



boatman's quarterly review

the journal of Grand Canyon River Guides, Inc.

volume 11 number 1

winter 1997-98

Kenton Grua

TEN YEARS AGO THIS WINTER, Kenton Grua called a meeting in Flagstaff for the improbable purpose of forming a boatmen's association. Against all odds, it flourished. Kenton's story, of GCRG and many other things, begins on page 36.

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Happy 10th Birthday

Hard to believe, but Grand Canyon River Guides has reached its 10th birthday. Who'd have thought that such a wild bunch could not only hang together this long, but actually do some worthwhile projects.

In 1987, Kenton Grua managed to cajole a small nucleus of non-joiners into some kind of God-forbidden alliance. What would it be? A union? Some kind of environmental group? Or maybe just an excuse to get together to celebrate life in the off-season? Everybody had their own concept. But that didn't matter so much. What mattered is that boatmen got together to start GCRG.

The Glen Canyon Dam eis was about to fire up and river-runners needed a platform from which to say their piece. Founding President Grua got things off the ground during the first critical couple of years. Tom Moody forged positive relations with the NPS and the outfitters and helped initiate cooperative resource management trips. Moody raised the organization to prominence by pushing the Glen Canyon Dam eis process and passage of the Grand Canyon Protection Act. Subsequent presidents took on many important tasks: Brad Dimock transformed the occasional newsletter into a handsome quarterly journal; Shane Murphy fended off the increasing bureaucratic onslaught on the river experience; Lew Steiger mended fences on the Constituency Panel, developed the Courtesy Flyer, and started oral history interviews; and Jeri Ledbetter – in addition to creating a large, smoothly running organization from a shoebox full of notes and receipts – raised critical awareness of outside impacts on the river experience with her work on overflight control and Canyon Forest Village gateway community issues.

These are just some of the many issues GCRG people volunteered countless days, weeks, months – even years – to work on. Other guides served on the board and along with various other volunteers, supported further improvement of the annual Guides Training Seminar, the Adopt-a-Beach program, the Whale Foundation, the Grand Canyon General Management Plan, air quality, river guide wages and benefits, GCRG archives, industry-wide recycling and more. All of these efforts, and the many contributions from our members, have created a fine organization with worthwhile goals and achievements that we can all be proud of.

What about the next ten years? Well, right off the bat there's the revision of the Colorado River Management Plan and participation in the Adaptive

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...is published more or less quarterly by and for Grand Canyon River Guides.

Grand Canyon River Guides is a nonprofit organization dedicated to

* Protecting Grand Canyon *

* Setting the highest standards for the river profession *

* Celebrating the unique spirit of the river community *

* Providing the best possible river experience *

General Meetings are held each Spring and Fall. Board of Directors Meetings are held the first Monday of each month. All innocent bystanders are urged to attend. Call for details.

Officers

President	Andre Potochnik
Vice President	Christa Sadler
Secretary/Treasurer	Lynn Hamilton
Directors	Mary Ellen Armdorfer Jon Hirsh Bert Jones Bob Grusy Larry Stevens Jon Stoner

Our editorial policy, such as it is: provide an open forum. We *need* articles, poetry, stories, drawings, photos, opinions, suggestions, gripes, comics, etc. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of Grand Canyon River Guides.

Written submissions should be less than 1500 words and, if possible, be sent on a computer disk, pc or mac format; Microsoft Word files are best but we can translate most programs. Include postpaid return envelope if you want your disk or submission returned.

Deadlines for submissions are the 1st of January, April, July and October. Thanks.

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Toward a Mission Statement

Management Program for the operation of Glen Canyon Dam. We've discovered a hotbed of passion for Grand Canyon in this community, lots of great energy. No one knows better what needs to be done, than we who live in Grand Canyon. No one cares more. Our job is to provide a voice and direction for all people out there who are committed to protecting Grand Canyon and enhancing the visitor experience.

We continue to be wide open for more involvement by guides or general members in the organization. Please come to a board meeting (generally the first Monday of each month), get involved in a project, or run for office.

Meanwhile, we owe a big cheer to those who kept this ball rolling the past 10 years. It's nice to feel like we're part of something bigger than ourselves. The pay stinks (there is none), but you just can't beat that warm and fuzzy feeling. Thanks to all of you for your continued support.



Andre Potochnik

We've Moved!

OUR NEW OFFICE is in a neat little house at 515 West Birch Street, just west of the public library, adjacent to downtown Flagstaff. Unlike our old office, there's lots of parking, it's much quieter, and it's a more relaxed and pleasing place to work. Stop by for coffee or to give Lynn a hand with some small task. We'd love to see you.



PEOPLE OFTEN ASK US who we are and what we do. In response we are crafting a mission statement that expands on our four goals...

- * Protecting Grand Canyon
- * Setting the highest standards for the river profession
- * Celebrating the unique spirit of the river community
- * Providing the best possible river experience...

and, gives us all a clearer idea of our vision and objectives. So, for a start...

Who are we?

Grand Canyon River Guides is a grassroots non-profit 501(c)(3) organization of volunteers who care deeply about the Grand Canyon and the Colorado River: a community of about 750 river guides (active, non-active, including some outfitters) and about 1000 fellow travelers (mostly commercial passengers and some private boaters).

What do we do?

For ten years, our organization has worked to preserve, protect and defend the canyon, the river, and the magic it bestows on us all. In our quarterly journal we provide an open forum for communication, entertainment and learning. We organize annual guide training seminars, foster dialogue and negotiation with the National Park Service, preserve oral histories of river runners, assist the river outfitters and National Park Service to manage canyon resources; and, we will work to protect canyon natural resources when threatened or the quality of the Grand Canyon experience when compromised.

In last spring's BQR, Christa Sadler offered a vision statement of sorts, that a lot of us really liked, of what we value and wish to protect about the canyon experience. After some input and editing, it now sounds like this:

It is Grand Canyon River Guides' belief that the Grand Canyon and the Colorado River offer an experience of wildness and connection between the human spirit and the land that can be equaled in few places on earth today. The Grand Canyon has the ability to change people's lives in lasting positive ways – providing confidence, awareness, understanding and peace in its silence, beauty, and the mystery of the unknown. We see with the passing time of a river trip that people leave more of the unnecessary concerns of their lives behind, and begin to connect with what is truly important for them. We watch people learn to accept the canyon on its own terms, take responsibility for their own actions, and leave happier, stronger and healthier than they came. We believe that these experiences stem directly out of separation from the trappings, rules, conditions and technology of the outside world. They come from the ability to take mental and physical risks, to immerse oneself in the natural world, rather than being protected from it. And we believe ourselves to be caretakers of this experience for the river visitor.

We would like to hear your thoughts, as we continue to refine this statement.

Andre Potochnik
Christa Sadler



“Managing” the Wilderness Experience

ONE REOCCURRING ISSUE regarding wilderness management in general, and the revision of the Colorado River Management Plan (CRMP) in particular, is the concern of imposing an elitist, purist notion of “wilderness experience” on the rest of us (see G. Schniewind’s letter in last month’s *Perspectives*). Wilderness experiences are very personal, subjective and as diverse as the number of individuals who immerse themselves in wilderness. How can anyone, let alone a bureaucracy, define what that experience should be?

Wilderness experience depends upon a human being encountering honest-to-God, in the flesh (or ground or water) “Wilderness”. Period. So, what is wilderness? While each of us searches for a personal meaning, agencies like the Park Service must look to the Wilderness Act for guidance. Contrary to some views (see G. Schniewind’s letter) laws are not inherently evil or irrelevant. They protect our property, discourage us from killing each other, and in the case of the Wilderness Act, provide reasonably good descriptions as to what constitutes wilderness.

According to the Act, Wilderness is “an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammelled [uncontrolled] by man ... retaining its primeval character and influence.” While that goal is often difficult to achieve, it does provide a clear mandate, first and foremost, to take care of the land. The second important aspect of wilderness applies to (but does not define) human experience. Wilderness is an area that “has

outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.” The only way to achieve that condition is to allow, but not exceed, use levels expected in wilderness. Measurements of use relating to experience are usually defined as numbers of people or groups encountered. How are these numbers derived? Researchers go out and ask wilderness users. Study results give the managers and the public an idea of a range, or spectrum, of use levels acceptable to the wilderness visitor.

Because some folks accept higher use levels than others, agencies should provide opportunities for a variety of preferences within the wilderness. This range should fall within wilderness spectrum described above, and can be accomplished by dividing the wilderness into zones of variable use. In some zones encounters with other groups should be expected. In other areas the visitor should find no one. Another method, employed on the River, is simply to allow the higher use in the summer, with progressively lower levels in the fall, spring, and winter seasons. No one tells anyone what to think or feel, only what to expect.

The distinction between managing *for* a wilderness experience and managing *the* wilderness experience is not a fine line. The former, based on the Wilderness Act, requires the intelligent interpretation and application of ecological and sociological principles tempered with humility. It simply requires preserving ecological characteristics of wilderness and keeping the level of use within the visitor’s expectations of a wilderness setting. This is the principal goal of the CRMP revision process. The latter, managing (i.e., controlling) the experience itself, is illicit, futile demagoguery based in ignorance and arrogance. Telling people what or how to think has nothing to do with revising a river management plan. The challenge of wilderness management is to protect the environment and, God willing, provide humanity the opportunity to experience a wilderness setting. No brainwashing or microchip brain-implants required.

Wilderness’s preciousness lies not only with its immense richness of life and scenery, but also its scarcity. Designated wilderness constitutes less than two percent of the conterminous United States. The Grand Canyon and its river afford something unique even within the context of wilderness. It is not another roadside attraction nor the grand cash register. It is not yet Central Park nor Disneyland. It is something different, something rare and immensely valuable. If our first priority in wilderness is care of the land and its community of life, the second is to assure for the traveler the time and space for discovery. That discovery may be of place, or purpose, or something altogether different, but it will be their discovery.



Kim Crumbo

A Matter of Faith

A FEW YEARS AGO, after more than fifteen years of presenting the evolutionary development of the canyon, I started examining the creationist view of how the canyon came to be. Although this examination was for personal reasons, it has become an integral part of my normal interpretation, and with surprising results. I never realized that a fair number of folks have been sitting quietly listening to my 'millions of years' explanation of the formation of the canyon, but not buying a bit of it. Why? Because it goes against their faith. With that in mind, I now try to present both sides of the story.

When you really start to look at the two models, evolutionist vs. creationist, it is a matter of faith. Since no one was around when the earth was formed, nobody can say for certain how this big hole in the ground came about. So from where we sit today, what you believe depends on which book you believe in. You can find evolutionary-based books dating the Vishnu Schist from 700,000 to 1,700,000 years old with a variety of theories of how it was formed. The sedimentary layers fall into the same category with a number of ideas on their ages and formation.

Creationists, on the other hand, read a different book. They date the schist at from 7,000 to 10,000 years old. (Interestingly, there is about the same percentage of variance in age in both models.) They generally agree that the sedimentary layers were laid down as a result of the receding of a global flood but vary on the timing and mechanics of the how. The most popular theory is that they were deposited as the result of large upstream dams being breached after the flood receded.

There are intelligent, well-educated and sincere people in both camps and both are able to shoot holes in the other's theories, or really, beliefs. For example, the creationists point to the fact that there isn't any chemical erosion between the layers. (Ever wonder why there is such a smooth line between layers?) And the evolutionists point to the fact that some layers have large transition zones between them. (How did a flood do that?)

Ivo Lucchitta, a USGS geologist, gave me a few words of interpretative wisdom many years ago that I still use today. He said, "Something happened a long time ago to make it look that way." It's a fact that none of us really knows how this place, that we all love, came to be. So how do we as guides, whose interpretation is often taken as fact, do an objective job of interpreting the geology? Seems only fair to me that we be prepared, at least at some level, to present both sides of the issue.

There are a variety of resources available to research the subject. The library, bookstores and of course the Internet have a mass of information on any part of the subject. It's easy to do and it addresses our passengers' faith, not ours.



Tom Vail

The Grand Canyon

*Like cathedral ruins rent by bombs
The canyon's soaring, pockmarked battlements
Rise against the open sky above
And brood in still, austere circumference.
But these wild monuments are made by time,
Not man. Twisting, thrusting, sluicing, shearing,
Time, groundshift and water forced a way
Into the rockfault vise: the river rearing,
Swelling, building up the power to carve
In stinging torrents and sightless, grinding sweep;
The earthrock shifting imperceptibly
Like an unhurried dreamer in its sleep.*

*Hints of doors, unopened windows, yawning
Amphitheaters of anonymity
Abut pitted totems and bear half-formed
Capitals in steep proximity.
Across the narrow aperture above
Wheel the sun and moon. Day and night,
From bank to bank, their shadows climb and fall
In cycling fans of harsh or gentle light.*

*We float past canyon ledges. The curling river
Drifts past us. A mule deer stands astride
A boulder propped against two tiny stones,
Held briefly in a thousand-year long slide.
Through kaibab, muav, toroweap and dox
The sun and wind and rain and river's force,
To the measure of dreamed experience
And beyond, stream down their coiling course.
Beneath these scoured and towered, shelving ramparts
Streaked in sediments of iron and lime,
Blind floods with no aim or limit thread
An elongated hourglass of time.*



Peter Goldman
August 1997

GCRG on the Future of Glen Canyon Dam

GLEN CANYON INSTITUTE's proposal to drain Lake Powell in order to restore river ecosystems in Glen Canyon and Grand Canyon has received a lot of public attention. The Sierra Club Board of Directors voted unanimously in favor of the draining of Lake Powell. Lately people have been asking us where we stand on this issue.

After many heated and wonderful discussions at board meetings, we reached the following consensus, which we expect will continue to evolve.

- Glen Canyon Dam has a finite life span due to some combination of the following processes:
 - siltation
 - concrete/rebar degradation
 - spillway failure
 - abutment failure.
- a planned and non-catastrophic solution is infinitely superior to dam failure due to any of the above processes.
- any proposed solutions must be considered from the viewpoint of the entire river ecosystem and its dependent communities.
- a major public addressing of this very complex issue is essential. Now is the time to plan a sane path to a post-dam environment, rather than to deny or ignore this eventuality.

However, we also recognize that:

- dam or no dam, the Grand Canyon ecosystem will probably never return to its pre-dam biological condition, due to the introduction of hundreds of exotic species into the system.
- any long-term plan must include careful consideration of threatened and endangered species whose

habitat elsewhere has been eliminated, and which are now safely harbored in Grand Canyon's current 'artificial' ecosystem.

We propose that two management plans be developed simultaneously to achieve sustainable use of the Colorado River. Development of these plans should begin immediately, one for the short term and one for the long term.

1. Short-term sustainability plan (25 year time frame) includes: conservation and preservation of endangered and threatened species which now rely on the dam-influenced system; restoration of other wetland habitats in the Southwest that will ensure biological diversity and conservation of threatened species; preservation of archeological and historical sites; continuance of recreational opportunities for visitors, including adequate camping beaches.
2. Long-term sustainability plan (100 year time frame) includes: drain large reservoirs in the arid portion of the Colorado River basin to restore sediment movement, reduce evaporation and seepage losses, reduce salinization of water and soils, and restore natural habitat in the river and delta.

We need to look for creative alternative solutions to supplying water for agricultural and municipal needs from the Colorado River, and then pay the true environmental and infrastructural costs for supplying it. Some possible ideas are: use existing dams in the headwaters of the upper basin to distribute water to downstream farms and municipalities; maintain low water diversion dams (capable of through-routing sediment) to grow essential crops and provide economically-viable municipal water; replace existing reliance on hydroelectric power with solar electric farms and energy conservation measures; employ Native Americans and local communities in the conversion to new energy resources and sustainable economies.

No doubt, there are a great many more worthwhile ideas floating around out there. We are limited only by our unwillingness to change. Glen Canyon Institute and the Sierra Club have initiated a powerfully important public discussion on our future relationship to the river. Let's use this time to explore alternatives and unleash creative solutions so that we can develop a sustainable future for people in the Southwest.

*the Board of Directors, Grand Canyon River Guides,
January, 1998*



WEBSTER

MARBLE CANYON MOUNTAIN

OCT. 97

grand canyon river guides

Dan Beard on Restoring Glen Canyon

Dan Beard, former Commissioner of the Bureau of Reclamation, addressed a general meeting of Glen Canyon Institute in Salt Lake City last October. His viewpoint is especially interesting in light of his recent directorship of the bureau that built Glen Canyon Dam.

Below is an excerpt of his speech, presented before a packed audience in Kingsbury Hall at the University of Utah.

WHY CAN'T WE ACCEPT the need to aggressively pursue restoration of environmental systems that have been impacted by our dam building history? In my view, we need to aggressively undertake environmental restoration activities.

The dam building era in the United States is now over. (applause) Our flirtation with dams has educated us, I think, about a great deal. One important thing is, the significant environmental impacts these facilities have had over time. In my view, building a dam is the same as constructing a nuclear power plant. You get immediate and continuing benefits, but you also get long term costs of a very high magnitude. Just like Chernobyl, or Hanford, or any other site, a dam can leave a permanent legacy of environmental destruction that will take hundreds of years to correct. It will also require the government to spend billions of dollars to correct problems that were never anticipated in the first place.

The challenges posed by major restoration activities were really highlighted at the hearings before the House Resources Committee. The hearing was held on the proposal to drain Lake Powell and restore one of America's most remote and, I think, pristine canyons. There is no mistaking the intent of those hearings. The western congressmen who dominate the panel wanted to use a public forum to embarrass David Brower, Adam Werbach, Dave Wegner, and other environmentalists who support the restoration of the canyon.

In my view it didn't work out that way. True, one representative after another tried to paint the proposal as ludicrous. Millions of people, they predicted, could suffer water and power outages. Lake Powell tourism would collapse. Witnesses who agreed with this view were paraded before the committee, and a lot of high fives thrown, but those who disagreed were painted as naive, misguided or worse.

What these members of congress missed is a very simple notion. Dams are not permanent fixtures on the landscape. I repeat, *dams are not permanent fixtures on the landscape*. They are there because we made a political decision to build them. The decision to build any dam isn't a scientific decision, it isn't an economic one, and it isn't a pronouncement from God. It is, pure and simple, a political decision. But dams won't last forever. They fill in with silt, they deteriorate with age; even

more important, the political will to keep them can disappear.

The suggestion that we drain Lake Powell and restore Glen Canyon is, to me, breathtaking in its scope. The political and economic obstacles are really substantial, but I'm not prepared to dismiss the idea, and I'm not at all afraid to study the issue and to examine it. We already spend millions of dollars each year to maintain the Grand Canyon river ecosystem, through our appropriations and efforts on river management, endangered species restoration, and a host of other activities. Millions of dollars are also spent to protect and restore a whole host of environmental problems associated with the construction and the operation of the dam. Why not consider spending those millions of dollars on restoring the canyon?

Correcting the problems that are there, or the problems with any dam, in restoration are expensive. Even by the most conservative estimates, we will spend tens of billions of dollars to address the legacy of our dam-building era throughout the West. This year alone, federal dam building agencies, the Corps of Engineers and the Bureau of Reclamation will spend more trying to correct the problems of the past than they will constructing new projects. This is, in my view, an important lesson we have learned from our water development experience. We have reaped benefits, but we have also reaped very large costs. Draining a reservoir and restoring a pristine canyon just may be the cheapest and the easiest solution to our river restoration problems.

Now the Congress has already moved in this direction and taken some modest steps. We're paying now to purchase two dams on the Elwha River, on the Olympic Peninsula in Washington state, to restore the Elwha River for the salmon fishery. The Army Corps of Engineers is removing concrete channels from Florida's Kissimmee River to recreate the original meanders and put the river back the way it was.

Despite all of the bruises on the bodies of Dave Wegner and the others who were there at the hearings, the House Resources Committee should really be applauded for holding the hearing on draining Lake Powell. Even though they didn't mean to, they have given legitimacy to the option of removing dams and restoring beautiful canyons.

Now, most of the people in this room are advocates for draining Lake Powell, and as you pursue this fascinating question, I urge you to remember one thing: the decision to study this issue is not just a scientific exercise, it is also a political one. You will be opposed throughout your effort by those who currently benefit handsomely from a flooded canyon and cheap power. They will not oppose you on the merits or with facts. They will use political clout, process arguments, and emotions. They will attack you personally, and they will question your qualifications, personal integrity, your motives, and probably something to do with your mother and father's sexual habits, I suppose.

