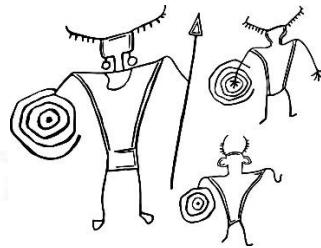


VESTIGES



December 2018
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Monthly Newsletter of URARA, the Utah Rock Art Research Association

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From the Prez

Steve Acerson

2018 was an exciting year for URARA. Field trips, documentation projects, work events, and excavation in Nine Mile Canyon with youth and BLM, and some success in the protection of certain rock art sites. Volunteers have stepped up and helped when asked and enjoyed the beautiful canyons and rock art sites of Utah. Membership has increased with new folks interested in supporting, viewing and protecting our State's rockart.

Our land-managing agencies have been working hard to figure out what procedures and size of monuments they should be taking care of. Use of the land and extraction of natural resources have become big issues this last year. Many hours donated by URARA members have helped to make us a valued partner in agency planning. Even if it has not turned out exactly as we have hoped, our input has become valuable, and is requested in many land-use undertakings around the state.

The URARA Board will meet in January to discuss next year's activities and projects. Please think about places for field trips, possible projects, and what you would like to do that protects and preserves rockart. If you can lead a field trip, let a Board member know; we can always use the help. You are welcome to add to the suggested items for consideration by the Board posted on the member's forum: <https://urara.wildapricot.org/Members-Forum/6882339>

Christmas Socials: SLC/Dec.3.... Moab/Dec. 14..... St. George/Dec. 15 Look to the web for details and sign up to attend.

2019 Celebrates URARA's 40th Anniversary and we wish to thank all the founding members for the great legacy they have given us. We hope to celebrate this event at next year's Symposium

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in St. George. If you have some events and/or stories to share about the organization's origins, or highlights that impressed you, memories, etc., please send or email them to us at utahrockartresearchassoc@gmail.com.

We are also interested in current rock art adventures and stories you have experienced. It would be nice of you to share them with the rest of us. Send them to Ben Everitt, he'll get them in Vestiges.

Diana and I have been blessed to spend time with you and learned more about you, and all the rockart we have shared. Thanks for your support these past two years and tolerance of my tie-dye attire.

Kilgore Revises Pit Expansion to Avoid Rock Art

Steve Acerson

I am excited to inform you that Kilgore Company's gravel pit expansion project has been revised to protect the rock art found at their Benjamin pit on West Mountain, Utah County. URARA was part of a consulting process by the BLM that has resulted in a redesign by Kilgore for the mineral extraction in the approved expansion area for the pit.

The BLM began its "consulting party" process with local residents, URARA, and other government agencies, due to the discovery of nine boulders with rock art on them in the expansion area. The requested permit for extraction activities by Kilgore was put on hold to allow them to come up with a plan to preserve this rock art.

Lynn Benson, Diana, and I were contacted by the group "West Mountain Matters", which represents local residents, in January of this year. They asked us to walk the mountain to see if stories of rock art locations could be substantiated. After a few months we located approximately 90 boulder surfaces with images on them. These locations were sent to the BLM, property owners, and Utah School Institutional Trust Lands Administration.

The BLM requested a mitigation plan from Kilgore, in which the company and agencies were leaning towards relocation of the rock art off-site. Three of these consultant meetings were held trying to find consensus and resolve the issue. As a result, Kilgore has introduced a new mining plan designed to avoid the rock art and leave the **nine** boulders in place.

We are very pleased with the BLM and Kilgore to have this outcome. This decision shows through cooperative efforts with companies like Kilgore and our land managers, our cultural resources can be protected. In addition, our landscapes can be reclaimed in a manner that retains most of their natural aspects, allowing areas like this to be used and enjoyed after the extraction activities have been completed.

URARA Christmas Socials (plural)

Steve Acerson

The Board decided last year to have the Christmas gatherings in three different locations, Salt Lake City, Moab, and St.George, so members can get together and share a meal and stories of the year's events. If you are interested in attending please go to the web page: on the event tab, click on OTHER EVENTS. There you will see the three locations. Select the one you would like to go to, and do what you normally do when registering for a field trip. The events are on different days, so if you are really agile, you can attend all three!

Annual Holiday Party at Sandy Bicentennial Park December 3

Date: MONDAY December 3, 2018

Time: Set up 5:00, Social at 5:30, dinner at 6:00

Place: Sandy City Bicentennial Park, 440 E 8680 South, Sandy, east of the tennis courts

Directions: From the traffic light at Main Street and 8720 South in Sandy, go east on 8720 South Street to the end (about 9 blocks; turn left and then right on 8680 S.

