

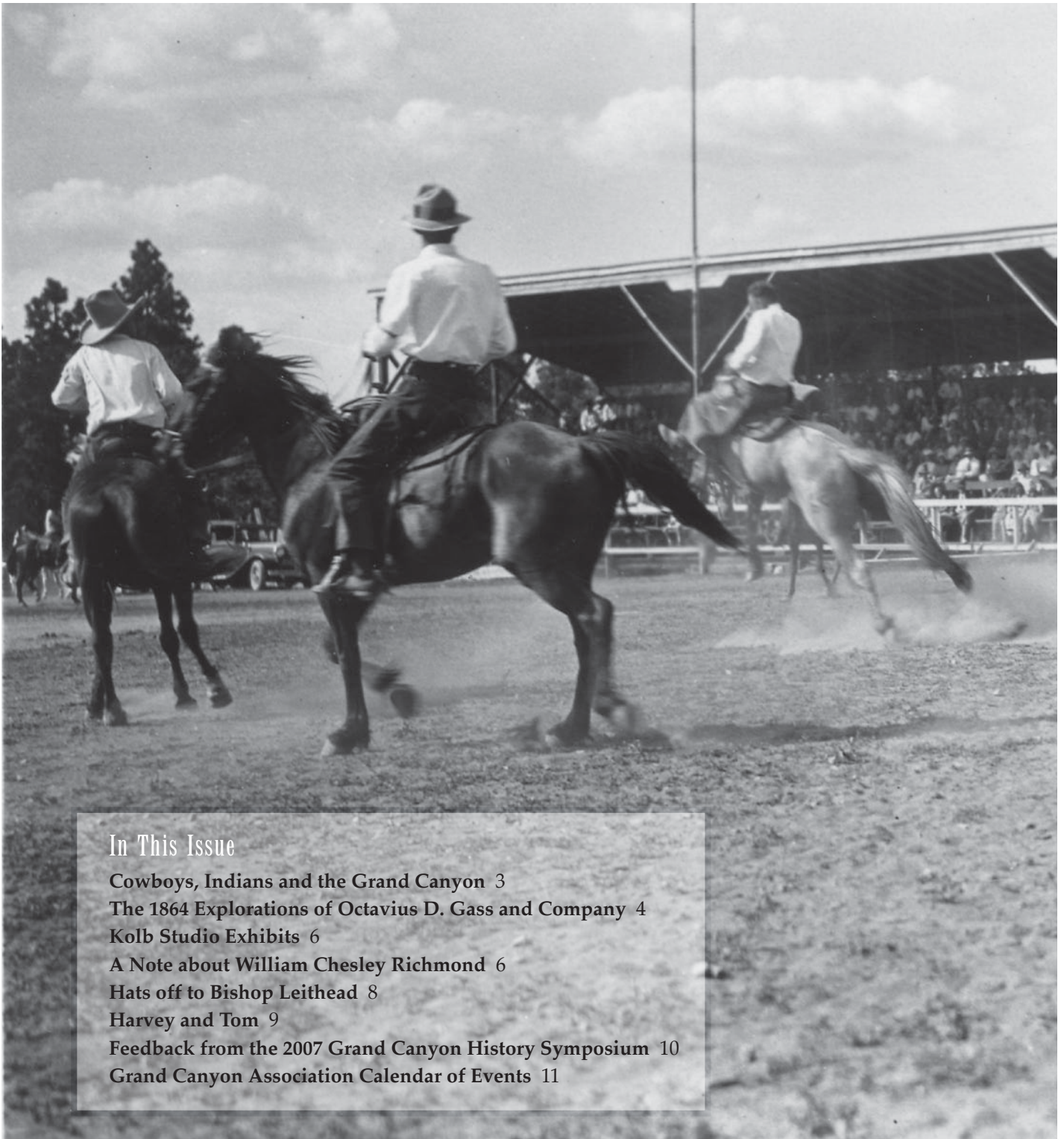
The Ol' Pioneer

The Biannual Magazine of the Grand Canyon Historical Society

Volume 18 : Number 3

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Fall 2007



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Editor's Letter

Hello GCHS Members,

As the new editor of *The Ol' Pioneer*, I thought I'd take this opportunity to introduce myself.

A few months ago, George Billingsley approached me about taking on the job of editor of the now twice-yearly magazine *The Ol' Pioneer*. I was interested, of course, because it fits well with what I already do—I'm a graphic designer and semi-retired Grand Canyon river guide. I live in Flagstaff and am also one of the editors of Grand Canyon River Guides' quarterly journal, the *Boatman's Quarterly Review*.

My knowledge of the Canyon comes mainly from river level, so there is much I don't know about the history on and just below the rim. Because of my work on the *Boatman's Quarterly Review*, I've often found myself lost (in a good way) in the online photo archives of Cline Library Special Collections. Photos of people traveling to and participating in the early days of tourism at Grand Canyon I find incredibly fascinating.

Obviously the history about Grand Canyon appeals to all of you I am pleased that members are interested enough to research and write pieces for this magazine because without them this publication wouldn't exist.

I will try my best to make it easy for members to submit articles, photos, and stories. If you are internet and e-mail savvy, it is easiest to e-mail me your articles as a Word document. If you have access to a scanner I would love images as digital files, the higher the resolution the better. Very large files can be placed on my ftp site and I can e-mail instructions to you on how to do this. I will also scan your slides and photos, so if you would rather send them to me I promise to mail them back. If you have any questions about file formats or submissions please e-mail or call me. My e-mail address, mailing address, and phone number are in the text box to the right.

