



boatman's quarterly review

the journal of Grand Canyon River Guides, Inc.

volume 7 number 4 fall 1994

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1955

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Barry Goldwater

My grandfather used to trade on the river. He hauled his supplies up from the mouth of the river, in boats, and founded the town of Ehrenberg, and settled at La Paz. So the family sort of got its start on the Colorado River. That's what made me interested in it. The Grand Canyon I first saw when I was about eight or nine years old.

Someplace in all my junk I've got a picture that Emery took out of his studio, starting down. I was just a little thing... I walked down and rode the mule back up.

I don't think it occurred to anybody much then, to run the river. Nobody had run it in many years, and then about 1923, I think it was, the dam projects came down. There were twenty-three dam sites on the Colorado River, and they were trying to pick out the dam sites that might be most beneficially built. That was way before the fight started between people who wanted dams and people who didn't want dams. That came... Oh, that was later. That was probably in the 1940s.

I was reading a newspaper one day, and I saw an article in it that a man in Mexican Hat was going to go down the river, and he was going to take passengers. His name was Norman Nevills.



A laundromat at Diamond Creek 1940

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The New Super

I had the good fortune to meet Rob Arnberger, the new superintendent, shortly after he arrived at the Canyon. In fact, I got to take him on a fairly juicy ride through Kwagunt in the front of my dory. Great fun.

He is a gregarious, earnest and unpretentious man who prefers "Rob" to "Mr. Superintendent." He told me a bit about having come here from Big Bend where he served as superintendent for the last few years, and about having grown up in the NPS—his father finished up his career as superintendent of Yosemite in the '70s. He said GCRG's hue and cry about the need for a long term superintendent here was heard loud and clear and that, yes, the Canyon does deserve continuity and yes, he plans to be here for some time—as long as he can.



Superintendent Rob Arnberger - day 6 in office

Rob related this tale. He was in Washington for a few days before coming to his new post here, and he ran into an old friend that used to work at Grand Canyon. The friend who, according to Rob, normally doesn't offer advice, said, "Arnberger, I'm going to give you two pieces of advice. First," he said, pointing downward, "the Grand Canyon is *down there*."

"Second," he said, pointing outward, "there's a North Rim. It's *over there*."

A few days after arriving at Canyon, he took the opportunity to join a river trip. When asked on the ramp how he liked his park, he responded that it belonged to the public and his job was to work for them.

A few days later, while hiking out of the Canyon with Tom Moody, he said, "There's one very important thing I learned the last few days on the river. This is my park and I'm going to take care of it!"

It looks like Grand Canyon may get the type of stewardship it deserves. We hope so.

Welcome aboard, Rob. 🍷

Brad Dimock

boatman's quarterly review

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

Grand Canyon River Guides
is a nonprofit organization dedicated to

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

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\$20	per year
\$100	6 years
\$195	Life
\$277	Benefactor

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Our editorial policy, such as it is: provide an open forum. We need articles, poetry, stories drawings, photos, opinions, suggestions, gripes, comics, etc.

Written submissions should be 1500 words or less and, if at all possible, be sent on a computer disk. PC or MAC format; ASCII files are best but we can translate most programs. Send an SASE for submission guidelines.

Deadlines for submissions are the 1st of January, April, July and October, more or less. The earlier, the better. Thanks.

Dimock

Every day he never combs his hair. His shirt is always half tucked-in. Maybe he's shaved. Maybe not.

Dimock is extremely good at deflecting topics not open to discussion. "Let's get in the car," he says, seeming to avoid the conversation. But he is thinking. You can almost smell the grey matter burning, the intensity of his observation and the silent, self absorbed question which follows: "Do I call Huey—or—is this guy gonna make it through the trip?"

Dimock can talk airplanes for hours, no matter how much beer he's had, or Grand Canyon continuously, beer or not. If he is not talking about Grand Canyon, he writes about it. Or boats it. Or hikes. Or reads: books all over his house. Thousands of books, manuals, papers, envelopes, table after bench after chair cluttered with this amalgam of obscure information in piles. In piles or loose or all stacked caddywampus to the world. Period.

Six a.m. in the morning. At the airport he's touch and go, ten times he's touch and go under simulated crash conditions; simulated fog approach; wind sheer take-offs; you name it doing nothing but zooming around at six a.m. And he wonders continuously even then, his long fingers close to his chest, playing tarantulas against themselves when the going gets tough. Auto pilot. When the realization strikes, the hands flash skyward in front of the wide open eyeballs still zooming around in space.

"Fabulous!" No matter the obstacle, he feels "Perfect!" Today he is late. Hangover. But he has made it. Every day. Regardless. Always the questions, hundreds of them, and always at once. "What happens when...? Hey, cool! Let's move this over there... Now, what if...? Never Better!!"

There are 7 pieces of paper sitting on the desk in front of me, like cards fanned across a blackjack table. "Whatdaya wanna do with this one?" he asks. Comes another. "Would you print this?" I read it. And another: "Well!" We talk about commas. We are in the last few hours of editing the *bqr*, Volume 7, Number 3. So far it's been 8 hours a day for 4 days straight. Dimock speaks: A story about the earliest, darkest days at Hibernacle. He didn't know squat about typing or computers. He worked hunt and peck style. Letter-word-sentence. Paragraph. Page. Another page. On and on for days and days. When almost done, near dead from exhaustion and frustration, he pushed the wrong button. The computer burped. One second later it showed a single comma where twenty pages had been. Damn!

Ten minutes later I do the same thing with the *bqr*. My maiden voyage, 36 pages long. "What did you do?!" he demands. I dunno! It disappeared!! "That's why we made two backups!" thunders Dimock, throwing me out of the pilot's seat.

More corrections. Another backup copy. Off to the printer we go. "Oh well! You could go over it all over again and come up with twice as many corrections." Three or four side trips. Back in town he shakes my hand. "Wanna grab a beer?"

Naw. But thanks. I'm nowhere close, even on commas. Besides, this isn't about commas. This is not even about Dimock. It's about how, for years, Dimock has been everywhere at once. If not in person or on paper then in his head.

Energy. Pure, raw energy coupled to an exceptionally bright, curious mind searching-out the solution to a challenge he's presented himself. Across the room, down the river or off to lunch he goes. In those huge flops. Always thinking. Always in motion. Always. "Gotta fix the boat," he erupts, bounding up the stairs. Dimock: that weird hairdo and oversized sweater and electric grin and wide, penetrating eyes. Flaps down and prop shut, a bunch of poles stuck into the sky with an old Avon PRO wrapped tight in the corner. "Help me carry this downstairs," grunts Dimock, already half done with it. And then gone. In that old turquoise Cadillac with the weird Anasazi handprint flags over the hood and a PRO in the trunk. I said: Gone! But not far. Not for long. Thank God.

When the *bqr* hits the street my error leaps off the page at me. Plain as the pimple on your nose, that one! And the next one, too... How could I have missed all these things? Maybe it was the hour. Maybe the day. Maybe not. Who knows?

Dimock knew. And he let me fumble through that thing all by my lonesome. Not to mention he saved my you-know-what. And he more-or-less patiently let me piddle around for hours while he rode shotgun. Because he knew I would later stand at the mailbox and stare into the thing and realize I'd become President of Grand Canyon River Guides, something he had once done.

I do not like to think about it. There is only one Dimock. ☿

Shane Murphy

Forum

Coconino County Department of Public Health Dispatch

(excerpted and edited)

River Illness Update. During the month of July, 107 commercial passengers and their guides [the number of private river runners is unknown] became ill while rafting the Colorado River. They experienced nausea, abdominal cramps, vomiting and diarrhea that lasted 1.25 days. The range was 12 hours to 2 days. The outbreak appears to have ended. Few cases have been reported since August 1st. The CDC issued a preliminary report stating that the etiological agent is unknown. Not enough stool samples could be obtained [5 samples out of 433 persons interviewed]. In June, 1995, NPS, the University of Arizona and Coconino County Health Department will examine water samples for pathogens such as *Giardia* and *Cryptosporidium*. Until the cause of the outbreak is determined, the following procedures should be followed: To effectively treat surface waters such as the Colorado River and its tributaries, first filter with a device using a pore size of .2 microns, or less, followed by disinfection with 2 drops of chlorine per quart of water. Allow the water to sit, and vent, for 30 minutes. Other filtration methods, like those using a UV light may also be effective, provided the manufacturer's instructions are followed and reasonable precautions are taken.

Waterborne Disease Workshop. Conducted by Dr. Chuck Gerba, a widely respected expert in the, uh, field... There are many thousands of protozoan species. Only 20 are known to cause disease in humans. But at any given moment one quarter of mankind is afflicted with severely debilitating diseases visited on us by the Gang of Twenty. Pathogenic protozoans come in four main groups: flagellates, amoebas, ciliates, sporozoans. These cysts are passed through feces into the environment and frequently reach water sources where they are ingested by humans, river runners among them. *Giardia lamblia* is on top of the list. This flagellate can infect any warmblooded animal. It is also called "Beaver's Revenge" because, it is said, Beaverkind picked-up the disease from humans and, in turn, contaminated the water we drink.

Hepatitis A Alert. Since January 1, 1994, over 200 confirmed cases of Hepatitis A have been reported in Coconino County. At present, the incidence seems to be declining. This condition is normally present where sanitation is primitive, where water is polluted with human sewage, when infected food handlers contaminate food, or if shellfish are harvested from polluted waters. Hepatitis A, caused by a virus, infects via fecal

and oral transmission. Onset of the disease is from 15 to 50 days after infection. Which is bad news if you're a food handler—you can infect plenty of people before you "get sick." The FDA has reacted by adding new handwash requirements in a new Model Food Code: food handlers will wash their hands twice after using the restroom, with the aid of a fingernail brush, along with dispensed soap and sanitary hand drying devices like disposable towels. Air drying works, too. Onset is usually abrupt, with fever, malaise, nausea and abdominal discomfort, followed by jaundice. Hepatitis A varies from mild—1 to 2 weeks—to a severely disabling disease lasting a month or longer. Severity increases with age. The general fatality rate is .1%. Infected children do not usually evidence jaundice.

Grand Canyon River Guides Dispatch

(likewise excerpted and edited)

Ever notice that the sicker you think you are, the sicker you get? First its a headache, then a cough and temperature, then bed. Pretty soon you can't go to school. The doctor comes. He calls an ambulance. You hate the hospital. How sick do you want to be? If you were a kid, and sick in Grand Canyon, you'd probably start out with THE CRUD, severe abdominal discomforts with accompanying side effects. You are out-of-it. For a day or two. That's something that hits the occasional Grand Canyon boater. Just like normal. THE CRUD is nothing new in these parts. Is it new anywhere? One day comes somebody with... THE CRUD? Uh...? Then somebody else on the same trip. Then several. Then the guide—or did it start with the guide? Pretty quick NPS knows. Then County Health is FAXing CDC... *Colorado River Illness*. A study group is on-scene. CNN and newspapers are on this one. National news. The phone rings. From Syracuse: I just heard... Suddenly we've got an epidemic on our hands. Which means if you're not confined to bed, you're a nurse. If you're not doing that, you're deciding on an alternate vacation.

I'm not going to debate if people got sick on the river this year. You bet they did. Real sick. I would like to know why. And I'd like to know if this outbreak was an especially virile episode of THE CRUD or something different. True, a few trips saw plenty of sick folks. Lets face it, that happens once in a while. That is an accident—and accidents happen. Ask anybody that drives a boat. It's also, probably, not THE CRUD. It's something else.

But I am going to debate if we've got an epidemic

on our hands. I say no. I say that 107 known cases in a population of about 22,000 visitors is less than 1%. In terms of statistical significance, 1% usually doesn't mean much—which has nothing to do with if it happened or not. Of course it happened. Anybody who ever got sick on a Grand Canyon river trip knows what I mean by that. Its the last thing people want down there. Its the last thing people want anywhere. I also say people get sick for various reasons. Pretrip anxieties, for some the number of days spent away from a flush toilet, the effects of Mexican Night and its main component, Tequila, or both, or are you dehydrated, or pregnant, or what? I'm not saying it can't happen again, that "the outbreak" shouldn't be better understood or studied or that river guides shouldn't be further educated. I am saying there's nothing out of the ordinary happening here. Not really. Except more regulations. I further say: Educate. Don't legislate... Please don't legislate. The wider the parameters, the sicker you get. I'm saying 1% is not 99%. Don't turn the boat upside-down. CRUD is not Colorado River Illness (CRI). It was never meant to be. It is, whatever it is, further, not an epidemic. Please turn off your camera. Thank you. Goodnight.

But I Can't Sleep...

As we go to press, Colorado River commercial guides and outfitters face Coast Guard certification, inspection, rule and regulation.

