

**Bruce Johnson**

Marsha and I are working on our yard, which is no small task this time of year. Putting the dock out, outfitting the electric 1902 electric launch, and hiking several times/week. No more 4000 footers however! I am biking regularly, building stuff in my workshop, singing with the "Sunapee Singers", attending lectures, plays and concerts, and seeing our three daughters and son as often as possible. Our two-person kayak is ready for the water. We are planning a trip to Norway and Finland this summer, and hope to reconnect with our long-time-ago Norwegian and Finish exchange students and their families.

Bruce and Marsha Johnson

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**Darrell "Coop" Cooper**

At the "young age" of 83, I am still gainfully employed at my will and pleasure. I look forward to going to the office every day. I am focused on reducing carbon emissions in the State of Maine. I am a qualified partner with Efficiency Maine, the state agency that encourages homes and businesses to become energy efficient. I represent that agency in finding homeowners and business who need direction in getting more energy efficiency and in turn they receive financial rebates for their efforts.

I am also involved in encouraging people to subscribe to a community solar farm from which their source of electricity will be solar rather than from a carbon fuel. It costs nothing to join and they receive a 15% discount on their electric bill.

My third focus is the cannabis industry in Maine. I have no interest in the product but cannabis grow lights are energy pigs so I am encouraging marijuana growers to switch to energy savings LED grow lights and again they will receive financial benefits from the state. An interesting group of people. Some never got beyond the 6<sup>th</sup> grade and earning hundred of thousands of dollars.

Darrell and Judy Cooper

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**Jon Staley**

Chitra and I are living in Tucson with a view of the Catalina mountains behind the house. We've been chary of crowds since 2021 but we walk among the Saguaros and prickly pears most mornings and zoom to book groups and movie groups, go birding with organized tours or on our own, and occasionally hit a restaurant ( although we think we can cook as well as most of them). Visit grandchildren in Bethesda and son and daughter in law in Mountain View.

Occasional concert in San Francisco where son sings in the Symphony Chorus. Excursions to Mexico and Chaco Canyon.

Mike Doudoroff and his lady friend Elaine visited two weeks ago, attending a Tango festival in town. He is in good health and traveling a lot from Tango festival to festival. We both owe a lot to modern medicine (don't we all?)

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### **Mike Douderoff**

Tango dancing in exotic places.

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### **Malcolm Peck**

I have been engaging in several activities:

1. Preparing a meditation on compassion in today's conflicted and hate-filled world to share at reunion;
2. Researching and writing a "forensic" history of my church and its financial status vis-à-vis the national denomination, in anticipation of its sale;
3. Writing up amusing youthful escapades with my brother Donald (Coop has these and is authorized to share as he deems appropriate);
4. Learning how to do water color painting with my angel Beth. Needless to say, her first effort was a masterpiece, while mine was an excrescence;
5. Dealing with the infirmities of old age: Ten days before reunion, I will have a cataract removed and astigmatism in both eyes corrected and, ten days after, I will have surgery on my right knee to correct a right-knee replacement of five years ago now gone bad. Thus, come reunion, I will have clear vision but will nevertheless be stumbling about.

Cheers,

Malcolm

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### **Aaron Henschel**

Prior to Covid 3/20/20

I had a very enjoyable life

Arizona in part of the winter, New Jersey/ Vermont the balance of the year

Since then I spend most of my time in my CAVE IN NJ

NOT much golf / fishing or flying my favourite pastimes

Hopefully this summer it will change

More time in VT  
More fishing, golf and flying  
My family is all healthy  
My wife,two daughters and three grandchildren  
Fortunately they live in the area

Aaron

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## **Guy Barnhardt**

Hi Coop,  
Can't make it this year.  
2 blocked right carotid arteries have stopped hockey and karate, but I've become a pickle ball player and enjoying it immensely. Coupled with shooting and riding my Harley, life is good. Please give all my best.  
Guy Barnhart

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## **Jim Payne**

Jim has just authored another book regarding his kayak adventures in Holland called "In Dutch again."

The following is a review on an adventure he took this year.

3/8/22

### Who Made the Petroglyphs and Why? A Tourist Changes His Mind Jim Payne

That's why I came to Albuquerque, to see the petroglyphs, these designs hammered on basalt boulders around the Southwest by tribal peoples several thousand years ago. My aim was to examine them, to ponder what these ancient peoples were trying to tell us with these images of stick figures, handprints, circles and wavy lines.

The commentary and descriptions said they were expressing spiritual themes and deep cultural visions, that they were the work of the wisest minds and supreme authorities of these civilizations.

When I set out from Idaho, I accepted this theory. I accepted it because, among other things, making a petroglyph seemed to be such a difficult, challenging job. I assumed a person would have to hammer away for weeks and months with a stone hammer and stone chisel to make these designs. Surely, no one would go to all that trouble unless they were serious adults with a serious message to impart.

This assumption was challenged by an alarm bell of doubt on my way to New Mexico, when I stopped to visit my sister in Sacramento, California. There, on the street down from her house, I saw designs scratched with chalk. One of them was a set of concentric circles very similar in style and character to the pictures of petroglyphs I had seen. But this picture was obviously made by a child—a girl I guessed, judging from the hearts and flowers scratched alongside.

In this way, an alternative hypothesis entered my brain: the petroglyphs were made by children! Now I really had to see them to make up my mind.

