

Jacob Lake Campout

The GCHS began its 4th of July festivities with a good old-fashioned barbeque and picnic amid the cool ponderosa on the North Rim. The area behind the historic Jacob Lake Ranger Cabin was made available to us courtesy of John Azar.



There was plenty of swapping of Canyon stories as well as good eating among the 15 or so Society members, their guests, and one dog.

After a pleasant campout in the cool temperatures, the next day's proceedings began about 10 AM. Dick Hingson from LaVerkin, Utah, brought us up to date on recent developments on the overflight issue. This affects the curfew portion currently that there will be no flights near and during sunrise and sunset at the Grand Canyon, allowing for natural quiet during those times. However, a resolution has already passed the House changing this dramatically so that overflights can occur during the times preceding and after sunrise and sunset. It now goes to the Senate. This would be a time to voice your opinion to Senator John McCain, Arizona.

The next presentation was given by Matt Zweifel, an archeologist from Grand Staircase-Escalante, and his wife, Connie Reid, an archeologist from the North Kaibab National Forest Service. Matt presented a demonstration and discussion on the art of flint knapping.

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GCHS Outings for 2003

August 16: Annual Cemetery Cleanup. The Grand Canyon Historical Society along with the Grand Canyon Hikers and Backpackers Association will clean up the cemetery at the Grand Canyon South Rim. Part of the work will be replacing some of the fence slats. (The entryway work was completed recently and looks great.)

The GCHBA has arranged for a group campsite at Mather for Friday night, and for fee waivers for those lacking park passes (*see center insert for waiver*). We hope to have an interpretive ranger lead us on a tour of the cemetery before we begin our work.

Where: Grand Canyon Pioneers Cemetery
Grand Canyon Village

Time: 9:00 AM

Bring gloves, hat and sack lunch.
Refreshments will be provided.

Those who want to campout on Friday night, look for a notice on the Mather Campground bulletin board for the GCHS group site. If interested, we could carpool to the Shrine of the Ages for the evening Ranger Program.

September 27: "Anita Mine and the Railroad History" by Al Richmond at Anita Mine.

October 18: GCHS Annual Board Meeting and slide presentation at 10:00 AM at the Weatherford Hotel, 23 North LaRue Street in Flagstaff.

November: Phoenix (museum or other).

December: No meeting

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Matt Zweifel demonstrates flint knapping

Matt showed how many different kinds of rocks could be used for making spearheads, arrowheads, scrapers, or knifepoints. Obsidian makes the sharpest blades, but had to be traded for as there was none native to this area. All flaked rock will portray the same characteristics: a platform or flat area, good for holding onto while working the stone; the bulb or founded area; the ventral or concave section; and the dorsal or ridge-like section. A flint knapper will utilize these sections to form exactly the right tool needed for the job.



Sometimes a hammer rock will do the trick. Other times, a more direct form – pressure flaking – will yield just the right kind of blade. Pressure flaking tools could be the point of an antler or the rounded section of an antler used like a baton. Modern day long darts were used with an atlatl, or throwing stick, to show how this enhanced a hunter's ability for distance.



Ethan Spears, John Azar and Paul Callaway

Our final presentation was by John Azar, who gave us the history and tour of the 1910 Jacob Lake Ranger Station. John was instrumental in getting this cabin restored. The two-room cabin is delightfully furnished with turn of the century artifacts including a set of United States Forest Service china, a washboard and basin, a wood burning stove which was used for heat and cooking, a crank phone, a Forest Service ranger's uniform including trousers which had to be laced up on the side of the leg, a brass bed, and a manual typewriter.



The wide front porch offered a view of Jacob Lake, which these days due to the drought was a sweeping grassland complete with grazing horses.

It was a delightful way to spend this busiest of summer holidays—away from huge crowds!

*[Article submitted by Nancy Green;
photos by Diane Cassidy]*

Letters of Thanks

Dear GCHS, June 16, 2003

Thank you for the beautiful plaques recognizing my parents. They would be so pleased and proud, I know.

Those years at Grand Canyon wrote indelible memories for me. I don't believe in coincidence. Yet, my father had a choice of agencies from his position in Ashfork: take the Prescott agency for a secure position; or take Grand Canyon and in a couple of years he would be transferred to Albuquerque or Los Angeles. He took Grand Canyon. Then came World War II and all positions were frozen. By the time the war was over, his roots were sunk deep into the pine forest of the South Rim. Seniority allowed him to continue his agency until his death in 1957.

He taught me to stand quietly in the pines and listen. We stood on the West Rim at Hopi Point. Swifts and cliff swallows took their evening meals over the rim. We waited past sunset and learned the constellations. We picnicked at Shoshone Point. We lived through World War II in relative solitude of an isolated spur track off the Santa Fe main line where passenger trains were busy hauling troops back and forth to either coast. Except for the radio, The Arizona Republic and weekly newsreels at our movies in the Community Building, the War was a distant tragedy in another world (for me, at least).

