



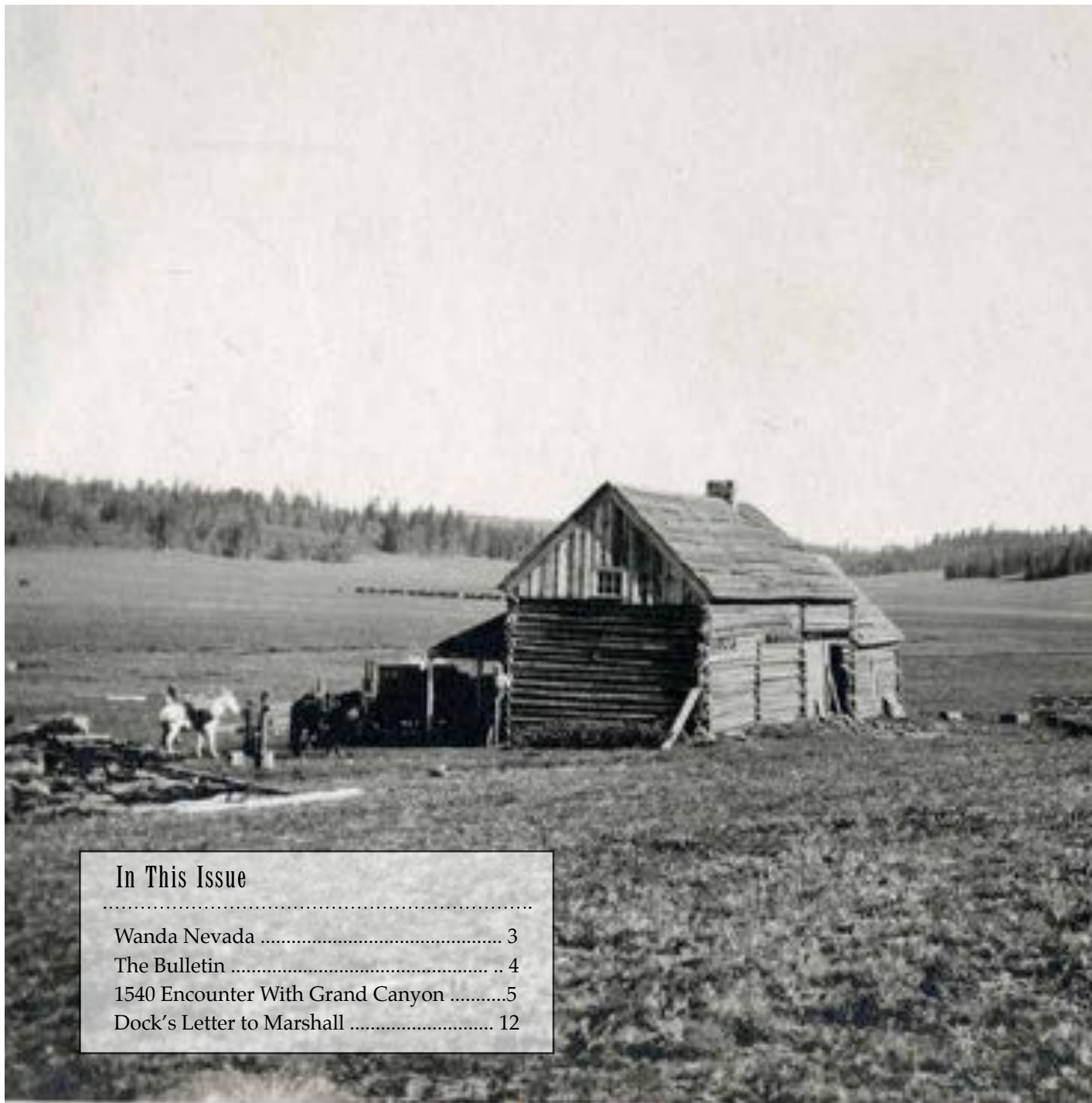
# The Ol' Pioneer

The Magazine of the Grand Canyon Historical Society

Volume 30 : Number 3

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

Summer 2019



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ranch headquarters VT Park

# President's Letter

During my travels inside and outside our country, I've enjoyed talking with fellow travelers. The conversation often involves answering the question "where are you from?" Naming my state or city elicits little reaction, but if I say "near the Grand Canyon" then the communication begins. Almost all will say they have been to, or hope to someday see, the Grand Canyon.

Being a resident of a gateway community to the Grand Canyon has allowed me to observe the many people from all over the world who come to experience this amazing natural feature. I find it fun to interact with these visitors to learn their impressions of the experiences they have been having; for almost all, the Grand Canyon is a much bigger and more beautiful place than they expected. Often the openness and wildness is a common focus of their conversation. More than one has told me of their excitement at driving on a dirt road or camping with no one around.

Recently, my wife Pam and I were the tourists, visiting Italy on my first visit to Europe. Even though we have traveled many times to Asia, it was still overwhelming to visit places with so many centuries of recorded history, especially when compared to our Grand Canyon human history. Current science has the Americas being first settled only 14,000 to 17,000 years ago. Split-twig figurines dating back 4,000 years have been found in Grand Canyon. Archaeologists still debate when a distinct Ancestral Puebloan culture emerged, but the current consensus suggests it was around 1200 B.C. The 5th Grand Canyon History Symposium had over 50 presenters with wonderful subjects but almost all were focused on subjects just decades old. This year we are celebrating the 100th Anniversary of Grand Canyon National Park! Just a blink of an eye for most parts of the world, but personally I'm proud of the way we kicked off the year-long celebration that so many of our members were able to attend in February.

The human presence at Grand Canyon is short compared to most of the world, yet presents a wonderful opportunity for the Grand Canyon Historical Society as it focuses on projects and events to record and preserve the history while it is fresh. GCHS is doing this with oral history interviews, hosting outings, giving grants for history projects and hosting history symposia. We are continuing a long-term project to digitize all the GCHS documents that are in our archive at Cline Library Special Collections at Northern Arizona University. And we publish quarterly *The Ol' Pioneer/Bulletin*, sent to our growing membership.

In this issue of *The Ol' Pioneer/Bulletin* is a request for volunteers to serve on our Board of Directors. There are also many other ways to be involved such as being part of the Colorado River Basin History Symposium (Oct 14 -17, 2020) and/or the 6th Grand Canyon History Symposium (Nov 2022). If there is something that you would like to learn more about, please contact me directly.

Thanks,

Dave Mortenson  
[President@grandcanyonhistory.org](mailto:President@grandcanyonhistory.org)

Cover: Ranch Headquarters VT Park. Photo by William Dock

## The Ol' Pioneer

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Grand Canyon Historical Society

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The Historical Society was established in July 1984 as a non-profit corporation to develop and promote appreciation, understanding and education of the earlier history of the inhabitants and important events of the Grand Canyon.

*The Ol' Pioneer* is published by the GRAND CANYON HISTORICAL SOCIETY. An integral part of the publication is an informational section, *The Bulletin*, that updates members on Society activities, programs, events, Board actions and discussions. *The Ol' Pioneer* is a benefit of membership and is open to any person interested in the historical, educational, and charitable purposes of the Society. Membership is on an annual basis using the standard calendar; and dues of \$25 are payable on the 1st of January each year, and mailed to the GCHS Treasurer, PO Box 1667, Grand Canyon, AZ 86023-1667. *The Ol' Pioneer* magazine is copyrighted by the Grand Canyon Historical Society, Inc. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or used in any form without permission of the publisher.

Editor: Mary Williams

Submission deadlines: January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1. Submit photos and stories to the editor of *The Ol' Pioneer* at: [maryinfo@marywilliamsdesign.com](mailto:maryinfo@marywilliamsdesign.com) Contact for mailing address (928) 606-9932. Please submit written articles and photos electronically by email if possible. Submissions to *The Bulletin* should be sent to [thebulletin@grandcanyonhistory.org](mailto:thebulletin@grandcanyonhistory.org)

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# Wanda Nevada: A Failed Search for Cinematic Gold in the Grand Canyon

by Wayne Ranney and Bryan Brown

Of all the unbelievable legends swirling around the Grand Canyon – secret base for alien spaceships, hidden Egyptian city, mysterious power vortex, buried treasure – perhaps only one has ever been made into a full-length, Hollywood feature film. Yet few people have even heard of this film (we don't pretend to be aware of every cockamamie attempt to portray the Grand Canyon in film or on TV, so apologies if we have missed some other B-rated motion picture). Many scenes were filmed in the Grand Canyon and more than a few local residents were directly or indirectly involved in its production. Other localities include Prescott, the Vermilion and Echo cliffs, and inside and outside the El Tovar Hotel. Although the movie centers on a hunt for golden treasure deep in the canyon, the film was a financial failure when the critics gave it a poor review and United Artists lost money on it. One critic even described it as a cross between *The Treasure of the Sierra Madre* and *The Three Stooges Go West*.

