



*The Nevada Rock Art Foundation's principal objectives are to document rock art sites at risk, and work to conserve and ensure the integrity and future protection of all Nevada rock art sites*

*The Foundation respects the cultural heritage and traditions of indigenous peoples in all its activities*

*Member International Federation of Rock Art Organizations*

***Our Past Deserves a Future***



## GREAT BASIN GLYPH NOTES

### Fall in Northern Nevada Rock Art Foundation

**B**hard at work at Lagomarsino! This multi-year project is one of the Foundation's "Signature Projects" and has been the focus of a lot of our attention since the project began in 2003. One very special event this year will be the visit by our friend and

colleague from China, Su Sheng, who many of you met at the ARARA Conference last year in May at the Sparks Nugget. Su Sheng and several colleagues who work together in Mongolia will be visiting and observing our field documentation practices. They arrive on October 10th and continuing their journey on to California on October 14th. Although not yet confirmed, we are working on organizing a public presentation on their work on the rock art of Mongolia,



*Photograph by J. L. Christman*

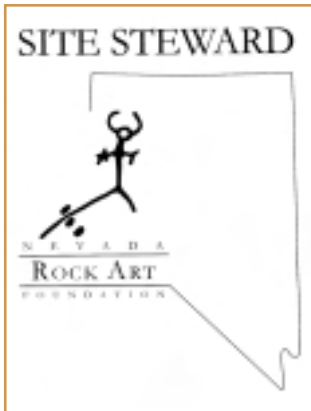
which should be extremely interesting! As soon as those plans are finalized, there will be an NRAF News Flash! sent out to everyone who's on that list (so if you're STILL not on the email list ... you'll be missing out!). And of course a special lunch prepared by our own Chef Jefe is also planned for one of the field days so that our visitors can enjoy some real "American Food!" I'll be talking with SuSheng about the possibility of taking some of our volunteers to work with them in Mongolia at some point in the future as well, and we're very excited to have them here to work with us.



And it wouldn't be fall in northern Nevada if we didn't return to **Dry Lakes!** Work at several sites in the Dry Lakes area is overlapped with Lagomarsino from September 25 through October 15 so that volunteers coming from other areas have the chance to work at both great sites. This will be our third year at Dry Lakes, but with continuing support from the BM Carson City FO, we'll be back next year too! Documentation training on October 7-8 will allow new volunteers to participate in both projects as well as all of our projects throughout the state.

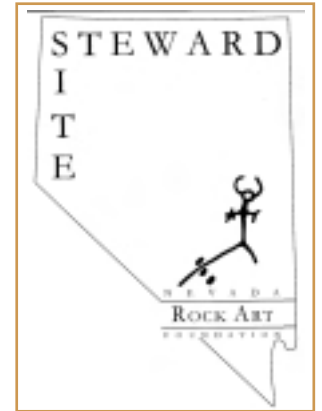
## Site Stewardship

The new SHPO Site Steward Coordinator, **Sali Underwood**, held her first training session in Carson City on July 22 and NRAF members were on hand for either training or “refreshing.” The Site Steward program will get a big boost by having Sali at the helm, coordinating the efforts of all the various programs that have evolved throughout the state. Her job is to streamline and standardize practices and procedures in Nevada, and NRAF supports the SHPO in this important work. The program covers historic and cultural sites of all kinds (not just rock art ... although I can’t imagine why anyone would want to monitor anything else!), and puts extra “eyes and ears” for Land Managers out into the wilds of Nevada. If you’re already visiting sites of any kind, you really should be making those visits count ... and you only need to commit to four visits per year (or for the Black Rock Desert you only need to visit one time each year!) – so let Alanah know that you want to become involved in the Site Steward program. And remember, if you do, you get one of the fabulous NRAF Site Steward T-shirts – these can’t be bought at any price but can only be earned by becoming a Site Steward!



And if you haven’t heard the news ... **Joanne Murray** has taken on the job of keeping the Northern Site Stewards organized – no small task!! She’ll help Coordinators Signa Pendegraft (Dry Lakes) and Joan Johnson (Lagomarsino), the BLM Field Office in Winnemucca and Forest Service Ranger Districts in Carson City and Austin, to keep their paperwork organized and Stewards recruited, assigned, and informed. What a great help that will be!

