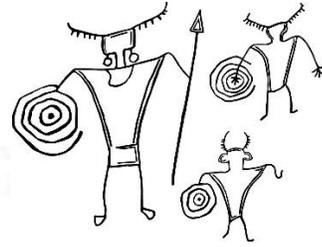


# VESTIGES



May 2022  
Volume 42  
Number 5

Monthly Newsletter of URARA, the Utah Rock Art Research Association

## Table of Contents

From the Prez .....	1	May is archaeology and historic	
URARA Q2 2022 Board Meeting Mnts ..	2	preservation month.....	9
Field Trip Committee Update.....	6	Rock Art in the News .....	10
Book Review: Tracing Time.....	7	Grand Gulch .....	10
Shovel Bums in Action .....	8	Calendar and URARA Events.....	11
Bobcat Tracks to Disappointment Panel	9	URARA Board and Officers.....	12

## From the Prez

Kent Williams

Hello URARA,

We are working our way back to being fully open after a long dark hiatus. We have opened field trips back up, and hopefully those of you who wanted to were able to register for one. We have a picnic planned in late August in 9 Mile canyon, a live symposium in Vernal later in the fall, and presentations on Zoom on a fairly regular basis.

As we reopen, the URARA Board of Directors wants to ensure that the activities and opportunities we offer to members meet with your expectations, and also align with our mission of appreciating, preserving, and promoting the understanding of rock art. We are also very aware of the work involved in doing that, given the fact that we are an all-volunteer organization.

To help us collect the information we need, we will be conducting two surveys. The first will assess your perception of URARA and your expectations as a member. It will be going out soon after this issue of Vestiges is published. The second survey will go out later in May, and will be help us gauge the potential of finding members with the inclination and time to help URARA meet member expectations and remain aligned to our mission. We will be describing potential opportunities for you to pitch in. We can't do this without you.

Please take the time to take both surveys.

Kent

May 2022

# URARA Q2 2022 Board Meeting Minutes

## Roger Cook

Kent Williams, Presiding

Board members attending (via Zoom): Darlene Koerner – Vice President, Carol Duecker – Treasurer, Roger Cook – Secretary, Diana Acerson, Nina Bowen, Wanda Gale, Rick Matthews, John McHugh, Werner Duecker – past President (non-voting board member)

A quorum of 5 or more board members was present.

Committee Chairs and Appointees attending (via Zoom): Troy Scotter, Carol Patterson

## General Topics

### URARA Policies and Procedures – Kent Williams

- Documenting Board Decisions and URARA policy
  - Board decisions made by the board will be documented in the Board Meeting Minutes. The minutes will be the official record of that decision. Minutes will be posted on the URARA website.
- Website location for Policies and Procedures documents
  - There is a Board tab on the URARA website that only the board members have access to. The latest versions of all Policies and Procedures documents will be posted there. Kent and Troy will determine the exact location for these documents. This location will include (at a minimum):
    - URARA Policies, Procedures, and Guidelines for Appointed Positions and Committees (PPG)
    - URARA Board of Directors Duties
    - Financial Policies Manual
    - Field Trip Permitting Policy

## Committee Quarterly Reports

### Field Trips – Wanda Gayle

- 6 field trips are planned for the April/May timeframe with. Members have signed up for all of these trips.
- A field trip to Range Creek has been arranged for later in the summer.
- The summer picnic at Nine-Mile Canyon will also include some field trips. Still need to set up a sign-up on the website for this (Wanda and Troy).
- Wanda discussed some of the difficulty in reaching the appropriate people at some of the federal agencies for notification/permission (if needed) for field trips. Is this just a courtesy communication or do we need actual permission? Wanda is to modify the Field Trip Permitting Policy with the current ways we are contacting the appropriate agencies to add some clarification to this particular portion of the policy.