The movie is *Wanda Nevada* and was first shown in theatres on June 1, 1979. It is an American western-comedy starring Peter Fonda (best known for his performance in the 1969 film *Easy Rider*) and Brooke Shields (best known for the 1978 film *Pretty Baby* when she was only 12 years old). Peter's father, legendary Academy Award-winning actor Henry Fonda, was also hired for one day (and paid \$1,000) to play a cameo role as an old prospector, making this the only movie in which the father-son duo acted together. The movie was directed by Peter Fonda.

The setting of the film is in 1950s Arizona. The movie is a predictable mix of saloons, gambling, secret treasure maps, get-away scenes,

shoot-outs, narrow escapes, miraculous discoveries, and just a touch of the supernatural, as the plot revolves around the search for a lost gold mine in the canyon. Lead characters Beaudry Demerille (Fonda) and Wanda Nevada (Shields) are inadvertently matched together in a saloon where Beaudry wins Wanda in a card game. The unlikely pair ("the heroes") accidentally stumble



1979 movie poster for *Wanda Nevada*.

into possession of a treasure map. But the "bad guys", two evil con-men-turned-murderers, also want the map and begin to pursue Beaudry and Wanda. And the chase is on!

**"Everybody knows there ain't no gold in the Grand Canyon."**

The story goes like this: After Beaudry and Wanda obtain the map, they drive to the canyon, trade their car for mules and supplies, and disappear below the rim (as they begin their descent on mules the

scenes were shot in the Chimney section of the South Kaibab Trail – most trail riding scenes however were shot in the Vermilion Cliffs and Lees Ferry area). They ultimately find the gold mine after a series of wild, improbable events only to have the bad guys catch up with them. Then everyone pulls out their pistols and the shooting starts, resulting in a scene which may take the prize in cinematic history for having the most gunshots fired without anyone being wounded. Our heroes escape, only to discover the next day that the bad guys have been killed by mysterious forces. They take some of the gold and hike down to the river, find a boat, and begin to float downstream (shot in Marble Canyon below Redwall Cavern). Pulling ashore, they begin to count the gold as – gasp! – Beaudry takes a near-fatal wound from a supernatural source. The scene fades to black with Beaudry at or near death as they drift downriver.

The movie unexpectedly ends at the El Tovar as Wanda is being questioned by nuns and reporters about her disappearance from, and imminent forced return to, the orphanage that she had run away from before meeting Beaudry. Wanda is not happy about any of this and she tries to run away. But Beaudry saves the day, driving up in a new convertible that he bought with the gold. Wanda jumps into the convertible and our heroes drive off into the sunset, laughing.

It's amazing how many scenes were filmed at Grand Canyon or close by. Filming localities include House Rock Ranch (17 minutes into the film), The Palace Bar in Prescott (beginning at minute 19:30), the Vermilion Cliffs (36 minutes), 'The Chimney' on the South Kaibab Trail (minute 41), Lees Ferry (minute 46), Redwall Cavern (minute 68), and the Colorado River in Marble Canyon

(minute 94). Landmarks such as the Echo Cliffs, Saddle Mountain, and the Kaibab Plateau are often visible in the background. The ending scenes were filmed in and around the El Tovar Hotel on the South Rim (minute 101). The film crew also apparently made a river trip down the Colorado from Lees Ferry to Phantom, and scenes were filmed at the Paria Riffle, Redwall Cavern, and in Marble Canyon. Although most of the story occurred in the canyon, some scenes were filmed nearby.



A young Brooke Shields at the Paria Riffle during the 1978 filming of *Wanda Nevada*.

Like many Hollywood attempts to portray the ever-inaccessible canyon landscape, the film makers shot all of the trail and river as if they occurred in the canyon.

One of us (Ranney) was working on the trail crew at Phantom Ranch when the film party overnighted there on their way downriver. This would have been April or May of 1978. I remember meeting Brooke Shields and her mother in the cantina and I showed Brooke around the Ranch area, walking down to the Kaibab Suspension Bridge. The filming ended at Phantom Ranch and so the film crew was left with the daunting task of getting all of their

equipment up to the Rim. Word got out that they were paying \$100 for each load brought up – a handsome sum of money to young, fresh-legged canyoneers. Many of my friends took them up on the offer. Barry Smith, who was a senior trail guide for the Canyoneers guiding service (and based out of the old train depot before the train returned in 1989) got the word out to potential human mules.

On the “You Know You Worked at the Grand Canyon” Facebook page, a few call-outs about the movie have been made. On September 18, 2013, Randy Waltrip (now of Murray, Kentucky) asked, “*Anyone remember the filming of “Wanda Nevada” at the Canyon, starring Brooke Shields and Peter Fonda? It was a big deal back in the summer of ‘78. Some Fred [Harvey] employees were even hired as extras.*” To which David Stieglmeyer replied, “*Got to meet Brooke and mom when they got “too tired” to ride out on a mule. Helicopter drag out.*”

Then on June 16, 2018, one of us (Brown) sent out another call for comments, this one generating 21 additional responses. Cindy Burns was the Assistant Manager at Phantom then and wrote, “*I was the [one] to ‘host’ the [film] crew at the Ranch. Don Weir (the manager at the time) left the Ranch...as he’d worked with movie folk before. I soon found out why – they pretty much tried to take over. Peter Fonda came to beer hall then to his cabin. Brooke Shields was so young and sweet, she even let me beat her at backgammon. Now her mom was a different story as per the manipulating movie star’s mama. She had me fill her bota bag with red wine for the mule ride out, then up on the plateau she vomited...so they called her a chopper...*”

There are other interesting recollections of the movie on that site and if you are on Facebook, you should be a member of this group!

On June 25, 2018, I (Ranney) interviewed former river runner for Hatch Expeditions, George Marsik, about his connection to the filming. He was working near Marble Canyon where much of the filming took

place. He remembers meeting Brooke Shields while in the back of the motel where the guides would often hang out for a “safety meeting.” But more than that, he recalls the numerous tire tracks that covered the talus slopes on Cathedral Rock near Navajo Bridge. Back at the Lodge he found out that Peter Fonda had taken a dune buggy on the slopes and heard that Lees Ferry ranger Tom Workman made the film crew go back to smooth out the tracks. Marsik says there may have even been a citation issued.

If you haven’t seen *Wanda Nevada* and you worked or lived at Grand Canyon, you might want to check it out. It’s easier to swallow when you think of it as a comedy – some of the scenes are pretty hokey. But so much of the film was shot on site – in the Marble Canyon area, the Navajo Reservation, on the Colorado River and at El Tovar on the South Rim. You’ll love seeing the old cars in the film, the Palace Bar in Prescott and many other familiar sights. A young Brooke Shields did a great job with her acting. We both found it a bit difficult to obtain a copy of the film but once we did, we were glad we watched it (and we donated our copy to the Collections Museum at Grand Canyon for posterity).

Everybody knows there ain’t no gold in the Grand Canyon. Except of course, those golden memories we all share through the decades living and working at this magical landscape. And therein lies the real gold at Grand Canyon.

You can view the trailer online and rent or purchase the full movie at <https://www.vudu.com/content/movies/details/Wanda-Nevada/895526>

# The BULLETIN



## Calendar of 2019 Centennial Dates at or near Grand Canyon National Park

**July 26 – 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.** Grand Canyon National Park Centennial Perspectives: A Lecture Series - *Bruce Aiken*, NAU Cline Library <https://nau.edu/library/events/>

**July 27 – 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.** Rumble on the Rim: An Indigenous History of the Grand Canyon. Shrine of the Ages Grand Canyon South Rim. (See article in this issue.)

