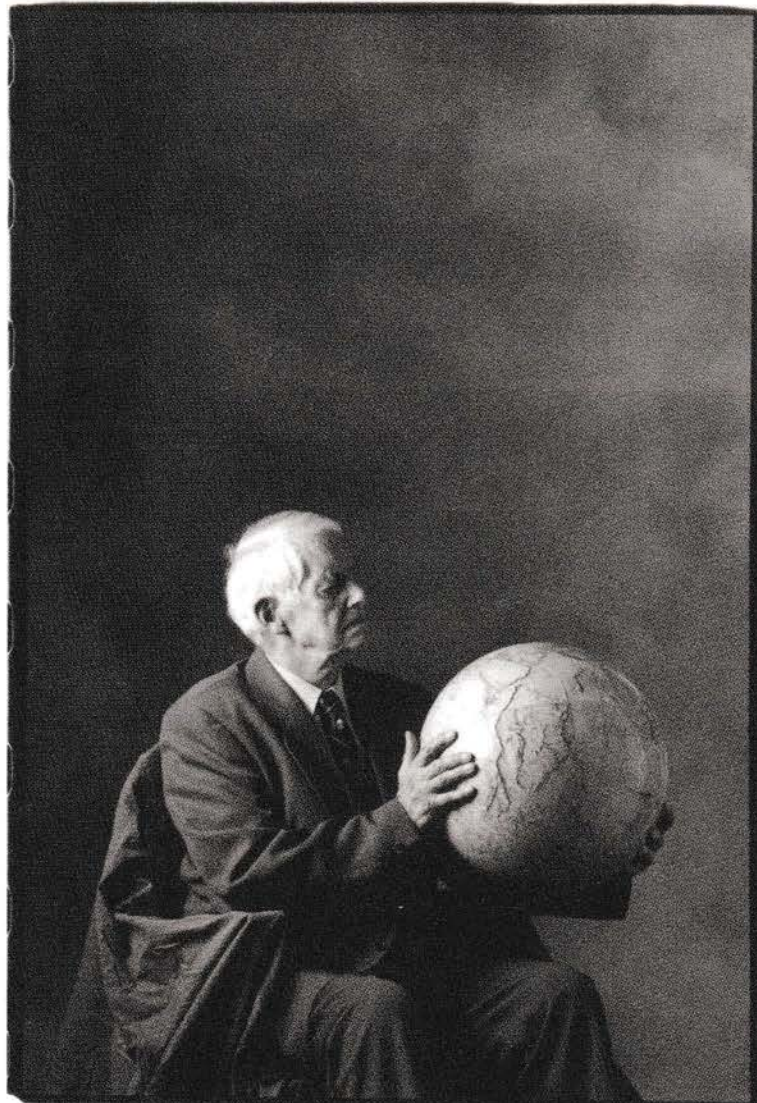


boatmans quarterly review

the journal of Grand Canyon River Guides, Inc.

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David Brower

I... am an optimist. I agree with Pogo, that wise cartoon character from my late middle age, who said, "We have met the enemy and he is us."

But I also agree with what Pogo added sometime later: "We are confronted with insurmountable opportunities."

In my day, when someone proclaimed a mountain to be insurmountable, it was climbed within a year.

David Brower
*Let the Mountains Talk,
Let the Rivers Run*

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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 Grand Canyon *

* Setting the highest standards for the river profession *

* Celebrating the unique spirit of the river community *

* Providing the best possible river experience *

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

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

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

Our office location: 7 East Aspen, Flagstaff, Arizona

Office Hours: 10-4 Monday through Friday

Phone 520/773-1075

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E-mail gcrgr@infomagic.com

Looking for a Home

As rents climb, our downtown office
becomes more and more unaffordable.
We're still looking for a new spot, some-
where in Flagstaff—something that's pleasant, roomy
and affordable. Good luck, huh?

Give us a shout if you know of something!

