

# Grand Canyon Historical Society, Inc.

To develop and promote appreciation, understanding and education of the earlier history of the inhabitants and important events of the Grand Canyon and surrounding area.

## The Bulletin

Volume 11 Number 5

www.GrandCanyonHistory.org

November 2007

### 2007 Outings

**December – no outing**

Please submit 2008 outings ideas to:

**Outings@GrandCanyonHistory.org**

\* \* \* \* \*

### Nominations Accepted for Pioneer Award

Nominations are now being accepted for the 2008 Grand Canyon Historical Society Pioneer Award. The Society wants to honor an individual who has made a significant contribution or contributions to the understanding of and knowledge about the Grand Canyon of the Colorado River in such areas as the natural sciences, photography, river running, backcountry hiking, history, administration, art, etc. - any area that advances the knowledge of the Grand Canyon.

Previous recipients of the Pioneer Award: Mike Quinn, 2007; Al Richmond, 2006; Mike Anderson, 2005; Gary Ladd, 2004; George Billingsley, 2003; Bill Suran, 2002; George Steck, 1999; Gale Burak, 1998; and Harvey Butchart, 1997.

To make a nomination, submit the individual's name and their accomplishments and or contributions that have advanced our knowledge of the Grand Canyon, by **March 15, 2008 to:**

**George Billingsley  
PO Box 345  
Flagstaff, AZ 86002**

### Elect Your Board

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

#### Board Member Candidates

##### **Lee Albertson**

GCHS member since 1983 and served multiple terms as President and Outing Coordinator for the Society. Developed the concept of a "Pioneer Award" that recognizes an individual that has made a SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO THE UNDERSTANDING OF AND KNOWLEDGE ABOUT THE GRAND CANYON OF THE COLORADO RIVER. Planned and organized the 2007 Grand Canyon History Symposium. Some backcountry backpacking experience including leading groups to Easter Sunrise services in the Canyon. In his other life – a Civil Engineer.

##### **Erik Berg**

Erik was raised in Flagstaff and he and his family made frequent trips to the canyon. He made his first trip to Phantom Ranch at age 12 and did his first (and to date only) river trip through the canyon at age 19. He visits the canyon several times a year for hiking, photography, and relaxation. Erik graduated from the University of Arizona in 1991 and currently lives in Phoenix where he works as a software engineer for Intel Corporation. He has been an active avocational historian for the last ten years with a special interest in the role of science and technology in the Southwest. In addition to presenting at conferences and public talks, he has contributed chapters to two books and published articles in the *Journal of Arizona History*, *Journal of the Society of Commercial Archaeology*, *Canyon Views*, and *Arizona Highways*. He presented a paper on the 1937 Carnegie-Caltech Colorado River expedition at the 2007 Grand Canyon History Symposium and has a larger article on the subject due for publication in the winter issue of the *Journal of Arizona History*. Erik believes that as a board member he could share his canyon experiences and research with the group, and as a Phoenix resident and newcomer to GCHS, could bring a different perspective and contribute ideas for expanding membership and engaging people living outside of the canyon area.

##### **Kirstin Heins**

Kirstin has worked at Grand Canyon National Park for 8 years and currently works in the Division of Science & Resource Management as a Recreation Planner, but has spent most of her time in the park in the Backcountry Information Center. Kirstin's interest in Grand Canyon history was cultivated during her backcountry hiking experiences. Her particular interest these days is how Grand Canyon National Park historically managed the inner canyon resources and backcountry areas. She also spent five years responsible for Grand Canyon's historic cemetery and has been helping her husband, Mathieu Brown, with his Grand Canyon climbing history project. Kirstin believes that as a board member one of her greatest contributions would be to help promote the organization and its goals to other members of the Grand Canyon community.

