



# ESRARA NEWSLETTER

*Newsletter of the Eastern States Rock Art Research Assn.*  
30th member of IFRAO - International Federation of Rock Art Organizations

VOLUME 1, No. 3

October 1996

## **ROCK ART SYMPOSIA AT SOUTHEASTERN ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONFERENCE NOVEMBER 7, 1996**

The Sheraton Civic Center in Birmingham, AL will be the site of the 1996 SEAC. Included is a two-part rock art symposium. The first session will address general research and the second will focus on rock art research in caves. (See page 4 for a complete listing of papers.)

**NOTE FROM EDITOR:** *This is the third ESRARA Newsletter. We have kept this one brief to save on funds, which in our young group are quite limited. We have divided the newsletter editorial chores among three regional editors. We are currently searching for a fourth individual to take the fall newsletter – preferably someone from the Atlantic region. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact:*

*Carol Diaz-Granados, Ph.D.  
7433 Amherst Avenue  
St. Louis, Missouri 63130-2939*

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## *President's Message . . .*

*The annual meeting of the Southeastern Archaeological Conference (SEAC), in Birmingham, AL, is just around the corner. With the Rock Art Symposia scheduled for November 7, Thursday. After the symposia, there will be an interim ESRARA meeting. The time and place will be announced at the symposia. Jean Allan organized the two sessions: General Research and Cave Rock Art, with six papers each, should afford a most interesting and informative day.*

*ESRARA has submitted a request to present a "Sponsored Symposium" at the Society for American Archaeology's annual meeting scheduled for April 2-6 in Nashville, TN. Carol Diaz-Granados is chairing this one. It is titled, "Rock Art Studies in the Eastern U.S.: New Discoveries and Recent Research." We should have some news by the next newsletter.*

*Jean and Carol have done a remarkably good job in putting these symposia together. It is (Cont'd. on page 2)*

### *In this issue:*

*Petroglyphs Discovered in Indiana!  
SEAC Rock Art Symposia program  
ESRARA publication now available  
and more!*

*(President's message continued from page 1)*  
*fortunate that we have people like them, Mark and others who are willing to give the time and effort into promoting interest in Native American Rock Art of the Eastern Woodland. They are to be encouraged and congratulated.*

*The question of a permanent repository/archive for our rock art data has not progressed very far. Dr. Swauger and Dr. Faulkner are pursuing the matter with the powers-that-be at their respective institutions. I have not heard from Dr. Bruce Smith. Nothing is simple and this matter is far more complicated than appears on the surface. As I understand it, the research data gathered by investigators that are the results of grants or out of the departments in their museums or universities are the property of those institutions. This does not necessarily contraindicate the duplication of the materials for a central repository. I would appreciate any comments from ESRARA members on where and how they would like to have their data archived. In fact, if you send me your recommendations and suggestions, we will synthesize them and publish them in a subsequent ESRARA Newsletter.*

*Sincerely,  
Fred E. Coy, Jr.  
1700 Spruce Lane  
Louisville, KY 40207-1735  
E-mail: fc2@iglou.com*

**ROCK ART OF THE EASTERN WOODLANDS, Proceedings from the Eastern States Rock Art Conference** (Edited by Charles H. Faulkner) is now available from ARARA (Occasional Paper #2, 1996). This excellent publication contains contributions by: Coy, Diaz-Granados, Faulkner, Hedden, Henson, Hockensmith, Hranicky, Lenik, Lowe, Mooney, Swauger, and Wagner. Copies are \$16. and may be ordered from ARARA, P.O. Box 65, San Miguel, CA 93451.

**SEND NEWS ITEMS FOR THE WINTER NEWSLETTER TO:**

**Mark Hedden  
Maine Historic Preservation  
Commission  
55 Capitol Street  
Station #65  
Augusta, Maine 04333**

**DON'T FORGET TO SEND IN YOUR \$10.00 DUES TO:**

**ILO M. JONES:  
ESRARA, Treasurer  
Post Office Box 4335  
Helena, MT 59604**

**Send in your dues now and receive the Winter newsletter plus all newsletters in 1997. If we do not receive your dues by January 10, 1997, we regret that we will have to drop your name from the list. Although we are delighted with the fantastic response -- printing and postage costs for over a 100 members makes it impossible to continue sending newsletters without dues payment.**

## Research Report #2

# A Brief Description of Newly Discovered Pictographs in Southern Indiana

by **Brian G. Redmond**  
Curator of Archaeology  
Cleveland Museum of Natural History

The only recorded example of painted rock art in Indiana to date is a panel of three human figures at the Cedar Bluff Rockshelter in Martin County (a detailed account of the site is given in Redmond and Koehler 1996). The Cedar Bluff Rockshelter is a large sandstone shelter that overlooks the East Fork White River near the town of Shoals. The pictographs (see figure below), which were first identified in 1992, consist of three black-colored anthropomorphs that are arranged side-by-side on the back wall of the shelter at a height of about three meters above the floor. The central figure is 23.5 cm in length and depicts a person holding a shield in one hand and a raised club or axe in the other. This figure appears to wear a tall, possibly feathered, headdress. To the right is a second anthropomorph that seems to be a smaller (13.0 cm long) version of the first with the exception that the shield and lower legs are missing. A third figure was painted to the left and slightly above the first two. This image measures 16.5 cm in length and has a lozenge-shaped body, short legs, clubbed feet, and outstretched arms. The head appears as a small node located at the top of the torso, and two splayed horns or antennae project from the head. In addition to the painted rock art, an unusual "dendritic" petroglyph, a trough mortar, and numerous sharpening grooves were identified on large sandstone boulders located beneath the pictographs.