Board minutes (continued)-

### **Conservation/Preservation** – Troy Scotter

- There is not a lot of activity going on but there are several road projects that we are watching and/or making inputs on: 9-mile Canyon potential road widening; East Canyon road in the Book Cliffs
- A short form for making inputs to the various agencies has been accepted by SHPO but the BLM has rejected it for unknown reasons
- **Troy is stepping down as the committee chair. Kent will look for a replacement but requests that everyone participate in recruiting.**

### **FO Conservation Coordinators** – Diana Acerson

- The Stop Vandalism program is becoming very popular and Diana is spending more and more time on this effort. She has requests from both the Grand Canyon and the Grand Staircase/Escalante groups to meet with them. There have been 2 follow-up sessions with cities but most city priorities seem to be focused elsewhere at the moment.
- **Diana is stepping down as the Conservation Committee Chair. We will need to do some recruiting to find someone to take this over.**

### **Vestiges Publication** – Ben Everitt

- No official update but Vestiges continues to be published each month

### **Tribal Liaison** – Carol Patterson

- Most recent efforts have been trying to connect with various Apache tribes (Mescalero, White Mountain, Jicarilla, Chiricahua's, etc.) concerning visiting some of the rock art panels in the Uintah Basin
- Several papers are planned to be published

### **2022 Symposium Update** – Darlene Koerner

- The symposium is still on and much activity is ongoing to make it a success
- Although many things are nailed down at this point, there are a few uncertainties
  - Food trucks are unwilling to make a commitment until later in the year
  - Caterer for dinner also won't commit until at least May
- Most workshop leaders are identified but we still need someone to teach a GPS workshop
- Most speakers from last year are still committed this year
- **The reimbursement policy and reimbursement form for the symposium that Carol Dueker sent out prior to the meeting were approved by the board**
- We are still working on getting proper authorization for field trips on BLM and Dinosaur National Monument. We also still need more field trip leaders.
- Troy will not be able to attend the symposium so we need to find someone else to be the A/V person at the symposium.

Board minutes (continued)-

### **Education – John McHugh**

- COVID restrictions have finally lifted and the Archaeology Club has started again. John has multiple activities planned over the coming year mostly related to rock art documentation and site stewarding by members of the Shovel Bums. There are several sites with various solar alignments that John and his group are trying to document.
- There was a request for John to present his findings at a future symposium

### **Documentation – committee chair vacant**

- Documentation Activities - Diana and Steve Acerson, Nina Bowen, Werner and Carol Duecker, Rick Matthews
- Despite not having an official chairperson, there are still some ongoing activities: working with SHPO at Smith Preserve, some activity in the Kanab area, plans to document rock art in boulder field on ridge near Acerson's house in Boulder
- Someone donated funds to URARA to purchase a Trimble (very accurate GPS) for site documentation work. It is unclear if the donation will cover the entire cost of the purchase. Diana needs to determine which Trimble unit to purchase and bring to board for approval of the additional money beyond the donation.

### **Historian – Keith Fessenden**

No update

### **Finance – Carol Dueker**

- Grant request for board discussion: Acoustic Recordings of Basketmaker II sites along the San Juan River, submitted by Carol Patterson. The funds requested were to support taking acoustic readings at several specific Basketmaker II sites along the San Juan River featuring rock art anthropomorphs using drums, rattles or other sound making implements. Several board members raised a concern about the grant money being paid to a commercial outfitter. However, as this appeared to be the only viable way to get this work done, others were in support of the grant. After quite a bit of discussion **the board voted to approve this grant**. The board requests that Carol P. give a ZOOM presentation to URARA in the future to show the results of this effort. There is also the potential of papers being published and presentations at a future URARA symposium.
- Carol sent out the YTD financial reports before the meeting. There were no questions concerning these reports.
- **Financial Policies Manual prepared by Carol was approved by the board. It will be added to the Policies and Procedures tab on the URARA website.**
- **Receipt Of Credit Card Agreement For URARA form prepared by Carol was approved by the board.**

### **Membership - Executive Committee acting as Membership Committee**

- The main topic here is the Membership Survey and the Volunteer Survey. Much effort has gone into these two documents over the past quarter with board members having had plenty of opportunity to make inputs.

Board minutes (continued)-

- **The most recent version of the Membership Survey and the Volunteer Survey were approved to be sent out to the members.**
- Kent will write an article for the May Vestiges explaining why we are doing these 2 surveys and encouraging members to take the time to complete the surveys.
- Carol and Troy will work out the technical details on the best way to send out the surveys. We plan to use Survey Monkey as the platform for collecting the input and running analytics. We will need a Survey Monkey account for 3 months.
- The surveys will be sent out approximately 2 weeks apart after the May Vestiges is published.

### **Website/Database Coordinator - Troy Scotter**

- No major issues or concerns at this time. Troy is able to keep up with the requests he is getting.
- The Executive Committee would still like to find some help as Troy's backup.

