

Annual Picnic at Shoshone Point

This year's annual picnic began with friends and family honoring the memory of two legendary Canyon hikers, Harvey Butchart and George Steck. The services began with a few words from Joe Alston, Superintendent of Grand Canyon National Park; then Lee Albertson and Tom Myers introduced



several members of the Butchart Family, which included many grandchildren and great grandson Sean Thomas. Next, John Azar introduced members



of the Steck family, which included sons Stan from Alaska and Mike from Colorado, and daughter Ricia from New Mexico. Others then shared their favorite times with Harvey and/or George, including: Tom Myers and Elias Butler, who are working with the family on a biography of Harvey Butchart; John Azar, Adair and Don Peterson and Don Mattox, close friends and hiking partners of George Steck; and Bil Vandergraff, Park Ranger; Jim Ohlman, climber and backpacker; and Bruce Aiken, artist and inner-Canyon resident. Lee Albertson followed up the individual remembrances with a few choice words before everyone joined in the scattering of the ashes of Harvey and his wife Roma (who passed shortly before Harvey).

...continued on page 2

GCHS Outings for 2004

July 17: *Second Annual North Rim Campout* at the historic Ranger Station at Jacob Lake. This will be a fun get together. We are celebrating the **20th Anniversary** of the beginning of the Grand Canyon Historical Society.

When: early afternoon to sunset
Where: Historic Ranger Station
Jacob Lake (*see page 4 for directions*)

Festivities begin in the early afternoon of Saturday, July 17. Matt Zweifel will demonstrate the art of flint knapping. Prehistoric people of the canyon knapped sharp edge on rock for spear points, arrowheads, and scrapers.

Also that afternoon, Neil Weintraub will be there to show us how to make split-twig figurines. These were found in caves in the Canyon, and are evidence of a people who were in the Canyon 3,000 to 4,000 years ago (other evidence includes basket fragments, sandals, and projectile points).

By late that afternoon, John Azar will have a fire ready for cooking. He will bring and cook a spit roast, corn on the cob, and potato salad. Bring something that would go with that, like dessert. Also, bring chairs and something to drink.

There is space behind the Jacob Lake Ranger Station to set up tents or sleep in your vehicle. There is a restroom and a hose bib for water. So, plan to share your Canyon stories beneath the starlit night with your fellow pioneers. We hope that some of you who were part of the original Society will be there to share your stories.

(John Azar, July Outing Leader)

August 21: Annual Community Service Project.

The Grand Canyon Historical Society will team up with the Grand Canyon Hikers and Backpackers Association for the annual community service project at Grand Canyon National Park. If there are enough people available, there will be two projects. One need is a trash pick-up along the rim. The other need is landscaping at the Grand Canyon Recreation Center.

There will be a group site available for camping the night of Friday, August 20. If you plan to camp, you must notify Nancy Green at 928-638-0666 by August 13.

...continued on page 6

Annual Picnic / Awards ...continued from page 1

Then the social festivities began with 60+ hot dogs on the grill, and tables full of pot luck dishes. It was official...the Annual Pioneer Picnic at Shoshone Point was underway and it was as pleasant as an outing can get. The 60+ members and guests experienced perfect weather... there was a gentle breeze, outstanding food and lively conversation.

When the hot dogs and ice cream were gone, Lee Albertson presented an unscheduled award...a "thank you" plaque to Diane Cassidy, for her editing work on *The Ol'Pioneer*.



Next, Todd Berger proudly announced the 2004 recipient of the **Grand Canyon Historical Society Pioneer Award:**



2004 Pioneer Award Recipient --

Gary Ladd for:

- the one-of-a-kind photographs you have created of the inner canyon of Grand Canyon National Park;
- bringing Grand Canyon and Glen Canyon to numerous curious minds through the publication of your books *Time Below the Rim*, *Along the Rim*, and *Gary Ladd's Canyon Light*;
- your more than one hundred backpacking and river trips into Grand Canyon to obtain images of some of the Canyon's most remote locations;
- teaching about Grand Canyon and Glen Canyon by capturing light and portraying nature in a most remarkable way;
- for *Time Below the Rim*, your 2003 exhibit of images at Kolb Studio in Grand Canyon National Park.

Mike Anderson presented two Grand Canyon Historical Society/National Park Service Grand Canyon **Hall of Fame Awards for Community**

Service in recognition of those organizations and individuals who have selflessly contributed to the betterment of the Grand Canyon community over years past.

The seventh annual awards name two individuals who have shown exemplary service to the Grand Canyon community. Both recipients have made personal contributions of money, time, and work over a period of many years. One recipient is deceased and happily the other is still with us.

