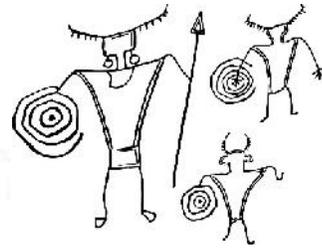


# VESTIGES



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

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## From the Prez

Steve Acerson

Everyone is reading or thinking about Bears Ears. I would encourage all of our members to inform themselves about this new National Monument. Then, with this information, take a position and actively become involved by participating and contacting those trying to come to a decision of what this Monument will be. President Trump is asking managers to look at all these National treasures to see if they need to have boundaries and accesses adjusted to allow States and companies the ability to use them easier. Write, email, call, or attend processes that align with your views. **DON'T ALLOW A FEW TO DECIDE FOR ALL.**

Now for the fun stuff. I've heard of members out looking at sites around the area; URARA field trips to Kanab and Coso were well attended. The first annual Green River rock and mineral field trips to Segó had a lot of people interested in the images they saw.

The BLM's field offices are all working on Class 1/2 processes, which will develop models that will help them predict possible locations for cultural sites. Gas and oil lease requests are again being proposed by energy producing companies. URARA's conservation/preservation members are busy sharing information as a consulting party member.

We are continuing to prepare for our Symposium in Green River, so make your reservations now. Go to the URARA web page and see what is going on, use the forum tab to present ideas and discuss topics. Facebook is posted with interesting information from others and drawing new people who want to learn more about the cultures who left the rock art images.

May 2017

# URARA 37<sup>th</sup> Symposium Call for Papers



BCS Panel detail, Thompson Canyon

## Utah Rock Art Research Association 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Symposium

### Call for Proposals for Presentations

Deadline for proposals is August 07, 2017

The Symposium Committee announces a call for proposals for presentations for the Utah Rock Art Research Association 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Symposium, October 06–09, 2017 in Green River, Utah.

Proposals should have a Title and Abstract and abstracts should not be more than 200 words. The deadline for proposals is August 07<sup>th</sup>, 2017. We ask that everyone submitting a proposal for consideration honor the deadline so we can finalize the program in a timely manner.

Preference will be given to presentations that relate to Utah rock art. Presentations will be allowed a maximum of 30 minutes; site reports a maximum of 20 minutes. Abstracts will be reviewed for suitability, balance of points-of-view, and to ensure that the number of papers does not exceed the time available for presentations. All presentations must be in Power Point.

Accepted presenters will receive a \$100 Honorarium to help with expenses, free Symposium registration, and will be guests of URARA at the banquet.

Deadline for proposals is August 07, 2017

\* Please send abstracts to David Sucec, Presentations Coordinator, preferably by email to [bcsproject@xmission.com](mailto:bcsproject@xmission.com) or by mail to 832 Segoe Ave, Salt Lake City UT 84102.

# Middle Sand Island Photography

Leigh Grench

Taking advantage of the volunteers who gathered for Mary Gillam's photogrammetry project on March 11 (see April 2017 Vestiges), Leigh Grench and Dave Manley used their now experienced schlepping services to haul around more equipment to photo-document the middle section of Sand Island. In continuation of the San Juan RRAP (River Rock Art Project), the middle section of Sand Island has not yet been documented, and the photographs are the first step in that process.

We found and photographed eighteen additional rock art features between the entrance road and the lower Sand Island petroglyph panel that has a chain link fence and signage. This fenced portion was expertly documented by Ann Phillips and Janet Leaver-Wood in 1998. In the near future there will be training opportunities to finalize the documentation of the remaining Sand Island rock art using these photos.

Thanks again to all the hard workers who came out to help for both successful events of the weekend at beautiful Sand Island. Without volunteers like you the BLM would be at a loss. Volunteers included Mary Gillam (schlepper), Dave Manley (photographer), Carol Duecker (documenter), Tom Hahl (data board king), Werner Duecker (schlepper), and Leigh Grench (BLM coordinator).



The work party setting up the next shot with Mary taking a micro look at the sand grains on an eroded glyph, Werner waiting for direction, Carol catching up on note taking, Tom and Dave getting ready for the next photo.



Annotated photo to help locate the rock art features for the next crew who will draw the panels. Werner, Dave, Tom and Mary are strategizing on how to divide the images.