### **Publications – Dennis Devore**

- No major activities reported. The main effort at this point is to plan for publications of the papers that will be presented at the upcoming symposium.
- Diana and Nina also support editing for papers that are submitted for the URARA Patina web page. We had a short discussion about putting out a communiqué in Vestiges asking for more Patina submissions.

### **Research – Darlene Koerner**

- Research continues in the Uintah Basin on solar and lunar sites with a focus on the Alahandra Ferry Road site and the Steinaker Gap site, along with preliminary works on additional locations (Ashley Creek and McKee Springs).
- There are approximately 15 sites in the Uintah Basin that need to be visited and recorded for their interactions with the skies. Approximately 4 days, over the summer solstice in 2022, will be visited by volunteers to record interactions. When plans are finalized, John McHugh and John Lundwall will ask for volunteers and assign locations.

### **Technology Task Force Update – Kent, Troy, Roger, Carol, Wanda**

- Task force met once this quarter.
- There was much discussion about whether we could include a ZOOM link at symposium for those who could not attend in person. It was decided this was not feasible and has been dropped from consideration.
- A decision made was to stay with Wild Apricot as our network platform. Even though there are other options out there, we don't have the time or resources to consider making a move to a different platform. We also felt that most of the perceived short comings were not major enough to warrant the effort and cost to move platforms.

Board minutes (continued)-

- A few requests for some website changes came up in the meeting. **All board members who have changes they would like to see to the website should write these down and submit to one of the members of the Technology Task Force.**
- Tech Inventory – Carol reported that she has been leading an effort to take an inventory of all of the equipment that is owned by URARA and located at various places. This effort has been completed and the inventory will be posted on the URARA website. **The Board gave the Technology Committee permission to evaluate surplus inventory and to dispose of technical equipment that URARA no longer needs.**

### Open Items

- A proposed letter to send to new members that was circulated before the meeting was discussed. **The board approved the letter** and gave Roger and Carol permission to clean it up a little and replace the existing auto-email that Wild Apricot sends to new members with this new letter. Ideally, when we have a Membership lead person, this email will come from them so there is more personal contact with new members to help them plug into URARA.

## Field Trip Committee Update

### Wanda Gayle

Field trips to Horseshoe Canyon, Escalante, Lake Point, and Nine Mile Canyon have happened; trips to the Bishop, CA, area and Grand Gulch are coming up. Many thanks to the field trip leaders who are volunteering their time, energy, and gas money to make these trips happen. Also, a special summer trip for URARA members to Range Creek is in the works. Watch your email for the registration notification.

As we get out this spring and summer, please think about what Elizabeth Hora, the public archaeologist at the Utah State Historic Preservation Office, said so beautifully in her URARA zoom presentation on March 23:

*"Archaeology sites are places where we go to see previous human behavior. And so they are points on the earth that are good at recording human behavior. And they are still recording everything. We need to keep in mind that we have an impact too. Rock and its surroundings will remember you. It will record your touch, your step, and the things you leave behind."*

See you on the trail! Wanda Gayle, field trip coordinator

# Book Review: Tracing Time

**Kent Williams**

I looked forward to reading “*Tracing Time – Seasons of Rock Art on the Colorado Plateau*”, a new book by author Craig Childs on rock art. I’ve read and enjoyed several of his books and was hoping to learn more about rock art based on his deep experience and observations from spending a lot of time in the Colorado Plateau, where much of the rock art we enjoy and appreciate is located. Child’s books show an ability to carefully observe, and beautifully describe, what’s going on in a setting or situation in the natural world.

*Tracing Time* is a highly readable approach to appreciating rock art. Maybe because it’s not academic or technical writing, it expresses a certain freedom to speculate on the meaning of rock art. Instead of citations from academic and technical papers, Childs reaches out to indigenous people from tribes with cultural affiliation with rock art panels and to ethno-historians including URARA member Carol Patterson, weaving in the perspective of the people whose ancestors created the art.

A common theme in Child’s books is describing aspects of life and culture of ancient people that we all can relate to because we share a common humanity. My favorite example from an earlier book was a description of a Paleoindian site with evidence of large fires situated in an area visible for miles, then being with friends in the Black Rock desert in Nevada, walking towards a huge glow at night. While not everyone can relate to the Burning Man festival, maybe, most of us can relate to getting together with friends and likeminded people and celebrating. There are many such examples in *Tracing Time* that involve rock art. The chapters are arranged around motifs common to rock art panels – a Joined Hands motif suggesting ceremonies and celebrating, and a set of panels with motifs possibly indicating successful hunts in an area that is currently being studied for sustainable land use, suggesting a corollary interest over time – are several examples.

