



# The Ol' Pioneer

The Magazine of the Grand Canyon Historical Society

Volume 29 : Number 3

[www.GrandCanyonHistory.org](http://www.GrandCanyonHistory.org)

Summer 2018



# President's Letter

Every organization has or should have a mission. Here is our mission statement:

*The Grand Canyon Historical Society celebrates and promotes the study and preservation of the Grand Canyon region's cultural and natural history for the education and enjoyment of its members and the public.*

The past members who wrote this statement did a wonderful job of defining what your organization is all about. In this summer's issue of the *Ol' Pioneer* and *Bulletin* you will see examples of how we are and will be implementing this mission statement. This letter will focus on the opportunities for members to participate in helping to achieve our mission while being educated and having fun.

Everyone probably has their first memory of seeing the Grand Canyon. Why not tell us and be part of our efforts to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of our Grand Canyon National Park? We have included some examples in this issue. It's easy, fun and interesting. We will all read of different ways people have been influenced by the Canyon. We'll be including these stories in upcoming issues of *Ol' Pioneer*.

Did you attend the November 2016 GC History Symposium? Now available, the Grand Canyon Association has published the amazing papers written by our 16 presenters. Thank you GCA! These contributors have wonderfully told our history, and we encourage you to purchase your own copy. You will see how our mission has been achieved in sponsoring this well-attended history symposium.

Next year, 2019, is a very significant year for your Grand Canyon Historical Society. We invite you to plan to join everyone who will come together for this special opportunity. Next February 20-23, 2019 we will be hosting the 5th Grand Canyon History Symposium. Already keynote speakers have been scheduled, 26 presenters have been selected (See the listing of presenters and their topics in this issue) and we will be scheduling author talks and oral history interviews. For example, one author will discuss the 50th anniversary of the first human on the moon by speaking on how the Grand Canyon area was a significant NASA training location for our brave astronauts. Plans are being developed for the Fall of 2019 to recognize the 150th Anniversary of John Wesley Powell's amazing discovery river trip. More details will be in the next issue of the *Ol' Pioneer / Bulletin*.

Registration to attend the 5th GC History Symposium will be on-line. Grand Canyon Historical Society members will be able to register in December. Registration for non-members will open up in January 2019. Not a member? Consider joining now for \$25 so you can register in December.

One of our annual goals is to award research scholarships. Two scholarships were awarded this year and you will see in this issue an interesting outline of both. We were able to give these grants because so many members contributed specifically to our scholarship program. Thank you for your generosity.

As an active member who was invited to be on the Board, and then this year elected as President, I'm honored to be associated with the many great and interesting people who make up our membership. If you ever have questions, want to volunteer, make suggestions or have questions please email me.

Dave Mortenson  
President  
president@grandcanyonhistory.org

Cover: Hull Cabin (top) and John Hance's Glendale Springs cabin (below).

## The Ol' Pioneer

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Grand Canyon Historical Society

Volume 29 : Number 3  
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The Historical Society was established in July 1984 as a non-profit corporation to develop and promote appreciation, understanding and education of the earlier history of the inhabitants and important events of the Grand Canyon.

*The Ol' Pioneer* is published by the GRAND CANYON HISTORICAL SOCIETY. An integral part of the publication is an informational section, *The Bulletin*, that updates members on Society activities, programs, events, Board actions and discussions. *The Ol' Pioneer* is a benefit of membership and is open to any person interested in the historical, educational, and charitable purposes of the Society. Membership is on an annual basis using the standard calendar; and dues of \$25 are payable on the 1st of January each year, and mailed to the GCHS Treasurer, PO Box 1667, Grand Canyon, AZ 86023-1667. *The Ol' Pioneer* magazine is copyrighted by the Grand Canyon Historical Society, Inc. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or used in any form without permission of the publisher.

Editor: Mary Williams  
Submission deadlines: January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1. Submit photos and stories to the editor of *The Ol' Pioneer* at: maryinfo@marywilliamsdesign.com Contact for mailing address (928) 606-9932. Please submit written articles and photos electronically by email if possible. Submissions to *The Bulletin* should be sent to thebulletin@grandcanyonhistory.org

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# John Hance and the Dovetailed Joints



Indian Creek, TN



Hull Barn



Hull (and Hance) Cabin saddle notching

by Shane Murphy

The above structures' dovetailed joints are all associated with John Hance, the leftmost illustrating his uncle's house in Tennessee. The other two images show similar handcrafting employed at Grand Canyon.

There may be a deeper story to the middle and right-side images. As an historical matter, it's generally understood Hull Barn was constructed around 1884 and that Hance's trailhead cabin was put up a decade later.

Contrasting this is the belief that Hance's saddle notched Glendale Springs cabin was in place by 1884 and that Hull Cabin, with similarly joined timbers (right), was installed about 1888.

It seems more practical that the lumber treatments and construction styles used be regarded as one-off events. This would indicate Hull Cabin (cover: upper image) and Hance's Glendale Springs cabin (cover: lower image) were built more-or-less contemporaneously, meaning about 1884, and that the construction of Hull Barn and Hance's trailhead cabin happened the same way but not until 10 years afterward.

The only way to authenticate this notion would be tree-ring dating on Hull Barn and Cabin.

Original Routes between Hull Barn, Glendale Springs and Hance's rim cabin. Scale: Glendale Springs to Hull Barn is about three miles by foot.



# Celebrating 100 Years of the National Park Service

## November 2016

### A Gathering of Grand Canyon Historians, Ideas, Arguments, and First-Person Accounts

submitted by Grand Canyon Association

ISBN 978-1-934656-92-1

120 pages; color cover; b/w text; soft-cover; 8 1/2" x 11"

Photographs, diagrams, maps, and illustrations

\$19.95

In this fourth collection of Grand Canyon History Symposium Proceedings papers, *Celebrating 100 Years of the National Park Service*, almost half of the works at least partly address park management. Many concern underrepresented groups, though biographies of well-known