**July 27 – 8:30 p.m.** Centennial Speaker Series: National Park Songs and Photography with Gigi Love, McKee Amphitheater Grand Canyon South Rim

**July 31– 8:00 p.m.** Centennial Speaker Series: We Call the Canyon Home with Stephen Hirst, Grand Canyon Lodge Auditorium, North Rim

**August 5-9** North Rim Native American Heritage Days

**August 23-September 7** Grand Canyon Music Festival  
[www.grandcanyonmusicfest.org](http://www.grandcanyonmusicfest.org)

**August 31 – 8:30 p.m.** Centennial Speaker Series: We Call the Canyon Home with Stephen Hirst, McKee Amphitheater Grand Canyon South Rim

**August 10 – 8:30 p.m.** Centennial Speaker Series: Grand Canyon: The Teachings of Place Amy Martin, McKee Amphitheater Grand Canyon South Rim

**August 14 – 8:00 p.m.** Centennial Speaker Series: Early Life at the North Rim with Martha McKee, Grand Canyon Lodge Auditorium, North Rim

**August 23 – 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.** Grand Canyon National Park Centennial Perspectives: A Lecture Series – *Hualapai and the Grand Canyon*, NAU Cline Library <https://nau.edu/library/events/>

**August 24 – 8:30 p.m.** Centennial Speaker Series: Reflections from 1,000 days of Exploration below the Rim of Grand Canyon with Rich Rudow, McKee Amphitheater Grand Canyon South Rim

**August 28 – 8:00 p.m.** Centennial Speaker Series: Reflections from 1,000 days of Exploration below the Rim of

Grand Canyon with Rich Rudow, Grand Canyon Lodge Auditorium, North Rim

**September 13 – 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.** Grand Canyon National Park Centennial Perspectives: A Lecture Series – *Craig Childs*, NAU Cline Library <https://nau.edu/library/events/>

**October 12-13** – Of Time, Wind, and the River, Centennial Performance, NAU Ardrey Auditorium

**November 9 – 10** Native American Heritage Month Celebration. Cultural Demonstrators 9 a.m.- 4 p.m., Evening Program 7 p.m. Grand Canyon South Rim Visitor Center

## 2019 GCHS EVENTS

### AUGUST

#### OUTING: Tour of Historic Boat Collection

**Saturday August 17, 2019 9:30 a.m.**

*Join river historian Tom Martin for a tour of the historic boat collection. Revel in tales of whitewater daring-do and adventure. The tour should end by 11:30 a.m.*

Where: Meet at the west parking lot behind the IMAX Theater in Tusayan, 450 State Route 64, at 9:30 a.m. to view the Whitehall boat on display, after which we will carpool to the Museum Collection Building at South Rim to tour the historic boat collection.

RSVP by August 10th to Slim Woodruff at [outings@grandcanyonhistory.org](mailto:outings@grandcanyonhistory.org). Limited to 25 people.

### SEPTEMBER

#### OUTING: Tour of the South Rim Power House

**Saturday, September 7, 2019 10 a.m.**

*Join Ellen Brennan for an inside look at the iconic power house on the South Rim. Bring a flashlight in case we make it into the dark and dank depths. After the power house we may join a wrangler for a tour of the mule barn and blacksmith shop.*

Where: Meet at the train depot at 10:00 a.m.

Limited to 15 people, **currently full**. To join waiting list contact Slim Woodruff at [outings@grandcanyonhistory.org](mailto:outings@grandcanyonhistory.org)

### OCTOBER

#### FALL BOARD MEETING

**Sunday October 27, 2019 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.**

Flagstaff Public Library.

### JANUARY 2020

#### ANNUAL BOARD MEETING

**Saturday January 11, 2020 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.**

Flagstaff Public Library.

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## Rumble on the Rim: An Indigenous History of the Grand Canyon – July 27th



The Grand Canyon is an ageless wonder of the world. Though 2019 marks the Grand Canyon’s centennial as a national park, it has been home to Indigenous people for millennia. In response to the park’s anniversary, “Rumble on the Rim” will take place at the South Rim of Grand Canyon National Park on July 27th, 2019. The event will combine educational presentations with entertainment that features Indigenous voices from the Colorado Plateau.

Rumble on the Rim will focus specifically on the history of Grand Canyon from an Indigenous perspective. Speakers and performers include Vernon Masayesva, Ed Kabotie & Tha ‘Yoties, The Antelope Track Dance Group (Hopi), Davona Blackhorse, Havasupai Guardians of Grand Canyon, Havasupai Youth Ram dancers, Grammy nominee Radmilla Cody, Save the Confluence, Ryon Polequaptewaand World Champion Hoop Dancer Derrick Davis.

Rumble on the Rim is an all ages event open to the public without additional cost to visitors of Grand Canyon National Park, as room permits, from 10am-4pm at the Shrine Of The Ages on Saturday, July 27th. For more information contact Ed Kabotie @ 505.274.6822 or Alicyn Gitlin @ 520.491.9528 or 928.774.6514.

## Grand Canyon Music Festival Celebrates the Park Centennial



Ed Mell

In 2000, the Grand Canyon Music Festival was chosen by the American Composers Forum to represent the state of Arizona in a nationwide White House Centennial Celebration. They

chose the young Mohican composer Brent Michael Davids to create this new work, centered on the Havasupai Guardians of the Grand Canyon. At the world premiere performance, on July 4, 2000, then GCNP Superintendent Rob Arnberger welcomed the Havasupai, saying this was the first time they were invited back into the park since their eviction.

On June 22, 2019 the Grand Canyon Music Festival kicked-off its park Centennial Celebrations with a sunset performance of Brent Michael Davids’s “Guardians of the Grand Canyon,” performed by the Havasupai Guardians of the Canyon and flutists Brent Michael Davids (on crystal flute), Clare Hoffman (on European flute), traditional Native cedar flute, clay flute, and two percussionists, followed by the annual Star Party with the Tucson Amateur Astronomy Association.

Grand Canyon Music Festival continues its Grand Canyon National Park Centennial Celebrations August 23 to September 7.

Location: Shrine of the Ages, South Rim Grand Canyon National Park

\* \* \* \* \*

## Anita Mine Outing Report

On Sunday, April 28, 2019, 20 intrepid historians joined Forest Service archeologists Neil Weintraub and Margaret Hangan on an exploration of the Anita Mining District.

During the late 1890s and early 1900s, a mini copper boom was in progress in Northern Arizona with the Last Chance Mine on Grandview being one of the more notorious claims. Bucky O’Neil and William Lockridge had filed claims south of the Grand Canyon. Ore was hauled to Williams via a steam-powered tractor. This interfered with profits, so O’Neil raised \$200,000 from local businessmen to build the Santa Fe and Grand Canyon Railroad to Anita Junction in 1898.

Ore cars from the Anita mine ran downhill to Anita Junction, whereupon the ore was loaded onto the train en route to a smelter in Williams. Things looked rosy when a vein of 60% copper was uncovered, but the ore panned out when they reached the Redwall Limestone 540 feet down. The smelter in Williams could not operate due to lack of water. Thus do the dreams of hard rock miners die.

Bucky O’Neil famously marched off to Cuba before he could



Main stem of the Anita Mine



A Large Ancestral Puebloan Site

lose his shirt on the mine. As Patrick John Putt noted in his 1991 historical overview (“South Kaibab National Forest: A Historical Overview,” research paper, 30 June 1991 NAU Cline Library), Bucky died before he could realize one of the best business decisions he ever made – selling the Anita claims.

In late 1900s, the Anita mines closed. However the Santa Fe system obtained the bankrupt railroad to extend the line to the South Rim in 1901, thus opening up the area to tourism.

We visited the Emerald Mine, the old Lockridge Cabin, Copperopolis, and the Anita Mine. Neil and Margaret gave us a good overview of how the mining artifacts can be used to date the site. Some of the most common artifacts were bottle fragments from Dr. Kilmer’s Swamp Root Cure. Most of these cures contained opiates or alcohol, making them understandably popular. In 1906, the Food and Drug Act influenced peddlers of these snake oils to switch from the word “cure” to “remedy”. Since most of the bottles found at the Anita site were labeled “cure”, this helps date the site to the pre-1905 era. It is astounding how much one can learn from rusted cans and broken china; a timely reminder of how important it is to leave such sites undisturbed.

