



N E V A D A
 ROCK ART
 FOUNDATION



GREAT BASIN GLYPH NOTES

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 people in all its activities

Member International Federation of Rock Art Organizations

*The Past
 Deserves a Future*



Minden, Nevada
 May 2-4, 2008



NRAF Board President Don Fowler and 2008 President's Award recipient Don Frazier.

The NEVADA ROCK ART FOUNDATION celebrated its 5th Annual Meeting in Minden, Nevada, May 2-4, 2008, at the Carson Valley Inn. Approximately 100 NRAF members and guests of the FOUNDATION attended this year's meeting. Notable events included the presentation of awards to members and partner organizations contributing exemplary service to protecting Nevada's rock art heritage. Pictured above is Don Fowler, NRAF Board President, presenting the President's Award to Don Frazier for his lifetime contribution to Great Basin archaeology and Nevada's rock art.



Director of Nevada Cultural Affairs Michael Fischer at the 5th Annual NRAF meeting

Saturday morning's program opened with welcomes from Adam Fortunate Eagle and the Director of Nevada Cultural Affairs Michael Fischer. Other guests included Matthew Tuma, Senator Reid's Office; Jennifer Budge, Washoe County Parks; Michon Eben, Reno Sparks Indian Colony; Darrel Cruz, Washoe Tribe Historic Preservation Officer; Marie Berry, Washoe Tribe Environmental Director, JoAnn Nevers and Joe Bryan, Washoe Tribe. Saturday afternoon was devoted to the Alanah Woody Memorial session and Saturday evening was the banquet and awards ceremony.

From the Executive Director...

This year's Annual Meeting of the NEVADA ROCK ART FOUNDATION was a tremendous success. A fuller report is provided on pages 4-5 but I have some reflections sparked by my experiences that I would like to share. First, I thank all those volunteers who worked so hard to make the Annual Meeting such a wonderful experience for those attending, presenting the organization in the best possible light to our guests and presenters. Dianne Jennings did a fabulous job organizing a diverse and absorbing program that educated and paid tribute to NRAF's accomplishments.

During the presentations given by representatives of Federal and State agencies of the cooperative projects that we have carried out, I was struck by the high regard that they have of the work that we do and the dedication of NRAF members. The FOUNDATION's documentation standards, which emphasize accuracy and thoroughness, are viewed as of vital importance in our joint efforts to preserve Nevada's rock art. This appreciation from our strategic partners is a tribute to the dedication of NRAF members, and I hope that you feel, as I do, a sense of pride at such recognition of your hard work and our achievements. Whether you contribute to the cause of rock art conservation by volunteering your time in the field or through your membership, your support and passion is essential to our shared mission to protect Nevada rock art and, together, we are making a difference.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Angus Quinlan, PhD



I was also the very grateful recipient of a fine new field vest (stuffed with goodies, including a very loud and shrill whistle!), a gift of appreciation from the membership. I was truly touched by this gift, the kind words of Tina Wener and Cheryl Bennett who made this informal appreciation, and the impromptu standing ovation that followed my Board certificate of appreciation. I vow not to let your kindness go to my head; so rest assured, I will not be rushing off to purchase a new cap to replace my fine but somewhat tatty field cap (volunteer for a project to get a chance at experiencing this famous artifact)!

As this goes to press, the first fieldwork session of the Lagomarsino Documentation Project is drawing to a close. As you are aware, this year we hope to complete the fieldwork phase of this project, a project we started in partnership with Storey County in 2003. This massive site, one of the largest and most spectacular sites in Nevada, has always been a daunting prospect to document. Because of its spatial extent and the sheer volume of its rock art panels, recording the site to our high standards and with our attention to detail, seemed to be a lifetime's work, even with NRAF's large army of dedicated and highly trained volunteers. The scale of the achievement that completing the fieldwork will represent cannot be underestimated, an achievement made more staggering as it has relied almost exclusively on volunteer labor. Nowhere else in the world has the recording of a site of this scale been attempted in such detail and quality in so short a period. We can be justifiably proud of the work we have accomplished, and the final archived record of the site will be one of the most exhaustive ever prepared. The data we have collected will provide the basis for public interpretation and research that promotes our unique accomplishment in fully recording the site, solidifying our reputation as "arguably the most vital and effective rock art foundation in the country, if not the world" (W. Hyder, past president, the American Rock Art Research Association, 2008).

