

## Gaylord Staveley Receives Pioneer Award

### GRAND CANYON HISTORICAL SOCIETY PIONEER AWARD

Presented with appreciation to

**GAYLORD STAVELEY**

for:

- Sixty-five years of dedication to safe and environmentally conscious river running in the Southwest and particularly the Grand Canyon.
- Following in the wake of Norman Nevills with his first trip out of Mexican Hat, Utah in 1956 which led to a career running commercially guided trips in wooden Cataract Boats down the San Juan, Glen Canyon and Grand Canyon under the banner of Mexican Hat Expeditions.
- Organizing and leading in 1969 a forty-two day centennial retracing of Major John Wesley Powell's 1869 exploratory expedition down the Green and Colorado rivers. His first book, *Broken Waters Sing*, chronicles that event.
- Establishing Canyoneers in 1970; This successful river concessionaire, now using inflatable craft, continues to operate out of Flagstaff, Arizona continues to honor Norman Nevills and Gaylord's history and legacy...and, it is still in the family.
- Being environmentally aware: Gaylord pioneered the carrying of each trip's human waste out of the Canyon. This procedure is now mandatory for all river trips through the Grand Canyon.
- Founding and operating Grand Canyon Trail Guides: This 17-year Park concession provided guided hikes and hiker services for individuals, groups and school children from an equipment rental shop in the park's South Rim village.
- Organizing an Over the Rim For Trash event: Members of the Arizona Mountaineering Club lowered themselves over the south rim to retrieve items blown or thrown there. The event received a 1988 Take Pride in Arizona Award, and a National Take Pride in America Award presented to Gaylord on the White House lawn by President Reagan.
- Chronicling the history of Colorado River running: His 2015 book, *The Rapids and the Roar* is the history of Colorado River running from 1826 to 1972. And, as a result of his environmental and political activism, his third book in 2016 *Taking Big Red*, covered the administrative, political and environmental turmoil that characterized the 1970s and 1980s.

Granted this 15th day of July, 2023 Shoshone Point, Grand Canyon National Park  
GRAND CANYON HISTORICAL SOCIETY



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**Hall of Fame Award  
Matthew A. Yost and Jeanne E. Yost**

The twenty-fifth annual Grand Canyon Hall of Fame Awards are sponsored by the Grand Canyon Historical Society and the National Park Service and were presented at the GCHS Annual Picnic at Shoshone Point on July 15, 2023. Recipients' names are engraved on the permanent plaque housed in the Shrine of the Ages.

These awards are usually made each year to recognize service to the Grand Canyon community. The recipients were recommended for their community service by previous recipients of the award and by current residents. We rely on their recommendations, as they know better than anyone who has been involved in community service at the Grand Canyon.

Text as it appears on the permanent plaque in the Shrine of the Ages:

***“GRAND CANYON HALL OF FAME FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE***

*Recognition is hereby given by the Grand Canyon Historical Society and the National Park Service for those organizations and individuals who have selflessly contributed to the betterment of the Grand Canyon community over years past.”*

The twenty-fifth awards name two who have given exemplary service to the Grand Canyon Community. The recipients have made personal contributions of money, time, support, and/or work over a period of many years.

**This year's awardees are:  
Matthew A. Yost and Jeanne E. Yost**

Short bios follow:

**Matthew A. Yost** has served the Grand Canyon Schools in a remarkable 27-year career spanning positions from Food Service Director, Business Manager, Principal, on up to Superintendent. Beyond his duties as Superintendent, Matt also serves with board membership for the improvement of statewide rural school food service with ASPIN/Mohave Cooperative. He currently serves on the Vocational Education Joint Technical Education District and Grand Canyon Unified School District Administrative Team. He has also served on the Grand Canyon National Park Recreation Center Board for over 10 years. During his tenure at the Grand Canyon School, Matt has supported a wide variety of school sports as Middle School Boys and Girls Basketball Coach, Middle School Girls Volleyball Coach, Flag Football Coach and as the Middle School Athletic Director. For High School sports, Matt has served as Volleyball Coach, Baseball and Softball Volunteer, Booster Club member and Summer Little League Baseball Volunteer Coach. On the fun side, he has chaperoned multiple Senior Trips and dances for the Middle and High School students. Outside of the school activity, Matt has made time for the Catholic Church Leadership Team and has served as a Child Abuse Prevention Trainer. And, in his spare time, he is a Volunteer for the annual Turkey Meal Give-Away and has volunteered for the Kaibab Learning Center. Matt's dedication to the school children and community has earned our appreciation, gratitude and recognition.

**Jeanne E. Yost** began her teaching career at Grand Canyon School in 2000. During these 23 years as an Arizona Certified Educator, she has taught children from the community in grades 1, 3, 4 and 5 and currently serves as the Professional Learning Community leader for grades 3-5 at Grand Canyon School. Her strengths in Early Childhood Education and Structured English Immersion and as an Odyssey of the Mind Coach have directly contributed to the positive development of the community's children over the years. In addition to teaching, Jeanne has also been the Director and Curriculum Coordinator for the Kaibab Learning Center and Founder of the Grand Canyon Friday Program. Cognizant of parents' role in education, Jeanne founded the Grand Canyon Parent Network and serves as coordinator for the Recreation Center Parent Meet-Up and Treasurer for the Parent Teacher Association. She has also served as the President of the Grand Canyon Education Association, helping to make teacher salaries competitive in the state and retain teacher talent at Grand Canyon School. Outside of teaching, she is a Founding Member/Volunteer for the Canyon Closet and Volunteer for the Grand Canyon Food Pantry. Jeanne's service also extends to the Catholic, Baptist and Community churches as Women's Bible Study and Small Group Leader, Sunday School Teacher, and Protect Child Abuse Prevention Trainer. Other interests include Women's Leadership Book Club, Garden Club Sponsor, Playgroup Organizer/Host, and Volunteer/Host for the Grand Canyon Music Festival. Somehow, in between all this activity, Jeanne is a Contracted Facilitator/Instructional Designer for the Albright Training Center and Founder of her own business, Edge Effect LLC for Education, Management and Leadership Consulting. She and Matt are the proud parents of three children whom they have had the joy of raising in Grand Canyon

Village. It is now our turn to thank and recognize Jeanne's dedication and service to the school children and community.

*-- Al Richmond*