The awardees this year are: Ronald C. Clayton and Edwin D. McKee (deceased).

These folks were recommended for their community service by previous recipients of the award. We rely on their recommendations as they know better than anyone who has been involved in community service at the Grand Canyon.

...continued on page 3

Annual Picnic / Awards ...continued from page 2

Ron Clayton is best known as the "Dean of the Mule College" at Grand Canyon but his commitment to community service is most appreciated by his fellow citizens. For years he has volunteered his time and efforts in northern Arizona as an auctioneer for charitable causes. Ron has hosted so many of these events he cannot remember them all. Such organizations as Chambers of Commerce, Rotary, the Baptist Church, and fundraisers for sick and injured individuals in dire need have benefited from his dedication to service. For 20 years, Ron has been a fixture at the Grand Canyon Chamber's 4th of July Parade auction and has also helped raise nearly \$35,000 in Williams for cancer research.



He would probably best like to be remembered for the handicap program he established with the mules in the Canyon. His work with Make A Wish Foundation and several other organizations for the handicapped as well as many individuals gives him the most pleasure. For this work he received the North American Mule Association Lifetime Achievement Award in 2000 and other awards from the Handicapped Association of the North American Horseman Association.

For the past 10 years, children of the community have benefited from his knowledge as a Sunday School teacher for the Baptist Church. And, as if helping people is not enough, Ron is the resident small animal vet and many of the community's pets have been recipients of his caring services.

Edwin "Eddie" D. McKee is remembered primarily for his scholarly contributions to biology and geology studies in the Grand Canyon. Most of his contemporaries are no longer with us but the memory of his community service lingers on. Eddie became the park naturalist in 1929, and he and his wife Barbara became active

members of the community from the moment they arrived.

Eddie lent his time and efforts to projects and people in the Village (such as building the Community Building) and through his church and other organizations. Always willing to lend a hand through time and money, he could be counted on to support community efforts and the needy when his backcountry duties and studies allowed. Fund raisers and programs at the Community Building almost always included Eddie.

Before moving on to positions in higher education, Eddie left his mark on the Grand Canyon community as someone who not only dearly loved the Canyon but as a caring and more than willing supporter of the residents and those in need.

We are deeply indebted to folks like Ron and Eddie for helping to make the Grand Canyon community a better place in which to live and work. *Note: For a complete list of awardees, see the Society's web pages at GrandCanyonHistory.org.*

Thank You

A special thank you to all of you who helped make the 2004 Annual Picnic a success...including:

- Joe Alston for the use of his propane grill
- Grand Canyon Association for the use of their van to shuttle people and/or supplies to the Point
- Todd Berger for being the best chauffeur on the South Rim
- Lee & Shirley Albertson and Dan & Diane Cassidy for supplying all the hot dogs, buns and condiments
- Diane Cassidy for grilling the above "dogs" and Dan Cassidy/Five Quail Books for the memorial program
- Tom Carmony for acting as gatekeeper and parking attendant
- Linda Anderson for arranging the location, name tags and table cloths, and for being there from start to finish



A Tribute to Harvey Butchart and George Steck

As we put down our well worn copy of a treks or loops book, we begin to dream of that special place in the Canyon so carefully described in its pages.

Whether that place is familiar or not, we can see it in the vivid color of our imagination; we are able to live in it vicariously through the author's words.

Two people – explorers, hikers, climbers and authors – true canyoneers with many parallels, they have selflessly provided each of us with their hard-won knowledge of this great chasm called the Grand Canyon.

Many of us have been inspired by or perhaps "called" to the Grand Canyon after reading their accounts of locating new routes into unfamiliar territory. They excited our audacious spirits with the possibility of finding much needed springs in unexpected nooks. Because we too are adventurers, what we read overwhelmed our curiosity, which developed over time into a passion few people will ever understand.

Harvey and George exemplified this passion. But as much as they loved the Grand Canyon, both understood that there is more to life than the Canyon's beauty and beguile. Their achievements in their professional careers and family life are more than remarkable. While both enjoyed reminiscing over their own explorations, they were equally interested in the trials and tribulations of their readers' and friends' experiences as well. This is another unselfish act that many of us would like to follow.

While both having a honed analytical mind, they also had a quest for the new and untold, the love of true adventure and the willingness to share all of this information. We are truly fortunate to have had so much knowledge from which we could draw upon, from two people so different yet so similar.