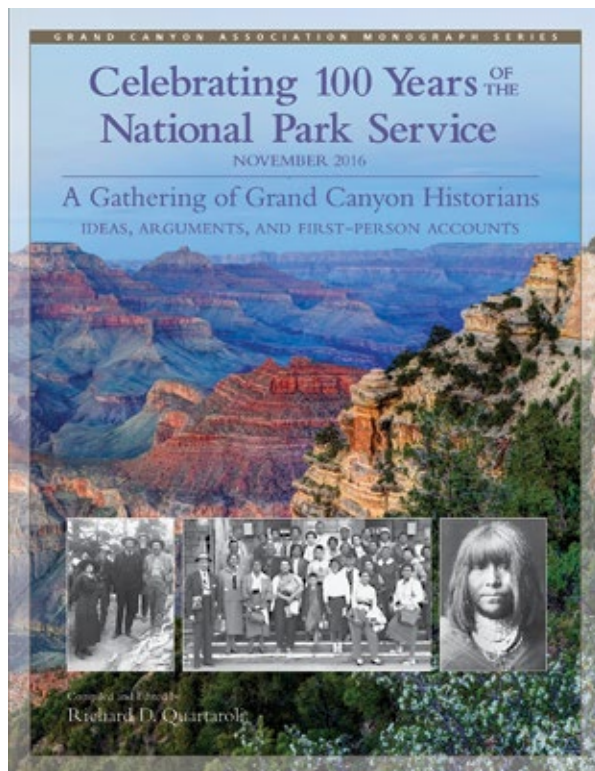
personages, including pioneers, and lesser-known individuals also will entice you with their stories. One is by a pioneer family member detailing the effort to build the Shrine of the Ages, a multi-purpose building where events, such as the symposium, can be held.

Authors: Nicholas Bauch, George Billingsley, Dick Brown, Brad Dimock, Dennis Foster, Mike Gallant, Margaret Hangan, Stephen and Lois Hirst, Harvey Leake, Tom Martin, Barbara Ann Matusik, Shane Murphy, Kern Nuttall, Richard D. Quartaroli, Jonathan Upchurch, Ph.D., Susan Verkamp.

Editor: Richard D. Quartaroli  
Design: Rudy Ramos Design

Available for purchase:

- At the Grand Canyon Association Park Store at the Visitor Center Plaza
- On Grand Canyon Association's web store at [www.grandcanyon.org](http://www.grandcanyon.org).



# The Arizona Pioneer

*submitted by Shane Murphy*

Every traveler who goes to the Grand Canyon of Arizona, hears of Capt. John Hance, the famous old pioneer and yarn-spinner; and those who are fortunate meet him and hear some of his yarns. The "Captain" has a genius for the making and telling of tales as tall as the canyon—tales which are frank and glorious lies, like most of the world's treasures of romance, and which Arizona will cherish, perhaps, just as Greece cherished the grand eloquent legends of the Trojan war.

But now and then the captain has a serious mood, and indulges in it by telling a true story more interesting than his lies. One of these moods took possession of him as we sat on the edge of a cliff and looked down into the purple mazes of that untenanted City Wonderful, through whose silent depths the hidden Colorado flows.

"Last winter," said the captain, in his inimitable quiet drawl, "me and my partner started down into the canyon to do some prospectin'. We separated, as usual, an' took our stuff to different camps, agreein' to meet three weeks from that day at the top an' go to Flagstaff together on business. Well, I took a look at my asbestos mine an' a few other holes in the rocks, an' pounded away at new places without findin' much, an' finally crawled up on the twenty-first day to meet Jake. Well, he didn't come. Fur six days I knocked aroun' my old camp there an' still he didn't come. By that time I knew there was trouble, fur Jake was the exactest man that ever clumb these rocks. Still, I didn't want to think he was dead, so I went into Flagstaff an' asked whether he'd been seen there, or at Williams, or the Bright Angel, or Bass', or anywhere along the road. Not a word of him could I hear, so I came back to this here big ole ditch to find him."

I smiled at Capt. John's irreverent title for the great canyon which he had loved as his home for thirty years. "You came alone?" I asked.

"Course," he answered, "who could help me? I knew just about where he'd be. I made a bee line fur the piece o' country where he started to look fur mineral, and in less 'n three days I found his camp. There it all was—his pot o' beans all dried up on the ashes of his fire where he'd let 'em to cook, his pile o' canned things an' dried up biscuits, an' flour, an' bacon, his blanket rolled up fur the day, everythin' fixed up jus' as he'd left 'em in the mornin'.

"Well, I searched through everythin' an' finally found his diary—we allus keep a diary, you know, when we go off prospectin', so's not to lose count o' the days. The last entry was Jan. 16, ten days after we parted. 'Digging three miles below here,' it said, 'just above the granite—no finds yet.'

"So I knew I would find him down the river about three miles an' twelve hundred feet or so up from it. An' o' course I knew the kind o' country where he'd be likely to look fur mineral. Sure enough, the nex' day I came acrost him, lyn' cluttered up with a big o' loose rock. There he lay with a broken hip, his face up an' his dead eyes glarin' at the sky. An' there he had died alone, after sufferin' an' starvin' probably, fur days an' nights.

"It was plain as day how it all happened. He had been poundin' into a ledge o' rock about 10 feet above, an' somethin' had slipped, an' down he had come with the stones a-top o' him. I reckon it was kind o' hard to wait there till death got ready to come.

"Well, I laid him out straight and decent on the rocks and wrapped him in a blanket an' piled the stones over him fur a grave—fur there weren't earth enough aroun' there to bury a man in. Then I rolled a big rock on

his head an' marked it with his name an' the day he died and wrote 'Good-bye Jake' on it. An' so I left him. An' if 'twas me I'd rather stay right there, but his relations are bound to carry him up an' have a proper funeral in Flagstaff. It'll be a hard job, but if they want it, it's got to be done."

"How can they want it!" I exclaimed, wondering what fitter resting place they could find for the lonely prospector than this grave of stones on the spot where he fell, in the most beautiful wilderness ever conceived by the mind of God. How stern must have seemed his fate to him, as he lay there through the silent hours, with the torrent below and the heights above him, beyond the reach of a friendly hand or voice, waiting in pain and solitude for the inevitable death.

—The Topeka State Journal, July 2, 1903, p. 9. Citation reads: "Harriet Monroe in New York Journal."

# Collections Update

by Kristen Luetkemeier

The Monday morning after Northern Arizona University's spring commencement, I visited the Cline Library Special Collections and Archives for a meeting with department head Peter Runge. The department's vision is to inspire the creation of new knowledge, interpretation, and scholarship of the human and natural history of the Colorado Plateau, and its values are: stewardship, innovation, transparency, open access, leadership, diversity, education, and collaboration. The library cares for over 700 unique collections and provides access to its collections through the Arizona Archives Online, a collaboration of Arizona archival repositories striving to create and promote access to primary source material across the state.