Our thanks to our hard-working Forest Service personnel who spent part of their weekend escorting us around the Forest. It was decided by popular vote that Copperopolis is too cool of a name to die out, and we need to produce a t-shirt that reads “Repopulate Copperopolis”.

– Slim Woodruff

\* \* \* \* \*

### May Outing Report: Jim Olhman First Ascents

The day was blustery and cold, so rather than meeting at Shoshone Point we obtained a meeting room at the Grand Canyon Recreation Center. Jim provided large-scale topo maps for our use and regaled us with stories of following the route of the proposed cross-canyon tramway which was surveyed in 1919. We heard of the almost disastrous 2008 climb of Shiva to scatter the ashes of Ruth Stephens Baker, who climbed Shiva with Kolb and his daughter, Edith. Trivia question: what is the last unclimbed butte inside GC? Thanks to Jim for his time.

– Slim Woodruff

\* \* \* \* \*

## 2019 Grand Canyon Historical Society Grant Award Winners

Two GCHS Grants were awarded this past April. Congratulations awardees!

Christina Lake is a third year doctoral student at Texas A&M University. The GCHS grant will cover travel expenses to visit archives in Phoenix, Tucson and Grand Canyon. Her dissertation will use the tourism practices of the Fred Harvey Company and the Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fe Railroad to understand social change in the American Southwest through the intersection of gender, labor, and indigeneity in the tourism industry between the 1880s and 1940s. Her research focus will be on recovering voices of both white and Native women, highlighting their commercial and artistic endeavors. Through this research Christine aims to argue for a more inclusive cultural memory regarding the Harvey Company, Santa Fe Railroad tourism, and the National Park Service to be incorporated into larger studies of the Greater Southwest, tourism, and women’s history.

Harris Abernathy is a master’s student at Middle Tennessee State University and presented a paper at the 2019 Grand Canyon History Symposium. He will use the GCHS grant to fund travel to Northern Arizona University’s Cline Library for archival research of the Kolb Collection for documentation of Ellsworth Kolb’s expeditions in the Black Canyon of the Gunnison. He plans to determine what developments or innovations in whitewater boating emerged from Ellsworth’s three trips, how did the crews navigate the rapids, and how has adventure filmmaking played a role in the growing popularity of whitewater rafting. Harris will also personally retrace parts of Kolb’s trip. The results of this research will be a paper at the upcoming Colorado River Runners conference plus a chapter in a planned book based on Harris’s master’s thesis *Unobtainable Else: The Grand Canyon, Mules, and the Photographers for the National Park’s Most Controversial Trail*.

\* \* \* \* \*

### Annual Picnic

Shoshone Point once more offered its stunning viewscapes as the setting for the Grand Canyon Historical Society’s Annual Picnic and Awards Ceremony. The active monsoon season responded graciously by opening a weather window for us the afternoon of July 13th. Nearly 40 Society members and families took advantage of it to celebrate the Society in this the Centennial year of Grand Canyon National Park.

Attendees carpooled or shared volunteer vehicles that helped ferry supplies and people up the dirt road to the Shoshone ramada, while those eager for a bit of Sunday afternoon exercise walked the mile plus stretch to the picnic site.

GCHS Board Secretary Jack Pennington was again in charge of the grill this year. Jack quickly coaxed alive the coals and got everyone’s choices over the flames. Old friends and new friends



Jack Pennington at the grill

used the time to feast on the fruits, veggies, and snacks while introducing themselves for the first time or saying hello again for the umpteenth time.

Soon it was time for GCHS Treasurer Brian Blue to open the festivities with a welcome and an update on current GCHS activities, including the effort to digitize the Society's large collection of files, documents and photos at NAU's Cline Library as well as the progress being made with our robust Oral History



Brian Blue program.

Brian also noted the Board's efforts to evaluate and report back results from the recent post-Centennial Symposium survey. He encouraged folks to let the Board know if there were any additional suggestions that should be considered in planning the next Symposium in 2022. Finally, GCHS Board members introduced themselves to the members and guests and then everyone headed for the grill where Jack had worked his barbecue magic for yet another year.

Some members sampled the dessert offerings first, still there was plenty for everyone once the brats and hotdogs were finished off. Watermelon slices were a big hit. Time seemed to pass quickly though, as the moment soon arrived to honor this year's GCHS awardees. The cameras came out as Dick Brown presented Erik Berg with this year's Pioneer Award, while "Pioneer" Al Richmond did the honors in bestowing the GCHS Hall of Fame Award to Jon and Suzette Streit.

No one was in a hurry to leave, as there were conversations

yet to have, pictures yet to take, and, importantly, food yet to eat. Ultimately, the weather window began to close and dark clouds signaled an imminent return to the pattern of afternoon rains on the South Rim.

Brian thanked everyone for their presence and support in making the picnic such a success again this year. He closed out the afternoon by reminding everyone to hold the date of July 11, 2020 for the next GCHS Annual Picnic at Shoshone Point. See you all then.

– David Schaller



\* \* \* \* \*

**2019 GRAND CANYON HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
PIONEER AWARD  
Presented with appreciation to Erik Berg for:**

- His continued membership in the Grand Canyon Historical Society (GCHS) since 2007;
- His six years of service as a GCHS Board member;
- His four years of service to the Society serving as President



Erik Berg

and an additional one year as Vice-President;

- His willingness to serve as the Outings Coordinator for the GCHS during his tenure as Board member;
- His service to the GCHS for two years as Membership Coordinator;

• Reviving the energy and spirit to the membership of the GCHS after the especially difficult planning and implementation of the 2007 History Symposium, in which many of

the Board members suffered burn-out and left the Society;

- His numerous contributions to the understanding of



Grand Canyon's history, including his many scholarly articles that have appeared in *The Journal of Arizona History*, *Boatman's Quarterly Review*, *Canyon Views*, and *The Ol' Pioneer*;

• His pre-eminent role in planning the 2012 GCHS History Symposium in which he served on the Steering, Speaker, Program and Planning Committees.

**Granted this 13th day of July 2019  
At Grand Canyon National Park**

\* \* \* \* \*

### **Hall of Fame Awards Jon Streit and Suzette Streit**

The twenty-first annual Grand Canyon Hall of Fame Awards were presented at the Society's Annual Picnic at Shoshone Point on Saturday, July 13, 2019. The names of the recipients are engraved on the permanent plaque housed in the Shrine of Ages. Two awards are usually made each year to recognize service to the Grand Canyon community. These 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.



Jon and Suzette Streit

Text as it appears on the permanent plaque in the Shrine of 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-first 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: Jon Streit and Suzette Streit. Short bios follow:

**Jon Streit** served for twenty years as Executive Director and General Manager of Grand Canyon Lodges. If that were not enough, Jon made time to serve on a number of boards and also volunteer with other community services. He served on the following boards: Grand Canyon School, Coconino County Community College President's Advisory, Flagstaff AYSO, Grand Canyon Music Festival, Grand Canyon Historical Society, Arizona Lodging & Tourism, and Grand Canyon Youth. He and his wife Suzette

raised their three children at Grand Canyon and this led him to serve as a High School Booster Club Volunteer and participate in various fundraisers for Grand Canyon School. Somewhere in all of this he also managed to volunteer as an AYSO soccer coach and worked to preserve Fred Harvey history with the owners of La Posada and La Fonda Hotels. Finally, his Thanksgiving and Christmas spirit moved him to deliver holiday food baskets to community members in need.

**Suzette Streit's** twenty years at the Canyon were marked by constant service to the community. In addition to the full-time job of raising three children, she volunteered and served the Grand Canyon school in many capacities. This included as a member of the Grand Canyon School Board, PTA, one-on-one reader with the literacy program, participation in various fundraisers for Grand Canyon School, and a ready volunteer for a whole variety of school programs. Her service as the High School Booster Club President led to her raising funds for college and sports camp scholarships. She also lent her culinary skills to providing meals for team travel and hosting sports banquets. The school gym is still graced by several High School sports championship banners that Suzette made. Outside of the school, she helped distribute food with St. Mary's Food Bank during the government shutdown and volunteered with El Christo Rey Catholic Chapel. Finally, her Thanksgiving and Christmas spirit moved her to assemble holiday food baskets for community members in need.

