



# ESRARA NEWSLETTER

*Newsletter of the Eastern States Rock Art Research Assn.*

30th member of IFRAO - International Federation of Rock Art Organizations

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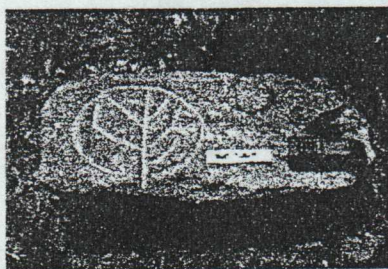
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Please send items for fall newsletter to:

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## **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.

## *President's Message . . .*

Another successful Rock Art symposium organized and chaired by Carol Diaz-Granados and Jean Allan, at the 62nd annual meeting to the SAA at Nashville. The room at the Opryland Hotel had a seating for 100 and was full to overflowing all afternoon the Saturday, April 5th meeting. Dr. Charles Faulkner was the discussant and did his usual thoughtful evaluation of the current status of Rock Art Research. He suggested the important initial steps of seek, find, and record rock art sites should now be followed by who, how, why and when research using the state-of-the-art techniques (I hope that I have summarized his statements justly). We were fortunate to have a paper presented by Brian G. Redmond on "Recent Investigations of Aboriginal Rock Art in Indiana," which is the first on rock art from that state. I had always considered the Hoosier Pre-Columbian Naive American as being illiterate. His paper was excellent. Explaining why more Indian rock art sites are not being found, he made a profound closing statement, that is a classic, "archaeologists consistently don't find what they are not looking for." That is a truism that applies to everyone. Unfortunately Michael Sockalexis was unable to attend, to the regret of those who remembered his presentation at the Maine ESRARA meeting last year.

There is nothing new to report about the establishing of a Eastern Woodland Rock Art Center at the University of Tennessee. I have had only a few comments about Dr. Simek's proposal

Fred E. Coy, Jr.



## ESRARA Research Report No. 3

Editor's Note: I asked Tommy Charles of South Carolina's State Archaeologist's Office to send me an overview of their current activities, and some illustrations. Rock art surveying has been quite exciting down there! What they have found, and where, and in what quantity, will amaze you. I only regret that I could not include all of the remarkable photo images that were sent to me, and that costs preclude color reproduction.

My thanks go to Tommy and to Lezlie Barker, SC OSA, and to Bruce Rippeteau, State Archaeologist, for their generosity in sharing this material for the ESRARA membership. - DMK

### **SOUTH CAROLINA PETROGLYPH SURVEY UNDERWAY**

The South Carolina Petroglyph Survey is a joint venture conducted by the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology and citizen volunteers. The survey is partially funded by contributions from the private sector.