##### **Stephen Hirst**

Steve Hirst is the author of *I Am the Grand Canyon: The Story of the Havasupai People*. Steve and Lois Hirst first came to the Havasupai in 1967 to operate their Head Start preschool. Thus began a relationship that has persisted for forty years. During the eleven years the Hirsts lived in

Havasupai Canyon, their daughter Alexa was born, the tribal council asked Lois to oversee their education programs, and the Havasupai asked the Hirsts to research and document their efforts to regain their ancestral lands. They later moved to Michigan and continued their connection with Native Americans by working with Ojibwe and Potawatomi education programs. The Hirsts returned to Flagstaff in 2004, where they've continued their friendship and work with the Havasupai people. Their daughter Alexa believes they have come home.

### **Amy Horn**

Amy is currently Park Archeologist at Grand Canyon National Park. She began working in the archeology program at GCNP in 1995 while a graduate student at NAU. Her love of the canyon, and especially its human history, has compelled her to stay on at GCNP. While in graduate school Amy received a scholarship from the Grand Canyon Pioneer's Society (now GCHS) in support of her thesis research on projectile points of the Cohonina, a prehistoric culture that lived in the eastern Grand Canyon. Among her current interests is the ranching history of the Kaibab Plateau. She presented a paper on this at the 2007 Grand Canyon History Symposium. Amy would like the opportunity to serve for a number of different reasons. She thinks the GCHS does a great job of connecting Grand Canyon history buffs and collecting important information about Grand Canyon's past. She is impressed by the efforts and dedication of a relatively small organization in not just organizing, but creating a successful history symposium, arranging outings, and supporting research and preservation projects. Finally, as a recipient of a GCPS scholarship, she would like the opportunity to give back to an organization that supported her academic pursuits.

### **Ian Hough**

With a Master's degree and 16 years experience in the field as an archeologist, Ian finds the human history of Grand Canyon quite incredible. Grand Canyon offers some of the best-preserved and most dramatic archeological sites in the Southwest. Ian worked on his first project in the Canyon 5 years ago, and has worked on archeological sites ranging from 8000-year-old Archaic hunting camps, to Puebloan villages, to 50-year-old aviation sites, to historic buildings in the Village. His specialty is the documentation, interpretation and preservation of ancient and historic Native American architecture and he's currently working in the Vanishing Treasures Program in archaeology. Ian lives close to the action on the South Rim with his wife Jill and 6-year-old son Emmett.

### **Henry Karpinski**

Henry Karpinski was born in New York (*Mets NOT Yankees*) and first arrived at Grand Canyon in 1975; in his time here he has held jobs as varied as Food and Beverage Server to Housing Manager to (currently) Retail Training Specialist. An historian at heart, he long ago began studying the human history of the Grand Canyon and is

acknowledged by both the NPS and Xanterra as a bit of an expert. He frequently gives presentations for Northern Arizona University as well as the Grand Canyon Association and has appeared on the History Channel, PBS, the Discovery Channel, and the Travel Channel. He is an avid book collector, reader, potter, writer and road-tripper. He can, very often, be found on the Kaibab Trail.

### **Adair Peterson**

Adair has a long history of volunteer work in a number of areas. They are: nine years on the Southwest Regional board of the Sierra Club where she worked on such issues as endangered species, trail and wilderness issues and the two proposed dams in Grand Canyon. She then turned to another passion, mountain rescue. She served close to thirty years in various positions on the board of Albuquerque Mountain Rescue. A close friend of the late George Steck, Adair has hiked the length of Grand Canyon from Lees Ferry to Lava Falls and most of the canyons on both sides of the river.

### **Dr. Paul Schnur**

Paul grew up at Grand Canyon Village and graduated from 8<sup>th</sup> grade at the Grand Canyon Grammar School. His family lived there from 1948-1955. Paul's dad, Leo Schnur, was the physician and medical director of the Grand Canyon Hospital. After moving away, Paul continued to work each summer in the park until he entered medical school. His family was close friends with the Verkamp family and Paul was invited to attend the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Verkamp Store in the spring of 2006. Paul presented a paper at the recent history symposium entitled "*MEDICAL CARE, CHAPELS AND CHALLENGES; Growing up at the Grand Canyon*". Paul has always been interested in the history of Native Americans. That interest has extended to the Spanish history of the Americas and as a hobby, he lectures on cruise ships about the history of the Spanish conquest of the Americas and the effect it has had on Native Americans. Paul's family has had a residence in Sedona since 1946. He serves on the Board of the Sedona Historical Society and is working on a book about the history of medical care in the Verde Valley. Paul is also a professor emeritus of plastic surgery at the Arizona Mayo Clinic.

