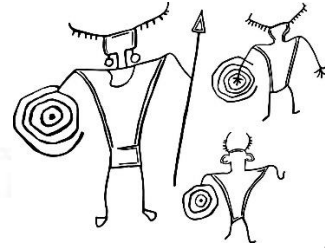


VESTIGES



January 2023
Volume 43
Number 1

Monthly Newsletter of URARA, the Utah Rock Art Research Association

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From the Prez

Kent Williams

Happy New Year!

The URARA Board of Directors will be ringing in 2023 at our annual January meeting that will be held in Moab this year. We will be reviewing how we did last year and making plans for the new year. The meeting will be available via Zoom, so if anyone would like to join us virtually, please just contact me directly and I'll send you a link. Agenda items include financial review, review of goals and priorities, committee activities, stop vandalism program, grant funding, and data collection and storage.

Dennis DeVore tells me that the presentations from the Vernal symposium have been uploaded to the URARA website. Look for them under Presentations > Symposiums. The list can be viewed by year or by author. Our presentations are made available to the public without the need to log into the website as a member. Thanks go out to Tom Getts our webmaster for his skill and effort on this project.

Kent

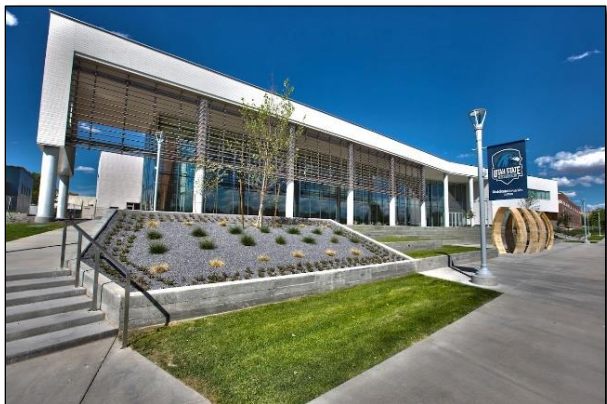
January 2023

2023 Symposium to be in Price, Utah

Diana Acerson

Location: **Utah State University Eastern (USU)**, 451 E 400 N, Price, UT 84501

When: **October 5th - 9th, 2023**



Great Hunt Panel, Nine Mile Canyon

- Workshops will take place on Thursday, October 5th.
- Field Trips Friday the 6th and Monday the 9th.
- Symposium Presentations on Saturday & Sunday, the 7th and 8th.
- And the other activities we know you look forward to, like the Watermelon Social, Auctions, Banquet, and the Oscars.
- We will also be experiencing the Prehistoric Museum hosted by Tim Riley, Museum Director/ Curator of Archaeology.
- There are plenty of hotels, restaurants, stores, and fuel sources around the city of Price. Not to mention our favorite rock art sites like Nine Mile Canyon.
- We recommend you book your hotel early. There will also be places for camping outdoors. More information to come on that.)

We NEED Field Trip Leaders and Workshop Instructors

If you would be willing to help us make more field trips possible for symposium attendees on Friday or Monday, please contact Steve Acerson, 385-985-5402, whiteh20rockart@gmail.com. Field trips are limited by the number of people willing to be leaders. The more field trip leaders we have the more opportunities for members to go on a field trip. So please think about helping us out and let Steve know as soon as you can. Thank you for being willing to lead these amazing field trips. A lot of the past field trip leaders we have had, just can't do it anymore. So please help us if you can.

Workshops are a great way to do some fun things, have new experiences, learn something interesting, and make new friends.

If you have a skill you would like to share, please contact Diana Acerson, 435-262-7044, dace1950@gmail.com. We NEED you. Some **examples** of workshops have been: Documentation which can include a field work outing for the local land manager, site stewarding, photography, and how to use your GPS handheld. Some ideas could be learning sketching for documentation, how to lead a field trip successfully, sharing ideas for stopping vandalism of rock art sites, learning how to organize our rock art and data information at home, ...anything you think would be interesting to share with others.

The workshops are cozy with usually not more than 10 people per class. So don't be shy. Please volunteer to conduct a workshop.

So, Save the dates and watch for more information. If you are not currently a member of URARA, which you would need to be to sign up for field trips, you can join on our website www.utahrockart.org, for \$25 single, \$30 a family.



Owl Panel, Nine-Mile Canyon

Symposium survey responses

URARA Symposium committee

Including opportunities for members as a response to the survey

A survey was sent out to attending members of the 2022 symposium in Vernal Utah. The board would like to share with its members the results of that survey, including verbal.

