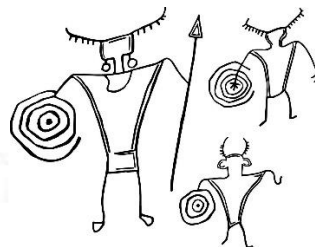


VESTIGES



December 2024
Volume 44

Monthly Newsletter of URARA, the Utah Rock Art Research Association

Table of Contents

From the Prez	1	Field Trip Cancelations and No-shows	11
URARA Christmas Gatherings	2	Outdoor Safety	12
Minutes, Annual Membership Meeting	3	Treasures from Horseshoe Canyon	13
Minutes, URARA Board Meeting.....	4	Rock Imagery in the News	13
Take-aways from Beaver Symposium ...	6	Calendar and URARA Events.....	14
Book Review	11	URARA Board and Officers.....	15



From the Prez

Diana Acerson



As 2024 comes to a close, we want to wish you all a very happy holiday season. And just a reminder that we are offering 3 locations for the Christmas Parties again this year. Salt Lake City, Moab, and St. George. See the reminders on p. 2 below for details and sign-up. It is a great way to meet, socialize, and get to know each other. Like using the URARA website Forum, you can meet folks with a common interest in sharing rock art adventures.

The year has sped by with so much activity happening in URARA as members have participated in many projects, visiting, documenting, and researching rock art. We've had our ups and downs but generally it's been a great year. Although attendance at the Beaver symposium was lower than expected, we feel it was a successful one. We hope you will mark your calendars for next year's in Kanab, to be held October 9th through 13th, with presentations on the 11th and 12th. I again want to thank all those who volunteered their time and talents for the symposium. You all know who you are. We can't put on these events without you, our members, stepping up to help. There aren't enough words to tell you how much you are appreciated. Never think you are not. Thank you.

December 2024

We will be welcoming our new board members, Carol Patterson, Jeff Roberts, and Darlene Koerner and electing new officers this month at a special December 17th board meeting who will lead you in the coming year. If you would like to join that ZOOM meeting, please send me your email address and I will forward the link when we have it. The annual Board Retreat will be in Moab again this January. Please note members can attend any board meeting if you so choose.

I would like to thank all of you for supporting me this year as President. I am stepping down however, due to family obligations and medical issues that require my availability and focus. I have enjoyed my time and hope I have been successful in leading URARA in the right direction. I will still be involved with conservation and preservation as much as I can. I know you will support whomever steps up to lead URARA in the coming years. Again, I thank you. I hope to see you along the trail.....bless you all!

URARA Christmas Gatherings

Susan McDowell



Moab Holiday Party and Potluck – Friday December 6, 2024

Come at 5:30 with Ham served at 6:00, bring your favorite side dish or desert & BYOB
2208 Rio Verde, Moab UT at the home of Susan McDowell 435-260-8097

RSVP moabsuz@gmail.com to provide a good head count & directions.

Salt Lake Holiday Party and Potluck – Wednesday, December 11, 2024

Social Hour 5:00-6:00, Potluck Dinner 6:00-7:00, **Live Music** Entertainment 7:00-8:00
LDS Ward Building, 7511 South 2700 West, West Jordan, UT 84084- (East Side Doors)

RSVP to jddiehlutah@yahoo.com & John Diehl for more information.

St. George Christmas Party and Potluck – Friday, December 13

Come at 5:30 with Ham served at 6:00, bring your favorite side dish or desert & BYOB
1091 N. Ruby Place, Washington UT at the home of Nina Bowen

RSVP ninabowen@gmail.com . (There may be rock art pictures to review.)

Minutes, Annual Membership Meeting

Roger Cook

October 13, 2024, Beaver Symposium

Diana Acerson, President, called the meeting to order.

Diana thanked all of the volunteers who helped make the Symposium a success and then announced that she will be resigning as president and board member at the end of this year due to personal reasons.