### **Gaylord Staveley**

For fifty years Gaylord's been providing commercial river trips for park visitors, and collecting and imparting river and canyon history and lore to passengers, trip leaders and guides. At times he worked as a magazine editor and freelance writer, and had a small part in writing K.C. Publications' *Grand Canyon - The Story Behind The Scenery*. In 1969 Gaylord led a wooden boat expedition that retraced Major Powell's route of discovery. His account of that expedition was published by Little, Brown & Company as *Broken Waters Sing*. Gaylord was a presenter at the 2007 History Symposium. Presently he's writing *On The River*, a book about man's experiences --

including his own -- with the Colorado River and the Grand Canyon.

### Traci Wyrick

Traci Wyrick considers herself a hopeless Grand Canyon addict. Both sets of her grandparents (the Dean Tidballs and Louis Schellbachs) lived and worked at the Canyon for decades; one family on the rim and the other family beside the river. Traci is a City Letter Carrier with the Killeen, Texas Post Office. She has a B.A. degree in Mass Communications with a minor in Journalism and she enjoys writing feature stories pertaining to the canyon and native plants in general. Traci lives with her husband on a 10-acre horse ranch with an acre of it devoted to her native plant wildscape. Two of her passions are native plants and rocks, both of which she relishes at Grand Canyon. With the assistance of GCHS members such as Jim Ohlman, Traci and her family were able to route-find their way up to the summit of Schellbach Butte (named after her Park-Naturalist Grandfather) in October 2006. Traci and her husband spend their spring and fall vacations hiking the canyon, driving 17-hours straight from Texas each time. There's simply no place else she'd rather be.

### Current Board Members and Officers

ELECTED in 2006 – Term: 2007, 2008, 2009

- Keith Green \*

ELECTED in 2005 – Term: 2006, 2007, 2008

- Beverly Loomis
- George Billingsley
- Susan Billingsley

ELECTED in 2004 – Term: 2005, 2006, 2007 --

OUTGOING 10/2007

- Lee Albertson
- Todd Berger
- Mike Coltrin

\* Currently serving a second consecutive term. [Board members are eligible to serve two (2) consecutive terms and will not again be eligible for election until one year has passed from their last term of office. (By Laws, Article IV.1)]

### CURRENT OFFICERS

President: vacant  
Vice President: vacant  
Treasurer: Susan Billingsley  
Secretary: Todd Berger  
Pioneer Award: George Billingsley, Chairperson  
Outings Coordinator: vacant  
Membership Committee Chair: Dan Cassidy

**Please complete and return the inserted ballot by December 15th**

## **2007 Board Meeting Minutes – Annual Meeting, October 13, 2007, Flagstaff Public Library**

The meeting was called to order at 10:15 by Chairperson George Billingsley.

The following people were in attendance: Board members Bev Loomis, George Billingsley, Keith Green, Treasurer Susan Billingsley, and members Henry Karpinski, Gaylord Stavely, and Nancy Green.

Keith agreed to contact absent board member Amanda Zeman to see if she was planning on fulfilling the rest of her term, which ends in 2009. This will determine how many board seats are vacant.

It was noted that there is a new volunteer editor for the Bulletin, Karen Greig from California. The Bulletin will now come out as needed to disseminate information about the Society's activities.

Mary Williams is now the editor of the Ol' Pioneer. This will be published bi-annually in the fall and spring. This will be a paid position. It will cost approximately \$700 - \$800 per issue. Mary's charges for this first issue were \$1127.23 due to set-up costs. She is extending to the Society a 25% discount as the organization is a non-profit. Mary is looking for member's stories to include in the next issue.