Child’s descriptions of rock art are vivid enough to remind me of fine photography, but also include the elements of time and setting and other contexts, which may be difficult to capture in photographic imagery. The change in appearance of a panel over a period of time due to changes in sunlight and weather, for example. Describing the position of a panel within a landscape, and the viewshed looking out, forming an integral aspect of the rock art. Wrapping the descriptions of rock art in an indigenous perspective where he can, *Tracing Time* offers a glimpse into a deeper world. While Childs prose is not a substitute for being there and experiencing the site, reading *Tracing Time* can lead one to realize that there is much more to rock art than we see on the surface of the rock. It’s an appeal for approaching and visiting a site with awareness and respect, taking the time to experience a site with all senses wide open.

I highly recommend *Tracing Time* for anyone who appreciates rock art, and just being out there with eyes and senses open.

Author: Craig Childs

Publisher: Torrey House Press - [www.torreyhouse.org](http://www.torreyhouse.org); Format: Paperback

# Shovel Bums in Action

**John McHugh**

The Archaeology Club at Blessed Sacrament School is back in action. SHPO archaeologists Ian Wright and Matthew Podolinsky paid a visit with a traveling display of pillaged artifacts that were later re-confiscated by law enforcement. Although the artifacts were of spectacular beauty, students learned that their removal from the site erased all context, thus eroding the scientific value of the objects. More importantly, the artifacts were looted from localities that Native Americans deem to be sacred space, thus the spiritual essence of the artifacts has been transgressed.



SPHO archaeologists Ian Wright and Matthew Podolinsky discuss the importance of context with the Shovel Bums

Shovel Bum Brook Wilson grinds corn in a metate while Isaac Cherico, Connor Hoisington, and Grace Mese look on.



The newest Shovel Bums after visiting their first twenty-seven rock images at Soldier Pass Road site.

Later that week Wright met the Shovel Bums at the Soldier Hollow Road site, where the students are set to steward and catalogue rock art and archaeological sites for BLM archaeologist, Mike Sheehan. It was the first time in the field for almost every one of the new Shovel Bums, and they had an outstanding time finding their first 27 rock art panels! As usual, the kids are grateful to their supportive family members, as the trip was possible only because chaperone-mom Lilla Ludwig and chaperone-grandma Chris Bogus were willing to transport club members off road to the site.

## Bobcat Tracks to Disappointment Panel

Wanda Gayle

We all have favorite places to go. One of mine is on the backside of a Cedar Mesa ridge. You travel over slickrock and then up a wash until you move onto the rock ramp that takes you to the panel. While in the wash recently, I followed the tracks of a bobcat that had used the same sandy passage between canyon walls.

When I got close to the panel, my husband pointed to what wasn't supposed to be there. I took photos to document the damage. I had Elizabeth Hora's contact information in my phone so when I got back to cell phone service I asked her what to do next. She told me to call the **BLM TipLine** at **801.799.3000** or the BLM field office. I called the field office and got an email for where to send the photos. When I stopped by the field office the next day, someone told me that the archaeologist and law enforcement had looked at the photos right away and were investigating. I asked her if they'd seen a lot of vandalism lately. Her reply: It's everywhere.

If you see what's not supposed to be there, document it, call the tipline, and follow through with the land-management agency. It's heartbreaking to see an image become Disappointment Panel. Let's take the time to respond appropriately. It's the least we can do for the places we go.

## May is archaeology and historic preservation month

Elizabeth Hora

Welcome to Utah's Archaeology and Historic Preservation Month! Every year the Utah State Historic Preservation Office rounds up the very best events so that YOU can get to know the prehistory and history of our state!

We love the past, and we love that this year we get to bring it to you through a variety of online and in-person events. For many in-person events, you may see that registration is limited, and that is for public health. We also strongly recommend that participants in in-person events wear appropriate face masks and practice social distancing.

And of course, be sure to follow us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn, and YouTube to get information on all these events, and connect with your pals at the SHPO. We can't wait to see you, whether that be online or in person!

<https://history.utah.gov/utah-archaeology-and-historic-preservation-month-2022/>

## Rock Art in the News

*Graffiti grips Zion National Park* St. George News, Apr 16, 2022

<https://www.stgeorgeutah.com/news/archive/2022/04/16/sdw-graffiti-grips-zion-national-park#.YluNmtPMLIU>

Interesting article about naming the landscape could easily be applied to rock art sites.