I have tried to keep the general look and feel of *The Ol' Pioneer* intact, while utilizing the tools I have as a graphic designer to update it. I welcome any of your feedback. Although I am not taking on this editor/designer position as a volunteer (as all others have done in the past), I am providing services at my non-profit rate and am committed to doing everything I can to promote the Historical Society and encourage even more readers of *The Old Pioneer*. This magazine can become whatever you want it to, it's just a matter of submissions, really. And the more members there are supporting it the better!

I already know many members through my connection with the river guiding community and just recently met John Azar at the historic Kane Ranch in House Rock Valley where I was helping round up cattle and ride fence lines and he was working on an architectural project. It's a small world!

I hope to meet more of you in the coming months.

Your editor,
Mary Williams

The Ol' Pioneer submission deadlines are February 1, 2008 for Volume 19 #1 and September 1, 2008 for Volume 19 #2.

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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.

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Submit photos and stories to the editor of *The Ol' Pioneer* at: mary@marywilliamsdesign.com or 4880 N Weatherford Road, Flagstaff, AZ 86001. (928) 779-3377. Please submit written articles and photos electronically on CD or via email if possible. You may mail photos or slides for scanning if needed.

Submissions to *The Bulletin* should be sent to Karen Greig, kgreig@yahoo.com

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Cowboys, Indians, and the Grand Canyon

Helen Lindeman

When I came home from the Grand Canyon Symposium—which I enjoyed so much along with my brother and his wife—I began to go through some of my dad’s papers (Miles T. Rowan) from when he worked for the NPS at Grand Canyon as an equipment operator (1929–1950). My brother and I were both born in the Grand Canyon Hospital!

I found pictures of the Grand Canyon 4th of July Rodeo (from possibly 1934), and a document which appears to be a proposal for an event titled “Grand Canyon 1935 Indian Field Days Celebration”, to be held over Labor Day weekend.

In the proposal, the purposes for holding this event were listed as follows:

- Increase park travel by train and automobile—prolong stay of visitors.
- Improve Indian arts and crafts—make available a new and annual market for Indian handiwork—awards to be made for representative Indian products exhibited by Navajos, Supais, and Hopis.
- Recreation for local residents—greater use of splendid facilities provided by the Government at Community Field.

Possible Revenues for Celebration were listed as:

DANCE: The Labor Day Dance to be considered a part of the Celebration, with the profit expedited (on basis past two years) to exceed \$75.

RODEO: One day show made a profit this year of \$107.50

REFRESHMENTS: At one day show this year made profit of \$35.35

I don’t believe the Indian Field Days event was ever approved or held, but it is fun to read about what the community was trying to do to draw more tourists to the Grand Canyon!



Grand Canyon 4th of July Rodeo photos taken by Miles T. Rowan around 1934. Photos courtesy of Helen Lindeman

The 1864 Explorations of Octavius Dacatur Gass and Co.

James Knipmeyer

About four miles south-southeast of the Hualapai Indian and Grand Canyon West's "Skywalk" is Quartermaster Point. Overlooking the Colorado River and the mouth of Quartermaster Canyon some 2,500 feet below, the area is as yet, thankfully, comparatively untouched by the thronging crowds and "improvements" of the newly opened tourist attraction to the north. On the upstream side of the mouth of Quartermaster Canyon can be seen the former site of the so-called Gass Monument, a cairn of piled rock and stone. It is now, however, buried by silt deposits when at one time Mead reservoir extended back up this far into the Grand Canyon. And, as they say, herein lies a tale.

Most students of Grand Canyon and Colorado River history are aware of the prospecting party of O. D. Gass, as he was commonly known, that penetrated into the lower end of the Canyon some twenty miles five years before the epic voyage of Major John Wesley Powell. Like many, I first read of Gass in Frederick S. Dellenbaugh's 1902 book, *The Romance of the Colorado River*. Here, Dellenbaugh briefly states that "Some few prospectors for mineral veins began investigations in the neighborhood of the lower part of the Grand Canyon, and the gorge was entered from below, about 1864, by O. D. Gass and three other men. I met Gass in his home in Las Vegas in 1875, but I did not then know he had been in the canyon and did not hear his story."

Even earlier, in 1871, Lieutenant George M. Wheeler of the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers led a survey party up the Colorado River into the lower part of the Grand Canyon. In his official report, which was not published until 1889, Wheeler remarks, "During the day a monument on the north shore was passed, in which was found a

memorandum signed by four men, one of whom was O. D. Gass, of Las Vegas Ranch, Nevada, who has ascended to this point in 1864.... Mr. Gass told me in 1869 that he considered it impossible to penetrate further."

Because of Wheeler's and Dellenbaugh's specific naming of O. D. Gass, this 1864 prospecting party is usually referred to as the Gass expedition. This gentleman, born in Ohio, first came to California during the 1849 gold rush. By 1862 he had been drawn to the lower Colorado by the rich mineral strikes at Eldorado Canyon, a western tributary of the river in what is now the state of Nevada. The following year, 1863, he purchased his Las Vegas ranch. Being a longtime prospector and miner, it is natural that Gass would have, sooner or later, investigated upstream into the Grand Canyon.

