



George Billingsley proudly announced the 2006 recipient of the GRAND CANYON HISTORICAL SOCIETY PIONEER AWARD...to Al Richmond for:

- his achievements as one of the founders of the Grand Canyon Pioneers Society (now called the Grand Canyon Historical Society) and his ongoing work to solicit and select a recipient for the Society's annual Scholarship Award, and his participation in the selection and presentation of the annual Grand Canyon Hall of Fame Award for Community Service;
- serving the public as an Arizona liaison for the National Parks and Monuments of northern Arizona;
- his assistance with the Arizona Culturekeepers, a statewide historical program recognizing those dedicated to preserving the State of Arizona;
- facilitating the construction of the Arizona State Railroad Museum in Williams, Arizona;
- his achievements as the founder of the Grand Canyon Railway Museum in Williams, Arizona; and for his work as the historian and museum curator for the Grand Canyon Railway Museum; and
- his revolutionary research of the development, building and historical accounts of the

Grand Canyon Railway from Williams to Grand Canyon Village, Arizona, and the resulting publication of that research into the popular books Cowboys, Miners, Presidents and Kings: The Story of the Grand Canyon Railway, plus Rails to the Rim: Milepost Guide to the Grand Canyon Railway and more recently The Grand Canyon Railway: Sixty Years in Color. Al graciously accepted and said:

*My thanks to all of you for the honor of the Pioneer Award bestowed upon me. Although I feel more comfortable in the place of presenting awards than receiving them, this honor is one I cherish. In the past 20 years, we have come a long way and accomplished many good things together and I certainly appreciate the camaraderie and all that I have learned from you. Your friendship and good will are important to me as is the future of the Society. I could not have asked for a better day...surrounded by friends and the beauty of the Canyon at Shoshone Point. Cheers!*