\* \* \* \* \*

### **Another "First Grand Canyon Visit"**

It's not too late to submit your 150 word "First Grand Canyon Visit" stories. Send to: [myfirstGCvisit@grandcanyonhistory.org](mailto:myfirstGCvisit@grandcanyonhistory.org)

#### **1988 Pamela Edwards**

*Like the terminal illness sweeping through my mother's body, the monsoonal storm swept through the canyon. The tempestuous clouds and sheets of rain danced with the buttes and mesas; the Desert View Watchtower stood behind us. My mother captured the poetic dance with her 35mm SLR, and I, as a 15-year-old, stood next to her absorbing the visual feast.*

*While I was not fully aware of my mother's grave condition, my parents knew otherwise, so my father planned this journey to the Grand Canyon. We visited both*



Taken from Desert View, 1988

rim, enjoying the diversity that defines this remarkable landscape.

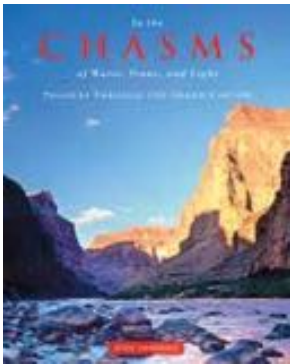
*My mother died four months after we returned home. The beautiful images she took that day brought solace after she passed. I also can't help but wonder if any subliminal seeds were planted during that trip - the canyon would call me back again and become my home.*

\* \* \* \* \*

### New Book

In the Chasms of Water, Stone and Light: Passages Through the Grand Canyon, John Annerino, c.2019, Schiffer Publishing, 176 pages, \$34.99

From publisher's description: "John Annerino takes us off the Grand Canyon's tourist grid to retrace the footpaths and rough-water passages of its earliest explorers. Spectacular photographs and stories of Annerino's own dicey expeditions in the canyon and on the Colorado River are juxtaposed with historical tales, illustrations, and black-and-white images taken by pioneering photographers. Annerino visits the ancient sites of native peoples who roamed the far corners of this otherworldly abyss, and in vivid prose provides firsthand descriptions of the hidden landscapes explored by Spanish missionaries, scientists, National Geographic Society parties, and women river runners."



\* \* \* \* \*

### Call for Board Nominees

The Grand Canyon Historical Society (GCHS) will be electing new members to the board this fall to serve a three-year term. If you are interested in being a nominee for the board or know somebody who would be a good candidate, please send a nominee submission, including a brief bio, of no more than 250 words, by October 15th to:

GCHS Secretary at [secretary@grandcanyonhistory.org](mailto:secretary@grandcanyonhistory.org)

Qualification to be a Board member requires a love of the Grand Canyon and its history and a willingness to provide time and expertise in support of the Society's mission. Board member duties include providing input on Board decisions, electing officers, selecting scholarship and award recipients, helping to arrange or support outings, and planning/implementing the next History Symposium.

Board members need to be GCHS members in good standing and do not necessarily need to live in Flagstaff or at the Grand Canyon as a lot of business is conducted through phone and email. These are volunteer positions; attendance at all meetings is strongly encouraged. Board meetings are

usually conducted in Flagstaff or at the South Rim from one to four times a year. Ideally Board members will always attend the annual meeting in January where officers are elected.

An interview by the nominating committee may be part of the candidate selection process. All applying will be placed on a ballot that may have nominating committee recommendations. In November ballots will be sent to the membership with election results determined and candidates notified on or before December 5th.

Having an active board and officers is critical to maintaining a healthy and active society - please consider applying or nominating someone. If you have any questions please contact:

President Dave Mortenson at [president@grandcanyonhistory.org](mailto:president@grandcanyonhistory.org).

\* \* \* \* \*

### Outings Leaders Needed

Do you have some esoteric area of expertise? Do you know of an interesting historic site that you would like to share? We need outings ideas and leaders. Contact Haley or Slim at [outings@grandcanyonhistory.org](mailto:outings@grandcanyonhistory.org) with your ideas.

\* \* \* \* \*

**A CAMERA AND A CANYON**  
THE PHOTOGRAPHY OF THE KOLB BROTHERS

Exhibit open  
May 3 through August 2019  
Pioneer Museum  
2340 N Fort Valley Road  
Flagstaff Arizona 86001

For hours, please call  
928-774-6272 or visit  
[arizona-historical-society.org/Flagstaff](http://arizona-historical-society.org/Flagstaff)

Fans of Grand Canyon are familiar with the extreme adventure photography of Emory and Elsworth Kolb. The Kolbs created a lucrative business making movies and taking pictures of routes along the trail beginning in 1895. From the brothers' results presented at the edge of the canyon, Emory publicly showed historic color footage of the falls shooting Colorado River rapids. In celebration of the Grand Canyon National Park Centennial, the Arizona Historical Society proudly presents A Camera and a Canyon: The Photography of the Kolb Brothers to showcase our collection of unique personal artifacts and prints. On exhibit at Pioneer Museum through mid-August 2019.

*The Bulletin welcomes comments, stories, reflections and remembrances. Please send them to Karen Greig at [thebulletin@grandcanyonhistory.org](mailto:thebulletin@grandcanyonhistory.org).*

# “... bigger than the great tower of Seville”: Sizing Up the 1540 Encounter in Grand Canyon

by Earle Spamer

This is “old news,” but to recap: In September 1540 a small party of Spaniards from Francisco Vázquez de Coronado’s main expeditionary force was led from the Hopi mesas to somewhere on Grand Canyon’s South Rim. From there they could see the Colorado River. Captain Pablo de Melgosa (24 years old), Juan Galeras (23), and an unnamed third were confounded in their attempt to clamber down to it.

The story of Coronado’s *entrada* into New Spain’s northern frontier was not written down in 1540. In fact, the expedition’s chronicler, Pedro de Castañeda de Nagara, didn’t get around to it until sometime in the 1560s while he was in Culiacán, in today’s Mexico. The retrospective narrative was sent on to Seville, Spain, where a copy was made in 1596. After that the original was lost. The copy is now in the New York Public Library (the entire manuscript has been digitized and can be viewed online). It had wound up in the belongings of Henri Ternaux-Compans in France, who in 1838 was the first to publish Castañeda’s account, although in a liberal French translation. Ternaux-Compans’ papers were bought by Massachusetts bibliographer–bookseller Obadiah Rich, then went to bibliophile and philanthropist James Lenox, whose own library merged in 1895 with two other institutions to form the New York Public Library. There, using the 300-year-old copy, George Parker Winship in 1896 was the first to publish Castañeda’s narrative in its original Spanish and in English translation.

At first everything at the canyon was smaller than life. Despite their Hopi guides telling them to the contrary, the men thought the river was more like a brook. It would be an easy matter to go down to it, too. The

Hopi were right. Castañeda related (Winship’s translation):

“Those who stayed above had estimated that some huge rocks on the sides of the cliffs seemed to be about as tall as a man, but those that went down swore that when they reached these rocks they were bigger than the great tower of Seville.”

The “great tower” refers of course to the prominent architectural landmark, *La Giralda*, the magnificent bell tower adjacent to Seville’s Cathedral of Santa María de la Sede (though it was not called *La Giralda* until the 1570s). In 1540 it was already nearly 370 years old. It’s undergone major reconstruction over the years, most recently in 1568 when it was raised to its present 342 feet. But it doesn’t seem right that a rock by itself would be that huge, even in the Grand Canyon. A more modern translation by Richard and Shirley Cushing Flint reads Winship’s “huge rocks” as “several smallish blocks.” Placing ourselves in the men’s position, gigantic buttresses or “huge rocks” of the canyon wall could be rock masses they compared to the elevation of the great tower. *But how tall was the tower in 1540?*

*La Giralda* is a dignified edifice, ample enough to contain a series of 35 ramps designed to allow mounted riders to pass side by side. It was originally—in the 12th century—part of a mosque built over a long time by the Muslim occupiers of the country. It underwent a number of modifications over the centuries, during the Muslim occupation as well as under its later Catholic owners, responding to periods of neglect, ecclesiastical revision, and the occasional Divine revision by earthquakes (in 1356, 1511, 1635, and 1888, not all of which seriously



*La Giralda* today. (Source: Alejandro Sancho, “La Giralda de Sevilla desde la cubierta de la Catedral” [The Giralda of Seville from the roof of the Cathedral], Wikimedia Commons free license, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Turrisonobilissima.jpg>.)

affected the tower). The substantial bottom part of the structure has stood up well all these years, but its top part is what changed several times. The latest major additions (1568) are the magnificent bell tower and its lofty statue/weathervane, *La Giraldilla*.