Flip Lines

Rounding the last bend as president of this
organization, I have only one month, 17
days and some change to go. I'm grateful to
have survived with sanity intact, (or as intact as it ever
was). There have been a few rough times along the
way, but it's been an honor and a learning experience.

I've tried to follow through with the commitment I
made last fall to remember David Brower's rule number
6: Never take yourself too seriously. According to him,
there are no other rules. Our sense of humor—individ-
ually and as a community—on the river and in our
homes—is our greatest defense against being over-
whelmed by an otherwise oppressive world.

As I floated past the Anvil last week, I thought of
Dugald, and I laughed. Over the past few years this has
become a ritual as I float toward Lava Falls and
attempt to rig my flip lines—a set of buckled straps
underneath the boat which allow us to easily right a
dory should it capsize.

A few years ago, Dugald & I both decided we
needed new flip lines, and he kindly offered to make
some for me. Well, he made mine just a little too
short—just enough that I must dunk my head in the
river to reach the buckle. And trip after trip, I float
along above major rapids, hat and ears slightly under
the surface of the river, wondering if he did it on
purpose. "Very funny, Dugald," I think. Trip after trip.

You might wonder, as I have, why I don't simply
lengthen the straps. I guess I've just been appreciating
the joke. I've always enjoyed a healthy respect for
humor, which is why I loved working with Dugald. He
could always make me laugh. He still does.

For a while I considered asking if he purposefully
short sheeted my boat. He would have only smiled,
and with a twinkle in his eye asked what on earth I
was talking about. Perhaps that would dispell the
magic of our little joke, or perhaps I'd just end up
feeling foolish about soaking my head in the river, trip
after trip. Perhaps I should anyway. Very funny,
Dugald.

Keep laughing; keep the spirit. Our community is
our greatest strength. Support, appreciate and love
each other, as life is fragile and much too fleeting.

See you downstream,



Jeri

Good, Bad and Ugly

Most of the ballots are in, but the election isn't quite over yet. We'll let you know next issue who will be on the new board. As usual we asked for input on the ballot and didn't get nearly as much as we'd hoped. We asked for the good, the bad and the ugly—how are we doing and what should and shouldn't we be doing. Answers were diverse.

We were strongly criticized by some for stirring up issues between us and the Park, and between us and the outfitters. Others felt we'd rolled over and played dead—that we needed to quit kissing ass and start kicking it.

Many folks spoke up about our publicizing Guides Defending Constitutional Rights. Some thought we should stay out of it. Others commended our letting them know what was going on. Still others condemned us for *not* putting GCRG's backing into the case.

With overflights it was the same thing—too much, just right and not enough.

Stop including the Private sector. Stop excluding the Private sector.

Stop acting as if you speak for the guides as a whole. Thanks for giving a voice to the guides as a whole.

Stop being anti-motor. Thanks for including the motorheads. Why aren't more motor guys willing to run for office?

Don't get into guide-company relations. Get in there and fight the outfitters for us.

As far as the *bqr* went, most really like the oral history stuff, some want more fun and funny stuff, and some want more basic rock, plant and boating skill stuff. One complained about our continued use of the sexist word *boatman*. [In defense, most females we've asked prefer the term *boatman*, finding it no more sexist than *woman* or *human*]

All in all, though, almost every strong criticism was counterbalanced by equally strong comments to the contrary, so we must be doing okay.

But please, *please*, keep in touch with us. Remember, we are unpaid volunteers who you nominate and elect to represent you. None of us really have the time or finances to interview each and every one of you on how you stand on each and every issue. That's *your* job.

Call us, write us, collar us on the river, write an opinion piece in the *bqr*. Without your input, we lose touch. Thanks.



Calling All Canyonites

You feel damn lucky to be working down there, don't you? Oh sure, the May winds are brutal and June's heat kinda stinks. But all in all, we've pretty much hit the jackpot in the job department.

We can tell stories all night about what the Canyon has given us. So... have you thought about what you owe this place, what you can give back to it? Without a lot of talk about what volunteerism means, let's just talk about what *you* can do—you, who want to preserve this place and this experience and get those warm fuzzies when you do something good, just because.