Site Stewards in the southern part of the state ARE still in good hands with NRAF member George Phillips (UNLV Public Lands Institute) and the NAA/CoHRT group; and the Ely area continues to set the pace with NRAF member and BLM Archaeologist Mark Henderson taking care of business out there. But if you live outside of the Reno/Sparks, Las Vegas or Ely areas, there’s not even much excuse anymore! Carl Bjork is handling the “western-central” part of the state, and we’re working with Sali to schedule a Steward Training in Tonopah or Yerington in the near future. Carl has lots of sites and needs more help. A good group is developing in the Yerington area, including the area around Walker Lake, and so if you’re not yet a Site Steward ... well, you should be!



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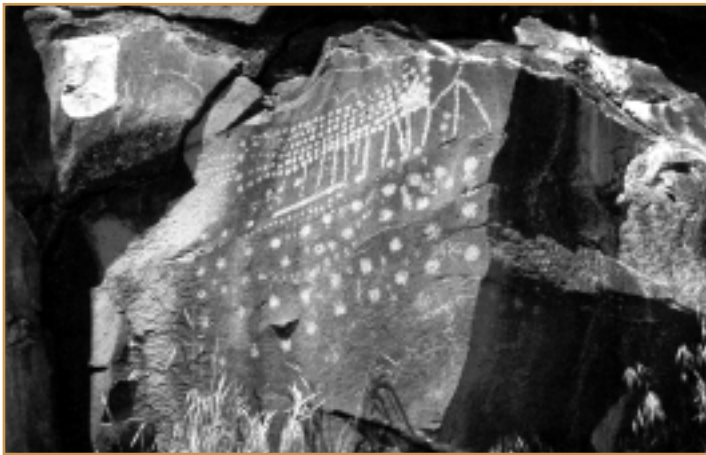
### Black Rock Desert Project on Emigrant Trail

Twenty-three hardy NRAF Volunteers headed out into the beautiful Black Rock Desert in July to spend a couple of days at the Soldier Meadows Ranch. Most camped, but a few who feel quite sure that they’ve slept on the ground enough (thank you very much), got rooms at the Guest Ranch. We all knew that we’d driven hundreds of miles to eat Jeff’s barbecue (in fact David & Trish Vaughn came all the way from Elverta, California), but we pretended it was to do a small project for BRD Archaeologist and NRAF member David Valentine,

documenting historic inscriptions in several locations in the NCA. On Sunday morning, the entire crew went out and helped Dave survey, and in spite of not finding much ... a great time was had by all!

## Successful 4th Annual Rockin' Art Show

We just can't say "Thanks" enough to the **Artist's Co-op of Reno** for the best art show ever! And especially Cheryl Bennett who worked very hard to get the show set up and then used her "special skills" to sell everything in the store but the kitchen sink! A donation of \$3,000 was given to NRAF at the end of the show – the biggest donation yet from this annual event. The annual show and sale is a part of Reno's month-long Artown celebration and word is getting around – it was the best attended opening event yet, and we've got the sales to prove it! Now, we just need to find a similar venue in the south so we can start having this great annual fundraising event there too!



## More on Lagomarsino

As mentioned above, the **Lagomarsino project is again in full swing**, making this the fourth year we've been out there working on this magnificent site. This year the project runs from mid-September through mid-October, ending just in time for us to rush south for the Great Basin Anthropological Conference (see below). And if our track record for 2006 continues, we'll probably get snowed on! We've been working for one full month each year, but for next year we're planning on doing several shorter sessions rather than one big long one. This might make it easier for people to participate and we hope to be more or less "finished" in two more years. The County of Storey wants to work toward developing this site into a park, which will make the site better managed and protected than it is now. So we need to quicken the pace to get the documentation done in time! We'll be putting out a few more signs as well, since the three that were installed two years ago are still in perfect condition! It might have been that Site Stewards Joan Johnson and Mathew Antunovich put some

special spell on the signs for protection when they installed them, or maybe it's that people like to have some information on the rock art when they visit ... but either way, it's very encouraging. So, more signs and then a simple walking guide are being planned for the very near future.

## Lecture Series

### Ground Stone and Pecked Rock

by Signa Pendegrift

The rock art in the **High Basins, southern Pah Rah Range**, Washoe County, NV, provides a durable residue of cultural activity unlike those which are lost through excavation or collecting activities. Although no absolute dating methods have yet past the trial stages, relative dating techniques can be used such as motif analysis. Munsell color data and imagery can also suggest likely activity times and uses of area resources. The archaeological context of the High Basins rock art suggests that the most likely utilization of the area was by seasonal task groups beginning in early Spring focusing on plant resources. In earlier "hunting magic" interpretations, the consistent association of rock art with domestic debris is temporally distanced and marginalized. House rings and grinding equipment dominate the assemblage, along with a generalized lithic tool kit, thus task group composition suggests the prehistoric presence of families, including women and children.

