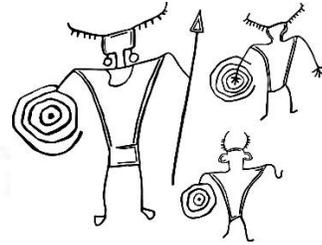


VESTIGES



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Monthly Newsletter of URARA, the Utah Rock Art Research Association

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From the Prez

Steve Acerson

Thanks to everyone who helped with the Symposium. I did not know of all the parts of this activity and the time and effort members put into making it happen each year. If you would like to help for next year send me an email with what you would like to do.

URARA sent out a questionnaire looking for comments and input about the Symposium; the results are posted on the web page:

Symposium feedback: <https://urara.wildapricot.org/Conference-Feedback>

Workshop feedback: <https://urara.wildapricot.org/page-18218>

If you didn't get a chance to participate, please contact me with your ideas.

Those members who signed up and attended the workshops learned some new skills and put those skills to practical use. They documented sites in Floy Canyon, found candy bars around the Museum with their GPS units, took some pictures at Sego (Thompson Springs Canyon). Thanks to Carol Werner for arranging this new feature.

Field Trips - so many choices so little time. Prior to Symposium, Green River received a significant rain that collected in the dry washes and took out some access to sites. Months of scouting sites and our ability to get to them got washed off the drawing board in one afternoon. As a group I guess we always need to leave a few for next time. Thanks to the 20+ leaders and Joe the coordinator who did their best to provide members the chance to see the sites.

November 2017

Side bar on field trips: Eventually conversations get to me about field trips. The first being that there is a special group of members who get to go on field trips. The facts about this is that all field trips are opened 45 days prior to their date, and the only special person is the leader (me) so when I open the trip I sign up so I can lead the trip. If you are interested in a trip it is important to pay attention to the registration opening date and sign up as soon as you can. The number of participants is limited by managing agencies (BLM, PARK SERVICE, ETC), usually 12-15 people. On some field trips there could be two leaders taking two sections to different locations. I've done my best to get everyone on trips, so always get on the wait list, so if something happens I can contact you. The Board will decide on next year's trips and post them the first of the year. If you have places you'd like to visit let the Board know, and if you'd like to lead a field trip that would also help.

Those attending the Symposium heard me emphasize my thoughts about documentation and becoming a site steward. The Workshop and members are ready to have this activity occur several times a year, so watch for this information and sign-up. With the ever-decreasing ability of managers to get out on the ground, and our members going to sites, it would be easy to be a site steward and report conditions to the managing agency since we're out there anyway.

Thanks to all our members who make this a great organization dedicated to the preservation of this non-replaceable page of history in a beautiful outdoor environment.

Symposium Documentation Workshop

Carol Duecker

At the 2017 Symposium in October, URARA began offering workshops on topics that help to advance our mission of rock art conservation. Included in the workshops was a full-day class in rock art documentation.

Documentation is a process of preparing a detailed description of the characteristics of an archaeological site, describing the context of the site within its environment, including the size, type of features, photographing, and if rock art is present then sketching and describing the imagery, including historic images and graffiti. The completed site forms with all attachments are submitted to the managing agency archaeologist who will then submit to the Utah State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) to become a permanent part of the Utah state historic record.

Leigh Grench, a BLM Canyon Country Archaeologist with widely-recognized expertise in documentation, taught the workshop assisted by Pam Baker, a URARA member whose documentation experience spans more than 20 years.

Leigh organized the class to provide students with hands-on experience in the entire documentation process by recording three boulder sites in Floy Canyon. The sites included panels of rock imagery, a lithic scatter and other archaeological features.

The field work began with a session on how to take photographs for overview, feature and panel images from Dave Manley, who has photographed hundreds of sites for documentation.

The students then gathered the information required for each of three required SHPO forms, taking turns so that each student filled out each form. The Information on the forms included the site dimensions, environmental context, orientation, methods used to produce the imagery, and other associated archaeological features.

