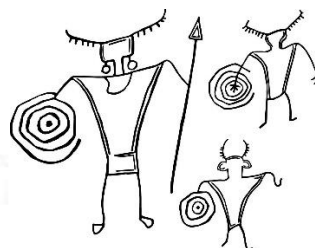


VESTIGES



February 2023
Volume 43
Number 2

Monthly Newsletter of URARA, the Utah Rock Art Research Association

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From the Prez

Kent Williams

Hello URARA,

The URARA Board of Directors had our annual retreat in Moab a few weeks ago. We used that time to review how the past year went, and plan for the upcoming year. If you are interested in the details of that meeting, the minutes are posted on the URARA web site on the Members/Governance page along with notes/minutes from all our board meetings. You will need to log in to the web site as a MEMBER, then select GOVERNANCE > MEETING MINUTES.

A quorum of 5 or more board members was present for all portions of the 2-day meeting. Committee Chairs and Appointees attending: Steve Acerson – Field Trips, Troy Scotter – website, Darlene Koerner – Documentation, Research, Carol Duecker- Funds Manager, Werner Duecker - Nominating/Governance Committee. Other members attending portions of the meeting: Lynn Benson, Leigh Grench, Diane Orr, Don & Adele Leavitt, Pam & Quent Baker.

We focused on ways to better engage membership last year and we plan on continuing those efforts this year. One of the ways to do that is by continuing to sponsor field trips. We are also looking at ways to incorporate conservation and preservation of rock art in all our activities, as that was identified as the top priority in the member survey conducted last year, and emphasizing responsible site visitation during our field trips is one way we do that. Sponsoring rock art site documentation and conservation projects under the supervision of professional archaeologists are other ways. Keep an eye on our website for registration for these and other opportunities as they come up during the year.

February 2023

Besides field trips, other ways for members to become more engaged and get connected with other folks in URARA are the summer picnic, and Christmas dinners. A current calendar of events is posted in all issues of Vestiges so keep an eye on that as well.

We were saddened to learn that the Southern Nevada Rock Art Association (SNRAA) has decided to disband. Since their incorporation in 2002, SNRAA has worked to provide educational programs and assist local government agencies in the study, preservation and protection of rock art in Southern Nevada. SNRAA promoted stewardship through site monitoring and their expertise in recording rock art was widely recognized and respected.

As a part of their dissolution process, SNRAA has decided to donate \$1000 of their remaining assets to URARA. We are grateful for SNRAA's generous donation and it will be used for rock art research, preservation, conservation and education.

Help Wanted - Membership Coordinator

Kent Williams

If you like working with the good folks in URARA, love rock art, and are looking for ways to connect the two, we have an opportunity for you. URARA needs a person who can help keep members connected with our growing organization.

As a membership coordinator you will keep the membership list current, reach out to new members to welcome, and orient them with activities. As a volunteer, the rewards won't be financial, but you will likely make more new friends and could make a difference.

Please contact Kent Williams willikb15@gmail.com if interested.



The board at work in Moab

Urara Field Trips

Steven Acerson, Field Trip Coordinator

Well..... Being a confirmed addicted member for visiting cultural sites, wherever they may be found, I'm glad URARA is continuing to make field trips part of what is offered to our members.

The challenging part of this story is my part of organizing and getting members to lead Field Trips. I'm going at it a little different this go around. Instead of myself leading all of the trips, I've asked volunteer leaders to take other members to places leaders are familiar with and know information about these sites. As a leader you get to pick the place you want to take people. So when you go to the web page and look at the events tab you'll see a wide range of places. There will also be trips of different topics or events different from the view-and-go trips of the past.

So far I've listed three Field Trips: Fillmore/Beaver, hoping the snow melts, Rocky/Bacon Hills, CA, and Cottonwood/Butler Wash, Ritual Running Paths. Hopefully every member received an email announcing the Field Trips, with an easy click on the register tab to sign-up.