Our speaker in August was the one and only **Jane Kolber**... what a great treat for everyone who was able to make it! Jane has been documenting rock art for 30 years or so (since she was only 9 years old!)



Photograph by Barron Haley

and has refined her technique over the years. In large part, NRAF follows the procedures developed by Jane, as well as other noted experts in the field of rock art documentation, following standards approved by the **International Federation of Rock Art Organizations**. By following their lead and combining highly detailed field drawings (the most useful tool for Land Managers or Site Stewards to monitor changes to rock art over time), GPS mapping technology and multiple format photography with standard, professional archeological practices, an NRAF rock art recording is done to the highest standard possible ... and rock art deserves it!

## Southern News .....

### Little Red Rock Project

NRAAF is again “**breaking new ground**” when it comes to the protection and documentation of rock art. As we all know, most of the land in Nevada is managed by the Federal government (BLM, USFS, USFWS, NPS, BOR), and so it follows that most of Nevada’s rock art is on federally managed land. But there are a small number of sites that are not on Federal land and there are even some rock art sites on **private property**. That’s the case for the sites that we’ll be documenting in November (11/2-11/22) on property owned by The Howard Hughes Corporation. The five rock art sites that we’ll be working on are eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, and THHC has contracted with us to document the sites as part of their agreement with the Army Corps of Engineers and the State Historic Preservation Office to develop the area.

The sites are very complex and in at least one case, the vandalism has been so intensive that it will make recording the rock art very, very difficult. But as usual, the landscape setting is absolutely magnificent and the rock art spectacular. And because it’s a funded project, volunteers will get to have some reimbursement of lodging, food, and gas expenses. A project flyer will be sent out soon, so if you’d like to participate, please fill it out and return it asap! The “project hotel” will be the La Quinta Inn & Suites-Las Vegas at 7101 Cascade Valley Ct. All rooms have coffeepots, irons, hair dryers, some have fridges and microwaves. There is a coin laundry on premises, along with a whirlpool and an exercise room! So if you’re coming from out of town, call (702) 360-1200 to book a room. At the time of this writing, we haven’t finalized details on cost but that will all be organized by the time the registration mailers go out.

### Member Meetings in southern Nevada

Southern Members have been feeling a little bit neglected for quite a long time now ... and I don’t blame them! But that is going to change! We’re trying hard to regularize member meetings in the Las Vegas area, so there will be a meeting at least every other month and more when we have projects going on, although we haven’t yet settled on a venue. There will be potlucks and other social events as well, so you don’t need to feel left out any more! In fact, our next event will be a Members Picnic/Pot Luck at the Calico Basin in the beautiful Red Rock Canyon NCA on Sunday October 22nd. Contact Alanah for further details and I hope to see you there so we can talk about upcoming projects, training and steward activities, and just get to know each other better.



*Photograph by Barron Haley*

### Little Red Rock Site Stewards

In keeping with our commitment to do whatever needs to be done to help at Little Red Rock, **NRAAF members have also come forward to become Site Stewards** in the only program where private land owners are working with a volunteer group to monitor sites on their property. The rules are different simply because in this case we’re dealing with private property vs public property, so laws and notification of damage and trespass are different. If you’re interested in being a steward in the LRR are, let Alanah know. Under the direction of Sali Underwood (SHPO) and Mary Peters (LRR Site Steward Coordinator), NRAAF members were at the first ever SHPO Training for stewards on private property. And more NRAAF members showed up again in October for a second training. Stewards from both classes then did initial site visits. One difference in the normal monitoring procedure, is that because the sites will be documented in November, a baseline recording of each of the five sites will not need to be done. The documentation project will be open to all NRAAF members who’ve been to documentation training, but it’s especially important for LRR Site Stewards to be involved if at all possible. LRR Site Stewards will get copies of digital images and line drawings to serve as a part of their baseline record. This is just another example of when it’s time to “walk the walk,” NRAAF members are there, doing what they can to help protect rock art throughout the state. Regardless of whose property it’s on – rock art is important and in need of our protection.