Harness your energy, your contacts, your unique talents. Get your friends, kids and passengers involved. Grand Canyon River Guides runs on volunteer power, ideas and enthusiasm.

- Write letters, every time we put the call out for overflights, Colorado River Management Plan, etc. You don't have to be articulate, just passionate. How do you think Marble Canyon dam was stopped and the Grand Canyon Protection Act passed? Get on the email list for most current requests.
- Share stories, opinions, updates, photos, humor, artwork in the *bqr*.
- Track down useful office equipment or better yet, a larger office space with really affordable rent.
- Pay your dues - we don't run on good karma alone.
- Get more membership fliers (just call) and get them out to your folks.
- Call up Lynn Hamilton when you're in Flagstaff and offer an afternoon's labor in the office. She'll put you to good use even if you're all thumbs.
- Develop proposals for grants and other funding sources.
- Show up at a monthly Board meeting; voice your concerns and share a few beers.
- Help carry out the details of the fall and spring meetings and GTS—those aren't gremlins behind the scenes.

So don't ask "why hasn't #*\$#@ been done???"—take on the responsibility yourself. And don't wait for us to call you—grab those oars (or motor tiller) and pull! The Canyon and your community needs you. And those warm fuzzies are oh so nice.



Mary Ellen Arndorfer

Canyon de Forestation Village

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) is available for public comment regarding proposed development between the entrance to the Grand Canyon's South Rim and the tourist-oriented community of Tusayan. The DEIS offers 5 alternatives ranging from no action to an extensive development proposal.

Over the years, responding to increased visitation to Grand Canyon, Tusayan has developed visitor lodging, retail, food and transportation services. Much of the development has been uninspiring, resulting in a singularly unattractive gateway community for one of our most valued national parks. These enterprises have proven to be so lucrative that Tusayan developers have been unwilling to devote any land to more benevolent uses such as libraries, schools, employee housing and hospitals. As a result, the community has begun to look toward surrounding Forest Service land to meet these needs.

Meanwhile, Grand Canyon National Park's General Management Plan seeks to alleviate the angry cluster of automobiles which annually swarm around the South Rim seeking an insufficient number of parking spaces. They also face a serious housing shortage for NPS employees. The management plan calls for construction of employee housing and a trans-

portation center and just outside the park, also on Forest Service land. Personal automobiles will no longer be allowed to enter the park on the South Rim.

Enter a developer, Tom de Paulo, who offers his vision of a solution. Over the years he has purchased or optioned several obscure parcels of land, scattered throughout Forest Service holdings. He offers these inholdings in trade for 672 acres of the coveted Forest Service land in order to develop Canyon Forest Village (CFV), Alternative B in the DEIS.

This development would include a transportation staging area and a parking facility with a capacity for 10,000 vehicles. It would provide much of what is currently lacking in the Tusayan community, including a library, emergency services, parks, churches, and a school. In partnership with the Museum of Northern Arizona, they propose a facility to educate visitors about the natural and cultural resources of the area.

Far from altruistic, the plan includes 435,000 square feet (that's really a lot), of retail space. This would include extensive shopping, restaurants, an arcade, movie and dinner theaters, a coffee house, a bakery, beauty salon, art galleries, video rental... well, you get the idea. They also plan to build 3,650 hotel rooms, a convention center, and 250 campground/RV sites. This would generate an estimated 3,334 new jobs, presumably most of them minimum wage. As there is already a significant housing shortage, the plan calls for construction of 310 houses, 1045 apartments, and 1220 dormitory units.

It's easy for us to ignore what goes on at the South Rim. Who cares, as long as it doesn't affect us on the river? Well, this just might. The problem is, with development comes demand for water. Although the CFV plan includes a commitment to utilize conservation techniques, the DEIS estimates an increased demand of 147 million gallons of water per year for this alternative.

