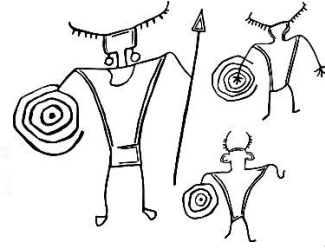


VESTIGES



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Monthly Newsletter of URARA, the Utah Rock Art Research Association

Table of Contents

From the Prez	1	Moab Christmas Gathering.....	7
Call for Field Trip Leaders	2	Washington County Christmas	
URARA Symposium 2024 Beaver Utah .	3	Gathering.....	7
Gold Butte Field Trip Report.....	5	Rock Imagery in the News	8
URARA Inventory Update	6	Calendar and URARA Events.....	8
Mojave Preserve Report.....	7	URARA Board and Officers.....	9



From the Prez

Diana Acerson

Welcome to 2024 and a year we hope will be filled with great rock art adventures! As your president for the next couple of years, I am excited to share with you opportunities to get together at URARA’s always fun events, work on protecting the rock art we love, share knowledge and experience, as well as visit new sites along our paths. Making connections with old friends and meeting new members is a big part of what makes URARA such a wonderful organization to belong to. So come share with us as we go forward in our quest to visit, learn about, and protect rock art!

We are not saying goodbye to Kent Williams. He will be heading up the Conservation and Preservation Committee, along with our Area Coordinator program. Many thanks to Kent for hanging in there as president during the chaos of COVID 19. Great job as URARA’s leader through a very difficult time for everyone.

The annual Board Retreat will take place January 20-21st in Moab. Any interested members may attend. They can contact me for more information, dace1950@gmail.com.

Ways you can be involved are many and the needs are great. Here are just a few:

- Let Steve Acerson know you would like to lead a field trip this year in an area you know of or want to see. whiteh20rockart@gmail.com
- Use the Forum on our website to chat with fellow members about rock art and the possibilities of getting together. Just go to the Member tab, pick Members Forum, and subscribe to all or individual conversations.
- Be the one to organize the summer picnic somewhere close to great rock art
- Offer to help with this year's symposium
- Sign up to be a site steward at your favorite rock art site through the Utah Cultural Site Steward program (UCSS) headed up by Utah's State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)
- Volunteer to organize one of the three Christmas parties the end of the year – Moab, St. George, or Salt Lake. *We really need someone willing to take charge of Salt Lake*
- Get your name on the list of people who want to help document rock art sites
- Learn how to use the URARA site information app to help in recording sites
- And more.....

Without volunteers URARA cannot offer some of these activities, so please don't be shy. Step up and volunteer! Contact me if you have questions or want to participate. Many hands make light work. dace1950@gmail.com

And - get ready for the 2024 symposium to be held in Beaver, Utah. Beaver? Really? What's there besides the famous cheese curds (squeaky cheese) from the cheese factory? You'll be pleasantly surprised with the amount of really great rock art all around the area. And to have a different city venue should be quite fun. Mark your calendars for October 10-14th. A lot more information will be coming the next few months to help you prepare.

The annual Board Retreat will take place January 20-21st in Moab. Any interested members may attend. They can contact me for more information.

Call for Field Trip Leaders

Steve Acerson

It's almost SPRING, fer Pete's sake! I know y'all are planning private exploratory trips, but don't forget to plan a few trips to your old favorite sites to share with your fellow URARA members.

Thank you to those of you who volunteered to lead a field trip this past year. Without your willingness, we would not have had the great opportunities to enjoy rock art, make friends, take photos, and enjoy the wonderful environments we experienced in 2023. Thank you.

I am willing to help with the logistics. Let me know your ideas: Location, Date(s), Time, and information/picture. Then I can contact the managing agencies and get permission to visit and maybe include an activity to help monitor the site while we are there.

Steven Acerson, Field Trip lead, 385-985-5402, whiteh20rockart@gmail.com

URARA Symposium 2024 Beaver Utah

Diana Acerson



**Welcome to a new symposium city
and more great rock art!**

**URARA's 2024 Symposium will be held in Beaver, Utah
October 10-14th**

Famous for the #1 Best tasting rural water in the US
and for those fabulous squeaky cheese curds



Beaver High School 195 E Beaver Boulevard

A little about Beaver: Indigenous peoples lived in this area for thousands of years. A number of prehistoric sites have been found in Beaver County, along with a vast variety of petroglyphs and pictographs, dating to the Archaic and Sevier Fremont periods. A prehistoric obsidian quarry site has been identified in the nearby Mineral Mountains. The historic Southern Paiute inhabited the region well before encountering the first European explorers. The 1776 Dominguez Escalante Expedition is the first known European contact with these folks.



Beaver was settled in 1856 by Mormon Pioneers and is filled with historic sites including over 100 places listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The brick Beaver County Courthouse, built in 1882, is one of the area's finest Victorian buildings and now houses a local history museum. Beaver was one of a string of Mormon settlements through Utah. By design, these settlements were located a day's ride on horseback, generally 30 miles apart.