Two of the annual Oscar Awards were given out at this time as the recipients (Dennis DeVore and Kent Williams) were not present at the banquet during the awards ceremony.

Kent Williams, representing the Nominating Committee, put forward 3 nominees for the open board positions (these are all 2-year terms): Darlene Koerner, Jeff Roberts, & Carol Patterson. The floor was open for nominations from among the membership but there were no nominations from the floor. A motion was made and seconded to accept Darlene, Jeff and Carol as new board members. **The motion passed** by a vote from the members.

Kent Williams, representing the Nominating Committee, also announced that two board members, Carol Duecker and John McHugh, were at the end of their 2-year term and were willing to serve another 2-year term.

A motion was made and seconded to accept Carol and John for an additional 2-year term as board members. **The motion passed** by a vote from the members.

Other Items:

- There was no financial update as Carol Duecker, URARA Treasurer, was unable to attend the meeting.
- URARA has roughly 400 members. This is an all-volunteer organizations and things don't happen without folks volunteering. There are lots of opportunities for helping so we would sure appreciate everyone's willingness to find some way to be a volunteer.
- Field Trip Leaders: we really need more people to step up to lead a field trip or two. We can only offer field trips when someone is willing to take on the field trip leader role. Just about everyone has some favorite sites where they could offer a field trip so please consider doing so. Contact Steve Acerson for more information on 'How To's' related to field trips.
- Membership Forum: Robert Van Orden made a strong recommendation that every member sign-up for the Membership Forum. It is very easy to sign up. Just go to the MEMBERS tab on the website and click on MEMBER'S FORUM to opt in for notifications.

Minutes, URARA Board Meeting

Roger Cook, Secretary

Beaver Symposium, Q4, October 13, 2024

Diana Acerson, President conducting

Board members attending:

Pat Sullivan – Vice President, Roger Cook – Secretary, Keith Fessenden, Rick Matthews, Kent Williams, Tina Tan

A quorum of 5 or more board members were present.

Board members absent: Carol Duecker – Treasurer, John McHugh

Committee Chairs and Appointees attending:

Troy Scotter, Advisor to the Board

Steve Acerson, Field Trips

Jeff Frey, major support for 2025 Kanab Symposium

Board Meeting Topics

2025 Kanab Symposium – Pat Sullivan and Jeff Frey

- No venue has been selected yet but they are considering the convention center, Red Stone theater and possibly a recently built school
- The Saturday evening banquet can be at a local restaurant
- The following members have agreed to own various aspects of the symposium
 - Overall owner - Pat Sullivan
 - Presentations and Speakers – Bob Crifasi
 - Field trips – Jeff Frey and Tina Tan
 - Volunteers – Susan McDowell
 - Auctions and Vendors - Keith Fessenden
 - Audio/Visual – Werner Duecker maybe
- Date: target is the 2nd weekend in October; back-up options are the 1st or 3rd weekend of October, depending on when we can get the venue
- Jeff mentioned that getting permission to some areas on federal land may be difficult as there are several law suits regarding the new national monument (Baaj Nwaavjo I'tah Kukveni - Ancestral Footprints of the Grand Canyon National Monument) that occupies just under 1 million acres of the Arizona Strip near Kanab.

Follow-up on 2024 Beaver Symposium Field Trip Issue – Diana Acerson

Diana is going to reach out to the BLM state leadership, the Fillmore and Cedar City field office archaeologists, and those who participated with the BLM from SHPO in inter-agency discussions concerning URARA's Beaver Symposium field trips and other issues they have with URARA. URARA was not invited to these discussions. Allegations and accusations were made regarding URARA revealing rock art site information on our website which is false, along with other accusations. She would like to address those allegations and discuss solutions to whatever issues the agencies have with

URARA. The hope is to include all the involved parties in a meeting in November, either by ZOOM or in person, and clear up any misconceptions, answer any concerns, and ultimately protect the organization from any ill feelings certain agency individuals may have towards any URARA individuals.