I know this to be fact because I have spent thirty years working on western water resource issues, and most of the time I have spent arguing a position which is not very popular. I remember a number of occasions when my former boss, George Miller, ran up some amendments in our committee and we lost—forty-one

to one, I think was one of the votes—and he turned to me and he said, “Well that was a learning experience.”

But you've got to remember that this exercise that you're about ready to embark on is not just a scientific one, it is also going to be a political one, and it is not going to be popular with the people who currently receive millions of dollars in benefits from the current system. John Adams, our second president, once said, concerning politics, “Is there no common sense or decency in this business?”

Well the answer is, sadly, no. Politics is not a profession where there is a lot of common sense and decency. Reform never comes without controversy, political pain, or hard work. Reform isn't easy, it isn't pretty, and it isn't fun. But the rewards from the values and the resources that we all care so much about are too great to ignore. I urge you, don't give up.

Thank You.



Restore Glen Canyon

Glen Canyon Institute's Board of Trustees has announced plans to conduct a citizens' Environmental Assessment (ea) on the proposal to restore a free-flowing Colorado River through Glen Canyon. The ea will be privately funded by supporters of Glen Canyon Institute, and will take place over the next two years.

Former Glen Canyon Environmental Studies scientist for the US Bureau of Reclamation and now Glen Canyon Institute Vice-President Dave Wegner states, “We have a window of opportunity for the next twenty years when we can restore Glen Canyon and maintain the ecological integrity of the Colorado River through Glen Canyon and Grand Canyon.”

Key to the ea will be public input, credible science, and an open process. In order to solicit public comment on the proposal to drain the reservoir and to define the scope of the ea, Glen Canyon Institute will hold public meetings in Salt Lake City, Denver, Los Angeles, Phoenix, Page, San Diego, Las Vegas, Moab, and Flagstaff.

The proposal to restore Glen Canyon has momentum; we have the attention of the media (and therefore of the politicians). David Brower was largely responsible for halting two dam projects in Grand Canyon during the 1960s. Now as a board member of Glen Canyon Institute, he reminds us, “*Politicians are like weathervanes; our job is to make the wind blow.*”

According to Glen Canyon Institute President

Richard Ingebretsen, the Sierra Club, International Rivers Network, Earth Island Institute, American Land Conservancy, and Great Old Broads for Wilderness have formally expressed support for the Institute's mission to restore Glen Canyon.

The Institute has also produced a video, available by mail order, which includes David Brower's beautiful color footage of Glen Canyon shortly before it was flooded.

Pursuing the EA as a privately funded action will require a tremendous amount of support. You can assist with this historic effort by becoming a member of Glen Canyon Institute. All contributions are fully tax deductible. Guides can also help by distributing our informative flyers.

For membership information, to order a video, or to get on the mailing list for the EA process, contact: Glen Canyon Institute, Box 1925, Flagstaff, Arizona 86002. Send e-mail to <skagit@infomagic.com>, or visit our website at <www.glencanyon.org>.

Glen Canyon Institute is a non profit 501(c)3 organization dedicated to providing leadership in reestablishment of a free-flowing Colorado River through a restored Glen Canyon.



Jeri Ledbetter, Treasurer
Glen Canyon Institute

Ursula Ferrets Out the Truth

What You Pray For

THE NIGHT BEFORE the last Wilderness Society Trip, the Wilderness Society Trip Leader found Ursula the Wasp at the get-acquainted meeting. It was exactly what a bachelor dreams of — a willing woman, before the trip even gets started. He didn't have the accumulated wisdom of the boatmen as a caution. Specifically, he didn't have Dr. Gibbs's longtime prohibition on hustling until the last night of the trip. By the time Snake, Lean Elk, and I met them at the launch the next day, the wstl was thoroughly taken, and had that smug look men get. Ursula looked energized. The wstl was a slender man, much of a back-packer, balding, perhaps thirty. Ursula the Wasp was a little older, thin, with small, high, hard breasts like the boss of a Cape Buffalo's horns, chitinous breasts. You knew she was one of those women of whom Lawrence said they had a kind of beak. There was a sharp, buzzing nasality to her voice.

About three days into the trip, the wstl had had it. Eyes hollow, temper sharp, pubis raw, life force drained. He wanted no more of Ursula the Wasp. Want or no want, he looked like there wasn't anything left to give. Tennyson was a romantic with his line about nature red in tooth and claw. Sometimes it's the explosive grace of the cheetah and the back-arching fleet gazelle in the dance of death. Sometimes it's the easy lope of the wolf running a moose up the line to the next wolf, and the noble last stand of the moose, harried near to exhaustion, battling the wolves with sharp hoof-darts. But more often it's the ovipositor boring through the exoskeleton, or the proboscis through the carapace. A numbness spreading through the abdomen; a grayness shuttering in from the edges of vision; all that was soft in you sucked out; and nothing left but a husk with dulling eyes.

Ursula the Wasp looked angry and taut. The trip was not over yet, not for days. The wstl would learn how fungible he was; he could be replaced; he would be. She adopted a technique common enough, though not perhaps very logical; if I snap at you and challenge you enough, you'll take me. This she directed at the boatmen, as the most obvious bachelors left.

It didn't work. After the fashion of boatmen then and now, we proved able to overlook the bluntest hints and plainest suggestions by reason of our hearty, bluff stupidity. The whining, buzzing quality of her conversation increased; after exchanges, you felt not stung, but like that moment when a meat bee incises you and starts to lift a tiny collop of your flesh away.

Not Time Yet

We are floating. Ursula looks with anticipation down on a breaking hole in one of the rapids. By my art I know it to be unsafe, and far upstream slip into a current that will drift us past it. In this case, buried in the roil of the hydraulic jump is one raft-ripper of a granodiorite fin. When she realizes we are not going to hit the wave, she turns to me and says, "There's a name for people who miss the good ride. It begins with 'C'."

I allow myself to be chafed. Very few incompetents direct me directing my boat. When we drift down beside the hole, I catch her eye and nod at the fin. She is silent. I don't expect an apology, but I do expect acknowledgment that I know my job. None is forthcoming.

Still Not Time

We are standing around the campfire. As usual, Lean Elk is somewhere frantic in his mind; more than any other boatman, his spirit holds converse with the unseen. When Lean Elk gets going like this, you have no idea where and when he is. God's mind is said to be parachronic, viewing the reach of time from the promontory of eternity; so for Elk past and fact and fiction and present are equidistant.

"So I come up to her tent and scratch on it," says Lean Elk in his gruff singsong, and suddenly emits a noise remarkably like a fingernail scratching on the wall of a nylon tent, "and I says, 'Listen up, baby. How old are you?' and she giggles. Just like a book, man, she giggles." There is a noise very like the giggle of a Teenage Republican from Orange County, in fact, indistinguishable. Actually it is not very like a book, being far more real. Some of the passengers startle and look around for the girl, as surprised as if they had heard the harsh cry of a crested and blueely brilliant Steller's jay burst from the gray round mildness of a mockingbird. But there is no Teenage Republican, only Elk, and where he is, no man knows.

"Listen up, baby, if you ain't eighteen, I ain't comin' in that tent, an' I ain't doin' you, an' that's flat."

"I'll never tell," says the voice of the tar in Elk's mouth, piping another alluring giggle. It is somewhat uncanny. But Snake and I do not care and do not follow, because we have tried to follow these aural montages before: Lean Elk is mtv before it was invented. Some of the passengers, though, are much interested. It is a variant on a classic plot, after all: girl chases boy. Will the tar lure the cautious Elk into her nylon bower?

Or perhaps a more classic plot still: virgin and unicorn. Will the Elk lay his head in her lap?

“So look,” says Elk, glancing jerkily around the fire, “What would Toohoolhoolzote have done? Huh?” Behind the round lenses Elk’s eyes roll wildly. Suddenly he shouts, “What the *HELL* would Toohoolhoolzote have done?”

“*God!*” continues Elk abruptly, but suddenly the tar irrupts. There is a high giggle which attempts to descend to the lower registers of throaty sexiness; it peals and ripples from the lips of this strapping boatman.

“Why don’t you come in here and find out how old I *really* am, Elk?”

“Yeah, well,” says Lean Elk pointedly, and throws a dramatic and forceful glance at each of us around the campfire, in turn, “What *about* Toohoolhoolzote?”

He glares indignantly at us. “You think maybe Joseph would have put up with this? *Joseph?*” he inquires with angry sarcasm, “Put up with *this?*”

“Well, you think *wrong*. Hell *NO!*” He is full of a fierce contempt. Elk wanders off into the night. From the darkness where he disappears there is the sound of one fingernail scratching nylon.

“But what happened with the girl? What *about* Toohoolhoolzote? Who is Toohoolhoolzote? Earl, I thought *you* were Joseph. Isn’t your name Joseph?”¹ asks one of the passengers.

Snake and I shrug. “*Was* there a girl?” says Snake, “I’d let it go, if I were you. I *do* let it go, every time. You’re not ever going to know, and neither will we.”

With happy composure, I say, “Elk is not *here*, in the same way you and I are *here*.”

“Not *here*, eh?” says Riva. “Sometimes you guys get a little hard to take.” A day or two previously, Riva had evinced an interest in Snake which caused her husband considerable discomfort, but which Snake in his cloddishness had failed to discern.

Ursula looks at Snake and me. “Well,” she says conversationally to some of the passengers, “I’m not surprised. I’m sure Elk never went in that tent. Why should he? He wouldn’t have had any idea what to do if he had.”

Ursula looks around the fire, collecting everyone’s attention. “These boatman really look like something,”

¹ Toohoolhoolzote was one of the Nez Perce war chiefs at the time of the hegira. Lean Elk much affected the Nez Perce, and assumed the name of one of their chiefs. If he had thought about it, I expect he would have considered that by the transmigration of souls he was one of them. But I don’t think they could have compiled their noble record against the harrying of General Howard with leaders as distracted as Elk.

Sometimes I am Joseph, but so far as I know, I am not and was never the great Chief Joseph.

she observes. She looks at Riva and says rhetorically, “Really, Riva, aren’t they gorgeous? You don’t see anything like this back in Paramus, do you?”

She pokes at Snake’s slab-like deltoid, and her finger rebounds from the skin. Riva grins. “Shoulders out to here, all that muscle knotting in their backs when they row. And *look* at those arms.” She gives an arm a squeeze with both hands, and rubs her breast across the back of it. Impassively Snake withdraws the arm. Until her grip breaks, Ursula is drawn right along with it.

“Or those thighs — like young trees,” Ursula continues. She glances ostentatiously at Snake’s thighs. A pause. She has gathered many listeners.

“It’s all show.”

Some of the passengers look uncomfortable. Riva smiles. Some others besides Riva are getting amusement from this. I concede: Ursula is doing it very well.

She turns to Snake and me. The voice is raised slightly for her public; a buzz. A whine. “Saving yourselves, for yourselves, eh, boys?”

Riva says, “O Ursula, I know all about these big, blue-eyed, corn-fed Idaho types. I’ve read *The Boys of Boise*.”² Riva smiles. Ursula smiles.

Snake and I exchange glances. A shadowed hollow appears for an instant in his cheek as his masseter tightens.

Time

We are standing around the campfire, after a pork chop dinner. I am talking to some of the other passengers about hunting. Ursula interrupts, leaning in over the shoulders, banderilleros high, planting one: “I bet you get a real Thrill out of killing something, eh, Earl?” Her tone leaves no doubt of the nature of the “Thrill.” I have encountered this before: mental chyle, comprising some partly digested and uncomprehended chunks of Freud that someone else had read for her, and a lot of acid.

I can never tell when it will happen. There is not usually much point in conversing with people who have their opinions adsorb onto them, so generally I don’t. But sometimes it happens. Yes, it does happen. Rather to my own surprise, something about Ursula bores through the shell of my denial. On the sudden I determine to out myself and my fellow hunters. I decide to confess.

“Well, yes, Ursula, though it isn’t something we hunters usually talk about. I don’t know how you figured it out. But you’re right. I *do* get a Thrill out of it. But it’s maybe not what you think, not quite. You probably think it has to do with the way we mark the young hunters, and you’re right, that’s a Thrill, but that’s not

² I hadn’t. Being from Idaho, Snake had. It chronicles a ring of catamites run by some businessmen from Boise.

the *real* Thrill.”

“Mark the young hunters?” She is momentarily interested, but she sees through the diversion and comes back to the matter at hand. “Oh, I think I’ve got a pretty good idea just what kind of a Thrill you get from murdering some helpless creature,” she says. She leans in over the horns to plant another banderillero. “Excites you, eh? Stiffens you right up, I bet. About all that does, eh? Maybe that’s what the young hunters are for, Earl?” I concede: she is quick, to have integrated the young hunters like that.

I narrow my eyes and fix them on Ursula’s. I widen my shoulders a little and lean very slightly toward her. There is a sudden tautness near her eyes, and she sways back almost imperceptibly. Good. I am not looking at Snake, but I am very conscious of him. He is registering. This will go into the Annals. I want to do it right.

“You know, Ursula,” I say mildly, “There’s real excitement when you settle behind the scope of Old Flintheart and peer across the canyon and you see that buck over there, Ursula, pawing through the snow, eating. And Ursula, he has no idea that you’ve become Death. He has no idea he’s become food. And you look into his eyes, his huge brown unsuspecting eyes, Ursula, and you take just a moment to caress it through your mind before you start the trigger squeeze. And he’s the symbol of the forest quiet and he’s the symbol of the forest loveliness and you’re about to shatter it, Ursula. You’re about to shatter *him*, Ursula. And that’s good, Ursula, that’s very good. But that’s not the *real* Thrill.”

“God,” says Ursula. “You make me sick. You know that?” She is listening intently.

I move a little toward Ursula. I use a yogic technique to make myself long in front. “And then those crosshairs get very still. And then you do it, Ursula, you send that slow spinning bullet across the canyon in a lazy parabola. And while it’s lifting into the rising limb of that curve, and while it’s arching down through the falling limb of that curve, you have just time to register the intertwining of destinies, Ursula, and then that bullet hits. And you walk across the canyon, Ursula, and you stand over that blasted loveliness, the symbol of the forest, and his eyes are powdering, Ursula, and that’s a Thrill, yes, Ursula, that’s a Thrill, but that’s not the *real* Thrill.” One of the passengers moves up on the other side of Ursula. By now my eyes have turned from blue to gray, but in the red of the firelight it is doubtful she can perceive that.

“And you put the knife in below the sternum, Ursula. And you run that knife down toward the thighs, Ursula. And behind the knife the guts are bulging in rosy pearlescence, welling from the incision behind the knife, and that’s good, Ursula, that’s very good, but that’s not the Thrill.”

I am near to chanting now. “And you smell the scent

of the summer in him, the scent of the grasseaters, the scent of the prey. And you run the slit past the coarse hairs around his penis, and past the quiescent heft of his scrotum, and they just lay there. And now they’re soft forever. And all their dreams of battle and all their dreams of does have entered eternity.”

“And you get between his thighs, Ursula, and you want them open, Ursula, and you cut down through the thighs to the pelvis, Ursula, and crack it open and lay him wide in the snow.” I have lowered my voice, and it is growing more intense. “And that’s a Thrill, Ursula, but that’s not the *real* Thrill.” Ursula’s mouth is open, and she has raised one hand to it.

“And it’s cold, Ursula, and the snow is creaking under your feet. And your feet have gone past pain into bluntness. And your hands ache and sting, Ursula. And you run your fingers down in among the steaming, still-contracting snakes of the intestines, Ursula. And that gives you feeling again, Ursula, and that’s *good*. But that’s not the Thrill.”

“And you cut past the great dome of the diaphragm, up where all the destruction is, Ursula, and a hot flood of clotting blood spills down at you, and it’s beginning to string, Ursula. You reach on up and grab the slippery corrugation of the windpipe and slash it, and you pull it all out, and that buck is shrunken now, Ursula. And that’s *good*. But that’s not the Thrill, Ursula. No, that’s not the Thrill.” Ursula is motionless and aghast.

“You look down on the reddened smear of your arms, Ursula, and against the red are dark carmine crescents formed of the hairs of your hands, your forearms, your elbows, your biceps, your shoulders, Ursula. The red life of the buck is crusting on your arms, Ursula. And that’s *good*. But that’s not the Thrill, Ursula.”

“O my God. O my God. I didn’t want to hear this,” says Ursula. Her eyes are wide and horrified. She has made herself smaller.

“And when you’ve raked all the guts out, Ursula, you stand over it for just a moment. And there’s a wind blowing down 5000 miles from the far north country, across all that barrenness, a freezing wind, and those guts, Ursula, they smoke and they steam, and the blood is denting the snow. And it’s cold, Ursula, and you *want* it cold.”

“And you stand there looking down at it, Ursula, and you take off all your clothes, Ursula, and just for a minute you stand there, and you let that icy death-wind from the north country lick you all over, Ursula, and it tightens your skin, Ursula, until your whole body is as hard as root and stone, and you’re with the *ice*, Ursula, and *then*, Ursula, *THEN*.” I move in closer to her, and lock my eyes on hers. The others have grayed out.

“Ursula.” I run my tongue hard on the first syllable of her name, let it glide off the others. “Ursula. *Then*. *Then* is when it happens. Then you slide yourself into that

hot reeking body cavity. And you work yourself *up*, and *in*, until you can't get any deeper. And I'm telling you, Ursula, that's *good*, Ursula, that's the *Thrill*, Ursula, that's the *real Thrill*. And Ursula, we *all* do it. Grandfather and child, uncle and nephew, father and son, we *all* do it."

"Please," she says quietly. "I didn't. I don't want to know this. O my God. I'm going to be *sick*." She is wrapping herself around her solar plexus.

Then a passenger cracks the moment. He points across the fire at her and begins to whoop with laughter. "O my god," he says, "Ropy pearlescence! O magnificent. Old Flintheart! O my god. Carmine crescents! Crawling inside!" He points at her and gasps with delight. The others break out laughing, some very uncertainly. Riva looks angry. Her husband is loud in his laughter.

Ursula shakes slightly and straightens. "Well," she says furiously, "You don't suppose I believed all that crap? No. *No way*." She looks around the campfire. "I was just playing along to see what he'd say."

"*Of course* you were. *Of course*. Just playing along. We *all* do it. Crawling inside!" The man crows happily and points at her again. Fresh laughter. Ursula essays some haughty and vespine remarks. These fail. She withdraws into the darkness.

Riva looks at me for a long moment. "You son of a bitch," she says flatly.

I look back at her. "Riva," I say. "Yes." I smile. She leaves the circle of the fire.

Snake catches my eye. He inclines his head slightly, acknowledging. I incline my head, accepting.

Earl Perry © 1996



River Song

I. The river bounces its seductive voice
off the canyon walls
and whispers

"come away, come float away, be swept away.
Come play, come ride my waves
in my relentless, turbulent, peaceful,
wild, quiet inexorable journey home.

Through swirls of eddys, whirlpool compulsion,
drifts of foam and flotsam.

Past eons laid out in a stratified complexity,
through massive geometric sculptures
carved by ancient unimaginable forces.

I will show you time made stone,
stone made art,
art in the grandiose sweep of endless vistas
and little wind and water-worn rocks,
colors never named,
alcoves, grottos, chasms, caverns of delicate and elegant design.
Sinuosity of fluted schist and lava intricacies,
ramparts towering ever upward, embellished with interbedded patterns.
I will show you angel fire."

II. A tiny yellow butterfly ascends a crashing waterfall,
navigating the torrent with impunity;
maidenhair and moss cling to saturated walls,
bright green against the glistening surface.

Attenuated veils of gossamer rain
move swiftly upstream – red and crystal pourovers
cascade from the rim, dozens at a time.
Sun reappears.

Along the shore tamarisk, baccharis, horsetail grass,
white sand dune beaches, boulders strewn like gems.
Furry, feathered, scaly denizens, many-legged things,
predator and prey, soar above or watch from ledge or talus slope.
We are transitory visitors to their home,
here for the merest moment, then gone and soon forgotten.

III. The river burbles, gurgles, vocalizes, trills, mesmerizes.
"Come away, come float, come play, come ride with me.
Come to this ideal of nature's generosity –
such a splendor of magnificence lavished here.

I will show you all the beauty that your senses can endure."



Dolly Spalding
September 1997



Launching at Lees Ferry, 1909. Photo by Raymond Cogswell.

Hey, could you guys scoot over—we’ve got a motor rig to launch.

