

# 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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www.GrandCanyonHistory.org

May 2009

### 2009 Outings/Projects

**June 21, 11:00AM - Annual Picnic at Shoshone Point.**  
Please come to our annual potluck picnic at Shoshone Point on Sunday, June 21. June weddings seem to make getting Saturdays in June next to impossible.

**Where:** Shoshone Point, South Rim, Grand Canyon  
**When:** 10:00AM gate open, 11:00AM official start  
12:00 Noon - Picnic

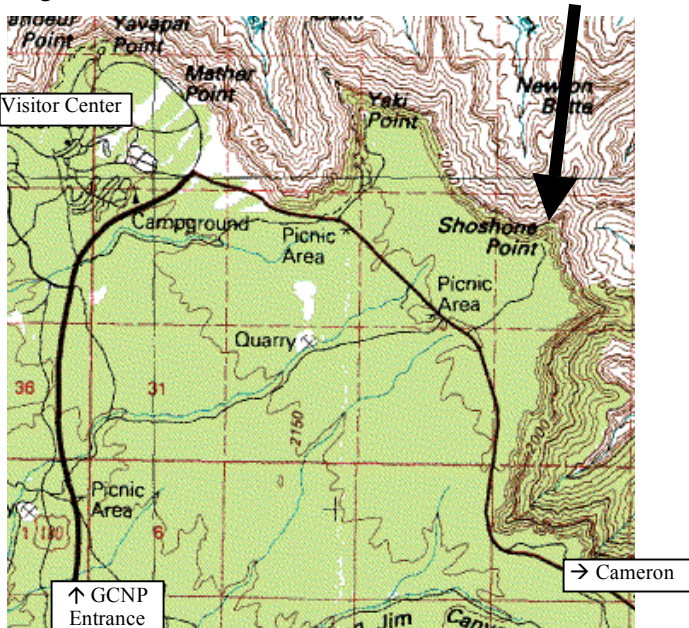
We'll eat around noon then have a short speech about what's up with the Society by our President, Erik Berg, and then a presentation of the Pioneer Award and the Hall of Fame Awards.

Everyone should bring: a dish to share (casserole, dessert, etc), drinks, and something to barbecue. There may be fire restrictions that could nix the barbeque part. Check our website for updates.

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.



Come to see the canyon and visit with everyone. This is the only chance this year for us to do this; so come on!

**Keith Green, Coordinator**

*Also happening...*

**June 20 Louis Akin's Lost Bride:** The Photos, Poems and Adventures of Mai Richie Reed by Erik Berg. 7:00 PM at Riordan Mansion in Flagstaff.

**July 11, 1:00PM – John Riffey: The Last Long-Time Ranger.** Jean Luttrell, biographer. For decades, John Riffey was the legendary ranger at Toroweap.

**Location:** NAU's Cline Library Screening Room A.

**Lunch:** 11:00 - Meet at Casa Bonita on Milton Road across from Target.

**July 18 & 19 - Pasture Wash Ranger Station Service Project.** A campout at Pasture Wash Ranger Station. For the second year in a row, Grand Canyon Youth and volunteers will work on the restoration of the ranger station and barn. This is a service project and GCHS members are invited to participate. Details of van shuttle, food, etc. will be provided for anyone interested in this outing.

RSVP to John Azar at [TontoWalk@gmail.com](mailto:TontoWalk@gmail.com).

**August 22, 1:00PM - Call of the Canyon.** Tom Martin & Hazel Clark. NAU Cline Library Screening Room A.

**September - A Mule's Eye View.** Mona McCroskey. Details to be announced.

**October – to be announced**

**November 7 - Annual Board Meeting.** Details to be announced.

**November 21 - Grand Canyon Anthropology,** Michael Anderson. Mormon Meeting Hall in Pine, Arizona. Details to be announced.

Please check our web site for outings updates:

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

### GCHS Scholarship Award

This year's scholarship drew six applicants from NAU, ASU and the University of Montana. The latter was accepted by virtue of the fact the individual is working at Grand Canyon National Park and the project was deemed appropriate to the scholarship. Our common complaint is that there is not enough money to award them all a scholarship...tough choices.

Our recipient is Christopher Holcomb, a 24-year-old graduate student in the Environmental Science and Policy master of science program at NAU under Dr. Tom Sisk. This program is also supported by the Center for Sustainable Environments. His application described the

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project as follows:

The purpose of the overall research project is to generate new scientific information and novel policy analysis in order to argue for more seamless management across a jurisdictional boundary on the Kaibab Plateau.

The North Rim encompasses much of the remaining old-growth ponderosa forests left in the Southwest, and important mixed conifer and aspen stands. The jurisdictional boundary between Grand Canyon National Park and Kaibab National Forest along the North Rim is visible from space as an ecological artifact. This simple fact begs a series of questions. My thesis research revolves around three in particular: What is the ecological nature of the apparent differences across the boundary in an otherwise contiguous forest? What are the implications of these disjointed conditions, especially for crown fire risk? What are the past and present management regimes that have created the observed conditions, and what is the potential for more seamless management across this boundary between these two agencies? The highly disjointed ecological conditions which currently exist are a clear symptom of inadequate management for landscape-scale ecological integrity.

This research project addresses important questions, both pure and applied, raised by the boundary phenomenon, using a variety of methods from the fields of forestry, landscape ecology and political science. The historical component of this research that I mentioned earlier is my review of

broad trends in management history of these forests, from the original proclamation language of Grand Canyon National Game Preserve in 1893 to the present day. The goal is to provide sound, science-based analysis to aid and inform managers in the world-renowned Grand Canyon region.

As there was no appropriate university gathering for presentation of the award, I met Chris at the Campus Coffee Bean and presented him with the check. He is a personable young man and readily agreed to a presentation for the Society some time in September or after.

On another note, Erik Berg and I attended a paper presentation by last year's recipient, Jennifer Spensieri at the Arizona History Convention in Prescott. It was entitled, "A Kiosk for the Canyon: The Making and Influence of the Grand Canyon Trust as a Professionalized Research-Based Environmental NGO (Non-Governmental Organization)". The following week she successfully defended her thesis. Erik and I agreed that we received fair value for our investment.

*Al Richmond, Scholarship Chair*

## **GCHS at Grand Canyon River Guides Spring GTS**

Erik Berg, Keith Green, Nancy Green, and Don Lago attended the River Guide Training Seminar March 27-29 at the Hatch warehouse at Marble Canyon. We had a table where we promoted Grand Canyon Historical Society to the river runners. We gave away old issues of the *Ol' Pioneer*. It was great to meet so many canyon folks and learn more than can be imagined about the river. Saturday night festivities included dancing to a Tuba City band.

**Outings/Programs:** If you have a suggestion for a future outing/program or a question about an upcoming event, contact the **2009 Outings Coordinator** at [tontowalk@gmail.com](mailto:tontowalk@gmail.com).

**The Bulletin** welcomes comments, stories, or reflections and remembrances.  
Please send them to: [kgreig@yahoo.com](mailto:kgreig@yahoo.com)