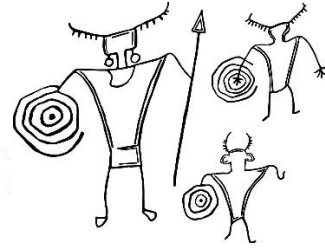


VESTIGES



December 2022
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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,

The Board of directors has just finished our 4th quarter meeting and I'd like to share with you some of the topics we covered. The complete Minutes are on p. 4, below.

First, we covered board officer nominations. Board officers serve one-year terms of up to three consecutive years, and consist of the President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary. Nominations are voted upon by the Board. I as President, Carol Duecker as Treasurer, and Roger Cook as Secretary were all voted in for an additional term in 2023. Diana Acerson will be our new Vice President. The VP also serves as the chair of the symposium committee and Darlene Koerner, the outgoing VP, reported on the results of the Vernal symposium survey and we discussed what worked well in Vernal, and maybe not so well. Diana has hit the ground running and reported on the planning already underway for the symposium in Price. Darlene's work in Vernal will be tough act to follow, but I'm confident Diana will be up for the task. Many of you know Diana and are aware of the energy and dedication she will bring to this important role in URARA.

I also want to inform you of new appointments to committee chairs. Darlene Koerner accepted the position of the Documentation committee chair, and Steve Acerson accepted the Field Trip committee chair. Earlier in the year, Werner Duecker accepted chair of the Conservation committee, and Keith Federson was nominated and voted in as a member of the board. These three committees along with the Symposium represent a large portion of the work URARA extends toward meeting our mission, and we are very fortunate to have such highly capable people step up as leaders.

December 2022

Spotlight On Our Volunteers

Diana Acerson



'Tis the season to give thanks, and we have a LOT to be thankful for! We would like to give a shout out to the URARA Symposium Volunteers! You know who you are, but just in case you forgot, here's a special mention of some of you who have helped to make the 2022 URARA Symposium and it's events a success, as well as helping make the associated activities possible. From organizing, planning, performing multiple duties, running errands, and keeping records, to being there to assist where needed at the events. Donating your time and talents means the world to the URARA leaders. As volunteers, we know how valuable your time is. **If we missed listing your name, send us a note and we'll give you a "name drop" next month. WE ARE THANKFUL FOR YOU!** Things in URARA don't happen without volunteers.

<i>Darlene Koerner</i>	<i>Wanda Gale</i>	<i>Keith Fessenden</i>
<i>Werner Duecker</i>	<i>Kent Williams</i>	<i>Dennis DeVore</i>
<i>Carol Duecker</i>	<i>Pat Sullivan</i>	<i>Tina Tan</i>
<i>Carol Patterson</i>	<i>Joe Brame</i>	<i>Robert Van Orden</i>
<i>Diana Acerson</i>	<i>Paula Quay</i>	<i>Rachel Onraet</i>
<i>Margaret Grochocki</i>	<i>Margo Mahoney</i>	<i>Lynn & Betty Benson</i>
<i>Ben Everitt</i>	<i>Troy Scotter</i>	<i>Tom Getts</i>
<i>Jeff Frey</i>	<i>Steven Acerson</i>	<i>Oscar Olson</i>
<i>Connie Bridge</i>	<i>Tim Sweeney</i>	<i>Howard Berkes</i>
<i>Janet Lever-Wood</i>	<i>Rob Crifasi</i>	<i>John & Deb Mitchell</i>
<i>John McHugh</i>	<i>Jim Liewer</i>	<i>David Christensen</i>
<i>Layne Miller</i>	<i>Byron Loosle</i>	<i>Roger Cook</i>
<i>Barbara Saxon</i>	<i>Lois Mansfield</i>	<i>Deloris & John Simons</i>

Cultural Tradition At Risk - Review

Diana Acerson

As you have likely realized, most of my Vestige submissions relate to the protection of rock art. But my cause is just! And it's self-serving, as I want all people, myself included, to be able to continue to enjoy it. As many of you have indicated your concerns and interest in the conservation and protection of rock art through our surveys, I thought this might be a good read.

Publication Review

Rock Art, A Cultural Treasure at Risk, Getty Conservation Institute, Los Angeles

There is an excellent publication from The Getty Conservation Institute based in Los Angeles, titled "Rock Art, A Cultural Treasure at Risk", published in 2015. The Institute (GCI) has been an active advocate for advances in conservation practice worldwide. The GCI has had a number of programs over the years specifically directed at improving techniques and approaches for the management and conservation of rock art.

