

# Grand Canyon Historical Society

Promoting the study and preservation of Grand Canyon cultural and natural history



## The Bulletin

### Annual Renewal

Membership is on an annual calendar year basis with dues payable on the 1st of January. An email reminder was sent in mid-December and a **membership renewal notice is included with this Bulletin**. If you've already renewed, thank you, and ignore this notice.

New members who joined after 7/1/16 are paid up through December 2017 and did not receive the email renewal notice.

If you're not sure about your membership status, write us at:

[membership@grandcanyonhistory.org](mailto:membership@grandcanyonhistory.org)

Please return your renewal at your earliest convenience, or save a stamp and envelope by renewing via PayPal using the link at: [www.grandcanyonhistory.org/membership.html](http://www.grandcanyonhistory.org/membership.html). You do not need to have a PayPal account to renew online.

### Merge *The Bulletin* with *O' Pioneer*?

The GCHS Board is considering merging *The Bulletin* with the *O' Pioneer*. Members would receive one quarterly print publication with both Grand Canyon history-related articles and Society announcements. Time-sensitive communications would be sent by email, with print notices going to the few members without email.

Let us know what you think by writing to:

[thebulletin@grandcanyonhistory.org](mailto:thebulletin@grandcanyonhistory.org)

### Updates:

[www.grandcanyonhistory.org](http://www.grandcanyonhistory.org)

## History Symposium A Success!

The 2016 Grand Canyon History Symposium was an overwhelming success, with 75% of survey respondents rating it as "excellent". And this was just a condensed warm-up for the 2019 Park Centennial History Symposium.

The symposium kicked off with a Friday evening mixer at Maswik Lodge. Attendees were so enjoying networking with new friends and old that it was tough to tear themselves away for the special NPS evening program given by Doug Leen on WPA artist-produced NPS posters. But many of us made it to this fascinating presentation of "Ranger Doug's" mission to recover this lost art and create modern reproductions.



Boats, Talks, Group Photo of Presenters (Photos by K. Greig and T. Attridge)

Saturday was presentation day, with 16 interesting, well-researched talks. GCHS President Wayne Ranney and new Grand Canyon National Park Superintendent Chris Lehnertz gave the opening remarks.

Several presentations featured the results of sleuthing in archives, including Steve and Lois Hirst's project to restore identity to Havasupai people who had been mis-identified or

not identified at all in historic photos; the memories of elders and facial comparisons helped confirm identifications. And Jonathan Upchurch tracked down the identity of "the" George W. Parkins whose 1903 inscription can be seen near Bass Rapids.

Other talks highlighted the historic occurrence of African Americans in the Grand Canyon region; lesser known early pioneers such as Julius Farlee; botanist and Arizona Women's Hall of Fame inductee Rose Collom; and more famous figures including architect Mary Jane Colter and environmental warrior and river runner Martin Litton. George Billingsley gave a personal account of his time as a seasonal ranger at the Havasu Campground.

Several talks highlighted the theme of celebrating the NPS Centennial, in particular the history of river running management, the Mission 66 building boom, conflicts with early miners and entrepreneurs, transportation planning, and Susie Verkamp's very personal account of the genesis of the Shrine of the Ages building where we were all sitting.

Nicholas Bauch's digital project *Enchanting the Desert* was one of the most intriguing. Based on Henry G. Peabody's 1899-1930 Grand Canyon slideshow, it uses the photographs to spatially narrate the cultural history of the Grand Canyon. To see and interact with this go to: [www.enchantingthedesert.com](http://www.enchantingthedesert.com).

Restored and historic river boats were on display all day Saturday outside the Shrine, including the 1938 MOE, 1962 Flavell II, and the 1967 Betty Boop.

Gary Ladd's Saturday evening presentation was a visual feast of 50 years of Gary's amazing Grand Canyon photos, made more entertaining by Gary's unique sense of humor.

The Sunday outings were fully booked. Survey respondents said the *Time of Profound Change* tour was especially impactful. Jason Nez and Lyle Balenquah presented Hopi and Navajo perspectives on the advent of federal land management policies and what those changes meant to native peoples of the past and present.