This is good. Good because, after you're certified, you're not stuck in Grand Canyon to get old and creaky. You can apprentice yourself on rivers all over the country, or world. When you get very old you can retire to the deep blue sea.

And bad. Really bad. More time. More money. Travel. Tests. Another paper. Another physical. Another license. Inspections. Running lights; bells; whistles. Rites of passage. This one's pretty scary. If Coast Guard Grand Canyon regulations become a reality, they'll mean the end of Grand Canyon boatmen.

River runners, not just in Grand Canyon, are today's mountain men, fur trappers and whitewater renegades. We're throwbacks to the old days. We are modern Hudson's Bay Company voyagers. Culturally, this is our history, our heritage, and, more than anything, our hope. We do what we do because we agree with what has gone before, and wish to carry it on. Early river runners were a breed apart. They sought the freedom found only on moving water, in rock walls, with starlit nights. They understood hope and majesty. Once in a while they took friends. The industry we choose to inherit, they defined. And now,

although the times have changed, "the river" is still our home, our peace, quietude, our great solace, our dream. Our bread and butter. And wine. It is everything important and fine to us. Everything.

And nothing. Nothing if we cannot maintain our unique heritage. As a matter of cultural integrity, we must remain singular and committed to our wilderness upbringing, lifestyle and future—our past. But, at present, we are being regulated out of existence. Professional guides must be so many places to be certified and inspected and schooled and otherwise inculcated that we have little time for the river itself—the very thing we love most. Our individuality is disappearing, if not already having vanished. But we are the experts here. We are not interested in the modern world. In Grand Canyon, we should be certifying the US Coast Guard. You never know when you'll need a swamper.

River runners know the Colorado River like the US Coast Guard could never imagine. We know because we learned the hard way. We figured it out by ourselves. We were shuttle drivers and deck mates and galley slaves and go-fers before we were boatmen or company owners. These days we are a community, tried and true. We have been there. We are "there" now more than ever. Our tests came from the school of hard knocks, and sometimes from NPS. There were plenty of chances to fail our exams. But we didn't flunk the course. We are still trappers. We will remain trappers, voyagers. And, like Hudson's Bay Company, we won't kill all the beaver. Not all at once. Not yet.

Shane Murphy



Untangling the Bureaucratic Web

The National Park Service already has a licensing system in place for Grand Canyon boatmen, who take a written test every three years to recertify. If the Coconino County Health Department, the US Coast Guard or any other agency feels that something in our training is "missing", wouldn't it make sense to integrate that additional training into the system already in place?

Already the operating requirements address health and safety issues. Augmenting our study materials and adding a few questions to the written test sounds a great deal simpler than having already overburdened governmental agencies independently develop expensive, new training and testing programs.

Jeri Ledbetter

Dear Eddy

Comments, Ideas, Rebuttals and So Forth

♦♦♦ I cannot agree more with Dan Dierker. If a person is at risk and is in a position of contracting *Hepatitis B* I hope he/she will spend the time, effort, and money to get the inoculation series.

I make this statement from experience. I contracted the disease three years ago. The symptoms developed six weeks after returning from crewing my third Grand Canyon river trip. My doctor and two specialists have yet to determine how I got *Hep B*, for I came in contact with nothing "unusual" on this trip, nor have I ever had acupuncture, gotten a tattoo, or done drugs of any kind; I haven't ever had an allergy shot!

The point is that I'm one of the lucky ones; *Hep B* kills an average of 5,000 around the world annually. I was not expected to live, and my doctors prepared my family for the worst. After a period of hospitalization and three months away from work, I gradually recovered. I have also survived two years of blood tests and monitoring. In July I was told that I no longer required any sort of testing. I am considered "cured." But I cannot donate blood, or organs after my death. People need to be educated about this potentially fatal disease and how to avoid it. Thanks for printing Dan's column...

Amy White



Woody Reiff takes great exception to being named as the welder in the Bob Quist story last issue—the welder of the frame that fell apart.

"I've made some mistakes in my day; we all have. But that wasn't one of them. That was my son Chuck. He's made some mistakes too."

We stand corrected.

As an out of town and out of state full time Grand Canyon river guide I am concerned when I see more requirements being placed on us. I understand the need for education, but when I see a course being offered at specific times and locations I get upset. Does this mean I will have to make another nonpaid trip to Flagstaff to take this course? Or will I have to shell out for a place to stay and meals so I can take this course?

There are many full and part time guides that work in the Canyon and live out of the Flagstaff area. I think any course you plan on must be available on demand 5 days a week and all summer. A solution would be to video tape a course and speakers and then have a place where we can go watch the tape and take a test. If a tape is too expensive, then a written manual and a written test. Making someone come to a live course that is only offered a few times will be a major problem and headache for all parties, besides an expensive ordeal.

There is no best place or time—we all have many varied agendas in our daily lives so your course must be flexible and able to take anytime. NPS has done this with both the guide license test [yes] and the first aid course and testing [no]. GCRG should follow their lead.

Larry Hopkins

[editor's note: Sounds like a great idea. Do you want to volunteer to set it up?]

Whatever the name, the GCRG JOURNAL (a good name!) is an outstanding publication, in style and content. A yuppie name? Why not, since the river trippers are an elitist group of upper middle-class/upper class citizens and visitors. Certainly *middle* America can't support outfitters & boatmen - women - persons) (take your pick.)

And, to the person disgruntled at the building of a new bridge at M.C., the reason is that the old one was unsafe for heavy traffic. In fact, it is wise never to go on the bridge at the same time as an 18-wheeler, or indeed, you may be the one who discovers this fact too late.

Rona Levin
Marble Canyon

The Times They Are A-changin'

Some things never change... or so it seems. Year after year the canyon walls appear the same, resisting the forces of nature and man. The same alcove in the same place, the tiny drip, the favorite rock to tie to. And then something starts to go, the last straw gives way and the rock shelf tumbles down or the talus slope begins to slip. The next trip we notice it. There is change and we take pains to point it out simply for its uniqueness. We often think of government in the same light, cast in stone and unchanging. Certain agencies, it would seem, will never change. Take the Bureau of Reclamation for instance. But believe it or not, it's changing.

If there has been a devil incarnate in Grand Canyon over the past 40 years it has been the Bureau of Reclamation. Reclamation (as they choose to be called) provided the concrete plug that choked Glen Canyon, that drowned the canyons above. But the world today is very different from 30 years ago. The era of large reclamation projects is over; no more large dams will be built on the rivers of the United States. What happens to a reclamation agency when reclamation dies? Where do dam builders go if dams are not going to be built? That question has not been lost on this agency over the past 10 years. If you want to survive, you find a new mission. And if you control much of the water in the West, managing water resources might be a good direction. The Bureau of Reclamation is moving.

Fundamental changes have occurred within the agency that send our carefully crafted characterizations of these dam builders crashing to the ground. To begin with, present Commissioner Dan Beard is the principal author of the Grand Canyon Protection Act! In fact, over the past decade, as a member of Congressman George Miller's staff, Dan Beard has been a strong and influential advocate of water reform throughout the west. In addition the agency is downsizing, its budget request is down 12%. And possibly nearest to our hearts: the Concrete Dams Division has been

abolished! What is happening to our devil?

I was recently asked by Commissioner Beard to join a very special trip through the canyon. This trip, funded by Reclamation but run under AZRA's commercial permit, brought together a disparate group. Trip members included a vegetable grower from California's Central Valley, a lawyer from the Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund, and Reclamation employees from D.C. and the western regions. Joining Commissioner Beard as well were Hopi Chairman Ferrill Secakuku and new Grand Canyon Superintendent Rob Amberger. Agriculture has historically been the

primary customer of Reclamation. Now western water has other demands: urban, tribal, and environmental. The participants of this trip represented those constituencies: old and new.

Lively discussions on the boats and in camp centered on many of the concerns facing the west today—endangered species, over-allocated resources, and burgeoning demands. If there was one area of agreement from the group it was that there must be new and inventive approaches to water problems, that all sides must communicate, and that the Bureau of Reclamation could be a

positive force in crafting these solutions.

Change goes on around us all of the time but, viewed from within, it often seems infinitely slow. And then every once in a while one gets a chance to see changes that can only be described as dramatic. The Bureau of Reclamation is changing quickly. From our position the change is obvious and positive, Reclamation wants to stop being part of the problem and start being part of the solution. Like the loss of the evil empire with the end of the Cold War, this will certainly take some getting used to. But as we adjust and gain confidence we will find that it is infinitely better to have the resources of this agency beside us rather than against us. ♪

Tom Moody

For me this trip, like all canyon trips, is a jumble of individual memories, each rich in meaning. The memory that to me best demonstrates the changes I describe has to do with Larry Van Thun, an engineer with the BuRec Denver office. Larry has an intense love of geology and scampered over the talus slopes and up the dry drainages at every opportunity. No one on the trip was more affected by the canyon's magic. He even made up a mnemonic to remember the Paleozoic layers from the bottom up.

Time By Many Routes, Sculptured History, Concealed To Keep.

Larry also led the reorganization of Reclamation's Denver office, the process that eliminated the Concrete Dams Division. At that time Larry served as head of the Concrete Dams Division. The times they are a changin'.

Willie Taylor Revisited

Somewhere buried in my files is an old black and white photo of six greying men, standing before a rock wall, heads bared and lowered, giving their last respects to their old friend, Willie Taylor. As the youngest of the group, and a new friend



At Willie Taylor's Burial. Left to right: Garth Marston, Hugh Cutler, Josh Eisaman, Joe Deelodge, Ballard Atherton, "Dock" Marston, and partly off camera, Rod Sanderson. Photo by Bill Beer

of Willie's, I felt no disrespect in stepping back from the semicircle of mourners and snapping a couple of photos. One of these was published in the LA Times and in subsequent years several of those men asked for and received a print.

"Dock" said he was glad I took the picture as the others were too saddened to think of it.

As one of those few left alive who buried Willie, I would like to put down just what did happen. There may be a lesson in it for many of us.

We were in three of Marston's aluminum boats—the ones the Sanderson's later took over. Willie was assigned as a passenger in my boat. I was the boatman despite the fact that Willie, who was on the *Esmeralda* and other power boat expeditions, had far more



Willie's last day on the river. Left to right: Willie Taylor, Bill Beer, Josh Eisaman, courtesy Bill Beer

experience (I believe he had dumped a boat once and swore off piloting evermore). The second day out, Willie complained of "acid stomach" and we camped early to give him some rest. Josh Eisaman, MD, was one of us, but he was an ObGyn. Next morning Willie felt a little better and we pressed on, then had to stop and lay him down on the sand at Redwall Cavern. Willie was clearly sick. Josh began to suspect heart trouble, but I don't recall his even having a stethoscope. The group decided (and here I must say we had some very high powered CEOs who weren't terribly decisive that day) to continue on as better than staying at Redwall. Willie agreed. We piled up bags, etc., so Willie could be comfortable as possible in my boat, but not too many miles down, he was in greater distress. We put in at Mile 44.5 to camp for the day; as I recall it was before lunch. Willie lay on the sand for only ten minutes or so, groaning a bit, and died quietly. Josh then confirmed his earlier diagnosis.

Naturally, the "what to do" question came up. Not to correct Jerry [Sanderson, *bpr* 7:3; *Where it All Started*], but we didn't take a secret ballot. "Dock" thought we ought to carry Willie's body to Phantom and pack it out. The "right thing to do" syndrome. We could have made it before dark easily. Most of the group seemed to agree. I didn't, and hated to see the trip disrupted—I barely knew Willie and no consequences of the decision would reach me. When I pointedly asked "Dock" to whom Willie's body would be shipped, he got the point. There was no heir, no family. We had no radio, nor access to helicopter service. And whether Willie had ever expressed any desire to be buried in the Canyon, I never knew, but the group immediately agreed that that was what he would have wanted.

So we buried him, crudely carved his name and date in the rock visible in the photo, and stopped at Phantom two days later to call the sheriff and NPS. Both were unhappy, but thanks to Josh we did have a physician to certify cause of death. Faced with a fait accompli, the authorities punted.

The lesson isn't in the burial, but the heart attack. Knowing what to look for and what to do cannot be underestimated. I've had three passengers die of heart attacks on my daysail schooner here in the Virgin Islands. And a couple of them who lived. Know whom to suspect (mostly overweight, middle aged men) and be very ready, mentally and otherwise. I'm not so sure, for example, that a little oxygen in the First Aid box isn't such a bad idea. 🐾

Bill Beer

Garth Marston on Willie Taylor

Garth Marston told a group of us his account of Willie Taylor's passing as we stood at the grave on September 11, 1994.

Well Garth, tell us a story.

Garth: Well, it's a true story. I can't tell you that. [laughter]

Voice: Were you on the trip?

Garth: Yeah. Yeah.

Voice: Using your boat?

