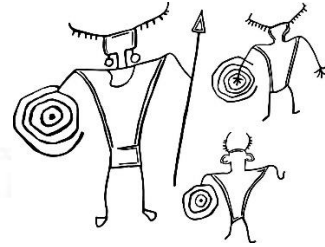


# VESTIGES



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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,

**Symposium Cancelled.** With regret, I need to inform you that the Symposium that was to be held in Vernal on October 1-3, has been cancelled due to the Corona Virus situation. This includes both live and virtual aspects of Symposium. This difficult decision was reached through a majority vote of the URARA Board of Directors. We are currently in the process of determining which presentations and other components of the Symposium can be made available on-line and shared with you all.

Nonetheless, I'm feeling optimistic as we look at a second year in a row without a live Symposium. It is likely that most of the planned speakers are willing to wait until next year. We have a set of rock art sites that are vetted by the land managers (BLM in most cases) that will allow for two full days of field trips in the Vernal area in 2022. I think mostly it's knowing that the great volunteers at URARA, who despite the disappointment of having to cancel after many hours of work and preparation, are willing to stick around for next year, and do it again.

Though we will not be hosting a live zoom session for presentations this year, we will be hosting an on-line business meeting for all members on October 21 at 6:00- 8:00 PM Mountain Time. In a normal year, this meeting is held during the second day of Symposium, after the speaker sessions. It is usually lightly attended, given the choice of sitting through another meeting or going out on a beautiful fall afternoon to see rock art. That has been unfortunate, because the member meeting is a great chance for members to see and hear about everything URARA is up to as an organization, and for members who want it, the meeting presents opportunities to engage in more depth. This year you may join the meeting from the comfort of your home via Zoom. We also will be holding elections for new board members at the meeting. Keep an eye out for nominee bios in the October

September 2021

Vestiges. A reminder and a link to the Zoom meeting will be sent out as we get closer to the meeting date.

Some background the Board decision is in order: Back in April when we planned to hold a live symposium, we were optimistic. COVID case rates were coming down, and vaccination rates were going up. As of today, case rates are going up state-wide, especially in the Vernal area. According to the CDC and Utah State Department of Health, this is primarily due to the delta variant of the Corona virus and low vaccination rates. The delta variant appears to be more contagious. Even people who are vaccinated are getting "breakthrough" infections, and while not likely to get really sick, they can still transmit the virus. Delta also appears to be more virulent; even younger and otherwise healthy people who are unvaccinated are getting really sick.

While no one is predicting the Coronavirus situation in Vernal in October with any certainty, I think the trends are clear- it's very likely to get worse between now and then. From an organizational perspective, bringing in a large number of people into an area experiencing a high rate of transmission with a low rate of vaccination would be irresponsible at best.

So please hang in there with us. If there is a silver lining for URARA in all of this, it is that we are going to be incredibly well prepared for the 2022 symposium in Vernal next year (knock wood). Hopefully many of the same presenters will be there, we will have a great variety of field trips for you to enjoy, and be in a fantastic venue to meet and renew friendships, as well as make new ones.

**Change in listing officers and board members.** I also want to report that we are making changes to the list of URARA officers and board members. Personal email addresses will be removed and replaced with a link leading to a form for general and specific questions that will be read and responded to. Members wanting to get in touch with officers and other members will continue to have access to full contact information by logging into the URARA web site. These changes are being made not only to help deter fraudulent requests from scammers impersonating URARA officers, which seems to happen on a regular basis, but also simply because a number of URARA officers and contacts are not comfortable having their personal information on public facing media. Of course, please be aware that no URARA officer will ever, under any circumstance, directly request money or financial assistance from members. As with many things these days, we just need to keep our guard up.

Kent

# Field Trip Leader Training

Wanda Gayle

The field trip committee plans to sponsor the following activities when pandemic precautions allow groups to gather safely and coronavirus transmittal rates fall in Utah:

**Field trips** in September, October, and November

**Orientation for field trip leaders.** New field trip leaders hear advice from veteran field trip leaders for leading a safe and interesting field trip that is a good experience for all. They are also introduced to the *Field Trip Leader Guide*, which details how to set up and lead a URARA field trip.

**First aid for field trip leaders.** Field trip leaders learn how to respond to urgent situations that may occur while leading a trip, including heat exhaustion, dehydration, diabetic emergencies, snake and insect bites, fractures and sprains. CPR and AED training included.

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

Thank you for being a URARA member and wanting to participate.

