

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

March 2012

2011 Outings

March 20 & 21 Replica Boat Launching Details in article below. If you'd like to attend the "no host" dinner at Marble Canyon Lodge on Tuesday March 20th, please contact John Azar at tontowalk@gmail.com

July 21st Annual Picnic at Shoshone Point. Details to come.

Check our web site for outings updates:

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

Replica Boat Launching

Join fellow Historical Society members and river runners for the March 20th and 21st replica boat launching. There will be a "no host" dinner at Marble Canyon Lodge on Tuesday, March 20th. Details were sent to GCHS members by email in February. There's still time to make a reservation with John Azar: tontowalk@gmail.com.

On March 21, 2012, river runners from five Western states, Canada, Japan, and Chile will launch five homemade boats - replicas of important historical designs - attempting a twenty-four day self-guided traverse of the Colorado River through Grand Canyon. The replica boats represent a snapshot of river running in Grand Canyon during the 1950s and 1960s, just before Glen Canyon Dam took control of the Colorado River through Grand Canyon.

Members of the GC Historical Society are invited to come to see the boats. Last year on our February 1st launch we had 60 people attend the launching of the 1950's boats. We will again be having our "Eat Hearty For Tomorrow We Die" dinner where we will be playing the video about the 1950's boats. The "no host" dinner and bar will be at 6:30pm Tuesday, March 20th, at Marble Canyon Lodge with a choice of four meals. The "Video trailer":

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vBTKccHnDVY>

Our five replica boats:

- P.T. "Pat" Reilly's homebuilt 1954 Susie R and his 1955 Flavell represented an improvement on the Cataract style craft. Replicated by Ian Elliot.
- Moulty Fulmer's homebuilt 1953 GEM started a new line of boat design and was the forerunner of today's dories. Replicated by Tom Martin.
- Pat Reilly's 1962 Susie Too dory with a hull built in Oregon by Keith Steele and finished off himself in his garage. Replicated by Randy Dersham.
- Martin Litton's 1962 Portola dory that he had Keith Steele complete to his specifications. Replicated by Greg Hatten.

Submitted by Dave Mortenson

A Mysterious Death

Dr. Terry Magda Mische, a former Phantom Ranch manager, died mysteriously last month just after her 63rd birthday. She loved to scuba dive and was doing just that in the Caribbean just off of the Bahamas. She had enjoyed watching a sea turtle some 20-30 feet underwater. She surfaced normally with several other divers and was holding a line waiting her turn to be hauled back up into the boat. Without any sign of stress, she let go of the rope and dropped just under the surface. She was immediately brought aboard and given CPR but to no avail. An autopsy provided no conclusive cause of death.

Terry Magda Mische was manager of Phantom Ranch from 1976-1978. She worked wonders at organizing the ranch into more of a money-making enterprise. Probably her most enduring legacy there was the purchase of that stamp for postcards that reads, "Mailed by mule at the bottom of the Grand Canyon - Phantom Ranch."

Magda liked to push the envelope. She has hiked much of the canyon. Her favorite spot was the saddle between Zoroaster Temple and Brahma Temple thousands of feet above the north side of the Colorado River.

Magda developed a passion for the river after she left Phantom Ranch. Eventually she even bought a boat and learned to row the river. She probably holds a record for the number of times she illegally rowed the Colorado.

Magda died doing what she loved most - exploring the great out-of-doors. Given the kind of lifestyle she enjoyed, this was a fitting end, although seemingly premature, for a life well-lived.

A life celebration will be held June 24th at her home on Orcas Island, San Juan Islands, Washington State.

Submitted by Keith Green

New Book on Phantom Ranch

Author, retired Park ranger, and GCHS member, Bob Audretsch's latest book **Grand Canyon's Phantom Ranch** was just released by Arcadia Publishing. This brand new book has over 200 historic photos - most have never been published. Bob will be signing it, as well as his other book **Shaping the Park and Saving the Boys: The Civilian Conservation Corps at Grand Canyon, 1933-1942** at Hastings in Flagstaff



Saturday, March 17th, noon to 3:00 PM. The Phantom Ranch book is also available at barnesandnoble.com as well as arcadiapublishing.com.

3rd History Symposium a Success!

History came alive Thursday, January 26th through Sunday, January 29th as 300 participants from around the country attended the Third Grand Canyon History Symposium. The third Symposium was sanctioned as an Official Centennial Event by the Arizona Centennial 2012 Foundation.

The Symposium began Thursday with a presentation by University of Arizona professor Dr. Jennifer Jenkins of 1929 Fox Movietone newsreels of Grand Canyon. The next morning, Captain John Hance and Grand Canyon National Park Superintendent David Uberuaga opened the Symposium sessions, and over the next three days forty presenters spoke to a wide array of topics on Grand Canyon history.



Captain John Hance Opens the Symposium

Photo by Howard Asaki

One of the most enjoyable presentations was by Barbara Stephens Odderstol. Barbara and her elder sister Ruth Stephens Baker grew up at the South Rim. Her presentation consisted of family photos, and while not a “scholarly” presentation, really touched on the heartstrings of what it meant to grow up at the South Rim in the 1940’s.



