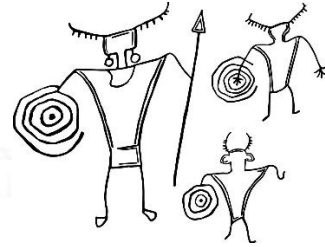


# VESTIGES



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Monthly Newsletter of URARA, the Utah Rock Art Research Association

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## From the Prez

Kent Williams

Hello URARA - I hope you all are enjoying the early summer and finding ways to stay cool. Though still a way off, we are thinking of the Symposium, putting together plans for field trips, recruiting presenters, finding caterers, all the things that go into a successful and enjoyable Symposium. COVID safety remains a concern and is a part of our planning. We will not require proof of vaccination for attendance at the symposium, but I want to take this opportunity to encourage anyone planning to attend the Symposium to get vaccinated. It is the best way to protect yourself from the virus, and protect other URARA folks as well as residents of the Vernal community.

On another topic related to the symposium, there is an upcoming event this month that you may be interested in. On July 28 at 7PM there will be an on-line orientation for the Site Stewardship program conducted by SHPO. The orientation is preparation for the Site Stewardship training, to be held in Vernal just before the Symposium on Thursday September 30. Even if you don't end up taking the training and becoming a site steward, the orientation will provide insight on how we can help protect rock art and other cultural resources. I will email a link to this event later in the month.

Registration for Site Stewardship training in Vernal will be available in August, in connection with symposium registration.

July's URARA on-line presentation is on birds and bird imagery in Puebloan culture – see p. 8.

Kent

July 2021

# Vernal Symposium Preliminary Schedule

**Connie Bridge**

Don't forget to mark your calendars for the 2021 URARA Symposium in Vernal, Utah, Sept. 30-Oct. 4. We are planning a LIVE symposium. We will be taking all precautions per the CDC and Utah Board of Health Guidelines at the time of the Symposium.

## **Preliminary schedule**

Thurs. Sept 30:

Site Stewardship Program, all day (More information to come), replaces work shops

6:00 pm: Field Trip meeting, Uintah Conference Center (UCC)

Fri. Oct 1

Field Trips (Various locations and times)

6:00 pm: Watermelon Social (Uintah County commons, located by the library and Heritage Museum)

7:00 Heritage Museum Program

Sat. Oct. 2

All Day: Symposium (UCC)

5:00 or 6:00 pm: Banquet and Auction (UCC)

Sun. Oct. 3

All Day: Symposium

5:00 pm: Field trip meeting for Monday Field Trips (UCC)

Mon. Oct. 4

Field trips: (Various locations and times)

Registration will begin early August for the Site Stewardship Program, field trips, symposium, and dinner/auction. The cost will be comparable to last year's. Field trips will be in the Vernal Area.

The venue is the Uintah Conference Center (UCC). The address is 313 East 200 South, Vernal, Utah.

We are looking into hotel group discounts. We will let you know when we get more information on this. If you prefer, book a hotel room now.

If you prefer to camp, the Western Park in Vernal (<https://www.westernpark.org>) (302 E 200 S) has 32 camp sites available. The price is \$15.00 per site. Price includes electrical hook up, shared drinkable water, sewer dumping station. They also have restrooms and showers. Please contact Melanie at 435-789-7396 to reserve your spot early.

There also are many campgrounds in the Vernal/Uintah area. (<https://www.dinoland.com/camping/>) Call to reserve those now.

We will update you each month in Vestiges when more information becomes available.

We look forward to seeing you all again!

## 2021 Symposium Call for Presentations

Dennis DeVore

The Symposium Committee announces a Call for Proposals for Presentations for the Utah Rock Art Research Association Annual Symposium to be held in Vernal, Utah October 1-4, 2021.

Proposals should have a Title, and an Abstract of not more than 200 words. The deadline for proposals is July 18, 2021. We ask that everyone submitting proposals 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, particularly those about the Vernal area. Presenters will be allowed a maximum of 30 minutes.

Due to the rapidly improving covid situation, prerecorded presentations are no longer required. The URARA symposium in Vernal will be live in all respects. Presentations that are prerecorded can still be submitted and are encouraged for those who do not plan to attend. But live presentations will be the norm, just as in the past.