## URARA Inventory

Kathryn Mutz

URARA is starting its periodic process of updating inventory. This includes equipment (projectors, field equipment), supplies (office, picnic), libraries and electronic files, and other miscellany like the URARA banner. Remember, URARA has never had a physical address, and no warehouse for storing stuff. If you have any URARA equipment or supplies in your possession, please send me a note at [gvmutz@gmail.com](mailto:gvmutz@gmail.com) with:

- A description of what you have;
- The location (for example: your garage or basement); and
- Your:
  - Name
  - Address
  - Phone number
  - Preferred e-mail.

Thanks for your help with this effort.

## Rock Art in the News

*Datura quids at Pinwheel Cave, California, provide unambiguous confirmation of the ingestion of hallucinogens at a rock art site*, Proceedings National Academy of Sciences December 8, 2020  
<https://www.pnas.org/content/117/49/31026>

*Pisciforms in the Jornada Mogollon Region of Southern New Mexico and West Texas*, Margaret Berrier, Old Pueblo Archaeology, Dec 2020, No. 83  
<https://www.oldpueblo.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/Issue-83-%E2%80%93-December-2020-%E2%80%93-Let%E2%80%99s-Look-at-Fish-Jornada-Mogollon-Petroglyphs-and-Pictographs.pdf>

*Aztec Pictograms Are the First Written Records of Earthquakes in the Americas*, Smithsonianmag.com, Aug 30, 2021  
[https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/aztec-code-earthquakes-pictograms-180978534/?utm\\_source=smithsoniandaily&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=20210830-daily-responsive&spMailingID=45541229&spUserID=NzQwNDU0OTIyMTES1&spJobID=2067368472&spReportId=MjA2NzM2ODQ3MgS2](https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/aztec-code-earthquakes-pictograms-180978534/?utm_source=smithsoniandaily&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=20210830-daily-responsive&spMailingID=45541229&spUserID=NzQwNDU0OTIyMTES1&spJobID=2067368472&spReportId=MjA2NzM2ODQ3MgS2)

*A prehistoric Native American pictograph that signals the summer solstice*, Archaeoastronomy and Ancient Technologies 2021, 9(1), 1-31, John McHugh, John K. Lundwall, Tom Howells  
<https://aaatec.org/documents/article/jmh4.pdf>



From the archives

2009

## Calendar and URARA Events

Sep 18-19	OPAC Encore Homol'ovi and Rock Art Ranch field trip <a href="http://www.oldpueblo.org">http://www.oldpueblo.org</a>
Sep 30	<b>CANCELLED</b> SHPO Site Steward Training event, Vernal, Utah
Oct 1-4	<b>CANCELLED</b> URARA Symposium, Vernal, Utah
Oct 10	SDRAA Virtual Meeting: La Rumorosa Style Rock Art in Context <a href="https://sandiegorockart.org/meetings">https://sandiegorockart.org/meetings</a>
Oct 13-16	Great Basin Anthropological Conference Las Vegas <a href="https://greatbasinanthropologicalassociation.org">https://greatbasinanthropologicalassociation.org</a>
Oct 21	URARA Annual business meeting and election on-line, 6:00 MDT
Oct 28-31	OSTA Conference Las Vegas <a href="https://oldspanishtrail.org">https://oldspanishtrail.org</a>
	SDRAA Rock Art 2021 Virtual Symposium <a href="http://www.sdraa.org">www.sdraa.org</a>
<b>2022</b> June 10-13	ARARA Conference, Great Falls, Montana <a href="https://arara.wildapricot.org/Conf-Call-For-Papers-2022">https://arara.wildapricot.org/Conf-Call-For-Papers-2022</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/>

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 Officers

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

## 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

## URARA Conservation Coordinators

<u>BLM District</u>	<u>Field Office</u>	<u>Coordinator</u>
Coordinator Lead		Diana Acerson
Canyon Country	Moab	Pam & Quent Baker
Canyon Country	Monticello	Werner Duecker Carol Duecker
Paria River	Kanab	Jeff Frey
Color Country	Cedar City	Gina Hupka
Color Country	St. George	Nina Bowen
Color Country	Richfield	Jeff Roberts
Green River	Vernal	Tim Sweeney Darlene Koerner
Green River	Price	Layne Miller
West Desert	Fillmore	Paula Quay
West Desert	Salt Lake	Steve Acerson

URARA Contact information - [utahrockartresearchassoc@gmail.com](mailto:utahrockartresearchassoc@gmail.com)