Vittles: URARA will furnish a honey-baked ham, plates and utensils. Please bring your favorite pot-luck dish and beverage of choice (no alcohol, City Park rules).

Program: Gary Birmingham will show some of his rock art trips.

You may register: on the URARA web page: events>other events

Questions: Call Rachel Onraet (801)-860-1880 or Barbara Green (801) 466-7702

Moab potluck December 14

Dec 14, 6PM Moab's first annual URARA potluck, with maybe a hike before-hand if the weather is good - no more than 20. Register on the URARA web page: events>other events. URARA will be providing a ham, which Susie will prepare. Quent Baker has offered to provide some sort of entertainment that will be rock art related. Further details to those who have signed up. Leigh Grench and Susan McDowell will be in charge of this event.

St George URARA-DAS Christmas Dinner December 15

Date: Saturday December 15, 2018

Time: 6:00 PM

Place: The Pasta Factory, 2 W St George Boulevard, St George, in Ancestor Square. We are in the banquet room on the west side of the restaurant.

Vittles: Pasta bar includes pasta with 2 toppings, salad and drink for \$11.50.

Please Register on the URARA web page, <https://urara.wildapricot.org/events>other events>, or with Kaye Robinson (whitefeather7@gmail.com) so we have a head-count.

Parking may be in short supply in Ancestor Square, but there is a 2-story parking garage 1 block south, just south of Zions bank on the east side of Main Street. The room has a flat-screen TV if anyone wants to bring a laptop with photos from this year's trips.

Questions: Contact Ben Everitt, rockdoc@xmission.com, 801-244-0070

West Mountain Sign Project

Steve Acerson

The BLM is keeping URARA in the process of protecting rockart and developing ideas on what can be done on West Mountain. This area is very much like Lake Mountain. The rockart is on boulders scattered along the Bonneville shoreline. The mountain is close to Benjamin and Payson, where the population/housing is steadily increasing. The northeast end of the mountain continues to be used by shooters, and they are driving all over creating new spider roads. The targets are anything they want to get rid of and most shooters don't gather their debris after they leave. The boulders are receiving impacts from bullets that travel through targets, and some of the large boulders on the hillside are just being shot at because they make good targets.

A couple of weeks ago after the Kilgore consulting meeting, the BLM talked with me. The signs we had discussed earlier had been made and delivered to the Salt Lake Field Office. On Nov. 27th Diana, Lynn Benson, and I met about eight BLM personnel from recreation, fire, and archeology at the site to decide where to place the signs to hopefully encourage shooters to use another area.

The hillside in the path of the shooting contains 14 boulders with rock art. It's a trash and bullet casing wonderland. Probably half of the boulders have bullet impacts. Lynn and I have been placing rocks in front of them this year to protect them. We discussed the situation with the BLM, and showed them where we knew the rock art was.

It's a very rocky landscape, so pounding metal posts is strenuous work. After several hours two areas had signs telling of the existence of the rockart and basic practices on shooting safely. In all we placed about 18 signs in the area. Baby steps we hope will teach shooters to pay attention and respect their surroundings. Thanks BLM, let's keep up the effort.





Expression on her “face ” tells the story.



Same problem different mountain!!!