Moab Nomination – Steve Acerson

- SHPO is continuing to make progress on the 3 separate Moab nominations for the National Register of Historic Places
- New format for all imagery was required and we believe this has been completed
- Due to other pressing priorities (large development along the Colorado River near Moab), the submission date has slipped a bit.
- The current plan is to submit all 3 nominations next spring (2025)

URARA Board Nominations – Kent Williams

- Three board members are retiring at the end of this year: Diana Acerson, Kent Williams & Keith Fessenden
- Representing the Nominating Committee, Kent presented 3 candidates to fill the openings
 - Carol Patterson
 - Darlene Koerner
 - Jeff Roberts

Action Items Review and Update - Roger Cook

The open action items from the last Board meeting were reviewed. An updated Action Item Tracker will be distributed to the board members.

Other New Business – Diana Acerson

- Website review: Troy plans to investigate two other platforms and compare them to Wild Apricot (our current web platform). There are several areas of improvement we would like to see. Troy will build a demo site on both evaluation platforms to see how they perform.
- Summer picnic, 2025 – Darlene has secured a site near Flaming Gorge
- Christmas parties, 2024 – Planning for these is in full swing.
 - Susan McDowell is coordinating the Moab party. Date is 12/11.
 - Nina Bowen is coordinating the St. George party. Date is 12/8.
 - John Diehl is coordinating the SLC party. Date is TBD.
- December Board Meeting to elect officers: **Action Item: Diana Acerson** to set date.

Fiscal Report – Carol Duecker

There was no report due to Carol not being able to attend

Take-aways from Beaver Symposium

Carol Patterson

The conference was a GREAT success from my point of view as an attendee and speaker. I look forward to serving on the board for such a dedicated and long loved organization that I've been a member of since shortly after it was organized in the 80s.

Connie Massengale has a fantastic collection of atlatl examples. She sets the standard for providing supporting evidence from a very large database of sites, and material objects for homologies to support her case. Well done!!

But there was one section that she might consider adding to her knowledge. The following pictures may not be atlatls, but instead symbols of the Hoop and Pole Game, that was really popular with ancestral Pueblo and Apachean groups. The ethnography of both Pueblo and Apache recount this game. The constructions of the hoop and pole depicted in these petroglyphs are the key to their identification.

