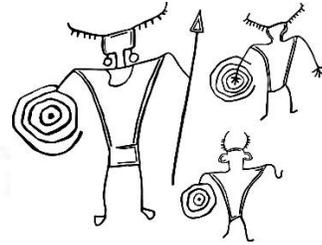


# VESTIGES



September 2020  
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Number 9

*Monthly Newsletter of URARA, the Utah Rock Art Research Association*

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## From the Prez

### Werner Duecker

After the long, hot month of August, I am looking forward to the more temperate weather of September.

The October 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> virtual Symposium is starting to come together, below is a tentative schedule. We will send out more details and registration information as we get closer to the Symposium dates.

Saturday October 3<sup>rd</sup>:

3:00 pm: Jerry Spangler

4:30 pm: Jonathan Bailey

6:00 pm: Possible live auction

Sunday October 4<sup>th</sup>:

3:00 pm: Larry Loendorf

4:30 pm: Layne Miller and Kevin Jones

6:00 pm Annual Membership Meeting –elect new board members and vote on new bylaws

Note that all times are Mountain Daylight Time for those members joining from the east and west coasts and further away. We are also investigating the possibility of having an online fundraiser

*September 2020*

associated with the Symposium, and several members have generously donated items to be auctioned on Saturday night. Be sure to join us for that.

As I mentioned last month, the Board has been working since January on new bylaws. Past Board member Keith Fessenden along with current Board members Darlene Koerner and Geoff Hardies did a great job writing many drafts and working with the Board to address the many issues that were raised. Kudos to them for all their hard work! We will send the final version to all members for your review soon. During the Annual Membership Meeting on October 4<sup>th</sup>, members will be able to vote on the adoption of these new bylaws.

Along with the bylaws, we will be holding elections for the URARA Board of Directors. Four Board members will retire at the end of the year and four new board members will be elected on Saturday night to take their places. Information on the prospective board members who are running for those open seats will be coming down the wire soon.

I hope everyone has enjoyed our online presentations this year, we will try to keep them coming for a while, but I hope you all have also had the chance, despite the virus issues, to get outdoors and see some rock art. See you at the Symposium!



Nephi Canyon, UT May 14, 2020, by Oscar Olson

For a photo without the bullet holes, see Castleton, 1979, *Petroglyphs and Pictographs of Utah*, vol. 2, p. 118.

# September URARA On-line Presentation

Werner Duecker

## Up Coming Rock Art Presentation for September:

Monday September 14 – When Pueblo Met Barrier: A “Genetic” Model for Interpreting Ancient Southwestern Rock Art Imagery. James Farmer

In his 1982 book *Origins of Precolumbian Art*, Terence Grieder suggested that all pre-European Ancient American cultures had evolved through three successive culture “waves”: the earliest First Wave, equivalent to Southwestern Archaic; the Second Wave (i.e. Basketmaker); and the most complex Third Wave (Classic Pueblo). He called this a “genetic” model of cultural evolution, arguing that art styles and traditions are NOT created in intellectual voids or from miraculous intervention, but rather evolve and are adapted from combinations of acquired knowledge, technology, and external influences.

My presentation applies Grieder’s model to Archaic Barrier Canyon and later Ancestral Puebloan rock art images, focusing on the relationship of rock art images to their specific painted rock surfaces and the natural conditions affecting their production and appearance. The genetic model asserts that rock art imagery was produced as a means of directly integrating with the natural forces that influenced cultural development, i.e. ongoing erosion, climatic events, and patterns of natural floral growth. Popular and traditional interpretations of Southwestern rock art imagery typically assume that the ancient artists chose certain sites or canyon walls with little regard for the ultimate impact of natural processes on the final imagery; nature could ultimately alter the finished image in ways that humans had little control over.

Based on recent data drawn from the catalog of images compiled from the BCS Project, Grieder’s genetic model can now be applied to various specific rock art panels, both Archaic and Ancestral Puebloan (illustrated herein), resulting in a revised theory regarding the motivation for the location and creation of the imagery, as well as the content and subject matter. Rather than images created as “helpless victims” subject to uncontrollable forces of nature, I suggest that the primary motivation for creating many rock art panels, including some of the largest and most famous (i.e. the Great Gallery), was to indeed encourage, celebrate, and directly interact with those very same forces..