RECENT & UPCOMING EVENTS

Earthday 2008

As part of Earthday 2008, NRAF sponsored public outreach booths at events celebrating the environment in Las Vegas and Reno. These events provide NRAF with an opportunity to publicize its mission of heritage conservation to a segment of the public attuned to environmental protection, and at both venues our booths attracted great interest. Despite the high winds that always seem to accompany Earthday, at times threatening to send the booths airborne, NRAF's participation was a success, due in large part to the volunteers staffing the booths throughout the day, distributing educational and promotional brochures, and fielding enquiries from the public. Thanks go to Melanee and Austin Garrison, Elaine Holmes, and Anne McConnell for running the Las Vegas booth; and Joy Bridgeman, Connie Douglas, Kathleen Hayes, Sue Roberts, Bob Taylor, Kent Whelan, Betty Young, and Sandy Zoerner for running the Reno booth.



The NRAF Earthday booth at the Summerlin Earthfaire, Las Vegas

Ting Perkins Award

Congratulations to Anne McConnell, NRAF Joint Southern Coordinator and the 2006 Holmes Volunteer of the Year, who was honored in April by the Nevada Archaeological Association with the Ting Perkins Award. Anne is a charter member of the FOUNDATION and has contributed so much to the implementation of our mission to identify and document rock art sites at risk, and has enhanced the FOUNDATION's organizational capacity in the Las Vegas area. The Ting Perkins Award is a fitting recognition of Anne's numerous contributions to the protection of Nevada's archaeological heritage.



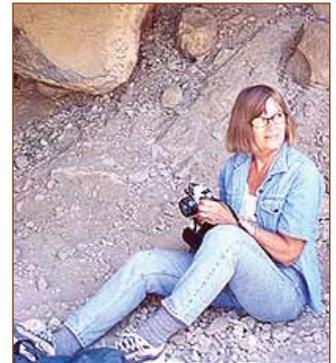
*Anne McConnell with the Ting Perkins Award
(photo courtesy of Anne Carter)*

Macy's Community Shopping Day

The Macy's Community Shopping Day will be held on June 21st in Reno. All proceeds from ticket sales benefit participating local non-profit organizations and your ticket gets you a discount on the shopping day. Once again, Sally Masuo has been hard at work to make this event a success for the NEVADA ROCK ART FOUNDATION. Sally is looking for volunteers to help her run an NRAF booth at Macy's on June 21st. If you are interested in helping, email info@nevadarockart.org and put "Macy's Shopping Day" in the subject line.

Rockin' Art Show

The Artist's Co-Op Gallery of Reno will be presenting the Rockin' Art Show in July. This event features rock art-inspired artwork in multiple media and a portion of the proceeds from the month-long show benefit NRAF, thanks to the generosity of the participating artists and the Artists Co-Op. Al Ferrand and Ralph & Cherlyn Bennett are hard at work to make this show a great success. Each year the show features fabulous artistic creations and is the perfect opportunity to enrich your surroundings and support Nevada rock art at the same time. The opening reception for the Rockin' Art Show will be held on July 6th and all are welcome to browse, appreciate, and shop.



Polly Schaafsma documenting a rock art site.

Distinguished Lecture Series

Polly Schaafsma will be coming to talk to NRAF audiences in Elko, Las Vegas and Reno in the fall of 2008. Specific dates have not yet been confirmed. Polly Schaafsma is a leading authority on the rock art of New Mexico and the Southwest, as well as the Great Basin. She is a research associate of the Museum of Indian Arts and Culture/the Laboratory of Anthropology of the Museum of New Mexico. Polly Schaafsma is the author of many books and articles, some of which include *Indian Rock Art of the Southwest* (School of American Research Press and University of New Mexico Press, 1980); *Rock Art in New Mexico* (Museum of New Mexico Press, 1992); *Kachinas in the Pueblo World* (editor, University of New Mexico Press, 1994), and *Images in Stone: Southwest Rock Art* by David Muench and Polly Schaafsma (Brown Trout Publishers, Inc., 1995). The lecture series is made possible by a grant from the **Nevada Humanities**.

