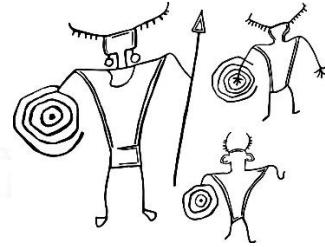


VESTIGES



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Monthly Newsletter of URARA, the Utah Rock Art Research Association

Table of Contents

From the Prez	1	Book Review	5
August On-line Rock Art Presentations	2	Historic Influences in Pueblo Pottery	6
Update on the Smith Conservancy Fire.	3	RockArt in the News	6
C&P News	4	Calendar and URARA Events 2020.....	7
Update Rocky Ridge Documentation	4	URARA Board and Contacts	8

From the Prez

Werner Duecker

From the Prez

If you have been following the developments at URARA over the past few months you will know that, due to the COVID-19 situation, we have had to cancel all the field trips this year as well as the Symposium. To help you make it through these times, we have been presenting a series of live, online presentations about rock art. These have been extremely popular and well attended, so the board has decided to hold a virtual Symposium online. Look for more details to come soon. It will be held on October 3rd and 4th, which were the original dates for the Vernal Symposium. The tentative schedule is to have two one-hour live presentations each day starting at 3:00 pm. We will also have a live auction. Mark your calendars and look for more information in next month's Vestiges and on the website. As is customary, we will hold our Annual Meeting of the membership at the symposium, the only difference being that this year it will be a virtual meeting. We will be updating you on URARA's activities and finances as well as voting on new members to the URARA board and new bylaws (see below), so please plan to attend.

At the January board meeting, the board formed a committee to review and update URARA's bylaws. The current bylaws were last updated in 1990 and we have grown and changed since that time, so the bylaws needed a good review. The committee, led by Keith Fessenden, completed its draft this week for the board's review. We will be posting these new draft bylaws on the website for members to review prior to October 3rd. Please take some time to read through them and post your

August 2020

questions and comments. URARA members will be able to vote on final bylaws at the virtual Annual Meeting.

Thank you all for your comments, suggestions, and continued support for URARA as we navigate these unusual times and I look forward to seeing you all at the Virtual Symposium in October.

August On-line Rock Art Presentations

Werner Duecker

Wednesday August 12 - Katsina Runners in Basketmaker II through Pueblo III petroglyphs of the Northwestern San Juan Basin. Carol Patterson

Runners have always played an important role in Pueblo life, as with all tribes in the Southwest. They carried messages and trade items across great distances between prehistoric villages. Ritual racing around villages and out to sacred shrines have served to inspire the clouds to bring rain and keep the Sun and Moon on track during their annual journeys. A prehistoric portrait of three Ancestral Pueblo runners on a cliff wall deep in Grand Gulch of Cedar Mesa gives clues to many other possible depictions of runners throughout the Northwestern San Juan Region. This paper explores the relationship ritual running has with bringing clouds, rain, and prosperity. Clouds are 'rain bringers', that the Pueblos call Katsina spirits but some Katsinas love to run. Together with color codes and body gestures, one can see the cultural continuity from BMII - PIII images of Katsina Runners to the contemporary Running Katsinas in the dances at Hopi and Zuni today.

Thursday August 27 - La Rumorosa Rock Art Along the Border. Dr. Don Liponi

Dr. Don Liponi [chemistry] has been entranced by Utah and the Southwest for more than 50 years when he began working with tribal groups along the Borderlands wilderness of CA, AZ and Mexico. There was nearly a complete vacuum of rock art study and images in this region. The style of rock art has become known as La Rumorosa after the village mother site in Baja California. Our group of about 50 Native Americans, scientists, and avocationalists have trod the Colorado desert for the past decade and have discovered nearly 2300 loci and more than 150 sites in this culture pattern. Come see some of the highlights of this effort captured by 15 professional photographers and a dozen or more archaeologists.

Past Presentations: If you missed any of the earlier URARA presentations or would just like to see them again, you can find them on the URARA YouTube Channel at the link listed below.

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

Update on the Smith Conservancy Fire.

Diana Acerson

State History, BLM, other agencies, site stewards, volunteers, have been out to review the damage and take a cultural survey of the area of the Smith's Conservancy property burned during the June 28 fire, to determine if any new cultural sites were exposed. The fire is referred to in news reports as the "Mile-marker 17 fire" (see news items below, p. 6). So far one new petroglyph site has been found. There also may have been damage to the rock art from the fire due to the numerous examples of rock spalling found, although most spalling appears to predate the fire. A separate survey of the rock art will likely be required to make that determination.

Also being determined is the rehabilitation necessary to help restore the area. Damage to the trails from the bulldozed fire lines has been a great concern. Randy Griffin, Preserve Manager, is waiting on estimates from two contractors. Jim Walker at the Archaeological Conservancy headquarters in New Mexico has been contacted by the insurance company for the responsible party, and we're hopeful a claim can be made for the rehab costs. This may take a few weeks and Randy will keep us updated.



