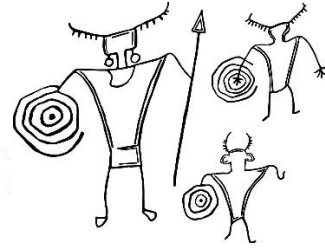


VESTIGES



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Monthly Newsletter of URARA, the Utah Rock Art Research Association

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From the Prez

Kent Williams

Hello URARA,

For those of you able to make the Symposium in Vernal, it was great seeing you. I hope you had a good time. For those of you unable to make it, I hope to see you next October in Price.

There will be a short (promise) survey coming out soon to help us make sure we are on the right track in offering a successful symposium. We would like to hear from you whether you were able to attend the Symposium, or not. Be on the lookout for an email from utahrockartresearchassoc@gmail.com for a link to the survey. - Kent



October 2022

Field Trip committee Report

Wanda Gayle

Low thunderheads sprinkled sacred rain on people gathered for the Symposium 2022 field trips on the morning of Friday, September 30.

Lightening strikes led the way as vehicles left Vernal in all directions for sites in McConkie Ranch, Dry Fork, Steinaker Gap, Split in Rock, Ashley Creek, Henry's Fork, Blue Mountain, Canyon Pintado, and Island Park. Other field trips radiated out on Monday, October 3, to see and appreciate more images in the area.

Thank you to dedicated field trip leaders and respectful participants. We are honored by the landscape to walk together and meet these images from another time and culture. Let's turn our curiosity and wonder into tools to conserve and protect them.

Cub Creek/Chew Ranch Trip Report, October 3

Roger Cook

Seven of us left the parking lot in Vernal around 8:15 and drove out to Dinosaur National Monument. We went to all the sites that were in the field trip announcement and found lots of images to photograph. Carol Patterson being along was an added bonus as she could interpret many of the panels for us, including the 'Emergence Mountain Panel'. Pretty easy access and hiking. Nice weather. We completed our trip around noon as several folks were needing to get on the road back home. Roger, Tom and Carol did an additional hike to Split-in-the-Rock to see First Man and First Woman.



Steinaker Gap and Dry Fork Field Trip Report

Wanda Gayle

Field trip F10 went to sites in Dry Fork, a tributary of Ashley Creek, thanks to the scouting skills of Howard Berkes, the local knowledge of Darlene Koerner, and permission from private landowners. We saw anthropomorphs that, curiously, are a different style than the ones at nearby McConkie Ranch, stone suns, concentric circles, classic spirals, elaborate necklaces and ear bobs, horned serpents, a dancing bear, and the ubiquitous sheep. At Steinaker Gap we first found a moose in the process of being rescued after falling into the canal. After that event, we viewed the red figure that holds the sun's rays on its head and let's it roll and dip down its arm at dawn on the summer solstice. We finished the trip at the Alhandra site and observed the Little Dipper captured forever on a boulder, a possible fertility altar, and the human-made cylindrical holes scattered all over the bedrock that could represent constellations.



URARA folks at Alhandra Site



Lunch at Merkley Park

Morris Wolf, 1937-2022



URARA Annual Membership Meeting Minutes

Roger Cook

In person meeting at the Vernal symposium, October 2, 2022

Kent Williams, President, called the meeting to order.

Kent noted how glad he was that we were once again able to hold a live symposium and how wonderful it was to be able to meet in-person.

Kent also announced the 2023 symposium would be held in Price, UT on Oct. 7 & 8.

Carol Duecker, URARA Treasurer, presented a summary of the 2021 year-end financials and also an update through Q2 2022. There were no questions for Carol.

Werner Duecker, representing the Nominating Committee, put forward 4 nominees for the open board positions (these are all 2-year terms):

- Nina Bowen (current board member)
- John McHugh (current board member)
- Carol Duecker (current board member)
- Keith Fessenden (new)

The floor was opened to other nominations and Steve Acerson was nominated. However, he declined to accept the nomination. No other names were put forward so a motion was made to elect the 4 original nominees. The motion passed by a unanimous vote. Nina, John, Carol and Keith will be board members for 2023 & 2024.

Someone asked if there was going to be a questionnaire to allow feedback on the symposium. The answer was yes, that something would get sent out via Survey Monkey.

Minutes by Roger Cook, URARA Secretary

URARA Board Meeting Minutes

Roger Cook

In person meeting at the Vernal symposium, October 2, 2022

Kent Williams, President, conducting

Board members attending: Darlene Koerner – Vice President, Carol Duecker – Treasurer, Roger Cook – Secretary, Diana Acerson, Nina Bowen, Rick Matthews, John McHugh, Werner Duecker – past President (non-voting board member)

Board members not in attendance: Wanda Gale

A quorum of 5 or more board members were present.