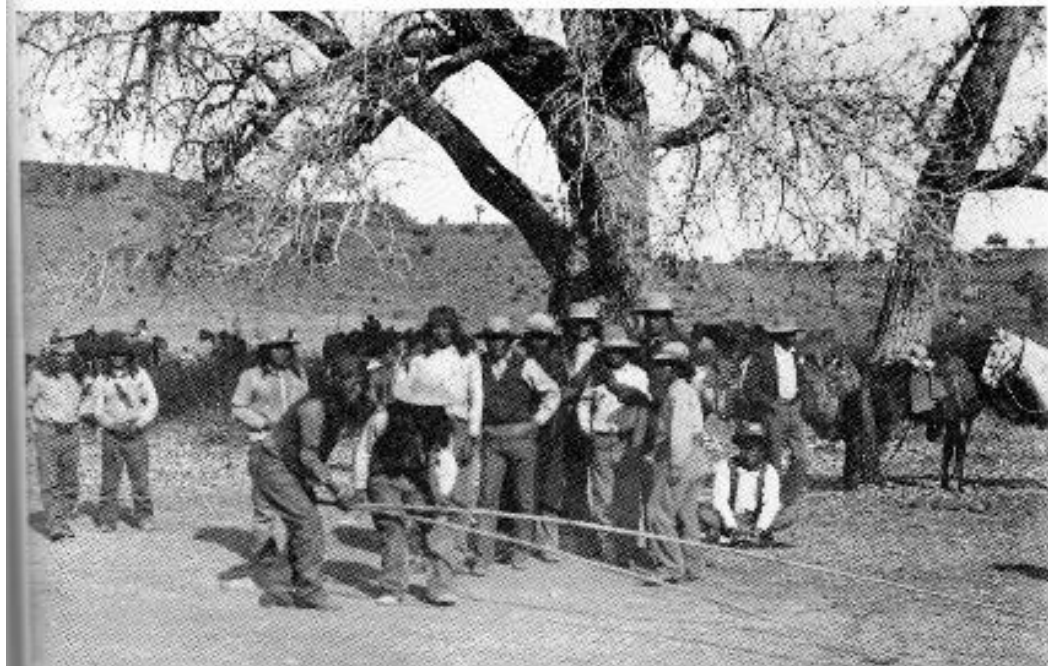


Notice the hoop is very large and has thick wrapping where the hoop is joined. They are often depicted in pairs, as the game is played with two competing teams.



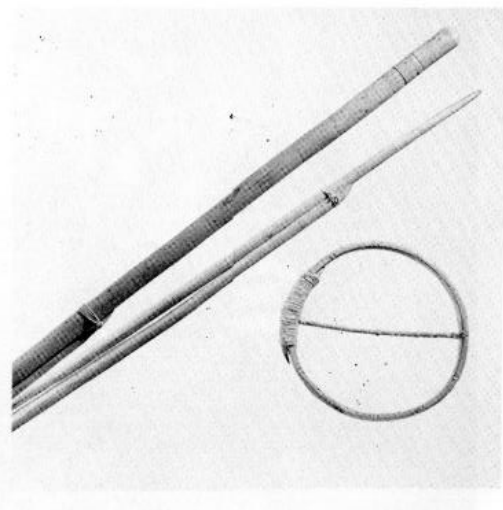


Alan Ferg and William B. Kessel



Western Apache playing the Hoop and Pole game. The poles are 20+ feet long.

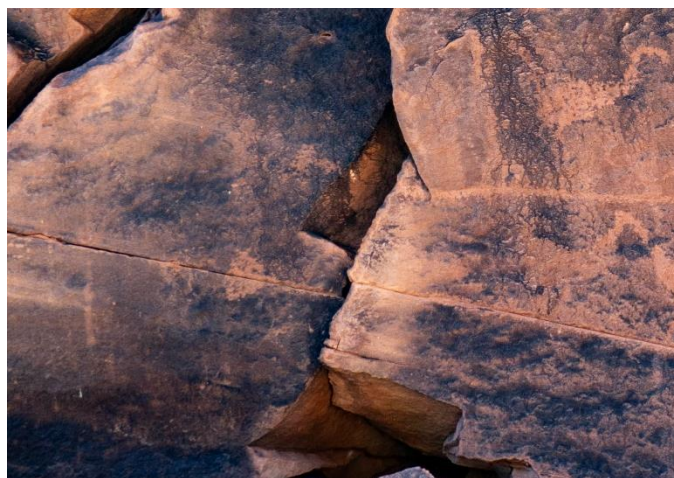
Moss Back site close up shows the construction of the two hoops and butt end of the poles .



The binding on the hoop is clearly shown, so not be confused with an atlatl fletching that is oval shape or the handle that is thick.

The butt end of the pole is blunt like a palm handle used to push the pole out in front to slide under the hoop just right as it tips over.

The poles are held upright and are very tall.





The Pole is always held up right before a match begins. (Hoop and Pole exhibit at Fort Apache Museum).