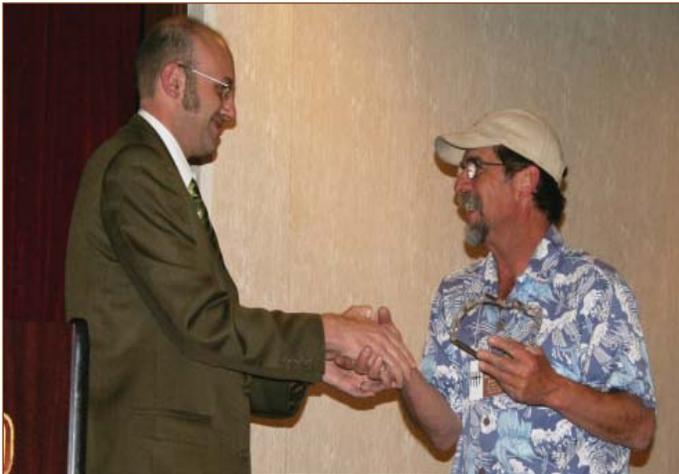


NEVADA
HUMANITIES

Annual Meeting Highlights

THE PRESIDENT'S AWARD is an occasional award that recognizes lifetime contributions to Great Basin archaeology and Nevada's rock art. Since the establishment of NRAF, Don Frazier has been one of our strongest and most dedicated supporters, reflecting his long-term commitment to archaeological research and cultural resource protection in the region. Don's support and enthusiasm for the cause has vastly increased the Foundation's capacity to implement its mission and has resulted in the documentation of important rock art sites throughout the state. The PRESIDENT'S AWARD is a fitting honor for Don's numerous contributions to Great Basin archaeology and attests to a lifetime of outstanding achievement and dedication to research and protection of the region's archaeological heritage.

THE HOLMES VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD for 2008 was presented to Jeff Thelen. Jeff has been a tireless volunteer on NRAF documentation projects throughout the state since the FOUNDATION's inception, as well as a dedicated supporter of site stewardship. His dedication to ensuring the greatest accuracy in recording methods even led him to strap a ladder on his back at one project to enhance the photography! Jeff also has enhanced the experience of multiple field projects with his supply of famous homemade brownies and exceptional field cooking.



Jeff Thelen receiving the Holmes Volunteer of the Year Award from Angus Quinlan, Executive Director, NRAF.

A CERTIFICATE OF COMMENDATION was issued that posthumously honored Alanah Jean Woody, Ph.D., founding executive director of NRAF. The commendation described Alanah's achievements as the guiding light and driving force of NRAF, sentiments shared by all who knew and worked with her.

We encourage all members to stop by the NRAF office to view the wonderful photograph donated by Dianne Jennings commemorating Alanah in the field with volunteers during the Dry Lakes Project. Office hours: M-F, 10 AM -2 PM.

THE FRIENDS OF THE FOUNDATION AWARD is made to organizations that make a significant contribution to the mission of NRAF. This year, the support that NRAF has received over the past six years from the Nevada Bureau of Land Management was recognized with this award, presented to the Nevada State Archaeologist, Tom Burke. The assistance and support that NRAF has received from the BLM has enabled the FOUNDATION to implement its site documentation program across the state. NRAF looks forward to many years of successful partnership with the Nevada BLM in our continuing mission to protect Nevada's rock art through recording rock art sites and public interpretation.



Nevada BLM State Archaeologist Tom Burke



Former BLM State Archaeologist Pat Barker receiving THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD recognizes exceptional service to NRAF. In 2007, NRAF's members and volunteers rallied to help the organization manage its workload in the terrible aftermath of the sudden death of Alanah Woody, NRAF's founding executive director. Without Alanah, the numerous projects, reports, and fieldwork materials she had been working on at the time of

her death created a workload too great for NRAF staff to manage alone. All of NRAF's members made significant contributions in this difficult period and two people particularly prominent in this effort were honored for their contributions. Don Murray worked tirelessly for several months inventorying and checking the huge collection of fieldwork materials that had accumulated during the course of the High Basins ACEC Documentation Project. Pat Barker dedicated months of effort in assisting with the preparation of several project reports and organizing their associated fieldwork materials for final submission.

This year's Annual Meeting logo was created by member Ralph Bennett. It is based on one of his line drawings of the 'Four Sisters' glyph from the Lagomarsino site, where Ralph is also a site steward.



Annual Meeting Highlights



Upper Left, NRAF Executive Director Angus Quinlan and Darrel Cruz, Washoe Tribal Historic Preservation Officer.



Program Chair Diane Jennings and NRAF member Sandy Zoerner exploring the Nevada Online Encyclopedia program presented by Karen Wiikander

Dianne Jennings took on the task of Program Chair and did an outstanding job in preparing a program that showcased NRAF's mission and accomplishments to date.

Sunday field trips to Hieroglyph Boulder in Genoa; Rattlesnake Canyon; and Dry Lakes were organized by Tina Wener, who also led one of the tours. Other tour leaders were Jeff Thelen, Paul Turigliatto, and Oyvind Frock, who also helps lead NRAF sponsored monthly tours to Grimes Point. Such tours would be impossible without the dedication and willingness of volunteers, and NRAF is grateful for their contributions.

Thanks for a job well done go to members Carolyn Barnes-Wolfe, Debbie Lafferty, and Deana Chambers who staffed the merchandise table and kept sales moving briskly.

