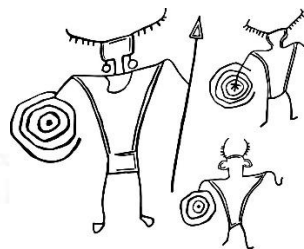


# VESTIGES



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*Monthly Newsletter of URARA, the Utah Rock Art Research Association*

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## From the Prez

**Rick Mathews**

And just like that, it's December!

Since I'm writing the weekend of Thanksgiving, I think it's only appropriate to focus on gratitude. I was able to spend the day with my family. In years past, we would take Friday and go to Nine Mile or another area close to home with Petroglyphs. A few years ago in Nine Mile, we were hiking as a family. I laughed when I heard my youngest nephew say, "We climbed too high." I look up and he and my other nephews are about halfway up the canyon wall. They got down ok, and we still laugh about it. One of the great things about going out with my family is teaching the next generation about those who came before. I'm proud when my nephews send me pictures of imagery they've found or just want to share with me.



I am grateful for those I serve with on the board. I want to thank Pat Sullivan and Roger Cook for their years of service to URARA. It takes many hands to make it all happen and I'm so glad Pat and Roger were there to help me this year. I am also grateful to Nancy Lombardo and Rein van West for stepping up to help URARA.

I am grateful for URARA's continuous work to preserve and educate members and the public about the amazing Rock Imagery in Utah. When I first joined, I read about URARA's work on the west side of Utah Lake. So many people still don't know how much is over there. I also saw signs in Nine Mile co-sponsored by URARA. It was great to see tangible evidence our collective donations are being used to educate and preserve the amazing images in Nine Mile.

December 2025

**Prez (continued)**

I am also grateful for what URARA is going to do. URARA is still actively working on a few nominations for the National Register of Historic Places. URARA is also continuing to work with the Nine Mile Coalition. URARA is planning to work with Utah SHPO and help them with various projects.

I hope you all have a great holiday season and can go and see stuff before it gets too cold. And don't forget to share your adventures on the Members Forum or send in a Vestiges article. We'd love to see what you're up to.

Happy Holidays!

## **Symposium Presentations Posted**

**Dennis Devore**

Several speaker presentations from the 2025 Kanab Symposium have been uploaded to the URARA website. Check back later as more will be uploaded during December.

## **Annual Christmas Party in Moab**

**Susan McDowell**

Everyone is welcome to come and help celebrate the season on **Saturday, December 13<sup>th</sup>** for the annual pot-luck in Moab to be held at Susan McDowell's home located at **2208 Rio Verde in Moab**. The traditional ham will be warming in the oven waiting for the accompanying side dishes and desserts that each of you will bring. BYOB. Come at 5:30 with dinner served at 6:00.



Quentin has provided the rules for a **White Elephant Gift Exchange** for our entertainment this year. *"Each attendee should bring a white elephant gift (rock art or archaeological themes would be great, but not necessary. Outlandish is also great. (I can only imagine what Quint will bring.) Used is very appropriate. Something you no longer treasure but think someone else might want, wrapped for the holidays. We'll draw numbers to see what order folks select a gift. #1 chooses a gift. #2 can either take #1's gift or a new one. #3 can either take an earlier gift or a new one. Etc. Always lots of laughs!!"*

Please RSVP to the URARA Event or [moabsuz@gmail.com](mailto:moabsuz@gmail.com), so I'll know how many tables to set up. With problems finding the house, call me at 435-260-8097.

(no other holiday gatherings to post yet - ed.)



## **Gold Butte Field Trip**

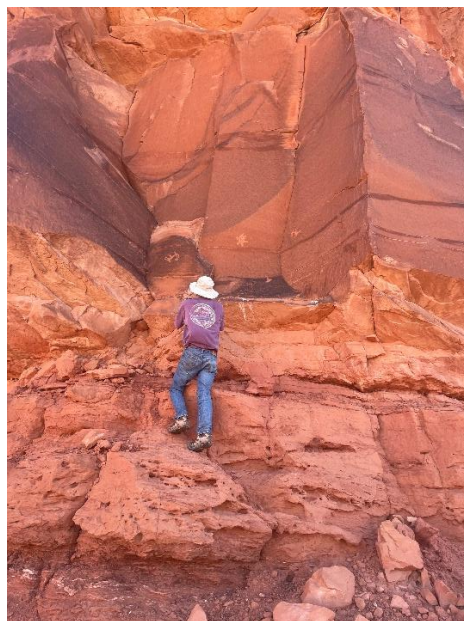
**Deb Mitchell**

We had a group of 10 people explore Gold Butte National Monument for two days. Five hardy souls even camped at Whitney Pocket (in Gold Butte). We got to see much of the Rock Art in Gold Butte at eight different sites. The group was great, all willing and able to make long hikes in the sand and climb all over rocks to see the panels. We had to quit a little early the second day, the sun was unrelenting and we were pooped ! A good time was had by all.





