

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

Volume 10 Number 4

www.GrandCanyonHistory.org

April 2006

The Spirit of the Canyon

by Todd R. Berger

"I believe that all who travel through the Grand Canyon come out somehow different," veteran river guide, author, and photographer Charly Heavenrich told over 30 Society members and guests at the society's monthly meeting at Cline Library in Flagstaff on March 25.

A self-described *recovering MBA*, Heavenrich knows of what he speaks. Serving as a gopher on his first Grand Canyon river trip in 1978, he immediately recognized the power of the canyon to rejuvenate his own life.

"The deeper I got into the canyon, the deeper the canyon got into me," he said. And on each of the 76 river trips--thus far--that Heavenrich has guided for Canyon Explorations, he has seen the transformative nature of a Colorado River trip work its magic on his passengers.

"The canyon is a very embracing place," he said. "You start to differentiate between what is 'normal' and what is 'natural.'"

Heavenrich, who has a natural gift for motivational speaking but, perhaps more importantly, for listening intently, seeks to guide people to reach beyond their self-imposed boundaries. "I try to provide support, not advice," he told the *Denver Post*. "I don't want to tell people what to do with their life, but I can help them look at their own personal experience and see things in a new light. In the canyon, people...tap into deep reservoirs of courage and ability they often don't know they have, and realize they can do things they never imagined. It becomes an anchoring point for their whole life."

During his talk at Cline Library, he described working with a passenger on a "hikers' special" river trip who was afraid of heights. One of the hikes involved passing through a narrow section of trail with a steep drop off to one side, and the person stopped in their tracks as they approached. Heavenrich suggested she think of her feet as "massaging the Earth" rather than walking on it, and the woman was able to complete the hike. As he describes it, if people can move their center of motivation from their heads to their bodies, they can accomplish almost anything.

Heavenrich played his new DVD, *Spirit of the Canyon*, a collection of nearly 200 images accompanied by "world music" played on such instruments as Native American flute, flamenco guitar, didgeridoo, soprano saxophone, and French horn. The beautiful images and inspiring music had the effect of connecting people to the canyon's natural rhythms while sitting in a library in Flagstaff—a remarkable feat.

Of such transformations, Heavenrich says simply, "How canyon."



2006 Outings

April 8 – Grand Canyon Hikers Symposium. See complete article on page 2.

April 22 – A 1914 Journey Across the Kaibab by Frederick H. Swanson. In the summer of 1914, George C. Fraser, an amateur geologist from New Jersey, traveled by horseback along the length of the North Rim from Cape Royal to the Powell Plateau, crossing to the South Rim via the Bass Trail. Accompanied by his son and the guide Dave Rust, Fraser kept a detailed and often amusing journal of his travels, recently published by the University of Arizona Press as *Journeys in the Canyon Lands of Utah and Arizona, 1914-1916*.

Fred Swanson, a Salt Lake City author and editor, will present Fraser's observations of the Grand Canyon experience in the days before automobile tourism. He will also show photographs of the Plateau Province taken by Fraser and other travelers of the period.

Time: 1:00 PM

Place: Flagstaff City Library Community Room
300 W Aspen

Early arrivers wanting to meet for lunch prior to this event can meet at Las Mananitas at 11:30 AM on the southwest corner of Beaver and Birch.

May 20 – TWA/United Tragedy, 50 Years Ago by Dan Driskill. On June 30, 1956, two airliners collided over and crashed into the Grand Canyon, killing 128 persons in what was then the world's worst commercial aviation disaster. This crash led to the FAA and the modern air traffic control system. Driskill will discuss this tragic mid-air collision, as well as post-crash recovery, investigation and clean-up efforts (which continue to this day) of the airplanes.

Driskill is a writer, attorney and former ambulance service owner who currently works as a flight paramedic in northern Arizona. He is currently writing a non-fiction book on this topic. If you have any personal information on this subject, please be sure to attend or write Dan Driskill at 11 West Oak Avenue, Flagstaff AZ 86001, or email him at medic_dan_2000@msn.com.

This event will be held at the Community Building at the South Rim beginning at 2:00 pm. After the presentation we will visit the United Airlines Victims Gravesite Memorial at the Grand Canyon Cemetery.

June 24 – Annual Picnic at Shoshone Point. Members from across the country converge at the Canyon's edge for a potluck of good food, friendly faces and lively conversation.

..continued on page 2

July 15 – Annual Jacob Lake Campout. Spend a day (and a night) in the North Kaibab Forest at the historic Jacob Lake Ranger Station with fellow Canyon adventurers.

August 19 – Community Service Project.

September 15-16-17 – Havasupai History. The GCHS will hike to Havasupai and learn the history of the People of the Blue Green Water.