I GOT THIS PHOTOGRAPH through one of those “outta-the-blue” circumstances that historians and archivists love. One day I got a call from a man who said his wife was Parley Galloway’s granddaughter, and that he had a photo album from Nathaniel Galloway. After I caught my breath from that revelation, I asked him some questions and figured out it must be a Cogswell album, maybe a presentation from Julius Stone to Nathaniel Galloway that had made its way to the family in the ensuing years.

So I went to see him, and sat down with him and his wife. The leather-bound album with about a hundred photographs in it must have been a gift from Stone to Nathaniel Galloway, even though there

were no markings. In talking with them further, the woman mentioned wistfully that she’d never seen a photograph of her grandfather Parley Galloway, at which I opened up the copy of my book *Call of the Colorado* that I had fortunately brought, and showed her one.

That clinched my credibility with them, and they were kind enough to let us borrow the album and make copies of all the photographs. In return, I had a nice archival box made specially for the album, and presented it to them when I returned it. By such moments is an archivist’s life made.



Roy Webb

Bill Belknap – A Lifetime of Photographs

The Bill Belknap Collection is now on display at Cline Library, Northern Arizona University. We are proud to present a portfolio of his images in this issue. Stop by the library to see the rest.

ADMIT IT. Chances are you too have looked enviously at one of the many classic Bill Belknap Grand Canyon images and thought, what I would give to have been there myself. To greet the likes of Buzz Holmstrom, Elzada Clover, Norm Nevills, Don Harris, Bert Loper, Lois Jotter, Bill Beer, John Daggett, Frank Wright, or P.T. Reilly as they came off trips. To have run with Dock Marston. To have been on the low-water sportyak trip in 1963. Better still, the jet boat uprun in 1960.

Admit also that you probably have no idea what kinds of images Belknap shot beyond those in the Big Ditch.

Belknap's photographic career began when he was a boy of ten. His mother (his parents separated when Bill was very young) took him on a trip to the Yucatan Peninsula in Mexico, where he pressed his Brownie box camera into service. Jane Belknap was supportive of her son's new passion, and when they moved to Hollywood, California, she provided Bill with a darkroom setup, his first.

In 1937, the Belknaps moved again, this time to Boulder City. Jane Belknap owned an interest in Grand Canyon-Boulder Dam Tours, Inc., the first Lake Mead concessioner, conducting land, air, and water tours. Bill, still a teenager, did publicity work for the company, which included taking photographs of the dam, the town, Lake Mead, and Grand Canyon. It was during this time that he began shooting his famous pictures of river travelers.

When World War II broke out, Belknap joined the Navy. He received formal photographic training from *Life* magazine, and was assigned to the White House, eventually earning the title of Chief Photographer's Mate. His photographs of Roosevelt, Truman, Churchill, Stalin, Molotov, Patton, and Eisenhower, of Berlin in ruins, of soldiers and civilians, are among his most poignant and powerful work. In later years, few people who knew Bill realized he had taken these images; one friend recalled Bill modestly saying he had taken a few pictures of "a couple of presidents."

By the end of the war, Bill had a family: his



Fran Belknap in black hat, coat and pants, on corral fence at Havasu. NAUPH.96.4.11.17

Buzz and Loie Belknap, corralled. NAUPH.96.4.187.115



wife, Frances Spencer, and two children, Buzz and Loie. The clan returned to Boulder City. In 1947, along with partners Cliff and Gene Segerblom and Mark Swain, Bill opened the Photo Information Center/Belknap Photographic Services. The shop, which remained open until 1965, offered a full line of camera equipment, film processing and commercial and portrait photographs. It also served as Bill's base for his freelance work. He photographed and/or wrote articles for *National Geographic*, *Argosy*, and *Life Magazine*, and Boulder City area newspapers, among others. From 1951 to 1955, Belknap wrote a weekly advertisement/column, *Boulder Camera*, which chronicled activities of the town, the Belknap family, and Bill's various personal and community endeavors, as well as announcing services and sales at the Photo Center. In addition, Bill and Fran co-authored *Gunnar Widforss: Painter of the Grand Canyon*, a book showcasing Widforss's stunning watercolors, published in 1969. Bill was also the leader/advisor for the Rotary Club's Explorer Scouts Post #5.

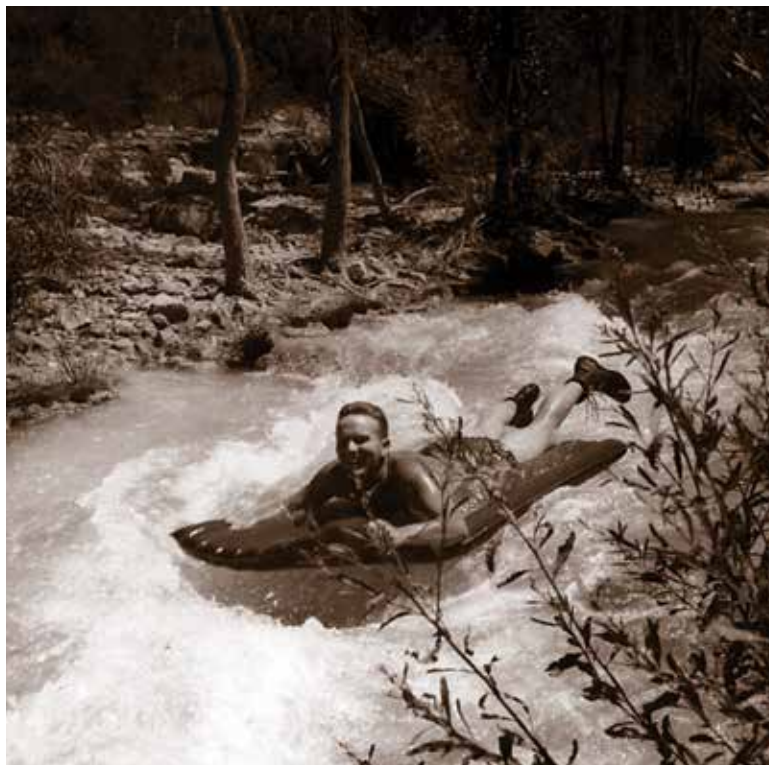
From his earliest years, Bill was fascinated by Native American cultures. He made frequent trips to the Havasupai, Hopi, and Navajo lands, and his photographs reflect his respect and admiration for their residents. Among his closest friends were Fred and Alice Kabotie and their children, Michael and Hattie. *Fred Kabotie: Hopi Indian Artist*, published in 1977, was a collaborative result of this friendship.

And of course, there was the Canyon. Dock Marston, that venerable river historian, introduced Bill to the joys of river running, and the two took many trips together. It was during those golden years of river running that Buzz, who joined Dock and his father on several adventures, conceived the idea of preparing river guide books. The Powell Centennial Grand Canyon River Guide made its appearance in 1969. Many of the photographs splashed on the pages were Bill's, and Fran and Loie also played key roles in preparing the guides. The endeavor evolved into the Belknap family's own publishing firm, Westwater Books, and



Bill himself, in bombed out Berlin NAU.PH.96.4.6.79

and rafting NAU.PH.96.4.11.13





Three guys in the war NAU.PH.96.4.6.9

Musician Marice Bayet does Death Valley NAU.PH.96.4.100.17



grew to include guides for Canyonlands National Park, Dinosaur National Monument, the Snake River, and Desolation & Gray Canyons.

Of all of Belknap's endeavors, the one that was probably dearest to his heart was Fastwater Expeditions, a family-operated river running company. His craft of choice was the tough little Sportyak, which allowed each passenger to row. As Bill put it, why let your boatman have all the fun? Bill's gentle teaching style enabled hundreds of people of all ages and sizes to successfully navigate the Green, San Juan, and Dolores rivers from 1974 to 1986. Participants also benefitted from Bill's knowledge of photography—some of the trips were even designated as photo workshops—and from his extensive musical knowledge. When energy was lagging on a hike, Bill's singing would help to liven weary steps.

In a 1979 interview, R.J. Johnson asked Belknap in what aspect of photography he thought he most excelled. Without hesitating, Bill responded "teaching." Bill gave and taught throughout his life, and his photographic legacy continues the tradition.



Diane Grua

Boulder Camera

... With Bill Belknap

Have you ever stopped to think about photography and sound recording as the two most important tools historians have acquired since the advent of the pencil?

Civilization has had these tools in usable form for less than one hundred short years.

The thrilling part is this. Only with photographs and sound recordings can a generation transmit to future generations exact records of important human events. As means are devised to make photographs more permanent their importance increases.

It is highly probable that the snapshots we make of our lives and times today will become vital historical documents of the future.

Interesting note from Eastman Kodak Company in Rochester, New York:

Special care must be taken in the manufacture and packaging of photographic materials when atomic tests are under way at Las Vegas.

When the wind blows New Yorkward from Frenchman's Flat radioactive air reaches the Kodak factories at Rochester.

In answer to my query Kodak's Assistant General Sales Manager wrote: "Every time there is an atomic explosion and the wind comes this way, there is a perceptible amount of radioactivity in the air and it means that we have to take



Sandra, Joan and Doris Nevills (a penny for what Sandy is thinking.) NAU.PH.96.4.190.99

Heading down to Pearce Ferry in the old woodie NAU.PH.96.4.161.50





Chet Klevin, Bert Loper, Bill Gibson and Don Harris at the end of their 1939 Grand Canyon trip
 NAU.PH.96.4.114.10

Major Powell plays Dock Marston on the Disney Ten Who Dared filming trip
 NAU.PH.96.4.87.38



extra precautions to see that it does not affect our filmmaking and also to see that it does not contaminate wrapping and packing materials that are used with our sensitized products.”

He goes on to say he’s sure I know Kodak well enough to realize they wouldn’t put any film on the market which didn’t measure up to their highest standards. I do.

We all went over to Kingman Wash, you know, the Paint Pots, for a swim and picnic supper. Lying gorged around the fire after chow, somebody remarked about the complete lack of wild life in evidence. Not a sound but the lapping of the water on the beach.

Now for many a year I’ve been perfecting my burro imitation. This seemed like the ideal time to display my talents. Taking a deep breath I let fly with the rustiest old burro song you’ve ever heard. There were one or two cutting remarks thrown my direction along with half a tomato.

Not ten seconds later came an answer from up the wash. The real thing. Then pandemonium broke loose. Our little camp was suddenly overrun with burros. Guess there were only two or three but they sounded like fifty. Good old Tippetty Witchit, our big black pooch, snapping at their heels every step. Such confusion. People tripping over dishes, dutch ovens, in the mad scramble to get behind or in one of the cars. Buzz switched on the Power wagon spotlight which brought additional brays, heehaws, and loud barking.

Through Tip’s valiant efforts the area was soon cleared of burros. But I noticed my guests

no longer lounged around the fire. They sat bolt upright ready to leap in the event of another attack.

Catfishing note: The big ones are biting at Pierce Ferry. Cliff Barnson's dad showed up last Saturday night with an eighteen pounder Cliff hooked. If you're interested, Cliff marked the exact spot where he caught it on the side of his boat.

Camera smells can be roughly divided into three major classifications. American, German and Japanese. I believe I could pass the blindfold test thus far. Most pronounced odor comes from the Japanese cameras. You can smell 'em across the room. In fact they are ripe. If you can stand it, they are excellent cameras, many of them. Kodak cameras have a nice clean-cut, confidence inspiring American smell. But the Germans have the answer. One whiff of a Leica, Contax, Rolleiflex, or Exakta has you fumbling for your pocketbook.

It's an expensive thrill. If the stuff could be bottled under a name like Eau d'Rollei it should prove a highly successful product.

Have you tried burro steak?

Next time you're offered some don't turn up your nose. It's good meat. No game taste whatsoever, similar to beef. It's not even particularly tough.

A couple nights ago a friend brought us a burro porterhouse. Fran understood him to say the stuff was elk. She had it panfried to perfection when I showed up for dinner the next evening. Darned good.



*Georgie flexes
her muscles*

NAU.PH.96.4.115.13

*Elzada Clover
reads*

NAU.PH.96.4.111.3



Dick and Isabelle Griffith dropped in the other day on their way to Mexico. They're the young couple who ran the Colorado River in a rubber raft all the way from Wyoming to Boulder last summer.

They're off to make a trip thru the Barranca de Cobre canyon on the Urique river, Chihuahua, Mexico. It's one river that's never been run. Rumor has it that the 100 mile long canyon is 8000 feet deep in places. Sounds good.

Also re-river running, word comes from Jim Rigg at Grand Junction, Colorado, that he and Frank Wright are going to use Chris-Craft motor boats on their Grand Canyon run next summer between Lee's Ferry and Lake Mead. They'll have three boats, expect to make several trips with passengers.

A lens cap on your camera is a fine thing for keeping out dust AND pictures!

PHOTO CENTER
415 Nevada Highway
Telephone 456

Dick and Isabelle Griffith and John Schlump at the end of their 1951 raft trip from Green River, Wyoming to Lake Mead. Dick delivers the first known high-five.

NAU.PH.96.4.113.11

Casa Guano corporate headquarters

NAU.PH.96.4.52.7





Buzz Belknap working down the left shore of Hance Rapid in 1963. The gates of Glen Canyon Dam had just closed, the flow was virtually nil, and the Belknaps and Dock Marston were curious to see what the bottom of the river looked like.

NAU.PH.96.4.104.1

Some of the Bundys come down to the river for a visit.

NAU.PH.96.4.92.103



The CRMP Marches On

WELL, after three scoping sessions, four *very long* board meetings, a Fall meeting, several thousand phone calls and a lot of reading, agonizing, arguing and discussing, Grand Canyon River Guides has submitted to the planning team our final thoughts on the issues and their solutions for the new Colorado River Management Plan (CRMP). We await the next step.

We've printed what we sent to the Park here in this BQR so you can see what we said. Now, here's the thing: you may not agree with what we said. You may read this and say to yourself, "I can't believe those *&%#\$@!! proposed that!" If that's the case we apologize and humbly ask you to consider the following: we are an organization that comprises members from the following constituencies: full-time commercial guides, part-time commercial guides, no longer commercial guides, private boaters, scientists, Park Service, outfitters, managers, interested general public, rabid environmentalists, pilots, doctors, moms, dads, mechanics and messiahs (at least in their minds). In other words, how do you come up with a final opinion for a group of 1,700 people *that* diverse? 'Tweren't easy. We're tired.

We didn't hear from a lot of our members about this issue. If you feel like you got left out, or that your opinions aren't represented here, that may be why. *You have to talk to us to let us know what's up.* Come to the meetings, write, call, e-mail, un-elect us (please!), do *something*. We'll continue to keep you informed about the process. As we get into dealing with more specific issues and solutions, there will be more chances for comment later this year. Talk to you soon.

Christa Sadler

ISSUE: ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT AND PUBLIC INPUT

The CRMP must be treated as an evolving document, one that allows for continued public input and comment for changes as needs arise. The recently dissolved Constituency Panel, while often contentious and difficult, served an important purpose in bringing together diverse constituents to discuss issues and ideas relating to the Colorado River. In order to make a document such as the CRMP truly representative of the needs of the community of users on the river, the Park needs to hear from all those groups. While the current scoping process does consider all the various viewpoints, this process must not end with the creation of the new CRMP. As economic, social, environmental or political necessity demands, the CRMP may need to change. This kind of flexibility and communication must be built into the process.

SOLUTION: ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT AND PUBLIC INPUT

Create a Federal Advisory Committee consisting of representatives from *all* constituencies to actively help the Park obtain feedback on the CRMP throughout the life of the current document and in preparation for the next revision. This panel could be modeled on the Adaptive Management Work Group currently in place for the monitoring of releases from Glen Canyon Dam. This committee would be charged with providing recommendations for changes to the CRMP to the National Park Service as situations and demands continue to evolve. Possible members for the fac might include representatives from:

- guides
- private boaters
- outfitters
- science (AMWG)

- Indian tribes
- environmentalists
- educators
- NPS

In addition, the CRMP should be subject to full review by the Adaptive Management Work Group and all other constituencies.

ISSUE: CROWDING AND CONGESTION ON THE RIVER

At certain times of the year, month, week and day there are noticeable crowding problems at major attraction sites in the Canyon, and competition for campsites in critical reaches of the river corridor. Exchanges on river trips often serve to increase congestion in certain reaches of the Canyon, especially above Phantom Ranch and in the Muav Gorge. In the middle of the summer, rowing trips who need to get passengers on the trail early in the morning will often double and sometimes triple camp in the few campsites of the Upper Gorge above Phantom. Trips that are attempting to get to the helicopter pad at Whitmore Wash from Havasu in one night will bunch up above Havasu in the Muav Gorge. Often these problems have repercussions far upstream in terms of attraction and campsites. This is clearly detrimental to the quality of the visitor experience.

We do know that many crowding and congestion problems can be dealt with effectively on the river, using information, education and communication between trips and guides. We *do not* in any way support the concept of campsite scheduling to alleviate this problem.

SOLUTION: CROWDING AND CONGESTION ON THE RIVER

Extensive research needs to be done to determine the effects of various changes within current operations. It is critical to develop a computer model that is based on sociological research done with commercial and private river runners as to the nature of their experience and their expectations on the river. This model needs to take into account these expectations to determine the extent of the congestion and how various options affect this congestion.

This model should *not* be intended as an answer, but used as a guideline to develop more flexibility in our present planning. This research and the development of the model needs to be done by an outside agency whose sole purpose is to oversee this study.

Suggestions to alleviate crowding:

1. Allow and encourage companies to launch at least a portion of their trips on days other than weekends and at different times of the day to avoid bunching up at key attraction sites.
2. Specify a minimum trip length of 4 days to Phantom Ranch, 7 days to the Whitmore pad, 8 days to Diamond Creek or Lake Mead. This adds one day to many motor trips, increasing flexibility and allowing for scheduling to avoid crowding at key sites.
3. Encourage outfitters to make less use of the exchange system. The more outfitters that eliminate or reduce the number of exchanges on their trips, the more this will help reduce crowding and congestion above exchange points.
4. Encourage companies to make a part of their offerings non-interchange, and stagger the interchanges they do have from company to company in the summer months so that trips do not stack up all at once above interchange points, forcing double camping.
5. Allow only one exchange per trip, either at Phantom Ranch or Whitmore Wash. This would again reduce crowding above these key exchange points by increasing the flexibility of the trips.
6. Further encourage companies and guides to make use of any and all available launch information (private and commercial), in order that trips may be modified on-river to reduce contacts and congestion.
7. Open up more campsites between Phantom Ranch and Horn Creek to alleviate summer crowding problems in the Inner Gorge for those exchanging at Pipe Creek.
8. The summer months are considered "sacrifice months," in which river runners know they will come into contact with other trips, especially in those critical reaches of the canyon. This high-use season could be extended to a small degree into the shoulder or off-use season. These seasons should, however, be largely preserved for people who want a more solitary experience.

9. Increase educational efforts to private boaters and hikers who may be using river campsites. Let them know that they may be double camping in certain key areas, what is the proper etiquette when encountering other groups, how to work with their schedules to avoid conflicts, where to camp with small groups, etc.
10. Encourage outfitters to only use percent of their allocation in any given month. When outfitters use a huge percentage of their allocation in one month because they can sell the spaces, it creates far more congestion in the form of more boats and more people and more impact to the canyon and the quality of the visitor experience. A 25 percent cap on monthly allocation use would still allow outfitters to sell trips during the main season and not have to move far into the shoulder season if they preferred not to.

ISSUE: DIVERSITY OF OFFERINGS WITHIN THE OUTFITTER SPECTRUM

1. Variety of Offerings.

The current trend toward fewer and larger companies is detrimental to the visitor experience. Only a few years ago, there were 21 companies running a wide spectrum of trips in Grand Canyon. That number has since fallen to 16, with a few companies getting much larger. In some cases, companies that charge a high daily rate have bought companies that charged a low daily rate, thereby decreasing the range of trip prices and resulting in a higher overall trip price. The recent prospectus process placed a large emphasis on profits and economic viability, which the larger companies or prospective companies can clearly demonstrate more easily than smaller ones. There is a real possibility that in the future large outside corporations will easily buy up companies that are for sale, or that the few very large concessions currently in existence will be able to buy out smaller ones.

In addition, it should be recognized that some companies are doing an extremely good job of taking care of their employees through providing benefits, profit sharing plans, etc. The companies that provide these benefits do so from their own profit base. This should be encouraged and rewarded when considering permit renewal and initial applications.