Fortunately, in the 1980s the long-suffering tower submitted to significant restoration of its aged pieces, accompanied by a lot of research into its history, its many architectural elements, and the



An artistic rendering from 1909 comparing the current Tower of Seville (*center*) to its appearance in 1198 (*left*) and 1400 (*right*). The drawing on the right shows how it would have been known to the Spaniards who visited Grand Canyon in 1540. (Although the right-hand tower is not quite like the multiple reconstructions shown in Jiménez and Cabeza's more definitive 2008 book, it is very similar to their 1400 perspective. See their book for additional illustrations of differences in ornamentation between these views.) (Source: "Los tres principales estados de la torre de Sevilla, 1909, autor Alejandro Guichot (Museo de Artes y Costumbres Populares de Sevilla)" [The three main states of the tower of Seville, 1909, author Alejandro Guichot (Museum of Arts and Popular Customs of Seville)]. *Wikimedia Commons* free license, [https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Archivo:Variaciones\\_giralda.jpg](https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Archivo:Variaciones_giralda.jpg).)

comings and goings of its upper part. A richly illustrated 1988 book in Spanish, by Alfonso Jiménez and José María Cabeza, details the renovations and history. Reading from contemporary records, there are at least four episodes of major construction through the 18th century. The top was most affected, while many of the modifications to the bottom were in redesigning windows and placing statues and ornamentation that the builders of the mosque would have abhorred.

Although the mosque was first

commissioned in 1171, it wasn't until 1198 that records show it had an upper minaret portion that reached to the level half-way between today's belfry and statue. In 1400 it hosted a redesigned upper tower, which reached about to the same level as its predecessor and contained a bell just beneath its crowning cross. In 1555 a plan was proposed to emplace an ungainly, heavy-looking capital with a pyramidal top; but in 1568 the top was transfigured instead into the stately form it has today, though with the addition of saints' statues that no longer survive. In 1771 the tower boasted its most ornamented style (still with saints), but these cosmetic embellishments have not all lasted.

In essence, the great tower was from its beginning an imposing structure. Before soaring to its current 342 feet, despite occasional remodeling it had always been closer to about 300 feet. That's the tower as Captain Melgosa and the others knew it, and the only great height to which they could easily compare in retelling what they had seen down in the canyon.

In more recent time it's been customary to compare the size of Grand Canyon to other man-made marvels, like the Eiffel Tower, five of which have been visually "stacked" in it to make the canyon's depth easier to comprehend. But to the men from Spain it would have been even more monumental—about *seventeen* Giraldas would be needed to reach from river to rim. Imagine, then, their astonishment if we were to tell them that, riding at an impossible 60 miles per hour on a bridge across the chasm, it would take nearly 20 minutes to cross to the north side at the head of Bright Angel Canyon. Saints preserve us.

[Thanks to Richard Quartaroli for prompts and comments.]

*Sources and reading (not all in English)*

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*Naçera donde setrata de todos aquellos poblados y ritos, y costumbres, la qual fue el Año De 1540.* In the Rich Collection of the New York Public Library, <http://archives.nypl.org/mss/2570>. [Manuscript in Spanish, 1596 copy of a lost 1560s original, transcribed by Bartolome Niño Velázquez. The encounter with Grand Canyon appears on folio 45 recto and verso, and folio 46 recto and verso.]

Flint, Richard, and Shirley Cushing Flint (eds., translators, annotators), *Documents of the Coronado Expedition, 1539-1542: "they were not familiar with His Majesty, nor did they wish to be his subjects."* Southern Methodist University Press (Dallas, 2005), 747 pp. [Texts in Spanish and English translation. The encounter with Grand Canyon appears on pp. 397-398, 451.]

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Winship, George Parker, *The Coronado expedition, 1540-1542. U.S. Bureau of Ethnology, 14th Annual Report (1896), Part 1, pp. 329-613.* [Texts in Spanish and English translation. The encounter with Grand Canyon appears on pp. 429, 489.]

# Dock's Oct. 10, 1910 Letter to Marshall

by Michael D. Mauer

**A**biographical note: I and my brother Pat Mauer first visited the Grand Canyon in 1963 with the express purpose of locating John Hance's homestead (see end note 20). Patrick A. Mauer is an M. D. whose practice was in Los Angeles. He studied cardiology under Dr. William Dock, George Dock's son. Both George and William Dock were friends of our father, which eventually led to us obtaining George Dock's journals and photos from his early 20th Century visits to Grand Canyon. This article is based on just a small portion of those journals and photos. Michael D Mauer has a M.A. in Anthropology from the University of Arizona.

A note for the reader: Place names, unless otherwise noted, will be found in Granger's 1983 *Arizona's Names*. Minor changes to paragraphs and punctuation have been made in the interests of clarity. Otherwise the letters are as written. Extensive use of commas will be apparent. This is an idiosyncrasy of Dock's writing; he was far from a casual writer, having a bibliography of 196 published items. Dock took hundreds of photographs of the Kaibab and Grand Canyon. He used a 4X5 camera and developed his plates in the field. Unfortunately, the negatives have not been located.

On October 10, 1910 George Dock, M.D.<sup>1</sup> wrote his brother-in-law, Edwin Jessop Marshall<sup>2</sup> about his mid-August to mid-September sojourn to the Kaibab Plateau and the Bar Z spread in Northern Arizona. Dock was beginning his tenure on the medical faculty at Washington University, St. Louis. Marshall had, in 1907, acquired the old VT outfit on the Kaibab which became the nucleus of the Grand Canyon Cattle Company's vast range on the Arizona Strip.

This was no mere camping trip nor was the Bar Z outfit a dude ranch. Dock was no ordinary dude either. He was born at Hopewell, Pennsylvania in 1860, and received his medical degree from the University of Pennsylvania in 1884. He then traveled to Europe to continue his studies, returning to the university to become Assistant Pathologist under William Osler, M.D. A distinguished teaching career followed, culminating at Washington University at St. Louis where he taught from 1910 until 1922.

Edwin Jessop Marshall was born at Baltimore, Maryland, also in 1860. He was married to Dock's first wife's sister, Sallie McLemore. Marshall's first jobs were in various capacities with what are now the Union Pacific and Santa Fe railroad systems. He next became involved with stock raising, buying a ranch near Lampasas, Texas, and becoming cashier of the

First National Bank of Lampasas. In 1901 he became financially involved in the Spindletop oil field near Beaumont, Texas. In 1904 Marshall relocated to Los Angeles. His reputation as an astute businessman had preceded him. Upon arrival he assumed the office of vice president of the Southwestern National Bank of Los Angeles, a position he retained until its consolidation with the First National Bank in 1905. Shortly after Marshall's arrival in California, J. S. Torrance offered him five adjacent ranches in Santa Barbara County, of which he bought three containing 42,000 acres. This became Marshall's famous Jesus Maria Rancho. Near the beginning of World War II the Jesus Maria was acquired by the United States and now forms part of Vandenberg Air Force Base. Marshall also controlled the Chino Ranch in Southern California and the gigantic Palomas Rancho in Chihuahua.

Of his first trip to the South Rim of the Grand Canyon in 1905, Dock wrote in his unpublished autobiography, *Apologia pro vita mea*, "On starting for the coast (to attend medical meetings), and wishing to see something of the Grand Canyon of the Colorado, I followed the advice of Dr. T. Mitchell Prudden<sup>3</sup> an expert on the region, and went first to the Grand View Hotel... I then became possessed by a wish to get nearer these features, but for



8.23.10 Drive – VT Park

all photos by William Dock

several years found it impossible. As a substitute I reread the early explorations of the district, from the reports of J. W. Powell, Dellenbaugh and his successors, and the Tertiary History of the Grand Canyon District by Clarence E. Dutton, with its magnificent Atlas.

"Soon after that, the way was being prepared for a visit on a scale I could have never planned myself. My brother-in-law, Edward (*sic*) J. Marshall, a cattle rancher in Texas, moved to California and acquired the basis of [an Arizona] ranch by buying the water rights on the Kaibab Plateau. [He] rapidly built this up to everything a cattle ranch should be, raising pedigreed Hereford Cattle."

