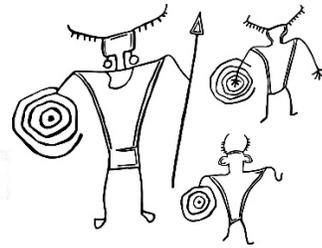


VESTIGES



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Monthly Newsletter of URARA, the Utah Rock Art Research Association

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From the Prez

It's only March, and your dynamic board has been hard at work. If you haven't checked the web site lately, please do! Minutes for the Board meeting have been posted (members>bylaws etc). A "donation" button has been added. Sixteen papers from last year's symposium have been posted (under publications>symposium presentations). You may now search for individual papers by year or by author.

The member's forum tab is now active. You can see discussions posted by members, explanations and information on topics you'd like to learn more about, possible trips and activities to join, etc. By our charter rules, site information is not to be divulged on the forum site. Photo's take up a lot of data, and cameras have information abilities also, so limit them and be careful. To subscribe to the entire forum, click the SUBSCRIBE TO FORUM link above the topic list. To subscribe to just one topic in a forum, view the topic and click the SUBSCRIBE TO TOPIC link adjacent to the topic. For additional information, please see:
<https://help.wildapricot.com/display/DOC/Discussion+forums> Email notifications of forum updates are sent on a daily basis, but notifications can be changed from daily to weekly or immediate.

Notes for Conservation and Preservation meetings are posted (about>what we do>C&P). This will help you to stay informed about upcoming meetings and URARA's position. Troy has added some tutorial videos under the HELP tab:

- How and why to log into the website
- How to change your privacy settings
- How to change your personal information when you move, change your phone or email

March 2017

Field trip dates and places can now be viewed on the web. Registration is available only for members on the member's page. Registration will open approximately (45) days prior to the start of the field trip. At that time you will be able to register until the set number of participants is filled, then your name will be added to the waiting list.

I am interested in estimating the volunteer time that URARA is spending on it's mission and projects. If you are volunteering time, please send your hours to board member Margo Fenton (fourfen@comcast.net) with a cc to me. Hopefully we can find a way to track volunteer hours on the web site.

Thanks for your volunteer efforts, and all you do that makes URARA work. Steve

URARA Inventory

Carol Duecker

URARA is in the process of updating our inventory. We are including equipment (projectors, field equipment), supplies (office, picnic), libraries and electronic files, and other miscellany in this effort. Remember, URARA has never had a physical address, and no warehouse for storing stuff. If you have any URARA equipment or supplies in your possession, please send me a note at dueckcm@gmail.com with:

- A description of what you have
- The location (for example: your garage or basement)

and your:

- Name
- Address
- Phone number
- Preferred e-mail.

We are currently looking for the URARA Owl Banner, auction bidding paddles, the URARA "library" and signed paper copies of the organizational documents. Please also let us know if you have master copies of any electronic files created on behalf of URARA business or the symposium.

Thanks for your help with this effort!

Green River Rocks

Steve Acerson

The Green River community and JWP Museum is holding its first Rock and Mineral show March 31/April 2: www.GreenRiverRocks.com. Steve Acerson will be leading rock art field trips to Segoe Canyon Saturday and Sunday, April 1 and 2. There are rock-oriented trips to many nearby points of interest. Enjoy your public lands while you still can!

Remembering Will Tapp

Francois Gohier

Will Tapp passed away in San Diego, California, on January 25, 2017, a few months short of his 77th birthday.

We knew him as a rock art enthusiast, but his life had been about much more than that. According to family lore, Will loved climbing since a very early age. As a teenager he joined a Sierra Club climbing group and quickly became so proficient that he started teaching others. He loved heights and the outdoors and found a way of making a living surrounded by ropes, climbing gear and greenery: for 25 years he operated Timberline Tree Service.

In 1967 he co-founded the all-volunteer San Diego Mountain Rescue Team. For the next 12 years he was on call and participated in countless searches and rescues in the backcountry of California and northern Baja California. He taught climbing skills to San Diego firefighters and other first responders, and organized symposia on survival skills for children and adults. Once a woman sat down at our table during a meeting of the San Diego Rock Art Association, and reminded Will that he had rescued one of her friends a long time ago.