Garth: Um hmm. And, uh, we'd known Willie for years. Friend of my dad's. Who drank too much, smoked too much and sang tenor...not enough. He was a friend of my dad's from the Bohemian Club. He came down the river, I think, two, two and a half times. And this last one being the half time. [noise from group] Huh? Four times?

Voice: The plaque says four times.

Garth: Four times? That's good. Cause he just loved it and as I said he was a bachelor. Okay, so then the event takes place, and he had a heart attack. Did he have one or two heart attacks before he had the major one that killed him? I'm not sure about that. What I do know is that he had some problems the day before. And everybody was concerned about him.

Now one of the questions that people often ask: "Why don't you just crank up the motors and go?" We were in outboards—we had twin thirties I think. So, you know, from here on down to Phantom Ranch and a helicopter it isn't really very far away. But the problem was that the water was coming up and this place here was filled with debris, with sticks and logs and we kept shearing pins, you know. Try to go someplace and all of a sudden: Prrrrr... So we really had no way of getting him out—any way that we could think about. We probably would have used the same technique that we used in the jet trip when Bill Austin fractured his leg, and we went down and summoned a helicopter and the helicopter came in the next morning and flew Bill in. Could of done the same thing for Willie if we could have gotten someplace, to a telephone for example.

So then we pulled in and we worked on him the day before... (we, uh... broad we...) we'd worked on him the day before and he was generally hurting. And we got him in the boat the next morning and, uh, he couldn't take it after just a minute or two and he said... [sniffle]... can't tell you... [pause to pull it together] uh... [long pause] "I'm gonna die."

So we took him over to the shore.
[group becomes audibly emotional as well]

Garth: Sorry.

Voice: You have us going too.

Garth: Anyway, we brought him over to the side and put him up. It was about ten o'clock, you know, right about now. And I went down to do something with the... with the boat.

And the guys came around the corner and one said, "Well, we're looking for something to bury Willie in."

And then the other decision was, what do you do with him? Do you leave him here? Or do you take him back out to, um, Berkeley or wherever? And the decision was made, I think, without dissent, I've never heard that there was any dissent. The decision was made to bury him here. He loved the Canyon, more than anything he's ever done outside. And he was a bachelor, and he owned Taylor's Leather Goods on the east side of Shattuck Avenue. And so there was really no reason to haul him out.

And here's a sort of macabre aspect of this thing. They wrapped him in a tarp, like the kind we all use every night, wrapped him in a tarp. And we buried him right here, just the, you know, whoever remained, seven or eight or nine. And we got down to Phantom Ranch. And the guy, the ranger came out, you know, and he didn't say "Hello, it's a nice day, how was your trip?" "To hell with you guys, you're illegal," et cetera. He didn't say that. The first thing he said, before even saying hello is "By the way, you guys, I'm here to tell you that if you ever lose anybody on the river, don't pack him in a tarp, just dig him in and let the bugs start working on him right away."

And I just... I've thought about that, you know, since then... I say "Here's a guy with tender feelings." But no, he didn't know that Willie was dead. He had no idea. [laughter]

So there was no, there were no repercussions about, that I was ever aware of, that Willie, that we buried him here. I guess we had to get, what do you have to get, a birth certificate? Or a death certificate? [mumbled concurrence] Birth, death, yeah, right, you have to get a certificate. And I don't think there was any problem with it.

So, that, in general, is the story which I think is, well relatively, close enough. We keep building the story up and it makes a good one. ☹



Tad Nichols



John Cross Jr. and Sr.



Les Jones



Kathryn Jones

Old Timers Trip



Lew Steiger,
trying to take it all in

I guess I'm like many early '70s boatmen that first learned the river from Bill Belknap's old blue river guide, staring at the pages and pictures until each caption was engraved in my brain: "First women to traverse the canyon, Dr. Elzada Clover and Lois Jotter, in 1938"... "Jim and Bob Rigg set speed record in 1951, rowing a Nevills cataract boat through the canyon in 2 1/2 days"... "Girls grill golden brown porkchops where Powell party stretched meager rations." If someone had told me back then that twenty years later I'd be spraddled fisheye on the deck of a Cataract boat with Bob Rigg at the oars and Lois Jotter in the back seat, I'd have been mighty dubious. And if that same someone had added that Garth Marston, Kent Frost, Les Jones, Norm Nevills' daughters Joan and Sandy, Gene Shoemaker, Martin Litton, Tad Nichols, and John Cross Sr. and Jr. and others would all be on the trip as well... yeah, right.

But there they all were last month, some with their spouses. Harvey Butchart and Don and Mary Harris showed up at the Ferry to see us all off. I was one of several lucky guides that had the honor of being on the crew led by the unflappable Alistair Bleifuss: two motor rigs, two dories and a Cataract boat. Scientists Bob Webb and Ted Melis had put the trip together as part of their debris flow and repeat photography studies. The purpose was to delve into the hundreds of years of Grand Canyon memories on board. When did House Rock change? Where were the beaches? What happened at Boucher? Is Lava different? How many different Crystals do you remember?

Tad Nichols reshot many of his old 1950s pictures, many of them now sans-sand.



Garth Marston



Shirley Marston



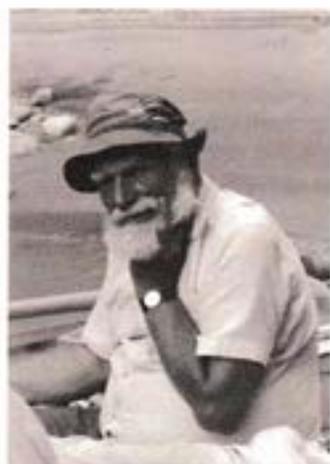
Lois Jotter Cutter and Don Harris



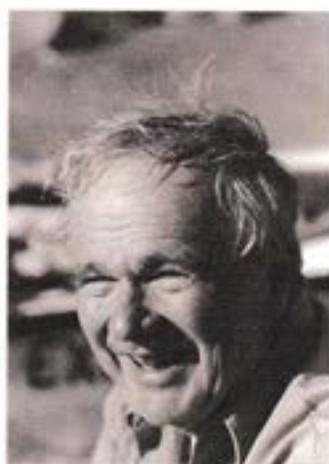
Kent Frost



Woody Reiff



Martin Litton



Gene Shoemaker

John Cross Jr. described in detail what it was like being the first boatman at Crystal in 1967. Bob Rigg dated the mystery debris flow at Boucher. Lois Jotter Cutter added botanical information. Everybody added something at each site; some added a lot.

But some of us on the crew had ulterior motives. Stories (also called history). The rescue of the Esmeralda; John Cross Jr.'s five day jet boat run that took a month; Kent Frost's 1939 hike/log raft/primitive boat/living off the land/hitchhiking trip through Glen Canyon; Lois's tales from the '38 trip; Martin's tales of the battles to save Grand Canyon and the dories' first impromptu run of Lava, straight off the ledge; Garth Marston on Willie Taylor. There was an ample supply, and Lew Steiger and his film man Jeff worked down to dusk recording it all with occasional help and kibbitzing from Roy Webb, Karen Underhill, myself, and others. We now have enough oral history to fill our pages for years to come.

I had the special honor of joining Bob Rigg in the Bonnie Anne, a Cataract boat he borrowed from Jack Treece, a gracious friend who did occasional trips with Mexican Hat Expeditions way back when. I got to learn the fine old art of Cataract rowing from a true pro: Major Powelling backward off the side of the

tongue, pivoting and sliding off to the side of the biggest waves. I also got to learn what happens when you put one in a particularly big crashing wave. Gets pretty wet. And if you're sideways... well, suffice it to say it gets a lot wetter.

But the best part of the trip was getting to know the truly wonderful people behind those legendary names. Superstars one and all, each one a monument to the honorable trade of Grand Canyon boating. We'll be printing their stories for some time to come.

Special thanks go to Diane Grua who worked tirelessly to put things together, to Dave Wegner for his support, and to the NPS, BoR, USGS, GCES and everyone else involved. It was, and I'm not kidding, the coolest trip I've ever been on.

A few choice comments:

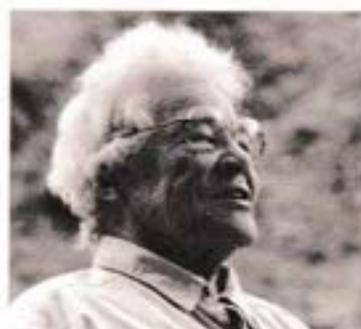
Bob Rigg to Tad Nichols, day 3: "We've seen more people today than we saw in several years."

Lois Jotter Cutter, on which days she wanted to ride in a rowboat: "I'd prefer to be in a rowboat on the big water days—I just don't feel safe on those big rubber things." 🐕

Brad Dimock



Kent Frost and Bob Rigg



Lois Jotter Cutter



Bandy Reiff-Nevills
Joan Nevills Staveley

The Beat Generation was in full swing; Kerouac published *On The Road*. James Dean starred in *Rebel Without A Cause*. Rosa Parks refused to surrender her seat to another passenger, a white man, during a bus ride in Montgomery, Alabama. General Motors, the world's largest corporation, managed a budget equal to that of Communist Poland. The AFL and CIO, separate labor unions, merged: America produced one-half of the world's durable goods. One million people quit the farm and moved to town, or more likely, "suburbs." Everyone started using first names. "Mixed marriage" meant between Christians and people of other religious persuasions.

Einstein died. Elvis Presley dressed in gold lamé garments; Liberace and his mother followed suit, so to speak. Adlai Stevenson was called the country's "ranking egghead." America's Interstate Highway System was proposed at a cost of \$25,000,000,000. President Eisenhower suffered a heart attack—the Dow Jones average dropped to 444.56 points, the worst crash since 1929. Only the military used jet airplanes. Fifteen percent of Americans had never been 250 miles from their homes. When traveling, people went by train; one in four Americans spent a night in Pullman cars during the era. Shopping centers sprang up in wide macadam parking lots. Frozen vegetables wrapped in DuPont Cellophane awaited sale in "supermarkets" where National cash registers figured change, and displayed the correct amount automatically.

A Mallory Piafelt fedora cost \$10. An Alligator brand gabardine overcoat "water repellent and processed for year 'round wear" went for \$40.75. Capeheart advertised its "...spectacular NEW Rhapsody 24-inch picture...only \$299.95"; consumers had the option of renting a Crosley "...De Luxe Consul [for] as little as \$4.01 a week." The Polaroid Land Camera, a rangefinder, gave black and white pictures in 60 seconds—a miracle. A new RCA Victor "Orthophonic High Fidelity Phonograph" with a panoramic 3-speaker system sold for \$129.95; four attachable legs cost extra.

Women, thanks to Clairol, were blonde. The up-and-coming housewife visited her hairdresser once a week...and "made" her own face by 8:30 every morning. By that time the youngsters were off to school, the house had been cleaned and she was dressed for the day, free to "...play bridge, attend club meetings, or stay at home and read, listen to Beethoven and just plain loaf."

Georgie Clark was no such animal. She did not own a whitewalled 4-door '55 Chevy Bel Aire. In

retrospect she was, for the place and time, akin to Allen Ginsberg. And, like Ginsberg, her message didn't hit until later. But when she did her thing, MAN!, that chick really *Houled!*

Georgie crawled out of the woodwork. She had been born in Oklahoma and raised in Denver during hard times. Georgie was taught to never feel sorry for herself or cry—she had good health and teeth and everything had to be up from there, her Mother said. She found her way to "the river" after a summertime bicycle ride from New York to Los Angeles without a spare tire and one [low] speed and a broken wrist that did not slow her down. Years later, after she completed training for the Ferry Pilot Command her daughter, Sommona Rose, was hit by a car and died in front of her during another bicycle ride. When asked, Georgie said it was the greatest tragedy of her life. She needed something to do after that, a place to go. Friends talked her into seeing a slide show given by an upstart organization called The Sierra Club. She went. That led her to Grand Canyon.

When Georgie "took" her first river trip, at the age of 35, the year World War II ended, she swam the Colorado's Lower Granite Gorge with Harry Aleson, the fellow who gave the slide show. They hiked 20 miles down Peach Springs Wash after sending their good clothes around to the take-out in Boulder City by bus. After some small talk Harry hopped into the swollen current and disappeared downstream and she jumped in and followed. The rest is history: Georgie ate canned tomatoes because they gave her energy and Harry drank milk because of his ulcer. The experience captivated, stunned and overwhelmed Georgie.

Ten years later, in 1955, Georgie built the first "baloney boat" at Lees Ferry, a remote river crossing in further remote Northern Arizona. As seen in National Geographic, the Colorado Plateau appeared raw, wild, a place filled with dry desert heat, rough red rocks, and Indians who wore turquoise jewelry.