As I get the event planned, I'll put it on the web and an email will be sent out. So you will have to check your emails if you would like to sign-up for one of them. All three of the above mentioned Field Trips are already full and have 10 or so members on the waiting lists. If a member can't make a trip, I will cancel them and pull one off the waitlist.

A BIG THANK YOU for the members who have responded and volunteered to take members along to the places they were going to visit this coming year. Being a new member of ten years. Field Trips where the events where Diana and I have met many of our friends in URARA and helped us develop bonds that help us accomplish URARA's many projects.

So if you have a place you want to share with our members, please contact me. There are plenty of days which we can enjoy on nature's pathways, the images left by those who walked these same canyons before us.

Events I'm working on.... Vernal Documentation, Barrier Canyon, Bluff Area, Montezuma Canyon, Smith's Family Conservancy, Mud springs, Mossback, Summer Solstice, Mansard, are some. Still plenty of days you could help me fill.

Together we make URARA work.....



Wells Draw Road Amendment: Gate Canyon

The BLM would amend the Right-of-Way on the Gate canyon portion of Wells Draw Road. 5.2 miles of roadway are proposed to be reconstructed; 2.7 miles on land managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and 2.5 miles on land managed by the Utah's School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration (SITLA). The application proposes to complete conforming Wells Draw Road to the American Association of State Highway and Transportation (AASHTO) design guidelines.

A 30-day public scoping period is active from January 9, 2023 until February 8, 2023. During this time, written comments will be accepted by letter, email, or ePlanning submission online until the closing date. Please note the most useful comments would be specific, containing new technical or scientific information relevant to the proposed action and/or project area. Please reference "Wells Draw Road Amendment: Gate Canyon" when submitting comments.

This website provides the latest information on this project. Throughout the NEPA process, this website will be updated to include background documents, maps, meeting announcements, published bulletins, and other documents as applicable. For instructions on how to navigate and use this site, review the Video Tutorial in the upper right corner.

BLM will use the NEPA public participation process to satisfy the public involvement requirements under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) (54 U.S.C. § 306108) and pursuant to 36 C F R 800.2(d)(3). The information about cultural resources within the area potential affect for this undertaking will assist the BLM in identifying and evaluating effects/impacts to such resources in the context of both NEPA and Section 106 of the NHPA.

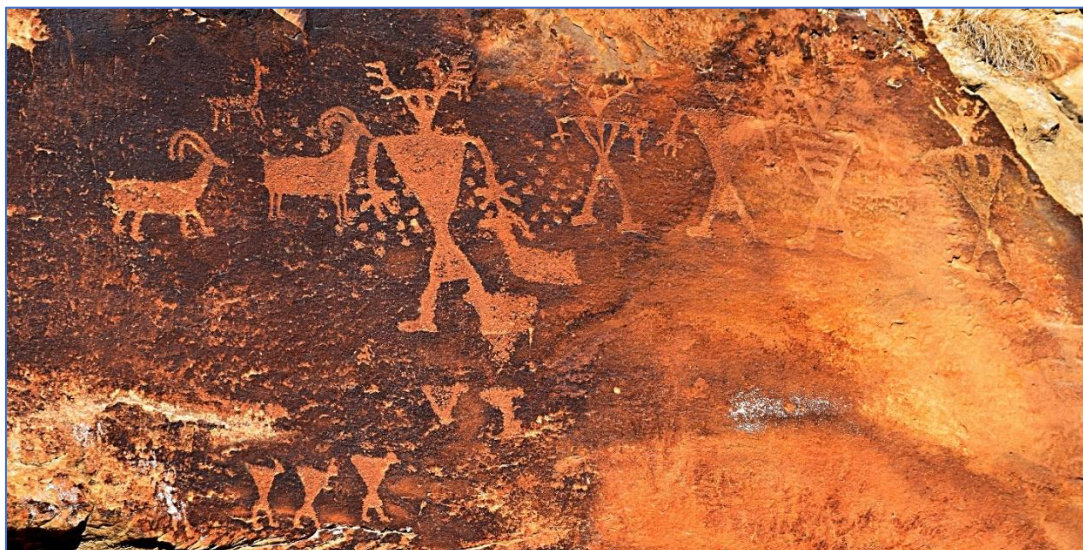
<https://eplanning.blm.gov/eplanning-ui/project/2022551/510>

See Also: [BLM seeks public comment on right-of-way amendment ...](https://www.blm.gov/press-release/blm-seeks-public...)