NRAF members enjoying the banquet. From left to right, Bill James, Mark Boatwright, Anne Carter, Elaine Holmes, Anne McConnell, Debbie Lafferty, and Carolyn Barnes-Wolfe



NRAF Members, shown above, give Executive Director Angus Quinlan a standing ovation upon his receipt of a Certificate of Appreciation for Outstanding Work from the Board of Directors.



NRAF LECTURE SERIES: SERENDIPITY SHELTER

Dr. Pat Barker, Retired BLM State Archaeologist and current NRAF Director, presented "Rock Art at Serendipity Shelter," the latest lecture in NRAF's bimonthly series, held April 23, 2008 at 7pm at the South Valleys Library in Reno, Nevada.

Serendipity Shelter is located in northwest Washoe County and is distinct in its predominance of pictographs, hosting a total of 12 rock art panels, of which ten are pictographs, one is a petroglyph, and one is a combination panel. The site has more than 50 design elements, including anthropomorphic, zoomorphic, geometric and organic motifs. All design elements at Serendipity are found in the more extensive pictograph record in the Northern Great Basin region.

The nature of pictographs is such that photographic representation is difficult. Dr. Barker introduced the audience to the technique of Decorrelation Stretch (DStretch), which has been used in remote sensing to enhance multispectral images; for example, NASA has used it to enhance Mars Rover images. DStretch is a useful tool for archaeologists as its enhancement techniques can bring out very faint pictographs, almost invisible to the eye. Subtle differences in hue are enhanced, which can give clues to superposition.

The archaeology of Serendipity Shelter gives good evidence for the earlier lifeways of this site. It is a rock shelter 80 feet long, 63 feet wide and 10 feet high. The panels are all located in the shelter, but in front of the shelter is a two to three feet deep cultural midden, with several looter holes in evidence.

The shelter sits at the base of Grassy Rock (6,000 feet elevation), a monolithic volcanic butte on the Southern edge of an extensive volcanic tableland, part of the area known as the Columbia Plateau. Although the site is found on the edge of the Columbia Plateau, archaeological evidence and surrounding landscape indicates a lifestyle typical of the Great Basin Culture Area, with the exception, perhaps, of a greater concentration of root plants available for harvesting and processing.

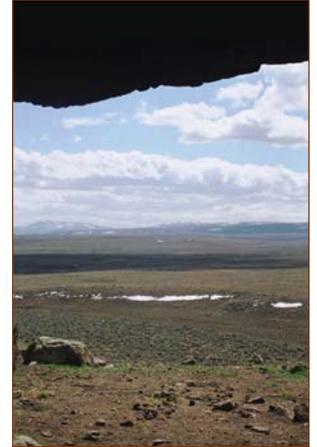


The site has several springs and seasonal flowing waters close by, making it ideal as a camping or living site and attracting multiple fauna to the location.

Line drawing of an anthropomorphic figure

Resources for the region were typical of the Great Basin Sagebrush Steppe environment and included Indian Rice Grass and Great Basin wild rye (attracting grazers) as well as the root crops of bitterroot, biscuit root, yampa, and camas, all rich sources of carbohydrates. Regional fauna included deer, antelope, big horn sheep, rabbits, sage grouse, and migratory waterfowl.

Occupation of the shelter is suggested to be from 6500 BP to 500 AD. Artifacts from the midden include ground stone fragments, red and yellow ochre stained metates, fire-cracked rock, burnt bone, burnt food plant remains, hammer stones, debitage, end scrapers, and abraders, possibly used to process the abundance of root crops available at this site.



Exotics found in the midden include Olivella shell beads from the Pacific Coast, sand tempered brownware ceramics (not local), and two sherds of Desert Greyware from southeastern Idaho and northern Utah. All of these suggest later prehistoric occupation and trade with other regions

Grassy Rock is a source of cryptocrystalline (CCS) toolstone and is also surrounded by local obsidian sources, a valuable commodity for the site. Tools at the site were made from local and exotic CCS, obsidian, and basalt. Points are Northern Side-notch, Gatecliff, Elko, East Gate, and Desert Side-notch in style.

The site was first documented in 1982 by a BLM team led by Garth Portillo, then later recorded by Eric Ritter (BLM) in 1995-1997 (Ritter 2002), and more recently in 1998 by Melinda Leach, University of South Dakota. Foundation volunteers fully recorded it in 2007 and Dr. Barker's presentation highlighted the results of that effort.

