

Member is 105 Years Young

Michael Harrison, a member of the Grand Canyon Historical Society, started working as a park ranger at Grand Canyon in 1922. He celebrated his 105th Birthday this past December 13 -- he is the oldest living former Grand Canyon park ranger in the country, if not the oldest living ex-park ranger. We send our best wishes to Mr. Harrison.

To introduce this fine gentleman to our newer members, we are reprinting one of his articles [this one first appeared in *The Ol' Pioneer* in February 1996]:

"Package of Coffee" How He Got His Name by Michael Harrison

Just yesterday, I received from my old friend Harry C. James, a copy of his new book for children titled *Ovada: An Indian Boy of Grand Canyon*, illustrated in his usual beautiful style by another friend of many years, Don Perceval. In his letter sending the book to me, Harry mentioned the name Package of Coffee which served to bring back to mind, the Havasupai Indians I knew 50 years ago, for Package of Coffee is the name of an Indian I knew back in those days.

I guess the population of this tribe has remained fairly constant over the years...about 200, living in a most beautiful arm of the Grand Canyon itself, and until comparatively recent years known only to those hardy souls who made the trip down from Hilltop in the Great Thumb Country. In any event, some of the names borne by the Havasupai...or Supais as they were called locally... were Checkapanyega, Spoonhead, Buro, Paya, Crook, Sinvella, Watahomogie, Manakaja, Big Jim, Crook Jim, and there was even a Mark Hanna. However, there was one Supai who received his Sears Roebuck and "Monkey" Ward catalogues in the name of Package of Coffee. Here is the story as it was told to me.

Many years ago, a surveying crew was doing a job of work either on the South Rim of the Grand Canyon or down at Havasupai...I have forgotten which...and a crew had been hired to brush out ahead of the transit. One of the crew bore the name Pah-ka-chah-kah-ba. When it came that time of the month when the timekeeper on the job had to send the proper time slips so the crew could be paid, he just couldn't cope with Pah-ka-cha-kah-ba, so he put down Package of Coffee and from that day to the day he died, he was known...to the whites at least...by that name.

2003 Programs/Outings

February 15: The Arizona Historical Society Museum. The AHS was founded in 1884 in Tucson. Originally called the *Society of Arizona Pioneers*, it is the oldest cultural organization of its kind in Arizona. The AHS is a non-profit state agency whose mission is to collect, preserve, interpret, and disseminate the history of Arizona, the Southwest, and northern Mexico as it pertains to Arizona. AHS/Southern Arizona Division is an affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution.

Place: 949 E. Second Street, Tucson
(520) 628-5774
Time: 11:00 AM

There is no admission fee, only a requested donation. Museum hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. (Monday through Saturday). Free parking for museum patrons is located at the corner of Euclid and 2nd Street, one block west of the museum.

March: Lees Ferry (history of Lees Ferry, honeymoon trail).

April 19: Prescott (Sharlot Hall Museum).

May 17: Flagstaff (Museum of Northern Arizona).

June: Annual Picnic at Shoshone Point.

July: Fourth of July at Jacob Lake (history of Arizona Strip).

...more outings info coming in future issues

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New Members

Pat Marlow – Ogden UT
Peggy Shay – Seal Beach CA
Glenn Clark – Flagstaff AZ
Charles & Sally Wahler – Grand Canyon AZ

Pioneer Award

Nominations are now being accepted for the 2003 Grand Canyon Historical Society **Pioneer Award**.

The Society wants to honor an individual who has made a significant contribution to the understanding of and knowledge about the Grand Canyon of the Colorado River in such areas as geology, creation, river running, backcountry hiking, photography, history, administration, etc., that is, any area that advances knowledge of the Grand Canyon.

Previous recipients of the Pioneer Award:

2002 - William "Bill" Suran

1999 - George Steck

1998 - Gale Burak

1997 - Harvey Butchart

To make a nomination, simply submit the individual's name and their accomplishments and/or contributions that have advanced our knowledge of the Grand Canyon to:

Tom Carmony

206 W. Caroline Lane

Tempe, AZ 85284

or email to: ThomasCarmony@aol.com.

Nominations must be received before April 1, 2003.

GCHS Scholarship

The Grand Canyon Historical Society's scholarship supports research involving history, historic or environmental preservation in the Grand Canyon region.

Any NAU graduate student doing work in the above fields of research is eligible. Eligible projects include: Any work that results in original research concerning historical individuals, events, sites, organizations, businesses or environmental issues in the Grand Canyon region; or any work that results in original research that supports or leads to historical preservation of any historical site, photographs, documents, or diaries with origins in the Grand Canyon region.