## Jenkinson to Talk on Shaman's Gallery at DAS May 10

The Dixie Archaeology Society, Washington County, presents Richard Jenkinson, "A Close Look at the Shaman's Gallery." Wednesday May 10, 2017, 7:00-8:30 pm. in the Boeing Auditorium, Room 121, Udvar-Hazy Building, 255 S 700 E., Dixie State University Campus.

The Shaman's Gallery site is a wall of pictographic images on the north side of the Grand Canyon, discovered by mule wrangler and guide Gordon Smith in 1986. In this presentation Richard Jenkinson undertakes a detailed examination of the Shaman's Gallery using an interpretive technique similar to the close reading of literature. He pays attention to specific elements in the panel while suspending assumptions or judgments. In doing so, he teases out details, patterns, and significance from these remarkably beautiful figures.

## Sego Documentation and Graffiti Identification.

Steve Acerson

Urara members and the Moab BLM met at the Sego canyon rockart panels on April 29-30. Don Montoya had contacted URARA a few months ago to see if members could help to update the original documentation.

This location currently has visitation of 50-100 people a day, depending the day of the week. Sego has been a destination for many years, because of the variety and the beauty of the setting. The site is close to the interstate and advertised in all local and State literature.

People have left their marks when they pass through areas for others to see, so when people see initials on the panels they think it is also okay for them. Then there is the random shooting of the images, some think the targets are easy to shoot, and don't understand these images are timeless and irreplaceable.

Native cultures still visit this location and ceremonies and spirits are still worshipped here. Representative styles of the Ancestral Pueblo, Fremont, and Ute can be seen. A time span from today back thousands of years gives us a connection to the span of human existence, and opens our minds to thinking about survival and the celebration of life.

Dave Manley had a group helping with photographing all of the panels to upgrade the original documentation forms. Don Montoya's group examined and recorded all of the graffiti on the panels. This information will help Don write up a work request for the removal/mitigation. The graffiti treatment is scheduled for the week of May 22<sup>nd</sup>.

As president of URARA I would like to see our organization become more active in documenting sites so managers can have information to use in their decisions. Thanks for those giving of their time to help with the requests we receive for work projects.

## Statewide Site Steward Coordinator Needed

Diana Acerson

URARA has been asked to spread the word for a position now open with Friends of Cedar Mesa (FCM). As you may have heard, Marcia Simonis had to step down from her position as Statewide Site Steward Coordinator because of her husband's health problems. We are terribly sorry to see her go and can't imagine replacing her, but it is important that she be with her husband Don at this time.

The FCM is spreading the word among archaeology circles first for this position. If you have an interest in this position or know of friends you could share this job post with, Friends of Cedar Mesa would appreciate it so much. Details below:

*Friends of Cedar Mesa in southeast Utah is hiring a Statewide Site Steward Coordinator to develop a modernized and standardized statewide site steward program for cultural sites on BLM-managed lands in Utah. The position is three-quarter to full-time depending on the candidate. Full details at: <https://www.friendsofcedarmesa.org/site-steward-coordinator/>*

## More on the Member Forum

Diana Acerson

URARA's MEMBER FORUM under the "MEMBER" tab of the website looks forward to your continued interest and postings. There is of course proper etiquette when posting information on the Member Forum (see the March issue of Vestiges). You can "Subscribe" to just one conversation, choose particular ones, or select all of them to subscribe to. You can also "CREATE" your own topics. The daily summary email notices to you will announce what has been posted that day.

## BLM Utah Seeks Nominations to RAC

Diana Acerson

**Salt Lake City** – The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in Utah is seeking public nominations for six positions on its Utah Resource Advisory Council (RAC) that will become available in 2018. The due date for applications is **May 30, 2017**.

The BLM's RACs, composed of citizens chosen for their expertise in natural resource issues, help the Bureau carry out its multiple-use mission and stewardship of public lands.

"The BLM Resource Advisory Councils are an important forum for the community conversation that is a key component of public land management," said Ed Roberson, BLM Utah State Director. "By ensuring that RAC representation reflects a variety of perspectives, RAC members provide a valuable service to the Bureau by delving into issues and proposing solutions on a wide variety of land and resource use issues."