Thank you Harvey and thank you George for opening a door to this awesome experience and for your humbling generosity. For this door shall remain open for all else to follow. You have taken the first steps; we will take the next.

Pete Borremans
Green Bay WI

GRAND CANYON PIONEERS SOCIETY
PIONEER AWARD was presented on the
June 14, 1997 to: **HARVEY BUTCHART**



- for the significant contribution you have made to our understanding and appreciation of the Grand Canyon through your exploration, historical research, photographs, and written and verbal accounts of that most incomparable of all natural wonders;
- for making the Canyon accessible to a multitude of

hikers and explorers for whom you have diligently served as a mentor in their quest to follow your pioneering footsteps;

- for your photographic memory recorded in letters to backpackers requesting information;
- for your mathematical detail of Canyon descriptions that have been made available for future generations, and;
- for keeping alive the grand tradition of Powell and others in seeking out and traversing yet another part of the Great Unknown.

GRAND CANYON PIONEERS SOCIETY
PIONEER AWARD was presented on the
June 12, 1999 to: **GEORGE STECK**

- for the significant contributions you made as a Volunteer-In-Park ("VIP") at Grand Canyon National Park;
- for cataloging permanent springs and indexing place names;
- for being an unselfish mentor to numerous backcountry enthusiasts who sought your help and advice on doing off-trail loop hikes and routes to seldom-visited areas that harbor some of the most beautiful parts of the Canyon;
- for your detailed work in documenting the "unknown and unfamiliar" for an enhanced understanding of the Canyon;
- for your informative and humorous lectures, publications, and "how to" articles on handling adversity in the backcountry, and finally;
- for your support of Grand Canyon restoration projects.



Member Update - Roy Lemons

I just recently received the okay to inter the remains of Roy and Edna Lemons at the Shrine of the Ages at the Grand Canyon. My grandfather, Roy Lemons, was a member of the Grand Canyon Pioneers.

They will be interred on July 24, 2004, at 3:00 PM. If any one from the GCHS are going to attend, they will need to call me (at 505-864-0613) or Paul Cox (at the Grand Canyon fee office 928-638-7954) to ensure that they will not have to pay the park entrance fee for this event.

Thank You,
Roy C. Lemons

Note to a GCHS Member

May 23, 2004

In today's mail there was a card that moved me to write a message for the Grand Canyon History Society – something I have not done in a long time.

The card was from a young man that I have known for a number of years – a boy who my wife and I have watched grow from a troublesome kid into a young man who we have become proud of.

In the past few years, we have not been able to see him often, but we have managed to keep up with him from a distance, and our pride in him has continued to grow. Not only are we proud of the boy, but also of his mother and dad who have brought him up to be a wonderful young man.

If it were possible, instead of writing this letter I would ruffle his hair and put my arm around his shoulder and my wife no doubt would hug him. But as this is not the case, I will only congratulate Thomas Ohlman as he steps out of high school into the new world of manhood and a greater education.

Good luck T.J., from Sibyl and me as well as from all the other members of the Society who have known you through the years.

Take care.
Bill Suran
Flagstaff AZ

Letters to GCHS

June 18, 2004
Pioneers,

Thanks to a "lightbulb" turning on in my Mom Jo Schellbach's memory from fifty-odd years ago, an important fact has emerged concerning the Harmon family of Roaring Springs. Harmon was actually the first name of the man of the household. Harmon and Sadie "Ruesch" is the couple's correct name, although don't hold us to the spelling.

Through my Dad Don Schellbach's research on the internet, Harmon died in December 1963 and his wife Sadie died in November 1988. Both are buried in the Springdale, Utah cemetery.

Respectfully submitted,
Traci Wyrick - Killeen, TX

May 26, 2004

To members of GCHS:

My name is Stephen Fried. I am an author and an adjunct professor at Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism. My next book will be a journalistic biography of Fred Harvey, his family, his company and their era., Obviously, part of the book will be about the Grand Canyon, both pre- and post-Harvey.

I have very much enjoyed some of the writings I've read on the new GCHS web site and on your older one.

I would like to hear from any of your members who might have materials or recollections that would be helpful to me--anything from the more obvious stuff to William Bass's pamphlet about the dangers of the Fred Harvey Company coming to the Canyon. Please get in touch with me, via e-mail or phone at my office in Philadelphia.