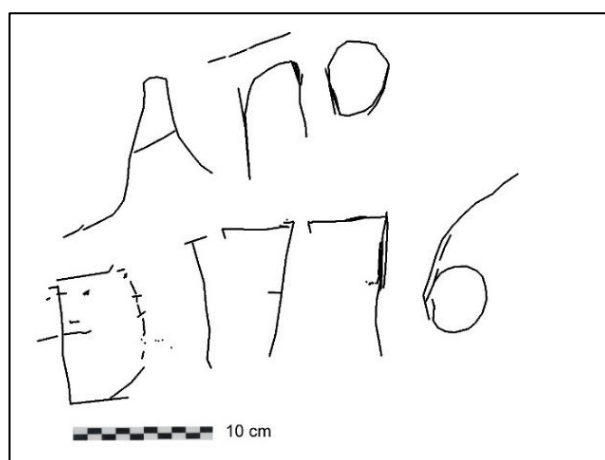
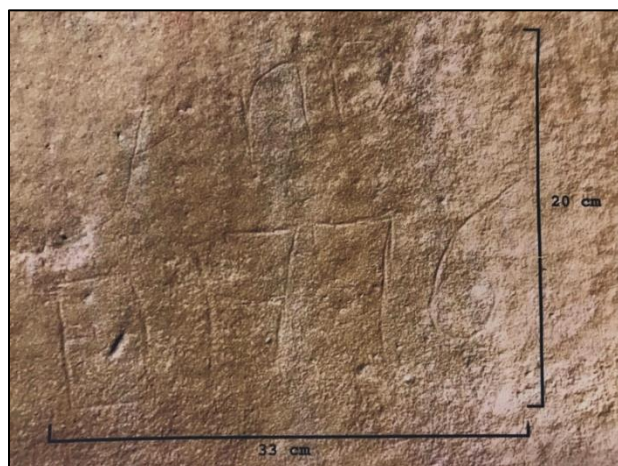
Hoop-and-pole paraphernalia. Figure 8.2 Goodwin (1936:53, fn 29) briefly described the hoop-and-pole game as follows:

Hoop and pole was one of the most important games...Only the men played it, and women were not allowed where a game was going on, as they were said to start trouble with their prattle [this is probably the Reservation-period reason; in pre-Reservation times, it was thought that women might be harmed by the hoop-and-pole power "loosed upon each other" by the competing men (Goodwin A-69)] Only two men played at a time. Each had a pole and each took a turn at throwing the hoop. ...the hoop was thrown just hard enough so that by the time it got to the furrows, it fell sideways on the ground and lay there... both men threw their poles so as to have them slide along the ground...and the hoop ...land on or under the butt of the poles... the scoring system was a complicated one, and the game required a great deal of skill It is not played at present time.

The pole apparently was made and kept as sets, one (usually with the butt painted red) referred to as female, one (usually with the butt painted blue) as male (Goodwin A-69). The set shown here, including the hoop, was made by Charlie Sego in 1931. The poles are both well-smoothed, straight Gambel oak, 234 cm long. Where the poles overlap, each is flattened to seat against the other and

usually secured with sinew. The butt is rounded and on the first 23 cm are various divisions and grooves demarcating nine counting areas (Culin 1907, fig 593); this counting section is painted orange (female) on one pole and is unpainted (male) on the other. the tip of each pole is tapered to a dull point. The hoop is also of Gambel oak, 22 cm in diameter, shaved flat on the inside to facilitate bending, and flat on the outside probably to help it roll; the ends are secured with buckskin. The thong stretched across the hoop is buckskin, wound with a buckskin thread making fifty-one “beads,” each worth one point, on each side of the large central “bead” that counted as one point either direction for a total of 104 possible points (Goodwin A-69). Culin (1907;454-455) describes a hoop with fifty beads on either side of a central, one point bead, totaling 101 possible points. Supposedly actual beads were used in the early days. On either side of the hoop’s circumference are cut nine notches, with the two attachment points for the thong making a total of eleven scoring points on the hoop. Score is computed based on the overlap of the butt of the pole by beads on the thong and points on the hoop circumference. Culin (1907: 449-457).. (Alan Ferg and William B. Kressel, *Western Apache Material Culture*)

Dennis Devore gave a great presentation on Historic Inscriptions, and here there is another inscription that he might consider adding to his data base.