Responses aimed at individuals were left out but considered with broader comments.

Like any event there will be high notes and low, but we do want all members to know this was a particularly hard year coming out of COVID with many businesses in Vernal not equipped to respond to our needs and the ones that did, provided excellent service. We were able, through the support of the Heritage Museum, hold workshops and a speaker Friday evening. The county travel bureau provided us with a grant to help offset the cost of the convention center, and the employees of the convention center did an excellent job with set up and the support to put on an event like we did.

We had a registration number of just over 100, with less than half of those signing up for field trips. This could be due to people wanting to see an emphasis on conservation and preservation that was reflected in the member survey conducted last June. The number and location of field trips we can offer is directly tied to the number of folks willing to volunteer their time to lead them.

Weather can always be a factor, and as URARA moves the symposium around the state, locations vary from colder areas in the north to hot in the south. But throughout the state temperatures do not cool down until October, so to be consistent from year to year, October has been the most promising month. Locations are picked on a number of factors. Trying to locate where most rock art sites are has kept us in towns of smaller population numbers.

Catering was particularly hard this year with many restaurants not equipped to cater, coming out of COVID. We were able to find only one caterer able to meet our needs. Generally, options only include one meal when catering for large groups. This caterer was able to provide two and not being able to guarantee a required number for vegetarian meals, they included a side that could provide a vegetarian meal. People not having enough choice, are welcome to buy their meal elsewhere and still attend the evening banquet activities.

An attempt to have food trucks at the event didn't materialize although numerous trucks were contacted.

For all of you that would like to see things different or more emphasis in other areas, please consider volunteering, including helping with symposium. We have too few people doing too much of the work and volunteering your time is critical to continue meeting our mission. There are local representatives throughout the state you can contact and if your out of state, there are still things you can contribute to. Contact information is in Vestiges. Projects for 2023 will be

determined at the January board meeting and volunteer opportunities listed in Vestiges with lead person for each project. If there is a particular interest you have, please contact that person that is the contact to see if they can provide opportunities. Often, if someone has an interest, we can find a project.

Summary: 67 responses, 14 of those not attending for various reasons from medical, COVID to change of lifestyle. As people are aging travel becomes an issue and so much has changed people's lives over the last 3 years

Overall responses with some recommendations highlighted for clarification that are not included in the above. This includes all the activities that generally are included in the symposium. As always, it's the speakers and field trips that people enjoy

Venue and over all experience: With few exceptions all responses were very satisfied with the symposium. Especially the location with comfortable chairs, and 5 screens, the field trips, and lectures.

The number of people attending was addressed by people wanting to see more people as well as people that liked the smaller turn out because it felt more personal. We have no idea what turnout will be at the next event with COVID still a concern

Lectures: Our guest speaker, Dr. Byron Loosle, was well received as was the focus by many on Fremont. A few recommendations worth mentioning were a desire to have a panel discussion when the opportunity arises, more time for questions, both longer and shorter presentations, and a closer review of speakers and their presentation. Good mix of conservation and preservation throughout the program. Although we had more Native American speakers lined up, due to events beyond our control they were not able to make it.

Before COVID, the last few symposia have had responses that desired an expansion into the landscape in which the rock art occurred, such as:

More strongly focused on the rock art and the landscape in which it is found - more learning about geology, botany, cultural anthropology, etc. seems a good direction

Our 2022 guest speaker was chosen with just such a goal in mind; hopefully we can do more of this in the future

Field Trips: With few exceptions field trips, even with undesirable weather, ranked high. People were happy to get out again with friends and enjoy opportunities provided. As mentioned above, we need to have more volunteers offer to lead field trips. This last year we offered a multiday field trip event in the spring and responses included wanting more multi-day trips. The number and location of field trips we can offer is directly tied to the number of folks willing to volunteer their time to lead them We did encounter problems with keeping track of people due to weather and cancelling trips, but it all worked out in the end, for most people



The response below is being added because it is one of the concerns the board has with the organization. It is our policy to only have URARA sponsored field trips to known public sites, and receive a permit when required and always permission from private property owners that generally don't provide access to their lands.

Understand that even "good" publicity and concepts like Apps that direct people how to find rock art will undoubtedly bring heavy traffic to these important sites. While the intention is to educate the public about respect and give the history of the petroglyphs/pictographs, the increased volume of visitation and ease of access will have unintended consequences. Once Pandora's box is opened, it cannot be repackaged. The more popular URARA gets and the more it "educates" people, the more people will know about these places. Caution is advised to make it a better organization

Workshops: Although not many workshops and limited number of people showed up, they were successful and a few people wanted to see more

Vendors: Some people wanted to see more vendors, and one vendor asked to have time for them to tell people about their work.