2. Education.

There is an enormous unfilled need for an educational allocation that provides trips for schools and organizations. The value of the Grand Canyon and the Colorado River as classroom for many subjects cannot be overstated, and it is imperative that we allow access to those people who could benefit from this "classroom." While some outfitters do run alumni association trips and educational trips for colleges, these are often highly specific and geared toward people who have the money to pay the relatively high

costs of a commercial trip.

3. Limits to Diversity

We believe that “diversity” has a limit, however, and that there must be confines placed upon the variety of offerings we provide the public. The ugly end result of trying to expand diversity would be one-day jet boat trips down the river.

SOLUTION: DIVERSITY OF OFFERINGS WITHIN THE OUTFITTER SPECTRUM

1. Variety of Offerings and 2. Education

- As companies come up for sale, the Park could obtain the user days and either retire them, give them to the private sector or create an educational allotment that could be given out, on a wait list or lottery basis, to schools or other educational organizations.
- Help small companies remain economically viable so that they can provide guide benefits, etc. The Park could reduce the franchise fee for smaller companies, or allow permit transfers only to smaller companies, thereby evening out the size of companies.
- Cap or reduce the maximum size of a commercial company so that a few companies aren't able to obtain all the user days simply because they are economically capable of doing so.
- Make sure that the new buyer of a company has the proper experience to run that type of business. Companies that are run from huge corporate offices in other parts of the country may not have the knowledge or the connection to the canyon that allows them to make decisions that benefit either the canyon, their clients or their guides.

3. Limits to Diversity

Any shorter or faster trips must not be allowed.

ISSUE: COLORADO RIVER ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT

The CRMP is responsible for management of the Colorado River ecosystem in Grand Canyon and of the surrounding largely pristine tributaries and desert habitats. While past CRMPs have largely dealt with the economic and social side of Colorado River Management, it is imperative that a substantial biological component be built into this and all future management plans. The current CRMP contains a substantial biological component, which has been largely ignored. A healthy ecosystem is inseparable from the social and economic concerns of Colorado River running – indeed, often biological concerns form the basis for any social or economic decisions made. This CRMP needs to build into its structure adaptive management concerns of the Colorado River ecosystem.

Adaptive ecosystem management requires: 1) clear

definition of goals and objectives, 2) an understanding of existing ecosystem components and processes and 3) a proactive management approach coupled with monitoring and research. Scientifically credible information is required for these management elements. While some headway has been made through interactions with the Bureau of Reclamation and the Grand Canyon Monitoring and Research Center, additional data and information synthesis are needed. Grand Canyon National Park has not performed a basic inventory of numerous river corridor biotic taxa, including fungi, invertebrates, amphibians, reptiles and mammals, and the distribution of virtually all species is poorly known. This lack of attention to the ecosystem has resulted in the loss or perilous decline of at least nine vertebrate species from the river corridor in the past three decades, including four native fish species, northern leopard frog, zebra-tailed lizard, southwestern willow flycatcher, muskrat and Colorado River otter.

The potential impacts of groundwater development in gateway communities on the rim must be addressed by the CRMP. Habitats surrounding small springs are profoundly important to numerous species and river visitors. Many of these springs are pristine pre-dam micro-environments that provide refuge for many native species. In addition, tens of thousands of river runners enjoy the aesthetic benefits of these desert oases that exist along the river corridor.

SOLUTION: COLORADO RIVER ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT

- Support a comprehensive, scientifically credible biological inventory and monitoring program.
- Actively promote the reintroduction of extirpated species.
- Protect existing populations of species of special concern (endangered, endemic and native indicator species).
- Encourage through funding opportunities: reduction in bureaucratic red tape, scientific discussion and research on the river ecosystem and its management. The Colorado River is one of the best-studied regulated rivers in the world. The NPS should work actively to support the continuation of this globally significant effort.
- Produce an annual state-of-the-river-resources report for accountability with the public. The relationship of this report to that produced annually by the GCMRC Adaptive Management Work Group needs to be defined.
- Establish a scientific advisory panel (again, perhaps in conjunction with that of the AMWG) to advise the NPS on research, monitoring and management needs and priorities.
- Promote and fund studies and projects to control non-

native species, especially noxious or threatening ones.

- Have the AMWG review the CRMP to enhance its technical and scientific credibility.
- The CRMP should directly address impacts of groundwater development in gateway communities along the rim.

ISSUE: FEES AND FUNDS

The Colorado River Fund was recently created using moneys from the commercial outfitters' gross profits each year. The stated purpose for these moneys is for one-time "capital improvements" within the canyon along the Colorado River. The problem with this very narrow description of the use of these fees is that there are few if any capital improvements that are needed or appropriate within the river corridor. Buildings, structures or physical "improvements" of any type are inconsistent with Wilderness management and wholly and completely unnecessary to the river or the visitors who use the river.

It is important that the language guiding the use of these funds be changed to allow alternative uses of the moneys. There are many uses of these fees that are consistent with the Park's Management Objectives and Guiding Principles that are not allowed under the current language. Creating projects simply to spend the money available overlooks many solutions that would be useful and benefit the people whose money makes up that fund – the commercial passengers.

SOLUTION: FEES AND FUNDS

Change the language on the legislation creating the crf moneys to allow alternative uses for those moneys. In addition, these moneys need to go to projects that directly benefit the people who paid into the fund, i.e. the commercial passengers. The fund must be accountable. The public needs to know what is being collected and where that money is going.

Possible uses of crf moneys:

1. Equipment, salaries, food, etc. for the Park, outfitter and guide-sponsored resource management trips. The members of these trips are doing a very important service for the Grand Canyon and ultimately for the river visitor. It is critical that these trips continue and are well supplied and it is only fair that the boatmen be compensated for time and effort.
2. Scholarship funds to help offset loss of revenues for providing commercial river trips for education, low-income or special populations. If an outfitter lowers the price of a commercial trip to accommodate a low-income user, that outfitter should

be compensated to bring the price back up to the standard level.

3. Design and build a river-running wing to the Visitors' Center at South Rim. This wing could deal specifically with a portion of the canyon's history that most of those visitors have never even heard of. The wing could house (indoors) the historic boats now deteriorating under the eaves of the Visitor Centers' courtyard. The boats should be restored using these funds, so they remain an important and irreplaceable part of the Park's history.
4. Modification of the boat ramp at Lees Ferry to allow private trips to more easily rig and launch. Currently, they are relegated to the rocky downstream side of the ramp, often a difficult and dangerous (to equipment) place to rig.
5. Rehabilitation and clean-up trips are desperately needed for some of the beaches in the first thirty miles of Marble Canyon. Jackass and South Canyon are examples of places that have become heavily polluted with charcoal and huge amounts of human waste, making them not only unpleasant but dangerous places to stop and camp. These and other campsites need to be rehabilitated often to keep up with the visitation they receive. Efforts should be stepped-up to educate visitors hiking to these areas.
6. Cooperative efforts with surrounding Indian nations for clean-up efforts (i.e. the first 30 miles of Marble Canyon), trips to monitor environmental degradation and river use, etc. This would give those tribes a vested interest in the health of the river and the canyon and encourage stewardship. The desired result would be that tribes understand the importance of keeping the river corridor clean and uncrowded, and do not feel the need to build structures on the river (such as the ramada-heliport on Lake Mead that is utilized by helicopter trips), nor develop additional helicopter use or visitation on lands belonging to them within the canyon, etc. The tribes are important constituents with whom the Park often has disputes over visitation and boundaries. Partnering with the tribes in efforts to care for the canyon may help curtail some of these disputes, and will certainly benefit both the canyon and the river visitor in the desired results. This use is consistent with Management Objective Number 7 (work cooperatively to assist local tribes in managing lands adjoining the Park). There is no reason that the Park cannot cooperate with tribes in stewardship of the lands within the Park as well.
7. Computer modeling of issues such as crowding and congestion, social interactions, etc. (see crowding and congestion, allocation).
8. Species inventories, both native and exotic, biological and ecological research.
9. Funding for current and future CRMP reviews.

ISSUE: HELICOPTER EXCHANGES AT WHITMORE WASH

While it is clearly inconsistent with Wilderness principles to be helicoptering people in and out of the canyon at Whitmore Wash, Grand Canyon River Guides does recognize the need for this exchange point on a river trip. From a congestion standpoint alone, the crowding at take-out points further downstream would become unmanageable were this exchange point removed as an option. GCRG does not, however, support any increase in helicopter use at either Whitmore or at any other possible places along the river. The section of river below Separation Canyon is already heavily utilized by helicopters run by the Hualapai Nation, and this use only continues to increase. Any helicopter exchange point along the river sets a dangerous precedent for future helicopter use elsewhere (i.e. helicopter use by the Hualapai above Diamond Creek, etc.), and it is clear that this must not be allowed to happen.

SOLUTION: HELICOPTER EXCHANGES AT WHITMORE WASH

- There should be no increase in the use of helicopters at Whitmore Wash.
- No additional helicopter use should be allowed at any points along the river within Park Service jurisdiction, and attempts to reduce use below Diamond Creek should be made as well.

In order to curtail helicopter use at Whitmore, outfitters should be encouraged to offer passengers the option of hiking out the old stock trail. The trail is currently being improved; it is an easy and quite lovely hike and many river passengers are capable of making the trip. While this is not a suggestion that helicopter use be stopped at Whitmore, it may serve the purpose of helping reduce the current numbers of flights, which would reduce impact on other boating parties and wildlife. Hikers could be jeeped to the Bar 10 from the rim. Improvements of the jeep road may be made using crf moneys.

ISSUE: ALLOCATION (TOTAL)

The Colorado River has reached carrying capacity in terms of the total number of people currently using the river corridor. In the past, the trend has been to increase the allocation to accommodate increasing demand. This will not be possible any longer without serious and irreparable damage to the resource and the visitor experience. Crowding is already a problem during certain seasons and times of the week and additional numbers will only increase that crowding. An increased number of river visitors also means an increased strain on the resource: trails, camps, fragile vegetation, water quality, etc. The problems that currently exist within the system can and must be dealt with using the current allocation.

Before any changes in allocation are made, there needs to be extensive research done as to the carrying capacity of the river corridor, both environmentally and socially. Until such a study is completed, simply increasing allocation to satisfy demand may have negative and lasting repercussions for both the canyon and the river visitor.

SOLUTION: ALLOCATION (TOTAL)

- Do not increase the total allocation of people using the river corridor. There are many reasons that an increase in allocation should not be considered as an option. These include:
- Continually increasing the number of visitors to an area proposed as Wilderness is inconsistent with the principles of Wilderness management.
- Increasing numbers means increasing visitor contacts, congestion and crowding at attraction sites and in regions of critical campsites.
- Increased visitors to the river corridor increases environmental degradation to campsites, the old high water zone, trails and water sources.
- Other people use the river corridor as well as river runners. Backpackers and fishermen both make an impact to the area and stand to be impacted by increasing use of the river corridor.

If numbers get shifted around, or certain times of the year become more heavily used, this must be done within the current allocation. If it is necessary, the primary season could be extended to reduce crowding and spread the impact on the resource out over more time; *however*, it is extremely important that the canyon and the river be given enough time during the winter months to recover from summer use.

- Research must be done to examine the carrying capacity of the river corridor. This research should address, among other things:
- congestion and crowding
- social interactions
- impacts to the environment:
 - old high water zone
 - trails
 - campsites
 - wildlife
 - water sources (springs, seeps, tributaries)
 - side canyon vegetation.

ISSUE: REGULATIONS, BUREAUCRACY, TECHNOLOGY AND THE VISITOR EXPERIENCE

Increasing regulations and the number of outside regulatory agencies are diminishing the flexibility and quality of Grand Canyon river trips. In order to comply with the management of the river corridor as Potential Wilderness, as is stated in the Park's Guiding Principles, the Park

must recognize that the primary role of any regulating agency is to provide information, not law enforcement. This information should allow the visitor to successfully and safely interact with a wilderness setting with a minimum of outside contacts. Any agency contacts should be respectful of the visitor's desire for a wilderness experience, and must therefore be low-key, noninvasive and minimal impact.

In addition, many of the current issues being discussed as part of this CRMP process can be dealt with without adding another set of regulations to the CRMP. Communication, education and information are the most important and effective means for resolving many on-river conflicts (crowding, campsite availability, etc.).

SOLUTION: REGULATIONS, BUREAUCRACY, TECHNOLOGY AND THE VISITOR EXPERIENCE

1. It is unnecessary to conduct law enforcement trips on the river to monitor and evaluate commercial and private use. The Park Service needs to acknowledge the river guide community in their very powerful role as interpreters, educators and protectors of the Canyon. No one has more consistent contact with the visitor to the Colorado River than commercial guides and it is important that the Park Service recognize and encourage the role the river guides play in carrying out the Park's mission of protecting the Canyon and educating visitors. A more cooperative relationship than is currently demonstrated by the existing law enforcement patrol trips would benefit everyone concerned. In addition, it is extremely offensive to river passengers, both commercial and private, to have law enforcement officials enter a camp, often with visible firearms, for the purposes of inspection.
2. Instead of enforcement-oriented patrol trips, the Park Service should conduct resource management trips in cooperation with the guides that would help monitor commercial and private trips, campsite use and environmental degradation, provide information, etc. These collaborative trips could include Park Service Interpretive rangers and Resource and Concessions staff, river guides, private boaters and other pertinent parties. These trips would be less invasive to the visitor experience than purely enforcement-oriented patrol trips, and would provide important information to the Park, guides, outfitters and private boaters about issues pertaining to the river corridor and the river industry. In addition, these trips could do important restoration work to sites that need it. These and any trips that are done should be fully accountable to the public. The activities that are performed on the trip, the results and their benefits to the public's need to be demonstrable and a full

disclosure made for public review.

3. Any science, Park Service or Resource Management trips should use the minimum tools necessary to complete their work. Whenever possible, the use of nonmotorized craft in these trips needs to be encouraged. Any additional use or increase in motorized craft or invasive technologies such as on-river cameras, jet skis, cell phones, etc. should be discouraged as being inconsistent with Wilderness values and seriously damaging to the visitor experience.
4. The Park needs to take a stronger role in keeping other outside agencies out of regulating the river. Food handler's licenses, drug tests and Coast Guard licenses are inconsistent with a Wilderness experience, and usurp much of the responsibility for managing that experience from the Park.
5. Wherever possible, the CRMP should be structured so that the idea or ultimate goal is stated without a new rule or regulation being designed to address that problem. Flexibility is a critical tenet of any river trip and Wilderness experience, and additional rules and regulations cannot realistically be created for each situation as it arises. Educational and informational efforts can be increased so that situations can be effectively dealt with without new rules. Rather than creating a new regulation for every issue that comes up, Grand Canyon River Guides supports intelligent application of reasonable guidelines. In other words, if the guidelines are stated, the users can apply those guidelines intelligently to situations as they arise.

ISSUE: CURRENT ALLOCATION SYSTEM (USER DAYS AND THE VISITOR EXPERIENCE)

The current allocation system compromises the visitor experience by encouraging trips that are shorter and faster, with multiple exchanges, to maximize profit. While we recognize that every visitor to the Colorado River should not be forced to do a two-week trip, there are certain limits that should be considered in terms of length and character of a Colorado River trip. The length and number of exchanges of a river trip can affect the quality of the visitor experience. It takes a certain amount of time for people to become comfortable with their surroundings, and learn how to take care of both themselves and the environment. In addition, gaining or losing members of the trip part of the way through the canyon can have a detrimental affect to the continuity and community spirit of the journey.

Exchanges also bear on issues such as crowding and congestion. When several trips of the same length have launched the same day, they will all reach the exchange point at the same time. When several trips are waiting to exchange at Phantom Ranch, this unnecessarily crowds the Gorge campsites. Certain critical areas of

the canyon tend to become more crowded (Upper Gorge, Muav Gorge above Havasu) when many trips of the same length pass through, all on the same schedule. Often, trip schedules have repercussions on crowding far above the exchange point. Encouraging longer trips allows for more flexibility; fewer exchanges also increase flexibility as well by not binding trips to a particular time table. In addition, during the middle of the summer, it can be dangerous to clients if they are not on the trail early in the morning. This causes problems with double and sometimes triple camping above Phantom Ranch to get passengers on the trail before the heat of the day.

There are several outfitters who offer few or no exchanges and sell their trips as readily as other outfitters, so trips without exchanges can be sold. We believe that outfitters need to encourage their clients to take trips without exchanges, both for the quality of the trip and to help alleviate the problems stated above. We recognize that many outfitters run excellent trips that either have no exchanges or that perhaps have exchanges but offer their passengers and their guides benefits in other arenas. We do not wish to cut into the profit margin of the outfitters and do not want to unnecessarily hurt outfitters who are offering other benefits on their trips, but we would like to see encouragement to offer longer trips with fewer exchanges.

SOLUTIONS: CURRENT ALLOCATION SYSTEM (USER DAYS AND THE VISITOR EXPERIENCE)

GCRG offers three possible solutions to help alleviate some of the issues stated above, with the understanding that it is almost impossible to make any definitive changes without further study. Each possible solution must be extensively modeled to determine the results given various scenarios. These and any other suggestions must be experimented with using results from sociological studies dealing with visitor expectations and experience before any decisions can be made.

GCRG supports a gradual move towards the solution presented in Number 1; however we recognize that making changes to the current system may alleviate problems. These suggestions are listed in Number 2. If modeling proved that Number 3 was a viable solution, we would support that concept.

It is also important to recognize that we need to actively inform prospective visitors to the river about the spectrum of other opportunities for river trips throughout the Southwest that may more conveniently fit into their time frame and encourage visitors to explore those other options. Do not hesitate, in the Park Service literature, to come out and say that "It's the Grand Canyon and if you want to run the river, you need to take some time." Nor should commercial outfitters be reluctant to turn people away who do not have the time to do the kind of trip that the Grand Canyon warrants.

1. People-Based System - Move to a system based on

"people" as opposed to User Days. In this system, the total number of user days per company is divided by the average trip length to give each company a number of people they can take down the river. Within this system, each company can run whatever trip length they want, but the system encourages companies to keep people on the river longer, rather than run them through quickly to maximize profit. This may also have the desired effect of reducing numbers of people in the canyon.

2. User Day System -

- a. Specify a minimum trip length of 4 days to Phantom Ranch, 7 days to the Whitmore pad, 8 days to Diamond Creek or Lake Mead. This adds one day to many trips, increasing flexibility and allowing for scheduling to avoid crowding at key sites. It also allows the visitor one more day to experience the river and the canyon.
 - b. Encourage outfitters to make less use of the exchange system. The more outfitters that eliminate or reduce the number of exchanges on their trips, the more this will help reduce crowding and congestion and avoid fragmenting the visitor's experience by gaining or losing trip members.
 - c. Allow only one exchange per trip, either at Phantom Ranch or Whitmore Wash. This would again reduce crowding above these key exchange points by increasing the flexibility of the trips.
 - d. Encourage companies to make a part of their offerings non-interchange, and stagger the interchanges they do have from company to company in the summer months so that trips do not stack up all at once above interchange points, forcing double camping. Encouraging companies to do trips that are either complete exchanges or none at all keeps all exchanges on a few trips, instead of running every trip with a few people exchanging.
3. Launch-Based System. Move to a "launch-based system" in which a given number of launches are allowed per day, with a maximum cap of 25 people on commercial trips (suggested) and 16 on private trips. A suggested number of two commercial and two private launches would be allowed per day in the primary season (mid-April to mid-October), with a lesser number in the secondary season.

ISSUE: THE PRIVATE WAITING LIST

The wait to obtain a private permit is too long. Private demand for the resource has skyrocketed and shows no sign of leveling off. Grand Canyon River Guides recognizes that an 8 to 10 year wait for a permit to run the river is unfair and should be shortened to 3 to 4 years.

It is possible to shorten this waiting time to a reasonable period without changing allocation at all. This must be done. Raising allocation just to accommodate the

numbers of private boaters who wish to go downriver is only a temporary solution and a dangerous precedent to set. Instead, the permit system should be examined and modified. There are many problems with the current system, not the least of which is a lack of complete knowledge about the character of the waiting list and the people on it, the fact that the current system appears to be manipulated by a few people who know how to do so, and that the cancellation period is too short to allow many people to take advantage of it. In addition, the Park Service has a difficult time handling the cumbersome waiting list due to insufficient staffing and funding. All of these issues combine to create a system that is almost unworkable in its present form.

