

February 2010 Volume 30 Number 2

Monthly newsletter of URARA, the Utah Rock Art Research Association

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# President's Message

It is an honor and pleasure to serve as president of URARA for the year 2010. We have an exceptional board this year, and I am pleased to welcome back Troy Scotter, Diane Orr and Margaret Grochocki who join Walt Layton, Bob Reed, Jon Gum and Steve Manning. Ben Everitt has agreed to continue as treasurer and Lois Mansfield will serve as membership chair.

In the ten years that I have been a member, URARA has accomplished remarkable things with volunteers and a dedicated membership. Under Diane Orr and David Sucec's leadership, recent symposium programs have become better and better. The many excellent speakers at the Cedar City symposium are a good example. URARA's commitment to preservation has steadily increased to the point that our organization is now a consulting partner with regard to Utah's cultural resources.

In the past decade, URARA has offered many field trips in Utah and neighboring states, and Glenn Omundson starts the year off with a five-day field trip to the El Paso region this month.

In 2010, the URARA board will continue its commitment to rock art documentation and preservation. Troy Scotter and Diane Orr will head this effort with their usual exceptional skill and expertise. Nine Mile Canyon and Temple Wash are our top priorities and you will hear more about our efforts in these areas.

Ed Delay has accepted the position of field trip coordinator and is preparing a field trip schedule for the year. I am also happy to announce that this year's symposium will be in Blanding, Utah. The exceptional rock art in southeastern Utah will provide many opportunities for symposium field trips. Walt Layton has agreed to be symposium chair for 2010.

Many thanks to Steve and Marion Robinson for their exceptional work for URARA over the years. Steve is the outgoing president and Marion is the outgoing membership chair. Together they have done much of the work that keeps URARA going, and they have done it with style and dedication. Steve has agreed that they will continue to serve as *Vestiges* editors until a replacement can be found. URARA's strength is its members' knowledge and interest in rock art. Please let me know of any questions, comments or concerns at 435-986-0977 or allenjeffrey@beyondbb.com.

**Jeff Allen** 

2010 URARA President

# Nine Mile Canyon Update

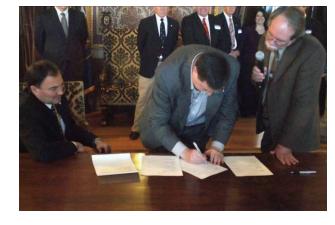
The West Tavaputs Programmatic Agreement was reached regarding vehicular traffic associated with drilling around Nine-Mile Canyon. URARA has been involved for over a year in the development of this agreement along with many other interested groups including the BLM and the Bill Barrett Corporation.

Troy Scotter attended the signing ceremony as the URARA representative on January 5, 2010 at

the state capitol building.

Troy signing the West Tavaputs Programmatic Agreement for URARA

Photo by Paul Carrol



# Annual Board Retreat - St George, Jan 16, 2010

Top three photos, Sue Gum



In the field! New president, Jeff Allen



Board members and friends Jeff, Marion, Steve, Jon, Margaret Kirk, Walt, Troy, Diane



Ooops! Stuck in deep sand on the way to a site



A well deserved dinner after all the work. Clockwise from Margaret, Kirk Robinson, Troy Scotter, Walt Layton, Diane Orr

Photos, M. Robinson



After the hike, wishing Margaret a happy birthday

# **URARA Board Meeting Minutes**

### By Troy Scotter

### Saturday January 16, 2010, St. George Library

- Jeff Allen appointed President unanimous vote
- Bob appointed VP unanimous vote
- Ben appointed Treasurer unanimous vote
- Walt appointed Symposium Chair unanimous vote
- Steve and Bob for Vestiges unanimous vote
- Preservation Troy, Diane, Jon unanimous vote
- Margaret to assist in Symposium unanimous vote
- Membership Lois Mansfield unanimous vote
- Field trips Ed Delay unanimous vote

### Symposium format comments

- I loved the two full days of field trips.
- With a half day field trip people didn't always get back for the social.
- The \$5000 humanities grant worked well.

### 2010 Symposium

- Approval to hold the symposium in Blanding.
- Troy Scotter to contact Steve Simms for featured speaker
- Walt to contact Winston Hearst for featured speaker
- Jeff and Troy to work on the program. Jon to manage vendors. Ben to manage the finances.

#### **Priorities**

- We need more local meetings. Troy felt field trips were a good way to build membership interest.
- We need to do a better job at field trips. The group discussed how field trips didn't always need to be to new sites or lesser-known sites.
- Our goals of preservation and documentation are worthwhile and the membership is supportive of these efforts. Steve Manning is willing to organize four documentation field trips this year.
- We need to make more phone calls to help people commit to volunteering

### Symposium guidelines document

• Bob is updating to provide more information to those organizing symposium.

