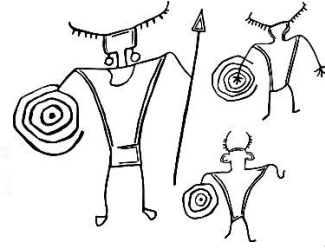


VESTIGES



July 2023
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Monthly Newsletter of URARA, the Utah Rock Art Research Association

Table of Contents

From the Prez	1	Northern Uinta Rock Imagery Project	
Price Symposium Update	2	Report	8
Symposium Slide Show Featurettes.....	4	Summer Solstice in Vernal.....	9
Online Presentation, Origins of Cave Art		Brush Creek Documentation Project....	10
.....	4	Errata.....	11
Annual Potluck Picnic.....	5	Rock Imagery in the News	11
Nebo Indian Education Prayer Run	7	Calendar and URARA Events.....	12
		URARA Board and Officers.....	13

From the Prez

Kent Williams

Hello!

For lovers of rock art, summer may seem like the doldrums. Some of the desert areas we like to visit are too hot and buggy this time of year for walkabouts. Some of us get sidetracked with summer projects and vacations.

Nevertheless, URARA activities continue. We have had several site recording and research projects ongoing with BLM and the State Historical Preservation Office, we have the summer picnic coming up in August, and preparations for the Symposium in Price continue. Reading Vestiges is a great way to keep up and stay connected, so I hope you enjoy this issue.

Kent

Price Symposium Update

Diana Acerson



We are getting more excited as the months draw us closer to our symposium in Price this October 5th-9th. We hope you will be there to take advantage of great presentations by wonderful speakers, with some surprises we think you will like. The workshops are going to be wonderful as well, with new and exciting experiences for you.

This year's T-shirts will feature the Nine Mile Canyon sheep, the official logo for this symposium. All T-shirts will need to be pre-ordered at the time of registration so they will be done and ready for pick up at the symposium.

Note: If you don't plan to attend the symposium but would like a shirt, you can still order from the website after registration opens until the cutoff date, but be prepared; the price will include shipping.

We think you will like the Banquet menu. The offerings all sound delicious. And new this year, you will also be able to pre-order your lunches if you wish at the time you register.

And we look forward to seeing our favorite vendors there to offer you the opportunity to purchase wonderful products of their many talents. If you would like to be a vendor, let us know. Contact Diana Acerson, 435-262-7044, dace1950@gmail.com.

We plan to open registration on August 20th, and close food and T-shirt orders on September 15th. Please note that due to the need for advance preparation, people registering late for the symposium or within the 2 weeks prior to the beginning of the event, will not be able to order the banquet, lunches, or T-shirts, and may not be able to sign up for field trips or workshops if they are full.

So, a brief recap:

- August 20th Registration opens
 - Banquet & T-Shirt orders end September 15th
 - Field trip and Workshop sign ups end when they reach capacity
- Thursday October 5th is the workshop/field work day.
- Friday October 6th – Field trips, evening watermelon social, dinosaur museum presentation and tour
- Saturday – Presentations, banquet*, auction, and Oscar's
- Sunday – Presentations
- Monday – Field Trips

Symposium (continued)

**The banquet cannot meet the needs of all those who are on special diets. There will be a vegetarian offering, which is standard. But those of you who have other special dietary needs, we would ask you to bring your own meal to the banquet so you can still be there to participate in the other activities of the evening. We hope this will work for you, and we apologize for any inconvenience to you this causes. We sincerely wish to have you there to enjoy the events and the comradery. Thank you so much for your understanding.*

HELP WANTED – Need field trip leaders. The more leaders, the more people can attend a field trip. Contact Steve Acerson: whiteh20rockart@gmail.com or 385-985-5402. Even if you don't know the areas, Steve will help you know what to do and where to go. Thank you to those willing to make it possible for those who want to see rock art in Nine Mile Canyon, the San Rafael Swell, and other sites around the area.