Because my mother and father were lovers of nature, much of the early years, when the Bright Angle was closed and there was no traffic in the Village, we could drive a mile out of the village and be perfectly alone. It was in the forest that I learned the sounds of flickers and jays and pigmy nuthatches. We walked through mounds of fallen pine needles smelling the fresh scent after a rain. They were quiet voices of support of our natural resources then. Today, I am sure they would raise their voices in loud chorus in support of the Historical Society.

Thank you again for your thoughtful award.
Sincerely,

Sam and Phyllis Turner
Tucson, AZ

Dear GCHS, June 24, 2003

Now I wish I had been at the Shoshone Point picnic, so I could personally thank all the people responsible for selecting me to receive the Grand Canyon Hall of Fame Award for Community Service. I haven't totally comedown off of "Cloud Nine" since you called to tell me about it.

It was nice to be reminded that the things I accomplished "on the job" were not the sole focus of my years in the Village. It was wonderful to be part of a small community full of opportunities for being useful; to participate in the growth of the Grand Canyon Natural History Association, particularly in those years before it could afford its own paid staff. In the early years I held various offices in "Local 426" of the N.F.F.E. – the federal employees' union, and there were always ways to be useful through the Community Church and its Women's Guild: boards, committees, potluck dinners, and parsonage maintenance. I really owe all of you an extra thanks just for reminding me again of what fun it was to be part of that community during some of the best part of my life! I am sure that I received every bit as much as I gave during the 33-plus years that I was privileged to live there.

Sincerely yours,

Louise M. Hinchliffe
Sedona, AZ

Dear GCHS, July 15, 2003

We are interested in the House Rock Valley area, especially the area of the Honeymoon Trail where the names are carved. We believe we have ancestors whose names are carved there and we recently received a list of the names supplied by the Grand Canyon Pioneers Society. On the list they are giving site areas with a corresponding map. We want you to how much we appreciate the documentation of the names at House Rock Valley. Thank you.

Lynda Lowell
Page AZ

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New Members

George Rivest – Sierra Vista AZ

July Outing Attendance



*Pat
Lauzon,
Keith
Green,
Elizabeth
Lauzon,
Nancy
Green and
Mike Coltrin*

The July GCHS get-together was held at the old/retired Park Service HQ a short distance from Jacob Lake. We were glad to see Pat and Elizabeth Lauzon and Bev Loomis of Flagstaff, Mike Coltrin of Tucson, Keith and Nancy Green of Grand Canyon, Dick Hingson of LaVerkin UT and the Scotts and Cassidys from Prescott; along with the organizer, John Azar, who bought and barbequed, with the help of his friends Ethan Spears and Paul "Cal" Callaway, a large brisket of beef for all as we enjoyed the cool shade of the Ponderosa pines...and, we had ice cream for dessert!

This outing might become an annual event, a great campground, motel cabins just up the road for those who want to enjoy the event but don't campout.

Board Elections – 2003

The Board of Directors for the Grand Canyon Historical Society is involved at many levels. The "fun" decisions are selecting an individual for the \$1,000 Northern Arizona University Scholarship for Colorado Plateau research, and selecting an individual for the Pioneer Award. There are many opportunities to serve the GCHS: Outings (Chairman and Assistant Chairman), Pioneer Award Nominations, Membership and other.

Do you love the Grand Canyon? Do you think the Historical Society is a worthwhile organization? During the next year, which will have 8,760 hours, do you think you can find a few hours, say 6 to 8 hours to devote to the Grand Canyon? If the answer is yes to any or all of these questions, then you are a candidate for the Board of Directors of GCHS.

What is your excuse? You are a new member of the Historical Society...wonderful! A Pioneer is someone who has never done this but has the courage to try. You are a very busy person...great! As the "old saw" goes, give the job to the busiest person and they will get it done. "I have been there and done that for years"... fabulous! Your experience is invaluable.

If you somehow, suddenly find yourself somewhat short of excuses, you are a great candidate for the Board of Directors of the GCHS... don't hesitate. Please contact Lee Albertson for more information and to "sign up"!

Phone: 480-838-2710

Email: Albertson1213@msn.com

Outings/Programs: If you have a suggestion for a future outing/program or a question about an upcoming event, contact the **2003 Outings Coordinator:** John Azar, PO Box 1121, Fredonia AZ 86022; phone 928-643-6423; email: TontoWalk@msn.com.

The Bulletin welcomes comments, stories, or reflections and remembrances. Please send them to Diane Cassidy at PO Box 10067, Prescott, AZ 86304; email: Pioneers@GrandCanyonHistory.org.

Grand Canyon Historical Society

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