### Possible 2011 joint symposium with the Colorado Archeological Society

• This symposium could be held in either the Grand Junction or Cortez/Blanding areas. Larry Evans will be the president of CAS. More discussions necessary for a final decision.

### Central computer repository

• Approved. Troy will research getting an internet based storage site for URARA records that all board members can access.

### Digitizing of symposium publications

• Approved. Troy discussed digitization of symposium proceedings and offering them free download. Each new publication would be printed. Once its printing has sold out it would be put on the web for a free download. This makes our research freely available to others.

### Yahoo Group

• Approved. Troy will take responsibility of creating a Yahoo Group for our membership to use. This has been a proposal advocated by Al Copely for several years.

### Research Stipend -

• Walt discussed the research stipend which the board approved a couple of years ago. He has received a request from the students who filmed the Cedar City symposium for these

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funds. There was additional discussion regarding the fact that there had been no interest shown by anyone else in these funds.

### Conservation & preservation committee priorities

• The possibility of amending the RMPs (Resource Management Plans) given comments by Ken Salazar. Completing the nomination to the National Register of Historic Places of a rock art district in Moab. Pam and Quent Baker feel that this can be completed in 2010. The board approved a budget of \$2000 for this project.

#### Preservation of the McKonkie Ranch rock art

• It was agreed to approach the Archeological Conservancy on this issue. Jeff Allen is a long time member, and will talk to them. Troy would like to participate in these discussions.

### Temple Mountain Wash.

• SITLA (State of Utah School and Institutuional Trust Lands Administration) is the next logical landowner to pursue for the nomination of national register sites in Nine Mile Canyon. If we are talking to SITLA about nomination of Nine Mile sites, it would be a logical time to talk to them about preserving Temple Mountain Wash as well. The Board approved the committee to pursue objectives they felt worthwhile.

### Discussion about the term Indian Writings versus Rock Art

Should we be more sensitive regarding this terminology?

# URARA Symposium 2010, Blanding, Utah

The URARA board of directors decided to hold the next symposium in Blanding, UT. Walt Layton will be the chair for the event. More details will follow.

# **New Membership Chair**

URARA is pleased to welcome Lois Mansfield as the new membership chair as of February 2010. Lois is a long time member of URARA and is an active participant in many of URARA's activities. She holds a Ph.D. in mathematics and is a retired professor of mathematics at the University of Virginia. She lives in Washington, Utah.

Lois Mansfield *Photo, M.Robinson* 



# New Field Trip Leader

### **Ed Delay**

I am the new field trip coordinator for URARA. I am excited about the prospect of having more field trips and want to create a good set of trips for this year. I will need everyone's help to make this successful.

First, I need suggestions on where you would like to go.

Secondly, I need volunteers to lead trips. Now is the time to lead a trip as others have for you in the past. I will be glad to help organize the trip and sites to include.

Send your ideas and comments to etdelay@comcast.net, 801-487-4687 or to me at Ed DeLay, 3377A Honeycut Rd., Salt Lake City, UT 84106

## El Paso, Texas Field Trip - February 12-16, 2010

Leader, Glenn Omundson, jgomundson@yahoo.com, 915-584-7862

This trip is full. For your information, a short summary of trip is included.

Glenn Omundson, URARA member living in El Paso, is leading a field trip to the numerous glyph sites in his area.

The trip itinerary has been set (pecked in stone?) and is as follows:

Feb. 12--Pony Hills area sites; Feb. 13--Centipede Caves and surrounding environs; Feb. 14--Alamo Canyon sites 1, 2, and 4; Feb. 15--Alamo Mountain, selected areas; Feb. 16--Hueco Tanks, 6-7 hour special tour; Feb. 17--optional individual activities, and you will know by then how to get to Alamo Mt.

Note:

First--BLM--they have approved of our site visits to both the Pony Hills area sites and Alamo Mountain areas. Their main concerns relate to vehicles and site etiquette. I have personally visited the Las Cruces District Office and believe that those fears have been for the most part alleviated.

Secondly-- Instead of a traditional potluck, we will have dinner at Avila's Mexican Restaurant, Saturday, Feb. 13.

For more information, contact Glenn.