Surprisingly, most modern writers on the Colorado River and Grand Canyon do not even mention this 1864 trip. However, a search of the Dock Marston collection at the Huntington Library in California turned up typescript copies of four contemporary newspaper articles which, though not mentioning Gass by name, are undoubtedly accounts of this prospecting exploration. They are valuable in that they do provide the probable names of Gass' three companions, the fact that Gass was evidently not the leader of the party, and the revelation that there were in fact two trips made by this band of men into the lower regions of the Grand Canyon.

The first, third, and fourth articles in the San Francisco Daily Alta California on May 14, July 4, and August 6 of 1864. All were entitled "Letter from the California Volunteers on Duty in Arizona" and are believed to have been written by Corporal Alonzo E. Davis, Company "I," California Volunteer Infantry posted at Fort Mohave, Arizona Territory.

The second article was printed in the Los Angeles Star of July 2, 1864, and is thought to have been penned by William H. Hardy, founder of Hardy's Landing [later Hardyville] on the Colorado River and also located in what was then Arizona Territory.

The May 14 article states that, "Messrs. Butterfield and Perry [sic], left from La Paz, passed by here [Fort Mohave] a few days ago, on their way up the river, on an exploring tour. They are making their way in a small boat, propelled by their paddles and a favorable breeze when they are so lucky as to catch one."

Written from "Hardy's Landing," the July 2 newspaper story reports that, "A party of three persons returned here from an exploration of the river in an open boat. They made their way up the river to a point.... they estimate, by river....of some 240 [actually closer to 170] miles.... They turned back because they met the spring flood with its swift current and flood wood, which they feared too dangerous for their frail bark."

The July 4 account also provides a few more details of the trip. It says, "They went up some 250 [sic] miles, when they lost nearly all their provisions by the capsizing of their boat, and, of course, were obliged to return.... Mr. Ferry is fully persuaded that he has a good thing, and parties here at the fort are of the same opinion, and have aided him in fitting out a small pack-train, and he and his party have started out again."

These newspaper articles provide the names of three of the members of the exploring party, those that passed Hardy's Landing and Fort Mohave going up the Colorado River and then returning there. The "Messrs. Butterfield" were very probably two brothers then living at La Paz, Arizona, listed in the special Territorial census of 1864 as M. Butterfield and James Butterfield, occupation miners, both born in the state of New York. "Mr. Ferry" was undoubtedly James H.



Looking downstream from Quartermaster Point

photo: James Knipmeyer

Ferry, who, some five years earlier, had come to California from the Pikes Peak gold rush in Colorado. Soon after the discovery of gold at the Laguna de la Paz in Arizona Territory in 1861, he had moved to that location. These articles strongly imply that Ferry, not Gass, was the actual leader of the prospecting expedition.

O. D. Gass' absence from any mention in the accounts is easily explained by his living at Las Vegas and not at La Paz where the other three men resided. The route up Las Vegas Wash from the Colorado River to his ranch was only about 20 miles, while it was almost 90 miles down to Hardy's Landing and Fort Mohave. It is very likely that Gass did not accompany the others any farther than Las Vegas Wash and had probably not joined them until that point on the upriver journey.

As was mentioned in the July 4 Los Angeles Star, Ferry "and his party" refitted at Fort Mohave and started out once again "to prosecute

their explorations some distance further." This second trip was also reported in the San Francisco Daily Alta California on July 2. The article concluded by stating, "The same party left here [Hardy's Landing] a week ago with animals and provisions, to renew their adventure by land." This second, overland exploration, never commented on by later writers, may explain a seeming incongruity with the so-called "Gass monuments."

The stone monument, or rock cairn, reportedly marking the farthest upstream advance of the first 1864 exploration group, was found by Lt. Wheeler and his party in 1871. In his diary report he definitely states that this was "on the north shore." Modern researchers, utilizing Wheeler's descriptions of the river and surrounding terrain, have determined this point to have been near river mile 264, in the vicinity of the mouth of Tincanebitts Canyon. This monument, though, was evidently not seen, or at least not reported upon, by any other

river travelers after 1871.

However, a seemingly different monument was discovered on the south bank of the Colorado River at Mile 260.3 on the upstream side of the mouth of Quartermaster Canyon by U. S. G. S. surveyor Roland W. Burchard in 1921. This cairn was marked on the U. S. G. S. Birdseye survey map of 1923 and labeled "Cass Monument," obviously a misspelling of the name Gass. As a result, river historians have faced the question of why two stone monuments, both connected to the trip of O. D. Gass, and both reportedly marking the upriver limit of the 1864 prospecting party, are some three and a half miles apart from one another?

I believe that the second 1864 venture of Ferry, Gass, and the two Butterfields, might provide a plausible explanation to this question. The monument found by Wheeler near the mouth of Tincanebitts Canyon probably did mark the upstream advance of the first river exploration,

as that tributary canyon cannot be traversed with pack animals and only with extreme difficulty by men on foot. The cairn shown on the U. S. G. S. map at the mouth of Quartermaster Canyon possibly, then, marked the place where the second overland expedition reached the river from the plateau above.

On this second trip the four men could easily have followed close to the eastern and southern side of the Colorado River as far as the later site of Pierces [sic] Ferry, left the river at that point just before it enters the lower end of the Grand Canyon, ascended the Grand Wash Cliffs to the Hualapai Plateau above, and finally descended Quartermaster Canyon back down to river level. Unlike Tincanebitts, Quartermaster Canyon does, in fact, have an historic Hualapai Indian trail traversing it, down which men and stock could have been taken.