Please send abstracts to Dennis DeVore, Presentations Coordinator, preferably via email to [ddv48@mac.com](mailto:ddv48@mac.com) or by mail to 353 Dakota Circle, Grand Junction, CO 81507. Consult Dennis for Instructions for submitting recordings.

Accepted presenters will receive a \$100 Honorarium to help with expenses, plus paid Symposium registration.

## Field Trip Leader Training

Wanda Gayle

URARA wants to offer field trip leader training to members who indicated on their membership that they would like to lead a field trip. We intend to resume field trips at some point and want to build a team of new, trained leaders.

Email Wanda Gayle at [wgayle@sisna.com](mailto:wgayle@sisna.com) if you are interested. Include the rock art area you are familiar with, if any. We will keep you posted on training opportunities.

Wanda Gayle  
URARA Field Trip Committee Chair

## Help Wanted

Carol Duecker

Volunteer Needed! URARA is seeking a volunteer to help track equipment and other inventory that we own. This volunteer would be responsible for contacting the membership to determine who is holding URARA-owned inventory, and for maintaining a record of the inventory and location. No special qualifications are required, but access to a computer and spreadsheet software would help.

If this sounds like a job for you, please contact the URARA Treasurer at [URARATreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:URARATreasurer@gmail.com).

## Personal thoughts on Symposiums and Viruses

Troy Scotter

The Board is working hard on our upcoming symposium in October. I am looking forward to it. It has been a long time since I have seen most of you in person. The Board decided to hold an in-person symposium because both the State and Federal guidance suggests that it will be safe to do so. We have also decided to require people to be vaccinated to attend, but you will be on an honor system for that policy. We won't have vaccine card police at every entrance to symposium events. I support that policy. But I also worry about it.

Statistics tell us that in the western states about 30% - 40% of the population is not vaccinated. So, if those statistics hold true for our own membership then it is possible that with an attendance of 150 people between 45 and 60 members might not be vaccinated. That prospect is sometimes minimized with impersonal language: "they chose not to be vaccinated so they have no one but themselves to blame if they get COVID." Or we just talk in numbers and statistics. I don't like to think in terms of either impersonal statistics or impersonal language. Rather, I like to choose a list of 10 of my friends and then try to figure out which of the three or four of them I would miss the most.

I'm not worried about my own safety, I'm worried about the safety of my unvaccinated friends. My preference would be that you all "Get the Jab", and then we can sit down at dinner and have a stimulating conversation about the great rock art site ten miles down that road behind the big tree on the left. I recognize that not all of you want to be vaccinated. I'll be honest, I don't understand that decision, but I will respect it. But please don't put yourselves at risk by coming to a big event where there is a possibility of spread of the virus. I'd rather see you healthy and well in a year's time which I hope will be better and happier for all of us.

Editor's note: As we go to press, many jurisdictions are renewing restrictions, and the CDC is recommending masks for all, including those vaccinated, because of the spread of Covid Variant Delta. We still don't know how this will turn out. Caution is the better part of valor. We're all in this together, whether we like it or not.

## Remembering Gary Burningham

Oscar Olson



Bill Hirt - Gary Burningham - Barbara Green; photo by Oscar Olson

During Gary's last days, Oscar, Barbara, and Bill would go spend a day with him once in a while and look through his photo collection; enough kodachrome to sink a battleship, or take him out to roam the hills in the autumn sunshine.

## Troy Scotter Receives Bock Award from ARARA

Pam and Quent Baker

At the June 2021 ARARA virtual symposium, Troy Scotter was awarded the prestigious Frank and A.J. Bock award for lifetime achievement in documentation, education, conservation, and outreach in rock art studies. Multiple letters supporting his nomination mentioned his computer/media skills, as well as his communication skills in bringing diverse stakeholders together. His award was for 2020, but no symposium was held last year so the presentation occurred in 2021. We all know how indispensable he is to URARA, and he has now been recognized for similar contributions to ARARA. Please congratulate our Renaissance Man when next you see him!!

# Eagle Mountain Petroglyphs Documented

Diana Acerson

The State Historical Preservation Office (SHPO), recruited volunteers the first part of June to help document an area for Eagle Mountain city's soon-to-be Petroglyph Park. SHPO had been contacted and vandalism reported at the top of the ridge where some of this rock art is located. Vandals had sprayed red paint in several locations on the rock. This prompted a site visit of the area by SHPO and immediate scheduling of documentation of the sites. Graffiti removal was also scheduled. The City of Eagle Mountain responded, working with the developer, and SHPO.