SOLUTION: THE PRIVATE WAITING LIST

- This entire issue needs to be handled as a separate forum from the CRMP process. It is an extremely complex issue that needs to be dealt with in a committee that is devoted entirely to solving these problems. GCRG recommends that a committee made up of members of all the various constituencies meet with the goal of finding solutions to these problems within no more than two years.
- Some suggestions for helping the current system:
1. More information is needed as to the character of the waiting list. We need to know who is on the list and how long they have been waiting, how often do some people go, and how effectively used is the cancellation system. How many people does the list truly represent (6,000 or 6,000 x 16?), etc.
 2. The current waiting list system needs some revisions, which could include:
 - Design it so that one person on the list equals one person on a trip, not that one person on the list equals the 15 people they would like to bring with them.
 - Make sure that all people on the list are qualified to act as trip leaders on a private trip, which could reduce the number of people “tagging along” on the list.
 - Turn the private system into a user-day system instead of a launch-based system, where several smaller trips could leave Lees Ferry in a day, as long as the number of user days didn’t exceed the limit. This would get some people off the list more rapidly.
 - Make the cancellation period a longer one. This longer lead time would allow some people on the list to more easily be able to take advantage of cancellations. A suggestion would be 4 to 6 months.
 - Have a substantial penalty for withdrawing from the waiting list (excepting emergencies). This could serve the purpose of dissuading people from

getting on the waiting list and crowding it, only to cancel at the last minute.

- When cancellations occur, someone must go name by name down the list to fill that cancellation, instead of simply opening the space up to whoever can call in quickly enough.
 - An outside company could run the waiting list as a private enterprise. It is a full-time job to manage the waiting list. Private enterprise would be able to focus entirely on that issue and on developing a system that reduced the wait.
 - Various parties on the waiting list could be matched up with other parties of similar character, thereby reducing the wait for people who would not mind sharing a permit with people of like mind to get on the river more quickly. This would necessitate someone keeping a data base and calling private parties. Funding and staffing constraints at the Park might call for this to be done by a private contractor, to be paid for in part by the new fees collected from private boaters.
3. When commercial companies go up for sale, the Park could obtain the user days and transfer them to the private sector. This would increase private allocation without increasing overall allocation.
 4. If a new system is deemed necessary to deal with private access, and the current waiting list changed in favor of some other system, Grand Canyon River Guides does *not* support a lottery system. Lotteries are too chancy. Although they are technically fair in the sense that everyone in a lottery has an equal chance of obtaining a permit, it is possible that someone in a lottery system would never go down the river while other people could go often. At least the current system does guarantee that eventually one’s number will come up.

ISSUE: ACCESS TO UNDER-SERVED PORTIONS OF THE PUBLIC

In many cases the price of commercial river trips is rapidly outdistancing the ability of the “average” person to pay for them. The price of a Colorado River trip has been steadily increasing as low-price companies are bought out by higher-priced ones, and demand increases for a scarce resource. Outfitters need to be actively encouraged to make some of their trips available to people who cannot afford \$250 per day.

There is also a need for an educational allocation that provides trips for schools and organizations that may not have large funding sources (see Diversity of Offerings)

SOLUTION: ACCESS TO UNDER-SERVED
PORTIONS OF THE PUBLIC

1. Outfitters should be encouraged to provide some of their user days for lower-cost trips. People who might benefit from this service could be low-income families, inner city or disadvantaged youths, Native American groups or schools, etc. A scholarship fund could be set up using crf moneys to help offset some of the costs of such trips.
2. Outfitters should be encouraged to provide some of their user days for an educational allotment that provides access to schools and other educational organizations who wish to use the Grand Canyon as a classroom but who do not have access to commercial-level funds. One trip per outfitter per year could be set aside as a lower-budget educational trip specifically designed for a particular school or group.
3. When companies go up for sale, the user days could be transferred into a lower-cost guide service (as long as it still complied with safety and insurance demands). This lower-cost service might bridge the gap between the commercial sector and the private river runners who might otherwise go on a commercial trip if they could afford one. This would ultimately have the desired result of lowering private demand.

ISSUE: WILDERNESS, POTENTIAL WILDERNESS
AND WILD AND SCENIC PROTECTION

The Colorado River Corridor and its surrounding region do not receive the level of environmental protection they deserve and require for future defense against environmental challenges and for safekeeping of the experience enjoyed by visitors to the Colorado River. The Grand Canyon and the Colorado River were recommended for inclusion under the Wilderness Act in 1980. Since that time, and until such time as Congress decides to adopt or refuse this recommendation, the Canyon is required to be managed as a Wilderness in all ways. One has only to look at the increasing numbers of people, increasing congestion, regulation, technology and environmental degradation to know that the Canyon and the river corridor are not being managed for the purposes and values stated within the Wilderness Act.

Wilderness (and Potential Wilderness) designation is the only legislation that describes and establishes an overall criteria for use of the resource and the quality of the visitor experience (i.e. contacts, numbers of people, etc.). In other words, this legislation requires the Park to provide a Wilderness Experience for visitors. In light of increasing commercial and private demand for the resource, this designation is becoming more and more critical to protect that experience, instead of continually increasing the numbers to accommodate demand. In the Park's own Management Objective and Guiding

Principles (Number 4), it is clearly stated that the Park will be managed as a Wilderness and the river corridor shall be managed as a Potential Wilderness, and that the Park will pursue Wild and Scenic designation for any eligible tributaries and portions of the mainstem in Grand Canyon.

SOLUTION WILDERNESS, POTENTIAL WILDERNESS
AND WILD AND SCENIC PROTECTION

- Actively pursue Wilderness status for the back-country portions of Grand Canyon National Park, with Potential Wilderness status for the river corridor, as stated in the Park's Guiding Principles.
- Wilderness status and the details of Wilderness management must be part of a public planning process. The Park would make the final decisions as to the details of management but with public input. Decisions cannot be made on an arbitrary basis. It should be written into the CRMP that the public will be the watchdog to make sure that the Park follows the plan to comply with the regulations set out by the Wilderness Act. If the Park is to make any substantial changes to management, there must be a public review.
- For Potential Wilderness status, the use of motorized craft would be grandfathered in and allowed indefinitely. GCRG recognizes the historical significance of motorized rafts in Grand Canyon, as well as the important role they occupy in satisfying visitor demand and maintaining diversity.
- The Park should actively pursue Wild/Scenic status for tributaries and eligible portions of the mainstem, and submit recommendations for Wild and Scenic suitability to the Secretary of the Interior as soon as possible. Wild or Scenic status provides another layer of protection for the resource that deals more with ecological threats (dams, water quality, minimum flows, etc.), as well as pre-empting any development along the river corridor, such as buildings, cable crossings, etc.



I don't know the key to success, but the key to failure is trying to please everybody.

Bill Cosby

Unlikely Angel

TRYING TO GET OUR OAR BOATS parked in the mouth of Havasu, we camp at Ledges, and boogie down really early – as it turns out there are no trips downstream – except for a science trip. We swing into the eddy – freshly flushed out – to find a 33 S-rig and a Zodiac tied off – right in the way.

But Ellwanger, with his wild red hair and bloodshot blue eyes, and Kirk Burnett and a swamper are on their rigs and graciously help our peeps from our boats onto theirs, onto the Muav ledges. Those bridge pontoons do come in handy sometimes. Billy and Kirk are doing a September science trip, studying sediment (there was plenty of it in the river) and contouring the river bottom. At the moment, the scientists are fiddlefarting around up Havasu Creek and the boatmen are hanging by the river, savoring a little privacy.

Our peeps gather on the ledges, take off their PFDS* and tie them in a pile and get ready to spend a day at Havasu, peeing, topping off water bottles, trying to decide how dry a wet hike is, etc. No other trips are in sight, a nice cool fall day. It doesn't even look like it'll flash. One guide starts leading the hikers, while the other guides finish securing the boats in the mouth. Rendezvous at the first crossing. Then we hear it.

A blood-curdling, gawdawful scream from downstream. Something none of us had heard before, but all of us recognize.

The lead hiker runs back, and dashes downstream. A passenger runs to grab some PFDS. Billy and Kirk stand up on the motor rig, looking downstream. The boatmen

tying up the boats scramble to shore, falling into the creek, getting tangled in ropes. A desperate shout comes from the mass of peeps standing around helplessly. "Swimmer!"

Billy dashes to the Zodiac, rolled up bluejeans and flops, and starts the 50-horse. Kirk grabs 2 PFDS and jumps in the boat. The swamper goes for the rope and starts fumbling with the knot. Billy glances up, grabs his knife, cuts the rope, and hits the throttle.

Skipping across the brown, muddy waves, full throttle, Billy heads downstream to where a boatman is pointing. There! No, under again, There! On the eddy line, fighting but losing, under the surface, then up, limp, face up, then face down, then slipping back under.

Billy gets there, but she's gone, kaput. He hovers, looking, hoping to not make mincemeat, when she floats up again nearby, limp. He can't get there right away, so he tells Kirk to jump. He does.

And Kirk grabs her, Billy gets them back both back into the boat, she's breathing on her own – although she (a beautiful lady from NYC on a repeat trip) doesn't remember much of the last few moments. True professionals, they remember their hypothermia first aid and quickly get her stripped down, flesh to flesh with Kirk. Billy supervises – and once he's satisfied that all's well, motors back up to the creek.

There he was, John Wayne in a Zodiac, riding to the rescue, saving the lady, then, aw shucks, ma'am, anyone woulda done the same, motoring into the sunset.

Ellwanger an angel? Unlikely as it might seem sometimes, Billy had on his halo that morning. Doing the right thing at the right time, Billy and Kirk saved a life. Thanks guys.

* *Personal Floatation Devices (life jackets)*

unsigned



When contacted later and asked to flesh out this story, Billy said "...she just wasn't at all used to swimming in the river without a lifejacket..."

It was 20,000 cfs and by the time they made it out of the harbor (which wasn't very long at all really), she was already down below the motor tie-up; not swimming, just bobbing up now and again. They tried to get her once, twice, she went down for the third time and Billy said "Kirk, you gotta go." And Kirk dove down and got her.

"She might not've even made it back up that last time," says Billy. "And it was just luck. Just pure-ass luck that a sport boat was there, two guides were there. Her lucky day. Our lucky day. And hey, nice equipment! You know, there's a lot of people that have done good deeds in the mouth of Havasu. We're not the first, by any means. You know, helping one another's the big thing."

Adaptive Management

An Update on the Program for the Operation of Glen Canyon Dam

SOME BACKGROUND on the Adaptive Management Program: The Grand Canyon Protection Act of 1992 (GCPA) stipulated that the impacts of water releases from Glen Canyon Dam on the downstream riverine system continue to be monitored and assessed by a broad-based coalition of concerned constituencies. The GCPA is the latest addition to a series of Congressional Acts on the Colorado River collectively known as the “law of the river.” In response to the GCPA, the Glen Canyon Dam EIS and Record of Decision by the Secretary of Interior established the Adaptive Management Program (AMP) in October, 1996. Since that time, the transition from the Glen Canyon Environmental Studies (GCEs) program to the AMP has been completed. It is funded by power production revenues to the tune of about 7 million dollars per year. Below is a diagram that shows the structure of the AMP.

What are the functions of these groups and how do they interrelate?

Adaptive Management Work Group (AMWG). This is a Federal Advisory Committee appointed by the Secretary whose purpose is to advise him on how best to operate the dam so as “to preserve, mitigate adverse impacts to, and improve the downstream environment in Glen and Grand Canyons.” It is composed of 27

members that represent various federal and state agencies, the basin states, several tribes, and recreational, environmental, and hydropower groups. The AMWG will meet about twice each year to assess changing concerns regarding the operation of the dam. It is chaired by Steve Magnussen, a designee of the Secretary of Interior.

Technical Work Group (TWG). This is a 28 member subgroup of the AMWG composed of technically-minded cohorts of the AMWG members. Its purpose is to work out the knitty-gritty details and provide technical expertise and advice to the AMWG. It will meet once per month or as conditions warrant, and is chaired by Dr. Robert Winfree of the Grand Canyon National Park Science Center.

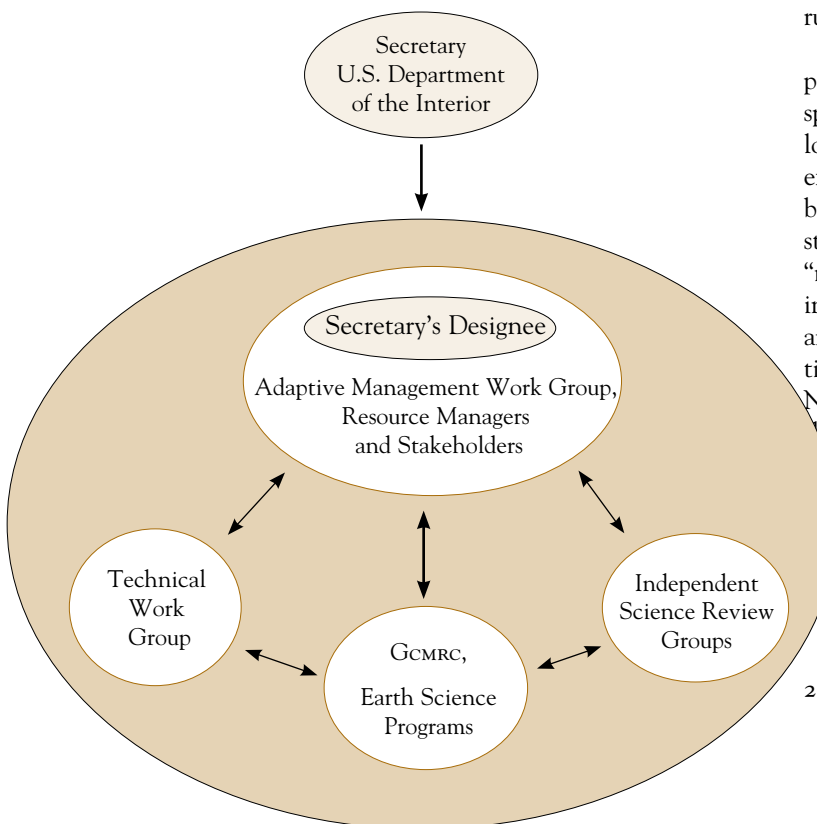
Grand Canyon Monitoring and Research Center (GCMRC). This is the organization that takes direction from the AMWG and conducts/oversees all research and monitoring work on the river. It is stationed in Flagstaff and is led by Dr. David Garrett.

Independent Science Review Groups. These are various members of the outside scientific community that are called upon to provide independent and unbiased oversight of research so that credible scientific work is assured.

Here are some of the latest issues of interest to river runners:

1998 Spike Flow: With full reservoirs and the biggest predicted El Niño on record, we propose to run a two-day spike flow of 45,000 cfs sometime this spring. It won't lower the reservoir much, but it will hopefully redeposit existing channel sand up high along the banks as new beaches, so that it is not all lost to Lake Mead downstream. This worked quite well during the March 1996 “media flood” spike flow that Secretary Babbitt embraced in such a big way. Trouble is: endangered species compliance procedures are laboriously slow to enact in preparation for such a flow, and no one knows whether this El Niño will really “pan-out” as predicted. Reclamation and the hydropower people just hate to waste potential power revenue by running water through the bypass tubes, if they don't have to. So, the TWG is proposing two trigger criteria to the AMWG, that will enable actuation of a spike flow given either:

- 1) the January forecast for the January–July unregulated spring runoff into Lake Powell exceeds 13 million acre feet (maf) (about 140% of normal), or
 - 2) anytime a Lake Powell inflow forecast would require a power plant monthly release greater than 1.5 maf.
- Emergency Action Plan (EAP): Last month, the



Grand Canyon Youth A New Generation

Bureau of Reclamation announced at a Technical Work Group meeting that it would begin to develop an eap for Glen Canyon Dam that examines various dam failure scenarios. We were assured that an eap is a standard procedure conducted on all Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) dams, and Glen Canyon Dam is the only major dam that has not had an eap done on it. It will be a one to two year process.

Spillways: After the 1983 devastation of the concrete linings, semicircular slots were installed in the inclined spillway bottoms to prevent shock waves caused by cavitation. In 1984 they tested them by running 20,000 cfs through a spillway for 48 hours, then 50,000 cfs for one hour. There was no apparent damage from these short tests. Running 70,000 cfs for several weeks could be a different story. We'll see.

Flashboards: The Glen Canyon Dam eis proposed two flood control measures: raising the height of the spillway gates with 4.5 foot high flashboards and reducing the maximum allowable height of the reservoir water. In the Record of Decision (ROD), the Secretary decided on the flashboards, which create 750,000 acre-feet of additional storage in the reservoir. The flashboards are already constructed and can be slapped on any time they might be needed. Do we want them up permanently, or just for big water emergencies? (BOR wants some feedback, let me know what you think).

Water temperature control device: The idea from U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is that endangered native fishes in Grand Canyon will do better if water temperatures are warmer in Grand Canyon, more like the pre-dam era. It will be installed on Glen Canyon Dam by Reclamation over the next two years. It will cost about 15 million dollars, a real bargain compared to the original proposal. An Environmental Assessment on this project should be available by December, 1998. They expect to have it operational by 2002.

My appointment to the AMWG and twg is to represent the concerns of you 20,000 or so recreational river-runners who float the Canyon each year. Please, keep me informed on your thoughts and concerns. E-mail or write GCRG. I will do my best to get back to you as my volunteer time allows. Otherwise, look for updates in your copy of the BOR. Thanks.

Andre Potochnik



SOMETIME IN THE '70s... you're sitting on the beach along a quiet stretch of river after a long day of excitement in Grand Canyon. From upstream you hear the strange noise of some kind of boat approaching. Rounding the corner appears a strange-looking craft indeed. A snout boat with two sets of oars rhythmically slapping the water and a sweep oar in the rear. Each oar is manned by a helmeted youth on an adventure of a lifetime... the "youthkateers": Dick McCallum's original Grand Canyon Youth Expeditions.

Where are the next generation of "youthkateers?" Today our youths' access to the Grand Canyon is limited to the few families able to afford a commercial trip or those directly involved in the private boating community. Wouldn't it be great to see the next generation coming around the bend?

A couple of us were on a trip together last fall and decided to put our energy into working on this situation: BORN is Grand Canyon Youth – a new generation. After a few meetings, we've got some sort of ball rolling and now it's time to reach out to the community for input and support. Grand Canyon Youth is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing youth access to Grand Canyon river trips and other regional outdoor activities. We hope to raise funds sufficient to charter trips for youth between the ages of 13 and 19. We are looking for youth who express a sincere desire to participate—who would benefit the most, and would not otherwise have the opportunity. Working through outfitters, we hope to format these trips as full participation and educational style adventures. Participants will be required to commit to community service projects, raise a portion of trip costs, and develop individual educational projects.

We hope to develop rapport with outfitters, the park service, research, and schools to encourage participation in the program. We will establish an advisory committee. We will plan creative fund-raising events and ideas. Our pilot trip is happening this spring thanks to Dick McCallum and Expeditions. We have secured a launch date of April 2 for 10 youth participants, yippee! Initially, we have targeted the Flagstaff community to get our program off the ground. In the future we hope to reach out to youth of the world!

We encourage any input, support, ideas, (money?), etc. Feel free to contact either Jon Hirsh (520/779-5609), Fritz (520/774-8839), or Martha Clark (520/556-9258) or send mail c/o of GCRG.



Five Hundred Dollars — Easy Come, Easy Go

IN EARLY SEPTEMBER OF 1983, a steady 28,000 cfs flowed through Grand Canyon. It was the lowest it had been all season. Forty-five people launched from Lees Ferry on a movie-making trip, in three Powell boats, three dories, and six big motor rigs. They would film an account of Major Powell's historic journey for the imax big-screen movie *Hidden Secrets*, shown hourly at the South Rim ever since.

Kenton Grua was uneasy from the start. It related to fairness of pay. The Powell boatmen, of whom he was chief, were earning their usual per-trip wages as guides. Now they were performing as actors and stunt men besides the usual trip chores, so Kenton figured they deserved more. His mind chewed relentlessly on it, as is his style, day after day, mile after mile. "More per diem" became his creed, and it got tiresome indeed.

Kenton thought the movie needed a flip, and the Gorge would present the opportunity. What better place to stage it than Hermit, and who better to pull it off than himself? It was against his instinct to tip over deliberately on his lean salary as a guide, so he started

campaigning for extra pay in exchange for staging the flip. It took him several days to sell director Kieth Merrill on the idea, but they finally settled on a small bonus.