[Duchesne County looks to open oil tanker route through ...](https://www.sltrib.com/news/environment/2023/01/14/...)

Price Is The Place

Diana Acerson



Did you Get it on your Calendar yet?

PRICE IS THE PLACE - OCTOBER 5-9 ARE THE DATES

Planning for this year's symposium is well under way and we are excited to be going back to Price after 11 years. We are lining up a great variety of workshops for those who would enjoy those. They will take place on Thursday the 5th. On Friday the 6th and Monday the 9th you can plan on some great field trips, even for those who think they have seen everything! Steve Acerson and Kent Williams are putting those trips together for you. It's a while before sign ups, but keep those in the back of your mind. And of course, plan to be there for the main event. We are planning on some great presentations by new faces as well as those you love to hear from, on Saturday the 7th and Sunday the 8th.



Since we are doing so much with Conservation and Preservation of rock art/imagery/writings, our fund-raising efforts to support this work relies on the auctions we have every year at the symposium. So don't be shy! Save up and donate items to the auction when the time comes, to support the wonderful conservation efforts URARA has become famous for. If you attended the Vernal symposium, you know what great fun the auction is. You can also donate funds on our website. If you have something you know someone would love to own, set it aside. We will be taking those donations as we get closer to the event.

The social events are in the works with expectations of loads of fun for all. We are looking forward to the comradery, making new friends, and renewing old friendships, at the traditional watermelon social, the banquet Saturday night catered by the University, the Oscar's, the auctions, and of course as we interact with each other throughout the symposium events. A tour of the Prehistoric Museum, will be after the watermelon social. So, stay tuned for more on that.



We are sending another shout out for you folks with a rock art interest or skill and would like to conduct a workshop, give a presentation, or participate as a volunteer during the symposium.

Please contact me, Diana Acerson, dace1950@gmail.com 435-262-7044.

If you would like to lead a field trip during the symposium or at any other time of the year, please contact Steven Acerson, whiteh20rockart@gmail.com 385-985-5402

We will be updating throughout the year as we get closer to the event. We can't do everything we like to without help from members (you). So please if you want to lend a hand in some capacity, let us know. There are activities that can be done from the comfort of your computer! Thanks so much!

Tidbit

Utah's rock imagery is featured in the November-December issue of Utah Life magazine

[Utah Life is a subscriber magazine featuring stories about Utah \(utahlifemag.com\)](http://utahlifemag.com)

Summer Projects Vernal Utah

Darlene Koerner

Documentation and Survey

It's time to start thinking about summer and projects that URARA is lining up for members.

Based on responses from members supporting Conservation and Preservation as well as documentation, URARA is scheduling projects jointly with the BLM in Vernal Utah. All scheduled times will be Thursday through Sunday with David Christensen giving training Thursday morning and then heading out to the field in the afternoon. We will document sites through Saturday, and have Sunday to visit sites or survey areas depending on what the group wants to do. Because we're not sure of time requirements, there may be some changes on the weekend as the project takes place. All three locations will require strenuous hiking. We will plan a get-together on Friday evening for all three projects.

April 20-22 Brush Creek area

Document unrecorded sites and possible additional survey

April 27-29 Upper Ashley Creek/Dry Fork

Document unrecorded sites and possible additional survey

May 18-20 Survey

Survey additional areas in Brush Creek and Ashley Dry Fork. If not completed in April. Additional area(s) will be determined before May depending on priority of BLM.