It took her a week to build the first one. She had the wide, sandy, predam beach virtually to herself. When finished, what she called the "big G-boat" was an inflatable army surplus bridge pontoon 33' long with three feet of freeboard. Two shorter pontoons, "28s," were laced on either long side, all of it smothered in rigging. A small Johnson outboard provided what little energy the beast showed. But Georgie's rig fascinated the occasional passerby. No one had ever seen anything like it.

NPS began counting 'river people' in 1955. First among them were Bill Beer and John Daggett, young

fellows looking for a cheap vacation. These enterprising individuals swam the entire Canyon, completing their 280-mile Lees Ferry-Pearce Ferry odyssey in 26 days, no small feat. They were among the original 300 hundred individuals to complete a Grand Canyon river trip, a total likely surpassed that year. Seventy people went down the river then, the most of any season to date, twice the number of any previous year. Twenty-eight [see inset] of those people went with Georgie. They accounted for more than one-third of the Colorado's passengers that summer.

Disneyland, "The happiest place on earth," opened in 1955.

At Lees Ferry, Grand Canyon's soft adventure tour industry was born. Then and there came new enterprise on the Colorado. Beer and Daggett showed it could be done with "water wings" and gumption. And Georgie's big rig said how: completely padded, there was not a hard surface anywhere on it.

They didn't mean to change history. They were out there doing what they wanted to do. Serendipity, really. Just like a river trip. 🐾

Shane Murphy

Georgie's own account of the state of Grand Canyon boating in 1955, as written in response to a query from Bill Beer. Handwritten in red ball point pen on grade school copy paper.

...courtesy Bill Beer

Between Trips

Hello William

No one has made swim with life Preservers clear through Canyon before you—average water 10,000 Second Feet.

Another person and myself swam with life Preserver 60 miles 1945 + 125 miles in 1946 = Lower Granite Canyon at 65,000 second feet (water level makes a great difference in experience)

No one else has tried—we were first on lower half = a White in early History went through on raft [James].

225 people as of August 1954 have went thru Grand Canyon by boat or swim float. Boat trips vary from one week to three weeks.

Jimmy Riggs of Grand Junction, Colo [and brother Bob] has run all rapids and holds record for time in hand rowed boat (over motors even) Write to him for actual time Really something. Wood Cataract boat 2 men

Very few people in all of history have actually been killed & of recent years Bert Loper of age 80 or 81 died of Heart Failure while running own boat = only couple in recent history = Honeymoon couple boat found but they never appeared. more accident have happened on smooth water (Hite to Lees Ferry) than on Grand in last 10 years

9—Rubber 10 man Neoprene Landing Craft

2 Rubber 27FT Pontoons

1 Kayak—with Large Boats along

1—Canoe—with Large Boats along

Wood Catr Type Boat

Motor Boat—Cris Craft

Will be coming thru LA which is my home on way to Middle Fork of Salmon + will call you (many thing I can explain by talking but can't write so hurriedly) about July 31

Have largest group in history coming through Grand (30) 1955 [Two folks didn't make it. Georgie left Lees with 28, took on Canyon District Ranger Dan Davis at Tanner, and left off 9 at Phantom where 8 replaced them. This information courtesy of Dick Westwood.]

3- Hand Rowed Boats

3- Johnson's sea Horse Powered Boats

Land Boulder July 25

Leave Lees Ferry July 5

Would like to meet you, I was surprised it took 10 years for someone else to try the swim float I give you all the credit in the world for going clear thru. Was a trip of a lifetime however one makes it = swim — Boat or etc.

Sincerely

Georgie

Concession Reform

I was asked to give an update on S208 the Concessions Reform Act now before Congress. I wish the newsletter deadline were next week, as Congress has at least one more week in session, but at this moment (which is a key word) it appears likely S208 will be passed into law. Many people in and out of our industry have spent the last six months trying to insure S208 deals fairly with guides and outfitters. Although S208 will have an immediate and direct effect on Grand Canyon companies, this was viewed by America Outdoors (AO, our national guide and outfitter organization) as the battleground to the future of the guide and outfitting businesses, large and small, that conduct their business on public lands. Doug Tims, the President of America Outdoors, recently sent out a letter on S208 to help explain the current version of the bill now before Congress. I think it tells the whole story better than I could, so below is a shortened and slightly altered version of his letter:

BACKGROUND

Every business that operates on public lands is facing substantial review and changes in their relationship with the federal government. Timber has taken the biggest hit, with supplies from the National Forest system reduced from 11 billion board feet in the Reagan era, to 4 billion today. Grazing and mining are struggling with stricter environmental controls and potential large fee increases. Large concessioners in the National Parks are facing buyouts of their possessory interests and future bidding on their contracts without preference. Eleven years after agreement on the national outfitter and guide policy that governs Forest Service (FS) and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) permits, the FS version has expired without formal adoption. Nor have the agencies implemented a consistent, effective evaluation system for outfitters as required by the policy. New policy proposals have surfaced in both the Forest Service and Park Service that are very hostile to the industry. Outfitters in Alaska face bid/prospectus from the Fish & Wildlife Service. BLM feels it is being pushed towards similar actions with respect to outfitter and guide rules. Many, including the President, GAO and the outfitting industry, have called for standardization of outfitter policy among the agencies. S208, a bill to reform National Park concession policy, became the vehicle for Congress to give the agencies some guidance.

America Outdoors (AO) didn't choose the vehicle and we couldn't control the process. AO did decide the bill was likely to pass and we needed to influence the outcome in any way we could. The goal: put into law directions that assure the agencies must continue preference in renewal, no fee bidding, and a viable business environment. We think the current version of S208 provides direction to the agencies in some key areas that are very important to our industry's future.

PREFERENTIAL RIGHT OF RENEWAL

S208 currently says there will be no preferential right of renewal, with two exceptions - 1) outfitters

and guides, and 2) non-outfitter concessioners grossing less than \$500,000. Prior to S208, preference exists in law only for NPS outfitters. Preference is common practice for Forest Service, BLM and USF&W permitted outfitters, but preference is not protected by law. Early versions of S208 eliminated preference for all concessioners, and if passed in that form, would have been used to end preference for all outfitters at all agencies in the future. AO wanted a performance based evaluation process where outfitters could earn preference by doing a good job. The current version of S208 grants preference to outfitters who perform in an "Excellent" manner during half of their permit term,— a higher standard than current "satisfactory" requirements. There is concern by many AO leaders and members that ill trained, or biased agency persons, might use this "Excellent" category unfairly to get rid of outfitters they don't like. It is our challenge to assure through future rule making processes that a fair, understandable, appealable evaluation system is put in place. The bill states the system must be "clear and achievable". This should have been done ten years ago, as directed by the national outfitter policy. If S208 passes in its current form, outfitters will have strong political allies with the force of recent law behind them to help us assure fair treatment in future rule making.

FRANCHISE FEES

S208 currently states, "...the fee shall be determined in a manner that will provide the concessioner with a reasonable opportunity to realize a profit on the operations as a whole, commensurate with the capital invested and obligations assumed." It further says, "...the Secretary shall establish a standardized schedule of minimum acceptable franchise fees..." for outfitters and guides offering "...similar services at the same approximate location within a specific park..." The word "schedule" allows the National Park Service the continued option of establishing different fees based on some differences, like we currently have in Grand

The Latest: S208 was not voted on before the 103rd Congress adjourned. It's dead! See ya next year!

Canyon, where fees charged for motorized trips are higher than fees charged for oar trips. In the negotiations on S208, in order to get preference in renewal, we had to make some concessions on fees. There is a provision that allows for some fee bidding at renewal, but it does have a cap which should be something that will not ruin the industry.

FEES TO SPECIAL ACCOUNT

You've probably heard outfitters say they wouldn't mind the fees so much if they went to the local resource. S208 has provisions where at least 50 percent of the franchise fee collected will be returned to the units of the National Park System where it was collected. There are some special provisions and limitations, but it is the first time franchise fees have not gone directly into the national treasury to be lost forever.

I realize this is pretty dry reading, but some of you have followed the battle quite closely. Thanks are in order to GCRG for their letters of support on some of the issues in S208. At one time it looked pretty bleak for the industry, but I think the current version of S208 (if it passes and is not changed again) is something we can live with. The "Excellent" rating should guarantee a continued high standard of quality for our industry. It will be crucial that we closely follow the rule-making process, so the new regulations don't sanitize and standardize the industry so much, that the spirit of the industry as expressed in GCRG's byline, "Celebrating the unique spirit of the river community" becomes a casualty in the process.

Bruce Winter
Arizona River Runners

FINAL COMMENT

It would be nice in today's political and business environment if we could just avoid change. Unfortunately that is not an option. Perhaps we could have sat on the sidelines and let others decide our fate. We did not. The good ole days—when we could just float the river or ride through the woods, when no one knew or cared what we were doing or who we were—are gone. I am proud of the professional effort AO has put forward to protect the essentials of a viable outfitting industry. I hope you will join me in continuing our efforts in the coming year to influence the inevitable rule making process. We are outfitting in the '90s. Even with the trials and tribulations of surviving the current political environment, it beats the hell out of an 8-5 desk job in an urban environment.

Doug Tims
President

Wilderness First Aid Courses

Whitewater Advanced First Aid

(no prerequisite)

Date: 3/29/95 - 4/2/95

Place: Lee's Ferry

Cost: \$245 (3 meals per day included)

This wilderness course was designed by Wilderness Medical Associates for GCRG to meet NPS guidelines. CPR certification is included.

Review Course

(must be current WFR, WEMT, or WAFA and CPR)

Date: 3/27/95 - 3/28/95

Place: Lee's Ferry

Cost: \$130 (3 meals per day included)

Class sizes are strictly limited to 20 with preference given to members. Send your \$50 nonrefundable deposit with the application below to hold a space.

Name _____

Circle one:

Address _____

Review Course

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

WAFA

Phone (important!) _____

Send to GCRG Apply early! \$10 discount if your deposit is mailed by December 31st.

Through Whose Eyes Should We View Grand Canyon?

Brad Dimock correctly asks [*The News*, 7:1] whether or not the physical baggage that river visitors bring with them influences their personal experience of the Colorado River and Grand Canyon. He makes a good case for a casual relationship. Brad's question is more complex than it appears, because things other than the quality of the food and the presence of a tent influence a river trip.

A river experience is largely a function of the visitor's cultural perspective of the Colorado River and Grand Canyon; what might be called a visitor's cultural baggage. Humans see nature through their culture which includes norms, values, and beliefs. Social science research shows that the natural environment is transformed by human perceptions becoming sociocultural phenomena called a symbolic landscape. In a recent issue of *Rural Sociology*, Tom Greider and Lorraine Garkovich wrote an article entitled "*Landscapes: The Social Construction of Nature and the Environment*" where they said landscapes are created by humans conferring meaning to nature; giving the environment definition and form from a particular angle of vision and through a special filter of values and beliefs. Landscapes reflect us.

Of course this is a complex way to say that nature exists in the minds of people, but once said we must reexamine Brad's essay. There he states, "in our well-meaning endeavor to cushion the wilderness we have begun to bring the very things with us that we went on the river to escape." He argues that the thinner the material veil between the visitor and the river, the more authentic the experience. This assumes that the river and Canyon are really a wilderness and getting back to the wilderness is why the visitor is there. Some people have other perspectives of the environment.

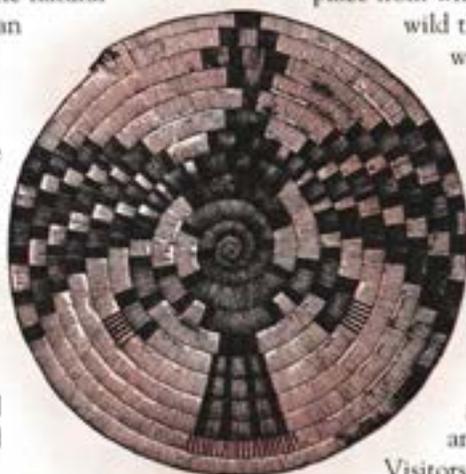
Over the past few years our UofA research team has accompanied Southern Paiute people into the Grand Canyon along 225 miles of the Colorado to learn what they perceive is there and what they perceive is happening due to Glen Canyon Dam water releases. Their report of findings called *PIAPAXA 'UIPI (BIG RIVER CANYON): Ethnographic Resource Inventory and Assessment for Colorado River Corridor* is now being released. These Indian people do not see the river and Canyon as a wilderness, but instead as a homeland in which they lived and died for more than

a thousand years. The rocks, plants, minerals, and water of this landscape are alive, self-willed, and understand the Paiute language. The living natural environment is perceived as liking certain types of human interactions and disliking other behaviors. In return for proper human behavior the river and Canyon feed, protect, and support Southern Paiute (and other human) life and culture. To the Paiute people this symbolic landscape is filled with places to farm, hunt, gather, live, and worship.