Rock imagery identified several years ago by several URARA members and others, was set to become a park for the city to protect the images there. The land they are on is still to be turned over by the housing developer, who had years ago set aside the land for the Park to the City. Most of the rock art is protected by fencing, but the ridge that was vandalized remains unprotected. Moving forward on development of the Park has been slow, but this event has prompted more discussion to get things moving again.



The volunteers, some from Eagle Mountain, included Pat Sullivan and the Acerson's. They all spent two days with SHPO representatives led by Elizabeth Hora, and other archaeologists getting all the sites documented.



# Rock Art Ed at Nebo Title VI Summer Workshop

Diana Acerson

June summer school workshops and field trips gave the Nebo Title VI Indian Program kids an opportunity to experience something that we hope leads to more awareness by the native people to the importance of the rock art created by their ancient ancestors. Eileen Quintana heads up the program, and creates these wonderful opportunities for the kids, multi-tribal, ages 5 to 18.

Two weeks of workshops and events also took the group to Fremont State Park on a day-long field trip. On the last day they participated in a Prayer Run from the mouth of Spanish Fork Canyon to West Mountain, where they were able to see the rock art there with their parents, friends, and family. The purpose of the Prayer Run was to pray for the saving of the rock art at West Mountain and the sacredness of the mountain itself, as they ran. URARA members Steve and Diana Acerson, along with Lynn Benson were at West Mountain at the end of the run, to share information and take anyone who wanted to go up the slope to see the rock art. Also joining them was one of the school board members, Shauna Warnick from Nebo School District, Senior Class President Mason Evans from Spanish Fork High School, along with his father Grant Evans who is also a teacher and rock art lover. John McHugh, URARA's Education Committee Chair hiked along with the group, and Troy Scotter also stopped by in support of the event.

The summer school events culminated in a Pow Wow at Larsen Elementary School in Spanish Fork, where they performed the many dances they have learned, in full regalia. They wrote in their journals about what they have learned about the rock art, and how they feel about the vandalism happening to it. The plan is to send the letters to legislators.

Steve and Diana were invited to instruct the different age groups on the archaeology of rock art in one session of the workshops, and the students actually created their own images on sand boards in another session. "We feel blessed to have been invited to participate in their summer school program. We feel we learned as much from them as we shared."



# Bird Imagery in Puebloan Culture

Werner Duecker

In this month's Zoom presentation Chuck LaRue will be talking about birds and bird imagery in the Puebloan culture of the Colorado Plateau. Chuck is a wildlife biologist and naturalist who has worked extensively with birds on the Colorado Plateau and other areas of the Southwest for 35 years. He may be known to many of you for his work with Dr. Laurie Webster on the Cedar Mesa Perishable Project. Modern Puebloan peoples of the Colorado Plateau have deep and ancient relationships with the birds of the region, and traces of these still living relationships are often preserved in the archaeological record. Bird imagery and depictions of bird behavior appear in prehistoric rock art, ceramics, jewelry, and basketry. Birds figure in many of the Puebloan creation stories and in many aspects of the Puebloan universe. Even today a great variety of feathers are still used in myriad religious and utilitarian contexts. In this talk we will explore expressions of this ancient Southwestern ornithological tradition.

This month's presentation will be on Thursday July 29th at 7:00 pm MDT. Look for registration information to come out soon.

## Rock Art in the News

*Defaced petroglyphs force rock climbers to reckon with sport's destructive past*, The Guardian, May 4, 2021  
[https://www.theguardian.com/sport/2021/may/04/rock-climbing-native-american-indigenous-people?traffic\\_source=Connatix](https://www.theguardian.com/sport/2021/may/04/rock-climbing-native-american-indigenous-people?traffic_source=Connatix)

*Petroglyph vandalism is not a victimless crime*, High Country News, May 24, 2021  
<https://www.hcn.org/articles/indigenous-affairs-archaeology-petroglyph-vandalism-is-not-a-victimless-crime>

*The Parowan Gap shows a gap in time*, SL Tribune March 28, 2021  
<https://www.sltrib.com/artsliving/The%20Parowan%20Gap%20shows%20a%20gap%20in%20time/>