Truck load of shredded metal objects; Thanks, Julie, for hauling it away

San Rafael Swell Field Trip Report

Steve Acerson

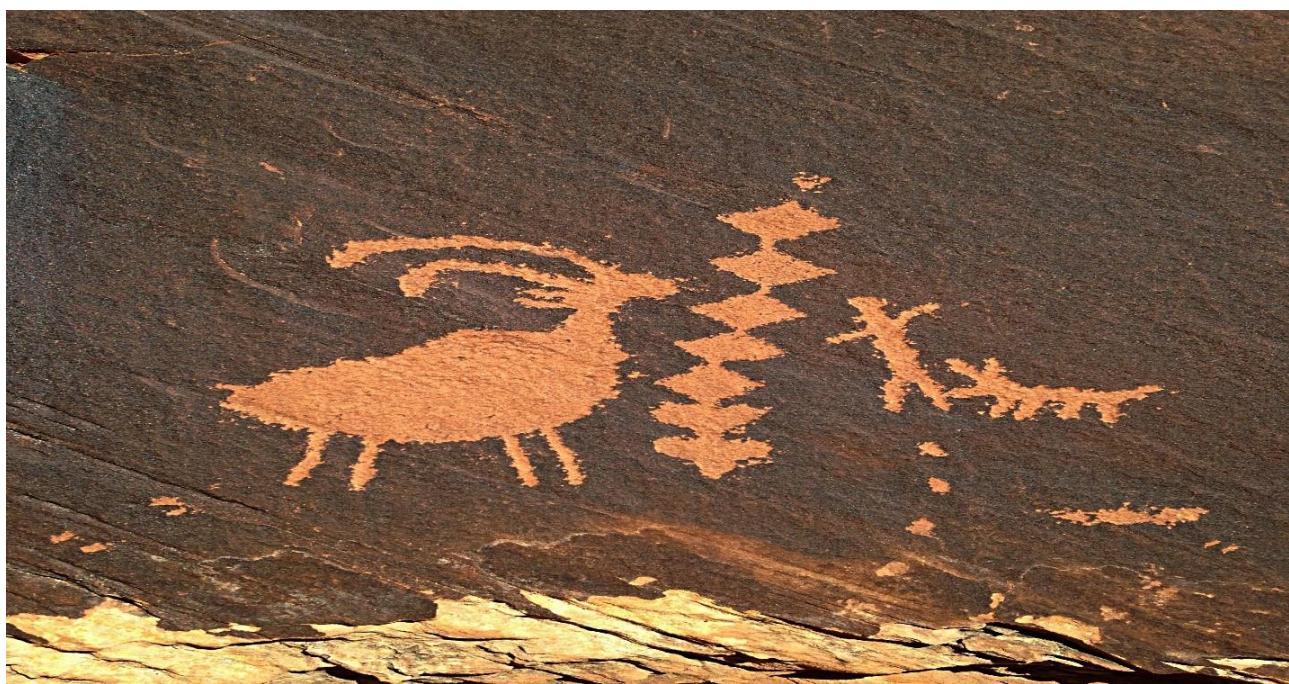
The weather forecast was not in our favor, but we've been lucky throughout the year and able to do all of our trips.

The plan for the Swell was to visit sites between I-70, Black Dragon area, and all the side canyons along highway 24 to Temple Mountain Junction. Dennis DeVore and Dave Manley lead two groups up Old Woman Wash, Oscar started north and worked his way south, and I took another group south and turned around to do sites northerly. Black Dragon, Petroglyph Canyon, Three Fingers, Straight, Ernie, Iron, Cottonwood Springs, and Temple and North Wash completed the sites visited.

We had two full groups who enjoyed the different types of rockart, from Archaic, Fremont, and BCS styles. Some walked a little farther, some got their boots wet, and others drove up to and took pictures. Most didn't stand in the shade very long due to the cold temps.

Visiting the Swell never fails to please us rock art addicts. And it's all the better for the great company of folks who are willing to walk the path to these amazing sites.







Rock Art in the News

Ben Everitt

Plumed Serpent (or are they fins?) appears in Pompeii. Smithsonian Oct 18, 2018

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/beautifully-painted-shrine-emerges-ashes-pompeii-180970573/#qY1KgY4JmBtZBa1f.99>

Plumed Serpent (or are they wings?) returns to Moundville. Smithsonian Nov 16, 2018

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/authorities-recover-three-native-american-artifacts-stolen-alabama-nearly-40-years-ago-180970835/#YIXU3e9MOOCzKLUC.99>

World's Oldest-Known Figurative Paintings Discovered in Borneo Cave. Smithsonian Nov 7, 2018

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/science-nature/worlds-oldest-known-figurative-paintings-discovered-borneo-cave-180970747/#8LhqZjxXXiLskit9.99>

Calendar and URARA Fieldtrips 2018

December 3	URARA annual Christmas Party and potluck, Bicentennial Pavilion, 530 East 8680 South, Sandy.
December 8	Holiday open house at Lost City Museum, Overton, NV https://mailchi.mp/8feff04fe78a/lost-city-museum-holiday-open-house-december-8?e=2ff9be0045
December 8-9	URARA Field Trip, Utah Lake area
December 14	URARA Christmas Potluck, Moab, TBA
December 15	URARA Christmas gathering, Pasta Factory, St George
2019	
January 11-13	URARA Board Retreat, Canyon of the Ancients Guest Ranch
June 14-17	ARARA Annual Conference, Flagstaff, AZ

URARA field trips are available to members only. For information 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 may 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 4th 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.dixerockart.com/>

Colorado Archaeological Association, Grand Junction Chapter meets on the second Monday of the month <https://www.meetup.com/CAS-GJ/>

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

URARA Board and Contacts

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

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