It was during this period at the Medical School that Dock made his three month-long trips, 1910, 1916, and 1921, to the Kaibab Plateau and the depths of the Canyon. In 1922 he and his wife, Laura McLemore Dock, moved to Altadena, California and he established his private medical practice at Pasadena. It was his desire to be nearer his relatives, the Marshalls. Dock's letter to Marshall is below:

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Oct. 2, 1910

Dear Ed:

The greatest regret in changing our plans is in missing you and Sallie, and telling you something of our great trip. I find so much to do here that I feel better satisfied than I should be abroad, and then the boys never took kindly to the idea, and, on the other hand are very happy here. I think Laura is, too. Just at present we have no definite plan for next summer. We are comfortably settled in, everyone is very hospitable, so that we expect a delightful winter. I hope we may have a chance of seeing some or all of you here. Perhaps Marcus can come for Xmas vacation.

As you know, we could not send many letters out from the mountain and so I waited until we were more certain about the matter. I don't believe anyone ever had a better



2811 Chas Dimmick 8.30.10

Chas Dimmick 8.30.10

trip than we had. We had no trouble about the foods going to Lund. [Ike or Isaac] Brown had got in just two hours before, with one horse sick, and on account of the heavy roads we decided to take another team, especially as we had to haul our own feed. As Fred Burkholder at Lund was ready to make the trip, we got off in good time next morning. We also got a horse with the option of buying

for forty-five dollars or renting at fifty cents a day. He was a good horse, and Brown was willing to buy him, but [Charles] Dimmick<sup>4</sup> did. He got lost at the pasture<sup>5</sup> at Bright Angel Point, along with two of the work horses, but I hope they have all been found by this time. On account of the heavy sand in the roads, and the drought, we did not make as good time as you had outlined, but we made good



2812 Ranch house + store house at Cane Beds, Ariz

Ranch house + store house at Cane Beds, Ariz



244 breaking camp 8.23.10 11 a.m.

breaking camp 8.23.10 11 a.m.

enough time, had very good places for our stops at noon and night, and enjoyed the ride across the desert thoroughly.

At the Mormon towns, like Cedars (*sic*), Toquerville and Fredonia, we stocked up with delicious fruit – figs, pears, apples, grapes, tomatoes, and at the last-named place potatoes and onions, most of which lasted until the end [of our trip]. When we got to Cane Beds, at one a. m. (*sic*), owing to drying up of a water pool since Brown had gone out and horses getting tired accordingly, we stayed over a day to recuperate. We got the utensils, some cots and chairs and the table, and enjoyed the scenery, [water?] troughs, doves, bucking horses and other attractions of the place.

We spent the night at Ryan City<sup>6</sup> a very good thing, as the first experience of the mountains at that place is particularly attractive. No one was there but a ranger and his small family and the old soldier at the saloon – nothing doing there. We used the cook-stove in one of the houses, but could not use the pipe for a bath as the main pipe was closed up. From there to V.T. (*sic*) Park<sup>7</sup> was fine, though the roads are in pretty bad condition. We would have upset several times had it not been that the washes were so deep [that] the side of the wagon rested on

the earth above. The wagon was not injured in the least. Dimmick came in soon after we did, and we arranged to stay over the next day to fit out.

[Uncle Jimmy] Owens was at the ranger's quarters, and gave me an invitation to stay at his camp at B. A. (Bright Angel). Next day it rained



243 U.S. Ranger's house VT Park

U.S. Ranger's house VT Park



251 freight wagon

freight wagon



2611 near Neal's Spring 8.28.10 9 a.m.

that the lions probably know the dogs, and keep out of the way.

Then we went to Greenland for three days, with packs, beginning at the Northwest end, above Neal's Spring (*sic*) and riding along the rim to Cliff Spring.<sup>11</sup> We camped there one night, under the cliff. That is a fine trip, and it would be worthwhile spending a couple of weeks in that part of the canyon, but a still greater trip is the one to Point Sublime, where we went next, camping out on the point, which gave us sunrise and sunset over the canyon. We saw many deer there, as well as other places. Then we packed a big load and started for the buffalo.<sup>12</sup>

Dimmick came down as we were mending our saddles and other stuff preparatory to that and suggested a different road which was most interesting. He also brought part of a calf which we enjoyed for several days. Jim and his dogs, and a ranger went with us as far as the water troughs at the bottom of South Canyon, which has an interesting trail and shows up the most picturesque wooded canyons, mountains and cliffs to be seen anywhere. There are also some fine cliff-dwellings, which we explored, having to kill a

which did not bother us. We had camped on the South side, in the woods, and our beds were perfectly protected by the trees. We got our flour, bacon and some other supplies, and in the afternoon they [Dimmick and Owens?] killed a cow, barren and off color, but the best meat you ever want to eat. Dimmick gave us the tongue, liver, and plenty of steak. The next day, after seeing the [cattle?] drive, we left about noon and got to Bright Angel in time to fix our camp under a big tree and walk out to the point before supper. We drove the saddle horses ahead, the men having brought them up from Greenland<sup>8</sup> the night before. Fred (Burkeholder) came all the way, so our wagon was not very heavily loaded, and we unpacked, put the supplies in Owens' house and used his stove. The Klondike stove<sup>9</sup> was lost, probably used up, as we saw the wreck of one later at V. T. Park, but we did not need it. When we camped away from headquarters we cooked over the coals.

We first made a trip to the points running out from the basin<sup>10</sup> and Outlet Canyon. We took the dogs, hoping to get a lion, and we did strike

the trail of one and Jim and George followed the dogs away down the canyon, but the dogs lost the scent, and we never got so near one again. Jim has cleaned the lions up pretty thoroughly, for we saw only two or three tracks altogether, and besides



2612 Jim Owens 8.31.10 en route to Point Sublime





paririe (*sic*) almost to Soap Creek. As Dimmick had just come from Lee's Ferry, bringing some fine melons, we did not think the animals could be up there. We rode up to the Pools, and all over the Bad Lands on that side, and then gave it up and started for V. T. Park. We had a fine ride up to the top of Buckskin and on through Pleasant Valley and the parks, and while camping at V. T. a ranger told us the buffalo were all at Jacob's (*sic*) Lake. It was then too late to start for there, The whole trip, however, had taken us in such new country, and the experience of the desert was so novel and delightful, that we did not feel we had really missed anything. Then we rested a couple of days and started for Bright Angel Canyon.

For several days the aspens and scrub oaks and berry bushes had been turning – we had some slight freezes – and the slopes and ledges had been quite brilliant. [Dave] Rust and his men guided us down their trail, we camped one night at the river, and then went to the other side, meeting Stephenson (see below) as you may have heard. After a day at El Tovar we took the Santa Fe and met Laura

328 ascent of Buckskins 9.7.10

ascent of Buckskins 9.7.10

rattlesnake, shot by George, before we could enter the best.<sup>13</sup>

Then we went around to the desert East of Buckskin and up to Cane Springs head-quarters, where we spent two nights. The night between (South Canyon and Cane Springs?) we spent at the house by the corrals watered from Jacob's Pool. We saw two old bulls there, but not even the tracks of the others, though we rode about twelve hours on two days, all over the pasture. We went to the end of the fence (Dock is probably referring to the cattle company's drift fence), in the canyon, finding two wires down but no signs of the herd going through, then up to the next canyon, quartering all over between, rode up that very rough canyon and over the



279 rock dwelling

rock dwelling

on schedule time, and reached here (St. Louis) without any noteworthy occurrence.

We are still talking of the numerous experiences. Of course the chance of seeing so much came from the influence of your name on all sides. Dimmick could not have done more for anyone, seeing that we got good horses and keeping an eye on our doings, beside providing what food and other materials we needed. Brown is an ideal man, indefatigable in his capacity of driver, packer, chief horse-wrangler, guide and always cheerful companion. His knowledge of the country is wonderful, and his keenness of sight and woodcraft [is] worth going a long ways to see. Bert 14 was a very good cook, and helpful in many ways at all times.

It was just as well we did not take our wives. Ladies have done the trip, not to mention rangers' wives and mothers and mothers-in-law, but it must complicate a trip very much. We needed no tent, for example. I hope sometime you and Marcus<sup>15</sup> can make it.

With love to all and many thanks to you, in which all join.