On July 20, 2020, Mark Farmer, Habitat Program Manager for the UT Division of Wildlife visited the preserve to assess what will be needed when the preserve is aerial seeded this fall. Meanwhile The Archaeological Conservancy is asking for donations for vegetation and erosion control. Visit <https://donate.archaeologicalconservancy.org/>

Nina Bowen's son Joe took drone pictures of the burn area that will help set a benchmark for how effective the rehabilitation is the next few years. Hopefully another flyover of the portion of the rehabbed dozer cut can be done in 2 or 3 years to measure the success of seeding efforts.

There have been many fires in areas near rock art this year. Please, we can't say it strongly enough, when you are out camping - **Make sure your campfires are cold to the touch before leaving.** Things happen. Mother Nature has a will of her own. Don't assume anything. And remember that it's a really bad idea to drive off road and dig your

tailpipe through dry grass on a hot summer day.

Thank you for being responsible and good stewards.

C&P News

Troy Scotter

The Conservation and Preservation Committee responded to the massive September BLM oil and gas lease sale. We expressed several concerns over the sale in general and asked for the deferral of several parcels in the Moab area. Members can read that response and others on this page: <https://urara.wildapricot.org/Conservation-&-Preservation>

Diana Acerson has resigned as the Conservation Coordinator Lead. Kent Williams will move into that position. The C&P committee is also watching a proposal to build a railroad from the Vernal oil field to the Price area and two developments on the west side of Utah Lake. We shared our site database with field office archeologists in districts impacted by fires so they could avoid sites during fire mitigation. This last issue is a bit old, but we managed to convince the BLM that there shouldn't be a road in Cottonwood Wash in the Price Field Office area. Many thanks to Diane Orr for that last challenge.

Finally, we continue our work on a URARA site recording form. We were side-tracked on that when SHPO and BLM offices were damaged by our earthquake and then of course COVID-19 didn't help. And as always, plagues, swarms of locusts, and various other disasters. But we will renew discussions in August.

Update on Rocky Ridge Documentation

Larry Loendorf

On June 10 and 11, 2020 Sacred Sites Research, Inc. (SSR) cooperated with the Utah Rock Art Research Association (URARA) on the first phase of the recording effort at the Rocky Ridge site in Daggett County, Utah. Amanda Castenada, Charles Koenig, Mark Willis, Larry Loendorf, of SSR worked with Nina Bowen, Darlene Koerner, Tim Sweeney, and Diane Orr, URARA to locate and evaluate the rock art panels at the site.

Sixty panels were located and plotted by Mark Willis using equipment that is accurate to sub-centimeter levels. All the figures are petroglyphs done by pecking, abrading and incising except for one red painting. Panel locations were placed on a map, made by drone overflights of the ridge. This preparatory work is important for the actual recording of the site which is planned for late September 2020.

Based on the preliminary evaluation of the panels, we think 25 can be adequately recorded by photography alone, or tracing from photographs, 24 need scale drawings and 11 will be best recorded by tracing on site. We will collect information on panel size, direction facing and rock colors for each panel. We are also hopeful that we will have portable x-ray fluorescence research at the site to work on relative age of the rock varnish that has accumulated on the petroglyphs. Some are obviously quite old with ages in the Archaic while others appear to have a Fremont affiliation. Any other attempt to correlate the figures with regional styles will have to wait until they are adequately recorded.

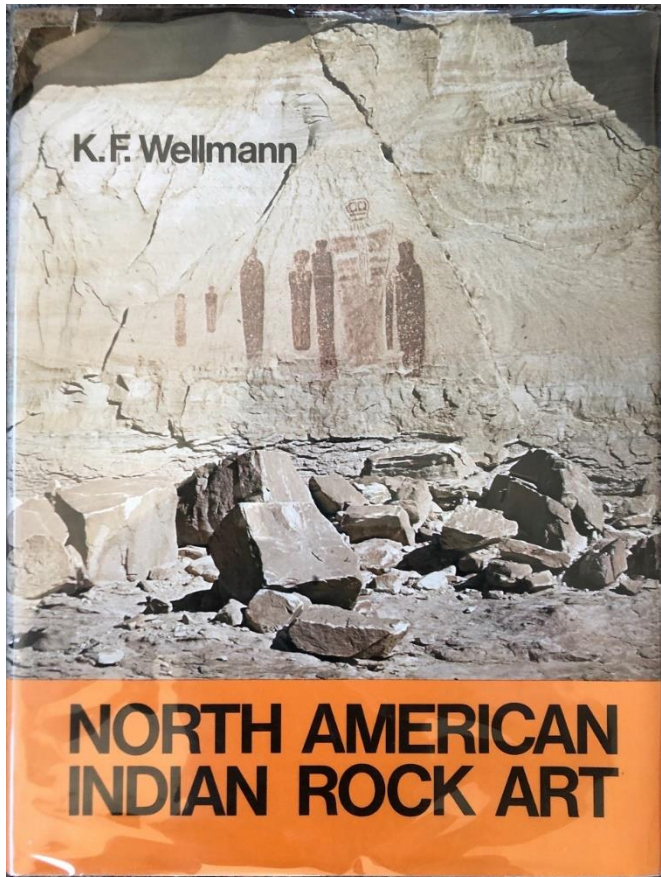
Book Review: North American Indian Rock Art