## CONTACT US

**General Questions**  
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*“To document, conserve and ensure the integrity and protection of Nevada and Great Basin rock art.”*



### Volunteers Needed!

Volunteers are needed to help with a vast array of tasks from database management to stuffing envelopes and making photocopies. If you want to help but don't know what you can do, we have a job for you regardless of your skill level!

Our Foundation is growing fast - and we need your help to keep up! If you're willing to give or set up presentations, school activities, lead site tours, or just stuff envelopes - let us know and we'll put you to work.

## THIS & THAT

The **Painted Caves of Lascaux** are under extreme threat of rapid deterioration from mold and other damaging agents. These irreplaceable works of art are an important part of

the legacy of all human beings. The International

Committee to Save Lascaux was founded to raise awareness of the problems that face this important place. If you are interested in more information email: [savelascaux@gmail.com](mailto:savelascaux@gmail.com) or telephone: 510.465.5528 or write to: ICSL 322 Lewis Street Oakland, CA 94607



**Thanks to Steve Sterns** who has been filming our Lecture Series for us and putting them on DVD – if you've missed one of the lectures, you can still see it by borrowing the DVD! We'll eventually have a complete set in Las Vegas and in Reno, so whatever end of the state you call home, you won't have to miss out on the great lectures we've had. Next year is shaping up to be another good "lecture year" so keep watching the Great Basin Glyph Notes for upcoming topics and speakers.

**For those of you who worked on the Sloan Canyon Project, but didn't get your t-shirt** (or couldn't get your size), let Alanah know ... we still have a couple left in all sizes (SM, MD, LG, XL, XXL). And while we're talking about t-shirts, if you didn't get the 2nd or 3rd Annual Meeting shirts, we still have some of those too. And just so you know, for the next Annual Meeting, you may want to have as many of the "NRAF Suite of Shirts" as you can ...

**Congratulations to Pat Barker** (NRAF Board of Directors) who just retired as State Archaeologist for the BLM. Now he can really get to work for NRAF – and we're glad to have him!

The **Great Basin Anthropological Conference** is held every other year in October, and this year, it's in Las Vegas! The conference hotel is the Downtown Golden Nugget and papers will be presented on Friday October 20 and Saturday October 21, with field trips offered on Sunday October 22 (including one to Sloan Canyon led by Sloan Project PI Gus Quinlan and Sloan Crew Chief Barby Struble – they must miss that hike!). NRAF will have a sales table on Friday and Saturday, so if you're in the area and want to help out at our table, let Alanah know.

# 2006-2007 Calendar of Events

Tours, presentations and projects fill very quickly, so if you don't want to miss out... reserve a place early [info@nevadarockart.org](mailto:info@nevadarockart.org)! ALL events are in Nevada, unless otherwise noted.

## October

- 1-15 **Northern Projects: Lagomarsino & Dry Lakes**
- 7-8 **Documentation Training**, Reno, contact Alanah to reserve a place
- 19-22 **Great Basin Anthropological Conference**, Las Vegas, Golden Nugget
- 21 **Grimes Point Site Tour**, east of Carson City on Hwy 50
- 22 **Southern Members Picnic at Red Rocks NCA**, Calico Basin
- 25 **NRAF Lecture Series, Reno** - Wilbur May Museum 7 p.m. Janet Lever-Wood will discuss her rock art work in Baja.

## November

- 2-22 **Southern Documentation Project & Training** – Little Red Rocks
- 4-5 **Documentation Training**, Las Vegas, contact [holmes@nevadarockart.org](mailto:holmes@nevadarockart.org) to reserve a place
- 11 **Valley of Fire Site Tour**, east of Las Vegas
- 18 **Grimes Point Site Tour**, east of Carson City on Hwy 50
- 22 **Southern Members Picnic/Potluck**, Calico Basin in Red Rock Canyon NCA, contact [amconnell@nevadarockart.org](mailto:amconnell@nevadarockart.org) for information

## December

- 2 **CHRISTMAS PARTY** – Las Vegas, contact [amconnell@nevadarockart.org](mailto:amconnell@nevadarockart.org) for time, place and what to bring
- 9 **Valley of Fire Site Tour**, east of Las Vegas
- 9 **CHRISTMAS PARTY** – Reno, contact [bennett@nevadarockart.org](mailto:bennett@nevadarockart.org) for time, place and what to bring

- 16 **Grimes Point Site Tour**, east of Carson City on Hwy 50

## January

- 1 **Happy New Year!**
- 13 Grimes Point Tour, east of Carson City on Hwy 50
- 20 Valley of Fire Tour, east of Las Vegas
- 24 Northern Coordinators Potluck – contact [bennett@nevadarockart.org](mailto:bennett@nevadarockart.org) for information