This site is believed to be the inscription of one of the members of the Escalante Dominguez expedition that passed through this canyon. The ‘painted blanket’ panel, site nearby was mentioned in Escalante’s journal, thus giving the name “Canyon Pintado” or painted canyon, but the journal does not mention leaving an inscription. Controversy has arisen around this fact, so it is not verified if it was indeed inscribed by Escalante’ party or later by some unknown Spanish speaking person. It is hoped that future research with dating techniques could be done to validate the authenticity of the inscription. I believe in its authenticity based on the letter style, and the patination of each stroke.

I hope readers and presenters appreciate some additional information that is given here with well-meaning intentions.

Book Review

Richard Jenkinson

The Navajo in Their Different Genius: Living a Long Life in Beauty Is Its Own Reward

Authors: Jennifer Kitchell and Harry Walters

Publisher: Cerulean Stratus Press, 2023

435 pages

Available from Amazon for \$18.95

I know, it's a strange title. The title comes from a quote in the next to last chapter. This big book contains more quality information regarding Navajo culture than just about any book that I have read about the Navajo, and I have read a lot of them. Kitchell has done meticulous research into what previous anthropologists have written about aspects of Navajo culture. But what makes this book different from the others is that she runs these previous findings past Navajo elder Harry Walters to see what he thinks. Walters is extremely knowledgeable and also very articulate in English. He often uses words from the Navajo language to explain concepts, but he explains the nuances of these words and how they apply. Topics discussed include Navajo mythology, Navajo language, the clan system, sacred geography, and Navajo spirituality and healing ceremonies. Of greatest interest to the URARA crowd is a 62-page chapter on the Navajo rock art of the Dinétah area of northwest New Mexico. The Navajo occupied this area from the late 1600's to about 1750, which is the time period when the rock art was created. The images are related to the ceremonies that the Navajo still practice today. The following chapter looks at the same imagery in the sandpaintings that are made as a part of the ceremonies.

If you have any interest in things Navajo or in the rock art of Dinétah, this book is very highly recommended. When I ordered it, I expected it to be a rather slim book because of the low price. In fact, it is a large format book of 435 pages, a real bargain. The only drawback is that all of the photos, and there are many, are in black and white. But I am sure that is why the book is so affordable. This is a book that you can spend a lot of time with.

Field Trip Cancellations and No-shows

Robert Van Orden

Over the last six years I have participated in at least 26 URARA Field Trips. Probably more than any other member. Sure, maybe I led a few of those field trips. So, I am allowing myself to imagine that I am aware of what is happening.

Out of all those field trips only Richard Jenkinson's Moab Field Trip and Rein van West's first Perfect Panel Field Trip were actually full! I remember cancelling on another field trip in order to attend Steve Acerson's four day Green River Field Trip. I admit I felt a little guilty for grabbing the last slot on Steve's field trip, but then there were three no shows. What I am trying to say is that the no shows are a problem. On another field trip there were seven no- shows. The field trip leader was heartbroken and has not led a field trip since.

Cancellation and No-shows (continued)

Believe me I understand the strategy of signing up hoping that we can juggle our schedules to fit. Not a crime. Almost all of our field trips are announced 30-45 days in advance. Lately our biggest problem has been late cancellations. By the time folks cancel, the folks on the wait list have made other plans.

If you want to have URARA Field Trips, PLEASE (PLEASE!) figure it out, and jump in, or jump out three weeks in advance. This is not first grade, we really should not have to have penalties. This is a question of basic common courtesy!

Lately the wait list folks have been getting included, so sign up! Also, please remember how many hours folks put into this! Cheryl Ames spent several hours getting me trained. Wanda Gayle put dozens of hours and her whole heart into trying to make the field trips work. Poor Steve spends hours reigning-in crazy Rob, LOL! Thank you forever to all our field trip coordinators!

Outdoor Safety



Frostnip or Frostbite

April Gray, M.D.