# Hawai'i Field Trip Report

[Editors' Note: We thank Lawrence and Jo Ann Baca for the very comprehensive report they provided for the petroglyphs they saw in Hawaii. Unfortunately, we can't include all the photographs and text they provided. We hope what we have selected is reasonably representative of their trip and thank them for the time and effort required in providing us with more material than we could include here. They will be happy to share more if you contact them at

Lawrence.baca@yahoo.com]

# Petroglyphs in Hawai'i Text and Photos by Lawrence & Jo Ann Baca

Petroglyphs in Hawai'i? Yes. Most people don't think of petroglyphs when they think of Hawai'i. Judging from the number of other people we saw at each of the four



major sites we visited, most people who visit Hawai'i don't either. The four sites discussed here are all on the island of Hawai'i, known locally as "The Big Island." While 75% of the current

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population of the state lives on the island of Oahu, this was not true of the Native Hawaiian population before Captain Cook's arrival in 1787. As a result, a majority of Hawai'i's petroglyphs are on The Big Island.

The good news for lovers of petroglyphs is that many sites are open to the public. Of the four sites we visited, Pu'uloa, Puako, Ka'upulehu and 'Anaeho'omalu, only Ka'upulehu required special permission to visit.

### Pu'uloa

The petroglyph field at Pu'uloa (sometimes spelled Pu'u Loa) is in Volcanoes National Park on the Hilo side of the island. All of the sites are referred to in the literature as fields because virtually all of the glyphs are on the ground. The Park Ranger told us you can leave the boardwalk as long as you walk only on the grass or rubble and follow the contours of the long hill from which the site gets its name - pu'uloa translates to "long hill" or "long life hill." There are some excellent carvings there.









#### **Puako**

Puako is located on the grounds of the Fairmont Orchid Resort. You park at a small lot near the beach and then walk 3/4 of a mile through a low forest over uneven terrain. Wear sturdy shoes and prepare to duck occasionally, sidestepping small stumps in the path. You will see the occasional glyph along the trail; while at the site you will see thousands.

The most striking difference between Puako and the other sites is that Puako is dominated by anthropomorphic figures, a majority of which are stick figures with the torso represented as a single line. One reference book details 2,658 glyphs at Puako and says that it is the oldest petroglyph site on the Hawaiian Islands.









### Ka'upulehu

This site, like Pu'uloa, has a raised boardwalk with a railing. Ka'upulehu has many anthropomorphic figures, an abundance of "crab-claw" sail figures and intricate kite figures. There are also two pairs of "paddle dancer" figures. One reference says there are only 435 figures at the site, but noted that they are more intricate than most other locations. There are also several head-to-head pairs of anthropomorphic figures, which may represent twins.

Ka'upulehu was our favorite site, even though our visit began after 11am. The ideal time to be at the site would have been eight or nine a.m.











#### 'Anaeho'omalu

'Anaeho'omalu, also known as the Waikoloa Petroglyph Preserve, is accessed from The Kings Shops at the Mauna Lani Resort.

The trail begins at the edge of the parking lot and about 1/3 of a mile down the path you see the first of the glyphs. When you come to the main field they are simply everywhere.

The dominant motifs in this field are circles, half circles and cupules but there are significant numbers of anthropomorphic figures. While at the other three sites the main trails are around the petroglyph fields. At 'Anaeho'omalu the trail and its spurs are in amongst the glyphs.









While we are grateful that these resorts have retained and preserved the petroglyph fields that they have, we also wonder how many acres of glyphs were plowed under to create the resort that surrounds what has been preserved.

We learned several important things about photographing petroglyphs in Hawai'i.

- 1. Wear a hat the sun is exceptionally bright. Good sunglasses are a plus.
- 2. Wear sturdy hiking shoes.
- 3. Carry plenty of water.

4. Ancient Sites of Hawai'i; Archaeological Places of Interest on the Big Island, by Van James, Mutual Publishing, 1999, is the best book we've found for identifying petroglyph sites in Hawai'i. Spirit of Place: Petroglyphs of Hawai'i, by Georgia Lee & Edward Stasack, Easter Island Foundation Pub., 1999, and Hawaiian Petroglyphs, by J. Halley Cox and Edward Stasack, Bishop Museum Press, 1970, were also helpful and informative.

### Think About It!



"In studying rock art, it is impossible to know for sure which culture made which particular petroglyph or pictograph panel. However, numerous public sites have been examined and interpreted by archaeologists who have estimated the age and probable cultural origin of the main panels. From their work and that of other rock art scholars, we can make some educated generalizations about much southwestern rock art and the cultures that created it.