In the last newspaper article, dated August 6, Ferry reports finding deposits of almost pure rock salt, a two-foot seam of which he refers to a "No. 1" coal, and large stands of timber pine. Somewhat ironically, after all of their travels, Gass and the others seem to have found no indications of gold placers or veins of metallic mineral ores, leaving that to Grand Canyon prospectors and miners of the decades to come.

Kolb Studio Exhibits

I Am the Grand Canyon: The Story of the Havasupai People

Wednesday, August 01 through Wednesday, October 31, 2007

For updated information visit:
www.grandcanyon.org

A Note About William Chesley Richmond

Virginia McConnell Simmons

Discussions of the traverse of "Than" Galloway and "Billy" Richmond down the Green and Colorado Rivers in 1896-1897 usually focus on the flat-bottomed, maneuverable, wooden boats built by Galloway and the rowing style that he is usually said to have introduced. Although some additional information about the subsequent career of Nathaniel T. Galloway might be offered in such writings, almost nothing is said about William Chesley Richmond. His role in the history of boating on the Colorado River has been confined to that sole adventure. In fact, Richmond vanishes from further mention in river lore after February 1897.

Otis R. "Dock" Marston contributed data, and with reliance on the Marston Collection at the Huntington Library, David Lavender in *River Runners of the Grand Canyon* (Grand Canyon Natural History Association, 1985) expanded the published information about the Galloway-Richmond trip. My following "Note about William Chesley Richmond" will catch up with Richmond in the State of Washington about two decades after the Grand Canyon transit and offers some additional snippets of information.

First, some sketchy facts about the relationship of Galloway and Richmond. In an article entitled "River Runners: Fast Water Navigation" (*Utah Historical Quarterly*, 1960), Marston wrote that Galloway was trapping and prospecting on rivers by 1891 and that in "September, 1896, Galloway dropped his boat into the Green River at Henry's Fork and packed in his thirteen-year-old son [Parley] to start him on a river career. At Little [Brown's] Hole they camped with Frank Leland and William Chesley Richmond, the latter agreeing to cruise down the Green and through the Cataract and Grand canyons. Leland left by land,

and the boy stopped at home in Vernal. In February, 1897, Richmond and Galloway completed the run to Needles, California." In a later article, "The Grand Canyon Boat Parade" (*Westerners San Diego Corral*, March 1971), Marston added that "Galloway and Richmond drifted to below Ouray [Utah] where they salvaged two of Galloway's skiffs and rigged them with canvas decking and cockpit shields."

On the one hand, we might assume that the greater experience of Galloway would have been useful to Richmond, whose original boat had been deemed unsuitable in the Green's Lodore Canyon. On the other hand, the physical strength of the younger Richmond must have been useful to Galloway, who was old enough to be Richmond's father. According to Lavender, based on information from George Flavell, Galloway was 45 years old in February 1897, when he and Richmond reached Needles, California, at the end of their Grand Canyon cruise, and in the fall of 1896, Richmond was 23 years old, Marston reported.

After this boat journey and a gap of roughly 20 years, the next information that I have found about Richmond comes from Jack Nelson's book, entitled *We Never Got Away* (Yakima, WA, 1965). This volume is a collection of anecdotes, accumulated by Nelson while he was the gate-tender, beginning in 1911, at a Federal Irrigation Reservoir, Bumping Lake, on the east side of the Cascade Range, 65 miles from Yakima. Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas testified to the character of Nelson in the Foreword to that book, and the Justice wrote an entire chapter about Nelson in *Of Men and Mountains* (New York, 1950). Douglas was a summertime neighbor and admirer of Nelson. I happened to spend the summer of 1973 on property adjoining Justice Douglas's cabin at Goose Prairie, WA, not far from Bumping Lake, an

area now incorporated in the William O. Douglas Wilderness, between Chinook and White Passes, east of Mount Rainier. During that summer, I became familiar with information about Nelson and his book.

Because of the remoteness of Bumping Lake in early days, most travelers who were passing by stopped for coffee, cake, a chat, and perhaps an overnight stay with the hospitable Jack Nelson and his wife Kitty at Bumping Lake. Being not only an avid collector of their tales but also a raconteur in his own right, the well-educated Nelson was able to compile many stories for his interesting book, which contains a section entitled "Billy Richmond" (pp. 34-35). Although Nelson himself seems to have been a reliable source, caution is necessary, as some of the anecdotes that Nelson repeated in his book came to him secondhand. In the case of Billy Richmond, however, Nelson gleaned his information firsthand from Richmond himself.

Nelson was well-acquainted with Billy Richmond. He was described by Nelson with these words: "Billy was not a large man. He was one of the most resourceful men I've ever known in the mountains. He did everything well. Never was there a lost motion. How graceful and neat was he in his movements."

Richmond was an early miner and prospector in the area, of Bumping Lake. The gatekeeper, Nelson, wrote that Richmond had previously spent some years along the Columbia River and speculated that Richmond had been attracted to the Columbia River for some years because of his earlier experiences on the Colorado. Nelson first became acquainted with Richmond when he was prospecting on the east slope of Nelson Peaks. (On detailed maps, these peaks are shown a short distance southeast of Bumping Lake.) Richmond had a wife and two children, Chesley and Martha, who accompanied Billy during his prospecting ventures in the summer. His partners were John Miller, Leo Meigs, and Jimmy Courtright, Nelson said. In Yakima County Records in

1973 I found mining claims with the names of Richmond, Miller, and Meigs. The first work by Richmond was recorded in September 1919, and the Richmond Mining Company was still working the claim in 1964, but no other information turned up.

