

Grand Canyon Historical Society, Inc.

To develop and promote appreciation, understanding and education of the earlier history of the inhabitants and important events of the Grand Canyon and surrounding area.



The Bulletin

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May 2012

2012 Outings

Saturday, July 21st 11am to 4pm Annual Picnic at Shoshone Point, South Rim

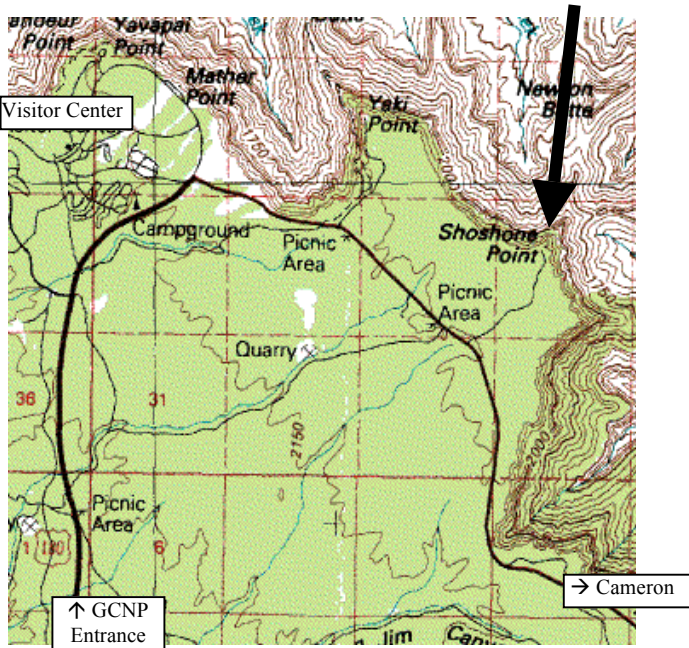
We'll eat around noon then have a short speech about what's up with the Society by our President, Erik Berg, and then presentation of the Pioneer Award and the Hall of Fame Awards.

Everyone should bring: a dish to share (casserole, dessert, etc), drinks, dishes/utensils, and something to barbecue.

Parking at the point will be limited; please carpool or plan to walk from the parking lot. There will be volunteer vehicles to help ferry supplies and people as needed.

To get to Shoshone Point from the main entrance:

- Take the East Rim Drive.
- About 1.5 miles beyond the road to Yaki Point, turn left into a dirt parking area and look for the yellow gate.



graders sitting on the porch of the El Tovar, gazing out over the canyon, while the audience, approximately 400 people this year, sat on the lawn facing the historic hotel. Mounted National Park Service rangers also attended the ceremony, with curious tourists stopping to see what was going on.



Keith Green Addresses Graduating Seniors on El Tovar Porch

As a thank you, Xanterra graciously offered Keith the Presidential Suite at the El Tovar. Keith noted that back in the early 1970's when he worked for the Fred Harvey Company on the South Rim, he cleaned the rooms at the El Tovar. Now he was staying in the nicest one as an honored guest. The windy, cold afternoon did nothing to stop the enthusiasm of the graduating seniors and their friends and family. Congratulations to Keith and the Class of 2012!

Submitted by Nancy Green

Bicycle Rentals

Bright Angel Bicycles L.L.C. has been renting bicycles on the South Rim for some time now. The National Park Service recently awarded them a ten-year contract to rent bicycles and operate a "Grab and Go" cafe near the South Rim Visitor Center. The new bicycle service has begun and the café will open sometime in mid-June. The service will also include guided bicycle tours during every season except winter.