Committee Chairs and Appointees attending: Carol Patterson, Layne Miller, Steve Acerson, Keith Fessenden

General Topics

2023 Symposium

- There was some discussion about whether we should have symposium every year or every other year. This came up mainly because of the lower than usual number of attendees at this year's symposium. The board decided we definitely wanted a symposium in 2023 and we can relook at this question then if attendance continues to be lower than historical.
- There was also discussion about moving the symposium back to coinciding with the Columbus Day holiday so many folks would already have a 3-day weekend.
- A motion was made and passed for the 2023 symposium to be held in Price, Utah over the weekend of Oct. 7-8. If we hold training on Thursday and field trips on Friday and Monday like we did this year, then that would include Oct. 5 – 9.
- Kent requested that we start looking at getting the conference center reserved now and to start planning the field trips now. We need to make sure we give government agencies a 6 month heads up on what field trips we plan to do if they are on government lands. We plan to discuss this in a lot more detail at the January in-person board meeting. Kent will initiate these actions.

2022 Symposium Lessons Learned (Preliminary)

- Attendance was a bit low this year. We don't really know why but probably related to not having a symposium for the last 2 years. Some people may still have a fear of going to public events due to COVID concerns.
- Several people in URARA are getting older and more sedentary and essentially are unable to participate in the symposiums
- Holding the symposium at a real Convention Center was a major plus. They had all the equipment necessary for the audio/visual needs, plenty of space. It was very comfortable and met our needs in every way. Minimal overhead for the URARA organizers. They also had a large parking lot which was quite convenient for meeting up for the field trips. We already want to use the convention center in Price for next year's symposium.

- Planning for the event this year in Vernal was difficult due to small businesses being understaffed (post-COVID hiring issues) and not being responsive to phone calls. We are hoping this might be less of an issue in Price as it is a larger town. Plus, the convention center in Price will provide food services for us.
- Spreading the conservation/preservation talks out over the two days (one each in morning and afternoon) worked out well and seemed to keep people's attention.
- There was a suggestion that we should pick locations for symposium two years in advance as conference centers get booked up at least a year in advance. We will plan to have an agenda topic at the January board meeting to discuss this.
- Physical storage for items needed at the symposium are fairly scattered out and hard to locate. It would be very efficient if we could find one place to store everything. Nina Bowen volunteered that she had space in her garage and would be willing to take this on.
 - Werner suggested that we need to go through the technology items and dispose of the things that we no longer need

Southern Nevada Rock Art Association

Southern Nevada Rock Art Association is dissolving. They would like to give a donation to URARA of some of their remaining assets. It sounds like this would be primarily a cash donation. Rick Matthews will research what needs to be done to make this legitimate from a legal perspective (one 501C3 organization donating to another 501C3 organization). Rick will work with the Southern Nevada Rock Art Association on their dissolution and donation and will keep Carol Duecker in the loop on the funds transfer.

Membership Meeting

- We had a review of the planned agenda for the membership meeting at the symposium. The two major agenda items were:
 - Selection of board members for 2023-2024 term. The nominees for the open board position from the Nominating Committee were Nina Bowen (current board member), John McHugh (current board member), Carol Duecker (current board member) and Keith Fessenden (new).
 - Treasurer's report

Other

We spent a little time discussing Committee vacancies and Conservation/Preservation but needed to table any in-depth discussion on these as we ran out of time. Further discussion was tabled until the next board meeting.

Minutes by Roger Cook, URARA Secretary

The Shovel Bums: To Plant, or Not to Plant

John McHugh

The Shovel Bums are back! Each Thursday the Archaeology Club at Blessed Sacrament School has a classroom meeting that centers around the rudiments of archaeology, its principles and jargon, and the examination of real artifacts. Their supervisor, middle school science teacher John McHugh, has introduced the concept of *land ownership* and the difference that emerge in the way hunter-gatherer and agrarian societies perceive the land. His presentation was embedded within a comparison between Archaic period Barrier Canyon (BCS) style pictographs made by hunter-foragers and later rock art made by agriculturally dependent Ancestral Puebloan peoples. The BCS had no “violence” imagery, while the farming-based Ancestral Puebloan rock art had many images of conflict and violence.



Shovel Bums Scarlet Jones, Elizabeth Grai, Marco Tsandes, Lucas Shackelford, and Helena Mabanza ponder whether this prehistoric “Fish Net” petroglyph was made by hunter-foragers or agricultural people.

