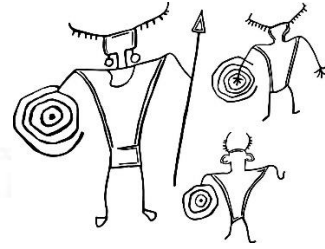


# VESTIGES



July 2020  
Volume 40  
Number 7

Monthly Newsletter of URARA, the Utah Rock Art Research Association

## Table of Contents

From the Prez .....	1	RockArt in the News .....	4
URARA Online Presentation July 10 (abstract).....	3	Welcome New Member Ryan Moreau...	4
Patina Update.....	4	Calendar and URARA Fieldtrips 2020 ...	6
		URARA Board and Contacts.....	7

## From the Prez

Werner Duecker

Someone recently told me “It's too hot down here to go rockart'n, so I'm indoors at the laptop,” which is good place to be these days, all things considered. So, while you are indoors at your computer be sure to tune in to our continuing series of live, online rock art presentations. The next one will be Friday July 10 @ 6:00 pm. Richard Jenkinson will be presenting Rock Art of the Southwest: Greatest Hits (abstract below on page 3). Then on July 21<sup>st</sup> we will have David Sucec talking about the Barrier Canyon Style (BCS) Project.

Because our Zoom limit is 100, Zoom presentations are available to members only. Look for registration invitations to come out a week or two before each presentation. Details of how to log in to the Zoom meeting will be provided in the confirmation email that you receive after registering. If you missed any of the first four presentations by Nina and Troy on the rock art of Utah, you can view them on the URARA YouTube Channel by clicking on this link.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCrjaGbAwfFPJcKyrUpLsAtQ/>

Despite the Corona Virus lockdowns, the need for conservation and preservation work continues. A new BLM oil and gas lease sale is coming up in September and there are serious concerns due to its size and proximity to our National Parks and major recreation corridors. The largest number of parcels are located around Arches and Canyonlands National Parks in the Moab area. URARA's conservation and preservation committee is reviewing the proposed lease sale information and will be submitting a letter to the BLM on our concerns about the impact to rock art sites in these areas.

July 2020

### From the Prez (continued)

On a positive note, a URARA-supported project is moving ahead in Nine Mile Canyon. Layne Miller is working with Carbon County to install signs highlighting popular rock art sites in the canyon. In January, the URARA board approved a grant of up to \$1,200 to help pay for the cost of the signs. When everything is completed, along with the site signs, there will be informational panels as you enter the canyon about the rock art in Nine Mile Canyon and about URARA. If you happen to be travelling in the area, check them out.



Layne Miller helping to install one of the first site signs. Great job Layne!!