*Vandals Deface 'Irreplaceable' Native American Rock Carvings in Georgia*, Smithsonian, April 8, 2021  
[https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/someone-destroyed-1000-year-old-indigenous-art-georgias-chattahoochee-national-forest-180977453/?utm\\_source=smithsoniandaily&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=20210408-daily-responsive&spMailingID=44768432&spUserID=NzQwNDU0OTIyMTES1&spJobID=1981818349&spReportId=MTk4MTgxODM0OQS2](https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/someone-destroyed-1000-year-old-indigenous-art-georgias-chattahoochee-national-forest-180977453/?utm_source=smithsoniandaily&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=20210408-daily-responsive&spMailingID=44768432&spUserID=NzQwNDU0OTIyMTES1&spJobID=1981818349&spReportId=MTk4MTgxODM0OQS2)

*Amateur Archaeologist Discovers Prehistoric Animal Carvings in Scottish Tomb*, Smithsonian, Jun 2, 2021  
[https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/4000-year-old-deer-carvings-found-scotland-180977876/?utm\\_source=smithsoniandaily&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=20210602-daily-responsive&spMailingID=45081177&spUserID=NzQwNDU0OTIyMTES1&spJobID=2020549718&spReportId=MjAyMDU0OTcxOAS2](https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/4000-year-old-deer-carvings-found-scotland-180977876/?utm_source=smithsoniandaily&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=20210602-daily-responsive&spMailingID=45081177&spUserID=NzQwNDU0OTIyMTES1&spJobID=2020549718&spReportId=MjAyMDU0OTcxOAS2)



## Calendar and URARA Events

July 29	URARA on-line Presentation, 7:00 MDT, <a href="https://urara.wildapricot.org/">https://urara.wildapricot.org/</a>
July 28	7:00 PM, MDT On-line orientation for the Site Stewardship program conducted by SHPO.
Aug 5-9	Pecos Conference, Mancos Colorado <a href="https://www.pecosconference.org">https://www.pecosconference.org</a>
Sep 30	SHPO Site Steward Training event, Vernal, Utah
Oct 1-4	URARA Symposium, Vernal, Utah
Oct 13-16	Great Basin Anthropological Conference Las Vegas <a href="https://greatbasinanthropologicalassociation.org">https://greatbasinanthropologicalassociation.org</a>
Oct 28-31	OSTA Conference Las Vegas <a href="https://oldspanishtrail.org/">https://oldspanishtrail.org/</a>

URARA Field trips have been temporarily suspended for the duration of the epidemic. URARA field trips are available to members only. For information or sign-up, please go to <https://urara.wildapricot.org/events>, or contact Wanda Gayle at [wgayle@sisna.com](mailto:wgayle@sisna.com). 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.

URARA currently offers monthly presentations for members via Zoom. Don't forget to check the URARA FACEBOOK PAGE once in while.

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

Dixie Archaeological Society (DAS), St George, meets on the second Wednesday of the month, Saturday field trips once a month. <http://www.dixierockart.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. <https://sandiegorockart.org/meetings>  
Now on-line.

Utah Public Archaeology Network (UPAN). Calendar of events and monthly newsletter. <https://history.utah.gov/antiquities/upan>

American Rock Art Research Association (ARARA) is hosting on-line events. URARA members can access for free. Registration at: <https://arara.wildapricot.org/Lectures>

# URARA Board and Contacts

Utah Rock Art Research Association: Box 511324, Salt Lake City, UT 84151-1324. [www.utahrockart.org](http://www.utahrockart.org).

## 2021 URARA Board and Officers

Kent Williams, President  
 Connie Bridge, Vice President  
 Carol Duecker, Treasurer  
 Nina Bowen, Secretary  
 Troy Scotter, Website Manager  
 Leigh Grench  
 Darlene Koerner  
 Wanda Gayle  
 John McHugh

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## Committee Chairs and Appointees

Tribal Liaison	Carol Patterson
Historian/ Archives	Keith Fessenden
Website/Membership	Troy Scotter
Conservation/Preservation	Troy Scotter
Documentation	Leigh Grench
Education	John McHugh
Research	Darlene Koerner
Field Trips	Wanda Gayle
Symposium Chair	Connie Bridge
Publications Editor	Dennis DeVore
Vestiges Editor	Ben Everitt
Board Nominations	Werner Duecker

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## URARA Conservation Coordinators

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West Desert	Salt Lake	Steve Acerson	<a href="mailto:whiteh20rockart@gmail.com">whiteh20rockart@gmail.com</a>