On the day of the stunt I set up my camera for a motor drive sequence next to the monstrous imax contraption that would record the event. The Powell boat approached with Kenton standing at the sweep oar, Bruce Simballa rowing, and the one-armed Major sitting amidships hanging on for dear life. In mid-rapid Kenton let go of the sweep oar and of his other handhold as well. The aimless little boat was at the mercy of huge crashing waves as he stood upright, ready to be dumped. But nothing happened. He didn't even lose his balance, so he started to lean outboard. Bruce, at the oars, leaned over too, but the boat didn't seem to notice. Kenton dragged on a tie-down to pull the reluctant boat over as Bruce pretended to get washed out. Eventually everyone was afloat, the Major drifting away, while Kenton and Bruce still tugged at the gunwale without the slightest result.

The boat remained steadily on course through wave after humongous wave, indifferent to all efforts to capsize it. Through the crashing tail waves, dead sideways by now, both men still floated alongside trying to pull it over. But sideways or straight, with assist or without, this boat didn't know how to flip.

Kieth Merrill was furious. "Nobody will believe that" he screamed over the roar of the rapid; "On a big screen nobody will believe *that!*"

Kenton had no per diem and now no bonus. Instead there was plenty of embarrassment instead. He cooled it for a few days, then resumed negotiations: The Falls at Lava would do the job – absolutely guaranteed, but this would involve danger and would therefore cost more. Kieth remained unconvinced. He feared another fiasco, and didn't want to risk damaging the boat before filming all the footage he needed.

It wasn't until we were there, scouting from the black rock, that the matter was finally resolved. I told Kieth it was a mistake to negotiate for a flip. If deliberate, I argued, it would be like Hermit – on a big screen nobody would believe it. But if they tried instead to make it through upright, they'd flip for sure and it would look real, and if they miraculously should succeed, the footage would be even better. Like lighter fuel in a grease bomb, insurance was built into the deal.

Kieth agreed, the deal was struck and the cameras were set to roll. Kenton guided the little boat precisely onto the narrow slick that defines The Slot. It arrived there as the wave built up to the max to engulf boat



take one



and crew like a whale swallowing a sardine. They reemerged below, bottom side up, requiring a prolonged recovery that ended in whirlpools against the left wall downstream with a great deal of drama and danger. You can watch it on the big screen at the South Rim every hour of every day of the year.

The remaining Powell boats had good runs down the left, with Martin Litton's dory and mine stationed below on rescue alert. As we both worked hard to steady our dories in the wild eddy, Martin asked if I knew what kind of deal had been struck. I told him Kenton and Bruce were getting \$500 each, and 66-years young Martin declared: "I'd have done it for that." This didn't stop Kenton from grumbling all the way to the take-out about deserving a higher bonus. He was right, but the issue soon fizzled as other matters loomed. There was the upcoming court battle with the Park over the permitless Speed Trip we had done earlier that summer, soon to be settled, coincidentally, for a \$500 fine. Then nothing would be left of the bonus – but many fond memories remained of these fantastic trips with Kenton on the thrilling high water of 1983.



*Rudi Petschek
December 1997*



take two

Kenton Grua

I GO “WHAT DO WE DO IF THEY WAVE US IN?”
“Wave back,” says Rudi.
We fantasized that it might be okay, actually... not getting the phone call and everything. But we kinda knew the truth, too. [laughter] We knew we had God on our side, though ... John Thomas [the ranger on duty] was pretty cool. He didn’t even wave. Before we even got close he just turned and walked off the motor rig, started heading up the hillside to watch us run. Cause he knew we weren’t pulling in. And after he turned around he never looked over again. He was just looking down at his clipboard and walking, talking on his radio, reporting that we were coming by, I think.

Did you have any idea what was down there? [At Crystal Rapid in 1983, during an illicit speedrun attempt on 72,000 cfs ... just after the rapid had been closed to the public for safety reasons.]

“Yeah, we knew there’d be a big one down there ... But basically we were totally unprepared for what we saw. We’re just going, oh man we’ve gotta get through this thing ... we look down, we see where we’ve gotta go, you can see where the lateral starts and you know you gotta be in above that lateral or you’re dead meat. But there were rocks there, really shallow rocks. There was a little tamarisk tree out there waving in the current and behind it looked like a pourover and I just went, God, can I go over that? ... So I came in just as close to it as I thought I could and I went *uhn-UHHH-hhhh* ... I hit that lateral and we just went *wooooooosh* ... Got the big surf right out to the very center of the hole and just lined it up and got it straight ... I just pushed hard and stood up and went forward with Wren.

Me and Wren were plastered against the bow but you could feel it before you ever got there, you know. There was no way. It just snapped us straight over. I had hold of my oars as tight as I could grip em. I was thinking I’m not lettin’ go of these f@#\$% oars cause they’re tied to the boat! You knew you didn’t want to get away from the boat at all and, uh, I hadn’t even completed the thought, they just went bing, bing and I was gone. I went down, down, down ... felt myself coming back up, still getting tossed around and came up and *pfloo!* cleared the water out of my eyes and two feet away was the *Emerald Mile*. I just went yeah, baby! Here we are! ... And I hear this gasping and I look over, about ten feet downstream is old Rudi so I stick my foot out for him ... We were just going ... *WHOOAAA* ... It was an intense flip, really intense experience underwater. It seemed like forever.

It wasn’t a regular hole. It was perfection in a hole, you know. You had about, maybe a hundredth of a percent chance of making it through. If you ran it a hundred times in a dory, you probably wouldn’t make it through once.

So Wren was about 40 feet away right out in the middle of the river swimming along and the *Emerald Mile* was headed for the right shore ... Me and Rudi got on top of it and loosened the flip line and we were just haulin’ ass down the right side and we’re going oh man. Now we’re gettin’ close to the shore. ... We got it on its side and almost over, started to come over and *flunk!* the flip-line broke. Shitty old flip-line and *MMMwwhoom!* it goes back down and about two seconds later: *crunch! crunch!* we tag a pourover. But all it did was take off the very tip of the bow and the stern posts ...

*In the Grand Canyon résumé department, Kenton Grua, a.k.a. the Factor, takes the cake. (Years ago, his pals nicknamed him “Factor” because that’s what he was ... this additional element you always had to factor in whenever you were on a river trip, or in the warehouse, or **anywhere** with him ... frequently brilliant, sometimes insane, usually intense ... **always** a factor.)*

He started out a passenger at age 12 on a Hatch trip up in Utah, went to work for Ted Hatch in the late ’60s; then GCE; then Martin Litton; then OARS/Grand Canyon Dories when Martin sold the company. In 1983 – with a lot of help from the river – Kenton, Rudi Petschek, and Steve Reynolds somehow managed to row from Lees Ferry to the Grand Wash Cliffs in just under 37 hours, thereby setting the speed record for a Grand Canyon trip. (The tale above was excerpted from that adventure.)

But that kind of stunt was nothing new. Years before, when the place still had a frontier feel to it, Kenton walked all the way through – from Lees Ferry to the Grand Wash Cliffs – in a spectacularly short time too. And, as if those antics weren’t arrogant, audacious and irreverent enough, ten years ago he called a meeting of as many river guides as he could round up and put forth the idea of Grand Canyon River Guides, Inc ... which got GCRG started, and him elected President of the durned thing.

Last month, we had the bright idea that since this issue marked the 10th Anniversary of GCRG and the BQR, we should



Kenton rowing the Emerald mile in Upset Rapid

photo Regan Dale

put Kenton on the cover, and in the hot seat. The following is excerpted from several interviews that have taken place over the years, most of which can be found in the River Runner's Oral History Project. (For a more complete rundown on the great speedrun, see Christa Sadler's book "There's this River ...")

I started out, old Shorty Burton took me on my first trip down the Yampa, through Dinosaur. We moved out there when I was twelve years old, from Salt Lake City to Vernal, Utah. My dad owned a truck line. I was kind of hating moving to Vernal but as it turned out, it was all right.

... Sort of for my twelfth birthday, on top of getting a bike that I still have, a ten-speed ... we went on this river trip. Did it in a twenty-two-foot old bridge pontoon that Hatch rows, I think is still rowing up there. Shorty was great: taught me how to bake biscuits in a Dutch oven and stuff, let me row a lot. I was hooked!

So my dad bought an old ten-man raft with the bumper tube on it and everything. We rigged that up, put some oar locks on it, took it down the river quite a few times as I was growing up and going through high school and stuff. I was just waiting until I was eighteen to talk to

Ted and say, "I'm ready for a job."

Went to the U of U [University of Utah] for a quarter, and came home for a Christmas break and went and talked to Ted. I said, "Well, you know, I was hoping you might need somebody. I was hoping I *might* get a job up there in Dinosaur." Ted goes, "Well, when could you start?" I said, "Well, probably . . . oh, next week is *fine*." "Get you on patching boats next week and see how you work out." So I quit school. My parents weren't too excited about it, but they knew I really wanted to do it, so they let me do it. I quit school – only for a quarter, of course [laughs], and went to work for Ted.

Patched boats all spring and about March – in those days, we started about March – went down [to Grand Canyon] and did a training trip. There were about twelve trainees: Chuck Carpenter and Rick Petrillo – a bunch of oldtimers that aren't even around anymore. Whale was in

there somewhere. Pat Conley – he was on that trip. We all piled into one training boat. There were so many of us, it wasn't that much fun to ride in the training boat.

I rode with old Dave Bledsoe most of the time – he was one of the boatmen on the trip. There was, I don't know, gosh, must have been seven or eight boats on the trip – big old trip. They don't even allow that kind of trip any more. And made it through the Canyon.

The only rapid I actually motored was Lava Falls and I just about flipped. We left the side tubes on and ran it down the right. They were old tail-dragger Hatch rigs. The only rig that had the – they called them “training wheels” in those days – the only rig that had side tubes was the training boat. They thought, “Well, let's watch these trainees run this rig.” And since I'd been running

with Bledsoe all trip, and hadn't run any big rapids – I'd just been riding and he'd been talking me through it – they put me on the stick. So I was running the motor and we probably dropped over about the ledge, I don't know.

We were going down the right (laughs) but there was one big old wave right on top I remember. As we dropped over it, the transom broke, because it was only bolted on with about six bolts, and of the six, probably four of them busted, and one side, all three of them busted. Dropped it down, just about lost the darned transom, engine and everything.

I just remember motoring along, and as soon as we dropped over that first drop, which was probably the right side of the ledge, my arm jerked way down. I was still holding onto the motor, but it was definitely swamped. I looked back there, and I couldn't see anything but my hand, and I knew I was hanging onto the handle, so I held onto it, and went down sideways through the big hole and *almost* flipped. It was close. I thought it was going over, everybody thought it was going over. And there's just nothing to do. The only thing I could do was hang onto that motor, because I didn't want to lose it.

So as soon as we got through, Carpenter said, “God, what happened!?” I said, “Well, I don't know, but. . . . Look!” My arm is about two feet longer, the motor handle is underwater. “Jesus!” So he reached down there and grabbed it and picked it up and tied it back on with a piece of line, a piece of old sisal rope that we used to have, manila rope. And it took us clear past Lower Lava to dry the engine out and get the darned boat to run. Finally got it pulled into shore.

Anyway, that was my training trip, and the next trip I had people! (laughs)

What was that like? Did they know it was your first time?

Oh, heck no! And I lied about my age and everything. “Oh, yeah, I'm twenty-two.” (sniff) An old man! (laughs) “Yeah, I've been working down here for a couple of years now.” (laughs) I had a fair amount of experience, but that was like one motor trip's experience was all I had. I'd done a lot of rowing up on the Green and Yampa as a kid, so I felt like I was a pretty good hand. I was confident. Had some pretty wild runs, though, over the years.

But you'd row Lava?

We'd just get there early in the morning, as early as we could, because we'd always take the motors off and everything and just power over against the left shore and float down over the rocks – two guys rowing on an old Hatch tail-dragger rig.

And that was the run?

And that was the run, to get as tight as you could on the left shore and just like slop her down over the rocks. It



*Destiny
At four, young Kenton mans his oar at Liberty Park
(where in 1939 Bert Loper, at the age of 70, won the men's
rowing race)*

was a great run, actually worked good. I mean, those old boats had floors and stuff and you could take them out there, and you could flip in Lava. We flipped a couple of rigs there in those early years ... down there on the right side into that hole.

Our rowing frames, where we had like two stations, so they were three two-by-eights across the boat, and a long two-by-ten connecting the three of 'em together. That was our rowing frame, which sat in the center of the thirty-three. And from that we'd hang floorboards on chains, so everything was wood. We had pipes, probably three-quarter-inch pipe, coming up out of rowing blocks with old pieces of tire for a cushion. The oar was attached essentially with a thole pin – we just called 'em rowing pins – with a strip of tire material about two inches thick, about six or eight inches long, and it was hose-clamped onto the oar, with a little loop in it so the oar would slide down over the pin. So that was sort of the industry standard for years and years.

Just a loop and a tire that was hose-clamped onto the oar.

Yeah. And you just rowed the oar against the pin. Up on the Green they'd use it a lot more than we would in the Canyon, we'd just use 'em for rowin' two or three rapids, whatever looked bad, if the water was low and we didn't want to risk our motors. We'd either tie the motor up, or even take it off for Lava and those.

So you're runnin' thirty-threes with floors in 'em, tail-draggers.

Uh-huh, they had two boards, kinda one off the back – they didn't meet – and stuck out about three feet off the back, and the transom was bolted to the underside of those boards, and they had a cross-board across the front of 'em that was about maybe six or eight feet up onto the tubes of the boat. You'd have to deflate the rear end quite a bit to even get your motor in the water, 'cause the thirty-threes would stick up a little bit on either end ... and then of course that'd make you like you were sittin' on a slingshot – especially if you ran anything really big, like Hermit – it could throw ya' halfway across the boat.

So a pretty wild ride.

Yeah, for the boatman, he had the wildest ride. Boy, you had to hang on. You had three straps: one you put your toes under and one kind of scissored between your legs, and one that you held onto, a bucking strap, if you had to pull your engine, which you had to do often. You'd grab onto that and hoist the engine out, and hang on like crazy, because, boy, as you went over anything, it's like being on the back of a slingshot. It'd stretch your arms pretty good.

What were those big trips like, and why would they do them?

Well, it was just, you know, geology charters or whatever.



*Kenton as Billy Hawkins on the IMAX Hidden Secrets filming. trip
photo Rudi Petschek*

There was one we did was 140 people, 17 boats. It was amazing! A fire pit that was twenty feet long! Just this huge fire pit. We'd get about a cord of wood for every night. ... I mean, that's an exaggeration, but it took a lot of wood. It took a pile. In those days it [driftwood] was on most beaches.

We had these old stakes that we'd drive into the



Kenton post-beard

photo Rudi Petschek

ground, and then you'd just build fires in the sand in those days, in these big long fire pits. They were six stakes long, and so you'd put about twelve griddles on and – it was *massive* to do the cooking and whatnot for that big a size crew.

It was different back then. I mean, the tammies were no taller than I was, which isn't very tall. A lot more sand, a lot more beaches, a lot more wood. Boy, they were a *mess* though. We had fire pits you wouldn't believe.

That was my first year in the Canyon, March of '69. I'd say we were more cowboys in those days, than hippies. I mean, I was kind of on the edge there, maybe, between cowboy and hippie – dressed like a cowboy but had fairly long hair, off and on. Early Hatch days I cut it pretty short, just to get on. ... But we'd wear Levis and cowboy boots on the river. Then we'd wear these cutoff Levis in the summertime. They're even comin' back into style nowadays, I think [laughs] ... take about a week to dry, even in the middle of the summer.

And who were your passengers? You were saying they were

pretty robust.

Yeah, everybody in those days that went was out for an adventure, an expedition. They weren't out to get coddled or served – and we sure didn't coddle 'em (laughs) back in those days. We got the food out and everything, and we got 'em down the river, but ... they looked after themselves ... and looked after us! You look back on it, and you wonder *what* they must have thought! (laughter) We thought we were pretty much pullin' the wool over their eyes, for sure. I doubt if we were, but people still loved it. There was even one or two people that I'm still in touch with from those early days. So it was, in a way it was a lot more fun, because it was a lot less controlled, a lot more of a wilderness experience than it is now.

Was there much hiking?

Yeah, we'd hike quite a bit, really. Ten days was the standard trip, and we'd go clear through the Canyon, on out to Temple Bar, was where we'd take out trips in those days, because Lake Mead was so low that

you couldn't get in at Pearce's. But I think mostly we went to Temple Bar because that's where the bar was. (laughter)

So why did you make the jump to Grand Canyon Expeditions?

Well, we were runnin' motors pretty hard in those days, and I'd started out rowing up in Utah, and kind of grew up rowing. We were starting to see a few rowing trips down there, and I guess I just kind of wanted to row, rather than motor. Again, smaller trips, fewer people per guide type thing.

And Ron Smith had circulated a petition the last year I worked with Hatch, to ban motors from the Canyon. He said, "Let's sign up and let's not motor down there anymore, let's all go to rowing. Let's ban motors. Let's do this petition and hand it to the Park Service and get them to ban motors." And it made him a pretty unpopular guy amongst the motor outfitters. A lot of people signed on to it. Ted [Hatch], of course, was fairly opposed to it. (chuckles)

So I just thought, in good conscience, if I wanted to row, I should probably work for a company that might row. So I went and asked Ron Smith if he needed anybody to work for him that next year, and he said, "Sure." And he said, "I don't know if I can get you on any rowin' trips next year, but [we] definitely need some motor guides, and you might get a rowin' trip down there."

In those days, his idea of a rowin' trip was three Green Rivers [a triple-rig] – which he'd just sort of developed with Rubber Fabricators ... with a boat-building company that was building motor rigs for him, and he was like the sole distributor for Rubber Fabricators to the river industry. They were starting to make nylon thirty-threes and thirty-seven-foot pontoons, as well as Green River rafts, which Smith had kind of designed, which were a little bit bigger than the old ten-man, and kicked up on both ends, and were a great rowing design, as well as a couple of other designs. And they were much, much, much tougher.

Of course all the motor outfitters figured that Ron Smith wanted to sell these rowing boats that he'd developed (and they were the only rowing boats goin' in those days) ... and that was his motive for banning motors, that everybody already had plenty of motor rigs, but if he could ban motors and everybody had to go to rowing, then he could sell a *bunch* of Green River rafts and make a bunch of money.

And it probably was a lot of Ron's motive for wanting to go to rowing, because they never really *did* much rowing. There was like one rowing trip that first year (and I didn't get to go on it) that I worked for Smith, so I ran all motor rigs for him. I think I did nine

or ten – can't remember exactly – motor trips for Ron that first year. And another ten or eleven motor trips the next year – and didn't get to touch an oar the whole time. I only worked for him those two years, 1971 and '72.

Regan [Dale] came on line. O'Connor was there when I started. Of course a great guy, O'Connor Dale – and he's still with the company, and managing it now. Rick Petrillo had actually moved the year before I did from Hatch to gce, and he was part of the reason I switched over too, because Rick was kind of one of my "heroes."

Dean Waterman was [Smith's] manager, more or less, and he was a pretty-darned-good aluminum welder, and of course went into business for himself in 1973, which was the year that he and I and Regan and several other people didn't get hired back – we didn't necessarily get fired, but we just didn't get hired back in '73. ... I mean, it was largely a personality thing ...

When did you see your first dory?

First dory trip was ... Well, Martin Litton moved in the second year that I was there, and rented one of Ron Smith's warehouses. Smith had these two warehouses that were an old lumber mill he'd bought for \$10,000: almost nothing even in those days, in Kanab. One of them was just totally empty and only had part of a roof on it, but it was an acre of warehouse space. So he rented the space to Martin.

I don't think he really realized, because there was all these hippies and stuff, and he was not really happy that they were there. They were kind of, you know, not quite what he was hoping, and they just all moved in, in their VW buses and whatnot. Jeff Clayton and all the oldtimers, Mike Davis, moved in there and set up shop with the dories.

God, we'd all go over there and sit in those dories and go, "Man, you guys really *row* these through there?!" And these guys didn't know how to row at all. I mean, they'd just crash and burn. Every trip, it was like the dories would come out sinking and patched everywhere with duct tape and Marine-Tex and steel wool (chuckles). They had all these wild patching techniques back in those days!

Why did they want to run them?

Well it was just Martin. I mean Martin was ... crazy. He just thought that *somebody* had to row real boats down there, wooden boats, traditional boats like the old days, before they invented rubber rafts. And I don't think anybody ever would have thought of it, except Martin. I think once rafts came in style, that would have been all anybody would ever do, even now.