To have the project considered complete, one or more of the following end products must be included: (1) Submission of a paper suitable for publication to GCHS by December 1. (2) Presentation of a paper at a legitimate conference with a copy of the paper to GCHS. The copy must be presented to GCHS by December 1 with presentation scheduled at the earliest possible meeting of the conference. (3) A thesis or dissertation of which component parts resulted from the research with a copy of the included work presented to GCHS by December 1. (4) Historical preservation of photographs, documents or diaries requires at least delivery of a photocopy of the items in question to GCHS by December 1. Preservation of actual items is preferred. (5) Site research requires a completed nomination or submission of material to GCHS by December 1 for inclusion in a nomination of the site to the National Register of Historic Places.

Papers and/or items submitted as a result of research will become a part of the GCHS Collection in the Special Collections and Archives at NAU's Cline Library for use by anyone doing research in those subjects involving the Grand Canyon region.

Applications for the GCHS Scholarship are available through Northern Arizona University this month, and the \$1,000 scholarship will be awarded in April.

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Membership Dues

The \$20 Annual Dues (outside U.S.A. is \$25) for membership in the Grand Canyon Historical Society are due in January each year. Please send your renewal to:

Grand Canyon Historical Society

P.O. Box 10067

Prescott, AZ 86304-0067

Contributions to the Scholarship Fund may be made along with the remittance of your dues.

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Thanks to our Members

Along with the renewal of membership, several members have contributed additional dollars as gifts or as contributions to the scholarship fund:

Mike & Kay Ford

Ethel & Richard Cole

James Krider

We appreciate your generosity. Thank you.

First Depiction of Grand Canyon

by Earle Spamer

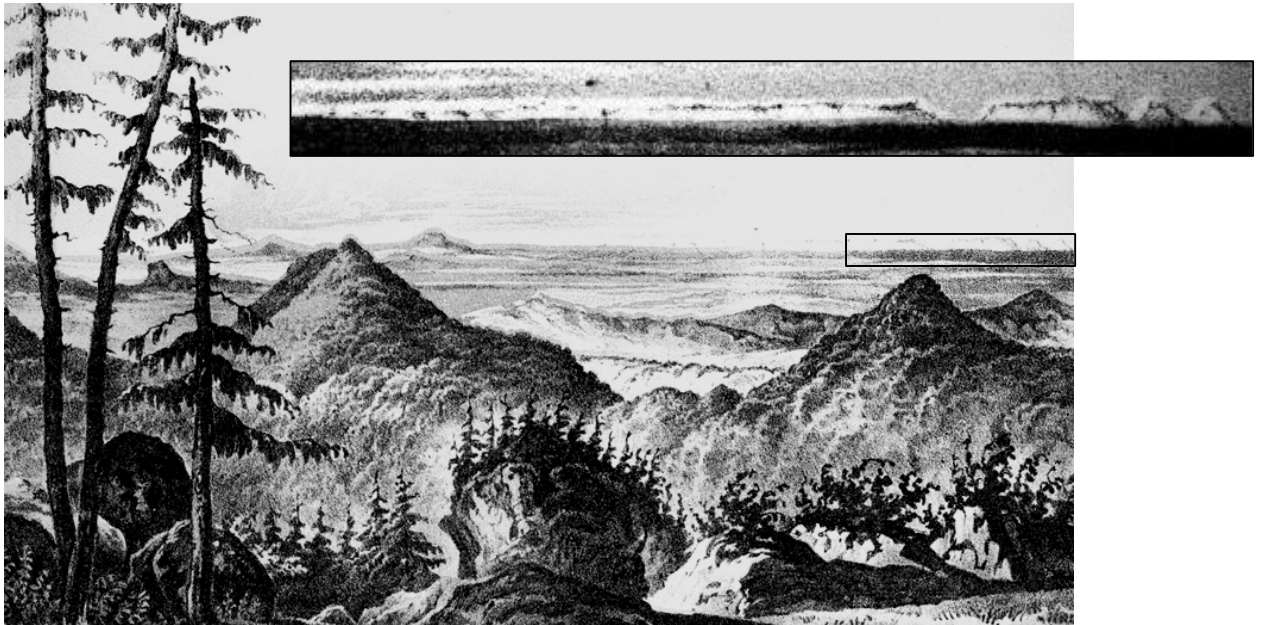
Here is a nice little discovery, apparently the first documentation of sighting the Canyon and illustrating it. The documentation is from the journals of Samuel Washington Woodhouse, who was on the Sitgreaves Expedition across northern AZ in 1851; he was the naturalist/physician. We have his diaries from that expedition here (at the Academy of Natural Sciences in Philadelphia).