All of the development options include wells sunk into the Redwall Aquifer, which supplies water for the countless seeps and springs from South Rim to the River. Already 47% of Tusayan's water is drawn from two wells in Tusayan and two in Valle 30 miles to the south. According to the DEIS, there is some reason to believe that wells in Tusayan will impact the springs more than those in Valle, but these assumptions are far from certain and any well into the aquifer would impact the flow of the springs.

The most glaring fault in the DEIS is that impacts were considered for only "major" springs—Havasu, Indian Garden, Hermit and Blue Springs. At most



Elves Chasm (with water)

Andre Potochnik

they estimate that Havasu's flow would be reduced by 1%, Indian Garden's by 6% and Hermit's by 3.9%. They conclude, then, the impacts to be "negligible". But what of Grapevine Spring, Pipe Spring, Elves Chasm, Boucher, Matkatamiba and the myriad other seeps, pools and falls, both known and undiscovered? What of the maidenhair fern, the monkey flowers, the ooze and the frogs? What of these critical habitats which support much of the biodiversity in Grand Canyon? What if those magical places of discovery, contemplation and respite to which we return again and again were to simply dry up? These receive only cursory mention and were granted no true examination.

Among the "desired conditions" listed in the DEIS was the ability for visitors to "choose from a variety of dining experiences". There was no mention of protection of any resource, much less of the quiet seeps below the rim upon which a multitude of species rely for their existence.

Tusayan developers are fighting the CFV proposal simply because they don't want the competition, having development plans of their own. De Paulo has pumped a vast amount of money into public relations and professional proposals. Striving to appear environmentally friendly, he has done a marvelous two-step around the question, "What about the water?" He has also utilized a classic strategy by threatening to develop the scattered inholdings, sinking deep wells at will, if his proposal isn't granted by the Forest Service. It's a disturbing threat, not one to be taken lightly.

As a result, many are willing to embrace CFV's offer because they are convinced that further development of the South Rim is a foregone conclusion. But is it? The problem, after all, is not a lack of hotel rooms, shopping malls or even housing. That infrastructure abounds in Flagstaff and Williams. The problem is transportation which, with a little creativity, can be solved without Canyon Forest Village. We need only to figure out how to efficiently move people from outlying communities to the South Rim. Granted, this is no small feat, but visionary people at Denali National Park accomplished it nearly 20 years ago.

Once the transportation issue is addressed, deep wells would be unnecessary unless de Paulo, his bluff called, chooses to develop the obscure properties he has acquired. The community of Tusayan would be forced to reexamine their priorities, as we all must.

Until other alternatives have been examined, we should not embrace an unnecessary development which could so seriously impact the Grand Canyon environment below the rim.

Jeri Ledbetter

**To request a copy of the the draft EIS,
call the Kaibab National Forest at (520) 635-8225.**

Please submit your comments by August 18, 1997 to:
Tusayan Growth DEIS
Kaibab National Forest
800 S. 6th Street
Williams, AZ 86046



Deep Schist

Let's talk dirty. We mean really gross, disgusting, filthy, scatological, not to mention careless, inconsiderate and downright rude.

On recent trips in Grand Canyon, we have noticed an alarming escalation in the amount of micro-litter, graffiti and bodily excretions. On four of the last five trips we have evacuated poop, crap, dung, dukey, shit from favorite trails and camps. Not bighorn, ringtail or coyote, but human. And probably not backpackers, a popular scapegoat, given the locations. And not untimely accidents, given the wads of accompanying t.p. And not placed high and dry, but deftly "dumped" on the heart of popular trails at the Little Colorado, Shinumo, Elves and Blacktail. So at least you can smell it and hear the flies before you step in it.

And while we're talking dirty, let's talk pee. It's really starting to stink out there in our premier favorite camps and play sites. And these high, constant flows aren't going to flush it away. We won't even get into the amusement of picking up biowaste (bandaids, tampons), gum wrappers and cigarette butts. Nor the fun of finding a rock big enough to cover up "Beavis 6-23-97" artfully scratched into sandstone.

