkinson – President

Steve Acerson--Vice-President

Oscar Olson and Steve Acerson – Field Trips

Paula Quay--Treasurer

Nina Bowen--Secretary

The big news is that our next symposium will be held in Delta, September 30-October 3. Most of us (including me) will get to see some rock art that we are unfamiliar with. A report on the entire board meeting will be found below, along with information on this year's field trips and our annual financial report.

Rock Art in the News

Ben Everitt

More on Indonesian Cave Paintings, Smithsonian, January, 2016

http://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/journey-oldest-cave-paintings-world-180957685/?utm_source=smithsonianopic&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=20160110-Weekender&spMailingID=24424693&spUserID=NzQwNDU0OTIyMTES1&spJobID=720962647&spReportId=NzIwOTYyNjQ3S0

February 2016

January Board Meeting

Richard Jenkinson

The URARA board plus a few invited participants met at Nina's house over the MLK weekend. Following is a summary of what was accomplished during the meeting. In attendance were Richard Jenkinson, Steve Acerson, Oscar Olson, Keith Fessenden, Dennis Devore, DeLoy Norton, Troy Scotter, Diane Orr, Joe Brame, Diana Acerson, Lois Mansfield, Nina Bowen and, by phone, Jim Farmer.

1. Delta was chosen as the site for Symposium 2016. The dates will be September 30-October 3. Oscar Olson will be in charge with help from many others.
2. Membership Report--Lois Mansfield reported that we have 180 memberships in the database. A large percentage of these are couples, so our actual member numbers are higher than that.
3. Reimbursement for Travel and Expenses--Travel to board meetings, field trip leaders, site documentation and out to pocket BLM meeting transportation costs are eligible for reimbursement. Forms need to be updated and put online. Pre-approval is required.
4. Steve and Oscar presented the URARA field trip schedule for this year. It is listed below.
5. Conservation and Preservation--There was a great deal of discussion of conservation and preservation issues. Specific issues were discussed, including Lake Mountain and the San Rafael Swell. In general, it was decided that the most effective role for URARA is to make sure agencies have correct data before they make decisions. URARA wants to be involved in the Master Leasing Phase of planning in the case of permanent withdrawals. Jim Farmer lives about 100 miles from Washington, DC and he said he would be willing to take some of our concerns to government offices in the capitol if the need arises.
6. Conservation and Preservation Gathering--We decided to have a separate gathering for conservation and preservation. A committee was formed to begin the planning process. Committee chairs are Diane, Troy and Keith.
7. Database--Troy has been working on a database that can be used to provide government agencies with the information they need to make decisions. It is still a work in progress and you will hear more about it in the future.
8. New Website--We spent a lot of time looking at and discussing Wild Apricot, a system Troy has been testing. It will give our website a new look and enable members to register online for symposium and field trips, among many other things. The Board will review it during the first week of February and make a decision whether to proceed. More details appear below.

9. Publications--Since we dropped our book publication and went to online-only publication, we have not received many submissions from our presenters. We discussed the possibility of publishing power points and presentations in other formats. Dennis Devore will be editor and Keith Fessenden will help.

10. Logo--Diana Acerson has the new URARA logo ready for use. It will appear on the new website. The board approved \$320 for the work done by professionals to make the logo ready to be used in multiple formats.

11. Lobby Cards--Diana has a mock-up for lobby cards for publicity. She will check out pricing and report to the board.

New Website

Troy Scotter

URARA is testing a new website for the group. The Board will review it during the first week of February and make a decision whether to proceed.

If we go forward, the website will add a lot of functionality.

- The ability to make credit card payments for membership and symposium. You will still be able to write a check if you prefer.
- Online registration for field trips and symposium. Field trip registration for symposium should justify the new site all by itself.
- Online management of membership information including a privacy option for what gets shared with other members.
- The ability to have separate email and phone contact information for spouses and other family members.
- A calendar of upcoming events.
- Additional information not available on the current website.
- Improved email communication.
- Public information and protected member-only information.

Currently the new website is going through testing and development. A few of you know where it is due to emails sent while we were working on membership. Please note that this test site is not official and the events listed on it aren't "live." They are simply there for us to test to make sure that everything is working before we introduce it to the group as a whole.

I expect that the website will be ready for everyone to use within a month. We will transfer it from our test site to our current www.utahrockart.org domain so you will know where to find everything. At that time we will send out an email letting you know how to use the site.

If you have website expertise and would like to help us in the testing and development please send me an [email](#).

Book Review-- *Rock Art: A Vision of a Vanishing Cultural Landscape* by Jonathan Bailey

Richard Jenkinson

URARA member Jonathan Bailey has published a new rock art book. *Rock Art: A Vision of a Vanishing Cultural Landscape* is a book of photos and short essays. The term "cultural landscape" is important. It implies that sites are a part of a larger culturally-charged landscape that provides a context for the art. All of the photos are Jonathan's, and he often includes context rather than close-up views of images. There is an emphasis on vandalism and the threat of destruction of the cultural landscape by the extractive industries. Some of the photos are not pretty and they are not intended to be. They show what is happening to our heritage and how it is threatened by possible future development.

The photos include some familiar images, but also many images that will not be known to most URARA members. Site locations are not given and they should not be. I think everyone will find sites new to them and new ways to see familiar sites.

The thirteen short essays include writers known to the rock art community like Jim Keyser and Larry Loendorf, as well as others who might be familiar to URARA members like Scott Thybony and Greg Child. Each writer has his own approach to rock art in his essay.

The main attraction, though, is the photos. Enjoy this journey through some of the cultural landscapes of the people who lived here before. In all, it's a fine book and a very welcome addition to rock art literature.

Calendar and URARA Fieldtrips.

February 13-14	Field Trip, St George
March 19-20	Field Trip, Ferron; San Rafael Swell
April 9-10	Field trip, Green River, Great Gallery
May 14-15	Field trip, Green River, Book Cliffs, Westwater
May 27-30	URARA annual meeting, Las Cruces, New Mexico
June 18-19	Field trip, Vernal
July 16-17	Field trip, Torrey
August 13-14	URARA summer picnic, Blanding
September 17-18	Field trip, Price, Nine-mile Canyon

Calendar and URARA Fieldtrips (continued)

October 7-10	Colorado Archaeological Society Conference, Grand Junction
November 5-6	Field trip, Bluff
December 10-11	Field trip, Moab

URARA Board Contacts

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