Head of Sinbad



Buckhorn Wash



Symposium Slide Show Featurettes

Dennis Devore, Symposium Speaker Coordinator

Wanted: Slide Show Featurettes for Symposium

This year we will be trying something new at symposium and you are invited to join in. During breaks we will run short “featurette” slide shows. There will be no audio so it won’t interfere with socializing. Just a continual show during the breaks.

Anyone can contribute. If you’ve always wanted to share your ideas but would rather walk on hot coals than speak to a live audience this is your chance. There are some simple guidelines so contact me at ddv48@mac.com before submitting.

The deadline: September 1 -- but don’t wait. My plan is to prioritize them on a first-come first-served basis.

Online Presentation, Origins of Cave Art

Werner Duecker

July’s on-line presentation will be on the Origins of Cave Art, by Bernie Taylor, Tuesday July 25th at 7 pm MDT, via Zoom



The interpretation of drawings and engravings rely on our unique ability to internally process visual information and identify recognizable patterns. This same ability processes imaginary patterns, such as animals and faces of people in geological formations, clouds and stars. The phenomenon of identifying imaginary patterns, referred to as “pareidolia,” is apparently innate to humans and logically

should have preceded our earliest rock art. In this presentation, researcher Bernie Taylor will take us on a visual journey of northern Iberian cave art, the landscapes that inspired some of the images, and their historical place in Basque mythology.

Annual Potluck Picnic

Diana Acerson

August 17-20, 2023



Register on the URARA website now to join us in Beaver, Utah, at the Steven & Diana Acerson home “Campground” at the mouth of Beaver Canyon, along the Beaver River. Pitch your tent, or park in the shade of large cottonwood and conifer trees and listen to the river as it flows by. The birdsong will greet you each morning.



Arrival is on Thursday to set up your camps, campers, or check in to a hotel (3 miles away), or an RV park, if you have a large RV or trailer. Beaver has 3 campgrounds and lots of hotels if you are not a camper.

Lots of petroglyph and pictograph sites to see on Friday and Saturday.

The only group meal planned is the potluck dinner on Saturday night at the Acerson campground. Be prepared to bring your potluck contribution for the event. Once you register, we will send you the directions to the campground. We are asking that last names starting with A through M, bring either a salad, a veggie something, your favorite dish, or appetizers. Take your pick. Last names starting with N through Z, contribute a dessert item. If you have special dietary needs, please just bring what you can eat to meet those needs. All other meals during your stay are on your own. So come with your breakfast, lunch, and dinner plans for the other meals. Some folks like to gather and visit local restaurants. And we have several good local places you might like.

URARA will supply the picnic non-alcoholic beverages, plates, utensils, napkins, and the URARA traditional picnic dish – Homemade Chili.



Fun Fact: Beaver can boast some of the best water in the U.S. if not the best!

Plan for cool nights, warm days. Bring camp chairs, proper shoes, water, hiking gear, snacks, hats, walking sticks, bug spray (it is a year of bugs folks), sunscreen, and appropriate clothing. If it looks like as we get closer that it might rain, throw in your rain gear. Monsoon season is unpredictable. Don't forget your cameras and cell phone chargers. There will be internet/cell service available once you arrive at the "campground," so you will have cell service during your stay.

Bring your rock art site list if you have ideas of what you would like to see. Since the picnic is more a casual outing, ideas and thoughts are welcome. Be prepared to share stories of your rock art adventures, have fun, and make more friends.



Nebo Indian Education Prayer Run

Diana Acerson

On Friday, June 16, URARA participated with the Nebo Indian Education Camp Eagle Summer School in its 14-mile Prayer Run from the mouth of Spanish Fork Canyon to the finish location on the east side of West Mountain a little south of the Lincoln Beach campground. This year's emphasis was on preserving rock images and other archaeological artifacts on West Mountain. The students involved presented their reports and posters relative to various time periods of habitation in Utah. URARA emphasized the need to respect, protect, and preserve these archaeological treasures – especially as they are an important heritage of these Native American youth. Thanks to Don and Adele Leavitt for representing URARA.