Peter and I planned to finish up the process started by Dick Brown, Brian Blue, Wayne Ranney, Tom Martin, and others of updating Grand Canyon Historical Society's agreement with Northern Arizona University to preserve and provide access to the Society's archive. At its September meeting, the Society Board will take action on the updated agreement and permission forms for future donations to the collection.

I hadn't seen the collection yet, so after talking with Peter, I went back to the reading room and started requesting boxes. Here's a sample of what I found.

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## John Riffey Collection

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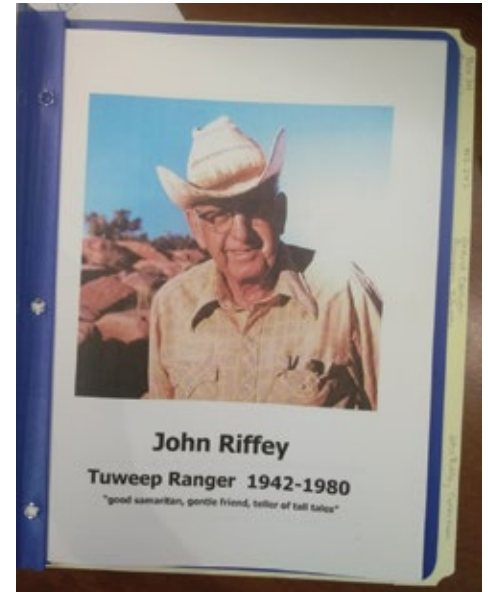
As Grand Canyon National Park prepares for its centennial year in 2019, I've been skimming through oral history interviews with past employees. One with John Riffey, Tuweep ranger from 1942 to 1980, was especially compelling. I talked soon after with Grand Canyon Park Ranger Elyssa Shalla, and she told me about Jean Luttrell's Riffey biography, which I promptly

ordered and started loaning out. I also loaned my copy of the transcript to Grand Canyon Concessions Management Assistant Ashley Dunbar, who was preparing for a Tuweep trip. And I looked for more sources in the park's museum collection, where I found photographs of Riffey commemorating his length of service anniversaries, shaking hands with a parade of Grand Canyon superintendents. So looking at the John Riffey Collection was high on my list, and I loved finding its John Riffey Memorial Tall Tale Rendezvous booklet. Here are a few excerpts:

*The first ever John Riffey Memorial Tall Tale Rendezvous was held on Saturday, April 21, 2001 at the Tuweep Ranger Station. The idea for the gathering sprouted from hilarious evenings around campfires and kitchen tables, where members of the "Tuweep family" would tell their stories of previous adventures with John Riffey. The purpose of the rendezvous was two-fold – to bring together as many people as possible who knew and loved John Riffey for a day of celebration and camaraderie; and also to record their memories for posterity. The following is a result of that gathering, with transcripts of video footage that were recorded on that day. Also included are other stories that were written down and shared on that occasion. (Liz and Clare Roberts)*

*John was a really unusual guy, because you know he had concerns, had all kinds of problems being out here, with things he had to cope with. But it never showed. He was so easy going, so relaxed, as far as you could tell. And he's gotten people out of trouble, partly by his reassuring ways. He'd just say, "well, now, that won't be any trouble. Oh, we'll take care of that." I know a fellow came out with his car and picked up a rock and the wheel took the rock around, and jammed it into the fender well. And the car wouldn't move. There was nothing he could do; couldn't figure out how to do it. He couldn't turn the wheel, couldn't, even if he jacked it up and so forth. And thought, well, he'd go off and hike awhile, and think about it, and when he came back it was all fixed. John*

*had used some magic machine that he had – some powerful thing, to pry that thing apart and get the rock out of there. Now that's just one example... (Martin Litton)*



Cover of the John Riffey Memorial Tall Tale Rendezvous Booklet

*I don't have a lot of stories, but that man was something that the world needs today more and more and more. To be able to laugh at himself; to be able to make people feel totally comfortable the first time they saw him, the first time he spoke to them; the first time you drove in down here, and he asked you if you were lost. How many of you have had that happen to you? (Jim Riffey)*

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## Gale Burak Collection

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Gale Burak was just cool, and one of the best autobiographical storytellers I've encountered. Grand Canyon National Park also conducted several oral history interviews with her about her experiences as a Fred Harvey Company employee, Havasu Lead and Zinc Mine cook, Grand Canyon National Park backcountry ranger, and caregiver and friend to Emery Kolb. Having read them made it a treat to see, in the Gale Burak Collection, an illustrated farewell poem from

TO GALE ★

I'll miss you Gale,  
I wish you'd stay,  
I'll miss you Gale,  
But you're almost on your way...

The Indian spirits will miss you,  
As they float thru the Canyon Still,  
The deer and the birds will miss you -  
I know that they will...

The Canyon trails won't know what to do,  
When they don't hear your footsteps...  
Only echoes of you...

You've lived here so long - so they say -  
But it seems short to me - cause you're going away...

You always brought me books to read - by day,  
I'm going to miss you Gale,  
Your going away.

L. M. Mary Ann

In one "Dear Bill & Sybil" letter, Burak wrote that, "I am not going to mail this until I have copied and edited to my own satisfaction the piece I've just finished about my Aiken neighbors when I was at Cottonwood. Hope you like it. It sure brought back a bunch of memories..."



Emery Kolb and Gale Burak

he canyon. ...  
he present trail.

I learned about most of the trails by studying the Matthes-Evans maps and from McKee's book *The Inverted Mountains*. Then there were quite a few routes that I got by keeping my eyes open and from talking to other people. Dock Marston got me interested in finding routes that had been used by Stanton and others when they got in trouble on the river. Merrel Clubb gave me some leads concerning routes in Chinimo Basin and for climbing Wotan. I think that about half of the 55 routes through the Redwall that I have covered were found by me and the same goes for the routes from the rim to the river and the climbs to the tops of the 79 named summits I have reached. I should forget a few leads I got from G. W. James and Emery Kolb.

I am trying to stay in shape for some more good walking, but have given up my ambition to go into the canyon for five days before day after tomorrow. There is too much snow and mud for driving the dirt roads of the Hualpai Reservation where I want to go. Flagstaff and the South Rim are having a real tough winter. About the first of the year I got some good hiking from the boat in the canyon at Columbine Falls, in Quartermaster, and in Burnt Canyon.

