Grand Canyon Historical Society, Inc.

The Bulletin

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September 2003

Cemetery Clean-up



On August 16, the Annual Cleanup was held at the South Rim Cemetery. Once again, the members of the Grand Canyon Hikers and Backpackers Association and the Grand Canyon Historical Society teamed up for the event.

Before getting started, Ranger Stew Fritts treated us to a tour of the grounds in his humorous yet informative style.

Deb Shannon and Jayme Frazier of the Re-Vegetation team then explained our chores for the day. Since most of the heavy work had already been done and the grounds were already in excellent shape they suggested a somewhat different operation than we were expecting.

Our first task was to harvest seed stems from the patches of Western Wheat Grass growing wild in the cemetery. These seeds will be used at a later date to re-seed bare patches of land at other spots on the Rim.

After gathering a good sample of these seeds, we were shuttled to the Railroad Station. There our chore was a little different. Our project was to cut and bag as many of the intrusive Rush Skeleton Weed plants as we could find.

When we were finished with this assignment, we were treated to snacks and refreshments, then turned loose to spend the balance of the day enjoying the South Rim Village. GCHS Outings for 2003

September 14 (SUNDAY): "Anita Mine and the Railroad History" by Al Richmond at Anita Mine. Al is historian for the Grand Canyon Railway, Grand Canyon regional historian, author, lecturer, and general ner-do-well. His two GCR books cover the mining activities at Anita for which the Santa Fe & Grand Canvon Railroad was built. These mines remained active by individuals and families through the 1950s but never productive enough for a company to make substantial profits. They operated from the late 1890s and the railroad reached Anita in 1900. Passenger service and mining were the staple of the railroad at that time. The community at Anita included several homes, school, Forest Service station, post office, etc. It all went away in the 1950s. If you want to know more...see you at Anita.

Time: 10:30 AM – SUNDAY, SEPT. 14

Place: Anita crossing on the Grand Canyon Railway.

Directions: North on Hwy 64 to MP228. Turn left on FS347 and it is about six (6) miles to the crossing.

Here we will talk about the railroad and extinct community of Anita until the train passes at 11:16. From there we will caravan up to the Anita and Emerald mines for lunch and exploration of what is left of the copper mines.

Roads are all dirt (may be some mud) and may be a bit rough due to the rains. Suggest vehicles with higher clearance (4WD not necessary) and for those who do not have them we can carpool after leaving Anita. The road to Anita and up to the mines SHOULD be OK for most vehicles. It is when we leave the main FS roads that things get a bit rougher. Check the weather before leaving and be suitably prepared.

Bring your lunch and drinks (plenty of water).

... continued on page 2

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2003 Outings ... continued from page 2

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

Cleanup ... continued from page 1

Participants at the Cleanup were: Janece, Jim, TJ, Robert, Jon and Sarah Olman, Dick and Joan Gladson, Lee Albertson, Robert and Mary Simpson, Gene Fowler, Chuck Wahler, Hank Schnieder, Will and Steve Shumaker, Mike Coltrin and Bev Loomis.

Thanks go to Deb, Jayme and Stew for treating us to a fun and productive day at Grand Canyon.



[Article and photos by Mike Coltrin]

Elect Your Board Please complete the inserted ballot and return by October 11

The Nominating Committee has submitted the following Pioneers as possible Board members:

Mike Anderson – Mike is completing a 3-year term on the GCHS Board. He has written nominations of Grand Canyon trails to the National Register of Historic Places, a detailed study of William Wallace Bass, and histories of northern Arizona's and southern Utah's road systems for the National Park Service. He is also the author of: • *Living at the Edge: Explorers*, Exploiters and Settlers of the Grand Canyon Region; • Along the Rim: A Guide to Grand Canyon's South Rim from Hermits Rest to Desert *View; • Polishing the Jewel: An Administrative* History of Grand Canyon National Park. Mike is a past-recipient of the Grand Canyon Pioneer Scholarship, and was a major organizer of the highly successful Grand Canyon Symposium.