Not surprisingly, Nelson's story included "a hair-raising trip" Billy made on the Colorado River with a companion named Galloway. Nelson said that he and an acquaintance of his both tried without success to get Richmond to write that story on paper. Without such benefit, Nelson from his own memory reported that Richmond and Galloway "planned a beaver trapping expedition" and that they "had no definite destination when they commenced their journey," which started "somewhere on the Green River in Wyoming." As told by Nelson, Richmond was involved in the building of their boat, a point that most researchers would dispute. They ended their trip at Needles, California.

Nelson included a few more details. For instance, at one point Richmond and Galloway camped on trapping grounds where unfriendly Indians were threatening them. "Billy and Galloway left shortly after dark, leaving their traps for the natives." Here is Nelson's version of a well-known incident involving a renegade Indian: "Then shortly ere reaching Needles, the sheriff of the county commandeered their boat and services to assist in transporting a Mexican prisoner to Needles. The charge was murder for which he later paid the penalty."

Lavender's *River Runners* (pp. 37-38) presents a somewhat different version of this incident, telling of the Paiute renegade, Mouse, who murdered two prospectors and was captured by a posse, just as Galloway and Richmond conveniently showed up. The dead miners were put in their own boats, and their partner rode with Galloway and Richmond, who were forced to tow the floating coffins to Needles.

Once there, Galloway's boats and the trappers' furs were sold.

Richmond's association with the lore of the Colorado River then disappears. As he aged, William Chesley Richmond seems to have been content to prospector on dry land in the environs of a considerably smaller stream, the Bumping River.

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Virginia McConnell Simmons, an historian, is the author of the new book *Drifting West: The Calamities of James White and Charles Baker* (University Press of Colorado, 2007), delving especially into the arguable mishaps of Baker, a subject of ongoing debate in Grand Canyon history. In the past she has written articles about river for *American West*, *National Parks and Conservation Magazine*, and *Trail*. Besides several regional history books, she has written *The Ute Indians of Utah, Colorado and New Mexico*.



Hats off to Bishop Leithead

Don Lago

Most of our understanding of the Powell expedition comes from the diaries written by the participants. Yet one first-hand account of the first Powell expedition has escaped the notice of historians. It was written by someone not on the expedition, but who encountered it.

It was an historical coincidence that any whites witnessed Powell's arrival at the mouth of the Virgin River, for the Mormon settlements in this area were newly built and would soon be abandoned. The man in charge was Bishop James Leithead. Later in life Leithead wrote a brief memoir of his experiences, and he must have been impressed with one experience in particular, his meeting with John Wesley Powell, for Leithead devoted about 10% of his memoir to the final night of the Powell expedition.

Leithead's account closes with a complaint that sounds rather familiar. Though Leithead has known Powell for barely a day, he lodges the same complaint that many of Powell's boatmen would make, that Powell has taken their loyal services and given no gratitude in return. Or worse, taken the truth and replaced it with a self-aggrandizing legend, in this case the story that Mormon leader Brigham Young was so worried about Powell that he put his outposts on alert for him. Powell's defenders have dismissed such complaints as the petty jealousy of grumpy old boatmen, but when it comes from a Mormon Bishop, it has a higher authority.

Published with permission of L. Tom Perry Special Collections, Harold B. Lee Library, Brigham Young University.

When Major Powell made his first trip down the Colorado River he landed at the mouth of the Rio Virgin twenty five miles from St. Thomas. He sent an Indian with a note

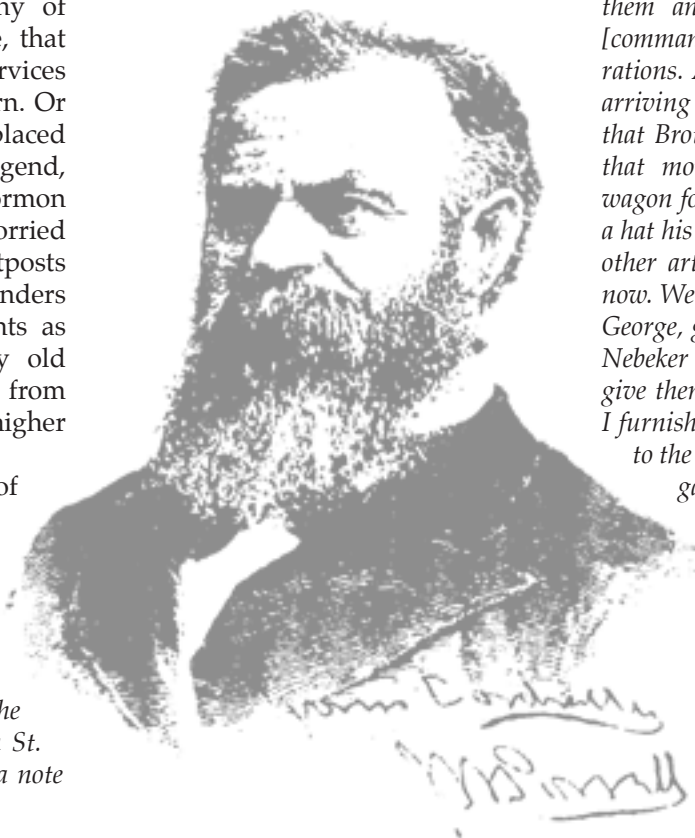
directed to the postmaster, stating that he had landed and would stay a few days before proceeding farther and to send any letters or papers for him or his men. He also intimated that they were short of everything at that time.