Historic Boat Tour – Georgie White’s Raft

Photo by Denise Traver

There were two back-to-back presentations on the possible origins of a curious inscription found in the South Bass area. The inscription reads MONTEVIDEO and one of the two presenters, Dr. Ray Kenny, tried to link the inscription to the 1540 Coronado Expedition, while another presenter, Dr. Jonathan Upchurch, presented his view that the inscription may be from the Bass tourist era.

Presenters from the South Rim included Susan Verkamp presenting on her Aunt Peggy. It turns out Peggy Verkamp was instrumental in the construction of the Shrine of the Ages where the Symposium was held. Tom Martin, physical therapist at the Grand Canyon Clinic, presented on the first dory to run the river

through Grand Canyon, and Dr. Tom Myers presented on walking the length of the Grand Canyon. Dr. Myers pointed out that while over 5,000 people have climbed Mount Everest, it is possible that less than fifteen people have hiked the full length of the Canyon.

Grand Canyon hikers Dennis Foster and Doug Nering each presented on early historical visits to the backcountry, while world class photographer Gary Ladd presented archival photographs of the construction of Glen Canyon Dam, including rare photos of the repairs made to the dam after the 1983 flood. Dr. Dickson Hingson presented on Grand Canyon overflight history, and J. Donald Hughes gave a delightful account of how he came to write *In the House of Stone and Light*.



Brad Dimock, right, stands between the ESMEALDA II and GLEN on the Historic Boat Tour (Photo by David Myers)

The Symposium also included two evening presentations; the first by geologist Wayne Ranney on the history of geologists who have made noted contributions to the theories of how the Canyon was formed. The second evening presentation was by Brad Dimock on the Kolb brothers’ river trip down the Green and Colorado rivers in 1911-1912. Both Wayne and Brad also led field trips during the Symposium, with Wayne presenting on the Trail of Time, and Brad leading tours of the Park’s historic boats.



Geologist Wayne Ranney on the Trail of Time

Photo by Denise Traver



GCHS President Erik Berg in Kolb Studio Celebrating a Successful Third History Symposium
Photo by Paul Schnur

The Grand Canyon Historical Society will be publishing a monograph of the Symposium proceedings, which should be available as an eBook and via print-on-demand later this year. The Symposium would not have happened without tremendous assistance from a number of volunteers and the Grand Canyon Historical Society, National Park Service, Xanterra, and the Grand Canyon Association.

Submitted by Tom Martin

Reminder: Accepting Pioneer Award Nominations

Nominations are now being accepted for the 2012 Grand Canyon Historical Society Pioneer Award. The Society wants to honor an individual who has made a significant contribution or contributions to the understanding of and knowledge about the Grand Canyon of the Colorado River in areas such as the natural sciences, photography, river running, backcountry hiking, history, administration, art, etc. - any area that advances the knowledge of the Grand Canyon.

Previous recipients of the Pioneer Award: John Azar, 2011; Brad Dimock, 2009; Lee Albertson, 2008; Mike Quinn, 2007; Al Richmond, 2006; Mike Anderson, 2005; Gary Ladd, 2004; George Billingsley, 2003; Bill Suran, 2002; George Steck, 1999; Gale Burak, 1998; and Harvey Butchart, 1997. There was no award in 2010.

To make a nomination, submit the individual's name and their accomplishments and/or contributions that have advanced our knowledge of the Grand Canyon, by **April 15, 2012** to:

Amy Horn
2885 W Noria St
Flagstaff, AZ 86001

GCA Community Lecture Series

The Grand Canyon Association has several upcoming lectures of interest. A complete listing with details is at:

http://www.grandcanyon.org/events_lectureseries.asp

Linda Jalbert *Keep It Wild: Managing Wilderness in Grand Canyon National Park.*

Thurs, April 5th, 7pm NAU Cline Library, Flagstaff.

Gary Ladd. *Glen Canyon Dam: Monumental Construction and 1983 Repairs.*

Sunday, April 15, 2pm, Prescott Public Library.

Thurs, May 17, 7pm NAU Cline Library, Flagstaff.

Yay Science: The Symbiotic Relationship Between Students and Scientists in Grand Canyon. Moderated by Emma Wharton with guests including youth and scientists.

Thurs, April 19, 7pm NAU Cline Library, Flagstaff.

Todd Chaudhry *Thinking Big and Starting Small: Watershed Stewardship in Grand Canyon National Park.*

Thurs, May 3, 7pm NAU Cline Library, Flagstaff.

Mathieu Brown *Last Great Chase: Harvey Butchart's Summit List and Grand Canyon's Indelible Climbers.*

Sunday, May 13, 2pm, Prescott Public Library.

Reminder to Renew

A Membership Renewal Notice was included with the November Bulletin. If you haven't already renewed, please renew now and help support the Society in its mission to preserve Grand Canyon history. You can either renew by mailing the form back with your check, or via PayPal. There's a link on the Society's web page under "Membership"

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

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

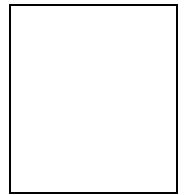
Grand Canyon Historical Society

P.O. Box 31405

Flagstaff, Arizona 86003-1405

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



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