Using Mylar (dimensionally stable transparent plastic sheeting) overlaid on photos of each panel, the students prepared detailed sketches of the rock imagery, learning to look closely to see the natural and man-made characteristics of the rock surfaces and images. Along with sketches of the imagery, students made notes describing other rock characteristics that were present, including any of uncertain origin. Learning to see and then draw and describe what is there - the key component of documentation - can be surprisingly challenging, but is quickly learned with experience. By the end of the day, each student had completed each form for at least one of the sites, and had sketched part of a panel of imagery. Leigh compiled the forms and sketches into a package for submittal to the Utah SHPO for inclusion in the statewide historic database and each student received a copy for future reference.

Why is Documentation Important?

URARA's involvement in documenting sites is one of the most important activities that we can undertake for the protection and preservation of rock images.

Including site records in the SHPO database is important because the records, and therefore the sites, are taken into account with federal undertakings on public lands. These federal projects include oil and gas lease sales and transportation projects among others. Although URARA can share our knowledge of undocumented sites with federal agencies, sites not included in the SHPO database may be missed as new archaeologists come on board and the previous ones leave. As the number of projects on federal lands increases, the importance of getting unrecorded sites documented and included in the SHPO database can't be understated, as unrecorded sites may not receive protection.

Other reasons for documenting include having a record of site conditions that can be used for site management and monitoring. Site records have been used to monitor site conditions in order to note vandalism and other changes over time. Successful prosecution and restitution of vandalism may rely on what the documentation shows of site conditions prior to the damage. Successful treatment of vandalism damage relies on a good record of the original condition of the images.

URARA's Role in Documenting Rock Art Sites and How You Can Help

While some URARA members have been documenting for many years, many of us are new to this activity. URARA's preservation activities need members with all experience levels.

URARA is currently working in partnership with BLM field offices and other organizations to record sites on public land near the Canyonlands Needles District, on the San Juan River near Bluff, and near Moab. There is an upcoming need for recording in the Bears Ears National Monument, and in the Richfield and Cedar City Field Office areas.

We plan to expand our team of experienced documenters and increase training and documentation opportunities. If you want to join this effort, look for more documentation and training opportunities in Vestiges or in membership-wide e-mails. Or you can e-mail Carol Duecker (dueckercm@gmail.com) with your contact information and we will notify you of upcoming projects. If you have a particular interest or area where you'd like to work, please let us know.



Leigh Grench prepares students for field work



Students document a site. From left to right: Cheryl Ames, Carol Duecker, April Gray, Keith Fessenden, and Barbara Ring. (Photo: Leigh Grench)



Dave Manley explains the principles of good documentation photography to workshop students

Preservation Session

Nina Bowen

Diane Orr brought the session to order with a brief outline of speakers.

Keith Fessenden introduced the district coordinators and each one had the opportunity to report on what is being done in his or her area.

Troy Scotter made a plea to the membership for more site information for the database and explained how smart phones work to gather the information that can be passed on to him.

Don Montoya explained how the restoration process proceeds. This includes a damage assessment with law enforcement, consultation with tribes, a treatment plan, treatment itself, and a report after treatment has taken place. Consultation would include Native American tribes, local governments, consulting parties, public notification, the treatment plan, which includes procedures and methods, scope of work and a contract. After the treatment there is a write up of procedures and methods, the scope of the work, a statement of the work, and the contract. Usually Native American tribes request that the actual glyphs not be touched during the restoration event. Another of their requirements is that the conservator use only natural materials.

Conservation and Preservation

Steve Acerson wants URARA to come up with a directive on how to be a district coordinator.

Don Montoya says everyone that is a coordinator should sign a volunteer agreement. October 1 to September 30 is the federal fiscal year. When the region puts together its budget for the year, it will list upcoming projects.

The district coordinator should assemble up with a team to help in his/her district. Each district is different enough that each would have different needs.

If Keith finds out about issues, he should let the coordinators know about them. He is the gatekeeper for resource information. The committee is accountable to Keith, then through him to Diane and Troy, with a cc to Steve and Diana. Consulting parties could include coordinators. The current president is the one that decides who the consulting party is, since that is who BLM is required to contact. The Conservation and Preservation Committee will come up with some more fixed guidelines for coordinators.

