




NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2011

DIXIE ARCHAEOLOGY SOCIETY

P.O. Box 611
Washington, Utah 84780



John Mangels - President & Newsletter Editor	Dave Evans - Treasurer
Barbara Bergman - Secretary	Susannah & Mark Nilsson, Board Members
John Macumber, Board Member	Kat and Boma Johnson - Board Members

December Meeting

When: December 14th @ 6 PM

Where: Greens Spring HOA Clubhouse

Why: Holiday Party

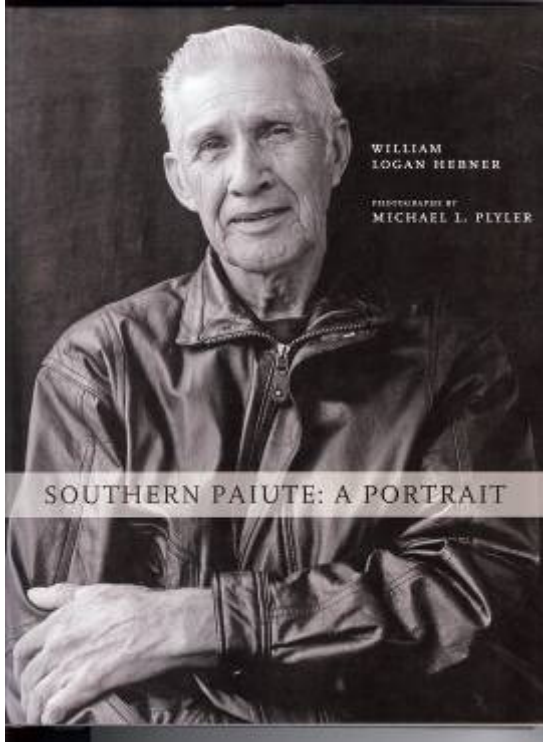
Web Site

The Dixie Archaeology Society web site (www.dixierockart.webs.com) is up and running. Please consider signing up as a site member. Site members should receive email updates whenever anything on the site is updated.

Please post your comments on the blog that is part of the site. This site is for you, the members. We'd like to hear what you think.

Meeting Report

Logan Hebner discussed his book, “Southern Paiute: A Portrait”.



This book presents a history of the Southern Paiute from a unique perspective. The book is a compilation of stories from Paiute elders. These stories relate the oral history of the people and are based on the elders’ experiences and what they can have been told by their ancestors. Aspects that Logan stressed in his talk include:

- The Southern Paiutes should really be considered the “People of the North Rim”, because that was their native homeland
- The Paiutes love for their land, which is one reason that the people are settled on many small reservations throughout Utah and Nevada. They would not leave their historical lands.
- The mild, unassuming nature of the Southern Paiutes is one of the reasons that they have fared so poorly with respect to their land rights and status with the government.
- Their religious ceremonies especially their “salt” songs
- The Mountain Meadows Massacre and the Paiute “involvement”

Field Trip Report

The November field trip was to the Bear Clan site in Warner Valley and then to Little Black Mountain.

The Bear Clan Site

The Bear Clan site is somewhat unique in this area, in that all of the symbols relate only to the bear clan. Mel Langness, a bear clan member, explained the symbols and he was taught by bear clan elders (Figure 1a & 1b).



Figure 1a



Figure 1b



Figure 2



Figure 3

Mel did say that the site was still used by bear clan members. The members leave small rocks as “offerings” on the natural rock shelves (Figure 4). Mel said that he could tell who was at the site by the size and placement of the rocks in the various small alcoves.



To find out more about the Bear Clan site, go to <http://dixierockart.webs.com/Field%20Trip%20Reports/Bear%20Clan%20site%20trip%20report%20%20-%20November%202011.pdf>.

Little Black Mountain

Little Black Mountain is a public BLM site located on the Arizona Strip. According to the BLM, this site contains over 500 individual rock art designs or elements on the cliff faces and boulders at the foot of Little Black Mesa. BLM attributes the rock art designs to the Great Basin, Anasazi and Lower Colorado River cultures. Some rock art designs appear to be from the archaic time period (4000 BCE to 400 CE) demonstrating over 6000 years of human habitation, use and history at this site.



Figure 4 – An archaic period glyph (completely re-patenated) and over written with newer glyphs.



Figure 5 – a very large story panel.



Figure 6 – The center section of the story panel,. Note the very large water bird descending and a smaller water bird ascending in the center.



Figure 7 – Panel with three “sun” figures on the right.



Figure 8 – Detail of the major “sun” glyph.



Figure 9 – A panel showing sheep (note the extreme curve of the horns), along with some archaic aged glyphs (center and lower right).

For more information of Little Black Mountain, go to

<http://dixierockart.webs.com/Field%20Trip%20Reports/Little%20Black%20Mountain%20field%20trip%20report%20-%20November%202011.pdf> and

<http://dixierockart.webs.com/apps/photos/album?albumid=9540944>.

Pot Luck Lunch at Little Black Mountain

The rock art on this field trip was great, but the highlight of the day was the pot luck luncheon we had at Little Black Mountain. As you can see from the photos, everyone had a great time. Thanks Mel for organizing the event.



Field Trip Info

The December field trip will be on Saturday, December 17th and will be a tour of petroglyph sites beginning in Bloomington and ending on the west side of black ridge. Some sites are drive up while others require some walking and or scrambling. One site will require a mild hike with some assent. This trip should show the wide variety of rock art located right in our neighborhoods.

Remember, you must be a member of DAS to participate in a field trip. You must be at the meeting in order to sign up for a field trip.

Thanks

Thanks to Logan Hebner for giving the monthly lecture.

Thanks to Mel for leading the field trip and organizing the pot luck lunch.

ARARA 2012 Annual Meeting

The American Rock Art Research Association (ARARA, www.arara.org) will be holding their 2012 annual meeting in St. Gorge from May 25-28, 2012 at the Lexington Hotel. We will need volunteers to help at this event:

- Thurs May 24
 - Registration, 2-3 people
 - Set up for Public Lecture, 2-3 people
- Fri May 25
 - Field trips ~15 people
 - Registration, 2-3 people
- Sat & Sun May 26-27
 - Flute Players for AM & PM Breaks
 - Misc Assistance during the day, 1-2 people
 - Misc Assistance during the evening events, 1-2 people
- Mon May 28
 - Field trips ~15 people

This is a big deal for the community and DAS. Your help is appreciated.

Holiday Party

The DAS Holiday party will be held on Wednesday, December 14th from 6:00 to 8:00 PM. Mark your calendar to reserve the date.

Please contact Dave or Vickie to volunteer to help with this event.

Final Thought

As I write this on Thanksgiving morning, I want to thank everyone at DAS for the opportunity to serve this organization. Joan and I are also thankful for the many friends

we have made within DAS and in the community since we arrived in St. George. Joan and I want to wish everyone a very happy and joyous holiday season.

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