To do this, we need an exact number of persons who plan to camp. There is a \$30 entry fee per person, and \$12 per night per person for the campsite. For an extra cost, arrangements also may be made to use the horse duffel service or reserve a hotel room. There is also the option of taking a helicopter for a day trip. Please notify Keith and Nancy Green by May 31, 2006, if you plan to attend this unique GCHS outing. Please state if you are planning to camp. Email: KNGreen4@msn.com or call: 928-638-0666 or Write: PO Box 1986, Grand Canyon AZ 86023

October 21 – Annual Board Meeting held at Flagstaff City Library Community Room, 300 W Aspen from 10:00 AM until 12:30 PM.

November 18 – Seeking Summits Below the Rim: The Stories and History of Climbing in Grand Canyon, by Mathieu Brown (2005 GCHS Scholarship recipient). *Seeking Summits* is a project to document the stories of early climbing in Grand Canyon. Despite the prolific activity of a handful of climbers little has been publicly written and documented on their pursuits. Like any time period in Grand Canyon history, that of the early summiteers carries its own perspectives and adds value and depth to our collective understanding of the Grand Canyon and its influence on the human individual and regional meaning. Although not publicly documented, the knowledge of early Grand Canyon climbing remains rich. It is held in the journals, letters, photographs, and memories of the individuals active in the pursuit. Luckily, many of these stories have yet to vanish and sit waiting to be uncovered and rediscovered from the climbers themselves on a local and regional scale.

December – No meeting.

* * * *

March Outing Attendance

The room was nearly full for Charly Heavenrich's presentation, including:

Sarah, Janece, & Jim Ohlman from Kayenta; Lee Albertson from Tempe; Carolyn Castleman from Peoria; Todd Berger from Grand Canyon; Brian & Barbara Kuckuek and Mabel Hefer from Williams; Anne Webber from Parks; and from Flagstaff: Andy Fraser, Dorothy Lamm, Tom Myers, Ray Lynch, Margaret Van Cleve, Jim McCarthy, Robin & Sherry Markel, Jean & Ralph Gaierleim, Greg Reiff, Susan Bassett, Melvin & Cheryl Hill, Winnie Taney, Peggy Taylor, Bev Loomis, Glenn Clark, Lyn Reno, Susan Blanchard, Stu Hadden, and Jeff & Laurie Hawkins.

April 8 Hikers Symposium

GCHS members are invited to attend the first Grand Canyon Hikers Symposium, conducted by the Grand Canyon Hikers and Backpackers Association, in conjunction with the Grand Canyon Field Institute. Set to be held at the Shrine of the Ages on the South Rim, the event is free and open to the public and begins at 9:00 AM and ends at 5:00 PM.

The purpose of this symposium is to share hiking and backpacking exploits and explorations in the Grand Canyon, as defined by the geographical region from Lee's Ferry to the Grand Wash Cliffs, rim to rim. Each of the 15-minute presentations may include a hike or overnight backpack on the corridor trails and surrounding area, historical trails such as the North and South Bass, Tanner, Grand View, and any number of canyon routes. The presentations are

- 9:00 AM Introduction, ground-rules, any schedule changes, other, introduce first speaker
- 9:15 AM Dave Mortenson, *First Known Ascent of the Cranberry Canyon Route*, multi-night backpack
- 9:40 AM Tyler Williams, 2001, *Upper Shinumo Creek Slot Canyon*, multi-night backpack with technical climbing
- 10:05 AM Glen Rink, 1996, *A second ascent of Grapevine Buttress, a Grade V accessible from the river*
- 10:30 AM Gene Fowler, 2005, *Rim-to-Rim-to-Rim in the Summertime, with emphasis on the nutritional and physiological aspects of hot weather desert hiking*, day and overnight hikes
- 10:55 AM Mike Mahanay, 2004, *Solo from Parashant to the Grand Wash Cliffs*, multi-night backpack
- 11:20 AM Alan Doty, 1989, *Buddha Temple from Widforss Point*, multi-night backpack with technical climbing
- 1:15 PM Scott Baxter, 1975, *First Ascent of the Marble Tower*, day hike with technical climbing
- 1:40 PM Dana Kaleta and Judy Krause, 2005, *A 30 Night Grand Canyon Trek*, multi-night backpack
- 2:05 PM Bob Packard, 1981, *When Things Go Wrong, Kwagunt to Lava Canyon*, multi-night backpack
- 2:30 PM Tom Myers and Elias Butler, 2004, *Following Harvey to Woton's Throne*, multi-night backpack
- 2:55 PM David Ganci, 1958, *First Ascent of Zoroaster Temple*
- 3:20 PM Doug Nering, 2005, *Exploring the North Bass to Hakatai Trail*, multi-night backpack
- 3:45 PM Laurent "Maverick" Gaudreau, 2005, *Rim to Rim in 10 Hours, 40 Minutes, at 79 Years Young*, day hike
- 4:10 PM Mike Anderson, 2005, *Archeological Discoveries on the North Bass Trail*, multi-night backpack
- 4:35 PM Tom Martin, 2002, *First Known Ascent of Clay Tanks Castle*, day hike with technical climbing and overnight with river support.