

GREAT BASIN GLYPH NOTES

NEVADA ROCK ART FOUNDATION

4TH Quarter 2011

MEMBER INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION ROCK ART ORGANIZATIONS

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LINCOLN COUNTY INVENTORY PROJECT

In October 2011, a further 15 sites were recorded as part of the Lincoln County Inventory Project, supported financially by the Lincoln County Archaeological Initiative. The purpose of this multiyear recordation project is to gather baseline data on known sites in the county to assess their management needs, research potential, and suitability for public interpretation. Since fall 2009, a total of 127 sites and approximately 2,000 rock art panels have been inventoried.

To date, NRAF volunteers have contributed over 2,500 hours to this project, accounting for its impressive progress and the quality of the data gathered.

With such a large sample of sites recorded, the project now switches to reporting its results. This includes preparing site records and a narrative report that describes the heritage and research significance of recorded sites. The latter is particularly important for evaluating the significance of individual sites as historic properties and how rock art can contribute to better understanding prehistoric lifeways in eastern Nevada. The data gathered will refine knowledge of the spatial distribution of Lincoln County rock art styles, and provide more detailed information about its associated archaeological and environmental contexts. Given the character of Lincoln County's rock art, this region is particularly important for exploring



broad themes in Great Basin archaeology. In particular, can stylistic variation in the county's rock art be used to identify prehistoric cultural affiliation, time-sensitive social practices, and whether stylistic attributes exhibit patterned distribution in the landscape? These questions are important for building chronological sequences, identifying culture change, and exploring changes in social and settlement practices accompanying changes in adaptive strategies.

During the project, a number of sites were recorded that contain anthropomorph types associated with the Fremont cultural adaptation. Knowledge of the stylistic properties of Fremont rock art and its archaeological signature in eastern Nevada can be refined based on the data collected. Likewise, the properties of the regionally distinctive Pahrnagat Representational Style can also now be better understood and its relationship to other Great Basin

rock art styles clarified. Resolving the relative chronology of this style and clarifying its spatial distribution will help determine whether this style is the product of a distinct culture, or reflects shared practices and institutions that developed in specific social contexts. More broadly, can variations in style, site size, setting, and associated archaeology be used to

identify different rock art site-types in Lincoln County that help clarify the chronology and functions of Great Basin rock art.

Regional studies of rock art data offer the prospect of comprehensive, quantifiable approaches that can scientifically explore the archaeological significance of rock art, going beyond the generalizing and subjective approaches that have tended to characterize the discipline because of the lack of systematic data collection. The work completed for the Lincoln County Inventory Project provides a detailed regional rock art record that can be the subject of methodical research, producing a more nuanced archaeological understanding of the rock art of eastern Nevada.

Acknowledgments—the support of NRAF volunteers in the field and the office proved essential to the successful

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From the Executive Director



NRAF Executive Director
Angus Quinlan

As 2011 draws to an end and in the new year NRAF prepares to mark its first decade, it is time to reflect on the past 12 months, which have rushed by at breakneck speed. Fieldwork inventory highlights included the Court of Antiquity and Lincoln County projects. Recording Court of Antiquity and interpreting it for the public have been long-term goals for NRAF. The site's location by the side of an interstate highway means that managing public visitation through interpretation is critical to the site's long-term conservation. In 2011, funds from Nevada State Question 1 Truckee River Grant, managed by Washoe County Parks and Open Spaces, allowed NRAF to inventory the Court of Antiquity and rehabilitate its physical environment through weed abatement and graffiti mitigation. The public interpretation of the site and its long-term management are addressed through a site master plan prepared as part of this project.

The fieldwork phase for the Lincoln County project saw another 47 sites recorded during 2011. The data gathered during the project will now be written up to provide the first exhaustive synthesis of the County's rock art to have been done for some 40 years. This project marked the first time that NRAF had recorded such a large representative sample of rock art sites at a regional level. That the fieldwork took only two years to complete is a testament to the productivity and hard work of the volunteers who dedicated their time to the project.

NRAF's public education program continued to attract leading scholars to the State. Reports of their research findings help to place Nevada rock art in its broader regional context. The Annual Meeting theme of *Historic Representations in Rock Art* was well served by the conference venue, the historic Eureka Opera House. Raising awareness of rock art's heritage significance is essential to ensuring that all Nevadans cherish rock art and value it as an important part of the state's history.