This document gives a wonderful breakdown and discussion covering a vision for the future of rock art. It talks about the heritage and vulnerability of rock art. It gives a foundation of principles for protecting and preserving rock art. There is an example of four pillars of rock art conservation policy and practice. Public and political awareness is discussed. There are examples of effective management systems, physical and conservation practices, and community involvement and benefits. The paper gives a great outline of the way forward in the preservation of rock art. Here is an excerpt from the publication:

"What is rock art and why is it important? Rock art sites contain some of the world's greatest works of art, aesthetically powerful and spiritually charged imagery embedded in cultural landscapes. Rock art consists of paintings, drawings, engravings, stencils, prints, bas-relief carvings and figures in rock shelters and caves, on boulders and platforms. Rock art reflects humankind's rich spiritual and cultural heritage and has great significance to its creators and their descendants. It also has great significance to humanity generally. Its beauty, its symbolism, and its rich narrative means that it is widely appreciated and treasured internationally, regionally, and locally. Its continued existence is important to help global communities recognize and learn about the diverse cultural traditions, their ancient origins and relationships to the landscapes they have inhabited."

URARA Board Meeting Minutes

Roger Cook

November 29, 2022

Kent Williams, President, conducting

Board members attending:

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

Board members not in attendance: Wanda Gale, Nina Bowen

A quorum of 5 or more board members was present.

Committee Chairs and Appointees attending: Carol Patterson, Steve Acerson

General Topics

2023 Nominations and Committee Chair Assignments – Kent Williams

Officers

The following were nominated and approved for 2023:

President – Kent Williams

Vice President – Diana Acerson

Treasurer – Carol Duecker

Secretary – Roger Cook

Committee Chairs (new assignments)

Documentation Committee - Darlene Koerner

Field Trip Committee - Steve Acerson

January Board Meeting - All

Agenda items

- Goals and Objectives for 2023 – Steve Acerson volunteered to run this session
- 2023 Symposium planning
- Planning for other big events throughout the year
- Field trips
- Financial review including a budget proposal for 2023
- Review Policies and Procedures
- Committee (each active committee) cover plans and budget for 2023
- Annual Picnic location
- Annual Christmas party location
- Rock art outing while we are in Moab
- Discuss open chair positions including the Research Committee since it is now open

- Stop Vandalism program moving to state wide or federal support level
- Pick a location for the 2024 Symposium
- Review any grant proposals that are ready for board review
 - We have received a new grant proposal from SHPO. Carol will be forwarding this to all board members shortly to get their feedback and to see if there are any questions that need to be answered before the January board meeting.

Accommodations and logistics

The board meeting will be at Margo's condo in Moab on Jan 14 & 15. Several of the board members will stay at the bedrooms in the condo and will share the cost for the bedrooms. URARA will pay the cleaning and utilities cost (\$250). Other board members are on their own as far as a place to stay. We agreed to have the meeting open on ZOOM for those board members and others who will not be able to make it to Moab.

2022 Symposium Review - Darlene Koerner

Survey results

The survey was overwhelmingly positive. There were many positive comments about the field trips, the very nice venue for the symposium, the majority of the speakers. People seemed to be thrilled to be getting together again after 2 years of not having a symposium.

Lessons Learned/Recommendations

- The main difficulty was in getting businesses such as catering companies to be responsive. There seemed to be a post-pandemic inability for businesses to be proactive. Hopefully by next year we will experience some improvement in this area.
- Organizing field trips was also a bit of an issue but with the Field Trip Committee taking on this role, that was a big responsibility removed from the Symposium Committee Chair and seemed to work out well. We will continue with that approach going forward.
- The Convention Center was very nice for the symposium with plenty of space and people to help resolve issues rather quickly. It would be good to continue with this approach going forward.
- There were lots and lots of URARA volunteers who helped with all kinds of activities. Just awesome. Keep it up.

2023 Symposium (Price) Update - Diana Acerson

The Acerson's have made a visit to Price and Layne Miller had prepped several groups for their visit. They had a very good meeting with the Convention Center folks and have the Convention Center booked for Oct. 6, 7 & 8. The Convention Center can do all the catering which simplifies things quite a bit. They also met with someone at the museum and they are willing to help out in any way possible. A list of field trips is already being developed. Dennis DeVore has agreed to own the presenters again. Things are going very well for this point in the planning.

2024 Symposium Location

Two locations were nominated for consideration: Beaver and Kanab. Board members should continue to think about any other locations they would like to see considered. We would like to see a final decision made on this at the January board meeting.