**Past Presentations:** If you missed any of the earlier presentations or would just like to see them again, you can find a link to them on the URARA website under the Members > YouTube Presentations or click on this link <https://urara.wildapricot.org/YouTube-Presentations>

# Utah Cultural Site Stewardship Workshop

## SHPO

Utah's State Historical Preservation Office (SHPO) cordially invites you to attend "Protect the Past with the Utah Cultural Site Stewardship Program!"

We are embarking on our biggest challenge yet: protecting Utah's archaeological and cultural heritage, and we're asking for your help. **You** can be the "eyes on the ground," monitoring archaeological sites and working alongside professional archaeologists and federal and state officials.

Every day we lose a little bit of Utah's history. Our sites face a lot of threats, everything from looters to erosion, and oftentimes we only know about the problem when it's too late. Site Stewards help to protect the past by becoming intimately familiar with their sites. They visit the same site several times a year and monitor any changes in site condition.

We're inviting you to learn more about the Utah Cultural Site Stewardship Program by joining us on **Sept 9 from 9:30 a.m. to noon (MST)** for an online workshop.

Register

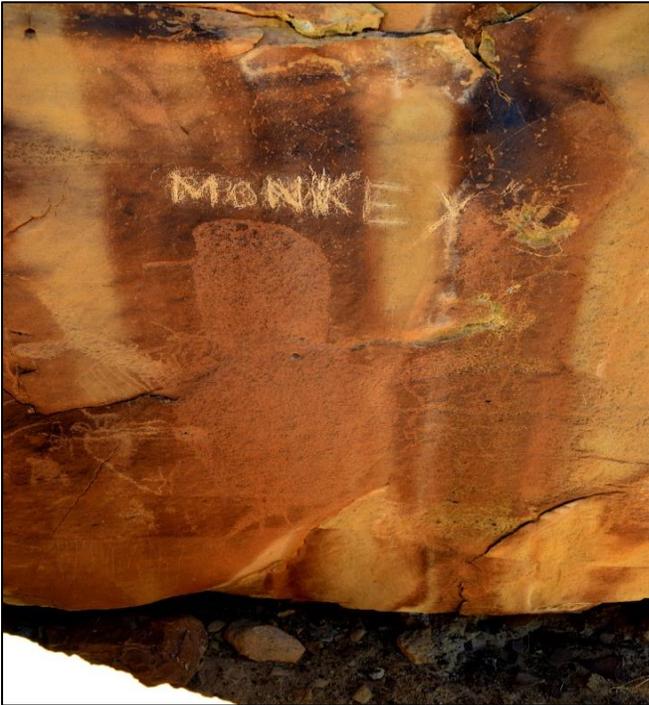
Or register using this link: <https://bit.ly/UHS2020ProtectThePast> and let us know you're coming!

The Utah Cultural Site Stewardship Program provides other benefits to Stewards, such as:

- **Personalized Site Matching.** Our Stewardship Coordinator will work with Stewards to find the right site for you! Whether that's finding a site close to your favorite campground, a site that can accommodate accessibility concerns, or a culture or time period that you want to learn more about, one of Utah's 100,000+ sites will certainly be a match for you!
- **Educational resources.** From the very first training you'll learn about Utah's history and prehistory in a very intimate way. Continuing education and the opportunity to develop personal relationships with archaeologists and land managers mean that you will extend the depth and breadth of your own knowledge of the past.
- **Contribution to citizen science.** The Utah Cultural Stewardship Program will generate foundational knowledge about threats to the past, and it will also create groundbreaking new research. Your participation will help fill a critical knowledge gap about *how*, *when*, and *why* sites become threatened, this information will help us all protect other sites in and outside of Utah.
- **Membership in an engaged community.** Both online and in the real world, the Stewardship Program brings together like-minded people who are passionate about conservation, preservation, and protection of cultural heritage and the natural environment. Opportunities to meet people, share experiences, and create new memories together is part of what Stewardship is all about!

# Rock Art Vandalism Presentation, Green River

Steve and Diana Acerson



On August 11, 2020, we gave a presentation to the Green River, Utah, City Council at their regular meeting, on combating vandalism. We presented the City with a packet of information and materials from Utah State History, Tread Lightly, Bureau of Land Management, and URARA. The purpose was to educate the Council on not only what “rock art” is, but why it’s important to preserve and protect from vandalism.