NRAF also honored the cultural heritage of one of the state's most important rock art sites by preparing a National Historic Landmark nomination for the Lagomarsino Canyon petroglyph site. Only a handful of rock art sites across the nation has received this designation, which illustrates and commemorates the most significant places in American history. It is particularly fitting to have started the nomination process for a place that has contributed to scientific studies of Great Basin rock art and potentially can provide new insights into rock art's prehistoric uses.

In 2012, NRAF will celebrate its 10th anniversary. Highlights for the year include fieldwork at the "Gathering" site in Lincoln County, returning to Clark County for the Annual Meeting, and the Annual Distinguished Lecture featuring Prof. Robert Layton. Prof. Layton is one of the world's most distinguished social anthropologists. He has published extensively on Australian rock art, the anthropology of art, and the social dynamics of hunter-forager cultures. His most recent book is "Order and Anarchy: Civil society, social disorder and war," and his "Australian Rock Art: A new synthesis" was recently reissued in paperback.

Our second decade will also see NRAF turning the raw data collected in its first 10 years into an archive that fuels innovative research and public education programs. Grants from the Nevada State Historic Preservation Office, National Endowment for the Arts, and Lincoln County Archaeological Initiative Round 4 will allow NRAF to interpret Nevada rock art for the public in digital and print media. This will help satisfy public interest in Nevada rock art by describing rock art's significance as an archeological feature in an accessible manner. NRAF recently received a very generous and substantial anonymous private donation to enable research that will allow Nevada rock art to be the subject of novel research that is published widely (see page 5). Entering our second decade with an emphasis on research that explicates the social dimensions of prehistoric rock art will allow the full realization of Alanah Woody's dream when she co-founded NRAF: that one day, the study of Nevada rock art would serve as a model for Great Basin rock art research and beyond.

Changes at NRAF



*I took off for a weekend last month
Just to try and recall the whole year
All of the faces and all of the places
Wonderin' where they all disappeared*

Jimmy Buffet



Geoff Smith, University of Nevada, Reno, Assistant Professor of Anthropology, has stepped back from his role on the NRAF Board of Directors owing to the demands of his job. Despite his resignation, Smith remains an avid supporter and member of NRAF.

On November 16, 2011, Smith delivered the bi-monthly lecture: *Early Holocene Material Culture in the Northwestern Great Basin*. In 2012, he will supervise an incoming graduate student who plans to intern with NRAF, and he and Pat Barker, President of the NRAF Board of Directors, are organizing a session devoted to rock art research for the 2012 Great Basin Anthropological Conference.

Kim Hopkinson left her job at NRAF in October of this year. Kim worked at NRAF for almost four years, starting as a student employee and ultimately serving as Associate Director. During her tenure at NRAF, she provided excellent support for the development and research programs. Kim's interests, focus, and organizational wizardry were great assets for NRAF. She has recently accepted a job as a grant writer for the major gifts campaign with the Truckee Meadows Community College Foundation.

She is happy to stay in touch with all of her NRAF friends, so contact the office for her new email. Kim hopes to continue as a volunteer for NRAF at future field projects.

NRAF LECTURE SERIES: FEBRUARY 16TH

Bill Fox, Altered Landscapes

Bill Fox is a writer, independent scholar, and poet whose work is a sustained inquiry into how human cognition transforms land into landscape. Bill is the Founding Director of the Center for Art and Environment at the Nevada Museum of Art in Reno. He has written several books, numerous essays in art monographs, and articles and poems in more than 70 magazines and journals. Inspired by land, he has had fifteen collections of poetry published; his nonfiction titles include: "Terra Antarctica: Looking Into the Emptiest Continent"; "In the Desert of Desire: Las Vegas and the Culture of Spectacle"; "Playa Works: The Myth of the Empty"; "The Black Rock Desert"; and "The Void, the Grid & the Sign: Traversing the Great Basin."

In 2001-02, he spent ten weeks in the Antarctic with the National Science Foundation's Antarctic Visiting Artists and Writers Program. Fox also worked as a team member of NASA's Haughton-Mars Project, testing methods of exploring Mars on Devon Island. He was a visiting scholar in residence at the Getty Research Institute in Los Angeles, twice a Lannan Foundation writer-in-residence, and has been awarded fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation and the National Endowment for the

Humanities. In 2008, Bill was awarded a National Museum of Australia Visiting Fellowship. While at the Museum he worked on his latest project called *All Along the Line*, which includes the Uluru Line that forms part of the architecture of the National Museum. He is currently organizing an exhibit at the Nevada Museum of Art for 2012 based on his work with Aboriginal artists in Australia.