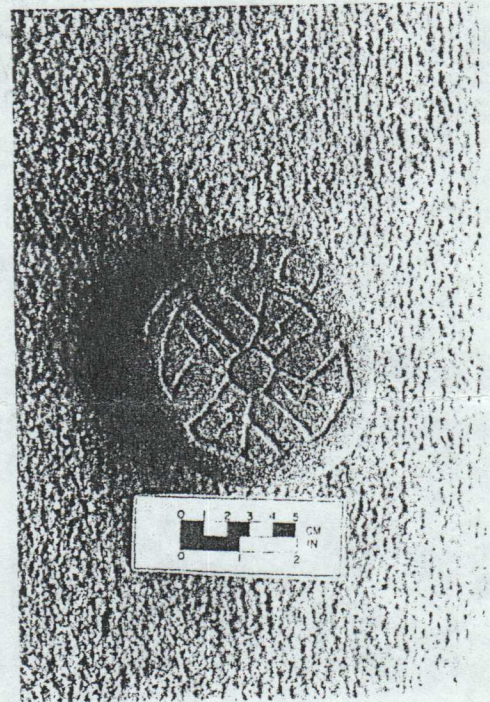
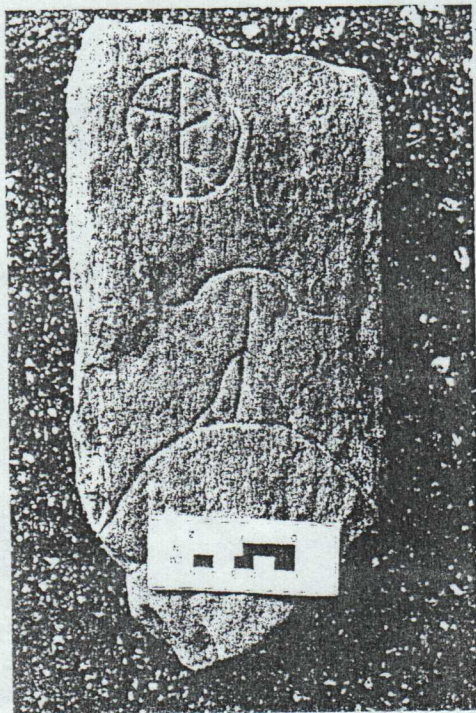
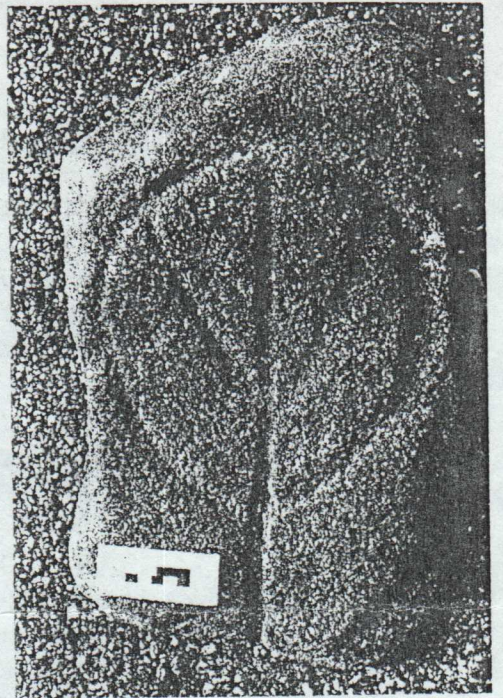
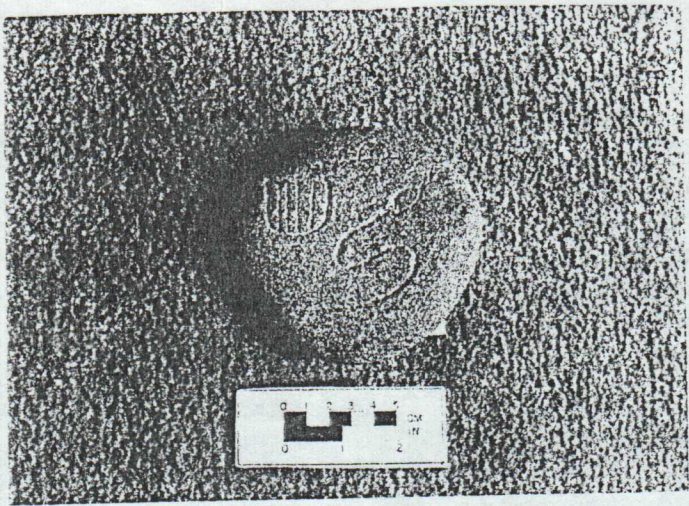
The South Carolina Petroglyph Survey is limited to the Piedmont plateau and the Blue Ridge Mountain regions that make up the northwestern portion of the state. These two areas total approximately one third of the State's land mass and are geographically, and geologically, separated from the southern and eastern portions of the state by a "fall line" that runs northeast to southwest. South of the fall line land elevation drops sharply, is increasingly flat and has little exposed rock—this region is the coastal plain and no in-situ petroglyphs have been reported from there. North of the fall line, rock, in the form of granite, schist, gneiss, diorite, amphibolite, gabbro and quartz occurs in abundance and the potential for rock art occurring there is excellent.