Gold Butte (Continued)





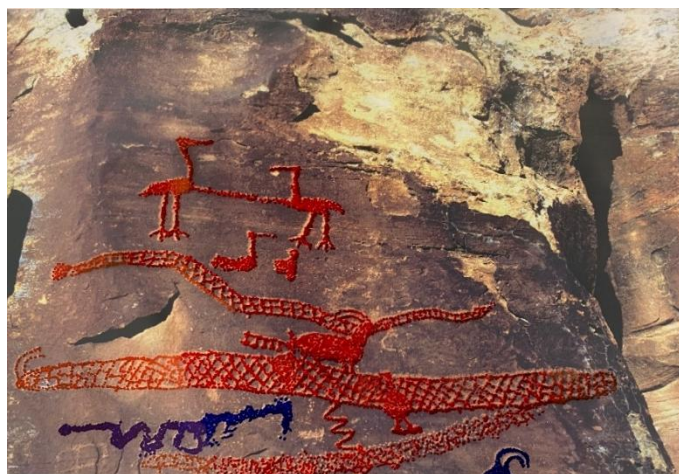
## Symposium Drawing Workshop October 9

Carol Patterson

We had a wonderfully successful workshop. Everyone was a star 'pecker'.

I started the workshop with a power point showing the technique for using color to differentiate between the different ages, especially in superimposition sequences. I passed out only red pens for the petroglyphs and black for outlining the features of the rock. Some panels required blue for proto-historic and historic glyphs. Do not try to "draw" them. **"Petroglyphs are fields of dots that create a form"** said my Pueblo Indian professor, Alfonso Ortiz.

Thank you to Margaret Barrier for stepping up to the front and encouraging everyone for their first time drawing (pecking) with ink pens on plastic sheet covers over the color photograph of petroglyph panels.

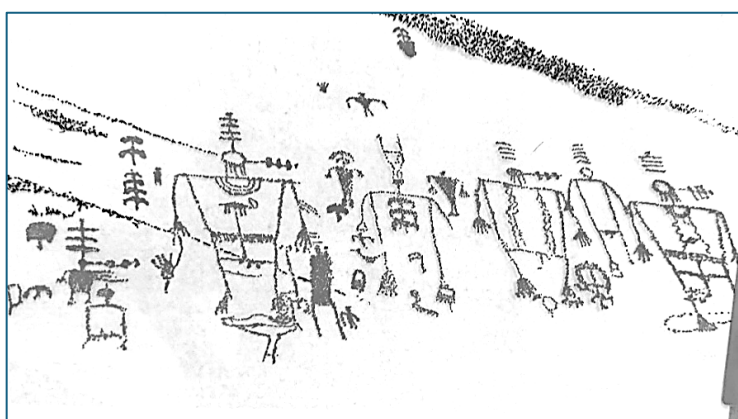
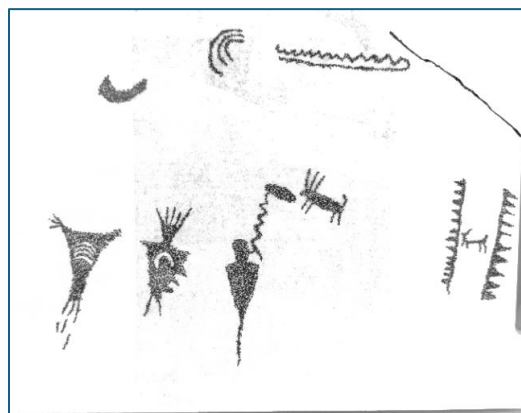


Drawing by Annyce Mayer.



Drawing by Jim Schultz

Then we put a white sheet behind the drawing. I changed the mode from color to Black/white



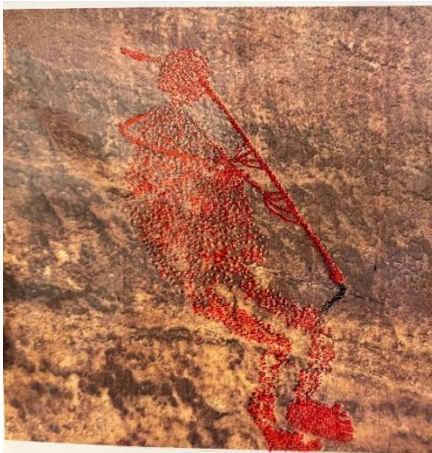
Drawings by Carla Landenburger and Evie Schultz

Drawing (continued)



Margaret showing how to hold the pen and move it straight up-and-down in a rapid pecking motion.