Will and his better half, Leslie, “discovered” rock art in the early 1990s and soon joined URARA. They have remained active with the group ever since, attending symposia and leading field trips. One particular episode stands out in my memory. In 2012 I was the field trip coordinator for the symposium in Vernal. Will volunteered to lead a trip to Cockleburr Wash and came up with the idea of installing ropes so that the participants could get close to the Pregnant Goat panel (which, if you are not familiar with the site, is above a narrow sloping ledge halfway up a high cliff.) I was not keen with the idea and told him of my reservations. The day before the field trip I went to the site and saw a red climbing rope dangling from the top of the cliff. Well, I thought, no one will be forced to climb down so let’s see how it goes! As it turned out my worries were baseless; a few participants took Will’s challenge and used the rope to descend to the ledge, safely belayed by Will. Among those who climbed down was ever-enthusiastic Edna Clem (Ned took a photo to prove it.)

Leslie and Will traveled throughout the Southwest in search of rock art sites. Will was a good photographer; at our meetings in San Diego he often came up to me with a big smile and opened up his laptop to show me the image of a wonderful petroglyph he had discovered on a recent trip. But one of the photos he was most proud of was of the annular eclipse of the sun of January 1992. Taken from the cliffs of Point Loma in San Diego, it showed the “Ring of Fire” (annularity, the time when the moon is perfectly centered in front of the sun), low on the horizon with its reflection on the Pacific Ocean below.

In 2015 Will was diagnosed with cancer; he beat it through chemotherapy and sheer motivation. Soon after regaining his strength he resumed his travels with a renewed enthusiasm. When you have been a mountain climber you always long for the physical and emotional pleasures of holding in your hands the ropes and the carabiners, the tools that kept you and your friends safe in your youthful adventures. Thus it was that less than a year ago Will, cancer survivor, attached a rope at the base of a juniper on the rim of a canyon in Central Arizona, and we rappelled down to a ledge

to see a petroglyph panel otherwise rather inaccessible.

In August 2016 the lymphoma recurred so he received more chemo. In early November 2016 he and Leslie went to explore sites in Montezuma Canyon. Will felt unwell and had to return home to San Diego. In December he was admitted to the hospital. When I visited him we talked of future trips and he was as determined as ever to get back on his legs. But this time the disease was merciless.

My sympathy to you, URARA members who knew him. We have lost a good friend.