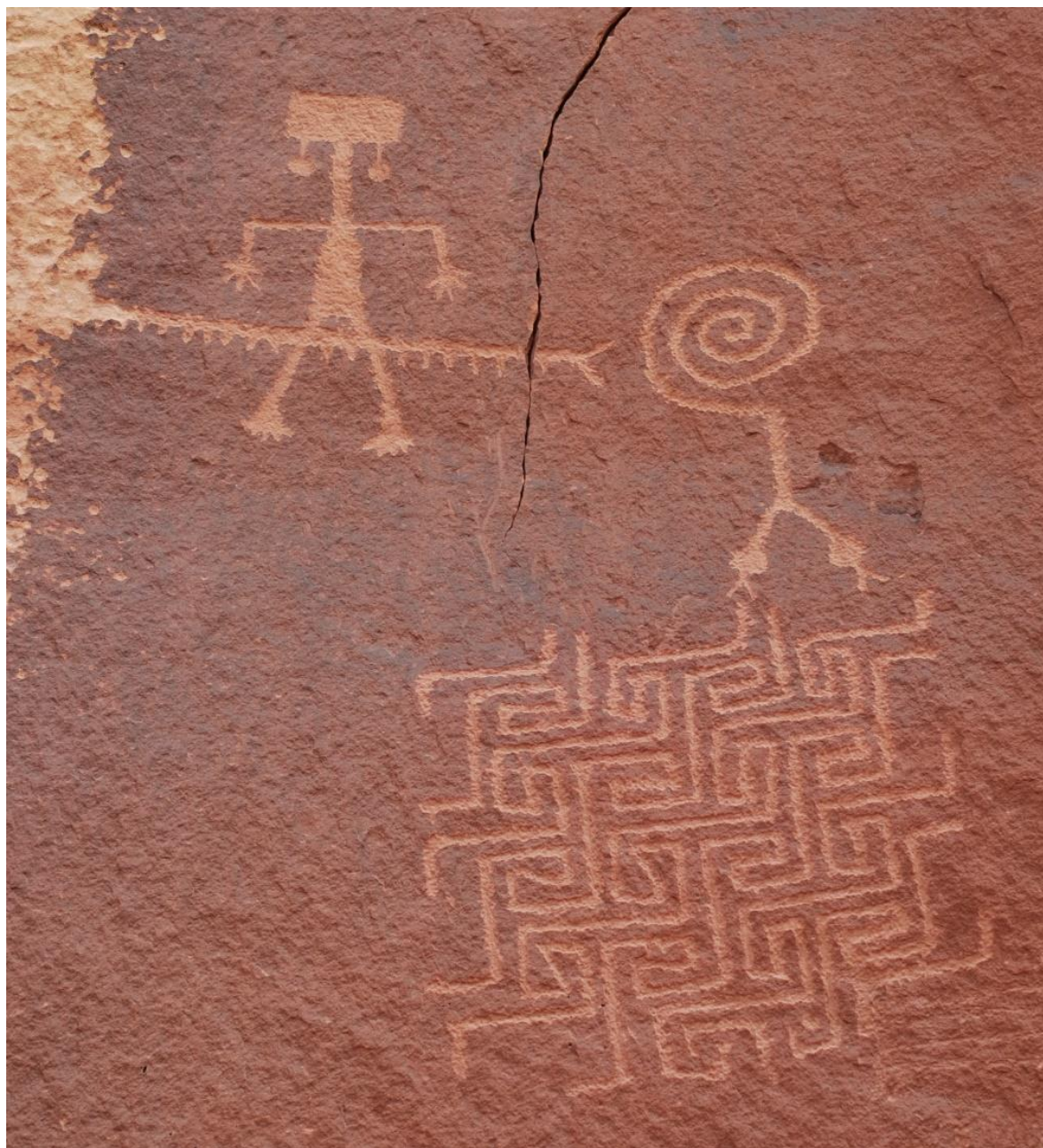
Happy trails!

Werner

## URARA Online Presentation July 10 (abstract)

Richard Jenkinson

This presentation will show some of my favorite rock art images in the Southwest. No theories or analysis, just great rock art. DStretch will be used to enhance some of the images. Included will be sites from all of the four corner states. While many of the images are commonly known, there are also many lesser known sites included.



## Patina Update

Dennis DeVore

A new feature in the Patina index is a YouTube link to URARA online presentations; there are two presentations so far, but the link will update as new presentations are posted. Very slick. Try it.

This month we have several new uploads to the Patina page of the URARA website:

Linda McNeil has allowed us to upload three of her past journal papers with subjects that include Hopi, Basketmakers, and bear symbolism.

Dave Manley has two new submittals, including a visit to the Solstice Serpent near Moab with photos showing the shadow effect that only occurs on the summer solstice; and another paper about Navajo rock art.

Open the web page <https://urara.wildapricot.org/>, then go to *publications>patina*.

## RockArt in the News

**South Utah County residents tour West Mountain petroglyph sites, raise awareness** Daily Herald

June 17, 2020

[https://www.heraldextra.com/news/local/south/goshen/south-utah-county-residents-tour-west-mountain-petroglyph-sites-raise-awareness/article\\_1780a6ef-705d-593b-a2ff-3f33d03c3dff.html](https://www.heraldextra.com/news/local/south/goshen/south-utah-county-residents-tour-west-mountain-petroglyph-sites-raise-awareness/article_1780a6ef-705d-593b-a2ff-3f33d03c3dff.html)