Still, the study of rock art styles is far from an exact science. Different cultures employed different styles of rock art, and like the cultures themselves, the styles changed through time. In addition, several cultures

may have used the same panel over hundreds or even thousands of years. The introduction of a newer style of rock art did not eliminate the use of previous designs--styles were frequently integrated, even within the same image.

Cultural styles are organized and named according to perceived differences in images that suggest different groupings based on subject matter, location, and/or technique. A style is presumed to have been characteristic of a particular culture at a particular time, but a style can include a wide variety of elements and may overlap with other styles. The date ranges of the different styles are very rough and are subject to ongoing research and study."

Rock Art Savy: The Responsible Visitor's Guide to the Public Sites of the Southwest, Ronald D. Sanders, (posthumously by Fran Kerivan), Mountain Press Publishing Company, Missoula, Montana. 2005, p 17.

### **Book Commentary**

Sanders provided a very practical rock art guide and discussion. Part I chapters--All About Rock Art include 1. Rock Art Basics, 2. Native Southwestern Cultures and Their Rock Art, 3. The Purpose and Meaning of Rock Art, and 4. Rock Art Preservation. Part II, The Sites is organized by 7 states and discusses the sites including directions for locating and visiting them. The Utah section is 22 pages. He states, "Utah has more public sites than any other southwestern state, and the rock art is diverse. Two distinctive Archaic styles appear in Utah, the Barrier Canyon Style and the Glen Canyon Style." (p.181).

Following Part II the author includes a special section for the adventurous: Baja California. It includes native cultures of Baja; rock art in Baja; site preservation in Mexico; before you go; and finding the sites. A discussion of the sites follows.

The closing pages of the book, RESOURCES, gives the name, address and location by state of the various agencies and organizations which provide rock art information including location and access information. URARA's PO Box is included. The Glossary has over five dozen definitions from adobe to zoomorphic. The book also includes a short bibliography and a very good index.

About the author notes that Sanders was an accomplished author and lecturer. He took extensive tours of western rock art sites to research his book. Unfortunately, he died shortly before the book was published. His wife dedicates the book to his memory.

### **URARA Contacts**

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### Calendar 2010

Fel	o 12 <b>-</b> 16	Field t	rip El Paso	, Texas,	Leader,	Glenn (	Omunc	dson, jgomi	ındson@yaho	o.com,
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915-584-7862

Early Aug Field trip to Wyoming Dinwoody sites, leader Bob Reed,

bobreedclyartist@hotmail.com, 801-566-0741, details TBA

Aug Annual summer picnic, details TBA

Oct 8-11 URARA symposium, Blanding, UT. Walt Layton, chair, 801-561-5228,

wclayton@graniteschools.org

Dec 3 Annual December potluck meeting

# **Editors' Message**

### Greetings,

Welcome to the new URARA board of directors with Jeff Allen as president. We are very pleased to see this strong leadership in place for URARA in the year 2010.

On Saturday, January 16, the board met in St. George, Utah for the yearly planning and organization meeting and election of the new president.

I was very pleased to turn over the leadership reins to Jeff. I had a chance to remind the board of my comments at the Cedar City symposium banquet where I expressed my appreciation to all who had supported me in my presidency the last two years.

During the meeting Marion met with Lois Mansfield, and they initiated the transfer of membership chair responsibilities from Marion to Lois, beginning in February 2010.

We both were happy to see our respective responsibilities transferred to such highly qualified members that day.

URARA is in good hands. We believe we are off to an excellent start. On our behalf, as well as for all members, we express appreciation for all those who have accepted responsibilities to serve.

We look forward to a great year and are very happy with the choice of Blanding, Utah for the 2010 symposium.

As Jeff points out in his president's message, we continue to serve as *Vestiges*' editors. However, for the third time in recent weeks we voice our interest in providing someone else the opportunity and privilege of supporting URARA in this capacity. We are always available to discuss these responsibilities. slrmar@cox.net or 310-378-0320.

Here is to another great year for URARA! Happy Trails, Steve and Marion Robinson Vestiges Editors

# **Desert News Column and Apology**

### By Marion Robinson

This is a short report on an intense, emotional URARA experience in Salt Lake City. In early January a prominent columnist for the Deseret News, Lee Benson, wrote an article ridiculing the signing of the West Tavaputs Programmatic Agreement [see Troy's picture on page 2] and rock art in general.

After a great outpouring of responses from people who were offended, including URARA members and Native American representatives, Mr. Benson was gracious enough to admit his mistake and published an apology in a subsequent column.

# Photos from Blanding

By Bob Reed



Art at Edge of Cedars State Park



Bob at kiva



Ancient Pueblo runs at Edge of Cedars State Park