During the 1870s, settlers tried to establish a woolen mill, a tannery, and a dairy industry. Most were engaged in stock raising. Beaver was one of the first towns in Utah to be electrified. The Utah Power and Light hydroelectric plant on the Beaver River dates from just after statehood. With its thousand-foot power drop, the plant's pelton-wheel keeps turning out those carbon-free watts for the town of Beaver.

In 2006, Beaver won a contest for best tasting rural water in the United States. In 2010, Beaver took top honors in the world for best tasting water.

And then there's the rock art!



Gold Butte Field Trip Report

Deb Mitchell

John and I led a two day Field Trip to Gold Butte National Monument for 11 people the last week in October. The first day we walked 8 miles and went to three sites. We saw so much Rock Art we did not have time for a lunch break ! Troy will tell you we actually saw 23 sites, because that's how many he recorded on URARA's Site Information Collection App.

The second day we drove a bit more and walked a bit less. Went to 4 sites, although Troy did document 19.

The weather was fabulous, the Rock Art was fabulous and the company was fabulous. A good time was had by all.



Steve, Diana, John, Jeff, Kathryn, TJ, Craig, Liz and Carol. We're pointing at Troy over there somewhere documenting.

Gold Butte (continued)--



Gold Butte - Kirk's Grotto



Deb Mitchell

URARA Inventory Update

Kathryn Mutz

URARA is currently updating our inventory of Equipment (e.g., projectors, field equipment), Supplies (office, symposium, party/picnic), Libraries and electronic files, and other miscellany. If you have any URARA stuff in your possession, please send Kathryn Mutz a note at gvmutz@gmail.com with:

- A description of what you have;
- The location (e.g., garage, basement); and
- Your contact information (name, address, phone number, email)

Thanks to all of you for making room in your garages and attics for URARA's worldly goods, and helping us keep track of it.

Mojave Preserve Report

Robert Van Orden

Our small Explorers Group trip to Southern Nevada and the Mohave Preserve went off without any problems. Found all the sites, and didn't even get lost. We visited Upper and Lower Hiko Springs, Keyhole, Grapevine, and Sloan Canyon in Nevada. In the Mojave Preserve we visited Lanfair Butte/Indian Well, Camp Rock Spring, Counsel Rocks/Womb Rock, Mary's Cave, and Black Wash/Aikens Arch. The road out to Black Wash was a little rough, otherwise all 2wd. In order to save a few miles we camped one night at Hole-in-the-Wall Campground. Three very wonderful days!

Moab Christmas Gathering

Susan McDowell

The Christmas Party in Moab was a nice gathering of URARA folks from Grand Junction to Farmington with plenty of the old local Moab members, too. After dinner and Margaret's pie, we settled in by the fire to watch Dave Manley's slide show presentation, that some of us missed at the symposium. Always GREAT photos of hard-to-reach places. Thanks to all for coming to the potluck and bringing amazing dishes.

Washington County Christmas Gathering

Diana Acerson



A bunch of old timers (and some not-old-timers too) gathered at Nina Bowen's new digs in Washington City.

Rock Imagery in the News

Bold Figures, Blurred History: The Great Gallery in Horseshoe Canyon Utah Museum of Natural History Museum of Utah, 2 October 2016 <https://nhmu.utah.edu/articles/2023/06/bold-figures-blurred-history-great-gallery-horseshoe-canyon>

Carbon Dating Reveals the Timing of Puerto Rican Cave Art Eos 9 November 2023, https://eos.org/articles/carbon-dating-reveals-the-timing-of-puerto-rican-cave-art?utm_campaign=ealert

Ancient Parowan Gap observance predicts colder weather for Southern Utah, St George News 12 November, 2023 <https://www.stgeorgeutah.com/news/archive/2023/11/12/hws-ancient-parowan-gap-observance-predicts-colder-weather-for-southern-utah/>

Bison in Canada Discover Ancient Petroglyphs Smithsonian Daily 24 November 2023 https://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/bison-in-canada-discover-ancient-petroglyphs-fulfilling-an-indigenous-prophecy-180979119/?utm_source=smithsoniandaily&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=editorial&spMailingID=49104993&spUserID=NzQwNDU0OTlyMTES1&spJobID=2582012707&spReportId=MjU4MjAxMjcwNwS2

Calendar and URARA Events

2024	
January 20-21	URARA Board Meeting, Moab
.....TBA...	URARA FIELD TRIPS. Where are they? (see p. 2)
October 10-14	URARA Symposium, Beaver

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/>

San Diego Rock Art Association (SDRAA) meets on line until further notice. <https://sandiegorockart.org/meetings>

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

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

2024 URARA Board and Officers

President	Diana Acerson
Vice President	Pat Sullivan
Treasurer	Carol Duecker
Secretary	Roger Cook
	John McHugh
	Rick Matthews
	Kent Williams
	Keith Fessenden
	Tina Tan

Committee Chairs and Appointees

Tribal Liaison	Carol Patterson
Historian/ Archives	Keith Fessenden
Website	Troy Scotter
Membership Coordinator	Deb Mitchell
Funds Manager	(vacant)
Grants Manager	Pat Sullivan
Conservation/Preservation	Kent Williams
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		Kent Williams
Canyon Counry	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