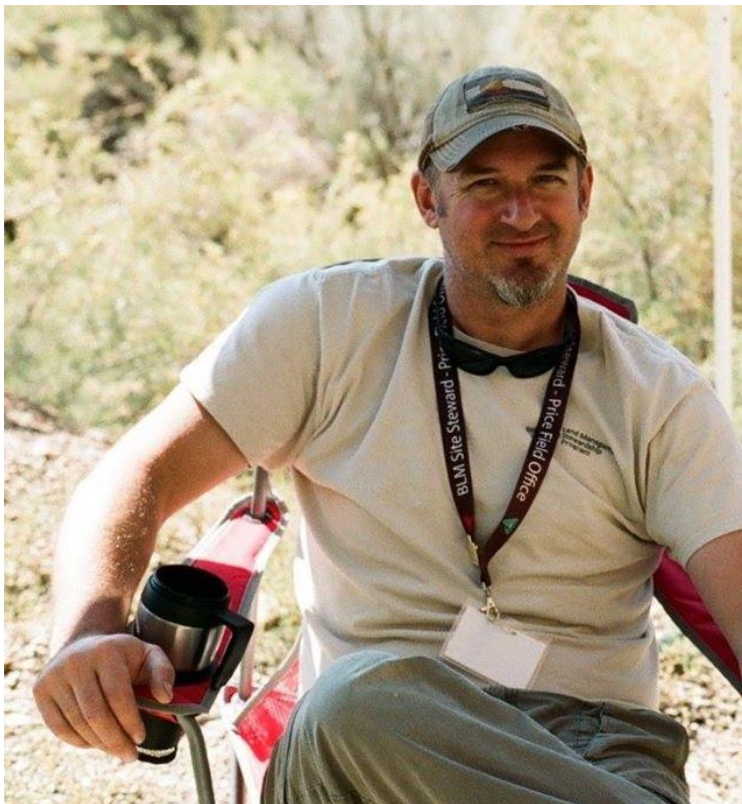
**Saratoga Springs fire:** Diana Acerson tells me that the recent fire in Saratoga Springs (<https://www.deseret.com/utah/2020/6/29/21306875/one-home-destroyed-dozen-damaged-wildfire-saratoga-springs-knolls-fire-evacuations>) burned through the Smith Preserve; no assessment of damages yet.

## Welcome New Member Ryan Moreau

My introduction to rock art goes back to growing up in rural western Colorado, around the Steamboat Springs area. I used to follow my mom around while she would document rock art around the Craig and Steamboat area. I would hold the scale or help her draw the panels we had been studying. I carried that interest and passion with me during travels and stays throughout the US. While going to school in Durango I would venture into southeastern and eastern Utah, exploring everywhere between the 4-corners and the San Rafael Swell.

While living in Eagle Mountain in Utah County, I explored the surrounding area and established a relationship with the city of Eagle Mountain to promote preservation and education within the governing body. I pushed for protection and documentation of the sites within the city limits. While a site steward for the Archaeological Conservancy at the Smith Family Archaeological Preserve, I assisted several researchers with acquiring aerial imagery of the preserve with my drones. In addition to research missions I was also tasked with acquiring aerial photos and video of individuals trespassing on the property which was passed on to the authorities to serve as evidence to issue citations.

Flying drones at the preserve sparked my interest in combining archaeology and drone piloting. At the Eagle Mountain rock art site I experimented with creating 3d models of sites using drone imagery in order to create a thorough 3d map of the site in the event that nearby development disturbed the boulders that had rock art.



My trips to the San Rafael Swell, which had been primarily exploring and enjoying the area, developed into training to fly drones in close proximity to cliffs and difficult terrain with the intention of documenting rock art and architecture that were elevated and not easily or safely reachable. After becoming accustomed to flying in proximity to cliffs I began visiting Nine Mile Canyon to document some of the elevated and less accessible features I had noticed in previous visits. Since then, I've been to Nine Mile many times acquiring images and video of elevated features, I've also spent time on the Swell documenting sites that are elevated.

Drones, in the right hands, can be a useful tool in archaeology. Coupled with my experience as a drone pilot, my knowledge of archaeology, and being FAA Part 107 certified (commercial drone pilot license), I feel I am probably one of the most qualified drone operators in Utah to be documenting what I like to call 'elevated' archaeological sites. A modern drone can eliminate the risk of personal access and provide images of better quality than those taken from a telephoto lens. Drones now can be packed away in a backpack and pulled out when needed, the camera sensors are incredibly powerful, rivaling modern DSLR sensors, and the drones themselves are conveniently small, which allows them to be taken deep into the back country to document the most remote sites. I believe drones are really the future of remote archaeological site documentation.