The tens of thousands of visitors who annually raft down the Colorado River through Grand Canyon bring many different symbolic landscapes. Is the wilderness a place from which to learn, as Brad suggests, or a wild thing to be conquered? Is the wilderness full of answers to eternal human questions, or a place for dams that generate electricity for distant cities? The visitor's river experience will be measured in terms of which symbolic landscape is chosen.

Brad understands the critical role of the Grand Canyon river guide in defining the visitor's experience. The river guide tells the visitor where they are and what to expect from the trip.

Visitors do bring expectations, but these can be broadened by new perspectives shared by the river guide. Is it to be a wilderness they will enter together, or another kind of place? What responsibilities does the visitor have if she enters an archaeology site abandoned in the wilderness, versus the rock foundations of an old homestead that belongs to the contemporary Paiute family of Kwagunt? Should a visitor enter a hematite cave because it is a physical curiosity, or should she remain outside because it is a source of powder used by Indian people in ceremonies? Should a visitor play loud music while camped in an alcove of Grand Canyon, or should she remain quiet and respectful while in places which have echoes that some Indian people believe are supernatural voices? A river guide defines the proper behavior for the visitor, but proper behavior is based on which symbolic landscape they are entering. Can we negotiate diverse views of the Colorado River and Grand Canyon which permits them to be sometimes a wilderness and sometimes an Indian homeland? When the raft enters the water, someone must chose. 🐾



Richard Stoffle

Wild Ride: The High Water of 1957

It was said the river was running about 125,000 second feet! When I flew over the Canyon on the way to Lees Ferry to meet Georgie White's party, it seemed as if the water was halfway up the Canyon walls though really it wasn't. I was going on this trip as a "cook's helper" for Georgie and my then friend (and now husband) Fred was one of two boatmen to row her rig consisting of three ten-man rafts lashed together which we called "the little boats."

The party that left Lees Ferry that June rode on two rigs, Georgie's three pontoons lashed together (which we sometimes called the Queen Elizabeth) driven by motor, and the Little Boats. We crew were very excited at the prospect of running the river on this very high water—and we were not to be disappointed. This was not so with some of the passengers who found themselves swooshed down to Phantom Ranch in two and one-half days instead of five.

Twenty-five Mile Rapid! Always one to reckon with, and in this high water, something special. Georgie's rig always went first and soon disappeared in the choppy waves. And our Little Boats followed. The water and waves seemed ever so much more powerful than we had ever experienced. Suddenly our little rig was flung against the left wall of the Canyon full force. What left wall?, you ask. Well, it was there and caused a rip in the neoprene of one of the outside ten-man rafts. A large section of it deflated, the part directly under the boatman, Ed Gooch, who was suddenly sitting in choppy water up to his waist. For one very brief instant of disbelief, it was a funny sight! Then we realized that Ed could no longer maneuver the boat as it swirled through what seemed like the longest, meanest rapid we had ever encountered.

Georgie wisely sensed that there might be problems so she had pulled in downstream to wait for us. She motored out into the stream to intercept our rig, ordered all females off, and conscripted the strong young males to jump on board to help bring the rig to shore. But it swirled away and was soon out of sight. And that was the last we saw of it until the next day.

Meanwhile, we camped precariously on

a steep talus slope but at least we had supper and breakfast. The Little Boats did not carry food.

The next day we found the Little Boats a few miles down the river. The high water came down the Canyon as in a chute. This did not allow for many back-eddies to escape into or get caught in, depending on your point of view. But at last they had found one and were able to let some fellows jump into the water so they could pull it to shore. By the time we arrived, they had the rip patched, the raft reinflated. And they were hungry—but ready to take on whatever adventure the river had to offer! 🐾

Margaret Eisman



© 1994 Rachel Running

A Flood Coming...

There will be another flood next spring, scheduled for late March or early April. This time it will be on purpose. Officially labeled the 1995 Experimental Beach/Habitat-Building Flow, it will consist of about a week of 40,000-45,000 cfs. Beach/Habitat-Building flows are proposed as part of the preferred alternative in the Glen Canyon Dam Draft EIS. There will be 4 days of 8,000 cfs before and after the flood in order to video the entire river. The release is timed to mimic predam flows while minimizing impacts to the nesting sites of the endangered Willow Flycatcher.

It should be noted that this is designed as an experiment. Because we have never studied a flow of this type no one knows precisely what will be the result. Originally a flow of 52,000 cfs was proposed but the present low level of the lake precludes the use of the spillways and discharges are limited to 45,000 cfs. The hypothesis is that the high velocity water will lift the sand in the river bed and in the eddies and redeposit a portion of it on the shores up to the level of the river at flood. The energy of the river increases rapidly as the velocity of the water increases. Flow levels are critical and must be high enough to lift the sediment onto the beaches while carrying the least quantity downstream. Scientists at the United States Geological Survey feel the proposed flow will do just that. In addition, it is hoped that the high water will reexcavate and rejuvenate return channels, those deep channels on the back side on many sandbars that are key features to the rearing of native fishes.

Below are two views on the upcoming flood.

Tom Moody

I believe this experiment is critical to our learning how to manage the Colorado River through Grand Canyon. It should be conducted this spring. It is no secret that floods were an integral part of the natural processes of the pre-dam Colorado River. The natural system was one of erosion and deposition.

From the beginning of the debate over operations of Glen Canyon Dam, GCRG has argued for two basic principles: that a positive sediment balance must be established, with more sediment entering the system than is carried out, and that some mechanism be found to periodically redeposit those sediments above river level. During the past 13 years the studies of GCRS have allowed us to reduce the erosion dramatically. Reduction in fluctuations and the elimination of very large, clear floods has slowed erosion and allowed significant sediment to be stored in the river bottom. Now we need to redeposit those sediments and replenish beaches.

There remain two questions: How big should the flood be and should it be next spring?

No one really knows how high the water should go but 40-45,000 cfs seems reasonable to me. We are all concerned that irreparable damage be done to our sediment resource. Whether or not replenishing the beaches is successful, I doubt serious damage will result. I can't help but think back to the months upon months of similar or much higher flows between 1983 and 1986 and the fact that this flow will last only one week. Indeed, a better example would be the several days of high water we saw in early July 1980 with the

continued next page

Kenton Grua

Why so high? It's really pretty simple. A beach replacement flow should do just that. It should replace beaches where we need them, not take them out. We saw in 1983 after the 92,000 cfs flow that clear water can deposit sand. Sediment accumulates in eddies, but as the river level rises some eddies—the ones that are formed behind low cobble bars such as 110-Mile camp (RM 109.4 R) and low debris fans like upper National Canyon (RM 166.4 L) disappear and become fast moving downstream current. When this happens the sand scours and the beach is gone when the water drops back down to "interim flow" levels.

The difference between a pre-dam silt-laden and a post-dam clear-water flood is that sand is only deposited during the rise and the peak of the flow and not to any extent as the flood subsides. This is due to the fact that the sediment comes from channel scour which increases exponentially with increase in flow and decreases as the flood subsides.

We lost 110-Mile and National camps along with several other beaches with similar situations during the '83 flood and it took several years of lower water ('86-'89) and then the moderately high water (high fluctuating test flows) to begin to replace them. They really came back after the LCR flood of 1993 which brought the river up to around 35,000 cfs below the confluence as well as contributed loads of sediment to the system during both the rise and fall of the flood.

The theory is that you need at least 45,000 cfs to "really get the channel sand moving." The problem is that somewhere around 40,000 certain camps become

continued next page

Moody (continued)

filling of Lake Powell. Few if any of us noticed any loss of beaches that time. It would be nice to have the luxury of experimenting with several water flows, working our way up, but recording and analyzing the results is a very expensive proposition in both time and money. I feel confident that we will learn enough from this flow to determine its usefulness in future management.

The experiment should be conducted this spring for two reasons. First it must be studied closely. That study will be far easier and less costly if it is done in conjunction with GCES studies that are scheduled to end next year. Secondly, now is the time precisely because the lake is low and the chance of an accidental spill remote. It is felt that Marble Canyon now has sufficient sediment to make success likely but an accidental spill would remove that. Because some sand will undoubtedly be carried downstream to Lake Mead, an uncontrolled flood shortly after this experiment might erode all the gains made.

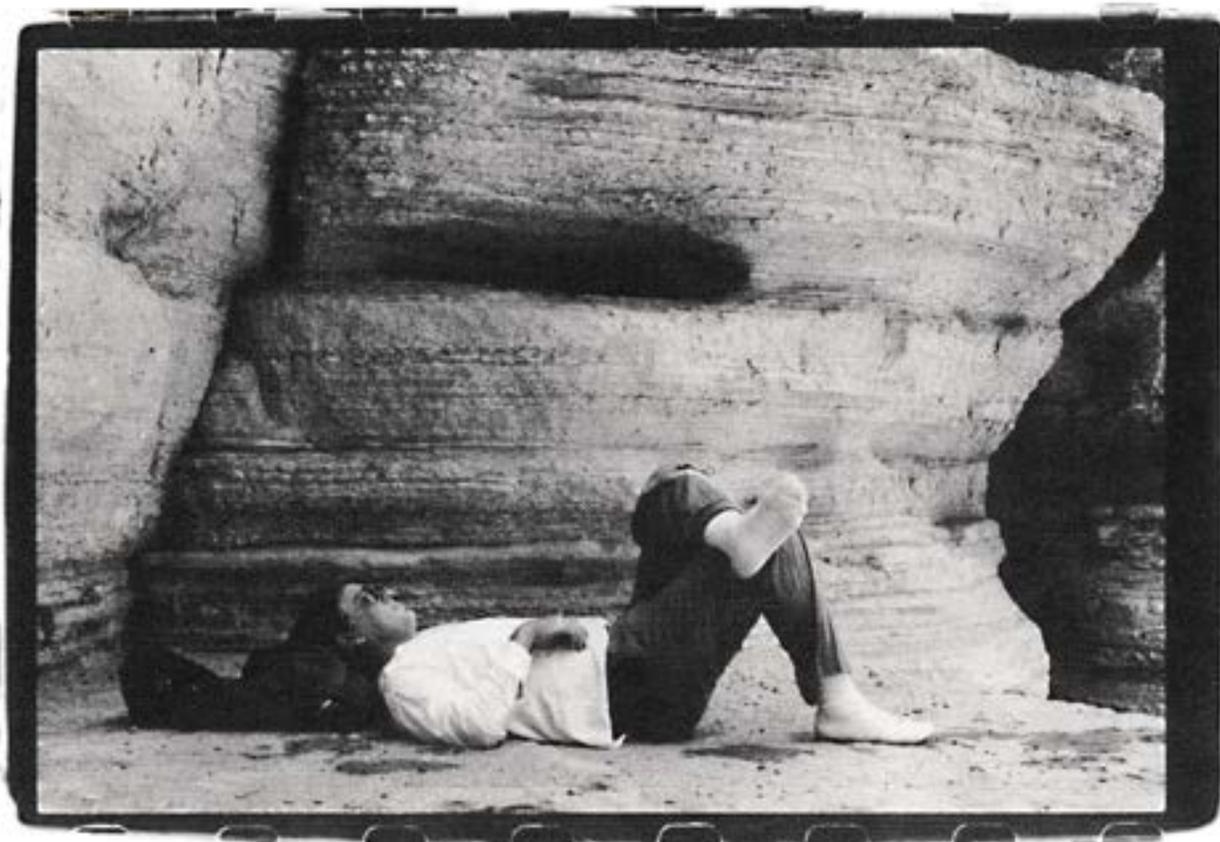
We should support this flood. There is much to gain and little danger. When the water subsides some beaches may quickly erode to their former size but it is very likely that we will rediscover the Colorado River is still the best tool for managing the downstream ecosystem.

Grua (continued)

part of that channel sand and they won't be there when the experimental flood subsides. The fact is that the "high fluctuating test flows" redeposited 110-Mile and National and several other camps that were lost in '83 and that would indicate that maybe we don't need to "really get the channel sand moving" to have a successful beach replacement flow.

We need to determine what the flow is that will enhance the beaches in critical reaches. I propose that 110-Mile camp become the focus for determining the ideal beach replacement flow that provides deposition and not scour at this site. 35,000 cfs could be the upper limit.

Maximum power plant capacity (32,000 cfs) might be adequate to do the job. 110-Mile camp should be monitored during the rise to determine the level most conducive to deposition and the flood not permitted to go any higher. This more conservative approach to the experimental beach replacement flow would also be more acceptable to other groups such as the power interests and trout fisherman. In addition, by using less of the channel sediment reserves we can have more frequent (annual or even biannual flows) to keep replacing the beaches which slowly erode away at the interim flow levels.