RAC positions that will become available in 2018 are in the following categories:

**Category One (two positions)** – Public land ranchers, representatives of organizations associated with energy and mineral development, the timber industry, transportation or rights-of-way, off-highway vehicle use, and commercial recreation.

**Category Two (one position)** – Representatives of nationally or regionally recognized environmental organizations, archaeological and historical organizations, dispersed recreation activities, and wild horse and burro organizations.

**Category Three (three positions)** – Representatives of state, county, or local elected office; representatives and employees of a state agency responsible for the management of natural resources; representatives of Indian Tribes with or adjacent to the area for which the RAC is organized; representatives and employees of academic institutions who are involved in the natural sciences; and the public-at-large.

A fillable application form is available online at: [Utah RAC Application](#).

**Nominations should be emailed or postmarked by May 30, 2017** to: Lola Bird, Bureau of Land Management, Utah State Office, 440 West 200 South, Suite 500, Salt Lake City, Utah 84101. For more information, please contact Lola Bird at [lbird@blm.gov](mailto:lbird@blm.gov) or (801)539-4033. For complete requirements visit: <https://www.blm.gov/press-release/blm-utah-seeks-nominations-resource-advisory-council-2>.

# Current BLM Field Office Project Involvement

Diana Acerson

**Current BLM Field Office projects on which URARA is a consulting party are:**

- Nine Mile Canyon Programmatic Agreement and Interpretive Plan
- Class I & II Inventories for Monticello, Price, Molen Reef,
- San Rafael Master Leasing Plan
- Oil & Gas Lease Sales out of Price, Vernal, & St. George
- Solar Project in Cedar City
- Lake Mountain Target Shooting Closure – Current Closure extended. Plan Amendment to include areas of rock art in the closure is due to be completed anytime now.

You can find links to documents regarding these projects on our website under the “Members” tab and “govt projects”. Or the e-planning site of the BLM: [eplanning.blm.gov/epl-front-office/eplanning/nepa/nepa\\_register.do](http://eplanning.blm.gov/epl-front-office/eplanning/nepa/nepa_register.do)

## Coso Range Field Trip Report

Oscar Olson

Somehow hearing of the Coso Range rock art I always thought that it would be untouchable for me. However, it came together this spring with the help of Steve Acerson and the folks from the California Rock Art Foundation (CRAF). Thanks to all who helped put this together. It was a grand trip and I hope the 2<sup>nd</sup> half in May goes as well. There were about 13 of us plus the hosts from CRAF.

Most of us gathered in Ridgecrest, California, on Thursday April 6. Friday the 7<sup>th</sup> we gathered at Tehachapi Museum with a park Ranger for a hike into Tomo-Khani State Historic Park at 12 noon. After a short drive we began our hike to a cave shelter. The cave has several pictographs of red anthropomorphs and other colored figures that were in remarkably good condition. We returned to Ridgecrest for a Chinese meal.

Saturday we gathered in Ridgecrest and began an all-day odyssey to several sites on public and/or private land including the Terese Mountain sites and Sheep Springs near Inyokern, with many petroglyphs on boulders. In the afternoon we took a little longer trip to a pictographic solar site on two house-sized boulders among the Joshua trees in bloom. That evening a Mexican Dinner in Ridgecrest.

Sunday Morning was the day to go onto the China Lake Naval Weapons Testing Center for a trip into Little Petroglyph Canyon. After the security briefing at the gate, our 2 docents took us up 45 miles thru desert Joshua tree country to the gathering place – a trailhead with parking lot and restrooms. From there we hiked into the canyon to see more Coso Range style petroglyphs. It is not a bad walk. The Lava canyon is unbelievable. It was hard to know which panel to photograph next. We are required to stay in the canyon bottom, so a telephoto lense is a good idea. Some

petroglyphs are on top of rocks, so a little boost is necessary here and there. Some went below the jump-off; others chose to return by the way in. Then back to Ridgecrest for steak dinner at Casey's.



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Monday some of us went north to Ayers Rock to see a large boulder with red pictographs. After a quick look into "Fossil Falls" we split up with some going north, while the rest headed back to Utah and overnight in St George.

A splendid adventure for sure and a big thanks to CRAF and Alan Garfinkle Gold for hosting us and all who helped along the way.