If you are interested in being involved with any one or more of these locations please let Darlene Koerner know as she will be coordinating with David Christensen, BLM archaeologist

Darlene – timdar@ubtanet.com 435-828-2299



Patina

Diana Acerson

What is Patina? Many of our members have wonderful rock art stories & photos which, for a variety of reasons, will never be presented at a URARA symposium. Patina is intended to provide a home for these ideas — a “peoples forum” so to speak — where they can be shared with members and the general public.

Patina is not a blog. Each item is a stand-alone pdf document stored on the URARA website. Over time, we hope to add a variety of stories, remembrances, research papers, theories, photo essays, fine art, poetry, or whatever our members and rock art associates may want to share.

How to Use Patina. Go to www.utahrockart2.org/wa//patina_all.html and browse by title. As of March 2020, we are just getting started (actually reviving a concept first tried in 1993, see below). So for now, we have just a few documents. But.... revisit this site and watch our collection grow.

Who Can Participate? Anyone can submit an item to Patina, provided the subject is relevant to rock art in Utah and the western states. That means a submittal can be about any subject or place in the world if it relates back to the core concepts at URARA.

How to Submit. The material needs to be composed as you want it to appear, then submitted in electronic format to URARA at UtahRockArtResearchAssoc@gmail.com. If your item is too large to email, copy it to a thumb drive and mail to our publications chair: Dennis DeVore, 353 Dakota Circle, Grand Junction, CO 81507.

Editorial Review. We have an editorial board that serves to review the submittals and make policy. The board will respond upon receiving your item. We cannot accept submittals that are offensive or that promote a product or solicit sales. Otherwise, we welcome and encourage a wide range of ideas.

Patina History. In 1993 URARA published the first issue of Patina, with hopes that it would be the “first of many volumes presenting ideas and research from URARA’s membership.” The concept was sound, but ahead of its time. There was never a second issue. The cost and effort to compile and print subsequent issues was too much. But you can read that first issue [right here](#).

Members Forum

Rick Mathews

A funny thing happened on my way to the forum....

When I joined URARA, the pandemic was in full swing. The only socializing I was able to do with other members was online. The forum was the perfect place for me to ask questions and learn from those who knew more. After watching and rewatching the zoom presentations and asking questions in the forum, I started to feel like Nina and Troy were old friends.

A lot of my first posts were questions on style. Armed with the zoom presentations, several books and my own bias, I gave my opinion and how I came to my conclusion. It was great to read responses from others who offered a different view. It's great to have the forum so we can talk about Rock Imagery when the weather prevents actual visits.



Here is an anthropomorph I took to the forum. I really wanted some other opinions. It really had me stumped. The forum did not let me down. I had a response from Troy and he weighed in on the picture.

As I prepared this article, I looked through the forum again. I re-read my early posts, some of my responses and new posts I had not seen. This review reminded me that one of the greatest resources we have is our collective knowledge. Sharing our thoughts, pictures and suggestions with others helps URARA grow together. I am grateful for responses to my early posts. As a new member, those folks made me feel welcome.

As much fun as I had with the forum when I first joined, over time I found myself not posting as often or checking in to see what others had to talk about. I was today-years old when I found out you could subscribe to the forum. Now I can see what others are up to, join the discussion. I encourage you all to do the same.

Log in as a member, then go to the member tab and scroll down to the forum tab. Click on it, then look for the subscribe tab. Click on subscribe. This will send an email to you whenever a member puts a topic on the forum.

