

# 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

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October 2005

### Mountain Lying Down

Several GCHS members and guests attended the September presentation by Steve Buckley, the 2003 GCHS Scholarship recipient which was the GCHS's first award for an environmental history.

Steve presented the findings of his masters research project: *Mountain Lying Down: An Environmental History of the Kaibab Plateau*. This was Steve's thesis completed his Master of Liberal Studies degree at NAU in December 2004. Upon its completion in December, the manuscript was added to the Grand Canyon Historical Society archive in Cline Library's Special Collections, as well as the university's circulating collection.

The thesis is explorations of the bearing that indigenous environmental history has on contemporary efforts to ecologically restore the Kaibab Plateau. Exploring the deeper ecological history of the Kaibab, Steve's work focuses on the evolution of the Kaibab as a forest and ecological system that evolved with considerable indigenous influence. The work (and his presentation) is a series of essays that explore the relevance of bioregionalism, a budding ecological philosophy, for both understanding indigenous history and ecological restoration.

He shared some of the findings of his research into land use on the Plateau past and present. The writings of the mid-nineteenth century explorers mention a habitat rich with deep grasses and stands of large trees. He described how logging, domestic herding and suppression of natural fires all had a role in changing the forests. His argument follows that indigenous people have a great deal to teach about living in bioregions in ways that enhance bio-cultural diversity and ecological sustainability.

We must learn from history so this generation and future generations will protect this valuable resource.

*[Article submitted by Lee Albertson]*

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### New Members

Carol Oldham – Grand Canyon AZ  
Sally Underwood – Prescott AZ  
Carole Voss – Marble Canyon AZ  
David & Jacque Kuhn – San Manuel AZ

### 2005 Outings

#### October 15 – Annual Board Meeting.

The annual board meeting of the GCHS will be held to attend to regular business and open discussion (see proposed agenda on page 2).

Meeting: 10:15 AM to 12:15 PM  
Flagstaff Public Library  
300 West Aspen

Following the meeting, if you are interested in visiting with members, we will walk or drive one block to Las Mananitas Downtown Restaurant at 103 West Birch Avenue.

**November 19 – 100th Anniversary of the USFS** by Cathie Schmidlin of the Williams office of the Kaibab Forest Service. Cathie will be discussing the USFS and how it relates to Grand Canyon history at 1:00 PM in the Cline Library Media Center, Viewing Room A, at Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff. (If you get to Flagstaff early, you may find some early-bird GCHS members at Busters Restaurant at 11:30 AM). *[Nancy Green, event coordinator]*

**December** – No meeting

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### September Outing Attendees

These pioneers enjoyed the presentation by the 2003 Pioneers Award recipient Steve Buckley at the NAU Cline Library:

Natasha Varner – Tucson  
Mike & Sue Coltrin – Tucson  
Lee Albertson – Tempe  
Jim & Janece Ohlman – Kayenta  
Keith & Nancy Green – Grand Canyon  
Dave Monet – Flagstaff  
Jim & Novaline Hasbargen – Flagstaff  
Gene Fowler – Flagstaff  
Gary Buckley – Flagstaff  
Peggy Taylor – Flagstaff  
Margaret Allen  
Gary Nabahn

## Board Meeting Agenda

October 15, 2005 @ 10:15 AM

1. State of the Grand Canyon Historical Society in 2005: *Keith Green*
2. Minutes of the October 2004 Board of Directors Meeting: *Lee Albertson*
3. Treasurer's Report: *Linda Anderson*
4. Planning for 2007 History Symposium: *Lee Albertson*
5. Scholarship Award; Status Report and Allocation of Funds: *Al Richmond*
6. Grand Canyon Hall of Fame Award for Community Service: *Al Richmond*
7. Results of Election for 2006 Board of Directors (Term: 2006, 2007, and 2008): *Lee Albertson*
8. Proxy Votes (those Board Members not in attendance): *Lee Albertson*
9. Election of Officers for 2006: *Keith Green*
10. Committee Chairman and Appointments (Chairman, Pioneer Award; Assistant Outing Coordinator; Planning for 2005 Outings; June Outing Manager, Annual Picnic; July Outing Manager, North Rim Camp Out; August Outing Manager; Chairman, Membership Committee): *Keith Green*
11. New Business: *Keith Green*
  - \$500 donation for Jacob Lake Barn restoration
12. Adjournment: *Keith Green*

### Current Board Members and Officers

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

- Lee Albertson .....Albertson1213@msn.com
- Todd Berger.....T Berger@grandcanyon.org
- Mike Coltrin ..... Coltrin1@cox.net

#### ELECTED in 2003 – Term: 2004, 2005, 2006

- Mike Anderson ..... MAnderson@GrandCanyon.org
- Keith Green .....Keith\_Green@nps.gov
- Jim Ohlman ..... JOhlman@PeabodyEnergy.com

#### ELECTED in 2002 – Term: 2003, 2004, 2005

- Linda Anderson .....LindaA@GrandCanyon.org
- Gale Burak.....N. Woodstock, NH

## Member Update

A Note from Al Richmond:

A sad bit of news to report...we lost the Pioneer's second president, Ron Werhan, to cancer on September 9. He and Carol moved to Kamiah, Idaho, a few years ago and settled in for retirement...that is, if you can ever consider Ron and Carol ever being in retirement. Kamiah became home and Carol will continue to live there.

Ron took over for me as present and gave the Pioneers several years of great service and direction. His background as a civil engineer provided us with a different historical point of view and his enthusiasm for learning and exploring was an inspiration to us all. Both Ron and Carol worked to make the Pioneers a great organization and always managed to find new and unusual places for us to visit. Consequently, it was always good to hear about the new places they have found to explore in Idaho. He will be missed.

I have heard Ron recite this Irish blessing...and now it is appropriate for him:

*May your glass be ever full.*

*May the roof over your head be always strong.*

*And may you be in heaven half an hour before the devil knows you're dead.*

Carol can be reached at Werhan@mtida.net

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## Future Outings

### **2006 – June 24: Annual Picnic at Shoshone Point.**

Reservations have already been made for Shoshone Point for 2006. Mark your calendar for the 2006 annual picnic.

### **2007 – January 26-27-28 (tentative): Grand Canyon History Symposium II.**

The GCHS History Symposium Committee (Lee Albertson, Todd Berger, Carolyn Castleman, Jim Ohlman, Keith Green, Nancy Green, and Steve Verkamp) have decided to format the second history symposium much like that of the 2002 Grand Canyon History Symposium. Look for more details in the coming months. In the meantime, they are working to raise money to help pay for it. Please contact any of the committee members with your comments and suggestions.

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**Outings/Programs:** If you have a suggestion for a future outing/program or a question about an upcoming event, contact the **2005 Outings Coordinator:** Mike Coltrin, 2041 West Brichta Drive, Tucson AZ 85745; phone: 520-624-1831; email: Coltrin1@cox.net.

**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.