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Old Boats

Pearce Ferry, the end of the motor season. We're de-rigging a large dory trip while a motor boatman sits and watches in quiet amusement.

We pull the *Tuohonne*, one of our old aluminum dories, out of the water. Admittedly, it has looked better. Years of use and countless encounters with rocks give it a weary appearance. Recent insults, (a couple of loud BONGS in Lava and Crystal), have added new wrinkles that make it look older, although perhaps not wiser.

To us, it's an old boat with character and history. Each dent has a story. Kenton rowed it a while; so did Cooper. And Boudreaux. The gunwales, shaped a bit like lasagna noodles, left their imprint on my hind end as I sailed out of it in Crystal once. Free of me, the boat moved obediently down the right side, hitting every wave straight as I paddled along behind. My first trip in—and out of—a dory. I feel very close to the old boat.

But the onlooker does not see the history, only flaking paint and Bondo pasted around some dents. He wryly asks, "Do your boats look like that after every trip?" We try to explain that it's a cumulative effort, having taken years to achieve this effect. He takes it all in, looks the boat up and down, and dryly says, "No wonder they won't give you guys motors." 🐾

Jeri Ledbetter

Do You Hurt?

Coming along in the mail this fall will be a Questionnaire to address the aches and pains of long term guiding in the Canyon. GCRG and Northern Arizona University's Physical Therapy Department are working together to look at the following questions: 1) Does guiding in the Grand Canyon hurt your body? 2) What guiding activities hurt most often? 3) Where do those activities hurt? With this anonymous information we hope to look to identify mechanical causes for this and come up with some suggestions on the body mechanics of guiding in general. A little more ammo in the belts of those of us that want to keep on guiding for a lifetime when it comes to dealing with on the job pain is what we're looking for. Please respond! 🐾

Tom Martin

An Invitation

For those of you who haven't been by the NAU Cline Library, Special Collections & Archives Department lately, we encourage you to stop in for a look at the Library's current exhibit, *Grand Legacy*, which highlights our holdings relating to Glen, Marble, and Grand canyons. Included are items from the Emery Kolb, J. Harvey Butchart, P.T. Reilly, Georgie Clark, Arizona River Runners, Grand Canyon River Guides and other collections. The exhibit will be up through December of this year. You are, of course, invited to peruse the collections in depth at any time.

Need the story on James White?

The oar versus motor controversy? Were there really Aztecs in the Grand Canyon? (No, but the cover alone on *Prince Itoni* is worth a look.) Or perhaps your trusty ammo can would benefit from a few Kolb photos pasted to the inside of the lid.

Whatever your river research needs may be, come on over (with your photo ID).

During the fall semester, the department's hours are 9-6 Monday through Friday and 10:30-2 on Saturday. The phone number is (602) 523-5551.

I will be at the fall meeting with Kolb videos that need some identification work. Special thanks to all of you who helped identify Kolb and Georgie prints at the Spring Guides Training Seminar. 🐾

Diane Grua

Another Invitation

America *Outdoors*, the folks who lobby Congress for us when we're on the river, are having a big shindig over in Palm Springs, California on December 8-12. They're calling it **Confluence '94**. Everybody you ever heard of in the river business will be there: outfitters, NPS, Reclamation, Forest Service. Over 50 exhibitors will hawk their wares. Ask your outfitter to send you. 🐾



That Which Takes Away Forever—AIDS

What once used to be an occupational bonus in the business, has now become an occupational hazard. Though the summer of love is in its full swing, the only sex worth having, if having at all, is safe sex during any season.

In the U.S. there are now approximately 1.1 million or more HIV-infected persons and over 400,000 AIDS cases. In the 14th century, the Black Death killed 25 million people, while there are projected to be 30 to 110 million HIV cases world wide by the year 2000. AIDS does not stand for Asphalt Instant Death Syndrome, (though the outcome is still the same—Death); Antibody Immune Deficiency Syndrome.

The HIV virus reproduces unchecked by invading cells. Next there is a long asymptomatic (without symptoms), period, from a couple of months to 16 years or longer, but averaging about 8 years.

This asymptomatic period goes on for a long time before testing positive for antibodies in the human body. This is a period of massive unchecked infection. Eventually there are detectable antibodies (that make tests show positive) that can at least kill some of the HIV in the bloodstream.

Then the full blown AIDS develops, which happens when the blood count of T cells (immune system cells that fight invaders) reduces to about 200 per cubic millimeter of blood and symptoms appear.

Early symptoms when AIDS arrive can include unexplained symptoms such as skin rashes, warts, oral candidiasis or thrush, shingles, menstrual problems or early onset of one of the opportunistic diseases such as: Pneumocystis carinii pneumonia, T.B.

After suspected exposure to the disease, typically a blood test is given within about 1 week to establish baselines, then after 6 weeks, then perhaps 3 months and 6 months and a year. If the most common antibody test is used, results come back a few days after each test. But positive antibody results may not show up for months after true exposure and infections that may be raging before the body learns how to make detectable antibodies.

Prevention comes from blocking transmission routes. This means, 1. Avoiding sexual transmission by promoting abstinence, monogamy, use of latex condoms, dental dams and devices to block transmucosal membrane transmission. 2. Protecting the transfusion blood supply by screening and testing. 3. Inducing safe needle use in addicts such as through free distribution of clean needles and by education.

Rich or Poor, Male or Female, Young or Old, Black

or White these are the players of the Game of Life. AIDS and HIV does not discriminate.

In the United States, AIDS and HIV, were thought to be just a homosexual disease. NOT. Not only does the heterosexual group remain at high risk, but AIDS is attacking sexually active non-monogamous groups like college communities, youths, and in fact the entire community!

Until there are effective treatments or preventions by vaccines, AIDS is a sure fire killer. It is raging across the continents of the world, decimating many African countries. HIV and AIDS respects no borders!

Being ambassadors of the Canyon taking ethically and culturally diverse groups down the River, one should have total awareness of the grave dangers inherent in the problems of having way to much fun.

There are no easy answers to this dilemma of reality. Only one of common sense, if that can be considered in the scope of lost consciousness in the heat of the moment.

The decisions you make shall determine your destiny. To thy own self be true. ☞

Tyge

Books by Members

Breaking Into The Current: Boatwomen of the Grand Canyon by Louise Teal. 179 pp, photo illustrations. ISBN # 0-8165-1429-1. \$14.95. Available from the University of Arizona Press, Tucson. Read all about women you probably know and, as usual, don't be surprised by anything they say.

Call of the Colorado by Roy Webb. 190 pp., 7.5" x 9", 103 illus, biblio, index. ISBN # 0-89301-161-4. \$23.94. Available from the University of Idaho Press, 16 Brink Hall, Moscow, ID 83844. Call: 800/UI PRESS. Vignettes and photos of countless historical river figures.

Raven's Exile: A Season on the Green River by Ellen Meloy. 257 pp, drawings. ISBN# 0-8050-2497-2. \$22.50. Available from Henry Holt & Co, New York. A slightly crazed natural history.

River Running Injuries and Fatalities on the Colorado in Grand Canyon National Park by Dr. Tom Myers with Chris Becker and Larry Stevens. A scientific monograph published by Grand Canyon NHA. Available soon in libraries. ☞

Water Treatment for Rafters

I recently took my first Grand Canyon Raft Trip. It was near the end of August and recent thunderstorms had added a lot of sediment to the river. This condition created a water supply problem for our group. The water filter system was becoming plugged too rapidly to produce the volume of water we needed. The guide was prepared with some of the correct materials, alum and lime, but was not certain of the best application methods. Earlier in my career I spent six years as an applications engineer for water treatment chemical companies. I visited dozens of water treatment plants and tested different treatment schemes using techniques that could be applied to treating river water by the bucket anywhere. Here are some principles and tips.

What determines the rate at which particles settle? The equation that describes settling of small particles is known as Stokes' Law. Gravity pulls particles down but the viscosity of the water resists. The speed of settling is proportional to the diameter of the particle squared. That is, if you can triple the particle size the settling rate will be nine times faster.

How can we increase the particle size? The traditional treatment chemical has been aluminum sulfate, known as alum. Alum is usually thought to work through two mechanisms. Clay particles have negative surface charges that, like two south poles of a magnet, cause the particles to repel each other rather than lump together. The triple positive charge of the aluminum ions of alum act to negate this repulsion. Alum also forms a sticky aluminum hydroxide precipitate that sweeps the clay particles out of solution. Some researchers think that the precipitate formation is the most important mechanism.

How much alum should be used? It varies with the water. The concentration of particles, the type of particles and water temperature can have an effect. The best approach is to do a small test on each sample and go by experience. Before discussing test procedures we need to discuss pH and alkalinity.

Alum has a disadvantage as a water treatment chemical. As it forms the aluminum hydroxide precipitate it pulls hydroxide ions out of the water which lowers the pH.

What is pH? pH is the measure of positively charged hydrogen ions in the water and is measured on a scale of 1 to 14. A pH of 7 is considered neutral, that is the positive hydrogen ions are in balance with the negative hydroxide (OH) ions. A pH less than 7 is acidic and pH greater than 7 is basic. In natural waters the pH is usually between 6 and 9.

Why is pH important? The precipitate that makes

alum an effective treatment only forms between pH 5 to 8. As the addition of alum itself lowers the pH it is entirely possible to add so much that the treatment will not work for pH reasons. Adding more is not always better. (It is also possible to overtreat by adding too much alum even if the pH is in the right range. The negative repulsive charge of the particles can be reversed, causing them to repulse as positive charges.)

What can be done about pH? In some cases the problem may be solved for you through natural Alkalinity. Alkalinity is a natural buffering system that resists pH change due to carbonates in the water. Any water that has been in contact with limestone should have some of this buffering capacity built in. If there is not enough alkalinity to hold the pH in the right range the pH can be adjusted upwards with lime. Remember that the upper limit for alum treatment is pH 8. Adding too much lime can hurt treatment also. Testing is the best approach.

TEST PROCEDURES: Equipment Needed:

2—4 oz widemouth jars

1—500 ml or 1 liter bottle

1—1 gram scooper or pre-weighed alum and lime samples

1—large spatula or spoon for mixing in 5 gal. buckets

1—1 ml syringe

1—10 ml or 25 ml syringe

This is the test procedure that I would recommend. Either pre-weigh some 1 gram samples of alum and lime or find a small scooper that will reliably give you an amount close to 1 gram. Mix the one gram with 100 ml of already clean water in a 4 oz. jar. This gives you a 1% or 10,000 ppm test solution. Add 500 ml of river water to a mixing bottle. Each 1 ml of 1% solution added to 500 ml of water will provide a dose of 20 ppm $(1\text{ml}) \times (10,000\text{ppm}) / (500\text{ml}) = 20\text{ppm}$. Start with a low dose, say 10 ppm (1/2 ml). Mix vigorously for 15 sec. then swirl gently for about 1 min. and observe for coagulation. Increase the dose gradually until you have a good result. If the alum dose gets above 50 ppm try adding increasing lime doses. Without a pH meter you won't know where you are and will have to go somewhat by feel. Feel free to try several tests. Eventually you will zero in on the correct dose.

To scale up to bucket sized batches you can still use your 1% solutions. Ten ml of your 1% solution will give you about a 25 ppm dose per gallon. $(10\text{ml}) \times (10,000\text{ppm}) / (3785\text{ ml/gal}) = 26.4\text{ ppm}$.

You could thus treat 5 gal. with 50 ml of 1% solution if the dose was about 25 ppm. Scale the

dosage up or down as needed.

Mixing is nearly as important as getting the dosage right. A water treatment plant will normally rapid mix for 30-60 seconds and provide slow, gentle mixing for up to an hour. The rapid mix disperses the treatment chemical so that all the water is treated with no localized overtreatment and the slow mix brings the particles together so that they will grow in size and settle out quicker. In a bucket treatment situation I would recommend at least 15 sec. of rapid mix and 3 minutes of slow mix. The slow mix should be more back and forth across the bucket rather than swirling. Using these techniques it should be possible to produce well clarified water in less than an hour.

Are there alternatives to alum and lime treatment? Yes. Many industrial plants treat river water using Ferric Sulfate. Ferric Sulfate works across a wider pH range than alum and would normally eliminate the need for lime. There are also some organic coagulants that are collectively known as polymers. These are clear viscous liquids that do not effect pH at all and work at much lower doses. They would be tested using the same techniques as above. Mixing is particularly important when using polymers. The major suppliers of polymers include Betz Laboratories, Nalco Chemical Co. and Calgon Chemical Co. They might be willing to send you a 2 or 4 oz. sample that would last a long time. 🐾

*Todd Lochmoeller
Environmental Engineer
and Occasional Rafter*



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Goldwater (continued from page 1)

Did you see that 1940 trip as being a major adventure, or was it just kind of another trip for you?