Earlier in the day we met with Don Montoya, retired BLM archaeologist, at a site near Green River that had been recently vandalized. He is now in the process of working with the Moab field office archaeologist to remove most of the graffiti. The timing was perfect for this council meeting as an example.

All Photos by Steve Acerson - Images from around Green River, Utah, 2020

The Council was shown some pictures of rock art located within a few miles of Green River, including the types of vandalism we find on rock art. They were encouraged to review the materials we gave them, and hopefully distribute the brief description and pictures of rock art we prepared, with the list of rock art etiquette, to their residents. The information is brief enough to include with water bills, flyers, a city newsletter, or other means, to the community.

At the meeting were representatives from the John Wesley Powell Museum and the Epic Center (local nonprofit). The museum encouraged us to bring brochures and information to them for their visitors. The Epic Center is working currently with Emery County to promote tourism in Green River. They suggested this would be a good opportunity to include information about how to behave when visitors to the area happen upon rock art. The City’s Event Coordinator suggested putting information on the City’s Facebook page; and have a table at Melon Days in mid-September each year. The Council enthusiastically discussed presentation opportunities at the city schools and posting information around the city in strategic locations.

With the introduction of Utah State History’s new effort to combat vandalism to rock art and other cultural resources (UPAN-Utah Public Archaeology Network), this pilot program of visiting City Councils is directed at towns and cities with rock art in their vicinities to educate residents about rock art. Much of the vandalism around these cities is from local residents who are uninformed about rock art.



We hope we will be successful in this effort. But we will also need help to make this happen. If you would, could, like to help us by presenting or helping with materials and presentations to a town or city near you, please let us know. We appreciate whatever you can do. Please call or email: Diana, 435-262-7044, [dace1950@gmail.com](mailto:dace1950@gmail.com), or Steven, 385-985-5402, [whiteh20rockart@gmail.com](mailto:whiteh20rockart@gmail.com).

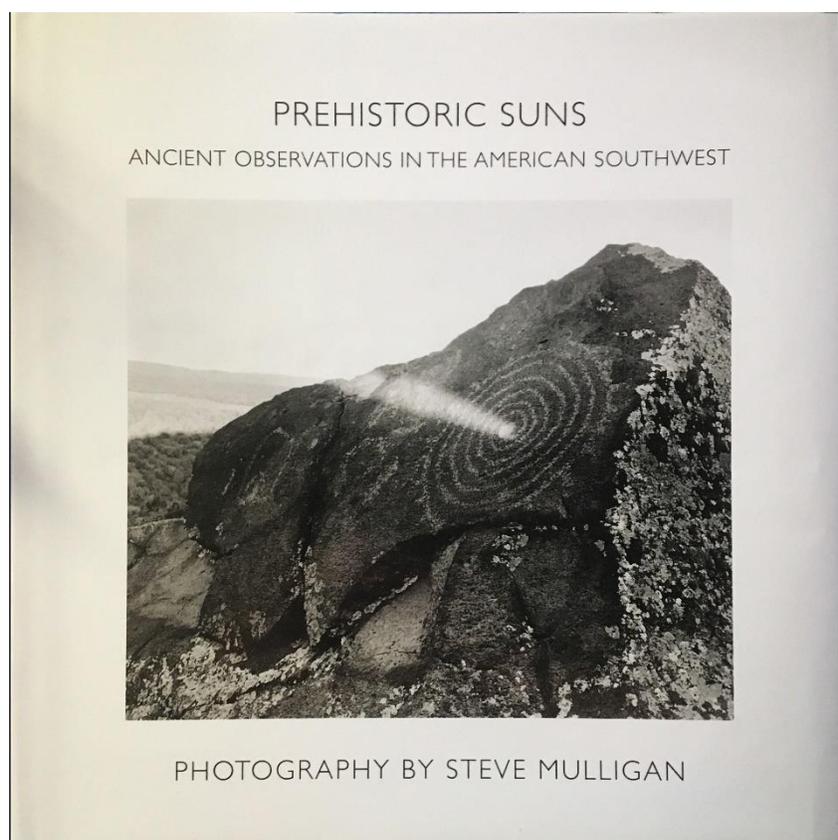


## Book Review: Prehistoric Suns

**Robert Crifasi**

*Prehistoric Suns: Ancient Observations in the American Southwest* by Steve Mulligan  
SF Design/Fresco Books, Albuquerque. 2020. 155 p.