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### Board Approved at Annual Meeting

GCHS members have elected four new/continuing board members. They are: **Dick Brown, Doug Rickard, Frank Romaglia** (2<sup>nd</sup> term), and **Slim Woodruff**. Congratulations!

Outgoing board members are **Ellen Brennan** and **Tom Martin**. Thank you both for your contributions to GCHS!

At the December 3, 2016 Annual Board Meeting in Flagstaff, the Board was approved. **2017 Board Officers & Committee Chairs are:**

**President** - Wayne Ranney

**Vice President** - Dave Mortenson

**Secretary** - Jack Pennington (with Web site assistance from Arnie Richards)

**Treasurer** - vacant (Amy Horn filling in for now. Thank you Amy!)

**Membership** - Karen Greig

**Hall of Fame Award/Research Grants Scholarship** - Al Richmond

**Pioneer Award Chair** - Wayne Ranney

**Oral History Chair** - Tom Martin

**Outings Chair** - Ron Brown

**New and Continuing non-officer board members are:** Dick Brown, Kathy Farretta, Donelle Huffer, Haley Johnson, Phil Payne, Arnie Richards, Doug Rickard, Frank Romaglia, Jon Streit, and Slim Woodruff.

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### Annual Board Meeting Minutes

#### December 3, 2016

12:30 to 16:30 Flagstaff Public Library, Flagstaff Arizona

**Attendees:** Wayne Ranney, Amy Horn, Jack Pennington, Donelle Huffer, Dave Mortenson, Ron Brown, Dick Brown, Slim Woodruff, Doug Rickard, Jon Streit, Ellen Brennan, Frank Romaglia, Arnie Richards (phone), Helen Ranney (attended for History Symposium discussion).

Not present: Phil Payne, Kathy Farretta, Tom Martin, Haley Johnson

**Introductions,** Call to order at 12:40 pm. (**W. Ranney**)

**Accept July meeting minutes (W. Ranney)**

Jon motions to approve the minutes of the winter meeting, Dave seconds, motion carries. Doug R abstains.

**Accept Election Results (Wayne Ranney)**

Motion carries. Welcome Slim and Dick

**Report from Treasurer (Amy Horn)**

Amy shared the Nov 30 report (to be posted on GCHS Web site). Inventory - sold more books. Membership income rose by almost \$1000 from 2015. Scholarship donations increased too. Anticipate FY17 membership to drop, all other items should remain similar to FY16. Wayne: invites the Board to consider how to spend excess funds. Wayne noted that Amy is stepping down from the treasurer role. Amy mentioned only time-consuming items take place in Dec

with year-end cheques. Meetings and reports are in QuickBooks and it's simple. Doug asked standing with IRS. Amy explained the rules and procedure - only file a postcard.

Motion to approve report by Dave, Ellen seconded. Motion carries.

**Report from Membership (Wayne R for Karen Greig)**

65 new members in 2016, with a boost from the Symposium, to bring total to 251 members. Dave M asked about multi-year memberships. Agrees to look into pros and cons. Dave M will look into soliciting symposium attendees who are not members.

**Report from the Oral History Committee (Wayne R)**

Tom Martin would like to acquire 2 pro audio recorders. Arnie R suggested items are assigned to an officer position so the items do not go missing. Oral Histories are currently stored at GRCA. How should Board store, distribute, use-agreements, access? Invite Tom to present report at July board meeting: methodology, procedures, gear, etc for the Oral History program.

Motion for up to \$500 to acquire audio recorders: Amy motions.

Dick seconded. Motion Carried.

**Strategic Plan (Wayne R)**

Wayne read the 4 bullet points from the GCHS website and suggested we are hitting items in 1, 2, and 4.

**Outings:** Ellen B: Money came from GCA to fund Greenland Cabin and Grandview Entrance Cabin. Planning to make the work GCHS-related in 2017. Pioneer Cemetery: Ellen will ask GCA for donation to have GCHS take care of the periodic housekeeping. Amy suggested GCHS could contribute towards the \$\$ for the

Cemetery. Ron Brown agreed to take over the Outings and work with Ellen to have smooth handover.