I was postmaster at St. Thomas. The Indian arrived in the night. I wrote a note stating that I would be down the next morning and would bring his mail with me. In the morning I got Brother Gibbons to go with me, taking one hundred pounds of flour, some tea, coffee, sugar, tobacco, and about twenty five very nice melons. It was after night before reaching his camp, but he was expecting us and met us a short distance from camp bare headed, having lost his hat during the perilous trip down the river. They had a blazing fire burning when we drove up and when we tumbled out the melons they went into them with a will after being for months running the fearful rapids of the river wet day after day, it was a treat unlooked for. After talking until after midnight we made our bed to take some rest. In a short time the Major came and asked us if we were asleep. When we told him no, he said

you may as well get up. I want to talk and want to hear the news. We got up and after satisfying him he gave us some account of his trip down the river. He had one of his boats smashed all to pieces and its occupants thrown into the raging rapids, but escaped with their lives. Another boat they left at the head of the last rapids; two of his men refused to run the rapids and he left the boat with the hope that after seeing him thru safe would follow in the boat. He also left them a part of the bedding, food, guns, and ammunition and they attempted to cross the country to St. George or some of the settlements in southern Utah, were killed by the Indians. When I afterwards learned of their fate I wrote Major Powell and acquainted him of the fact. He was very much concerned about them, feared they would perish and so they did in that way.

In the morning before Brother Gibbons and I were ready to start, the Major had concluded to go with us to St. Thomas, him and his brother and let his other men have the boats and everything else left from the ravages of the river and pursue their way to Ft. Mohave. He gave them an order on the commandment [commandant?] there for sixty days rations. And we returned to St. Thomas, arriving there before night, we learned that Brother Henry Nebeker had started that morning with a four horse and wagon for Payson. I furnished the Major a hat his brother a pair of shoes and some other articles which I do not remember now. We prepared food to last them to St. George, got some young men to overtake Nebeker during the night and he would give them passage to Payson. All of this I furnished myself as well as what I took to the river; and in the Major's book he gave all credit to Brigham Young, so I have been told. He did not even send me a copy of his book.

He did not even spell Leithead's name correctly in the book.



Harvey and Tom

Elias Butler

Tom Myers is among other things a gutbucket hiker. He's as tough as anyone I've ever shared the trail with, which is a good thing considering we took on some of the roughest hiking either of us ever experienced while researching Harvey Butchart's biography. Yes indeed, Tom can keep a positive attitude in the worst of situations, whether it's bushwhacking for miles at night or simply keeping the writing fire lit when the inevitable weariness of too much writing occasionally arrived.

Grand Obsession was Tom's idea from the start. He began approaching Harvey in the 1990s. Tom was like the rest of us who hike the Canyon, he had a healthy respect for and curiosity about Harvey ever since first reading *Grand Canyon Treks*. Fortunately for all of us Canyon readers, Tom took things a step further than just meeting the legendary Canyon explorer – he decided that his story needed to be written and published. Tom proceeded to record what was in danger of forever being lost, Harvey's version of the way things happened.

By the time I met Tom in 2002, I was trying to meet Harvey myself, though not for the purpose of writing a book. I was just another fan, albeit one who was a journalist looking to write a first book, subject unknown. Harvey died in May that year and

I never did get to meet him. But when Tom offered me the chance to join the quest to write Harvey's story, the timing was right. Neither of us realized what we were getting ourselves into; we probably wouldn't have changed our minds had we known just how difficult the process would be, but you never know.

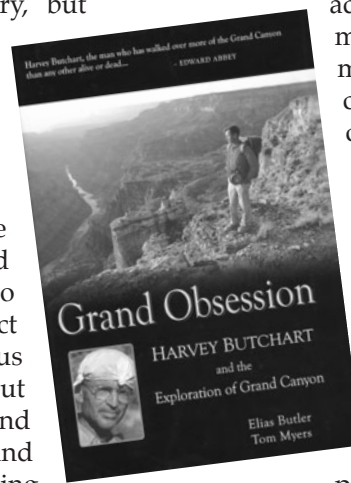
What unfurled before us was not only Harvey's story, but the story of foot exploration in the Canyon. It took years, but as we amassed more and more information, this crude sculpture that we had started with began to assume a distinct form. Neither of us had read much about Francois Matthes and Richard Evans, and suddenly the mapping of Grand Canyon needed to become part of the book. Likewise, Merrel Clubb was a phantom figure from the pre-Harvey days who turned out to be an integral part of the Canyon's backcountry lore. We had to cover Clubb, we decided. And on and on. The book was now in charge, not us, and we followed its demands no matter how exhausting.

The book instructed me one day to visit China and Mount Lushan,

Harvey's stomping grounds as a kid. When I stepped foot into those mountains, everything became clear regarding Harvey's fixation with the Canyon. For here was the same kind of beauty, the same kind of "feel" that I was familiar with in Arizona's largest canyon. If it weren't for Harvey, I would have missed out on one of my life's most rewarding and adventurous trips—and believe me, negotiating a bus ticket in mainland China was far more challenging than any Redwall cliff I've ever surmounted.