Thanks,
Stephen Fried
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GCHS Members:

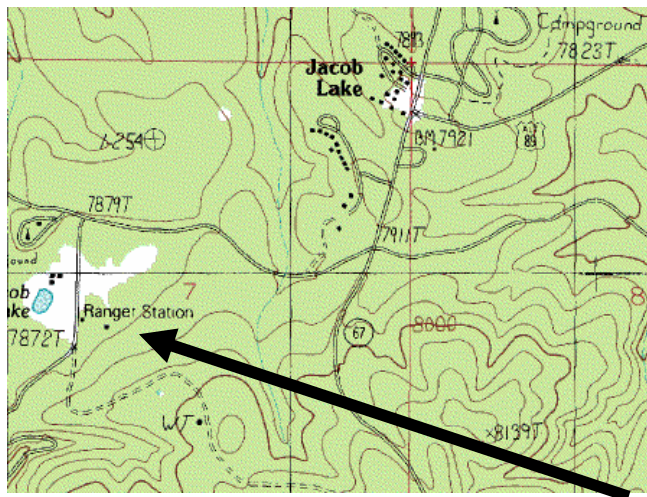
The Grand Canyon/Williams News is in need of Grand Canyon trivia questions. Every week the newspaper asks a Grand Canyon history question, with the answer published upside down under the question, so people have to quiz themselves first before checking the answer. You will be given credit for the submission in the newspaper. This is the chance to impress us all with your Grand Canyon knowledge!

Please submit your questions AND answers to:

Jackie Brown
Associate Grand Canyon Editor
P. O. Box 285 - Grand Canyon, Arizona 86023
gcnews@grand-canyon.az.us

North Rim Campout: July 17

Enjoy the history of Grand Canyon with fellow GCHS members at the North Rim campout at the historic ranger station at Jacob Lake on Saturday, July 17.



To get there, go to Jacob Lake Lodge, have a cookie, then drive south on Highway 67 a short distance. Take the first right (west on FS 462). A sign for the Jacob Lake Ranger Station will direct you to the left (south). Watch for an old ranger station (on the east side of the road) across from a fenced field, which is Jacob Lake. Turn left back behind the ranger station. You will see us there.

Saturday activities and camping will be behind the Jacob Lake Ranger Station. There is a restroom and a hose bib for water.

2004 Outings...continued from page 1

September 18: *Harvey: The Adventures, Tragedies and Legacy of Grand Canyon's Greatest Hiker* by Elias Butler and Tom Myers. Held in conjunction with the 3rd Annual Prescott Book Festival.

Elias Butler is a journalist as well as a photographer (whose works have appeared in publications like *National Geographic Adventure Magazine*, *Arizona Highways*, *Backpacker Magazine*, *Plateau Journal* and *High Country News*). Tom Myers is the author of *Fateful Journey - Injury and Death on the Colorado River in Grand Canyon* and *Over the Edge - Death in Grand Canyon*.

Eli and Tom will talk about their upcoming book about the life of Harvey Butchart. Lecture from 10:30 to 11:00 in the Sharlot Hall Museum. (Book signing until 2:00 PM if their book has been released by this date.)

October 16: Annual Board Meeting. The annual board meeting of the GCHS will be held at the Flagstaff Public Library meeting room from 10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon. Immediately following the meeting, we will walk or drive one block to Las Manzanitas, a Mexican restaurant in downtown Flagstaff for lunch and visiting time. (Nancy Green, *October Outing Leader*)

November 20: Search and Rescue Services Director Ken Phillips--tentative (Tom Myers, *November Outing Leader*)

December: **No meeting**

June Outing Attendees

With over 60+ coming out for this year's Annual Picnic, there are too many to mention here. We did get to visit with Bill & Sibyl Suran, Mary Ellen Hamilton, and George Billingsley who mixed in well with the crowd. And, we heard from Gale Burak by way of a letter for the memorial service. (Gale Burak, Bill Suran and George Billingsley are all past recipients of the Pioneer Award, 1998, 2002 and 2003, respectively.)

We miss seeing Myra & Burford Belgard, Ethel Cole, Edwin & Ruth Druding, Mary Hoover, and Fred & Jeanne Schick, and other long-time GCHS members. We hope all of you are well and will be coming out to visit with us again soon...and maybe some of you out-of-state members could schedule your next vacation to coincide with the Annual Picnic (or the July Campout)!

Outings/Programs: If you have a suggestion for a future outing/program or a question about an upcoming event, contact the **2004 Outings Coordinator:** Keith Green, PO Box 1986, Grand Canyon AZ 86023; phone 928-638-0666; email: Keith_Green@nps.gov.

The Bulletin welcomes comments, stories, or reflections and remembrances. Please send them to Diane Cassidy at 2112 Demerse Avenue, Prescott, AZ 86301; email: Pioneers@GrandCanyonHistory.org.