But Martin – he was a purist and an environmen-

talist. Definitely had values and standards of how it should be done, and so he started running these dories. They worked good. They really did work, even though you can't hit rocks with them and stuff, they sure are a lot of fun to row. Pretty addicting overall.

So '72, you and Regan went to work for Martin.

It's actually '73.

And Martin was just starting his company, and he had these wooden boats. What did you think of all that? It wasn't so much wooden boats, it was just, "Let's go row."? Plus, "We need a job."? (laughter)

Yeah, that was probably it more than anything else at that point. That spring was, "here's somebody who'll hire us." Yeah, the dories were just ... pretty boats. I mean, I don't think I'd really thought about rafts versus dories, 'cause I grew up rowing a raft when I was a kid, and rafts were a lot of fun, but the dories were challenging, because of their fragility, and also, I think quite a bit more fun – you know, in terms of big ride in rapids. So they were appealing in that respect. We definitely enjoyed runnin' 'em in those early days – still do, I guess. They're one boat you wouldn't get tired of running.

Was Martin famous? Did you know what he had done on the dam fights and all that? Did that have any sway with you?

Well, yeah, after we got to know him, absolutely. I don't think early on I realized how important he was in that fight, because that had all happened quite a bit before I started working down there – when he was fighting to keep dams from happening in Grand Canyon. But yeah, as soon as we got to know him and how he came to be running trips and outfitting trips in Grand Canyon, yeah, you have to respect that.

Martin's just ... all the way along, he's *always* been there for the Canyon. He was the *original* ... before the dam, he was tryin' to stop the dam and ever since the dam he's been tryin' to at *least* make the best of the dam for the Canyon. He deserves a place right at the top in terms of what he's done and where he fits into the whole picture of the Grand Canyon and at least our generation's part in its history. He's my hero.

Well, I think you stand out – for most people that know you or know a little bit about you – as being a pretty historic character yourself – just for some things that you've done. Specifically about three things: your walk through the canyon was one of 'em, and the speed run was another one, and starting GCRG. All those things were pretty big milestones.

I guess we ought to start with the hike.

Well, as I can remember, as early as I started workin' down there, Colin Fletcher's book, *The Man Who Walked Through Time*, had come out, I think in the fairly late sixties. I got ahold of it and read it. It was pretty interesting, but as anyone who knew the Canyon could see right away, he didn't really walk through the *whole* Grand Canyon, by any means. He only went about 100 miles.

And [I thought] "somebody else needs to do it, just to do it, and do it right, do it light, and do the whole thing." And so my idea was to do it all the way on one side, all the way from Lees Ferry to the Grand Wash Fault. So I started lookin' at it, really, that first year as I recall, just kinda checkin' out the route, as I was reading the book.

Workin' for Hatch?

Oh, yeah. And just kind of more and more seriously every year was lookin' at it and kind of plottin' out where I'd go here and where I'd go there. And the spots I couldn't see from the river and couldn't check out, I'd try and pull in there by some excuse on a river trip and go hikin' up and check things out. I finally got to where I thought I had a pretty good handle on it by 1972.

In the fall of 1972, I started out to do the hike, and had a bunch of food caches put in. Not very well planned, just kinda wingin' it. The big mistake I made was – I was kind of a hippie in those days, and actually did most of my hiking and boating barefoot by then. I'd gone from cowboy boots and Levis to – well, I was still in Levis and cutoffs – but to mostly barefoot, 'cause they didn't have good flip-flops back in those days. I'd go just about everywhere barefoot. So I got this idea I was gonna do it in moccasins.

And there was a really good kind of moccasin made by an outfit in Tucson, called the Kaibab Moccasin. They were fairly expensive in those days, even. I think about sixty bucks a pair. So I got three pairs of those, figured they'd be light and I'd move fast. I started out from Lees Ferry and kinda walked along the Marble Platform until Jackass Canyon. That was the plan, and I was doin' it all on the south side. I hadn't even got to Jackass, to where I was gonna start down into the Canyon proper, and I already had a hole in one of 'em, and started a hole in another. So I had a spare pair with me, but I didn't want to break those out. The leather in 'em was a bad batch, and they weren't like a rawhide, but an untanned leather sole – real thick, but the leather just fell apart, basically.

So I kept on walking, figuring, well, you know, just see how it goes. And I was trying to stretch that pair out as far as I could. I got as far as – walking on the top of the Redwall – down around 36 Mile, right in that

area, and I stepped on a piece of cactus. It was an old dead prickly pear. And it went right through. There was a hole about the size of a silver dollar in the bottom of both moccasins, right at the ball of my foot, so I got it in the ball of my right foot, just a whole bunch of old dead cactus spines. I sat down and picked most of 'em out. I climbed down to the river there, just above 36 Mile, and camped out by the river and pulled out spines and thought, "Well, I'll just keep goin', see how it goes."

I started hikin' on down from there on top of the Redwall, and it was gettin' really bad. The next place you can come down after 36 Mile is there at Eminence Break. And by the time I got there, I was really hurtin', and it was starting to infect. It was a couple of days later, and there was obviously some I hadn't gotten out. So I just camped out there for a couple more days, and O'Connor [Dale] and George Billingsley came by on the last Grand Canyon Expeditions trip, and they were sort of my backup, safety. So I decided it'd be the better part of smart to bag that trip and hitch a ride. I just rode on out with them, and came by the next year and picked up all my food caches.

So then I just kinda kept plannin' it and figured I'd do it, but didn't really have a firm plan as to when. And in 1973 – actually, it was later that same year when George Billingsley got married – I met Ellen [Tibbetts] and she and I kinda got together. And ended up the fall of '76, we were down in Flagstaff, Ellen and I, and she was goin' to school, workin' on a ceramics degree.

So I wasn't doin' much, I was just hangin' out with her and bein' in Flag, and I started thinkin', well, maybe this is the time to do that hike. I hadn't put any caches in or anything, but I started plannin' it and started getting together what I wanted, and started buying food and caching it. I think I started hiking things in, in January – put in six food caches in square five-gallon honey cans, big round lids – and kind of spaced them out in what I thought would be about two-week intervals, two weeks of food at a time. And then ended up leaving on the trip about as late as I could possibly leave – in my usual style. That was February 29, 1976.

Bart Henderson and I took off, and he was coming along to photograph it. He was thinking article or a book, and I was kinda thinkin' that, but never really thinkin' I'd really want to do that, write it up. He took some good pictures.

So Bart started out with you, but he didn't go the whole way with you?

No, he went to Tanner. [Then I] went from Tanner, where Bart went out, to Hermit, and met Ellen there. And she came and hiked with me to Havasu, and then

she went out. Then I was by myself, again, from Havasu to the Grand Wash Cliffs.

So you went all the way from Lees Ferry to the Grand Wash Cliffs, which was 277 river miles, but God only knows – more like, what? 350-400 miles of walking?

Hm, probably closer to 600 or more, by the time you do all the little ...

What was your total elapsed time on that?

Thirty-six days.

That's amazing. So you were doing fifteen or twenty-mile days.

Yeah, I'd say that was an average day, fifteen to twenty, easily. There were days I probably did closer to thirty. Travelled pretty light. I had a North Face rucksack, which was one of the interior frame backpacks, pretty small pack. This time I used Penney's high-topped work boots, with the Vibram sole. One pair made it all the way. Kinda took a lesson from Harvey Butchart.

Was it a pretty gnarly trip? What was the gnarliest stretch for gettin' through – of that hike?

Well, there were some *hairy* stretches. Probably the most difficult hiking was on the Muav Ledges, upstream and downstream from Havasu, from just below Kanab Creek to National Canyon on the south side. That was a stretch that Fletcher didn't figure out. It says in his book, "I came down to the mouth of Havasu," and he looked up and thought maybe he could walk along the ledges, but he was lookin' at ledges down by the river, and he probably wouldn't have found the route, which at Havasu is a *ways* above the river. Maybe 100 feet above the river, maybe 150 feet, there's a ledge that goes all the way, but it was a lot of work, and *really* steep, and really loose. The best way to do it was to go right along the edge. That's where the bighorn would go.

That's how I knew it'd go as a route, is early on in my Hatch days I spotted some bighorns up on that ledge, cruisin' along on that ledge, and also talked to George Billingsley, so I thought there'd probably be, because there's some little layers of shale in there.

And so you didn't walk up on the talus, you walked right on the edge.

Yeah, you really had to be right on the edge if you wanted to move at all. Otherwise, you were just grippin' and climbin' over big boulders, or gettin' scratched to death by catclaws that were up against the cliff, or anywhere along the slope. So you just kinda had to go where the trail was, or where the track was, and that

was right there. You'd come to a lot of places where you'd have what's called a "dihedral" or a "book" in climbing terminology, where there's sort of like an "L" shaped section of the cliff, and you can't go around to the back of it, you've gotta jump across it. The trail would jump like four feet, five feet, six feet. And that's what the bighorns would do. They'd be right on the edge, and they'd just leap across this little gap, that if you missed it, you'd tumble about a hundred feet and get torn to pieces by the carnivorous Muav Limestone before you hit the bottom, and then you'd be pretty dead. We've seen – mean, there was that bighorn maybe four or five years ago draped out on a rock, that had probably just missed that jump up above.

So it's one of those things you either – on that ledge you could move really fast, if you did the bighorn trail, and just did those jumps. And even not doing the jumps, just walking along, you're *right* on the edge, and it's kind of "ball-bearing" and loose, but there's a little faint trail there that the bighorns use. But it was exciting. It was pretty hairball. You'd get sort of wiggled out, and then climb up and go along in the rocks for a while, until it felt like it was safer, or "I'll never get there if I'm goin' *this* speed." And then you'd come back down to the ledge and just start movin', make the jumps. There were a couple of jumps [where I just went], "Unt-uh! No way."

But Ellie was with you through that?

Down to Havasu, uh-huh.

So at least there was somebody to pick up the pieces maybe. Big deal.

Yeah, you wouldn't have picked up the pieces, you'd just go, "Oh, boy."

What did that do for you and the Canyon, doing that walk? Did that change the way you felt about the place or anything like that?

I learned a lot. All the way, the things that struck me – *all* along the way, you could see evidence of Anasazi, or Hisatsinom. And there were places where you'd walk where there wasn't a trail, a historic trail that *we* know of that had ever been used by a white man. But there was a deep trail there, that somebody'd made – probably wasn't bighorn. And mesal pits. So it was definitely done by the Anasazi. I don't know if anybody ever just kinda walked the whole distance, or hiked the whole distance, per se, [But] they moved through there, did everything that I did, in terms of hiking. And that was kind of a neat feeling, to be in their footsteps.

Your other great feat was, of course, the speed run, the speed record through the Grand Canyon. Your hike was thirty-six days, and the speed run was thirty-seven hours, right?

Second one. That was another one that took two tries –

two speed runs. The first one was in 1980. It was really Wally [Rist's] idea. One has to give him credit for it, because it was *his* passion. When I started workin' for the dories, he was an old timer, he'd been workin' for Martin for at least two, maybe three years. I think he was a schoolteacher in Phoenix in the off season. Everybody – because it was in the *River Guide* – knew about the Rigg brothers doin' it, and he just thought that would be the coolest thing that you could do, to take a dory and row through faster than the Riggs did back in the fifties.

*Yeah, the Rigg brothers went in two-and-a-half days. Kenton, Wally, and Rudi Petschek went in two days. And then in 1983 when all hell broke loose at Glen Canyon Dam with the flood, Kenton and Rudi and a guy named Steve Reynolds – who they called "Wren" ... those guys went, and set a **new** record of thirty-seven hours, all the way through, from Lees Ferry to the Grand Wash Cliffs. Very dramatic story, and that is all documented elsewhere. We'll have to put it in the Kenton file. But it's definitely noteworthy, a spectacular thing to do. I wonder what we need to say about it, other than that?*

Crystal was big.

Crystal was so big! Had a little mishap there. (laughs)

Yeah, that was a wild flip. End for end. Yeah, there was no makin' it through *that* hole.

Okay, politics. You go to work for the dories, you work for them for fifteen years, and you spend all that time with Martin learnin' about his history and stuff, and then all of a sudden he sells the company, and what happens? You start Grand Canyon River Guides. That strikes me as being not entirely coincidental.

Well, I think a lot of people were really ready to do it. I think it was a big combination of watchin' Martin headed out the door, Grand Canyon-wise. (Or at least it looked like he was gonna be headed out the door, sellin' the company and claimin' he was gonna retire – though he still hasn't really, probably never will – which is good, really good.)

But you could see a void opening up there that had to be filled. And also, the whole boating community is such a cool thing, that it was really time to finally put something together, sort of a boatmen's club. wrga [Western River Guides Association, now absorbed by America Outdoors] which was originally probably really a boatmen's club, had turned into an outfitters' organization or club, and it was kind of dissolving too at the same time that Martin was selling the company.

So a *whole* lot of stuff seemed like it was goin' on, though it seems like it always is. (chuckles) We just kind of keep reinventing the wheel ... We just put another bandaaid on things, and go on, stumbling down the road.

Actually, originally, the first glimmerings of it, we put together a little meeting. And the most likely meeting place, or the most guides that could get together was Brad [Dimock]'s house. So we just kind of called it more of a party than a meeting there. But it was the "original" meeting of GCRG. That was a full house. Everybody went, "Yeah, great idea, let's do it, let's do it. You're in charge!" (chuckles) To me, in terms of at least ...

It was your idea, right? I mean, you were the one that said, "Let's start an association."?

Actually, it was a lot Mike Taggett and me, up in Hurricane, because at that time I was up in Hurricane [Utah]. The Dories had been there for years and years, and it was lookin' like we were gettin' uprooted from there. So there was a lot of change goin' on. And Taggett and I talked endlessly about it, and he was really generous with his facilities and his new toys – Apple computers and stuff like that, and the new old Macs – you know, the very first Macs that came out.

The little bitty ones.

Little teeny screen, and little itty bitty computer. That was a cool machine. That really started a revolution. So we put it together on that – you know, the first mailings. [We] called around, got ahold of the Park Service, got as many names and addresses as we could from them; called all the outfitters and tried to, as much as we could, get their crew mailing lists, and some of them were cooperative, and some of them weren't at all cooperative. (chuckles) 'Cause they were goin', "You want what?! You're doin' what!?" And so we were tryin' to keep it really above-board, and more of an environmental, Canyon-oriented, and group-oriented thing, in terms of guides as a group.

My biggest thing that I wanted to do was – well, first of all, have a cohesive group or club that we could belong to that would give us more of a voice in what was going on, both with the outfitters and with the Park Service in the Canyon, because, really, I mean, who cares more about it than we do? And a good excuse to get together once a year or twice a year.

And have a party! (laughs)

Party. Talk about shit and party. I think that's still the best reason we have for existing, and I hope it continues to exist for that reason. Really, it's kind of amazed me how much it's taken off and become its own thing. It's a lot like havin' a kid and then watchin' it grow up and turn into whatever it turns into ... I'm kinda punched out of the work now. I did put in some time the first three years.

A lot of time.

And not just me – Denise [Napoletano] was key. She was the first secretary. She was the one who really did the footwork, and made it happen. And she worked her tail off for three years on it. It was really, I guess, the original, initial thing was me and Taggett and Denise, sittin' around 'til all hours, and other dory ... Jane [Whalen]. There were other dory people there involved, goin', "Yeah, this is a good thing, we gotta get this goin'." It was time.

Mike Taggett was a dory boatman.

The inventor of Chums. Eyeglass retention devices. And Jane. Ellie [Ellen Tibbetts] was around. I imagine Coby was in on a few discussions. You know, it was like whoever we could grab around there. Some of the Sleight boys – Walt, I imagine, was in on a few discussions. Mike Grimes. It became something that really had to be done, and that the time was right for. So we kind of scheduled a time for a spring meeting, and talked it over with Hatch, and went back to Hurricane and did that first newsletter and mailed it out, everybody we could mail it to. Dropped a few bucks on the postage.

Who paid for the postage and all that?

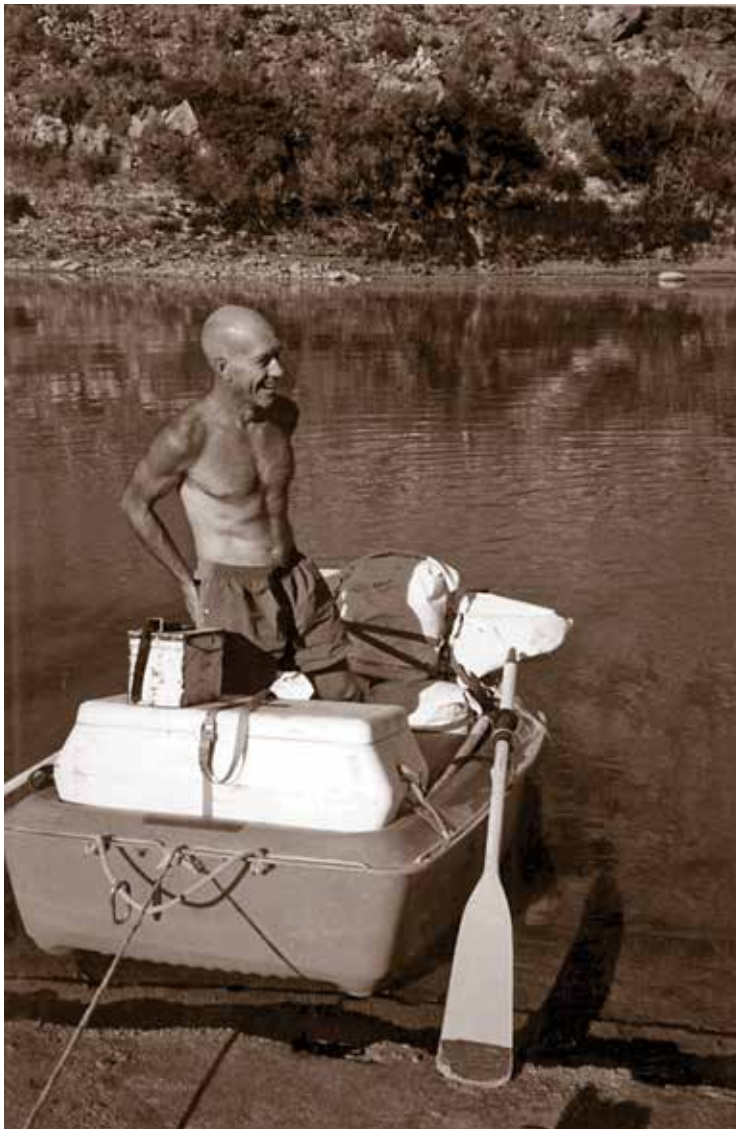
Ah, we did originally. I think we fronted a bunch of money to it. Denise and I. Taggett might have put in a little bit. But then I think everybody got paid back – not for time or anything, but for direct expenses – out of the first dues. It's always pretty much paid for itself. I made it a loan, I think, a \$500 loan, or something like that, early on, but it paid me back – no interest or anything – but short-term loan, too, was paid back within a matter of four or five months ... Yeah, we had a lot of people get on board right away, and then there were a lot of people who were real suspicious of it, really like ...

"Is this gonna be a union?"

Well, it was like the Flagstaff Rowing Mafia. I think there's still a little element of that, you know, though we try our best not to make it that way. I don't feel like I'm Rowing Mafia at all – I love motors, and the best people down there are the motor guides. We're all totally interdependent. I think it works really well the way it is.

You love motors? Why?

Well, they have a place. They take lots of people through very efficiently, which is good or bad for the Canyon. I mean it's *bad* because of this continuing demand, which is just gonna keep growin', to see the place. And that's what we're kinda facin' now, politically, more and more, with the big private waiting list. It's a limited resource, and too many people want to do it. And the more people we show it to, the more people are gonna either want to come back and see it, or tell a friend and they come see it.



Kenton post-hair

John and Loie Evans photo

It's an ever-expanding ripple. You know, you throw a rock in the pool and it just keeps goin' and gettin' bigger and bigger. That's what we're facin' now, and have been for a long time.

So just a little capsule history of GCRG.

Well, maybe we should come back to just the whole reason for guiding and the *good* aspect of all the people that love the Canyon is that, first and foremost, the Canyon is protected. And when we started down there, that wasn't the case.

When you started?

Yeah, it was just barely beyond the dam phase. I mean, the whole political climate in the country has changed that much in the last thirty years. Back then there was still a lot of people – a *whole* lot of people – in favor of

damming the Grand Canyon. We were really more lucky than we realized, not to have 'em.