The search for petroglyphs is being conducted in two ways; (1) a pedestrian survey, using volunteers to explore certain tracts of land and, (2) through various news media, an appeal to the citizenry for information. No contest—discoveries resulting from the media appeal far outweigh those of the pedestrian survey.

The first phase of the survey was conducted during the months of January and February, 1997. Twenty four days were spent in the field during this two month period and over one hundred petroglyphs were recorded.

When discovered, a petroglyph is drawn and measured (metric), photographed in black and white, color slide and color print. The location of each site is plotted using a Megellan 3000 Global Position System (GPS). If properly used the GPS system data should be accurate but the GPS data







If properly used the GPS system data should be accurate but the GPS data is always checked against our physical plots. In-situ petroglyphs are recorded as archaeological sites. When petroglyphs have been moved from their original position (if it can be moved, it has been) we try to get as much information about the carvings origin as possible and we record it with as much care as in-situ carvings, but it is not given archaeological site status. A drawing of each petroglyph—with accompanying data—is entered into the computer.

We have much to learn about rock art and, speaking for myself, I make no claims of knowing what I am looking at (in most instances). Survey priorities, for the time being, are simply to find these suckers and record them as accurately as possible, plot them on a regional map to see if any patterns emerge, and categorize like forms to see what evolves there.

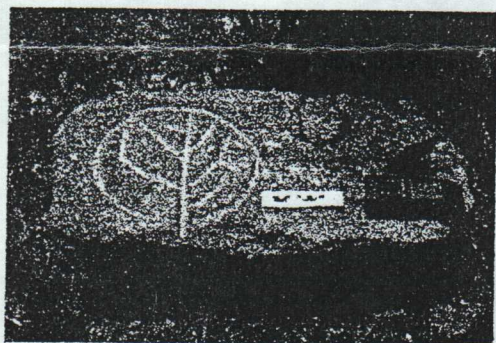
Tom

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**DUES ARE DUE! COMPLIMENTARY COPIES!**

Many who have received this newsletter are also holding their *last* issue! To continue finding this excellent, outstanding, wonderful, highly informative material in your mailbox, please send a paltry (we're talking *miniscule* here!) \$10 to:

Hollo Jones  
ESRARA Treasurer  
PO Box 4335  
Helena MT 59604

**(NOW! ARF!)**



THE TEXAS ROCK ART TASK FORCE is recording in the Lower Pecos, Rio Grande, and Devils River area. Anyone interested in the recording sessions can contact Teddy Stickney, 201 West Solomon, Midland TX 79705, (915) 682-9384, or by e-mail: [stick711@worldnet.att.net](mailto:stick711@worldnet.att.net).

THE ROCK ART FOUNDATION, TEXAS, has a new web page featuring Pecos River:  
<http://members.aol.com/rockart01/>

CHECK OUT THE FINE WEBSITE for Oregon's Umpqua National Forest "Ancient Painters of the North Umpqua" at: <http://www.teleport.com/~umpquant/heritage/painters.html>

THE UPPER MIDWEST ROCK ART RESEARCH ASSOCIATION (UMRARA) a cyber-association, has posted a new series of articles on the Gottschall Site in Wisconsin's southwestern Driftless Area. Also featured is a review of a new book for young readers on Wisconsin archaeology jointly published by the WI OSA and the State Historical Society:  
<http://www.pclink.com/cbailey/>

VISIT THE NEW VERMONT ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY (VAS) Home Page at:  
<http://www.uvm.edu/~vhnet/hpres/org/vas/vas.html>