Oh, I don't remember. That's a hell of a long time ago! I just looked forward to doing it. I had read Powell and I knew Emery Kolb very well, I knew his brother Ellsworth, and I'd been up to see them, been down the trails in the Canyon. So it was just a trip.

I wrote Norm a letter and asked him. He said, yes, he was taking people down for six hundred dollars from Green River, Wyoming to Hoover Dam. So I signed up for the whole trip, but then my wife got a little upset and said she didn't want me gone that long. So I settled for starting at Green River, Utah, and I gave up the first part of the trip.

We had a hell of a good time, we were very fortunate. Nevills had included some people that made the trip very interesting: for example, we had a geologist from Salt Lake, we had a woman from New York who was one of the best living bird people in the country, so we knew all about the birds. It was a very well-conducted trip.

Norman Nevills did a good job. It was his second trip down. We helped him build the boats—they were plywood boats, about three-quarter-inch plywood.

I think the one I used is over at Arizona State, but I don't know where it is. I gave it to them, but I have no idea what they did with it. I have the oars that I used. I still kept those. But that's about it.

It seems like that was a real interesting time in the history of the country.

Well, World War II was coming up. Almost as soon as the river trip was over, within about a year, I went on duty with the Air Corps and stayed five years with them. That's about when it happened. There wasn't a lot of commotion [beforehand]. The Depression never really bothered Arizona a lot. No depressions bother this place.

When you went on that first trip were you aware the war might happen? Did you see it coming then?

Well, I was aware of Hitler. I honestly didn't think we'd get into the war. But by the time—well, I was on duty in 1940—I went on duty early—there was no question there was going to be a war. So, I got in it.

It seems like something happened there in the fifties with the Dinosaur thing, and it really came to a head in the sixties with Marble and Bridge Canyon Dams...

Well, of course there was controversy. When the Navajos extended their reservation to the edge of Marble Canyon, that gave the Navajos a little say in what might be done with Marble Canyon. And of course Marble Canyon had several good dam sites in it. But when it came time to discuss the dams, there was so much opposition raised by the Sierra Club, by people who didn't want the river or the canyon bothered. Eventually it just sort of... just sort of died off. And people forgot about the dam sites, all twenty-three of them. And the survey work that had been done, stopped. We've never heard any more of it.

What were the best reasons for building those dams?

Well, electric power and the preservation of water to make sure that Hoover Dam remained full. See, the estimation was... No, with Glen Canyon it wouldn't be true. [But the estimation was] it would take 500 years to fill Hoover Dam up with mud, silt. And if you go down the canyon now, at the headwaters, anything past Separation Rapids, you can almost touch the bottom, for miles, with a fish line. So it is filling up, about as fast as they thought it would. And they built Glen Canyon Dam. That stopped a lot of the silt.

Within the state, a lot of people were for Marble and Bridge Dams?

Oh yeah! A lot of people. But nobody knew much about it, outside of a handful of us. Even those people that served on the Streams Commission—I was one of the first members. I was about the only one that had ever seen the river up close. It was almost impossible to get people interested. For example, Havasu Dam, where they wanted to build that was a very natural



Accident near mile 25 1940

dam site, but nobody knew where it was, nobody understood dam construction, so there wasn't... Well, there was a lot of local interest because of water. The local interest just didn't have the push to do it.

What difference would those dams have made to Arizona?

Wouldn't have made any difference. I started out in favor of the dams—I wound up opposed to them.

What changed your mind?

Well, I just couldn't see the great advantage. We had all the water we needed, about 840,000 acre feet. And while that's not going to last us as long as we thought it would, I think it'll last up 'til 2000. And now we've done so much with desalinization that I think we can drop a tube in the Pacific Ocean and get the water we need. So water is no longer the big driving force that it's always been. For the five civilizations who've lived in this valley before us, water was the deciding factor. When I was a boy, water was the deciding factor, but not any more. We have all the water we need.

Did you ever read or hear of the book Cadillac Desert?

Yeah.

What did you think of that?

I didn't think much of it.

It kind of paints a different picture.

No, I've lived here all my life, learned to swim in the Salt River. Water has gotten damn important. Here now, not for reclamation, but to drink. That's all the water we need. Central Arizona Project is flowing out there. It was supposed to irrigate our land. In twenty years, there won't be a farm left in this whole valley—it'll be all residential land, and all they need is drinking water.

...Hoover Dam probably would never be built today. But it was built in Black Canyon. I watched the dam being built. I have pictures I took of it. In fact, I took my wife across on a little boat, before they'd finished the dam, and we could see the thing being built. It's been a very successful dam in lots of ways: It's stored water, it's produced power... I think that's beneficial.

But today it wouldn't have been built?

Well, they're not going to build any more hydro-electric dams. The Congress listened to the people that were opposed to the dams and just decided "to hell with it."

You took another trip in 1964, with your son?

Well, I took twenty-four boys from the YMCA, but I only took them through Glen Canyon. And then I took a trip with my children, and we went through to Diamond Creek. There used to be a road down there. Someone tried to build a hotel down there. It was still there in 1940, but I guess it's all gone now.

Nothing left now, yeah. We've got one vignette that you could shed light on: the story of the helicopter portage of Hance.

Oh yeah. Well, that was the trip I took my children through the Canyon. Well, we got to... It was a big rocky rapid—I guess it was Hance. A friend of mine—God, I even forget his name. He's living back in Louisiana someplace. He was a helicopter pilot and I think he was going to bring something down for us to eat. My youngest son had a very bright idea about running a river: he wanted to have the helicopter come down and set up camp for the night, and prepare the dinner. The next morning they would clean up the camp, have breakfast, fly out, get lunch, fly back, serve lunch, fly back and get stuff, come down and get ready for the night. Of course that would have cost somebody about \$10,000, but that never happened.

Well, we got to this Hance Rapids, and it got down to a question of portaging. The river was running quite low—I think it was probably running under 6,000 feet, and the rocks were very bad. So he said, "Hell, I'll carry those boats over for you," and by God, he did! He carried all the boats over, and I took pictures of it and sent it to the Bell Helicopter people and they never even wrote a letter back saying thank you. So that's what happened over there—portaging a rapid by helicopter—never been done before, don't think it's been done since.

Was there a lot of difference in that second trip? Did you notice differences?

No, and I can tell you there's no difference today. There's only one new rapid, and that's the great big one. Crystal. That's the only new rapid. Lava Falls is still... Although the first time I went through it, I ran it, because the water was so low—there was no big wave, so you just went through it, no trouble. And that's the whole story of the river. If you're lucky... I think the best level to run that river is around 25,000.

Now, you don't always get that, but I think the modern runners like more water—and I don't blame them, using those great big boats! because they'll go through anything.

The boat I used [on the most recent trip, in '93] was Hatch's little boat, and it would carry about eight or nine people.

That little snout boat.

But it took the rapids very well. And I liked it because I couldn't walk around the rapids, my legs are too bad. So I got to ride through.

Before we turned the tape on, you were talking about how crowded it is on the river. We're really wrestling with that now. They're kind of stirring around, and they're going to rewrite the Management Plan, just how they manage the river and stuff. And that's a big concern of ours: How do you figure out how you're going to run the river, how you're going to run the Park?

Oh, I think the way the river is being run today, is as well as it can be run. I couldn't imagine where you could improve on it. The food is good, the toilet facilities are very well handled—and that was a big problem. Water is no problem. As I say, to me, it's not a solvable problem, because anybody in this country—or anyplace—has the right to go down that river. And if nobody will take them, I've always said you could just go up there and do it yourself. Of course the park doesn't like that, but they'd have a hard time trying to prosecute you for it.

Well, it darned sure seems like the river and that whole experience is an important asset for the country, and the state.

As I say, any American, any person, has the right to see our country. And if we start making rules about who can and who can't see it, then we're not America. We can complain all we want about "you don't want that many people seeing it." I don't like so many people living in Phoenix! But I'm not going to do anything about it—I can't! I've read about efforts to manage it, but I don't know how you'd manage that trip any better. Don't they limit it to 150 people a day now?

Uh-huh.

I think that's a hell of a lot of people, but if you can handle it, fine and dandy.

What we've seen is only a fraction of what you've seen

in terms of growth: everywhere you look in the state the population is kind of just going through the roof. And they're having that problem on the Rim too, just with all these people visiting. We see this philosophical question coming up, when it comes to how you're going to run the National Parks. And if the population continues to go up, do you have some kind of control, or...

No question, we're going to have to control the South Rim. Now *how*? I don't want to see them close the El Tovar Hotel, or Bright Angel, or the little cabins—yet 4 million people will visit that canyon this year, and there's only 400 places on the whole South Rim, including camping places, where people can stay. Now I think the ideas that I've heard, like keeping everything a distance back from the rim—I don't know whether it's ten miles or back where the Village is, back near the landing strip: but you can go up there in your car, leave it, and if you want to go to the Rim there's an electric or gasoline transportation to go up there, and provide transportation all the way along, even west of Hermit's Camp, and as far east as the Lookout Tower. That'll take care of the people.

But now, when you try to translate those people who want to go down the river, that's another horse. And part of the other horse's trouble is the superintendent. They just moved probably the best superintendent we have ever had up there. And that has a big bearing. Price's wooden building burned down with all that good stuff in it. The building should never have been kept there in its state. What's going to happen if the museum burns down? There's an awful lot of stuff up there that needs to be done. And I tell you the truth, I would not feel happy leaving it entirely up to the whims of the National Park Service. I've known some people in the National Park business who love the work and did a lot of good for it. But I've known people that didn't know their ass from a hot rock, about even taking care of people. I go up to the Rim, and what do I see? People eating lunch all over the lawn of the El Tovar Hotel. That shouldn't be allowed. We run a train up there every day now from Williams. I think that's wonderful. There's the old Babbitt Store. What's going to happen? One of these days it'll go, burn down. They have a make-believe hospital. There's just a lot of damned-good work needed to take care of all the people—4 million—that are visiting the south end of the Canyon. And if I were you guys, I'd make my voice real loud. I don't know this new superintendent.

Well, it's like you say, there was a big loss when Chandler left, and even Davis before him.

Well the river runners probably know more about

that river and the Canyon than all the other people put together.

That was kind of what we thought, and that's why we started this little association.

I know that. I remember old Dock Marston, and Dock took the trouble to learn the river, and then he took the trouble to run a power boat up the damned thing. I remember when he did that. As I say, I love that place, and you start pooping around with it, you're going to have me on your hands too!

You said something there: Dock Marston took the time and made the effort. It seems that the easier and the more convenient we make it for people to see, somehow a little something is lost. The more effort someone has to make, possibly they get more out of it.

Well, one of the greatest things that could happen on the river trips, would be to have each company have someone very knowledgeable [guides]—I mean, who could point out every rock and tell the geologic background of that rock. Every age of geology is in that canyon, but one. And you find that one up east of the Lookout Tower on a little hill.

People don't know that the rocks in the Inner Gorge at one time formed a mountain chain higher than the present Alps. And those are interesting things. The first discovery of any evidence of living life is in there. The story of trying to move the deer from the North Rim to the South Rim: it's a fantastic story. Airplanes landing: Ellsworth Kolb landed an airplane down on the Powell Plateau. Nobody remembers that! He did that around, I guess, 1913 or 1914.

Was that an accident, or he just wanted to do it?

No, he landed an old jenny down there. Nobody ever thought he'd make it out. By God, he took it off! I bet Belknap has something on that. And, oh, the story of water. The story about the trails. I think I've walked down every trail that they have, and some they didn't have. The Nevills trip that I took, the first one,

was triply-interesting, because we had people that could, "Oh, look at that bird! Well that's a white heron, and you only find them here and there." Or the geologist who could tell us every morning about the rocks.

I remember an interesting story, something I tried: We were getting reports that the jets that flew over the Canyon—the fighter jets from Luke [Air Force Base] and Willie [Williams Air Force Base]—when they were breaking the sound barrier, it was shaking rocks loose, and the rocks were going to fill that canyon. So the next trip I took, I talked to Luke Field, and I said, "Look, I'm going to take a radio with me, and I'm

going to call you guys, and when I call you, the next morning, I want you to come up with five F-100s and come right where I'm going to be, and just break the sound barrier. I want to see what happens." So they came roaring down that canyon, "ba-boom, boom, boom, boom." Not one pebble moved. So we put that thing to rest.

That's a good scientific experiment!

Well, it was. People have often asked me around the state, "What's your most beautiful spot in Arizona?" I said, "The falls that come out to form Tapeats Creek. If you're interested, you can go up to Jacob's Lake and

you can follow a road down so far, and then you can walk to where this waterfall comes right out of the red rock, about forty degrees. And if you want to walk down to the river, you can. Well, not many people know about that, yet they can do it. That's the most beautiful part of Arizona, to me.