Getting out to the Petroglyph National Monument on the outskirts of Albuquerque proved to be more of a challenge than I had expected. My idea had been simply to hike out there from my lodging in the Old Town section of the city. But I hadn't realized how astonishingly large and spread-out this city is, with miles and miles of farms and horse ranches mixed between the motels and supermarkets. To get anywhere you have to have a car, and I didn't have one. I took my problem to the Tourist Information Office where I met Liz, the director. She agreed that the idea of walking there was nearly impossible, especially given the challenge of somehow getting across, or under, freeways. First, she studied the local bus routes, and concluded that none of them went by the petroglyphs.

"I guess you'll have to use Uber," she said.

"But I don't have a cell phone."

I'm sure she felt this personal choice of mine was bizarre, but she was too polite to criticize.

Without hesitation she said, "Then I'll take you there."

"Well, uh. . . that would be amazing!" We arranged it for the following day. She would drop me off at 10, and come back to pick me up at 3:30.

And that's how it worked out, my transportation to the Rinconada Canyon trail, courtesy of the most incredibly helpful tourist information officer in America.

Hiking up the trail that sunny afternoon, I inspected the rocks carefully. There were said to be some 24,000 petroglyphs in this park, but I didn't see anything at first. Then I saw, or thought I saw, a wavy line on the side of one rock, and, a few hundred yards further, a circle at the edge of another boulder. But you had to look closely and carefully to notice them. A relaxed hiker wouldn't have seen anything. The casual presentation of these images seemed to be an important clue in deciding who had made them.

When adults create art, they make an effort to position it prominently. So that people will notice it. The petroglyphs I was seeing were not carefully positioned. Some were tipped at odd angles, others were half hidden by other rocks, some were facing sideways along the embankment.

That's how kids would do drawings: putting them anywhere convenient for them to reach, and not worrying about whether spectators would be impressed.

So, as I paced up the trail, the child theory was becoming more plausible. The main remaining question was, could a child do the work that making a petroglyph involved. How hard was it to hammer off the natural brown glazing of these basalt rocks to expose the light gray below? If it took weeks and weeks, then it was beyond the patience of a child.

The answer to this question was dramatically provided at the end of the trail. Here, there were a considerable number of petroglyphs, both figures and geometric tracings. Among all these designs, there were two that stood out as highest quality of all. They were larger than the others and the tracing was done more carefully than the others. As I digested what they meant for the theory of who made the petroglyphs and why, I started to laugh, harder and harder.

When I finally calmed down, another question entered my head: Why hadn't any of the web sites and official publications of the petroglyphs displayed a picture of these two petroglyphs? They were the 'best' of them all, and more dramatically positioned, so that no person who came to that bank of basalt rocks would miss seeing them.

Gradually, the mystery of the 'suppression' of these two petroglyphs became clear to me.

They were not designs or shapes. They were writing, using English capital letters and numbers, five inches high. One said:

V. BUDAY  
FEB. 22. 1919  
The other said:  
M.L. THORPE  
FEB. 22 1919

They obviously were not, as the Park Service plaque said about the other petroglyphs, “a valuable record of cultural expression,” or designs of “deep spiritual significance.” They were modern graffiti, produced, one guesses, by two teenage boys who rode up there that Saturday afternoon in 1919.

It was hard to escape the conclusion that these one-hundred-year-old petroglyphs are never mentioned by the authorities because they rather clearly demonstrate that children could make petroglyphs, and strongly suggest that the designs nearby, made a thousand years ago, were also mostly, if not entirely, the work of children.



Jim Payne



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### **Aldie Howard**

1978 El Camino that I rebuilt and drive daily. 1970 Chevy Nova restored with help. Aldie Rog and Peter all attended Mount Hermon. I am retired but may run for City Council in November. Hope you are well and happy. Hugs ... Aldie

Aldie scored first in the dementia test – he was the only one that entered!!





Aldie splitting wood with a little help. How many of us are still splitting wood?!!



Aldie Howard

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### Art Moss

Aloha,

Wish I could sound as positive as others do, but it's hard since our country is imploding, plus the rest of the world isn't doing so well either. The good: Zoom sessions including our great granddaughter (2), our son coming to visit in a few days, our granddaughter's June wedding, our ability to have helped our three grandkids buy houses, living in an excellent CCRC, real (not fake) N95s, adequate personal health, our cats. Have a nice gathering.

Aloha,

Art

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**Bruce Nystrom**

I'm battling some feisty beavers. I'm trying to keep the water at a reasonable level for fishing and swimming in my back pond. I'm losing.

Bruce

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**Gordie Valentine**

Just celebrated twenty-five years retirement in Lexington, VA; where it's a local call to heaven. Content enjoying great health, a real blessing, with my wife, Lois, and beagle dog Dolly. Also blessed with seven grandkids and three great-grand kids.

Gordie

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**Ray Paris**

Alberta and I moved to Brandermill Woods CCRC in Midlothian, VA 18 months ago to be closer to both of our kids. Both of us still in good health so in April went on a week cruise on the Miss River. Great trip but when we got home both tested positive for Covid. Such is life!

Ray

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**Brad Cook**

I am still engaged in estate planning. I am presently organizing 400 estate files from a recently retired partner. Sorry I can't make the reunion. Enjoy guys!

Brad

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**David Hamilton**

. Last summer my daughter, her husband and two young sons left the Seattle area, where we had lived in retirement for 21 years and moved to St. Augustine FL. Even though we had another daughter and grandchildren in Seattle, we decided to follow the sun to the northeast part of Florida. We gave up a lakefront setting for a swimming pool, but are enjoying exploring a new environment. I'm still playing tennis two or three times a week, but not as well on outdoor clay as indoors. Haven't been travelling for a couple years, but glad we got to see over seventy countries while we could. We were planning to drive up to the reunion, but Covid issues refrained us. I hope to catch the upcoming Zoom meeting.

Cheers,  
Dave