Closer to home, Bill spent time with Alvin McLane, exploring Nevada landscapes and rock art, travels he has written about in several books.

February 16, 2012

Thursday

McKinley Arts and Culture Center

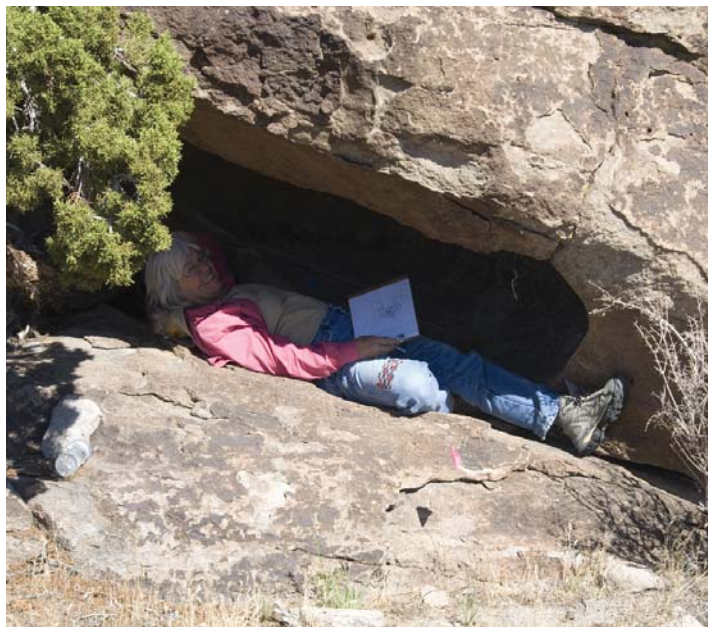
925 Riverside Drive

Reno, Nevada 89503

Lecture begins at 6 pm

VOLUNTEER PROFILE: JANICE HOKE

Janice Hoke, retired journalist and long-time NRAF member, had her first encounter with rock art almost 15 years ago on a Sierra Club hike to Lagomarsino. Initial encounters



with Lagomarsino often prove to be a reliable predictor of great volunteers, and in the case of Janice, this held true. She was profoundly impressed with Lagomarsino, but several years passed before she was able to pursue her interest. A visit to another rock art locale and a change in employment gave her the added time and incentive to answer an ad in the newspaper for participation in the FOUNDATION. She called and asked for directions to Lagomarsino, so she could revisit that remarkable place. Alanah Woody, then Executive Director, refused to give out directions (of course!), but nonetheless managed to recruit Janice as a volunteer for the FOUNDATION. That was nearly 10 years ago and Janice has been an active volunteer since.

Janice worked every field session at Lagomarsino, and saw her skills and the skills of the FOUNDATION grow and evolve over that five-year period. In addition, she has participated in field sessions at Grapevine Canyon, Meadow Lake, Dry Lakes, Court of Antiquity, Black

Canyon, and in Lincoln County. She is also a Site Steward, and organized the 2004 tour to the Coso Range through the Maturango Museum. Something of a jack of all trades for NRAF, Janice has helped move the office, organized the recent book sale, found venues for a First Aid training course for field volunteers, lined up office volunteers, and participated in "Project Petroglyph" (field trips to Grimes Point for Washoe County fourth graders).

Several things keep Janice an active volunteer: first, the great rock art we have in Nevada; second, the great friendships and camaraderie developed while working on documentation projects; and third, a sense of personal achievement. Executive Director Gus Quinlan credits Janice as "one of the top field drawers for NRAF." Her work ethic in the field and her skill lead him to assign her the most difficult panels for drawing. Besides field drawing, Janice has worked on GPS, IMACS, and motif counts, and assisted with photography.

Outside of NRAF, Janice volunteers for the Food Bank (her former employer), and two fifth-grade teachers weekly at Libby Booth Elementary School, and is a Director of the Great Basin Outdoor School. She enjoys hiking and quilting, and as a private pilot and commercial glider pilot flies with her husband Mike all over the U.S. and Canada in their 1955 Cessna 180.