THE MAGAZINE "AT THE EDGE" edited by Bob Trubshaw (e-mail: [bobtrubs@GMTNET.CO.UK](mailto:bobtrubs@GMTNET.CO.UK)) plans to examine issues in rock art in Issue No. 8 (December 1997). Write Bob for further information on subscription or submitting your material, or visit the home page:  
<http://www.gmtnet.co.uk/indigo/edge/atehome.html>

DR. LINDA OLSON, A ROCK ART RECORDER with the Art Department of Minot State University (ND) has received a Remele fellowship to document and compile a definitive reference on the state of North Dakota's rock art. For information and questions write her at: [olsonl@warp6.cs.misu.nodak.edu](mailto:olsonl@warp6.cs.misu.nodak.edu) or at Minot State University, 500 University Avenue West, Minot ND 58707, Tel. (701) 858-3836

A NEW ROCK ART ACOUSTICS HOME PAGE containing a list of over one hundred rock art sites known to exhibit echoes, reverberation, resonance, etc. can be found at:  
<http://www.geocities.com/CapeCanaveral/9461> Or write Dr. Steven Waller at: [wallersj@dadeint.com](mailto:wallersj@dadeint.com)

THE WISCONSIN ROCK ART ASSOCIATION (WRAA), which co-organized the Native American Rock Art Task Force with the WI OSA, invites your interest and your membership. Current activities include training by Wisconsin archaeologists in recording rock art, and a guided visit to the Gottschall Site in SW WI on June 22nd. For further information contact: Cindi Stiles, 126 S. Oneida, Rhinelander WI 54501, Tel. (715) 369-3248 (eves).



MORE ABOUT WISCONSIN: The Perrot State Park, Trempeleau, has opened a new archaeology exhibit featuring mounds and rockshelters. For further information contact the Mississippi Valley Archaeology Center, UW-LaCrosse, 1725 State Street, La Crosse WI 54601, tel. (608) 785-8464.

THE MAY 1997 NEWSLETTER OF THE NATIONAL PICTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY is featuring a superb collection of articles on rock art dating by Bednarik, Dorn, and Watchman. For membership information, which includes a copy of this newsletter, write to Carol Patterson-Rudolph, Editor, NPS, 221 Gowen Place, Bainbridge WA 98110.

WISCONSIN AGAIN! (BUSY FOLKS!): The Gottschall rock art site, Wisconsin's premier rock art venue, is again in great need of volunteers for recording this summer. Write/call or directly for information: Dr. Robert Salzer, Anthropology, Beloit College, 700 College Street, Beloit WI 53511. Tel. (608) 363-2616 or 362-8812, or write via e-mail: [salzerj@beloit.edu](mailto:salzerj@beloit.edu). The latest issue of Gottschall News, containing research news and summer field school registration details, is available in limited quantities from Dr. Salzer.

BILL AND MEGHAN NUTTALL SAYRES are developing a new book about rock art preservation for young readers. Interested contributors or distributors may contact them via e-mail at: [Bill.Sayres@on-ramp.ior.com](mailto:Bill.Sayres@on-ramp.ior.com)

ROCK ART RESEARCH IN WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA is underway. For information or to offer site recording assistance, write to David Moore, Archaeologist, Office of State Archaeology/SHPO, 1 Village Lane, Suite 3, Asheville NC 28803, Tel. (704) 274-6789.

PIEDRA PINTADA BOOKS CATALOGUE 1997 is now available, still the best source for in-print and antiquarian rock art titles in the country (the Editor finally found a copy of Dewdney & Kidd's Indian Rock Paintings of the Great Lakes (1962) through PPB after a fruitless two-year search!). They are also offering two fine rock art calendars. Write to: Piedra Pintada Books, PO Box 1376, Claremont CA 91711, Tel. (909) 620-6742, or by e-mail: [books@rock-art.com](mailto:books@rock-art.com).  
**Web:** <http://www.rock-art.com/books>

ALL ILLUSTRATIONS IN THIS NEWSLETTER ARE  
COURTESY OF THE  
SOUTH CAROLINA ROCK ART SURVEY

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