Sincerely,  
Harvey  
Harvey Butchart

Harvey Butchart cited his sources for canyon routes in this letter to Gale Burak.

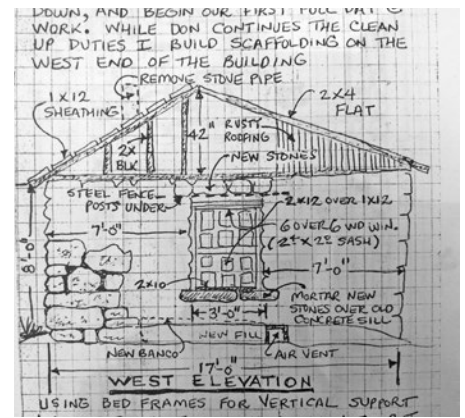
Mercy Aiken and pieces of correspondence with Harvey Butchart and Sibyl and Bill [Suran, I presume - I should have taken better notes], and an affectionate photograph with Emery Kolb.

### John Azar Collection

I hadn't requested the John Azar collection, but it shared a box with something else and drew my eye because of my interest in architectural history and plans to spend some time on the North Rim this summer. This is surely old news to long-time members of Grand Canyon Historical Society, but I was inspired to learn about the efforts of John S. Azar, architect and general contractor from Albuquerque, to repair the Jump Up and Eddie Hatch Cabins in the Kanab Creek Wilderness of the Kaibab National Forest and Muav Saddle and Teddy's Cabins on the North Rim of Grand Canyon National Park. I thought of Azar's notes about those projects most recently when I was in Grand Canyon Historic Architect Craig Chenevert's office and saw the same style of paper, print, and drawing sitting on his desk.

\* \* \*

Grand Canyon Historical Society's collection includes organizational records dating back to 1987, 29 individual collections (including those excerpted here), and a series of moving



The opening record in these 1999 field notes reads, "The restoration of Eddie's cabin has been in the "works" for two years now & finally the work will begin." On the day before this illustration, Azar wrote, "My first impression of this cabin is that it's too far gone to save... After a fine taco lunch we get to work."

pictures. The collection is currently available only by visiting the library and reviewing the originals. Members can help with digitization efforts through financial donations, grant research and writing, or prioritizing material.

We are also in search of documentation related to existing Grand Canyon Historical Society's collection, particularly deeds of gift or other records related to ownership transfer, so that we may make that documentation part of the record. Tom Martin, in partnership with Grand Canyon National Park, has collected many oral history recordings in recent years and worked with other Grand Canyon Historical Society volunteers to make them available to the public. There are also opportunities to get involved with oral history through interviewing, recording, transcribing, and record keeping.

By updating our agreement with Northern Arizona University's Cline Library and adopting a release form and deed of gift, we are instituting archival best practices. If you'd like to be part of continuing to shape our collection management, assist with digitization or oral history, have documentation related to the current collection, or have other ideas about our collection, please write to [oralhistory@grandcanyonhistory.org](mailto:oralhistory@grandcanyonhistory.org) and share how you can contribute.

# The BULLETIN



## Calendar of 2019 Centennial Dates at Grand Canyon National Park

- February 20-23** Grand Canyon History Symposium
- February 26** Founders Day
- March 30** Centennial Composition "Of Time, Wind, and the River"
- April 17-20** Geoscience Symposium
- April 22 Earth Day
- May 10** Transcontinental Railroad Sesquicentennial
- May 18-19** Wildlife Day & Bioblitz
- June 22** Grand Canyon Jr. Ranger Day
- June 22-29** Centennial Summerfest
- June 22-29** Centennial Star Party
- July Latino Outdoors
- Sept 28** Public Lands Day Naturalization Ceremony
- October 18-20** Geoeducation Symposium
- December 5** Centennial Closeout

## 2018 GCHS Events

### AUGUST

#### OUTING: Riordan Mansion Tour

**Saturday August 18, 2018, 10 a.m.**

Meet with the docents at the Riordan Mansion for a personalized group tour of this historic structure. Cost is \$8 per person. This is a short walking tour which does involve climbing stairs. Limited to 15 people. Note: if more than 15 wish to sign up, we can arrange for a second date.

Meet at the Riordan Mansion State Historic Park 409 West Riordan Road, Flagstaff, AZ.

*RSVP by August 4th Slim Woodruff, outings@grandcanyonhistory.org*

*We MUST let them know number of participants by August 4*

### SEPTEMBER

#### OUTING: Hull Cabin

**Saturday September 22, 2018, 10 a.m.**

Meet with anthropologist Neil Weintraub at the historic Hull Cabin. This will be a short tour of the structure with little or no walking.

Directions: From Grand Canyon South Rim entrance station, drive north for 4 miles. Turn right, staying on highway 64 and continue east to Forest Road 310 (Arizona Trail). Follow for 1.5 miles to FS road 307. Take a left and follow signs to Hull Cabin, approximately 1.5 miles.

*RSVP by Sept. 20 to Slim Woodruff, outings@grandcanyonhistory.org*

#### FALL BOARD MEETING

**Saturday September 29, 2018, 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.**

Pioneer Museum - Arizona Historical Society, 2340 N. Fort Valley Rd, Flagstaff

## NEWS

### Author and Hiker Betty Leavengood (1939-2018)



Author, avid hiker, and long-time GCHS member Betty Leavengood passed away on May 23, 2018, at her home in Davidson, North Carolina. Betty was well known for her *Tucson Hiking Guide* (3rd edition 2010, Pruett) and for *Grand Canyon Women: Lives Shaped by Landscape* (3rd Edition 2014, GCA).

In the introduction to *Grand Canyon Women*, Betty mentions she first saw Grand Canyon with her husband and children in 1970, and never thought at the time that she "would return again and again or would write a book about its women". But she returned nine years later, hiked to Indian Garden and spent an unplanned night in the campground, sleeping on her jacket. After that, Betty returned again and again, hiking miles and miles with friends and family. Like many who fall in love with Grand Canyon, Betty noted in *Grand Canyon Women*: "Always, I am drawn back. I'm not sure I can articulate why, exactly, I am drawn to the place. Surely it is for the obvious reasons – its ever-changing beauty, its immensity, but mostly the satisfaction I feel as I drag my



weary bones up one more switchback to the rim. This gives me an "I can do it!" attitude that has served me well in life."

Perhaps a 4th edition of *Grand Canyon Women* will include a chapter about Betty and her many accomplishments.