*How place names impact the way we see landscape* High Country News, May 1, 2022

<https://www.hcn.org/issues/54.5/people-places-how-place-names-impact-the-way-we-see-landscape>

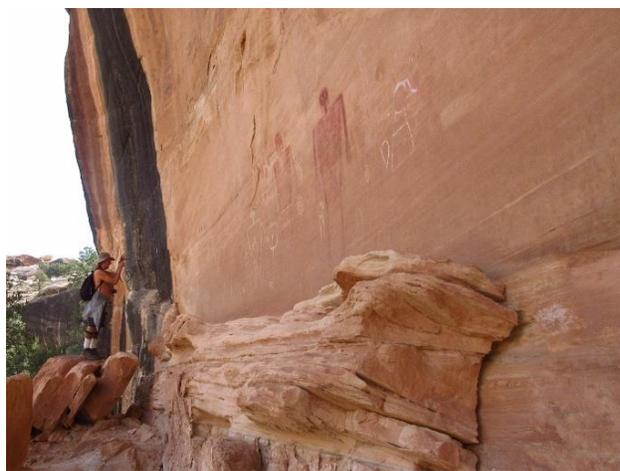
## Grand Gulch

Ben Everitt

A few rockarters took a trip to Grand Gulch in mid-April. Aside from some anxiety about water, we had a good excursion with perfect weather.



Kim Riding contemplating a drink.



Robert VanOrden inspecting the "Big Man" Panel. Where'd THAT name come from? On close inspection you will notice that there are two primary figures, presumed to be him and her, and she's not so tiny, either.

## Calendar and URARA Events

May 1	URARA field trip Beaver, UT
Apr30 & May1	URARA field trip Escalante
May 7 & 8	URARA field trip Bishop area, California
June 17-20	ARARA Conference, Virtual only <a href="https://arara.wildapricot.org/Conf-Call-For-Papers-2022">https://arara.wildapricot.org/Conf-Call-For-Papers-2022</a> .
June 17 9:00-2:00	ARARA Webinar: Developing Plans For Rock Art Site Management <a href="https://arara.wildapricot.org/event-4762447">https://arara.wildapricot.org/event-4762447</a>
July 12	URARA Board Meeting on line, 18:00 MDT
July 16-17	Range Creek Field Trip (registration opens in May)
August 11-14	Pecos Conference (tentative) Rowe Mesa, New Mexico <a href="https://www.pecosconference.org/">https://www.pecosconference.org/</a>
August 26-28	URARA Summer Picnic, Nine-Mile Ranch
Sep 30 - Oct 3	URARA Symposium and membership meeting, Vernal

URARA field trips are available to members only. Vaccination is strongly encouraged. All members receive an email notification when a field trip opens for registration. Notifications go out between 45 and 14 days before a trip. You can register for a field trip when you get the notification. If a trip is full when you try to register, your name is added to a wait list. You will get another notification if and when someone drops out and you can be added to the trip.

Dixie Archaeological Society (DAS), St George, meets on the second Wednesday of the month, Saturday field trips once a month. <http://www.dixierockart.com/>

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>

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.

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

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

Utah Humanities Public Events

[https://utahhumanities.org/index.php/component/com\\_calendar/Itemid,184/component\\_com\\_calendar/id,2203/view,event/](https://utahhumanities.org/index.php/component/com_calendar/Itemid,184/component_com_calendar/id,2203/view,event/)

# URARA Board and Officers

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

[www.utahrockart.org](http://www.utahrockart.org) . Contact information - [utahrockartresearchassoc@gmail.com](mailto:utahrockartresearchassoc@gmail.com)

## 2022 URARA Board and Officers

Kent Williams, President  
 Darlene Koerner, Vice President  
 Carol Duecker, Treasurer  
 Roger Cook, Secretary  
 Diana Acerson, Conservation  
 Wanda Gayle  
 John McHugh  
 Rick Matthews  
 Nina Bowen

## Committee Chairs and Appointees

Tribal Liaison	Carol Patterson
Historian/ Archives	Keith Fessenden
Website/Membership	Troy Scotter
Conservation/Preservation	Diana Acerson
Documentation	
Education	John McHugh
Research	Darlene Koerner
Field Trips	Wanda Gayle
Symposium Chair	Darlene Koerner
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	Steve Acerson
West Desert	Salt Lake	Don & Adele Leavitt