I was checking a typescript that was done for a researcher some 20 years ago, against the original, and discover that for the day in question the researcher (Andrew Wallace, 1984) quoted from another expedition member's journal; for this day overlooking Woodhouse's journal. Wallace does correctly mention that Sitgreaves' report (1853) illustrates a view from Camp 16 (in the Peaks), which dimly in the background shows the North Rim of Grand Canyon. On close examination, I agree. The cited journal makes mention that they could see the great canyon of the Colorado from there. However, Woodhouse's journal is better yet. Here is Woodhouse's pertinent passage (abbreviations and punctuation thus):

"...from the top of the mountain which is about 250 to 300 ft above us Leroux Lt P, Mr K and I ascended and had a fine view of the surrounding country from here was to be seen the course of the great Colorado and the tops of this mountain and rocky bluffs which form the great canon this must really be an awful yet grand spectacle I should suppose that the nearest point was about 70 miles nothing like water was to be seen". This was October 11, 1851.

I don't think this Woodhouse passage has been quoted anywhere. Wallace identifies the place as the southern summit of the topographic point marked "Chop" on the White Horse Hills 7.5' USGS quadrangle.

Well, there you have it. Even before Ives, and 18 years before Powell, THE canyon is a "grand" one -- although Woodhouse didn't use precisely the appellation "Grand Canyon" darn it. At any rate, this is the first confirmed sighting of the Canyon since 1540/1776; the earliest definite "modern" record, Pattie notwithstanding. And it's the first illustration (such as it is) of the Canyon.



[Original illustration by artist Richard Kern, who accompanied the expedition.]

The plate is from Sitgreaves' (1853) report; the view is from Camp 16, ostensibly from one of the lesser hills in the Peaks. (It's been identified as on the White Horse Hills 7.5 quad, the southern of two unnamed hills with the triangulation station labeled "Chop".)

On the horizon line, at right, are some ghostly sketchings that show the North Rim. A super-enhanced blow-up of just that part of the horizon line reveals some ghostly sketches which should be distinctive enough to identify some features; they do seem to be pretty faithful. It may show Shiva Temple and some generalized or real butte-like features. The caption in original plate says view to the west, but may be more northwesterly.

Letters to the Editor

1/7/03

Dear Editor:

I approve of the name change as it reflects what the organization is as well as what it isn't. Enclosed you will find my check for my 2003 dues. Jim Knipmeyer and I were talking this morning [and Kay and I have talked about this also] how we wished we were close enough to attend many of the meetings. The whole list for 2003 looks good.

Sincerely,
Mike Ford – Lee's Summit, MO

1/12/03

Dear Editor:

I deduce from The Bulletin that there is no mailed invoice for dues, so here it is. I would like to suggest raising the dues or creating another tier of contributions. I'm quite enthused about the Society and its activities, such as the History Symposium, but don't have much free time to attend events. Thanks.

Steve Owen – Chandler, AZ

1/13/03

Dear Editor:

I enjoy all the publications very much. Each year there is an improvement. Hope the new society lives on and on.

Dorothy Sloan – Rockaway Park, NY

1/20/03

Dear Editor:

Here are my annual dues and a little extra to do with whatever you please. Keep up the good work. I spent 23 years at the Canyon and will always look forward to receiving the Ol'Pioneer.

Jim Krider – Prescott, AZ

1/23/03

Dear Membership Executive:

I have attended one of your meetings in Flagstaff in November and want to become a member. I have an advanced degree in History of the American West and am a retired employee of the National Park Service. My basic training as a ranger was at the Albright Center at the Grand Canyon. Thank you.

Glenn Clark – Flagstaff, AZ

Outings/Programs: If you have a suggestion for a future outing/program or a question about an upcoming event, contact the **2003 Outings Coordinator:** John Azar, PO Box 1121, Fredonia AZ 86022; phone 928-643-6423; email: TontoWalk@aol.com.

The Bulletin welcomes comments, stories, or reflections and remembrances. Please send them to Diane Cassidy at 2112 Demerse Avenue, Prescott, AZ 86301; email: Pioneers@GrandCanyonHistory.org.

Grand Canyon Historical Society
P.O. Box 10067
Prescott, Arizona 86304-0067

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