A tribute to Betty can be found in the *Arizona Daily Star* at: <https://bit.ly/2miNzRy>

Memorial contributions may be made to:

Friends of Saguaro National Park

2700 North Kinney Rd.

Tucson, AZ 85743.

\* \* \* \* \*

## Celebrating the 100th Anniversary Grand Canyon National Park 1919 - 2019

### Describe Your "First Grand Canyon Visit"

Here is a fun and interesting way to personalize the 100th Anniversary Celebration of "our" Grand Canyon National Park. Grand Canyon Historical Society is asking that you tell the story of your first visit and how it may have influenced your life. Your stories will appear in upcoming issues of the *Ol' Pioneer*. We hope to receive many personal accounts. Everyone is welcome to participate!

Guidelines:

- A maximum of 150 words
- State the year of your first visit followed by your name.
- Include your age at the time of the visit in the account (optional).
- Option – Tell your GC experience since that time (part of the 150 word count).
- Email your first visit story to:  
**[myfirstGCvisit@grandcanyonhistory.org](mailto:myfirstGCvisit@grandcanyonhistory.org)**

*Here are some examples already received:*

### 1968 : Traci Wyrick

*I was 6-years-old, sitting in the back of my parent's 1967 Buick, my Barbie dolls lined up along the avocado-green seat. We had just left the Village where my Grandfather, Louis Schellbach, had worked for nearly thirty years. Taking the East Rim Drive toward our home in Oklahoma, my attention turned from my dolls to the interspersed views of the Canyon through the left window. Dark shadows from dense clouds cast a haunting gloom onto the Canyon's surface. A fear came over me. How could people be in THERE? Where trails quickly disappeared around corners and off high edges. Wouldn't they fall, or be lost forever?*

*As our car passed the last break in the trees, I timidly took another look and bravely thought to myself, "I'm going to figure this place out someday."*

Footnote: Traci recently completed her 30th hike in the Canyon.

### 1970 : Pam Mortenson

*First trip I remember at 21 was shortly after I got married. My husband, cat "Charlie" and I drove our two-wheel drive camper to Toroweap. Dave was excited to show me this remote place. Parking after dark, he emphatically told me to be sure to go left if I got up in the night. I didn't know what he meant, but obeyed. In the morning I woke and stepped out of the camper to see we'd parked right on the rim edge. To the right was the unbelievable beauty of God's glory with the Colorado River straight down below where we had camped.*

*Suddenly, our cat raced past us chasing a lizard over the rim. As she disappeared over the side we both thought she was a goner. Charlie had landed on a ledge and hopped up acting like nothing had happened. That was one life!*

### 1969: Dick Brown

*Memory of my first Canyon visit is not the panoramic view from Mather Point; it is catching a glimpse of Emery Kolb peering out of a small west-facing window in his studio at the Bright Angel Trailhead. It was the 50th anniversary of GCNP and Emery at 88 was still shooting two mule-strings a day. At the time, I had no idea who this old-timer was or that his 50,000 photos would become part of canyon history. I would have liked to have met Emery in his five-story cliffhanger and interviewed him about Pete Berry, Louis Boucher, John Hance and the gang, because decades later I became fascinated with our Canyon pioneers, researched them all and wrote about many. If only I had become interested sooner. Now, on every visit to Grand Canyon Village, I glance up at that tiny window, wishing Emery was still there.*

### 1961: Nancy Rivest Green

*In the spring of that year, we ventured up to the canyon from Luke AFB, where my father was stationed. We stayed in a cabin over by what is now Maswick Lodge. My dad took a picture of my Mom & 5-year-old me in front of the cabin. I remember being fascinated with everything about the area. I announced to my Mom that I wanted to live there when I grew up. My Mom's response was – "Don't be silly! People don't actually LIVE at the Grand Canyon!" Of course, Keith & I did exactly that for 30 years. In 1997, the year before my mother died, we returned to that exact cabin, now employee housing, and had my dad take another picture of my Mom & me – 36 years later. I have those 2 pictures side by side on my desk.*



**1973: Wayne Ranney**

*I was 19 and traveling on the first of many long-distance hitch-hiking adventures after completing high school in California. With two friends I thumbed my way to Mesa Verde, Canyon de Chelly, and Grand Canyon's North Rim. That is where I first saw the place that would become my home and change my life (well, I didn't really have a life yet, but this adventure set me firmly on that path). The legal drinking age in Arizona was 19, so I availed myself to my first legal beers in the North Rim Saloon. Proceeding next to the veranda, we watched in utter amazement as a giant thunderhead drifted into the canyon, filling it with snaps of lightning, thunder, and soaking rain. After 20 minutes it moved on, leaving the walls of the canyon glistening like jewels in the bright sunlight. I was instantly hooked – forever.*

**1967: Helen Ranney**

*I was almost five years old. My dad had the philosophy “why fly when you can drive,” which meant we drove all over the US and Europe as a family. In 1967, he had orders from the Army to move to Oahu, Hawaii. Instead of flying us from Fort Belvoir, Virginia, he took us on a road trip down to Florida, across Texas and to Monument Valley and Grand Canyon (towards San Francisco to take the flight to Hawaii). I can remember staring down at the river while my mom held too firmly onto the back of my shirt. I guess she was afraid I would go down there? Little did she know... I also vividly remember my dad not stopping at the Flintstone Village as we drove by. I still haven't visited there as I want to keep that special Flintstone magic in my head.*

\* \* \* \* \*

**2019 Symposium: Nominate An Oral History Narrator**

Grand Canyon Historical Society is doing something new at its 2019 Symposium! We will offer five oral history interviews as afternoon sessions. Symposium attendees are welcome to observe the interviews and ask some questions of their own. In this centennial year, we are particularly interested in oral history narrators who have contributed to Grand Canyon National Park as employees or volunteers, and are looking for your nominations. If there is someone whose story you would like to hear, write to [oralhistory@grandcanyonhistory.org](mailto:oralhistory@grandcanyonhistory.org) and nominate them. Please include a short description of what makes their story significant, how you know or know of them, and any contact information you have for them. Thanks for your suggestions!

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**2018 Grand Canyon Historical Society Scholarship Winners**

Of the great applications that were received, two stood out and were awarded in late June. Congratulations awardees!