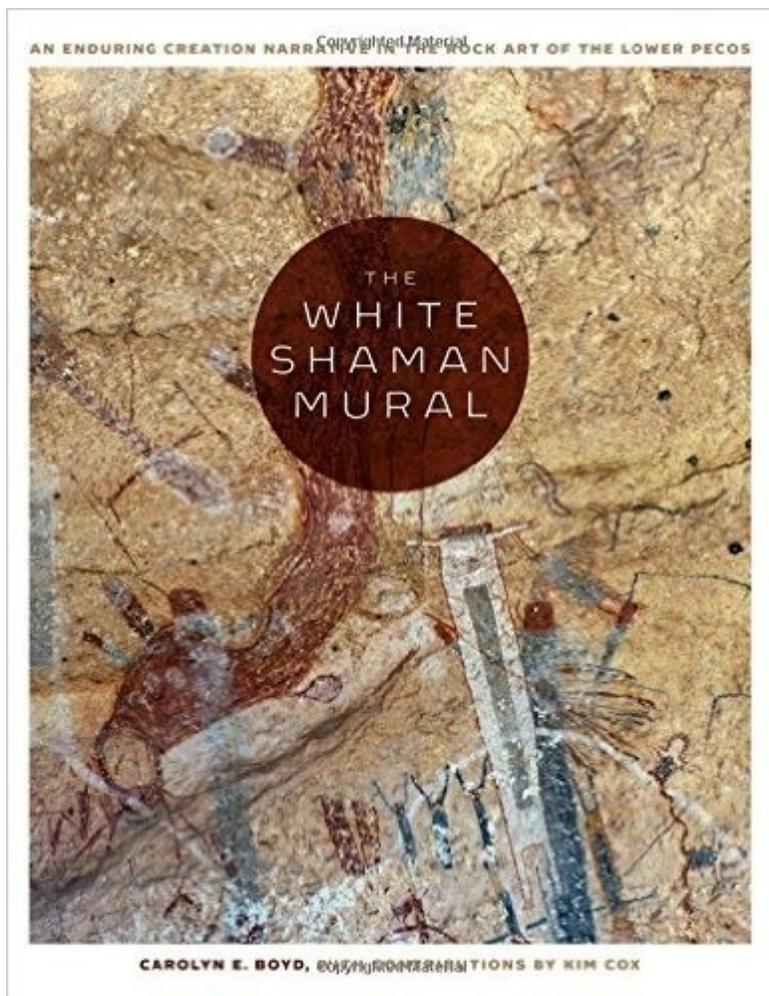
Will Tapp 1940 - 2017

Photo Leslie Wertz

Book Review

Richard Jenkinson

The White Shaman Mural by Carolyn Boyd
University of Texas Press, 2016



This is the best book of rock art interpretation that I have encountered. If you attended our Delta symposium, you are familiar with Carolyn Boyd. She was the keynote speaker on Saturday morning. And if her presentation intrigued you, you will need to get this book. It goes into far more detail than the symposium presentation and does so with insightful analysis and over 120 illustrations.

What makes this interpretation of the White Shaman Mural so exceptional is that Boyd and her staff at the Shumla Archeological Research and Educational Center have approached the panel from multiple angles to reach their conclusions. Boyd was an artist before she took up archeology, and she can see the artwork from the artist's perspective. She doesn't just see what is there; she sees how it was made. She recognized that this complex, seemingly random artwork was actually a composition planned and executed one color at a time.

Microscopic photography verifies how the colors were layered, proving that the entire panel was carefully arranged. Boyd establishes an archaic core of ideology and iconography through analysis of Nahuatl myth and codices. Then historic Huichol ethnography is used to relate the panel to an ancient peyote pilgrimage. DStretch enhancement is used to bring out faded imagery. Use of these varied approaches to analysis provides perspective and insight.

The book is expensive--\$65 from Amazon and \$75 from Shumla – but it is well worth the cost.

Sedona Field Trip Report

Pat Sullivan

We had two chilly and beautiful days of rock art scrounging. Those attending the Sedona field trip were Joe Brame, Ned and Edna Clem, Jeff Frey, Leigh Grench, Jerry and Lucy Hansen, Jim and Pamela King, Liz Kolle, Donna Rae Larson, Dave Manley and Pat Sullivan.

On Saturday, we left from West Sedona at 9:00 a.m. and drove to the Palatki Ruins in Red Canyon. Driving was hampered a little by two hot air balloons that landed on the road. We had a 9:30 appointment with Terri-Lyn Green who works for the Coconino National Forest, Sedona Ranger District. Terri-Lyn explained about the Sinagua, Hopi, Yavapai, and Apache Indians who occupied the area since 500 A.D. Terri-Lyn's knowledge and insight into the pictographs was very informative and made the tour quite interesting. In addition to the normal site, she took us to the Mescal Pit pictographs which are not on the normal tour. This part included shields and other unusual pictographs. From Palatki, we drove to the Woo Ranch which is just outside the Palatki boundary fence. This site is nestled against a sandstone wall inside a small alcove which helps shelters the glyphs. The pictographs are beautifully painted and unusual. From the Woo Ranch, we drove to the Loy Canyon Trailhead. We walked up Loy Canyon until we cut over to an obscure trail that took us to the snake site or what some people call Thompson Terrace. This unusual polychrome site has more than ten different snake pictographs of various sizes. The most unique is approximately twelve feet long with eyes.

On Sunday, we all met at the V Bar V Heritage Site which was the former Sullivan Ranch. Dave Kennedy of the Arch and Bridge Society, who volunteers there, was our guide and explained this unique Equinox and Solstice site created by the Sinagua Indians. The rock art site is attributed to the Beaver Creek style. Three of our members left after the tour and those remaining went to Red Tank Draw. The weather threatened rain and to our good fortune, held off. We arrived at the parking area and began the short hike and precarious climb down into the canyon and the main panel. This panel includes many different Zoomorphs and Anthropomorphs. From the main panel we boulder hopped up canyon to visit the other sites on the right and left sides of the canyon. The most unique was the Wampus Kitty where we took our group shot. Once we got back to our cars, the tour was finished. Because there were several hours left, Edna Clem guided us to another site off the Stoneman Lake Road, and after several failed attempts, we finally found the place we were looking for. Once we parked and found the trail, we dropped off the rim about ten feet to a trail that skirts the canyon edge and leads to the Solstice/Equinox site where beautiful petroglyphs are etched into the basalt rock. The view from the site is breathtaking.