Auction: People enjoyed the auction. Had a great selection, good auctioneer, and good response. Maybe should have an amount that needs to go up by on silent auction.

Other: We added a speaker on Friday evening mainly for the general public. This was a great success bringing local people into a very informative lecture. Some people feel that the outdoor watermelon social gets too cold so having the speaker presenting in the museum was a great addition. Hopefully we can continue to do this and encourage more younger people to join URARA and open what we can to members of the public, over the symposium weekend. In addition to the Friday evening events, we might consider this suggestion from one of our members:

It seems that there should be some kind of "ending" event after the Monday trips. Maybe some kind of "Meet, Greet, and Eat" with snacks, coffee, and Gatorade so people can say a pleasant "goodbye until next time."

Thanks to all of you that participated in the survey. All responses will be sent on to the symposium committee.

Darlene Koerner, Diana Acerson, Dennis Devore/ URARA Symposium committee members

Rock Imagery in the News

Petroglyph vandal suspect is detained Albuquerque Journal 21 October 2022
<https://www.abqjournal.com/2541966/santa-fe-county-sheriffs-office-detains-petroglyph-vandal-suspect.html>

Two Elko residents were sentenced to prison Friday for graffiti at sacred White River Narrows Petroglyph site. [U.S. Attorneys](#) » [District of Nevada](#) » [News](#) 4 November 2022 [Two Elko Residents Sentenced To Prison For Graffiti At Sacred White River Narrows Petroglyph Site | USAO-NV | Department of Justice](#)

Protection of Southern Utah national monuments under attack St George News 2 December 2022
[Protection of Southern Utah national monuments under attack – St George News \(stgeorgeutah.com\)](#)

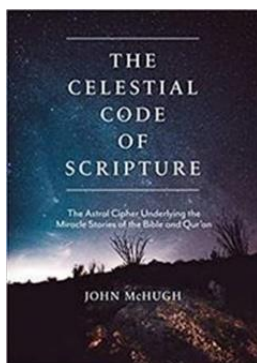
Indigenous Australians Fight to Protect Sacred Art From Industry and Pollution New York Times 11 December 2022 <https://www.nytimes.com/2022/12/11/world/asia/murujuga-australia-pollution-art.html?smid=nytcore-ios-share&referringSource=articleShare>

Publications

Stories etched in stone [Utah Life](#) Nov-Dec 2022 <https://www.utahlifemag.com>

Número 14 de los [Cuadernos de Arte Prehistórico](#)
www.revistacuadernosdearteprehistorico.com
www.revistadearteprehistorico.com

And, if you want to expand your mind beyond mere images and meaning, and consider the lifespan of images in the bottomless well of human collective consciousness, how they and their represented worldviews have stuck to us like junegrass in wool socks, stalking us and shape-shifting like ghosts in a moonlit forest over thousands of years - pick up John McHugh's new book "The celestial code of scripture", Monkfish Publishing, 2021. (-ed.)



Calendar and URARA Events

2023	
January 14-15	Annual Board Planning Retreat, Moab
March 10-13	ARARA Annual Conference, Tucson, American Rock Art Research Association - Conference Info 2023 (wildapricot.org)
June 9	SHPO Preservation Conference, https://ushpo.utah.gov/conference/
October 5-9	URARA Symposium, Price, Utah
October 18-21	GBAC Bend, Oregon, https://greatbasinanthropologicalassociation.org/

URARA symposia and 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.

Desert 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. (since Covid meetings have been virtual)

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 Humanities Public Events

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 . Contact information - utahrockartresearchassoc@gmail.com

2023 URARA Board and Officers

President	Kent Williams
Vice President	Diana Acerson
Treasurer	Carol Duecker
Secretary	Roger Cook
	Darlene Koerner
	John McHugh
	Rick Matthews
	Nina Bowen
	Keith Fessenden

Committee Chairs and Appointees

Tribal Liaison	Carol Patterson
Historian/ Archives	Keith Fessenden
Website/Membership	Troy Scotter
Conservation/Preservation	Werner Duecker
Documentation	Darlene Koerner
Education	John McHugh
Research	Darlene Koerner
Field Trips	Steve Acerson
Symposium Chair	Diana Acerson
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		Werner Duecker
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