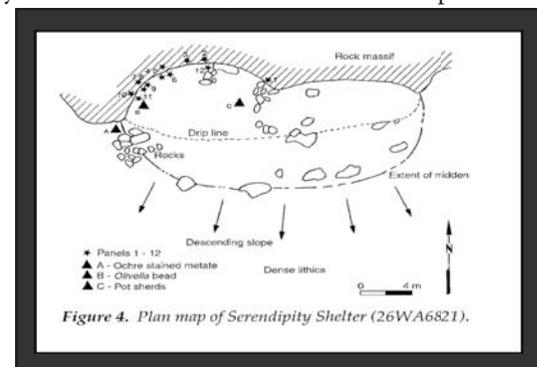


Figure 4. Plan map of Serendipity Shelter (26WA6821).



NRAF CONTACT INFORMATION

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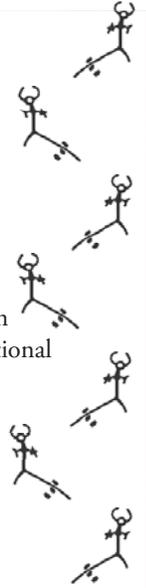
NEW MEMBERS



- | | |
|----------------------|---------------|
| Adam Bittler | Kurt Kuznick |
| Monica Bittler | Ann McCarty |
| Levi Bittler | Michael Noe |
| K DePatta | Jim Prida |
| Clay Elting | Doug Riley |
| Gracia Friesema | Mitch Robles |
| Stuart Friesema | Penelope Siig |
| Darla Garey-Sage | Raymond Wood |
| Bob Himmelreich | Patti Wright |
| Patricia Himmelreich | Alison Youngs |

Calendar of Events

- June 18 *Lecture Series*--Dr Roberta McGonagle; 6–9 pm, Grand Sierra Resort, Room Nevada 2, Reno (6–7 pm social mixer and no-host bar)
- June 21 *Macy's Shopping Day*-- All proceeds from ticket sales benefit participating local non-profit organizations and your ticket gets you a discount on the shopping day
- July 1 - 31 *Rockin' Art Show: Artists Co-op Gallery*, 627 Mill Street, Reno - In July, the Artists Co-Op Gallery will be presenting a month-long show of artwork in various media inspired by rock art.
- July 4 *Tour of Mt Irish*--This area is home to some of the most spectacular and beautiful rock art in Nevada, and is one of the type-sites for the distinctive and intriguing Pahrnagat Representational Style.
- July 6 *Opening Reception for Rockin' Art Show.*
- July 16 *Northern Nevada Coordinators Potluck*--Please RSVP to Ralph & Cheryln Bennett at bennett@nevadarockart.org or call Kim Hopkinson at (775)323-6723 ext. 11.
- July 19 *Grimes Point Tour*--This area is home to some of the oldest rock art in Nevada.



For tour information please contact--Kim Hopkinson info@nevadarockart.org or call (775) 323-6723 ext. 11

THE NEVADA ROCK ART FOUNDATION

- Memberships* Limited Income \$25 Individual \$30 Family \$45 Steward \$100
- Sustaining* Conservator \$250–\$500 Patron \$501–\$1,000 Founder's Club \$1,001 and above
- Donations* General Tribute Alanah Woody Memorial Fund

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Email* _____

*By giving us your email address you agree to receive important updates and news about the Foundation via our Newsflash service. Your email address will not be shared with any other parties and will only be used to provide you with information about the Foundation's upcoming events.

I wish to renew by: CHECK MC VISA (sorry, no AMEX)

Card # _____ Expiration date _____

THE NEVADA ROCK ART FOUNDATION is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization

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*The Past
Deserves a Future*

Code of Ethics

The Nevada Rock Art Foundation subscribes to the following Code of Ethics and its members, as a condition of membership, agree to abide by the standards of conduct stated herein.

1. NRAF respects the cultural and spiritual significance of rock art sites and shall not engage in any activity that adversely affects site integrity. NRAF members will be respectful at rock art sites— many are regarded as sacred by indigeneous peoples and as such will be treated as a valued part of our shared cultural heritage.

2. NRAF members will strictly adhere to all local, state, and national antiquities laws. All research or educational activities taking place at rock art sites shall be subject to appropriate regulations and property access requirements.

3. All rock art recording shall be non-destructive with regard to the rock art itself and any associated archaeological remains which may be present.

4. No artifacts shall be collected unless the work is done as part of a legally constituted program of archaeological survey or excavation and with express permission of the landholder.

5. No excavation shall be conducted unless the work is done as part of a legally constituted excavation project and with the express permission of the landholder. Removal of soil shall not be undertaken at any time for the sole purpose of exposing subsurface rock art.

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

W W W . N E V A D A R O C K A R T . O R G

N E V A D A

ROCK ART

F O U N D A T I O N

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