A Panel at Lagomarsino, with its inked drawing by Janice Hoke



A Site Steward, Janice discovered vandalism at a site last year. "I was enormously outraged by the graffiti found at my site. Even though it did not occur on any petroglyph panel, it was the first seen in over a decade at a place where there has been very little modern intrusion. It was careless, inconsiderate and a violation of a valuable site where prehistoric artists lavished time, talent and sincerity on creating a permanent record of their culture."

Philanthropy and Grants

Major Gifts

NRAF has received an unexpected major gift from an anonymous donor. Designated for research support and general operations, this gift makes a tremendous difference in the FOUNDATION's ability to move forward with its research program. The \$50,000 donation equals the largest gift ever received by the FOUNDATION.

This extremely generous donation will allow the FOUNDATION to produce ground-breaking research that will serve as a model far beyond Nevada and the Great Basin. We are very appreciative and fortunate to have the support of such a dedicated champion of Nevada rock art who shares the same vision of developing research to inspire rock art studies across the globe. The benefactor's generosity and dedication to Nevada rock art are gratefully acknowledged by NRAF.

Fundraising

ADVENTURES ON THE ROCKS: The 2011 fundraising event took place Saturday, October 15th at the LifeTime Athletic Club in Summerlin, Las Vegas. Work on this campaign was supported by a NEVADA ARTS COUNCIL Circuit Rider Grant, which allowed the FOUNDATION to hire Kendal Hardin as an external marketing and event planning consultant. The location was provided free of charge by the LifeTime Athletic Club, thanks to the generosity of General Manager Ray Haizlip. All auction items and events were donated, and music was provided by Otto Ehring. The event produced good media coverage, fostered working relationships in the south, and raised the NRAF profile, all while earning funds for the FOUNDATION. Thank you to all who participated and supported NRAF.

Auction donors: Tom Hall, Conestoga Golf Club, Desert Adventures, Siena, Noceto Winery, Old Well Motel, Total Wine-Summerlin, Scheels Sporting Goods, Dan Kaffer and Dianne Jennings, Alice and Michael Baldrice, Russ Francis, Delgado Studios, Bootleg Companion Flight Lines, Mark Volmer, Nevada Ballet Theatre, and D & R Balloons.

Member Campaigns

Our End-of-Year Appeal has brought in \$7,500 in donations through the second week of December. Additionally, several members have renewed their 2012 memberships at substantially higher levels, and that has generated nearly \$3,000 in increased income.

Don and Pat Wescott joined the Visionary Circle with a five-year pledge, and the FOUNDATION acknowledges both their contribution and their willingness to be named. Most of our members have a natural modesty about their contributions (including Don and Pat!), but the ability to publicly recognize our members' support is instrumental in building the community and statewide profile and fundraising efforts of NRAF, so thank you, Don and Pat!

Grants

NEA: NRAF has been notified of a \$10,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Arts to support public education, both digital and print, about rock art. More than 360 grants were submitted, and only 175 funded, demonstrating the competitive nature of the grant.

NHL: The draft nomination for Lagomarsino as a National Historic Landmark has been prepared and is in the process of being submitted.

JOHN BEN SNOW MEMORIAL TRUST: The second round of funds has been received to support manuscript preparation for the proposed Lagomarsino volume. This book would be a traditional print volume, approximately 150 pages with 150+ photographs and images, discussing Lagomarsino's significance in global rock art research. The FOUNDATION is partnering with the Black Rock Institute Press. Publication date and price are forthcoming.

ROBERT Z. HAWKINS FOUNDATION: The final report has been submitted to the Foundation for Project Petroglyph, an educational field trip program to Grimes Point for Washoe County fourth-graders.



CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

running of this project. Carl Wilson's unflagging enthusiasm and support made a huge difference in ensuring the success of the fieldwork phase. We also thank for their participation in the October 2011 session: John Bingham, Don Wescott, Carl Wilson, Doug Rorer, Joan Johnson, Janice Hoke, Carolyn Barnes-Wolfe, Cary Ingbar, Anne Higgins, Anne McConnell, Elaine Holmes, Bob O'Neill, and Margie Jones.