**Editorial Committee:** Wayne: purpose was to look at soliciting ideas for articles. Born out of a time when paucity of articles. Arnie agreed to join the committee to look at whether we need more of a guiding hand.

#### **Pioneer Award and Plaques (Wayne R)**

Wayne suggested plaques be acquired from a shop in Flagstaff versus the jail in Tempe. Past winners will still vote on selection of the winner from pool.

#### **Election of Board**

President - Wayne Ranney

Vice President – Dave Mortenson

Secretary - Jack Pennington (with website help from Arnie Richards)

Treasurer - Arnie Richards offered to serve if the position does not need to be held by someone living in the Flagstaff area. Wayne said he needs to think about it.

#### **New Business**

Summer Board Meeting: Sat 8<sup>th</sup> July, book Community Bldg. GCA asked that GCHS pay for hosting the GC Bibliography. Approx \$100 per annum. Ron B motions that GCHS pay for the bibliography hosting with GCHS support notification. Doug seconds. Motion carried.

Dick B: April 20-23, 2017 joint conference for NM and AZ Historical Societies at Little America Hotel in Flagstaff. There has already been a Call for Papers. More info will be released in Feb.

Wayne R: how do compensate Karen G? Combination of 1 night at ET provided by Xanterra and \$100 from GCHS. Motion by John S, Ellen B second. Motion carried.

Hiking GTS Feb 17-18, have GCHS info on a table in Shrine MPR. River GTS March 31- April 2, have GCHS info on a table. Dave Mortenson volunteered to setup and staff.

2016 Symposium Proceedings – GCA agreed to print. Quartaroli is the editor. No timetable yet.

Bulletin: Karen G has suggested merging with Ol' Pioneer, agreed to continue the Bulletin for now but sow the seed with membership that we may change this. Tabled for now, maybe we ask Members what they think.

#### **2016 GCHS Symposium (D. Mortenson)**

Registration: Amy: reports were that the whole RegFox process was easy for users as well as backend admin.

Early Check-in: 98% of attendees checked in at the Friday session thereby leaving Sat morning free. Reception generally worked well. Presentations: Motion to refund the 2 alternates' registration fee, seconded by Ron. Motion carried.

Wayne: proposed the Lee Albertson Award process for 2016 begin via e-mail. He'll begin the process.

Survey: response rate was 31%

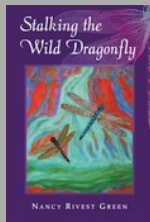
**2019 GCHS Symposium** Work on proposal to NPS - late Jan. Develop a planning committee. Submit at July 2017 board meeting. Dave M and Helen R volunteered to be co-chairs.

**Motion to adjourn.** Dave M, seconded by John S, Meeting Adjourns by 15:15 pm

*Submitted by Jack Pennington*

## Review of "Stalking the Wild Dragonfly: Stories of Experience in Nature"

By Nancy Rivest Green, Vishnu Temple Press, 2016



If you've spent some time around the Grand Canyon, you know that time makes a big difference in your experience of it, that you have to be there awhile before the canyon offers you its most unique moments: an amazing storm, flash flood, rainbow, geological event, or wildlife encounter. Nancy Rivest Green and her husband Keith have spent decades at and near the canyon, so they have experienced more amazing events than almost anyone, and now Nancy, a fine writer, shares them with us in her new book "Stalking the Wild Dragonfly." In each of two dozen chapters she combines a wildlife encounter with natural history information.