The first 2018 scholarship awardees are Jeanne Stevens Schofer, Peter Pilles and Chris Watkins for their project titled **Relative Dating of Intra-panel Petroglyphs using Spectrophotometry at Snake Gulch, Arizona**. The proposed research will focus on Snake Gulch - a series of complex rock art panels located approximately 15 miles north of the Grand Canyon on the Kaibab National Forest. The scholarship will be used to fund the rental of a spectrophotometer—a device that can quantitatively measure color. With that device they will determine the color of individual petroglyph elements and order the glyphs within the same panel from dark (oldest) to light (most recent).



Snake Gulch panel

The second scholarship was awarded to Alexis Kopkowski, University of Arizona PhD candidate. Alexis plans to use the scholarship to travel to the Grand Canyon region to conduct field analysis in support of her dissertation project which aims to broadly study how tribes such as the Navajo, Gila River, Hualapai, and Havasupai in the Four Corners region of the US can utilize climate change adaptation plans to protect their natural resources. Her dissertation will result in three papers that highlight the unique environment of the Grand Canyon region, tribal nations, and the link between that environment, health, and traditional knowledge and the need for climate change adaptation planning.

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**Outing Reports**

**Grandview Tower & Lookout Trees**

The primary goal of the US Forest Service for a long time (some would say too long) was the total suppression of fires. To this end, during the early 1900s, tall trees with sweeping views were utilized as de facto lookout towers. The top was lopped off, a ladder or bolts hammered into the bark, and a platform constructed for the

Hull Tree



Glass Insulator



hardy fire spotter. A telephone or telegraph completed the system. If a fire was espied, the spotter would phone another ranger who would in turn load his equipment onto a horse and hie off to extinguish to the flames.

On Saturday, May 6, 2018, the Historical Society met with Kaibab National Forest anthropologist Neil Weintraub and hiked to two of these trees. The first of these, the Hull Tree, was about a mile through the woods. Along the way we found remnants of glass insulators: an indicator of the possible direction the phone line ran back in the day. After a quick jaunt up the historic Grandview Tower, we adjourned to the Tusayan Lookout Tree. This one is very close to the road and has a nifty new interpretive sign. Many thanks to Mr. Weintraub for taking time out of his Sunday to give us the benefit of his expertise.

— Slim Woodruff

### North Rim Salt Cabin Saturday, June 9, 2019



On a gorgeous June day, Paul Davis led six other GCHS members past blooming columbines, locust blossoms, and Greenland Lake on an interpretive walk to Salt Cabin.

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## Annual Picnic

On a beautiful summer day in which Grand Canyon National Park received its first significant monsoon rainfall, about 50 members of the Grand Canyon Historical Society gathered for the annual picnic at Shoshone Point. The beautiful clouds and rain moderated the previous day's heat and provided a dynamic backdrop for the annual barbeque and potluck, a tradition that stretches back to the earliest days of the Society.



Former Board members Al Richmond and Paul Schnur converse at the picnic.



GCHS Secretary Jack Pennington grills golden brown bratwurst on the gas grill.

GCHS President Dave Mortenson welcomed members, some of whom were new to the Society. Among these were Bill and Ellie Pendleton of Phoenix who were invited to become members by long-time friends Paul and Barbara Schnur (Paul is a former Board member of the organization).



Past Pioneer Award recipient Mike Quinn (left) and member Rich Granberg admire the summer season from Shoshone Point.



Board member Dick Brown and Grand Canyon historian Shane Murphy pose at Shoshone Point.



GCHS Vice-President Haley Johnson presents the 2018 Pioneer Award to Wayne Ranney.

Due to the fire restrictions in effect at Grand Canyon National Park, a gas grill was called into service and brought to the picnic by GCHS Secretary Jack Pennington and Pamela Edwards of the National Park Service. Jack and Pam were master chefs who grilled hot dogs, hamburgers, and even elk sausage. Cynthia Wenstrom brought her delicious homemade dark chocolate 'Mounds' bars—a treat everyone truly enjoyed.

The Annual Picnic is also the time when the GCHS presents its awards. This year former President and charter member Al Richmond presented the Hall of Fame Award to Rob and Elvira Arnberger. Rob, whose father was a seasonal ranger at Grand Canyon, was born here in 1947 and his appointment as Superintendent in 1994 was a 'coming home' of sorts that greatly excited the Grand Canyon community. Vice-President Haley Johnson then presented the Pioneer Award to Wayne Ranney, the immediate Past-President of the Society and long-time geologist and author at Grand Canyon. Wayne expressed his appreciation in receiving the award and invited all members to become more involved with the many activities of the Society.

If you have never attended one of the Annual Picnics, make it a point to attend next year's event, which will be held during the centennial year of Grand Canyon National Park. The picnic will be held on Saturday, July 6, at Shoshone Point.

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2018 Pioneer Award Plaque

## Wayne Ranney – Pioneer Award

### 2018 GRAND CANYON HISTORICAL SOCIETY PIONEER AWARD Presented with appreciation to Wayne Ranney for:

- His six years of service to the Grand Canyon Historical Society (GCHS) as Board member, with five years serving as President to help the Society mature and professionalize;
- Facilitating cooperation between the GCHS, the National Park Service, and surviving family members in achieving National Historic Landmark status for the 1956 Grand Canyon TWA/ United Airlines Aviation Accident Site;

- His award-winning books, lectures, blog postings and training sessions that are exceptional for their scholarly content, and written or delivered in a style that appeals to scientists and lay persons alike, helping them to develop a greater appreciation for, and understanding of, the landscape development of the Grand Canyon region;
- Two books deserving special commendation about Grand Canyon National Park and receiving awards are “Carving Grand Canyon” and “Ancient Landscapes of the Colorado Plateau,” published by the Grand Canyon Association;
- Recognition by other organizations for exemplary skills as a geologic writer and interpreter, including the 2018 Geosciences in the Media Award from the American Association of Petroleum Geologists and the 2016 and 2014 Geosciences in the Media Award from the Rocky Mountain Association of Geologists.
- His commitment and volunteerism to other Boards in the Grand Canyon region including 10 years with the Museum of Northern Arizona, and 8 years with the Flagstaff Festival of Science;
- Three years of service as a National Park Service volunteer, back-country ranger and trail crew leader in Grand Canyon National Park, and five years of service with the Student Conservation Association as trail crew leader in Capitol Reef, Zion, Chiricahua and Big Bend national parks;
- Having completed over 100 river trips and over 400 guided hikes through Grand Canyon, sharing his insights and knowledge with many thousands of visitors, park interpreters and residents.