ADVENTURES ON THE ROCKS



NAWS Tour Visits Remote South Range by Janice Hoke

*Photo credit:
Mike Baskerville*

Rock art enthusiasts who took the Nov. 5 NRAF ADVENTURES ON THE ROCKS tour of the U.S. Naval Air Weapons Station (NAWS), China Lake, California, got a very rare look at pictograph and petroglyph sites on the South Range.

"This is the first time I've ever brought an outside group to the South Range to view rock art," said Michael Baskerville, Command Archaeologist for the navy base. Baskerville and Leticia Neal, Base Archeologist, took the group of 21 participants to Biehrmann Cave and Seep Springs in the morning. Baskerville asked the group to make note of the imagery and compare it to the famous petroglyphs that dominate Little Petroglyph Canyon on the North Range, which was viewed in the afternoon.

He explained that the South Range sites reveal traces of many prehistoric cultures far and near: Klamath in Oregon, Nevada, western Arizona and southern Colorado as well as local peoples. Artifacts indicative of long-distance trade include obsidian flakes from as far away as Utah, Southwestern painted pottery, and Olivella shell from the Pacific Coast. Ancient

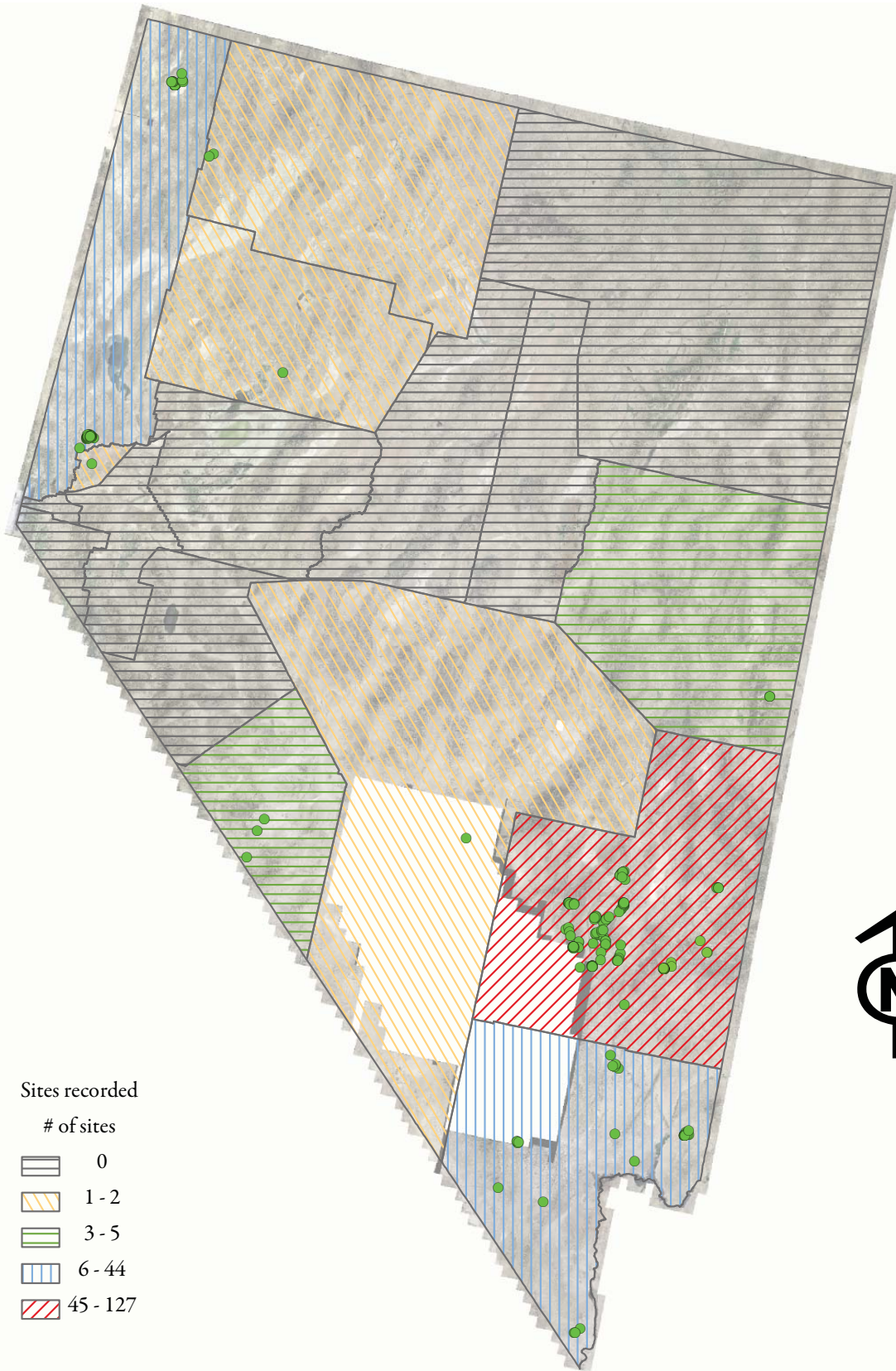
visitors may have walked 15 miles from the Mohave River, for example. Primary inhabitants, Baskerville said, would have been the Kawaiisu.