Diane Cassidy will continue to be the website manager. It was noted that the Society owes a considerable amount of appreciation to Diane for all of the work she has done for the organization over the years.

There is money to offer a scholarship this year. A discussion took place considering opening this opportunity up to students at Arizona State University and University of Arizona as well as Northern Arizona University. George will discuss this possibility with Al Richmond. Al has served as the chair of the scholarship for many years, and the Society is grateful for his work in this area.

George Billingsley has been the chair of the Pioneer Award, and he is willing to continue in that capacity.

The minutes from the 2006 annual board meeting were reviewed. It was noted that much of the information concerned the Symposium. The enormous amount of effort it took to put on the Symposium left many Society members drained of energy. On the bright side, the Symposium brought forth many individuals interested in serving as board members for the Society.

Susan moved to accept the 2006 minutes. Keith seconded. The minutes were approved.

There was a question concerning merging leftover money from the Symposium with a CD which will soon be maturing. By doing this, the amount would be close to \$10,000 and it could receive 5% interest. Keith will look into money market accounts which are attached to checking accounts where up to 3 checks per month can be written. Susan will contact Steve Verkamp concerning the Symposium money.

# Grand Canyon Historical Society

P.O. Box 345

Flagstaff, Arizona 86002

02-07

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

PRSRT STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
PRESCOTT, AZ  
PERMIT #43

## Board Minutes ...continued from page 3

The Society received a letter from EBSCO title services. Does anyone know what this is referring to? Dan Cassidy may possibly be able to shed some light on this. One new item of business which will need attending after the new board is elected is that a clause needs to be added to the by-laws stating that it is acceptable to conduct Society business via email. The by-laws are from 1995, and state that business can only be conducted via telephone, mail or at the actual meeting.

The Board may consist of not less than 3 and no more than 15 individuals. Looking over the list of people interested in serving on the board was an impressive gathering of names. They are as follows: Lee Albertson, Adair Peterson, Traci Wyrick, Amy Horn, Stephen Hirst, Gaylord Stavely, Henry Karpinski, Dr. Paul Schnur, Ian Hough, Eric Berg, Kirsten Heins.

The consensus was - the more the merrier! The membership will need to vote on the above names to fill the vacant board seats. Karen will need short bios of the above people to include in the Bulletin. Karen will also need to develop a ballot for voting to include in the Bulletin. The deadline for voting will be determined by how quickly Karen will be able to get this printed and mailed. The ballots will be sent to Bev Loomis. Bev will tally the votes and notify the persons who received the most votes that they are on the board. As soon as feasible after all new board members are notified, a meeting will be set up for the newly elected board to convene and begin conducting the

Society's business. The new board will review the current by-laws to reflect changes in the Society's name (since 2002) and proceedings. Officers will then be elected. An important order of business will be to set up a slate of outings for 2008.

Susan moved to adjourn the meeting. Bev seconded. All approved and the meeting was adjourned at 11:45 am.  
*Respectfully submitted by fill-in secretary Nancy Green*

## Time to Renew

Membership is on an annual basis using the standard calendar; and dues are payable on the 1st of January of each year.

Please look for your Membership Renewal Notice coming in the mail to you soon, and help support the Society in its mission to preserve Grand Canyon history.

## Submit Your Stories for Ol' Pioneer

Mary Williams is the new editor for the Ol' Pioneer, our magazine featuring stories and letters of historical relevance to the Grand Canyon. Submit your stories to Mary at:

**Mary Williams**  
**4880 Weatherford Rd,**  
**Flagstaff, Az 86001**  
**Phone: 928-779-3377**  
**mary@marywilliamsdesign.com**

---

**Outings/Programs:** If you have a suggestion for a future outing/program or a question about an upcoming event, contact the **2008 Outings Coordinator** at [Outings@GrandCanyonHistory.org](mailto:Outings@GrandCanyonHistory.org)

**The Bulletin** welcomes comments, stories, or reflections and remembrances.  
Please send them to: [kgreig@yahoo.com](mailto:kgreig@yahoo.com)