Here are a series of fine art photographs of Southwestern archaeoastronomy sites. Mulligan took many of the images during solstice or equinox events as shadows interacted with the petroglyphs. It's a compelling collection that profiles various remarkable sites in Arizona, California, Nevada, Utah, New Mexico, Texas, and Colorado.



This book is decidedly not academic. Nevertheless, it makes a powerful visual statement about these unique places. Mulligan, a photographer, based in Moab, UT, used a bulky 4x5 view camera to create his images. Because of the number of images presented, it is clear that this project took many years to complete. All photographs are in black and white.

In a forward by Ken Zoll of the Verde Valley Archaeology Center, he points out that there "was a connection between habitation locations, ceremonial settings, agricultural fields, and the selection of celestial observation positions." Mulligan's photographs seem to support Zoll's premise. But this is

a book of photographic art, so do not expect to find anything more than cursory descriptions, let alone interpretations, of the sites. This work joins a growing body of evidence that the Southwest's ancient peoples were keen observers who meticulously recorded astronomical events.

*Prehistoric Suns* is primarily a coffee table book. Still, those interested in archaeoastronomy will likely find this book a welcome addition to their library.

## Books Free to a Good Home

Leigh Grench

I have some Utah, Wyoming and Midwestern Archaeology journals, magazines, and books I am getting rid of. Interested persons can email me at [lggrench@yahoo.com](mailto:lggrench@yahoo.com)

### Journals

American Archaeology  
Mammoth trumpet  
Treasures of the tavaputs  
Utah Archaeology  
Southwestern lore  
Utah Historical Quarterly  
Kiva  
Glyphs  
Midcontiental journal of Archaeology  
Archaeology in Montana  
WY archaeologist



### Books:

Excavation of humming bird shelter  
Ancient disease of the Midwest  
The Swanson site reexamined  
Archaeology and bioarchaeology of the N Woodlands  
The Buffalo hump site  
Interpreting the past  
Holocene history of Wyoming  
Mississippian mortuary practices  
Plants from the past  
People, plants, and landscapes studies in paleoethnobotany  
WY landscapes 1805-1878  
Archaeology of the high plains  
Little man archaeological sites  
Castle valley archaeological project  
Archaeology of the red cliffs site  
Archaeology of mummy cave  
Seep ridge inventory and predictive model  
Inventory of oil and gas fields, E Utah  
CR evaluation in S central Utah 1978