Richard Jenkinson

North American Indian Rock Art by Klaus Wellman, Published in Austria in 1979,
Preface by Polly Schaafsma

This is an oldie but a goodie. Klaus Wellman was a physician in New York City who had an interest -- an obsession I'm sure -- with rock art. This large format book (11" X 15") is 462 pages long, and it is *very* heavy. There 750 photographs (39 in color) and 200 drawings. All of North America is surveyed, including images from Canada and northern Mexico. Sections are devoted to:

1. Northwest Coast and Arctic
2. Columbia -- Fraser River Plateau
3. Great Basin
4. California
5. Southwest (including Texas)
6. Great Plains (including Wyoming)
7. Eastern Woodlands -- Upper Mississippi Valley
8. Northern Woodlands



There is a 23 page bibliography that includes reference to almost all North American rock art research prior to the book's publication in 1979.

The first 196 pages contain text about the different areas and their characteristic rock art styles, followed by 243 pages composed entirely of pictures with captions. Certainly there is some outdated material here, but you can spend hours looking through this book. I am not suggesting that you buy it. A copy available online, if you can find one, would probably cost at least \$500. Instead just go to your local public library and request it through interlibrary loan. I will come in a week or two.

Klaus Wellman was one of the pioneers of North American rock art research. This is his masterpiece. It is one of the classics of rock art research.

Historic Influences in Pueblo Pottery

Ben Everitt

Among the recent webinars of the Crow Canyon Archaeological Center was a discussion of “Historic Influences in Contemporary Pueblo Pottery” by Charles King, of the King Gallery in Santa Fe, July 17, 2020. The talk is posted on youtube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nvX6tfNirww>

The talk traces a bit of the history of pottery imagery from prehistoric to modern, discussing various artists from several of the villages in Arizona and New Mexico. Documentation of the evolution of images and styles in pottery may inform thinking about the evolution of images and styles in rock art.

Potters learn their craft by studying with a master, and thus the craft is carried down from generation to generation. Images are not “copied”, but interpreted by succeeding artists in his or her own individual style. A village usually has one master artist who serves as a mentor or runs a school. Young artists will often marry into a neighboring village, and carry with them their personal style with which to interpret the images of their adopted home. Thus the art is constantly evolving. As San Idelfonso potter Russel Sanchez tells us: “we live in the now”. Each artist finds his or her own way of expressing images from nature, religion, or history, in the context of an evolving culture.

Crow Canyon currently airs webinars weekly on Thursdays at 4:00 PM MDT.

<https://www.crowcanyon.org/index.php/learn-about-archaeology/archaeology-webinars>

RockArt in the News

Trespassers ignite a wildfire at Smith Family Archaeological Preserve TAC News, 1 July 2020

<https://www.archaeologicalconservancy.org/trespassers-ignite-a-wildfire-at-smith-family-archaeological-preserve/>

Vehicle that tried to dodge road closure for Saratoga Springs fire sparked another blaze

Salt Lake Tribune 4 July 2020 https://saltlaketribune-ut.newsmemory.com/?token=f496297ec836c2f6623c383d94d879d2_5f00aa05_c85b785&selDate=20200704&goTo=A01&artid=2

Cedar Band of Paiutes artist creates colorful mural in Santa Clara St George News, 7 July 2020

<https://www.stgeorgeutah.com/news/archive/2020/07/07/hsr-cedar-band-of-paiutes-artist-creates-colorful-mural-in-santa-clara/#.XyIpyed7nIU>

Moab and Grand County urge feds to cancel energy lease sale Salt Lake Tribune 10 July 2020

https://saltlaketribune-ut.newsmemory.com/?token=b83962af07aa07e0866dce1d2b4622e2_5f089367_c85b785&selDate=20200710

Calendar and URARA Events 2020

August 6-9	CANCELLED Pecos Conference
August 12	URARA on-line presentation Katsina Runners, Carol Patterson
August 13-16	CANCELLED URARA Summer Picnic
August 27	URARA on-line presentation La Rumorosa Rock Art, Don Liponi
October 1-5	CANCELLED URARA Symposium Vernal
October 14-17	Great Basin Anthropological Conference Las Vegas https://greatbasinanthropologicalassociation.org
2021 Jun 11-14	ARARA Symposium Great Falls Montana
2021 July TBA	URARA Field Trip Dinwoody, Wyoming
2021 Aug 5-9	Pecos Conference, Mancos Colorado https://www.pecosconference.org

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, 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 4th 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. Suspended for the summer. <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 (UPAN). Calendar of events and monthly newsletter. <https://history.utah.gov/antiquities/upan>

American Rock Art Research Association (ARARA) is hosting on-line events. URARA members can join for free. Registration at: <https://arara.wildapricot.org/Lectures>

URARA Board and Contacts

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 Connie Bridge, Vice President
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 Nina Bowen, Secretary
 Cheryl Ames, Field Trip Coordinator
 Troy Scotter, Website Manager
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