## Calendar and URARA Fieldtrips 2020

July 10 6:00 MDT	URARA On-line Presentation 5: <i>Rock Art of the Southwest: Greatest Hits</i>
July 11	ARARA On-line Presentation: <i>Chemical Archaeology of Lower Pecos Pictographs</i> - Karen Steelman <a href="https://arara.wildapricot.org/Lectures">https://arara.wildapricot.org/Lectures</a>
Jul 16-19 Thurs-Sunday	<b>POSTPONED TO JULY 2021</b> URARA Field Trip Dinwoody, Wyoming
July 21 Tuesday	URARA On-line presentation 6 <i>Barrier Canyon Style Project</i> , David Sucec
August 6-9	<b>CANCELLED</b> Pecos Conference
August 13-16	URARA Summer Picnic, Buckboard Campground near Monticello
October 1-5	<b>CANCELLED</b> URARA Symposium Vernal
October 14-17	Great Basin Anthropological Conference Las Vegas <a href="https://greatbasinanthropologicalassociation.org">https://greatbasinanthropologicalassociation.org</a>
<b>2021</b> Jun 11-14	ARARA Symposium Great Falls Montana
<b>2021</b> July TBA	URARA Field Trip Dinwoody, Wyoming
<b>2021</b> Aug 5-9	Pecos Conference, Mancos Colorado <a href="https://www.pecosconference.org">https://www.pecosconference.org</a>

URARA field trips are available to members only. For information or sign-up, please go to <https://urara.wildapricot.org/events>, or contact Cheryl Ames at [cheryl\\_e\\_ames@msn.com](mailto:cheryl_e_ames@msn.com), 303-940-2043. Registration will open approximately 45 days prior to the start of the field trip. At that time you may 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), Las Vegas, meets on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month. <http://snraa.org/snraa.org/EVENTS.html>

Dixie Archaeological Society (DAS), St George, meets on the second Wednesday of the month, Saturday field trips once a month. <http://www.dixierockart.com/>

Colorado Archaeological Association, Grand Junction Chapter meets on the second Monday of the month. <https://www.meetup.com/CAS-GJ/>

San Diego Rock Art Association (SDRAA) meets at the Kumeyaay Center in Poway every other month, sometimes on the first Sunday, sometimes not. <https://sandiegorockart.org/meetings>

Utah Public Archaeology Network. Calendar of events and monthly newsletter. <https://history.utah.gov/antiquities/upan>

# URARA Board and Contacts

Utah Rock Art Research Association: Box 511324, Salt Lake City, UT 84151-1324. [www.utahrockart.org](http://www.utahrockart.org).

## 2020 URARA Board and Officers

Werner Duecker, President  
 Connie Bridge, Vice President  
 Carol Duecker, Treasurer  
 Nina Bowen, Secretary  
 Cheryl Ames, Field Trip Coordinator  
 Troy Scotter, Website Manager  
 Leigh Grench  
 Darlene Koerner  
 Margo Mahoney  
 Geoff Hardies  
 Kent Williams

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[willikb15@gmail.com](mailto:willikb15@gmail.com)

## Committee Chairs and Appointees

Tribal Liaison	Carol Patterson
Historian/ Archives	Keith Fessenden
Website/Membership	Troy Scotter
Conservation	Troy Scotter
Documentation	Leigh Grench
Education	Nina Bowen
Field Trips	Cheryl Ames
Symposium Chair	Connie Bridge
Publications Editor	Dennis DeVore
Vestiges Editor	Ben Everitt
Board Nominations	Steve Acerson

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## URARA Conservation Coordinators

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Canyon Country	Moab	Pam & Quent Baker	<a href="mailto:2pnqbaker@gmail.com">2pnqbaker@gmail.com</a>
Canyon Country	Monticello	Werner Duecker	<a href="mailto:wdeck.wd@gmail.com">wdeck.wd@gmail.com</a>
		Carol Duecker	<a href="mailto:dueckercm@gmail.com">dueckercm@gmail.com</a>
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		Darlene Koerner	<a href="mailto:timdar@ubtanet.com">timdar@ubtanet.com</a>
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West Desert	Salt Lake	Steve Acerson	<a href="mailto:whiteh20rockart@gmail.com">whiteh20rockart@gmail.com</a>