## RockArt in the News

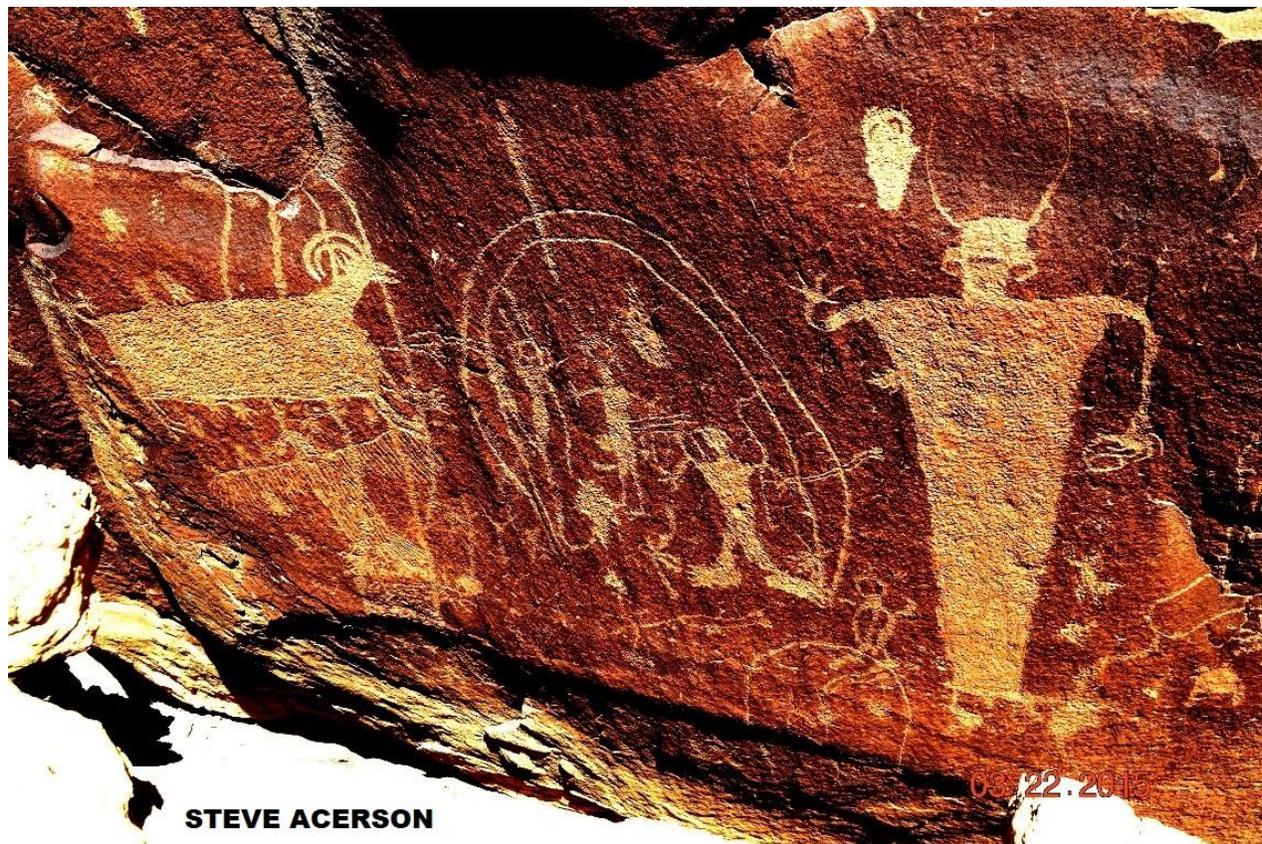
**Feds yank oil and gas leases near Arches, Canyonland parks, from upcoming sale**  
Salt Lake Tribune, 13 Aug 2020

**Remembering Charley Bulletts** Sarah Bauman Grand Staircase Escalante Partners newsletter  
<https://gsenm.org/remembering-charley-bulletts/>

## Videos

**The Mystery of the Fremont Sun God** John Lundwall, John McHugh  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jo9H5rcASF0>

**The Sun Wheel Petroglyph** John Lundwall and John McHugh  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ldJZ41s9ISc>



## Calendar and URARA Events

September 9	SHPO online workshop Utah Cultural Site Stewardship Program 9:30 to noon, MST <a href="https://bit.ly/UHS2020ProtectThePast">https://bit.ly/UHS2020ProtectThePast</a>
September 14	URARA on-line presentation James Farmer
October 3-4	URARA Virtual Symposium
October 14-17	<b>POSTPONED to 2021</b> Great Basin Anthropological Conference Las Vegas
<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>
<b>2021</b> Octer 13-16	Great Basin Anthropological Conference Las Vegas <a href="https://greatbasinanthropologicalassociation.org">https://greatbasinanthropologicalassociation.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. 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

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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## 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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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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Color Country	St. George	Nina Bowen	<a href="mailto:ninadb Bowen@gmail.com">ninadb Bowen@gmail.com</a>
Color Country	Kanab	Jeff Frey	<a href="mailto:condor@kanab.net">condor@kanab.net</a>
Color Country	Richfield	Jeff Roberts	<a href="mailto:jeffroberts@cut.net">jeffroberts@cut.net</a>
Green River	Vernal	Tim Sweeney	<a href="mailto:dryforktim@gmail.com">dryforktim@gmail.com</a>
		Darlene Koerner	<a href="mailto:timdar@ubtanet.com">timdar@ubtanet.com</a>
Green River	Price	Layne Miller	<a href="mailto:laynemiller@yahoo.com">laynemiller@yahoo.com</a>
West Desert	Fillmore	Paula Quay	<a href="mailto:paulaquay@ymail.com">paulaquay@ymail.com</a>
West Desert	Salt Lake	Steve Acerson	<a href="mailto:whiteh20rockart@gmail.com">whiteh20rockart@gmail.com</a>