Minutes, Membership Business Meeting

Nina Bowen

Treasurer's Report: Margo gave a preliminary financial report. A final balance sheet will be provided at the end of the year.

Jim Farmer requested a form for funding requests that could be added to the website. This will be addressed at the Board meeting in January.

Election: Dennis DeVore and Keith Fessenden were elected to a second term. Lynn Benson, Leigh Grench and Darlene Koerner were newly elected to the board.

2018 Symposium: Suggestions for next year's symposium were Escalante, Bluff, Cedar City, Northern Utah, and Tooele. The Board will take this up in January. Janet Lever will make an inquiry with Indian tribes about having a joint symposium.

Other Business: Bob Mark would like URARA to purchase a new projector. Passed by a majority. Jim Farmer suggested putting some money into advertising URARA on a college website. In the past URARA used to have general informational business cards. Do we need to re-issue these? There was discussion but no agreement on the issue of personalized membership cards for the general membership who are not directors.

URARA Symposium Items Available

Diana Acerson

Those who attended this year's symposium received a URARA logo sticker created and produced especially for the symposium by member Randy Johnson. As an ongoing fund raiser for URARA, the Logo sticker is being offered for purchase for \$10.00 on Randy's website: www.rockartstickers.com, with 50% of the proceeds of this URARA Logo sticker going to URARA to help fund approved projects.



The Sticker is about 5" x 4" and comes in various colors. Properly applied it will last for many years. There are instructions included for applying it to the surface you desire. My truck, my Yeti drink container, and my travel trailer, are doing their part.

Also being offered are the URARA T-shirts. All sizes are available, including small. Colors are Tan, Coral, Lime-Green, Blue, and Orange. The post-symposium price is \$14.00 which includes shipping. Please contact Diana

Acerson at dace1950@gmail.com or call 435-262-7044. Since we custom order them and do not stock many, please allow 2-4 weeks for delivery.

We appreciate the support received by our URARA members in our pursuit to visit, study, educate others, and protect rock art, and we hope you will continue to so.

Annual Holiday Party at Bicentennial Park

Barbara Green

Date: MONDAY December 4, 2017

Time: Social and set up at 5:30, dinner at 6:30

Place: Sandy City Bicentennial Park, 440 E 8680 South, Sandy, east of the tennis courts

Directions: From the traffic light at Main Street and 8720 South in Sandy, go east on 8720 South Street to the end (about 9 blocks; turn left and then right on 8680 S.

Vittles: URARA will furnish a honey-baked ham, plates and utensils. Please bring your favorite pot-luck dish and beverage of choice (no alcohol, City Park rules).

Program: Oscar Olson will show DVD of the Coso Range field trip.

Questions: Call Barbara Saxon to coordinate the pot luck, (801) 262-4432, or Barbara Green (801) 4667702

Updating URARA Inventory

Carol Duecker

It's time to update our inventory. If you have equipment (projectors, field equipment), supplies (office, picnic), libraries electronic files, and other miscellany (auction bidding paddles), please help us with this effort by telling us what you have. Remember, URARA does not have a 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, and e-mail address.

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!

RockArt in the News

AIA Statement on the Antiquities Act <http://bit.ly/2yuJFNV>

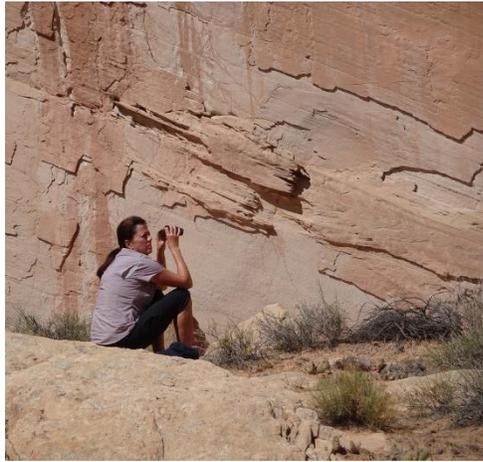
SAA Asks for Your Help in Saving the Antiquities Act <http://bit.ly/2lqiT3j>