That's great. Not many make the effort.

Well, not many people want to make the effort.

Well, they choose not to.

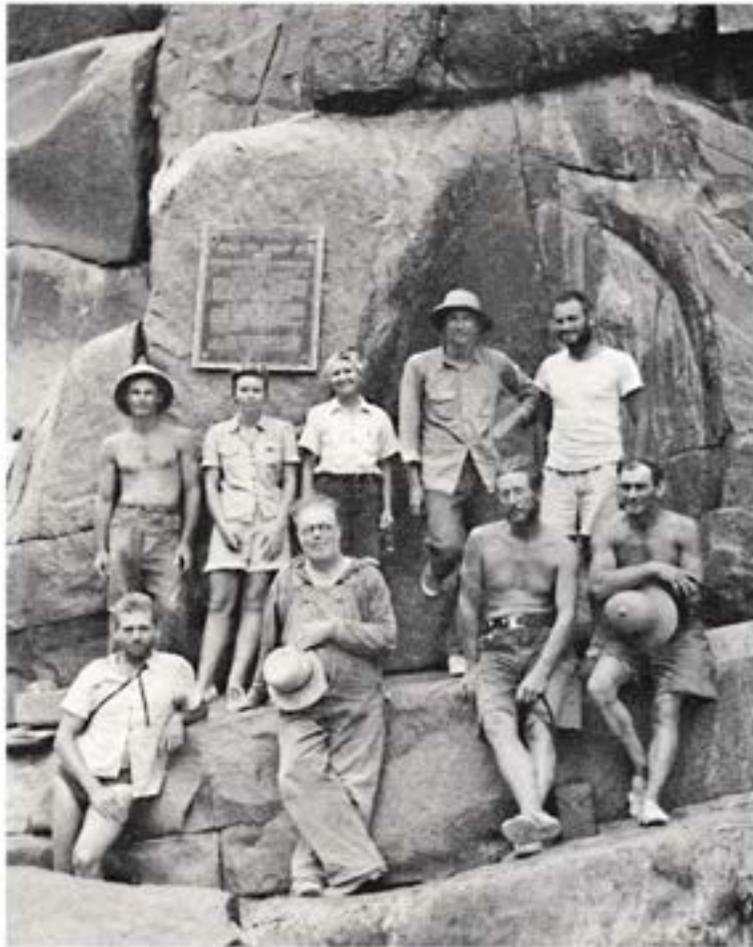
But if you tell them the stories, then they want to do it.

We have this problem, politically, now. There's been



Drift Wood Burners Boulder Narrows

kind of a mindset in government agencies for some time now, that they shouldn't fraternize with the locals. The official take is that we're kind of "the enemy" or something. They just don't feel it's right to get too close to us.



Separation Canyon, 1940 Back row: Norman Nevills, Doris Nevills, Mildred Baaker, John Southworth, Barry Goldwater. Front row: Dr. Hugh Cutler, D. W. Deason, Charles Larabee, Del Reed

Oh, I'd ignore them—I would. I know that attitude exists. I remember the trouble the Kolb brothers had. The Kolb brothers had trouble starting that photographic studio. The Park Service didn't want it, because it was a business that they couldn't control, because Kolb had built the house and it belonged to him, to do what he wanted.

I've run into this thing at the Canyon where we've had any number of superintendents who just didn't care. And things went on. I can remember people wanting to use the South Rim for snow skiing, and just walking with skis [cross-country skiing], and the times we had getting that permission! I remember when we built the first church up there on the Rim, and we had an

awfully hard time getting the Grand Canyon people to approve it.

Is that the Shrine of the Ages?

That started it. When Howard Pyle used to go up there on Easter and have his Easter service on the Rim of the Canyon. They didn't like that at all! But we finally got a man that liked it, so it made progress. I tell you, you have to almost get into politics to get around that. And that's why you ought to get real friendly with your senators. You've got a guy named McCain—he doesn't know much about the Canyon, but he's friendly. And Kyl I think will be friendly if he's elected. I think all the members of our delegation would be helpful to you fellows.

One of the stormiest periods in modern river running was up there in the 1970s. There was a controversy between motors and oars, removing the motors. It seems like you got involved in that a bit. The outfitters got you involved?

No, we used a motor with Nevills' trip in 1940, and it didn't take long for us not to like it. It's one thing to float down that river with the quietness, and then hear that putt-putt-putt-putt. So we didn't use the motor much. I remember when you had that controversy, but when you're taking that many people through, I don't know how you're going to do anything else. Frankly, I'd like to see motors forgotten—just use the oars and go through.

We're really having to struggle with it right now, because they're going to re-do this Plan. One of the questions is—well, there are all these different issues—one of them is that the private versus commercial use is a big thing. And the other is the overall use level. The question for us is, do we... Everybody pretty much agrees that we don't want it to increase any more, but do we need...

Well, you can't control that. You can control it by... I'd keep it at 150. I'd never let it go above that. And if anything, I might even haul it back to 100—not that it'll make a lot of difference. But get real friendly with your Congresspeople. Because if they're going to have to settle this—in the Senate and the House, that's where you settle it—not up at the South Rim.

Would you say the Canyon has had an effect on you personally?

Well, once you've been in the Canyon and once you've sort of fallen in love with it, it never ends. I go

to the Grand Canyon two or three times a year. I fly over it a lot. I've found a new natural arch up there. I've flown helicopters into all parts of the Canyon. So it's a place that I like to go, and I go whenever I get the chance... it's always been a fascinating place to me, in fact I've often said that if I ever had a mistress it would be the Grand Canyon.

Footnote:

A detailed summary of Goldwater's career and achievements would take up the rest of this issue. Suffice to say that—in more ways than one—he represents a high water mark for Arizona.

He's a busy man and he doesn't beat around the bush, or slow down to ask himself what the party line is anymore. He calls em like he sees em and never looks back. We (Lew Steiger and Tom Moody) spent an hour with him last spring and went away wishing it could have been a week.

He's done several river trips. In 1940 he landed somewhere between 57 and 99 on the roll call of the first 100 river runners (about 73, he thinks). A diary he kept on his 1940 trip matured into a terrific book, *Delightful Journey*. Highly recommended for Canyon buffs.

It was published in 1970, and at the end of its introduction he writes-

"Delightful Journey is being published at this time primarily to honor Major John Wesley Powell..."

"For me, Powell's name is inextricably linked with the river and the Grand Canyon. The water could stand for a symbol of time itself, fast-flowing through the ages; its canyons, many of them, still wild and unexplored; the bleaching rib cages of wrecked river craft scattered on sandbars; names of long dead explorers scratched through red sandstone on a cliff; sacred Indian mountains and ruined miners' shacks visible nearby; ancient lava flows cooled and solidified into crystal-faceted platens on steep banks; and the rim a dazzling belt so far above that it seems unreal."

"If you go through all this, the blue headwaters of Lake Mead will fan there ahead of you, welcoming you. To learn all that is to learn freedom and patience; and you learn these lessons by ranging yourself on the side of the river."

"I like to think that all human effort takes place within the context of something permanent, like that river and its canyons." 🐾

Thanks to Raechel Running and Lil Jonas for your artistic contributions. Thanks to everybody else for everything else.

Financial Statement

Fiscal Year Profit and Loss Statement

July 1, 1993 through June 30, 1994

Income

GCRG Income	
Contributions	\$10,816.50
Equipment Rental	250.00
First Aid Class Income	12,437.00
Interest Income	302.34
Membership Income	33,360.00
Sales	4,915.00
Total GCRG Income	\$62,080.84
Cost of Goods Sold	(4,519.12)
GTS Income	6,816.00

Gross Profit **\$64,377.72**

Expenses

Adjustments	20.00
Contract Labor	2,135.00
Depreciation	3,841.46
First Aid Class	13,471.80
GTS Expenses	7,931.02
Meetings	665.21
Office Supplies	2,333.80
Office Rent	1,030.00
Postage	6,605.75
Printing	18,197.67
Repairs	121.84
Service Charges	144.16
Subscriptions, Fees	45.00
Telephone	1,745.88
Travel	1,400.85
Total Expenses	\$59,689.44

Net Income **\$4,688.28**

Balance Sheet

Assets

Cash in Accounts	\$13,304.81
Accounts Receivable	3,595.00
Computer/Office Equipment	5,156.71
Total Assets	\$22,056.52

Liabilities

Equity	277.64
Equity	21,778.88
Liabilities + Equity	\$22,056.52

Good Friends

The GCRG Officers and Board would like to thank all our members whose generous donations over the past year have allowed us to continue our efforts. We deeply appreciate the extra support of the following contributors and profoundly apologize to anyone we may have missed:

Major Contributors

Tides Foundation
Environmental Experiences, Fred Cropp & Amy White
Melody S. Robidoux Foundation

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Discounts to Members

A few area businesses like to show their support for GCRG by offering discounts to members.

Expeditions 779-3769
625 N. Beaver St. Flagstaff
Boating Gear
10% off merchandise to members

Cliff Dwellers Lodge 355-2228
Cliff Dwellers AZ
10 % off meals to members

Teva Sport Sandals 779-5938
N. Beaver St. Flagstaff
Approx 1/2 price to boatman members
Pro-deals upon approval (approx 1/4 price)
Ask about our winter new products testing program—ask for Adam Druckman

Dr. Jim Marzolf, DDS 779-2393
1419 N. Beaver Street
Flagstaff, AZ
10% of dental work to boatman members

Dr. Mark Falcon, Chiropractor 779-2742
1515 N. 4th, Suite C, Flagstaff
Complimentary consultation and \$20 first session

Sunrise Leather, Paul Harris (800)-999-2575
15% off Birkenstock sandals. Call for catalog.

Yacht True Love 809/775-6547
Bill Beer, Skipper
Virgin Island Champagne Cruises
10 % discount to members

Professional River Outfitters 779-1512
Box 635 Flagstaff, AZ 86002
10% discount on equipment rental for members

Businesses offering discounts to licensed guides:

Marble Canyon Lodge
Vermillion Cliffs Lodge
The Edge (Flagstaff)
Aspen Sports (Flagstaff)

Tax Status

We'd like to thank all of the legal type folks who responded to our plea for help in getting our 501(c)(3) status. Benefactor Guide member Matt Claman is currently working on it. He says "about a year" to get it done. Wow.

In the meanwhile, GCRG is presently listed with the IRS as a 501(c)(6) corporation. Donations to us are not tax deductible. So if you've got a couple million you want to give us, put it in a high yield account for a year or two and we'll get back to you. 🐾

Care to join us?

If you're not a member yet and would like to be, get with the program! Your membership dues help fund many of the worthwhile projects we are pursuing. And you get our lovely journal to boot. Do it today.

General Member

Must love the Grand Canyon

Been on a trip? _____

With whom? _____

Guide Member

Must have worked in the River Industry

Company? _____

Year Began? _____

Experience? _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

\$20 1-year membership

\$100 6-year membership

\$195 Life membership

\$277 Benefactor (A buck a mile)*

*benefactors get a life membership, a silver split twig figurine pendant and our undying gratitude.

\$ _____ donation, for all the stuff you do.

\$15 short sleeve t-shirt. Size _____

\$17 long sleeve t-shirt. Size _____

\$.50 GCRG logo sticker. (2 free with membership)

Total enclosed _____



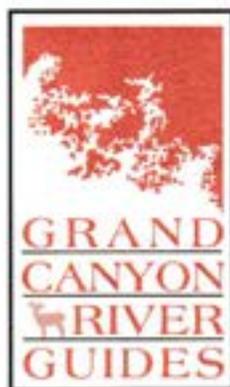
Wayne Wilson came to Mexican Hat, Utah, in the spring of 1961 with his "Water Trotter" on the back of a small trailer. He had arranged with Mexican Hat Expeditions owner Gay Staveley to run down the San Juan to Glen Canyon. I worked for Gay.

Running the bubble down the San Juan was a minor disaster because it was a terror to control. It simply bounced along and was not steerable in strong current. To go to shore you had to start very early. To add to the trouble was the heat in June. The bubble heated up and we found we had to bail water into the thing to help cool it. It didn't help much. Wayne Wilson heated up and got exhausted in only a day or two and I got the opportunity to run the thing.

Mr. Wilson was about 58 years old at the time and didn't have the stamina to operate the bubble, so I took it most of the way, except where there were "photo opportunities." Life Magazine was waiting at Lees Ferry to take pics for a story on the Grand, mainly starring Georgie White. Wilson ran his bubble through Paria Riffle for *Life** and thereby qualified as running the Colorado below Lees. It did not go further and Wayne disappeared back to York, Pennsylvania. I never heard from him again. 🐾

* August 4, 1961, pp 56-65; *Adventure On A Great River*.

Don Neff



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