**Granted this 7th day of July 2018  
At Grand Canyon National Park**

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### Hall of Fame Awards

**Robert L. Arnberger and Elvira T. Arnberger**

The twentieth annual Grand Canyon Hall of Fame Awards were presented at the Society’s Annual Picnic at Shoshone Point on Saturday, July 7, 2018. The names of the recipients, Rob Arnberger and Elvira Arnberger, are engraved on the permanent plaque housed in the Shrine of Ages.

Two awards are usually made each year to recognize service to the Grand Canyon community. These recipients were recommended for their community service by previous recipients of the award and by current residents. We rely on their recommendations, as they know better than anyone who has been involved in community service at the Grand Canyon.

Text on the permanent plaque in the Shrine of Ages:

**GRAND CANYON HALL OF FAME FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE**  
Recognition is hereby given by the Grand Canyon Historical Society and the National Park Service for those organizations and individuals who have selflessly contributed to the betterment of the Grand Canyon community over years past.



Rob Arnberger



Elvira Arnberger

—**Rob Arnberger** began his relationship with Grand Canyon National Park when he was born there. He followed his father into the Park Service and his career enabled him to return to the Canyon in 1994 as Superintendent, a post he held until promoted to Alaska Regional Director in 2000. In spite of the demands of the job Rob made time to support school projects and sports, efforts and activities of community organizations, and the historic preservation efforts of the Grand Canyon Pioneers Society (now Grand Canyon Historical Society). Having been born at the Canyon, he had a keen interest in the history of the Park, community, and the people who served and were involved in making that history. The Grand Canyon Hall of Fame for Community Service owes its founding to his interest and support. It is only proper that his support and community service be recognized by the award he helped to create.

—**Elvira Arnberger** must have been the model for the “Energizer Bunny.” During her time at the Canyon, there is little that she did not do to support those in need and to help make life better for the residents of the community. Always interested in school activities, Elvira extended that interest to the safety of the children as a bus monitor. She went a step further with the community when she served as a translator and mediator and advocate when needed in situations such as domestic violence. Supervisor Paul Babbitt enlisted her aid as his community liaison and appointed Elvira to the Coconino County Board of Health where she worked to create a walk-in urgent care clinic in the Village. Within the community itself, Elvira lent her energies and talents to serving on the Board for the Grand Canyon Music Festival. But perhaps her most favorite accomplishment was leading and working with other community leaders to create the Holiday Food and Gift Drive for Tusayan and the Grand Canyon Village to provide food baskets and toys to needy families during Christmas. Although Elvira arrived with her husband’s posting to the Canyon, she took to the community as her own and has more than earned this recognition.

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**Update: GC History Symposium**  
**A Celebration of Grand Canyon National Park's**  
**100th Anniversary**  
February 20-23, 2019: South Rim

**Registration:**

**December 2018:** Early registration begins for GCHS members.

**January 2019:** Registration opens for non-members.

The History Symposium usually sells out; if you have family or friends who would like to attend please encourage them to become a GCHS member. It's only \$25 per year! They can join at: [www.grandcanyonhistory.org/membership](http://www.grandcanyonhistory.org/membership)

**Lodging:** Details available soon

**Overall Schedule Summary:**

**Wednesday, February 20th**

- Travel day for registered attendees.
- Evening Welcome Reception – Early Check-in.

**Thursday February 21 – Saturday February 23**

- Mornings: History Presentations
- Afternoon Activities & Tours - Sign up required — limited space.
- Afternoon Author Talks & Oral Interviews
- Evening Keynote Session (Thursday/Friday)
- Evening Farewell Reception (Saturday)

**List of Presenters for 2019**

We received many excellent presentation proposals, which made selection difficult. Below are the 26 presentations that were selected:

**Erik Berg** An Eagle's Eye View of the Grand Canyon: The Lindberghs' 1929 Aerial Photo Survey

**Dennis Foster** Old Maps and Forgotten Trails in Grand Canyon

**Tom Myers** Hard Not to Panic, Ain't It – The Story of Ron Mitchell and the First Traverse of Marble Canyon

**Harris Abernathy** The History of Mules at Grand Canyon

**Loie Belknap Evans** A Century of Grand Canyon Connections – Three Generations

**Helen Fairley** US Geological Research in Grand Canyon National Park: A Century of Collaboration

**Karl Karlstrom and Laurie Crossey** Depicting Grand Canyon's Rock Layers: 150 years of visualizing and interpreting geology

**Shane Murphy** Hance's Trail

**Edward Oetting** Representative Hayden and the Legislative Creation of Grand Canyon National Park

**Craig Schellbach and Traci Schellbach Wyrick** Louis Schellbach, III, aka: "Mr. Grand Canyon", Life and Legacy

**Matthew Toro** Mapping Grand Canyon - Over 150 Years of Cartographic History

**Dick Brown** Teddy Roosevelt Advocating for Something Grand

**Paul Davis** Building and Rebuilding the Grand Canyon Lodge

**Randy Moore** The Grand Canyon as an Icon of Modern Christian Fundamentalism

**Tom Martin** Otis Who? Otis Marston and the History of Grand Canyon River Running

**Barbara Matusik** The 2012 Historical Restoration of the Watchtower at Desert View

**Richard Quartaroli** "Boys Left Us": From the Powell Memorial to the Plaques at Separation

**David Schaller** The 1967 Kennedy River Trip: Looking Back

**Mindy Riesenber** Grand Canyon Association - The Last Ten Years of Growth

**James Aton** Painting 'My Odyssey': Jimmie Jones at the Grand Canyon

**Lucy Bowditch** Interpreting William Henry Jackson and Timothy O'Sullivan's 19th Century Photographs of the Colorado Plateau: Science, Technology, Art, and Religion

**Bryan Brown and Gary Cascio** The Other Lee's Ferry- The Historic River Crossing at Pearce Ferry, 1876 to 1935

**Harvey Leake** The 1909 Townsend Visit to the Grand Canyon and Rainbow Bridge

**Al Richmond** One Hundred Eighteen Years of Railroads to the Grand Canyon

**Glenn Rink** History of Bison on the Kaibab Plateau

**Susie Verkamp** The Politics of Souvenirs: A Century of NPS Concessions Law and Policy Viewed Through a Family Business Lens

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**Call for Board Nominees**

The Grand Canyon Historical Society (GCHS) will be electing new members to the board this fall to serve a three-year term. If you are interested in being a nominee for the board or know somebody who would be a good candidate, please send a nominee submission, including a brief bio, of no more than 250 words, by October 15th to:

Secretary Jack Pennington at [secretary@grandcanyonhistory.org](mailto:secretary@grandcanyonhistory.org),

Qualification to be a Board member requires a love of the Grand Canyon and its history and a willingness to provide time and expertise in support of the Society's mission. Board member duties include providing input on Board decisions, electing officers, selecting scholarship and award recipients, helping to arrange or support outings, and planning/implementing the next History Symposium.