And that was Martin's legacy that he left us – to, in a way, sacrifice the place by popularizing it, taking people down. That was always his philosophy. I don't think he was ever in it for the money at all. He was in it to tell people about it, and he knew at the same time he did *that*, showed it to people, that it would change the experience, and make it – just crowd the place up. You know, you love it to death *that* way.

But that's far and away preferable to having it under a reservoir. And then I don't think we dreamed in those days that we could even be entertaining something like the Glen Canyon Institute. So who knows where it's gonna go from here?

My sense of the situation is that Grand Canyon River Guides had a lot to do with the Grand Canyon Protection Act, and the Glen Canyon Dam EIS. My sense of it was just by rallying, it wasn't the guides that they listened to, but by us rallying our powerful passengers that we take down, and those guys writing letters to their congressmen, that really helped grease the wheels.

Well, that's just what I'm saying. That's where our strength is, because we're teachers down there, and we can mobilize people with a lot of different strengths in different parts of the country, that come down to, a lot of them, just to *do* it because their friends did, or whatever, and it changes 'em, and they come back out goin', you know, "We've got to do everything we can for this place – and for other places." Yeah, I think we did. Yeah, as I recall, on the Grand Canyon Protection Act, Congress got more mail on that, actual mail, than on any other congressional issue.

Well, what else to we have to say about it? The history of GCRG? What else stands out for you?

Just some great parties. I mean, it *has* made the river community a lot closer. Everybody grumbles about it, that we're not doing anything for the *guides*.

But I think if you look – you don't even have to look closely – to see that a *lot's* happened for the guides. At this point, not for everybody, but the company that I work for, and several other companies, are starting off with 401ks. And they could do a lot better – everybody could – and you're always gonna just keep grumbling about it, but I think the collective energy of just having a guides' organization, that really *does* make a difference – at least in terms of Park Service management policies, and Bureau of Reclamation dam management policies – that gives a credibility that makes the outfitters start to

Vasey, of Paradise

go, "Yeah, these guys really are serious and committed, and maybe they're in there for the long term, and maybe we should start treatin' 'em a little bit better."

So it's like a friendly "union" that hopefully ... I mean, I think it's done a lot for a lot of us, and hopefully in not the too distant future, it'll do more for all of us. I mean, our theory is to *guilt* the outfitters, essentially, into taking better care of the people that are working for them, and for the Canyon. That's a big part of it too. I think our main focus should continue to be the high road, and that's protecting the Grand Canyon, and rivers in general, and sort of a philosophy in general that we want to espouse and pass out to the people that we deal with.

So I think it's done that, will continue to do that, hopefully. I hope we can be proud of it in another fifty years, when we're sittin' around in rockin' chairs.

We did have some good parties, didn't we? (laughter) I can think of a couple in particular. (more laughter)

Oh, man! Hopefully we'll have a bunch more.



Lew Steiger



George Vasey was BORN near Scarborough, England on February 28, 1822. A year later his family moved to Oriskany, New York. The fourth of ten children, Vasey attended school until the age of twelve. During the next year, while working as a store clerk, he became interested in botany and began studying Mrs. Lincoln's *Elements of Botany*. Unable to afford a copy of his own, he copied it entire.

One day a gentleman outside his store stooped down, picked a flower from the sidewalk. "Coming to where I stood," wrote Vasey, "he held up the plant and asked if I knew the name of it. I replied, 'Yes, it is a buttercup.' 'Well,' said he, 'do you know its botanical name?' 'Yes,' I replied, 'it is *Ranunculus acris*.'"

The gentleman turned out to be Dr. P. D. Kneisbern, a noted botanist of the day, and invited Vasey to visit him and study under him. Kneisbern introduced him to renowned botanists Drs. John Torrey and Asa Gray.

Vasey later studied medicine and became a doctor, but his botanical interests eventually drew him back. Now acquainted with the elite of the botanical world, he was introduced to a fellow self-taught scientist, Major John Wesley Powell of Illinois.

Powell invited him on his Colorado Expedition of 1868. Vasey gladly accepted. He traveled with Powell throughout the Rockies that summer and returned to Denver with "a splendid collection which has enriched and enlarged several of the best herbaria of the country."

He was subsequently appointed curator of the Natural History Museum in the State Normal University of Illinois, a position he resigned to become the Botanist of the Department of Agriculture and Curator of the U. S. National Herbarium. His work there included the building

up of the herbarium to one of the greatest in the world. He published extensively and in later life specialized in grasses. He died in Washington on March 4, 1893.

"He was a quiet and dignified gentleman of most kindly feeling and pleasing address. Those connected with him in his work speak with warmth of the pleasant relations he sustained with them. While conscientiously efficient and firm in his duties, his sweetness of disposition made him loved by all. To the narrowing circle of the older botanists who have so long known him and cherished his friendship his loss comes with peculiar force."

Extracted from a eulogy in the 1893 Botanical Gazette, mailed into us by Don Lago.



Hatch History

MOST BOATERS OF THE COLORADO are aware of the John Wesley Powell Museum of River Running History, on the banks of the river, in Green River, Utah (and if you aren't, you should stop by!). Many of you have pointed out to me that even though you've enjoyed visiting the exhibits, you can't help but notice that the Hatch family's contributions to river running history has been neglected in the exhibits. That's what I'm hoping to change.

The pitch: The museum has applied for a \$10,000 grant from the state of Utah to design and mount an exhibit about Bus, Alt, Tom, Cap Mowrey, not to mention Don and Ted and all the other family members who have done so much to make the river experience what it is today. If granted, the state will provide half of that: \$5,000. The museum needs to come up with the rest, and if you've driven through Green River, you know that's a tall order.

We'd like to ask for contributions of anything: cash, artifacts, photographic services, carpentry, just about anything that could go into making this a top quality exhibit. If you have any questions about this, or would like to offer any contributions, please contact me at the address below. I'll be at the GTS this year available for questions. Look for an article about the Hatch boys in the next issue of the BQR. Thanks!

Roy Webb

3389 S. El Rancho Road Salt Lake City, Utah 84109
(801) 277-2570 / (801) 585-3073 <rwebb@library.utah.edu>



NPS Emergency Radio

GRAND CANYON NATIONAL PARK has released the radio frequencies to allow direct communication with NPS Dispatch for emergency purposes. Although only useful in some parts of the Canyon, the uses of these frequencies could improve communication and substantially reduce evacuation time.

These frequencies are available to each outfitter on request and hopefully will be incorporated in their emergency procedures before the beginning of next season. As with other non-licensed radio communication these frequencies are to be used strictly for emergency purposes only (i.e. No ballgame scores!).

We all hope we never have to use it, but we applaud the NPS for opening this potentially life-saving line of communication.



Food Handlers Unite!

AS YOU MAY ALREADY KNOW, at least one person per trip will need to have an official Food Handlers Permit to launch this year. If you want to get yours this spring, here are three being offered:

February 13, noon to 4 p.m. Thomas Auditorium, Old Coconino County Health Center, Fort Valley Road, Flagstaff. Space is limited. Call Lori Lee Staveley for availability, 520 774-4559. \$15.

March 26, 1-5 p.m. New Coconino County Health Department, just off 4th Street, Behind Mega Foods, on 2625 King Street, East Flagstaff.

Call Marlene Gaither for availability, 520 774-8941. \$15 must be paid in advance.

April 22, 9:30-1:30, Kanab Fire Department.

Call Marlene Gaither for availability, 520 774-8941. \$15 must be paid in advance.



Errata

CORRECTIONS, ETC. for Perspectives on the Colorado River Management Plan. Sad but true, mistakes were made.

The credits were incomplete. In the most glaring omission, Shane Murphy's name didn't make it onto the issue anywhere, even though Shane did almost all the advance correspondence and legwork, and, most importantly, asked Ellen Tibbetts to do her wonderful cover piece, which said it all. Tom Moody got short-sheeted in the editorial credits too.

Richard Martin, editor and publisher of the Grand Canyon Private Boater's Association Newsletter, e-mailed a finely wrought commentary this spring, which I completely forgot about when it came time to put the issue together. Noel Eberz sent in an update to his comments that didn't make it in. ROD Nash never meant for us to include the extra article alongside his official comment, and didn't appreciate the clumsy editing job I did to fit it in. Same goes for Tom Martin of the gcpsba, and Bruce Winter, and others I'm sure...

Apologies all around, especially to Shane. Thanks again to you Shane, and to Ellie for the picture worth a million words.



Lew Steiger



Ten who dared: The IMAX Powell crew
 standing: Doug Lawrence, Barney Drake, T, Stuart Reeder, Bruce Simballa, Coby Jordan
 seated: Kenton Garva, Lars Niemi, Peter Dale
 photo Rudi Petschek

1998 Guides Training Seminar

THE DATES ARE SET for the GCRG spring meeting, to be held in conjunction with the annual Guides Training Seminar:

GCRG Spring Meeting **March 27**
GTS Land Session **March 28-29**
GTS River Session **March 31-April 14**

The GTS will be held at the Western River Expeditions warehouse in Fredonia. Look for the GTS announcement flyer in your mailbox in February or call the office for details. The Land Session is open to all members. The River Session is open only to active guides in Grand Canyon.

GTS topics: CRMP and River Science; El Niño, Lake Powell, and Warmer Water in Grand Canyon; Spike Flow-1998; The Birds and the Bees and other Bugs in the Bushes, plus more. Great topics by fine invited speakers. Get a clue on late-breaking news. Plan to attend!

Remember: at the spring meeting you will need to nominate candidates for three board members and the new vice president/president elect. Attend Board meetings now to get yourself up to speed for your candidacy! (It's really not that scary).



Announcements

MEDICAL TRAINING: American Red Cross Emergency Response, April 13-17; Emergency Response Recert, Feb 27-March 1 & April 3-5; River skills and other courses available. Contact Canyonlands Field Institute, Box 68, Moab, UT 84532 or call 435/259-7750. Fax 435/259-2335.

WILL POWERS wrote to say he was the one that sent us the great photo of the bigtop we ran in the last issue. Thanks, Will. By the way, Wilson Begay now owns the bigtop, which will be used for revivals on the Reservation. What could be more perfect?

PAUL NICOLAZZO, Wilderness Medical guru, has founded his own organization, the Wilderness Medicine Training Institute. His new field manual will be published soon. Contact him at P.O.Box 11, Winthrop, WA 98862, 509/996-2502

DEAN WATERMAN, former boatman and welding hero, is now offering ocean cruises in his amazing new 54-foot aluminum ocean cruiser, *La Cumbre*. Contact him through Tim Whitney, Rivers and Oceans, Box 40321, Flagstaff, 520/526-4575



Businesses Offering Support

A FEW AREA BUSINESSES like to show their support for GCRG by offering discounts to members. Our non-profit status no longer allows us to tell you how much of a discount they offer, as that is construed as advertising, so you'll have to check with them. Thanks to all those below.

Expeditions Boating Gear 625 N. Beaver St., Flagstaff	779-3769	Snook's Chiropractic 521 N. Beaver St. #2, Flagstaff	774-9071
Canyon Supply Boating Gear 505 N. Beaver St. Flagstaff	779-0624	Fran Sarena, NCMT, Swedish, Deep Tissue, & Reiki Master	773-1072
The Summit Boating equipment	774-0724	Dr. Mark Falcon, Chiropractor 1515 N.Main, Flagstaff	779-2742
Chums/Hellowear Chums and Hello clothing. Call Lori for catalog	800/323-3707	Five Quail Books—West River books 8540 N Central Ave, #27, Phoenix	602/861-0548
Mountain Sports river related items 1800 S. Milton Rd. Flagstaff	779-5156	Willow Creek Books Coffee and Outdoor Gear 263 S. 100 E. St., Kanab, UT	801/ 644-8884
Aspen Sports Outdoor gear 15 N San Francisco St, Flagstaff	779-1935	Canyon Books Canyon and River books Box 3207, Flagstaff, AZ 86003	779-0105
Teva Sport Sandals and Clothing	779-5938	River Gardens Rare Books first editions 720 S. River Rd. Suite a-114, St. George, UT	801/674-1444 84790
Sunrise Leather, Paul Harris Birkenstock sandals. Call for catalog.	800/999-2575	River Art and Mud Gallery river folk art 720 S. River Rd. Suite A-114, St. George, UT	801/674-1444 84790
River Rat Raft and Bike Bikes and boats 4053 Pennsylvania Ave. Fair Oaks, CA 95628	916/966-6777	Cliff Dwellers Lodge Good food Cliff Dwellers, AZ	355-2228
Professional River Outfitters Equip. rentals Box 635 Flagstaff, AZ 86002	779-1512	Mary Ellen Arndorfer, CPA Taxes 230 Buffalo Trail, Flagstaff, AZ 86001	525-2585
Canyon R.E.O. River equipment rental Box 3493, Flagstaff, AZ 86003	774-3377	Trebon & Fine Attorneys at law 308 N. Agassiz, Flagstaff	779-1713
Winter Sun Indian art & herbal medicine 107 N. San Francisco Suite #1, Flagstaff	774-2881	Yacht True Love Bill Beer, Skipper Virgin Island Champagne Cruises	809/775-6547
Mountain Angels Trading Co. river jewelry, call for catalog Box 4225, Ketchum, ID 83340	800/808-9787	Laughing Bird Adventures Sea kayaking tours Belize, Honduras and the Caribbean.	800/238-4467
The Branch Cabinetry "green" kitchen design and sales Kimberly Sweet, Albuquerque	505/345-5454	North Star Adventures Alaska & Baja trips Box 1724 Flagstaff 86002	800/258-8434
Terri Merz, MFT 1850 East Flamingo Road #137 Las Vegas, NV 89119 Individual/Couples/Family counselling. Depression/Anxiety	702/892-0511	Chimneys Southwest Chimney sweeping 166 N. Gunsmoke Pass, Kanab, UT	801/644-5705 84741
Dr. Jim Marzolf, DDS Dentist 1419 N. Beaver Street, Flagstaff, AZ	779-2393		

Wilderness First Aid Course

Wilderness Review Course February 9-11, 1998 (2-1/2 days)

Prerequisite: must be current wfr, wemt, or wafa by Wilderness Medical Associates.
 (If your previous course was not with wma you'll need to make special arrangements.)
 Cost \$150 plus lodging

Place: Albright Training Center, Grand Canyon National Park South Rim
 Lodging: Albright cabins: \$15/night double occupancy; \$25 single occupancy
 Meals: On your own; small kitchen in each Albright cabin
 Includes 2-year CPR certification

Class size is strictly limited. Guides and private boaters welcome. Send your \$50 *nonrefundable* deposit with the application below to Grand Canyon River Guides to hold a space. The course is already filling, so act now.

1998 Review Course

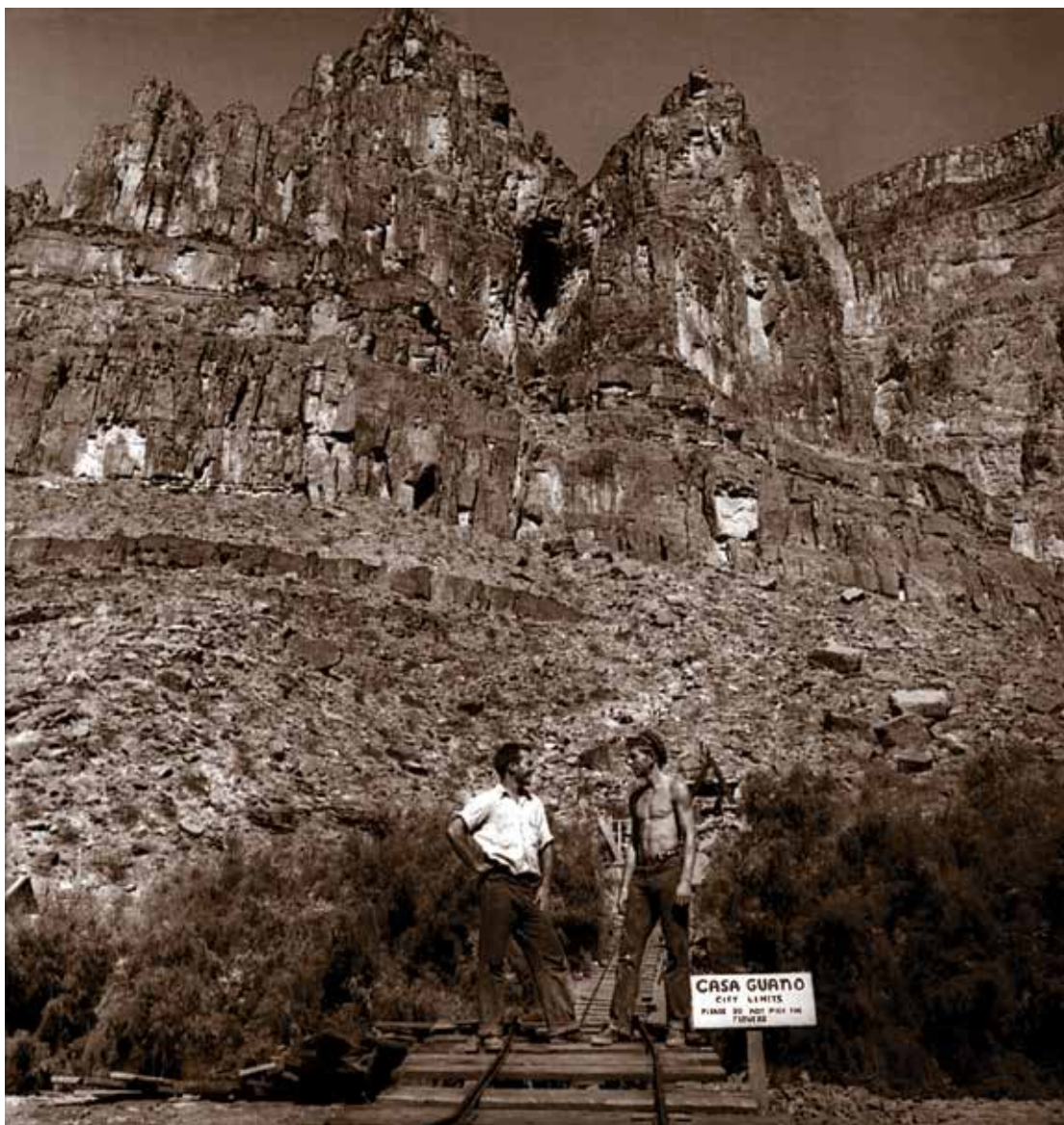
Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone (important!) _____ Outfitter _____
 Guiding since _____ # Trips _____ Type of current first aid _____

Thanks to all you poets, photographers and writers; and to all of you who send us stuff. Don't ever stop. Thanks to Bill Webster for his artwork. Printed with soy bean ink on recycled paper by really nice guys (who accidentally reversed the colors on last issue's cover. But it made it look nice and Halloweeny, didn't it?)

Care to join us?

If you're not a member yet and would like to be, or if your membership has lapsed, get with the program! Your membership dues help fund many of the worthwhile projects we are pursuing. And you get this fine journal to boot. Do it today. **We are a 501(c)(3) tax deductible non-profit organization, so send lots of money!**

<p>General Member Must love the Grand Canyon Been on a trip? _____ With whom? _____</p>	<p>\$25 1-year membership \$100 5-year membership \$277 Life membership (A buck a mile) \$500 Benefactor* \$1000 Patron (A grand, get it!)*</p>	<p>We don't exchange mailing lists with anyone. Period.</p>
<p>Guide Member Must have worked in the River Industry Company? _____ Year Began? _____ Number of trips? _____</p>	<p>*benefactors and patrons get a life membership, a silver split twig figurine pendant, and our undying gratitude. \$100 Adopt your very own Beach: _____ \$_____ donation, for all the stuff you do.</p>	
<p>Name _____ Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____</p>	<p>\$16 Short sleeved T-shirt Size _____ \$18 Long sleeved T-shirt Size _____ \$24 Wallace Beery shirt Size _____ \$10 Baseball Cap \$10 GTs Kent Frost Poster (Dugald Bremner photo)</p>	
<p>Total enclosed _____</p>		



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Flagstaff, AZ 86002

*Early days at Casa Guano (Please do not pick the flowers)
This is one of a portfolio of photographs by Bill Belknap featured in this issue.
Bill Belknap Collection, Special Collections, Cline Library, Northern Arizona University,
NAU. PH. 96.4.52.3*

boatman's quarterly review

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