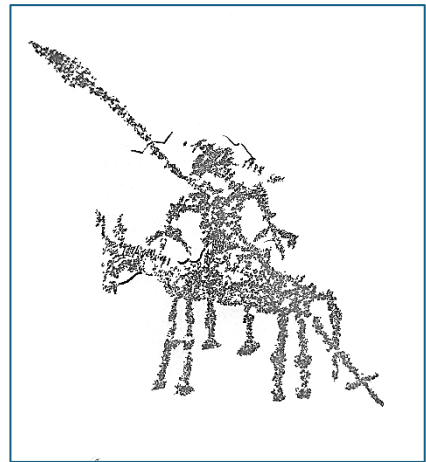
Thank you all for coming. I have a big drawing project with panels to trace from the Rio Grand area in New Mexico. I'm looking for volunteers, and I'll send photos, pens, and sheet covers all ready to go. Email at [Urraca2fly@gmail.com](mailto:Urraca2fly@gmail.com). Thank you, Carol Patterson



Drawing by Margaret Berrier



Drawing by Leigh Marymor





## **Remembering Steve Manning**

**Ben Everitt**

It has been tough to find photographs of Steve Manning, but I did turn up a couple. He apparently belongs to that class of people who either are behind the camera when the shutter clicks, or are so often in motion that they don't leave much of an impression on film (Figure 1). Once in a while you might have found Steve in a place where rapid movement is somewhat restricted (Figure 2).



Figure 1. Steve and Elna Manning somewhere in Utah south of the Dason-Mixon line

Figure 2. Quitcupah. Front to back Caig Bowen, Layne Miller, Steve Manning.



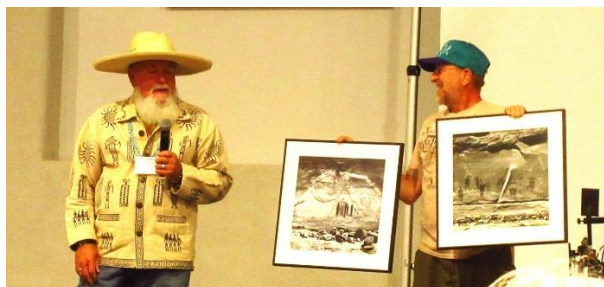
## **Johnson Ranch Field Trip October 13**

**Ned Clem**



Rockart'n in style

### **More Symposium Photos**





## Rock Imagery in the News

*Southern Utah woman ordered to pay almost \$15K in fines over damaged Utah petroglyph* KSL news.com  
18 Nov 2025 <https://kslnnewsradio.com/crime-police-courts/utah-woman-petroglyph/2262850/>

*4000 years of continuity in Pecos River style mural painting and symbolism* Science Advances 28 Nov 2025 <https://www.science.org/doi/10.1126/sciadv.adx7205>

*How an Ancient Indigenous Mural in West Texas Became an Archaeological Battleground* Texas Monthly  
14 Sep 2025 [https://apple.news/ArFthTEBcRMyb8Nh\\_hwBEoQ](https://apple.news/ArFthTEBcRMyb8Nh_hwBEoQ)

*45,000-Year-Old Pig Painting in Indonesia May Be Oldest Known Animal Art* Smithsonian 13 Jan 2021  
<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/science-nature/45000-year-old-pig-painting-indonesia-may-be-oldest-known-animal-art-180976748/>

## Calendar, URARA Events and Trips

December 13	Christmas potluck, Moab, Susan McDowel
<b>2026</b>	
January TBD	Annual board retreat Moab
June 25-29	ARARA Symposium Great Falls <a href="https://arara.wildapricot.org/Conference-General-Info-2026">https://arara.wildapricot.org/Conference-General-Info-2026</a>
Oct 8-12	URARA Symposium, Bluff, Utah

URARA symposia and field trips (FT) are available to members only. Members will be notified by email when a field trip opens for registration, usually about 3-4 weeks before a trip. 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. <https://urara.wildapricot.org/>

CRAA and URARA are currently doing monthly ZOOM presentations on alternate months. CRAA will have January, March, and May (Summer months off), and October (December off). URARA will have February, April, Sept, and November. <https://coloradorockart.org/>

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. Accessible on-line via Utah Tech University ICL .  
<https://reg125.imperisoft.com/ICL/ProgramDetail/3837333038/Registration.aspx>

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

## URARA Board and Officers

Utah Rock Art Research Association: Box 511324, Salt Lake City, UT 84151-1324.

[www.utahrockart.org](http://www.utahrockart.org) . Contact information - [utahrockartresearchassoc@gmail.com](mailto:utahrockartresearchassoc@gmail.com)

### 2025 URARA Board and Officers

President	Rick Mathews
Vice President	Pat Sullivan
Treasurer	Carol Duecker
Secretary	Roger Cook
	John McHugh
	Darlene Koerner
	Tina Tan
	Margo Mahoney
	Carol Patterson

### 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 Trip Coordinator	Tina Tan
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		
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