The discourse sparked heated debate about which lifestyle would be more enjoyable and “safer.” The more adventurous half of the Shovel Bums thought that living your life as if on a perpetual camping trip – traveling from resource to resource – was right up their alley. The idea of *going to your food source* was a novel idea to the club members. “Not so fast,” was the response of the more cautious Shovel Bums. They asked some poignant questions, such as “What if the stand of pinyon nuts had been burned down in a forest fire?” Or, “What if another hunter-gatherer band has beaten you to a desirable resource such as rice grass, and when you arrive there is already another group that has collected all the seeds?” The cautious Shovel Bums felt that the surplus food created by agriculture would better ensure their survival during periods of climactic stress; which is why a “sedentary, agrarian lifeway” was the lifestyle choice for them.



The newest Shovel Bums pose before the circa 1000 AD “Birthing-Stone” petroglyph during a recent field experience at the Smith Archaeological Preserve.

This debate segued into a discourse on mental perceptions of land ownership among hunter-foragers and agriculturalists. It was agreed upon that hunter-gatherers conceptualized themselves as *part of the land*. Thus “land” was a commodity that cannot be “owned.” While agrarian peoples view the land as property that was the possession of the farmer. Everyone certainly concurred that there would be extreme conflict, and maybe even war, if a forager-hunters decided to occupy the farm land of a horticultural people.

Despite whether some Shovel Bums preferred a nomadic or sedentary lifestyle, all agreed that learning to hunt mammoth with an atlatl like a Paleoindian was something worth doing! SHPO archaeologist Ian Wright loaned the Shovel Bums a bunch of atlatls and spears and the Shovel Bums showed the megafauna hunting techniques in the field outside of Blessed Sacrament School. Many of the students used the spear-thrower for the first time in their life, and great fun was had by all.



Helena Mabanza perfects her mammoth-slaying techniques during a September Archaeology Club meeting.

Even better, no students or teachers were maimed during this atlatl-throwing adventure. And the Shovel Bums are looking forward to many exciting rock-art-stewarding escapades later in the school year.

Oscar Awards and Auction

Bob Crifasi





Calendar and URARA Events

Oct 9	4:00 PDT SDRAA Virtual meeting www.sdraa.org
Nov 5	SDRAA Rock Art 2022 Virtual Symposium www.sdraa.org .

URARA symposia and field trips are available to members only. Vaccination is strongly encouraged. All members receive an email notification when a field trip opens for registration. Notifications go out between 45 and 14 days before a trip. You can register for a field trip when you get the notification. If a trip is full when you try to register, your name is added to a wait list. You will get another notification if and when someone drops out and you can be added to the trip.

Dixie Archaeological Society (DAS), St George, meets on the second Wednesday of the month, Saturday field trips once a month. <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. <https://sandiegorockart.org/meetings>
Now on-line.

American Rock Art Research Association (ARARA) is hosting on-line events. Free access is granted to URARA members. Registration at: <https://arara.wildapricot.org/Lectures>

Utah Humanities Public Events

https://utahhumanities.org/index.php/component/com_calendar/Itemid,184/component_com_calendar/id,2203/view,event/

URARA Board and Officers

Utah Rock Art Research Association: Box 511324, Salt Lake City, UT 84151-1324.

www.utahrockart.org . Contact information - utahrockartresearchassoc@gmail.com

2022 URARA Board and Officers

Kent Williams, President
 Darlene Koerner, Vice President
 Carol Duecker, Treasurer
 Roger Cook, Secretary
 Diana Acerson, Conservation
 Wanda Gayle
 John McHugh
 Rick Matthews
 Nina Bowen

Committee Chairs and Appointees

Tribal Liaison	Carol Patterson
Historian/ Archives	Keith Fessenden
Website/Membership	Troy Scotter
Conservation/Preservation	Werner Duecker
Documentation	
Education	John McHugh
Research	Darlene Koerner
Field Trips	Wanda Gayle
Symposium Chair	Darlene Koerner
Publications Editor	Dennis DeVore
Vestiges Editor	Ben Everitt
Board Nominations	Werner Duecker

URARA Conservation Coordinators

<u>BLM District</u>	<u>Field Office</u>	<u>Coordinator</u>
Coordinator Lead		open
Canyon Country	Moab	Pam & Quent Baker
Canyon Country	Monticello	Werner Duecker, Carol Duecker
Paria River	Kanab	Jeff Frey
Color Country	Cedar City	Gina Hupka
Color Country	St. George	Nina Bowen
Color Country	Richfield	Jeff Roberts
Green River	Vernal	Tim Sweeney, Darlene Koerner
Green River	Price	Layne Miller
West Desert	Fillmore	Steve Acerson
West Desert	Salt Lake	Don & Adele Leavitt