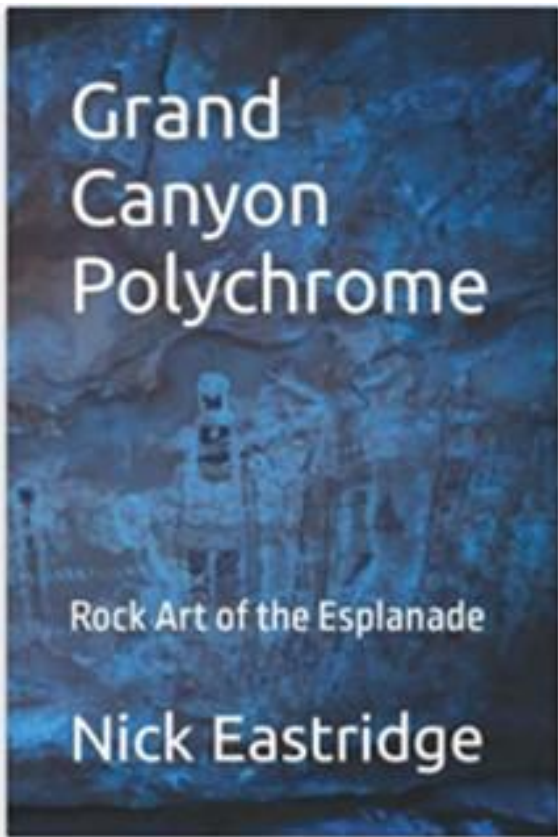
Book Review: *Grand Canyon Polychrome*

Roger Cook

“Grand Canyon Polychrome – Rock Art of the Esplanade” by Nick Eastridge
Published in 2022.

Quote from the back cover of the book: After years of exploration, Nick Eastridge revisited all the sites in this book in a single hike. Without revealing locations, this book contains the photographs, sketches, and observations from that trip.

As there is very little information published on the Esplanade Rock Art style, I was curious enough to buy the book. This is a small book, only 63 pages long and is mostly photographs and sketches. The photographs and sketches of the nine sites he visited are good quality and there are quite a few pictures of sites that I have not seen in other sources. The author also utilized a 3D scanning technique and includes full scans of many of the panels which gives a lot more information than isolated photos. So, this is a good reference for those who may be interested in some of what is hidden in the depths of the Grand Canyon. As most of us will never get to these sites due to the difficulty of hiking in the Grand Canyon and the general secrecy of where the sites are located, this is a good way of appreciating those sites.



As much as I enjoyed the photographs and sketches, the book is extremely short on narrative of any kind, other than short descriptions of each site. If you are looking for a discussion about how the author prepared for this trip or the difficulty of the hiking in the Grand Canyon, how to find water or any other details concerning this trip, you will not find them in this book. I understand the necessity of not giving away any details on the locations of these sites, but the book would have been much more enjoyable with at least some narrative. Still, I am glad I have added this book to my library.

The book is available on Amazon.

Roger Cook

Calendar and URARA Events

2023	
February 10-12	URARA Field Trip, Fillmore and Beaver Utah
March 3-4	URARA Field Trip, Ritual Running Routes Bluff, UT
March 4-5	URARA Field Trip, Rocky and Bacon Hills, Porterville, CA
March 10-13	ARARA Annual Conference, Tucson, American Rock Art Research Association - Conference Info 2023 (wildapricot.org)
April 16	Quarterly Board Meeting 6:00 to 7:00PM Zoom
June 9	SHPO Preservation Conference, https://ushpo.utah.gov/conference/
July 18	Quarterly Board Meeting 6:00 to 7:00PM Zoom
July TBD	Summer Picnic
October 5-9	URARA Annual Symposium, Price, Utah
October 8	Quarterly Board Meeting and Members Meeting (at Symposium)
October 18-21	GBAC Bend, Oregon, https://greatbasinanthropologicalassociation.org/
December TBD	Christmas dinner (s)

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.

Desert 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

2023 URARA Board and Officers

President	Kent Williams
Vice President	Diana Acerson
Treasurer	Carol Duecker
Secretary	Roger Cook
	Darlene Koerner
	John McHugh
	Rick Matthews
	Nina Bowen
	Keith Fessenden

Committee Chairs and Appointees

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

URARA Conservation Coordinators

<u>BLM District</u>	<u>Field Office</u>	<u>Coordinator</u>
Coordinator Lead		Werner Duecker
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