In the end, however, it was Tom Myers's undying energy and enthusiasm for seeing this book through which brought it to completion. Grand Obsession encompassed 14 years of his life. You don't meet many people with that kind of enduring passion for a project. It's to all of our benefit that Tom had the vision and patience for telling this unique tale of the West.

Next time you see Tom, I hope you'll join me in telling him thanks.



.....
Editor's note: You can order "Grand Obsession" through Puma Press at www.pumapress.org, or through your local bookseller - ISBN978-0-9700973-4-7.

Mark Your Calendar

October 13, 2007 – GCHS Board Meeting, an agenda item will be a discussion of a 3rd Grand Canyon History Symposium. The 2007 Symposium was a great success. Please attend the October 13 meeting in Flagstaff to voice your opinion about a future symposium. The next GCHS History Symposium is planned for January 2012 at Grand Canyon.

October 20, 2007 – The Second Grand Canyon Hikers Symposium will be held Saturday at the Shrine of the Ages in the Grand Canyon National Park, South Rim Village. The symposium is open to the public free of charge. Go to gchba.org for more information.

Feedback from the 2007 Grand Canyon History Symposium

I have attended dozens of symposiums over the years, some professional and some related to my various hobbies. The 2007 Grand Canyon History Symposium was, bar none, the best by far. The topics were both varied and fascinating, and the presentations were of excellent quality. The presenters provided a delightful mix of interesting history and humor. But most of all, I enjoyed the people I met. Some special interest groups that I've been involved in are filled with large egos and celebrity wannabes - people that give off an aura of thinking they are better or more important than everyone else. Not so with the GCHS—everyone was friendly, excited, and sharing. And I was amazed at how many people ended a conversation with "I'd love to go hiking with you sometime." A marvelous experience.

*Arnie Richards
Downey, CA*

In the past, I have never considered myself to be a connoisseur of history or even one who would attend a history symposium. But now, as my passion for the Grand Canyon and its intricacies continues to engulf me, I find myself not only interested in the history, but I am enamored with it, and this function also enabled me to spend time with others who share the same passion. I am but one "Canyon Addict" who got his "fix" at the 2007 history symposium. Thank you for a well run symposium with top-notch presenters at a fine location. We are all very fortunate to be the beneficiaries of all the hard work of so many that made this possible.

*Pete Borremans
Green Bay, WI*

We thoroughly enjoyed the History Symposium. Over 200 like-minded participants, perfect weather and the most beautiful setting on earth! The organizers are to be commended for keeping a smooth flow. The presentations were informative and interesting.

*Lois Hirst
Flagstaff, AZ*

Our regret is that we could not attend the simultaneous sessions, but we look forward to the publication of all the papers to catch the ones we missed.

Hopefully, we won't have to wait another five years for the next one. The only word of caution we offer is against the suggestion that the next symposium be expanded to include subjects beyond human history. From our point of view, the history of humans in the canyon, especially between 1880 and 1950, is the most fascinating of subjects and it would be a shame to dilute the symposium by expanding it into other areas.

*Dave and Darlene Barnes
Hebron, KY*

It was a source of sincere gratification to me that so many symposium participants were interested in personal accounts of contemporary experiences with the Grand Canyon. The bonus day gave me and my daughter Melissa, also a writer and historian, an opportunity to spend a magical time at Hermit's Rest, see wild sheep, elk and many birds, including condors in flight. It was a grand and glorious visit with warm and appreciative fellow devotees of the canyon, hikers, walkers, speakers and wonderers, all.

*Elisabeth F. Ruffner
Prescott AZ*

The wide variety of presentations at the symposium was excellent. It was often difficult to decide which sessions to attend. I was very pleased that Native American perspectives were included. It is too easy to forget their long history with the Grand Canyon. Next time I hope to see more Native American presenters and attendees.

*Lois Hirst
Flagstaff, AZ*

The History Symposium was superbly orchestrated. It ended in a crescendo. Douglas Schwartz's presentation, the last presentation on the last day,

received a standing ovation. Schwartz detailed his Canyon archaeological expeditions, which started back in 1949. He shared the epiphanies about Ancient Puebloans that occurred to him this past year. Bravo!

*John Stark
Flagstaff, AZ*

I thought that the entire Symposium was well presented and worthy of my time and expenses to attend. For me the presentations on the role and history of Native Americans at the Grand Canyon and the archeological investigations of Ian Hough and the findings of Douglas Schwartz after many devoted years of studying ruins in the Canyon were the most valuable for new information. I was also partial to the cowboy culture presentations on the North Rim even though I have strong reservations about the subject of cattle grazing in marginal lands of the Southwest.

Glenn O. Clark

Marvin and I (along with his sister, Helen Lindeman) attended this year's symposium and thought it to be near perfect. Marvin and Helen were both born at the Grand Canyon Hospital in 1936 and 1938. Marvin graduated from 8th Grade in 1950, along with 7 others. At the symposium they were reunited with several classmates including Dr. Paul Schnur (one of the presenters) Steve, Susie, and Mike Verkamp, and Tee Cook. Marvin and Helen were interviewed about their dad, Miles T. Rowan, who worked in the CCCs at GC and later hired by the National Park Service at GC. Many fond memories were rekindled!