Evidence from the North Range sites, including Little, Big Petroglyph and Sheep canyons, shows occupation of the Cosos by people who carved the famous patterned-body anthropomorphs and distinctive sheep. Little Petroglyph Canyon, and the surrounding area, was declared a National Historic Landmark in 1964 and protects over 200 archaeological sites and an estimated 100,000 images within the 57-square-mile area.

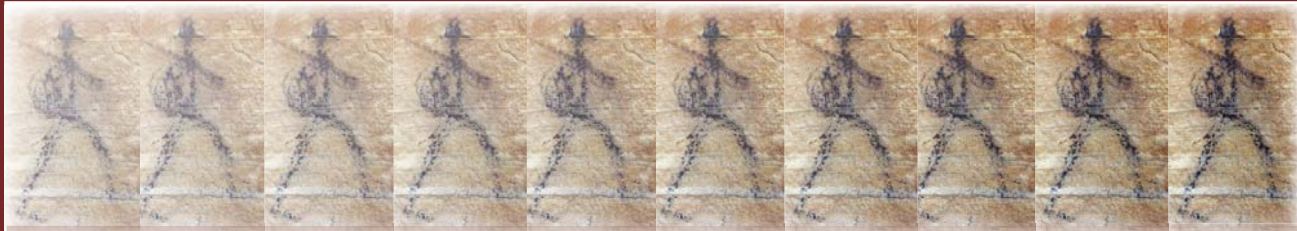
The tour began before dawn and hours of travel between the two separate ranges put trekkers back at the meeting point after dark. Participants enjoyed delicious meals at area restaurants, including Mon Reve, specializing in French country cuisine, and Tokyo House, featuring the signature cutlery and food showmanship of Japanese teppanyaki.

Proceeds from all ADVENTURES ON THE ROCKS events benefit the NEVADA ROCK ART FOUNDATION.

Ten Years of Fieldwork



NRAF Fieldwork 2002-2011



The Nevada Rock Art Foundation, 2002-2012

2012 Membership Renewal Celebrating 10 years

It's time to renew your annual membership to the NEVADA ROCK ART FOUNDATION. This year marks the 10th Anniversary of the FOUNDATION's work to preserve and protect Nevada rock art.

To celebrate the work accomplished in the previous 10 years and to support more work in years to come, the FOUNDATION is asking members to renew at the next *higher membership level*, if possible.

10 years of NRAF Achievements

Recorded the 5 largest rock art sites in Nevada
 Recorded a total of 216 sites in 9 counties to date
 Hosted the 2005 ARARA meetings and eight Annual NRAF meetings
 Piloted Site Stewardship program with the BLM Carson Field Office
 Hosted Distinguished Lecturers Paul Bahn, Polly Schaafsma, Paola DeMattè, and Ellen Dissanayake

Upcoming 2012 Events

Field and Lab Work Volunteer Opportunities: Lincoln County, Hawley Lake, Black Mountain...

Distinguished Lecture: Professor Robert Layton, Foremost expert on Australian Rock Art

Member Benefits: Annual Meeting, member potlucks, cave art tour in Europe, GREAT BASIN GLYPH NOTES, website...

Research: RADAAR database, scientific meetings, professional papers, book series...



Renew online at NVROCKART.ORG.

Or mail your form to 641 Jones Street, Reno, NV 89503
 or P.O. Box 35892, Las Vegas, NV 89133.

Thank You!

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 all indigenous people in all its activities.

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 indigenous 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 nondestructive with regard to the rock art itself and any associated archaeological remains that 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

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