## February

- 10 **Grimes Point Tour**, east of Carson City on Hwy 50
- 17 **Valley of Fire Tour**, east of Las Vegas
- 21 **NRAF Lecture Series**, Reno – location and speaker TBA

## March

- 10 **Grimes Point Tour**, east of Carson City on Hwy 50
- 17 **Valley of Fire Tour**, east of Las Vegas
- 28 **Northern Coordinators Potluck** – contact [bennett@nevadarockart.org](mailto:bennett@nevadarockart.org) for information

## April

### 5TH ANNUAL MEETING!

Keep the last weekend in April free to meet with other NRAF Volunteers for a **BIG 5th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION!** Lots of exciting things are being planned and you won't want to miss it!

## Calendar Corrections

The next southern project was listed in the last newsletter as November 2-12, but in fact it's November 2-22 – see Little Red Rocks discussion (this issue) for details.

The Christmas Parties listed last time have had to be moved around a bit – now the Las Vegas party will be on December 2nd and the Reno party will be on December 9th. Hope you can make it to one ... or both!

# Questionnaire

*In our ongoing effort to make sure that we understand what the NRAF membership wants, everyone who came to the Annual Meeting in Tonopah got to express their opinions in a questionnaire! So, not wanting to leave out anyone, that same questionnaire is included here. Please take the time to fill it out and send it in.*

**1. How did you originally hear about the NRAF?**

a. Newspaper   b. Website   c. A friend   d. Other (please describe) \_\_\_\_\_

**2. What was your main reason for joining NRAF?**

a. General interest in archaeology   b. Specific interest in rock art   c. General interest in historic preservation  
 d. General interest in outdoor activities   f. Other (please describe) \_\_\_\_\_

**3. What was your main interest when you joined NRAF?**

a. Recording   b. Site Monitoring   c. Outdoor activity   d. (please describe) \_\_\_\_\_

**4. What is your age group?**

a. 18-25   b. 25-40   c. 40-55   d. 55+

**5. What is your occupation?** \_\_\_\_\_

**6. Are you interested in international tours? Interested in regional tours?** \_\_\_\_\_

**7. Do you like combining multiple projects in other areas so you can work on them "two for one?"** \_\_\_\_\_

**8. Do you prefer longer projects or shorter (1-2 day) projects?** \_\_\_\_\_

**9. Are you available ONLY on weekends and holidays?** \_\_\_\_\_

**10. Are you interested in more strenuous types of field work (i.e. long distance hiking, dry camping, etc.)?** \_\_\_\_\_

**11. Would you like to see more adult educational programs (other than the regular lecture series)? If so, what kind of things are you interested in?** \_\_\_\_\_

**12. Would you like to see more "social" activities (eg. potlucks or parties)?** \_\_\_\_\_

**13. Are you satisfied with your membership in NRAF?** \_\_\_\_\_ If NOT, in what way would your membership become more satisfying? \_\_\_\_\_

**14. Do you talk about your NRAF activities with your friends?** \_\_\_\_\_

**15. Are you interested in volunteering for a committee?**   \_\_\_ Annual Meeting Committee   \_\_\_ Education Committee  
 \_\_\_ Newsletter Committee   \_\_\_ PR Committee   \_\_\_ Membership Committee   \_\_\_ Site Steward Coordinator   \_\_\_ Merchandise Committee

**16. Do you have an idea you'd like to contribute? If so, please describe the idea.** \_\_\_\_\_

**17. Has your NRAF membership met your original expectations?** \_\_\_\_\_

*If you wish to sign your name, and return your questionnaire before December 1, we'll enter your name in a drawing for a "special prize" at our next Annual Meeting. Either way, thanks for participating. We hope this kind of thing will help us to be more able to meet your expectations and be the kind of organization that will continue to be fun and interesting for you, but also continue to accomplish the important preservation goals that led to our formation.*



## NEVADA ROCK ART FOUNDATION

*Working for the Conservation of Nevada's Rock Art Heritage*



***Our Past  
Deserves a Future***

Membership Application:    Yes, I want to join!       Yes, I want to renew!

Memberships:    Individual \$30       Family \$45       Limited Income \$25

Donors:       Steward \$100       Conservator \$500       Patron \$1,000

Other:       Tribute Fund \$500       Founder's Club \$1,500 and above

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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