*Marvin and Marilyn Rowan
Estes Park, CO*

*Read more feedback on our website
www.grandcanyonhistory.org*

Grand Canyon Association Calendar of Events

Wednesday, October 10, 2007

Damming Grand Canyon: The USGS 1923 Colorado River Expedition

Diane Boyer, USGS
NAU Cline Library, Flagstaff, 7:00 p.m.

In 1923, special radio broadcasts, newspaper headlines, and popular-magazine cover stories helped America pay attention as a government party descended the Colorado River to survey its passage through Grand Canyon.

Something important besides adventure was going on though. Claude Birdseye led an expedition that included a complement of impressive characters, among them such notables as early river runner Emery Kolb, popular writer Lewis Freeman, and hydraulic engineer Eugene LaRue. The party's topographers, engineers, and geologists would complete the first accurate survey of the river gorge, and many expected this to decide the fate of the river in the canyon.

They headed downstream the next year after the Colorado River Compact had divided the river's water between upper and lower basin states, based on overestimates of the river's flow, and a primary goal of the Birdseye expedition was to determine the best places for dams in Grand Canyon—dams that might help fulfill the compact, feed California's growing agriculture and cities, create hydroelectric power, and otherwise tame a natural wonder.

Diane Boyer is an archivist working for the U.S. Geological Survey's Desert Laboratory Collection of Repeat Photography in Tucson, Arizona.

Sunday, October 21, 2007

Grand Canyon Air Disaster

Dan Driskill, Michael McComb, and William Waldock
Sharlot Hall Museum, Prescott, 1:00 p.m.

On June 30, 1956, two airliners collided over and crashed into the Grand Canyon, killing 128 persons in what was then the world's worst commer-

cial airline disaster. This crash led to the creation of the FAA and the modern air traffic control system.

Driskill, McComb and Waldock will discuss this tragic mid-air collision, as well as post-crash recovery, investigation and clean-up efforts (which continue to this day).

Wednesday, November 07, 2007

Incredible Grand Canyon

Scott Thybony
NAU Cline Library, Flagstaff, 7:00 p.m.

For decades Scott Thybony has traversed the Southwest in search of its history, its people and its little-known stories. For this program, Thybony has compiled some of his favorite tales about Grand Canyon—some quirky, some pure whimsy, many actually true.

Sunday, November 18, 2007

Volcanoes of Northern Arizona

Wendell Duffield
Sharlot Hall Museum Prescott, 1:00 p.m.

Just south of the Grand Canyon lies a range of volcanic mountains known as the San Francisco Volcanic Field. They vary in age from six million years near Williams to about one hundred thousand years at Sunset Crater. From a geologic-time perspective, future eruptions are likely in northern Arizona.

Wendell Duffield, a geologist and the author of *Volcanoes of Northern Arizona*, will discuss the volcanic field and the overall landscape south of the canyon.

Wednesday, December 05, 2007

Bruce Aiken's Grand Canyon: An Intimate Affair

Bruce Aiken
NAU Cline Library, Flagstaff, 7:00 p.m.

As a child growing up in the concrete canyons of New York City, Bruce Aiken dreamed of someday living at the end of a long dirt road. Little did

he know that this road would lead 5 miles down a narrow, steep trail into the depths of another canyon—the Grand Canyon. Nor could he predict that he would live in this unlikely place for over thirty years.

In a remote side canyon along a stream that ultimately flows into the Colorado River, Bruce and his wife Mary raised three children while he tended to Grand Canyon National Park's precious water supply at Roaring Springs—and painted. Out of this intimate relationship between the artist and his muse came a body of work unparalleled in the annals of Grand Canyon landscape painters

Sunday, December 16, 2007

Damming Grand Canyon: The USGS 1923 Colorado River Expedition

Diane Boyer, USGS
Sharlot Hall Museum, Prescott, 1:00 p.m.
See description for October 10, 2007

Sunday, January 20, 2008

Incredible Grand Canyon

Scott Thybony
Sharlot Hall Museum Prescott, 1:00 p.m.
See description for November 7, 2007

Wednesday, January 23, 2008

Rock Art of the Colorado Plateau

Kelley Hayes-Gilpin
NAU Cline Library, Flagstaff, 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, February 20, 2008

The Southwest of George Eastman: John Wesley Powell, the Kodak Camera, the Hopi Snake Dance, and the Grand Canyon

Richard Quartaroli
NAU Cline Library, Flagstaff, 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, March 12, 2008

Envisioning the Colorado Plateau

Alan Petersen
NAU Cline Library, Flagstaff, 7:00 p.m.

For updated information visit:
www.grandcanyon.org



Spread the Word — Join the Grand Canyon Historical Society!

Membership in the Grand Canyon Historical Society has its benefits:

- Annual subscription to the bi-annual magazine *The Ol' Pioneer*.
- Annual subscription to the monthly newsletter *The Bulletin*.
- Discount on all GCHS publications.
- Free admission to all GCHS programs and outings, including an annual picnic on the edge of the Canyon.
- Participation in the annual GCHS membership meeting and the election of Board Members.

Membership is \$20 per year (\$25 outside U.S.). To become a member print out the online application at grandcanyonhistory.org or write down your name, address, phone number and email address and send it with your check to the Grand Canyon Historical Society at PO Box 345, Flagstaff, AZ.

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