Teaching Opportunity – Kent Williams and John McHugh

Salt Lake Community Ed approached URARA with a request for Rock Art class instructor. This is a non-credit, high level overview class for the general public. It would consist of 4 classes over a one month period. Each class would be 1.5 hours. It is unknown at this time if this is a one time event or if they would want to offer the class again in the future.

Two concerns were discussed: 1) Should URARA officially sponsor this class 2) Since John McHugh has agreed to teach the class and develop the materials for the class, do we need to open up this opportunity to other URARA members.

The board agreed that URARA would not be an official sponsor of the class as we don't want to have any kind of liability. It was also agreed that John McHugh would develop the class materials and teach the class and would be the sole recipient of whatever amount of money will be paid for teaching this class. If they want more classes taught in the future, then we can see if others are interested in teaching and we requested that John make his material available if that occurs.

2023 Calendar

Kent will develop an initial calendar for the year that includes at least all of the planned board meetings and the symposium. We will add field trips, annual picnic and Christmas party as those dates are determined.

OPEN ITEMS

- Do we want to renew membership to the Utah Non-Profit Organization? No
- Nomination of several rock art sites near Moab for the National Registry
 - We would like to know the status of this project, which URARA contributed ~\$6,000 to for research. This is currently in the hands of the BLM Moab office but we can't seem to get a clear update on the status.
 - Darlene K. will call Byron (Vernal area BLM) to see if he can help
- Carol D. will try to contact the BLM in Moab to see if we can get an update and to see if there is anything else that URARA might be able to do to help this project move forward.

Minutes by Roger Cook, URARA Secretary

What has been happening to Rock Art?

Diana Acerson

Latest National News:

Las Vegas Review Journal November 4, 2022

Two Elko residents were sentenced to prison Friday for vandalizing a sacred Native American site in Lincoln County with graffiti.



Vandalism is everywhere. Moab and other areas of the canyonlands and color country of Utah have experienced an explosion of visitation and vandalism, but funding for land management has been at best flat. There is a lack of resources for land managers in enforcement where the protection of cultural resources is concerned. It is easy for vandals doing the destruction to important cultural resources, to do so with relative impunity. It will take legislation to allow more funding to the land managers. Where do your representatives stand on this topic?

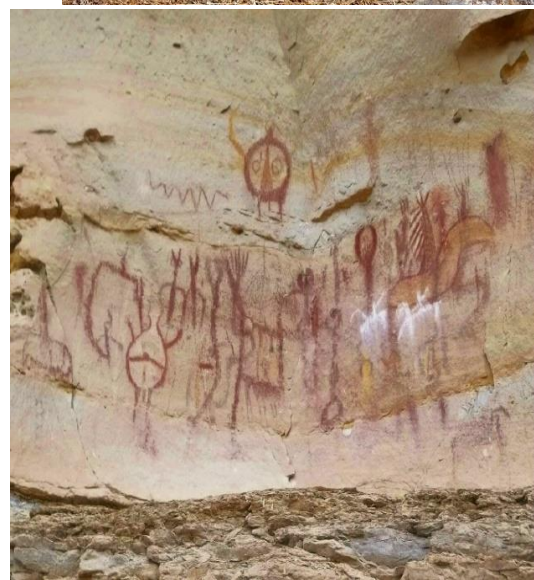
As more people go into the desert regions and wilderness areas of Utah, incidents like these have become alarmingly more and more common. The only reasonable thing we can do is record the sites now and try to educate people about their importance.

Please teach and be an example to your friends and family. *Share* and practice the simple rock art etiquette.

- FINGERS AND TOOLS SHOULD NEVER TOUCH THE ROCK WRITINGS OR IMAGERY – Take only photos or sketch in a sketch pad
- Please do not enhance the images by re-pecking/painting them, or use any other method
- Please help keep the sites intact by not disturbing the ground to unearth images
- Chalking or filling them in, is a no-no
- Please refrain from making rubbings or tracing the images
- Thank you for not trying to clean off dust, lichen, or other substances from the imagery
- Thank you for not adding your own images, names, etc. anywhere on any rock
- Remember these images are sacred to the “People” whose decedents still visit and worship at these sites

It takes everyone to educate people on the importance of these images.

Please share this message.







Calendar and URARA Events

December	Sorry, no URARA Christmas gathering this year
2023	
January 14-15	Annual Board Planning Retreat, Moab
March 10-13	ARARA Annual Conference, Tucson, American Rock Art Research Association - Conference Info 2023 (wildapricot.org)
June 9	SHPO Preservation Conference, https://ushpo.utah.gov/conference/
October 5-9	URARA Symposium, Price, Utah
October 18-21	GBAC Bend, Oregon, https://greatbasinanthropologicalassociation.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