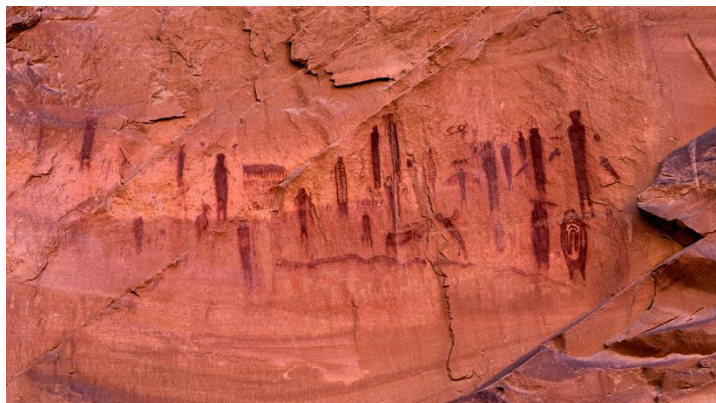
Cold injuries occur in cold and windy conditions. There are certain factors that increase our risk. Two simple ones to correct are being hungry and dehydration. More difficult are the medications that many people must take. These are the same that increase the risk of heat injury. Tight restrictive clothing and shoes increase risk and of course tobacco use in any form.

Frostnip is an early cold injury to the skin and normally does not cause permanent damage if treated. It is usually characterized by numbness to the area. Initially it will appear red and then turn pale or whitish. Common areas to be effected are fingers, toes, nose and ear lobes. The area should be immediately rewarmed. Heat packs may be used but use caution not to get a burn. DO NOT RUB the area as this may cause damage.

Frostbite is freezing of the skin and indicates some degree of permanent damage has occurred. The skin is white and waxy and feels hard like a piece of wood. It should be immediately rewarmed in water at 104 degrees. Do not put heat packs on the area. Preferably take the person to the nearest emergency room for definitive treatment.

Treasures from Horseshoe Canyon

Robert Crifasi



Rock Imagery in the News

El número 17 de los Cuadernos de Arte Prehistórico. Puedes consultar y/o descargar los artículos en la página web de la revista, www.revistacuadernosdearteprehistorico.com

How do you describe a sacred site without describing it? High Country News 27 September 2024
<https://www.hcn.org/issues/56-10/how-do-you-describe-a-sacred-site-without-describing-it/>

See Newly Discovered Nazca Drawings That Depict Llamas, Human Sacrifices and More
Smithsonian, 24 September 2024, <https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/see-newly-discovered-nazca-drawings-depict-llamas-human-sacrifices-more-180985133/>

Calendar and URARA Events

December 6	URARA Moab Christmas gathering
Dec 7, 5:30 PST	ARARA Webinar: Petroglyphs Of California's Northern Sierra Nevada https://arara.wildapricot.org/Lectures
December 11	URARA Salt Lake Christmas gathering and potluck
December 13	URARA St George Holiday gathering
2025	
Feb 21-23	Witte Museum Rock Art Rendezvous, Texas https://www.witemuseum.org/
October 9-13	URARA Symposium Kanab
Oct 15-18	GBAC Conference, Reno https://greatbasinanthropologicalassociation.org

URARA symposia and field trips are available to members only. 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. Accessible on-line via ICL. Saturday field trips once a month.

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/>

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

2024 URARA Board and Officers

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

Committee Chairs and Appointees

Tribal Liaison	Carol Patterson
Historian/ Archives	Keith Fessenden
Website/Board Advisor	Troy Scotter
Membership Coordinator	Deb Mitchell
Funds Manager	Pat Sullivan
Conservation/Preservation	Kent Williams
Education	John McHugh
Field Trips	TBD
Symposium Chair	Pat Sullivan
Publications Editor	Dennis DeVore
Vestiges Editor	Ben Everitt
Nominations/Governance	Diana Acerson

URARA Conservation Coordinators

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