New Bike Rental and Grab & Go Cafe Building

The idea with "Grab and Go" food is to provide a quick

Updates: <http://www.grandcanyonhistory.org/>

Keith Green Guest Commencement Speaker At Grand Canyon High School

On Friday, May 25, 2012, a different kind of canyon history occurred. Keith Green was the distinguished guest speaker for the Grand Canyon High School commencement ceremony. Keith and his wife Nancy lived in Grand Canyon National Park for over 30 years, and retired to Parks, Arizona in 2009. Keith, in spite of being blind since the age of 10, had a very successful career as a park ranger. He hiked in and out of the Grand Canyon numerous times. Thus, he was an excellent choice to motivate young people just launching into their adult lives. The ceremony is the most unique in the world, with the graduating seniors and eighth

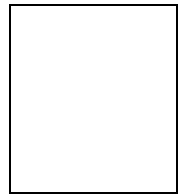
Grand Canyon Historical Society

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sandwich for those in a hurry to get on a bicycle or hike either along the rim, or in the canyon. Patios for fitting customers to bicycles or providing food are on either end of the new 1,200 sq. ft. facility. This facility fulfills another part of the 1995 General Management Plan.

Submitted by Keith Green

New Book About Moulty Fumer and the First Grand Canyon Dory

GCHS member Tom Martin has a new book: ***Big Water, Little Boats: Moulty Fulmer and the First Grand Canyon Dory on the Last of the Wild Colorado River.***

There was a time when river runners built their own boats and rowed the Colorado River through Grand Canyon on free-flowing water; no permit problems, no high-tech gear and not much in the way of backup. What they did have were cameras, lots of film, cans of food, lifejackets, and journals to keep their notes in. Tom chatted with a number of the guys and gals still standing, then scoured libraries, attics and garages to find the stories and pictures the others have left behind. He built a replica of Grand Canyon's first dory, a fully decked McKenzie River dory, from photographs, notes, and the original wreck still housed in the Grand Canyon National Park Special Collections. The replica has made it through the Canyon four times since, even with Tom's poor driving.

In this book Tom tells the story of Moulty Fulmer, Brick Mortenson, Pat Reilly, Dock Marston, and their friends, on river trips on the highest water ever run in Grand Canyon. *Big Water, Little Boats* includes many stories of other trips during the same time period, the 1940s through the 1960s, including the development of recreational river running and boat design on the Colorado.

In a nutshell, Moulty Fulmer was bitten by the river running bug during a San Juan River trip in 1942. After a chance meeting with a McKenzie River dory builder, Fulmer constructed his first dory and rowed the San Juan in 1947. Traveling through Grand Canyon in 1948 on a Norm Nevills expedition, Fulmer met Colorado River historian, Otis "Dock" Marston, and they went on to run rivers together and correspond for the next thirty years.

Fulmer built his second dory, the Gem, specifically for big water. Joining forces with Pat Reilly in 1954, they ran the Grand Canyon five times in home-built boats. Their adventures included rowing the wild Colorado River in 1957 on 126,000 cubic feet per second, one of the highest flows in the last century. Using historic photos, river logs, letters and interviews, author Tom Martin recounts the voyages of a number of unsung river runners during the transformation from Grand Canyon expeditionary river running into today's whitewater recreation. *Big Water, Little Boats* also chronicles the start of the Park's river running permit system in 1955, the construction of Glen Canyon Dam, and the explosion of river running that occurred after the completion of the dam in 1963. For ordering information, see your local bookstore or www.bigwaterlittleboats.com

Submitted by Tom Martin

Submit Your Stories for OI' Pioneer

The *OI' Pioneer* is the Society's magazine featuring stories, photos, and letters of historical relevance to the Grand Canyon. Submit your stories, photos, etc to the editor, Mary Williams at:

Mary Williams

4880 Weatherford Rd

Flagstaff, AZ 86001

Phone: 928-779-3377

mary@marywilliamsdesign.com

Outings/Programs: If you have a suggestion for a future outing/program or a question about an upcoming event, contact the **Outings Coordinator** at **TontoWalk@gmail.com**.

The Bulletin welcomes comments, stories, or reflections and remembrances.
Please send them to: kgreig@yahoo.com