All in all, we had two days of great rock art and good companionship.



Sedona Field-trippers at the Wampus Kitty



Two Nine Mile Canyon Parcels Pulled

Diana Acerson

Two Nine Mile Canyon Parcels have been pulled from the Competitive December 2016 Oil & Gas Lease Sale.

The recent December 2016 Competitive Oil and Gas Lease sale caused us great concern in two parcels in Nine Mile Canyon. In October of 2016 the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) posted the "Notice of Competitive Oil and Gas Lease Sale" with a total of 28 parcels of land offered at auction scheduled for December 2016. During the public protest period, the BLM received a letter from URARA requesting those 2 parcels located in Nine Mile Canyon be pulled from consideration. On December 9th 2016 the two parcels were deferred from being offered in their entirety for oil and gas leasing at the December Sale. Therefore, the BLM has dismissed our protest as moot. Several of our Conservation Committee members spent many hours involved in consultant meetings and generating correspondence expressing URARA's concerns to the BLM with the hope we could get the parcels pulled from the sale.

URARA has been monitoring oil and gas lease sale activity on the BLM website for several years now. This monitoring allows URARA to contact the BLM early in their National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) processing of these lease sales. We can then request consultant status to the BLM and share URARA's knowledge and information about rock art located within parcels that may be impacted by these lease sales thus aiding the BLM in its decision-making process. URARA is committed to doing whatever we can within our means to protect rock art. We are grateful to those members who are giving so much time to this effort. We know it takes a lot of volunteer hours. These successes, no matter how large or small, confirm that these efforts are not in vain.

Rock Art in the News

***Ancient Galleries* by Dave Manley up for Book of the Year Award from Public Lands Alliance**

The award is by popular acclaim. If you like the book, you can vote at:

<https://publiclandsalliance.submittable.com/gallery/67f63a7b-d89b-4601-a7cf-97a7b669a22c>

SB 171, Utah Rock Art Designation, passed unanimously in the Utah Senate

You can follow the bill at: <https://le.utah.gov/~2017/bills/static/SB0171.html>

Archaeology Southwest documenting Painted Rock Petroglyph Site

Decorated boulders are being photographed from multiple directions, and the photos stitched together to make interactive 3-D models. Check it out at:

<https://www.archaeologysouthwest.org/2017/02/14/documenting-painted-rock-petroglyph-site/>

Calendar and URARA Fieldtrips 2017

March 18-19	Kanab Field Trip
March 31-Apr 2	Green River Rock & Mineral Show www.greenriverrocks.com
April 7	Coso Range, Ridgecrest, California
May 20-21	Field trip Montrose area, Colorado
June 1-5	ARARA annual conference, Redmond, Oregon http://www.arara.org/conference.html
June 24-25	Guided 2-day field trip Range Creek \$80
July 15-16	Field trip, Vernal area, tentative
August 10-13	Pecos Conference www.pecosconference.org
August 19-20	URARA summer picnic, Nizhoni
September 9-10	Field trip, Cedar City area, tentative
September 16-17	Nine-Mile Coalition gathering
October 6-10	URARA Symposium, Green River
Oct. 13-15	CAS Annual Meeting (tentative date)
November 4-5	Field trip McElmo Canyon
December 9-10	Field trip, St George area
2018 Jan 25-26	URARA Board Retreat
January 27-28	Field trip, Mesquite

URARA field trips are available to members only. For info or sign-up, please go to <https://urara.wildapricot.org/events>, or contact Oscar Olson at 801-485-0862. Registration will open approximately (45) days prior to the start of the field trip. At that time you will be able to register until the set number of participants is filled; then your name will be added to the waiting list.

Southern Nevada Rock Art Association (SNRAA) meets on the 4th Monday of the month; See <http://snraa.org/snraa.org/EVENTS.html>

Dixie Archaeological Society (DAS) meets on the second Wednesday of the month; see: <http://www.dixierockart.com/>

San Diego Rock Art Association: <http://sandiegorockart.org/>

URARA Board and 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 UT 84780. www.utahrockart.org.

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