Actually Nancy didn't need to do much stalking, as the wildlife usually came to her. The dragonfly came along while she was scouting Hance Rapid. A condor landed to check out her sleeping dog at Shoshone Point. A golden eagle, trying to lift off after grabbing a jackrabbit, dragged the rabbit across her windshield and smeared it with blood. She also saw a coyote carrying a rabbit beside the Colorado River. A peregrine falcon eyed her under a picnic shelter at Phantom Ranch. Ringtails stalked Almond Joy candy bars—but not Snickers or Reece's—in the canteen at Phantom Ranch. Bobcats left their footprints at her back door and elk visited her school playground at Grand Canyon Village. She has run into bighorn sheep and rattlesnakes on trails, and mountain lions on the rim. Scorpions have twice successfully "stalked" husband Keith at Phantom Ranch. (Nancy sometimes lets Keith tell his stories in his own words). From her retirement house in the northern Arizona forest, she has observed a fox den romping with playful kits, watched a friendly encounter between her dog and a coyote, and been uniquely surrounded by an elk herd. And in her travels she has met kangaroos in Australia, penguins in Antarctica, whales in Alaska, turtles in Hawaii, and grizzlies at Grand Teton. In addition to all her wildlife encounters, she relates how she and Keith were once nearly swept away by a flash flood in Phantom Creek.

For each animal she meets, Nancy offers its natural history, both basic and obscure. Coyotes, whose name came from an Aztec word, can sniff out something from a mile away and be heard howling from three miles away. A fox can jump 17 feet; a five pound fox can carry a ten pound jackrabbit. Do you know how elk were extinguished in Arizona and reintroduced? Nancy also offers the human connections, including attending a Havasupai ceremony for dead bighorn sheep. She tells us Hopi and Navajo lore on coyotes, and Greek and Inuit legends about bears. The Incas laid out their capitol city in the shape of a mountain lion. Nancy does not preach environmental messages but they are obvious enough, and personal too when she directly asks a condor to forgive humans for endangering its species.

Nancy's mixture of personal stories and natural history makes this a unique book, which could appeal to a wide audience. Some of the stories would work as charming bedtime stories for children, while the natural history offers plenty of surprises even for the most well-read nature lovers. For anyone, Nancy's love of nature and the Grand Canyon comes through. "I wake up to the sound of a coyote. It's still a thrill, no matter how many times I hear it. The pack communicating about a target prey, the celebration of a kill, or just a solitary being exclaiming its joy to the Universe - it's the sound of the wild."

*--Don Lago*

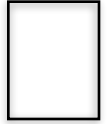
## Grand Canyon Historical Society

P.O. Box 31405

Flagstaff, Arizona 86003-1405

Fall 2016

Address Service Requested



### Seeking Nominations for 2017 Pioneer Award

Nominations are now being accepted for the 2017 Grand Canyon Historical Society Pioneer Award. The Society wants to honor/recognize a living individual who has made a significant contribution to the understanding of and knowledge about the Grand Canyon of the Colorado.

The individual should have made a significant contribution in areas such as the natural sciences, photography, river running, backcountry hiking, history, Park Administration, art, etc. – any area that advances the knowledge of the Grand Canyon.

Past recipients of the Pioneer Award and their knowledge of the Grand Canyon can be found at the Grand Canyon Historical Society web site at [www.grandcanyonhistory.org](http://www.grandcanyonhistory.org)

When submitting a nomination provide sufficient detail such that a non Grand Canyon enthusiast can judge those nominated:

- Does the individual nominated have a significant understanding of and knowledge about a specific area(s) of interest (see paragraph #2 above)?
- Is the individual nominated recognized as an "expert"?
- What credentials does the nominee have?

The Pioneer Award is presented to the individual at the Historical Society Annual picnic at the South Rim.

To make a nomination, submit the individual's name, their accomplishments, and/or contributions (submitted as an email attachment or surface mail) by March 1, 2017 to:

Wayne Ranney, Pioneer Award Chair  
628 N. Apollo Way  
Flagstaff, Arizona 86001  
Phone: (928) 779-1596  
email: [wayneranney17@gmail.com](mailto:wayneranney17@gmail.com)

### Submit Your Stories for *Ol' Pioneer*

The *Ol' 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. Deadlines are: January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1.

**Mary Williams**

**4880 Weatherford Rd**

**Flagstaff, AZ 86001**

**Phone: 928-779-3377**

**[info@marywilliamsdesign.com](mailto:info@marywilliamsdesign.com)**



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

Submit Outings suggestions to Ron Brown at [prb73@hotmail.com](mailto:prb73@hotmail.com)