Board members need to be GCHS members in good standing and do not necessarily need to live in Flagstaff or at the Grand Canyon as a lot of business is conducted through phone and email. These are voluntary positions; attendance at all meetings is strongly encouraged. Board meetings are usually conducted in Flagstaff or at the South Rim from one to four times a year. Ideally Board members will always attend the annual meeting in January where officers are elected.

An interview by the nominating committee may be part of

the candidate selection process. All applying will be placed on a ballot that may have nominating committee recommendations. In November ballots will be sent to the membership with election results determined and candidates notified on or before December 5th.

Having an active board and officers is critical to maintaining a healthy and active society - please consider applying or nominating someone. If you have any questions please contact:

President Dave Mortenson at [president@grandcanyonhistory.org](mailto:president@grandcanyonhistory.org).

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### New Books

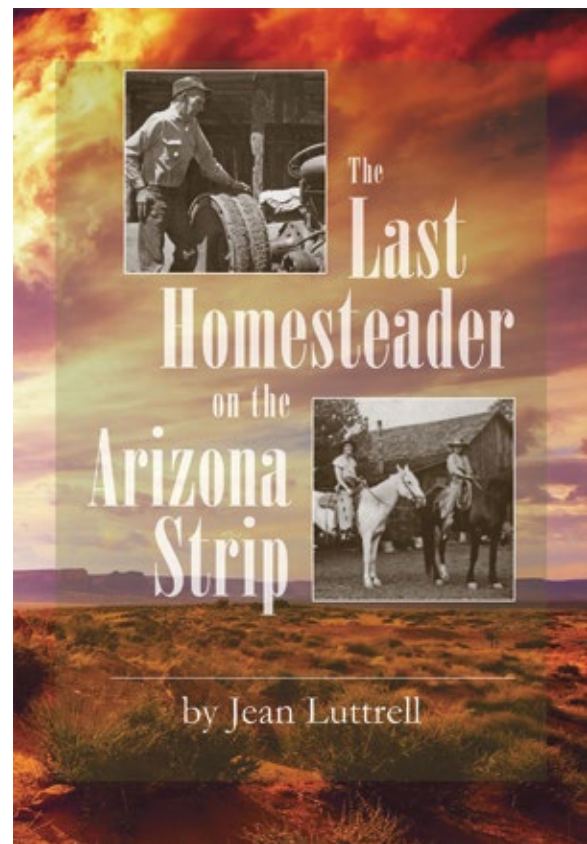
In addition to the Page 4 publication announcement of the 2016 Grand Canyon History Symposium proceedings, below are two new books of interest.



*The Colorado*, Christa Sadler, c.2018, National Sawdust in association with This Earth Press, 270 pages, \$60.

This companion book to Murat Eyuboglu's documentary of the same name examines nine episodes in the history of our interaction with the Colorado River, from early pre-historic cultures to the Spanish explorations of the lower reaches of the river, the dam building of the early and middle 20th century, and the current use of water throughout the region. Grand Canyon's role in this history is featured prominently. This beautiful book combines current information, maps and policy discussion in a stunning format that highlights the beauty and the grandeur of the river and its story.

Available online from [www.this-earth.com/the-colorado/](http://www.this-earth.com/the-colorado/) or at selected bookstores in Flagstaff and other parts of the Colorado Plateau.



*The Last Homesteader on the Arizona Strip*, Jean Luttrell, c.2018, Vishnu Temple Press, 240 pages, \$17.95.

Jean Luttrell shares her memories of growing up on the Arizona Strip as the daughter and granddaughter of homesteaders near Mt. Trumbull beginning in the 1930s. Her story is of hopes and hardships, rodeos, fires, blizzards, droughts, hard work, and the never-ending search for water. Neighbors were few and far away. Only the hardest and most determined stuck it out.

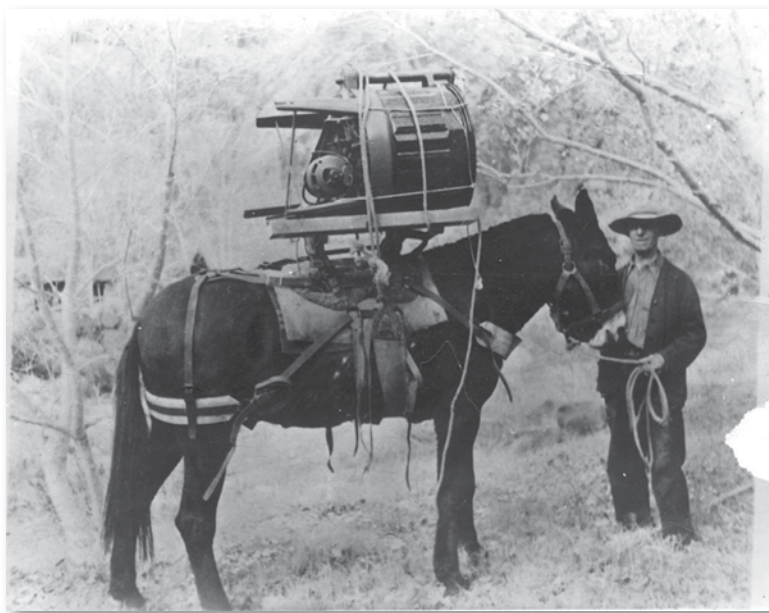
Available online from Vishnu Temple Press and Amazon, or at selected local bookshops in Flagstaff, Marble Canyon, and Kanab.

*The Bulletin welcomes comments, stories, reflections and remembrances. Please send them to Karen Greig at [thebulletin@grandcanyonhistory.org](mailto:thebulletin@grandcanyonhistory.org).*

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## Parting Shot



Ernie W. Ensor, NPS maintenance, with a washing machine packed on the back of Rastus, the mule. The machine was taken down the Bright Angel Trail for use at Phantom Ranch. January, 1939. NPS