Indigenous knowledge helps untangle the mystery of Mesa Verde, High Country News, October 2, 2017 http://www.hcn.org/issues/49.17/features-archaeology-indigenous-knowledge-untangles-the-mystery-of-mesa-verde?utm_source=wcnl&utm_medium=email

Symposium Photographs



2017 SYMPOSIUM



Upcoming URARA Documentation Opportunities

Carol Duecker

We have two upcoming rock art documentation opportunities in November:

1. Weekend recording session near the Canyonlands Needles District on November 10th, 11th and 12th. This is a large site and several volunteers at all experience levels are needed.
2. Weekend recording session north of Bluff November 17th through November 19th. This is a joint session with Friends of Cedar Mesa and we will be working with an archaeologist from Woods Canyon Archaeological Consultants to record a small site.

If you would like to join us for either of these recording sessions - for the entire weekend or just one day - please contact Carol & Werner Duecker at dueckercm@gmail.com for more information.

Calendar and URARA Fieldtrips 2017

November 4	San Diego Rock Art Conference, San Diego
November 4-5	URARA Field trip McElmo Canyon
December 4 Monday	URARA Annual Christmas party potluck at the indoor Bicentennial Pavilion, 530 East 8680 South, Sandy, Utah.
December 9-10	URARA Field trip, St George area
2018 Jan 25-26	URARA Board Retreat
January 27-28	URARA Field trip, Mesquite, Nevada
2018 June 1-4	ARARA Symposium Grand Junction, Colorado

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 (SDRAA) meets at the Kumeyaay Center in Poway every other month, sometimes on the first Sunday, sometimes not; see: <http://sandiegorockart.org/meetings>

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.

2017 URARA Board and Officers

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Layne Miller, Vice President	435-820-4326	laynemiller@yahoo.com
Margo Fenton, Treasurer	435-640-2275	fourfen@comcast.net
Nina Bowen, Secretary	801-499-0585	ninadbowen@gmail.com
James Farmer	804-231-1215	jfarmer@vcu.edu
Deloy Norton	801-571-0935	dlnorton5@hotmail.com
Dennis DeVore, Publications Ed.	970-256-7887	ddv48@mac.com
Keith Fessenden, Conservation	303-907-5184	khfessenden@gmail.com
Cheryl Ames	303-940-2043	cheryl_e_ames@msn.com
Werner Duecker	970-685-9630	wdeck.wd@gmail.com
David Carey	707-480-6384	careynordh@gmail.com

URARA Appointees

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Conservation	Keith Fessenden	303-907-5184	khfessenden@gmail.com
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Field Trips	Oscar Olson	801-485-0862	
	Joe Brame	435-414-0457	urara.joe.brame@gmail.com
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Vestiges editor	Ben Everitt	435-986-0075	rockdoc@xmission.com
Website Manager	Tom Getts	970-533-1861	tomgetts@gmail.com

URARA Conservation Coordinators

<u>BLM District</u>	<u>Field Office</u>	<u>Coordinator</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Email</u>
Coordinator Lead - All Districts		Keith Fessenden	303-907-5184	khfessenden@gmail.com
Canyon Counry	Moab	Pam & Quent Baker	435-259-5558	2pnqbaker@gmail.com
Canyon Country	Monticello	Werner Duecker	970-685-9630	wdeck.wd@gmail.com
		Carol Duecker	970-985-9233	dueckercm@gmail.com
Color Country	Cedar City	Gina Hupka	435-772-3383	redrockgina@infowest.com
Color Country	St. George	Nina Bowen	801-499-0585	ninadbowen@gmail.com
Color Country	Kanab	Jeff Frey	435-644-8471	condor@kanab.net
Color Country	Richfield	Sue Player	435-851-6702	rodandrelic@gmail.com
Green River	Vernal	Tim Sweeney	435-828-3647	dryforktim@gmail.com
		Darlene Koerner	435-789-2299	timdar@ubtanet.com
Green River	Price	Layne Miller	435-820-4326	laynemiller@yahoo.com
West Desert	Fillmore	DeLoy Norton	801-571-0935	dlnorton5@hotmail.com
West Desert	Salt Lake	Diana Acerson	435-262-7044	dace1950@gmail.com