I am  
Yours sincerely

George Dock

P. S. I wanted to say something about the splendid condition of all the buildings, fences and other improvements on the ranch. They seemed all right to me and all the rangers and cowmen we met were loud in their praise.

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On October 17th Edwin Marshall replied:

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October 17, 1910

Dear George: your full and very interesting letter, descriptive of your trip to the Grand Canyon, was received yesterday, on our return to



23/2 Vaqueros VT Park

Vaqueros VT Park

Los Angeles, and was enjoyed not only by myself, but by all members of the family. I am intending to send it to Marcus, that he may also have the benefit of same.

Mr. Stephenson<sup>16</sup> is now engaged in shipping out 3,000 steers of the (Bar Z) brand, and working diligently

in an endeavor to gather two trains or about 3,000 cows, in order to lighten the range, he being of the opinion that we are likely to have a severe die-up, on account of the shortness of feed, should we encounter a severe winter. Therefore, every provision is being taken to provide against loss.

I am inclosing herewith Dimmick's original statement, and if agreeable to



20 - at VT Park 8-23-10 going for horses

at VT Park 8.23.10 going for horses



1917 The Basin  
the Basin

you, we will leave the amount as shown on the bill. I have little or no doubt but the team of horses will sooner or later be found, so do not let that matter annoy you. I have not yet heard any-thing regarding the bill of Burt Younkin, your cook, but he may have settled his account through Adams & Company. I will ascertain if this is so. If not, it will turn up in due course of time, when I will make payment and advise you of the amount.

I am writing somewhat hastily, and in the regular routine of cleaning up my desk.

With best wishes, believe me,

Sincerely yours,  
Ed

---

*Nearly twenty six years later, on August 24, 1936, Dock again wrote Marshall about his recent trip to the Kaibab lamenting the changes that had taken place since the Bar Z abandoned the Strip in 1924*

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Dear Ned:

I have just come back from a short visit to the Kaibab Plateau, which brought up memories of former visits there and your great kindness in so many ways. You may be interested in a few remarks on the subject.

I went as a guest of Billy<sup>17</sup> who was taking Marie and George<sup>18</sup> on a motor trip. I met him at Lund (Utah) and saw Cedar Breaks,<sup>19</sup> Bryce Canyon and Zion Canyon on the way to the mountain. We saw good old Ike Brown who has given up horse

raising for running a thrasher. His boy still runs some cattle. We went over the old familiar road through Fredonia, and on to Jacob's Lake. As there was nothing to keep us, we went to Bright Angel Point and from there spent four days going in various directions.

The roads are fine and they have a pretty complete system on Greenland and as far as Point Sublime. In building the roads they obliterated many of the old land marks (*sic*). Our old camping place at Neil's (*sic*) Spring is partly covered up with a big fill, the road branching to go up to Imperial Point which we used to call Skidoo and Cape Royal. Cliff Springs you reach by a trail off the road. These roads make it easy to get to the chief points, but on the other hand the absence of cattle and also of horses going back and forth along the Rim (*sic*) have allowed the scrub oaks to grow up so that it is quite impossible to walk along the Rim, much less to ride there.

The saddest thing to me was the obliteration of all the old evidences of ranch activity. Headquarters, springs at Headquarters and Neil's, corrals, salt houses, drinking troughs and everything else completely wiped out. This seems unfortunate as the preservation of the main features would have given an idea of the old grazing life that can not be replaced.<sup>20</sup>

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## Endnotes

1. For George Dock's obituary see <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC195158/pdf/mlab00238-0136.pdf>
2. For a biography and obituary of Edwin Jessop Marshall see <http://freepages.rootsweb.com/~npmelton/genealogy/lamar.htm>. For his New York Times obituary see <https://www.nytimes.com/1937/03/05/archives/edwin-marshall-cattle-king-dead-holding-millions-of-acres-of.html>
3. Dr. Dock undoubtedly knew T. Mitchell Prudden first as a medical man and pathologist. He had deep interests in the archaeology and ethnology of the Southwest. For an extensive biography of Prudden see <http://www.nasonline.org/publications/biographical-memoirs/memoir-pdfs/prudden-t-mitchell.pdf>
4. Dimmick was Charles Dimmick, foreman of the Bar Z outfit. See Rider, *The Roll Away Saloon*.
5. Dock seems to betray his eastern roots here; a westerner would probably use the word "range" rather than "pasture."
6. The optimistically named Ryan City is in T17S R1W. It was a short lived mining camp and is one of the more obscure places on the Arizona Strip.
7. VT Park is now known as DeMotte Park. Dock had a decided preference for the older names. VT Park is generally rendered without the periods.
8. Greenland Point was formally named Walhalla Plateau in 1906. Dock preferred the older geographic names and consistently used them in his writing about the Grand Canyon and the Kaibab.
9. A Klondike is a portable wood burning stove for camping. They are still made.
10. Outlet Canyon is the main drainage of The Basin. The Basin is located about 10.2 miles south of Kaibab Lodge in Sections 7, 8, 17 and 18, T33N, R3E in the De Motte Park Quadrangle. Outlet Canyon is not listed in Granger, 1983.
11. Cliff Spring is in T12N R13E. See Granger, Byrd H. 1983, *Arizona's Names, X Marks the Place: Historical Names of Places in Arizona*, Treasure Chest Publications, Tucson.
12. Dock is referring to the American bison, Bison bison. In 1906 E. F. (Buffalo) Jones and Uncle Jim Owens, brought bison to the House Rock Valley. The descendants of those critters are still there. See Easton, Robert and MacKenzie Brown, 1961, *Lord of the Beasts: The Saga of Buffalo Jones* University of Arizona Press, Tucson.

13. The prehistoric sites in South Canyon and nearby areas are described in Judd, Neil M., 1926, *Archeological Investigations North of the Rio Colorado*, Bureau of American Ethnology, *Bulletin* 82, pp. 80-82.
14. Bert Younkin was with Dock on all three of his Kaibab Plateau trips. The Docks moved from St. Louis to Southern California in 1922, and employed Younkin as a caretaker-cook until 1941 when he moved to Flint, Michigan to be with his twin brother.
15. Marcus Marshall was E. J. Marshall's son.
16. H. S. Stephenson, manager of and partner in the Palomas Rancho in Chihuahua, was long involved with the Grand Canyon Cattle Company.
17. Billy is William Dock, M.D. (1899 – 1990), Dr. Dock's younger son who was an eminent cardiologist. He served in the American Ambulance Corps in World War 1 and received the Croix de Guerre.
18. George *may be* William Dock M. D.'s son, and Marie *may be* George's wife.
19. Cedar Breaks National Monument is 23 miles east of Cedar City. It was established in 1933.
20. In the early 1960s, on my first trip to the canyon with my brother,

we enquired at the Park Service headquarters as to the location of our great grand uncle, John Hance's homestead. To our utter astonishment and dismay we were informed that his cabin had been demolished. We asked why this was done and received the ridiculous reply that it had been destroyed to prevent its being vandalized! History is fragile – so are its artifacts.

A bibliographic note: The best overall source of the history and archaeology of the Arizona Strip that I have seen is Jeffrey H. Altschul, and Helen C. Fairley, 1989, *Man, Models and Management: An Overview of the Archaeology of the Arizona Strip and the Management of Its Cultural Resources*. A few copies may be available online. Byrd Howell Granger's 1983 *Arizona's Names: X Marks the Place* is indispensable for any student of Arizona history.

*The Roll Away Saloon: Cowboy Tales of the Arizona Strip* by Rowland

W. Rider, as told to Deirdre Murray Paulsen, Published by the Utah State University, Logan (1987) is certainly worth adding to the Arizona Strip bibliography.

Finally, *Sharlot Hall on the Arizona Strip: A Diary of a Journey Through Northern Arizona in 1911* edited by C. Gregory Crampton (1975) makes an interesting comparison to Dock's writing.

A few acknowledgements are in order: my wife, Eileen O'Dwyer for her patience, and my brother, Patrick A. Mauer, M. D. for his keen editorial eye. The late Dove Menkes and the late Wesley Larson provided encouragement and access to their research materials. Without their interest these letters and Dock's autobiography would remain in literary limbo. To my old friend, John Hanson, Kaibab National Forest Archaeologist for alerting me to *Man, Models and Management* and sending me a copy.