Northern Uinta Rock Imagery Project Report

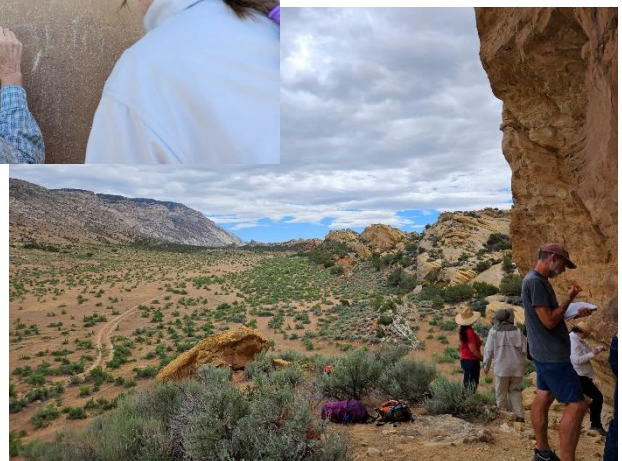
Elizabeth Hora

Over 30 new and existing rock imagery sites were recorded in the Uinta Basin with the help of URARA volunteers! Crews from the Utah SHPO (n = 6) and volunteers from URARA (n = 9), NPS (n = 2), BLM (n = 2), Utah DNR (n = 2), and SWCA (n = 1) completed 9 consecutive days of fieldwork. That's a lot of camping!

The Utah SHPO led a project to record these sites and produce research-grade drawings of Classic Vernal Style Fremont rock imagery. In addition to producing up-to-date, professional site forms for these places, I will use the data from the jewelry, clothing, face paint, and shields to learn more about Fremont social structure. Another colleague, Lynda McNeil, plans to use the data to learn more about Kiowa and Hopi connections to the ancient Fremont. That's two research projects with one stone!

We also removed graffiti from two areas along the McConkie Ranch Trail (at the request of and with the help of members of the Bar V Bar Corp). Graffiti removal is a long and arduous process, but we were able to significantly reduce the visual impact of graffiti in hopes that it will not attract more damage in the future from visitors. We also left two graffiti removal kits with the McConkie family descendants and they are thrilled to (literally) have the tools to stop archaeological vandalism at this important site.

None of this would have been possible without the generous support of URARA and URARA volunteers. From the bottom of my heart: thank you for all your help out there!



Summer Solstice in Vernal

Carla Landenberger

The small group of URARA members who attended the summer solstice outing in Vernal, led by archaeologist John McHugh, were in for a treat! With the sun and clouds cooperating, we witnessed the amazing Oar-headed Fremont Figure at Steinaker Reservoir do what its ancient Michelangelo had designed it to do! As the sun rose, a delicate shaft of light crept down the rock face and filled precisely the space between its oars and proceeded to reach the figure's feet. At this point the Oar-headed Figure was standing on the shadow line. We participants watched in awe while listening to the steady, insightful and informative commentary provided by John. We visited a few more sites, including an early afternoon solstice marker at McKee Springs. What could be a better way to spend the solstice? Fun people with common interests, beautiful scenery and rock art! Thanks to all who made it happen.



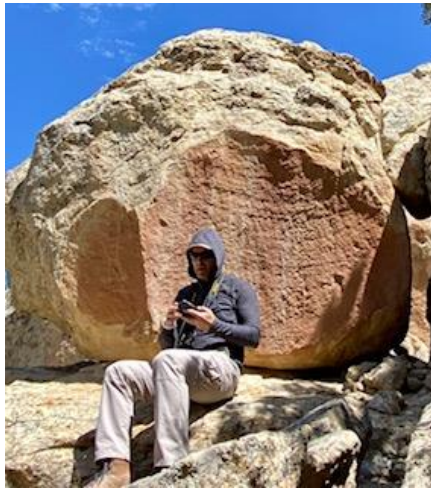
Brush Creek Documentation Project

Darlene Koerner

Documentation and survey projects were planned with the Vernal BLM office archaeologist David Christensen, for 2023. Due to the weather, numerous rescheduling dates were attempted before we were finally able to tackle the documentation of the Brush Creek area at the end of May. The project consisted of 3 days of survey and documentation and one day of a field trip in the area.