The "horned" anthropomorph is most similar to the so-called "shaman" figures described at rock art sites in the upper Great Lakes region and elsewhere across North America. The two remaining pictographs appear to depict episodes of actual combat or perhaps dancers brandishing weapons. Archaeological remains from the floor of the rock shelter indicate that the site was used between about A.D. 500 and 1400. Because of the assumed ephemeral nature of aboriginal rock paintings in the eastern Woodlands, it is believed that the Cedar Bluff pictographs date to the later end of this time interval. This and other newly identified Indiana rock art is planned as part of the rock art symposium submitted for the April 1997 meeting of the Society for American Archaeology in Nashville, Tennessee.

Redmond, Brian G. And Lyle Koehler

1996 The Cedar Bluff Pictographs: Aboriginal Rock Art in Southern Indiana.  
*Archaeology of Eastern North America* 24:19-28.



**Rock Art Symposium and Informal Gathering of ESRARA Members at the Sheraton Civic Center in Birmingham, Alabama, Thursday, November 7, 1996.**

**PROGRAM SCHEDULE**

(note: exact times of papers not available at press time)

**Co-chairs: Jean Allan and Carol Diaz-Granados**

**ROCK ART I-GENERAL**

1. Jannie Loubser (New South Assocs.) *Stratigraphy in Rock Art Studies*
2. Jean Allan (U.S.D.A. Forest Service) *Tennessee Valley Rock Art Portraying Mississippian Maces*
3. Bart Henson (AL Arch'l. Soc.) *Influence of Myth and Folklore on Rock Art Damage*
4. Fred Coy (ESRARA) *Overview of Kentucky Rock Art*
5. Cecil Ison (U.S.D.A. Forest Service) *Hominy Holes, Petroglyphs, and the Cogswell Phase: Rethinking Terminal Archaic Sedentism.*
6. Randy Boedy (U.S.D.A. Forest Service) *Rock Art Motifs from the Journey's End Shelter in SE Kentucky*

**ROCK ART II-CAVE ART**

1. W. W. Varnedoe, Jr. (National Speleological Soc.), Bart Henson (AL Arch'l. Soc.), and Jean Allan (U.S.D.A. Forest Service) *An Aboriginal Glyph Cave in North Alabama*
2. James Duncan (MO Assn. of Professional Archaeologists) and Carol Diaz-Granados, Dept. Of Anthropology, Washington University) *Of Masks and Myths*
3. Tommy Hudson (Soc. For Georgia Archaeology) *Witch's Nest - A North West Georgia Petroglyph Cave*
4. Mark Wagner (Ctr. For Archaeological Investigations, SIU Carbondale) and Mary McCorvie (U.S.D.A. Forest Service) *Hidden Images: Prehistoric Myth and Ritual and the Korondo Site in Southern Illinois*
5. Charles Faulkner (Dept. Of Anthropology, U. of TN) *Mud Glyphs of the Eastern Woodlands: A Synchronic and Diachronic Perspective*
6. Jay Franklin and Jan Simek (Dept. of Anthropology, U. of TN) *Preliminary Report on the Archaeology of 3rd Unnamed Cave, A Chert Mining and Cave Art Site in Central Tennessee*

**(For more information contact: Jean Allan (205)489-5111 or SEAC program chair: Ian Brown (205)348-5947).**

Rock art specialist, Dr. Johannes Loubser, New South Associates in Georgia, has been working in the southeastern U.S. and at the Samuels Cave in Wisconsin. Dr. Loubser will give a special program on Wednesday evening (Nov. 6) at the SEAC pre-conference activities, University of Alabama, Birmingham Campus. His presentation will address the Rock Art of the South African Interior. Location maps will be available at the SEAC registration desk.

***DON'T FORGET THE INTERIM ESRARA MEETING THAT FOLLOWS THE SYMPOSIA!***

Membership Application  
**EASTERN STATES  
ROCK ART RESEARCH ASSOCIATION**

*Member of the International Federation of Rock Art Organizations*

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_

INSTITUTION: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE: \_\_\_\_\_

WORK PH: \_\_\_\_\_ HOME PH: \_\_\_\_\_

FAX: \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

Area of interest/specialization: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Dues: \$10.00 enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Return to: Iloilo M. Jones  
ESRARA, Treasurer  
Post Office Box 4335  
Helena, MT 59604

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