John Azar – John is completing a 3-year term on the Board and was the 2003 Outings Coordinator. He is renown for his efforts in restoring historic structures on the Kaibab Plateau such as the historic Jacob Lake Ranger station and was it (Jump Up or Tuck Up cabin). John also accomplished the "Long Walk" from Lee's Ferry to Pearce Ferry. He has hiked many years with George Steck (author of GC Loop Hikes). John recently moved to Fredonia, to be closer to the Arizona Strip.

Mike Coltrin – Mike is 55 years old, married with two grown sons. He and Sue Ellen live in Tucson. He has been an avid hiker for over twenty years and has had many adventures hiking in Grand Canyon. He was one of the founding members of the Grand Canyon Hikers and Backpackers Association. Mike has attended a number of functions of the Historical Society since joining a few years ago. He is also currently a VIP (Volunteer in the Park) for the Canyon District rangers. He has demonstrated a love for Grand Canyon and a willingness to be of service.

Keith Green – Keith came to the Grand Canyon fresh out of college in 1972, just for a summer job. He fell in love with the canyon so much that he stayed for most of these 31 years. From

1975-85, he lived at Phantom Ranch watching history happen at the bottom of the Grand Canyon. In college, he had minored in history, and saw the importance of the history of Phantom Ranch. He has collected and written oral stories about Phantom Ranch which he hopes to publish someday. Now he is an interpretive ranger at the South Rim. Occasionally he gets down to Phantom and regales visitors with stories of the old Phantom Ranch. Saving the history and telling the stories of the bottom is his passion. He has been involved with the Grand Canyon Pioneers/Historical Society since the early 1990s.

Jim Ohlman – Jim has been involved with the Grand Canyon Historical Society for years, an avid hiker - so much so in fact that he hiked, and was actually able to keep up, with Harvey Butchart. He also extensively researched and hiked the historical area of 1919 tramway from Hopi Point to Shiva Temple to the North Rim. Jim also edited J. D. Green's book, *Hiking in the Grand Canyon Backcountry*.

Current Board Members and Officers

ELECTED in 2002 – Term: 2003, 2004, 2005 • Linda Anderson LindaA@GrandCanyon.org • Gale Burak N. Woodstock, NH • Bill Bishop canyonbooks@yahoo.com
ELECTED in 2001 - Term: 2002, 2003, 2004 • Nancy Green
ELECTED in 2000 – Term: 2001, 2002, 2003 • Mike Anderson MAnderson@GrandCanyon.org • John Azar
OFFICERS • President: Lee Albertson • Vice President: John Azar • Treasurer: Linda Anderson • Secretary: Nancy Green
Those rotating off the Board in October are: Mike Anderson John Azar Bob Ribokas

* Serving their second consecutive elected term and are not eligible to serve another consecutive term.

Letters to the Members

Dear GCHS members:

The Grand Canyon National Park Library is seeking to complete two incomplete runs of The Guide, the newspaper that is given out when visitors at our entrance gate and our periodical Nature Notes. The newspaper has had various titles throughout its history, but Nature Notes has been a fairly consistent title.

If Grand Canyon Historical Society members have any back issues that they would be willing to donate, the Park Library would gratefully accept them. We are particularly interested in those published prior to 1995. We are willingly to reimburse for postage and shipping costs. Please contact me at:

> Susan C. Eubank, Librarian Grand Canyon National Park P.O. Box 129 Grand Canyon, AZ 86023 Phone: 928-638-7768 Susan_Eubank@nps.gov

Dear GCHS:

I have located the original 16mm movie film that my Dad took of the Grand canyon cemetery dedication.

I no longer have the equipment to make tape copies. I think I borrowed the one I used that made copies with the copy date inserted.

If someone out there can make copies from the original, and would like to do so for the GCHS archive files, let me know soon so I can send you the film. We will be leaving here to return to Arizona in October.

> Yours, Roy E. Burris 1440 Keyes Ave. Niskayuna, NY 12309

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 P.O. Box 10067 Prescott, Arizona 86304-0067

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