## Rock Art in the News

**The earliest directly dated rock paintings from southern Africa**, *Antiquity*, [Volume 91, Issue 356](#) April 2017, pp. 322-333

<https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/antiquity/article/earliest-directly-dated-rock-paintings-from-southern-africa-new-ams-radiocarbon-dates/B071E61BE2B9640E5B9A430E1464F980/core-reader>

**Where to See Five of the Planet's Most Mysterious Geoglyphs** Smithsonian.com

[http://www.smithsonianmag.com/travel/five-planets-most-mysterious-geoglyphs-180962917/?utm\\_source=smithsoniandaily&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=20170420-daily-responsive&spMailingID=28741699&spUserID=NzQwNDU0OTIyMTES1&spJobID=1022946702&spReportId=MTAyMjk0NjcwMgS2](http://www.smithsonianmag.com/travel/five-planets-most-mysterious-geoglyphs-180962917/?utm_source=smithsoniandaily&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=20170420-daily-responsive&spMailingID=28741699&spUserID=NzQwNDU0OTIyMTES1&spJobID=1022946702&spReportId=MTAyMjk0NjcwMgS2)

**Conversation with former Interior lawyer Hilary Tompkins discusses Obama administration's efforts to mend relations with its indigenous American nations**, *High Country News*, April 5, 2017 <http://www.hcn.org/articles/A-conversation-with-Obama-top-Interior-lawyer>

**Ancient Rock Art Under Fire**, Episode 2, Utopia TV on Channel 14 KJZZ Salt Lake City, April 9, 2017 <http://utopiatvseries.com/2017/04/22/episode-2/>

## Calendar and URARA Fieldtrips 2017

May 10	Jenkinson to talk on Shaman's Gallery at DAS, Rm 121, UHB, DSU
May 20-21	URARA Field trip Montrose area, Colorado
June 1-5	ARARA annual conference, Redmond, Oregon <a href="http://www.arara.org/conference.html">http://www.arara.org/conference.html</a>
June 16-17	USAS Annual Conference, Vernal; <a href="http://utaharchaeology.org">http://utaharchaeology.org</a>
June 19-23	BLM Site Steward Training, Vernal, <a href="mailto:dgrant@blm.gov">dgrant@blm.gov</a> or 435-781-3401.
June 24-25	URARA Guided 2-day field trip Range Creek \$80
June 26-30	BLM Site Steward Training, Vernal, <a href="mailto:dgrant@blm.gov">dgrant@blm.gov</a> or 435-781-3401.
July 15-16	URARA Field trip, Vernal area
August 10-13	80 <sup>th</sup> Pecos Conference, Pecos, NM <a href="http://www.pecosconference.org">www.pecosconference.org</a>
August 19-20	URARA summer picnic, Blanding area
September 9-10	URARA Field Trip, Cedar City area
September 16-17	Nine-Mile Coalition gathering, TBD
October 6-10	URARA Symposium, Green River
Oct. 13-15	CAS Annual Meeting (tentative date)
November 4	San Diego Rock Art Conference, San Diego
November 4-5	URARA Field trip McElmo Canyon
December 9-10	URARA Field trip, St George area
2018 Jan 25-26	URARA Board Retreat
January 27-28	URARA Field trip, Mesquite

URARA field trips are available to members only. For info or sign-up, please go to <https://urara.wildapricot.org/events>, or contact Oscar Olson at 801-485-0862. Registration will open approximately (45) days prior to the start of the field trip. At that time you will be able to register until the set number of participants is filled; then your name will be added to the waiting list.

Southern Nevada Rock Art Association (SNRAA) meets on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month; see: <http://snraa.org/snraa.org/EVENTS.html>

Dixie Archaeological Society (DAS) meets on the second Wednesday of the month; see: <http://www.dixierockart.com/>

San Diego Rock Art Association (SDRAA) meets at the Kumeyaay Center in Poway every other month, sometimes on the first Sunday, sometimes not; see: <http://sandiegorockart.org/meetings>

# URARA Board and Contacts

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

Please address all membership applications/renewals and checks to URARA, Box 1351, Washington, UT UT 84780. [www.utahrockart.org](http://www.utahrockart.org).

## 2017 URARA Board and Officers

Steve Acerson, President	385-985-5402	<a href="mailto:whiteh20rockart@gmail.com">whiteh20rockart@gmail.com</a>
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## URARA Conservation Coordinators

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