Turn out was great with a full crew of 8 people that worked very hard to get sites documented and to survey an area where multiple additional sites were found and documented. Because of weather, we were not able to do the Ashley/Dry Fork documentation projects but will reschedule at a later date.

This was a great beginning to what we hope will become a focus program for URARA in the future as part of our committed conservation and preservation of rock art in the state of Utah



Troy Scotter (URARA), David Christensen BLM archaeologist, and Doug Fry (URARA) document sites found while surveying Brush Creek Area. Troy 's site is a mystery and complicated



Volunteer Crew documenting sites along Brush Creek and Island Park Road

Errata

Bob Crifasi corrects an error in last month's report on Comb Ridge, Vestiges, June, 2023, p. 10. The group visited the Procession and Crane Panels, not the Owl Panel.

Rock Imagery in the News

Biography of the Fossum Panel, Tanum Research Centre 2016

<https://www.rockartscandinavia.com/images/articles/a15lingubn.pdf>

Children's rock art Tanum Research Centre 30 May 2022

https://www.rockartscandinavia.com/images/articles/childrens_rock_art.pdf

Discovery of 2,700-year-old petroglyphs in western Sweden InterestingEngineering.com

https://interestingengineering.com/culture/petroglyphs-uncovered-sweden-insights-into-ancient-civilization?utm_source=blueprint-newsletter&utm_content=blueprint-newsletter-01-06-2023&utm_medium=culture&utm_campaign=article&utm_source=Interesting+Engineering

New Study Identifies Mysterious Boats Painted in Australian Cave Smithsonian

https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/australian-rock-art-boat-mystery-180982400/?utm_source=smithsoniandaily&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=editorial&spMailingID=48426008&spUserID=NzQwNDU0OTIyMTES1&spJobID=2482549330&spReportId=MjQ4MjU0OTMzMAS2

Oldest Known Neanderthal Engravings Were Sealed in a Cave for 57,000 Years Smithsonian 21

June 2023 https://www.smithsonianmag.com/science-nature/oldest-known-neanderthal-engravings-discovered-in-french-cave-180982408/?utm_source=smithsoniandaily&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=editorial&spMailingID=48426008&spUserID=NzQwNDU0OTIyMTES1&spJobID=2482549330&spReportId=MjQ4MjU0OTMzMAS2

Cottonwood Wash inholding under contract to Wildands Conservancy

<https://wildlandsconservancy.org/cottonwoodwash>

Outcry after tourist carves name on wall at the Colosseum in Rome Guardian 27 June 2023

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2023/jun/27/outcry-after-tourist-carves-name-on-wall-at-the-colosseum-in-rome>

Calendar and URARA Events

July 18	Quarterly Board Meeting 6:00 to 7:00PM Zoom
July 25	URARA Online presentation 7:00 PM MDT; watch for invitation
Aug 10-13	Pecos Conference, Flagstaff, https://www.pecosconference.org/2023
August 17-20	URARA Summer Picnic Beaver, Utah; https://urara.wildapricot.org/event-5330734
October 5-9	URARA Annual Symposium, Price, Utah
October 8	Quarterly Board Meeting and Members Meeting (at Symposium)
October 18-21	GBAC Bend, Oregon, registration is now open 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.

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>

Desert Archaeological Society (DAS), St George, meets on the second Wednesday of the month, Saturday field trips once a month. <http://www.dixierockart.com/>
Meetings will resume in September

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.

Colorado Rock Art Association (CRAA) will continue to present occasional webinars on Zoom
<https://coloradorockart.org/>

Utah Humanities Public Events, <https://utahhumanities.org/index.php> > Events

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

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Historian/ Archives	Keith Fessenden
Website	Troy Scotter
Membership Coordinator	Deb Mitchell
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