The solution: education. Looks like we aren't doing our job well enough. Yah, it's a drag to talk about poop and pee and tidbits of trash with strangers, but this is our home away from home. Let's take care of it. Aren't we proud when a guest comments on how clean the Canyon is? Don't we take some pride and responsibility for that? Don't underestimate the importance of your orientation talk. Remember the effectiveness of repetition, repetition, repetition. And can't we all pee directly into the river? That "wet sand" thing gives too much license for abuse. (Offer creative solutions for safe night-time urination like an empty #10 can.) Let's drill it in to them—most of them will appreciate it. Set the example. And maybe you won't have to bring latex gloves and a paper bag on your next hike.

G.A.G. (*Guides Against Grossness*)



Dear Eddy

I refer you to an article in a recent BQR about a panel of speakers, the researchers in particular. For years now I have endured the mumbling of these often righteous, self-aggrandizing, self-appointed Grand Canyon experts, and now I shall speak up.

A few of these scientists understand the problems and fess up to the solution, but most don't. One panelist offers some pretty tired information and states that many people engage in a "blind romanticism" about management of the resource, and concludes that there is no return to the "mythological pristine condition" of pre-dam Grand Canyon. Mythological? Ha!

I wasn't there before the dam, nor was I around when Crystal became noteworthy, but a friend and I on two rafts drifted by Havasu one rainy day in August. Blood red water exploded from the side canyon into the main channel and we were immediately confronted with large uprooted cottonwoods and barrel cactus bobbing at the surface, then disappearing. We were lucky and skillful enough to make landfall without ripping our vessels to ribbons. Days later we learned of the travertine loss. Pre-dam post-dam, what does it matter? It is an exhilarating experience for all who make the journey. That is no myth.

The researchers are an odd lot. They stumble all over each other, often duplicating studies, and invariably getting in everyone else's way. I wonder how many of them would volunteer to study marine plankton in waters around the Aleutians? Indeed, research is a great way to get down the river and have some fun. The government/education "expert" merely gathers up some food, beer, boats, and plucks a permit from the trees when all is ready. They break all of the Park rules: five days on any beach, a month at LCR, motors during non-motor season, helicopter re-supply, etcetera. In my opinion, there are only a few justifiable government float trips: patrol, trail repair, garbage collection, boatman training, and extrication. If you want to do research there, fine, get in line with the rest of us and follow the rules.

The elitist and callous attitude of the research crowd is troubling. I continuously find destructive evidence of their presence. There are holes gouged in rock, red flagging hanging from the trees, aluminum tags, cyalumes, and a large assortment of high-tech instruments (which of course, require lots of river trips to maintain). And how about all of those cleverly hidden cameras for beach erosion studies? What were you doing when the camera went click? Where does it end? How many of those five million visitors do you imagine actually read any of the fluff generated by

research? Yes, it is for a good cause, but what is the effect?

Given the untold hundreds of millions spent and planned for research, dam adaptation and such, it is becoming clear that it would be cheaper to dismantle the dam and build a modest coal fired plant. No further research is necessary for awhile. I further submit that scientific efforts don't go very far to educate the taxpayer about ramifications of the dam; its past and continued destruction of our great treasure. Here is a new concept for you; try it on for size. Public awareness is the most important aspect of the push to solve the problems facing Grand Canyon. At the forefront are those paying passengers who make the journey each year with the outfitters. They go home with a peak life experience which will be remembered every day the rest of their lives. They are the great grass-roots ambassadors of change.

I enjoy reading about Flavell, Stanton and others. I often view the photographs and other art of fellow canyon travelers. Art and literature are the eloquent truth about Grand Canyon, not research. If we are to extend special privilege here, why not give it to the artists and writers? The canyon and its visitors would be better served. After all, what average citizen cares much about the mating habits and gestation period of a kanab ambersnail...

The dam was a colossal mistake, and remains as a monument to the crucifixion of two spectacular canyons. It should be removed. The public cannot be forever coerced into believing that the structure was a good idea. The votes are being re-cast, one by one.

Increasingly, the dam at Glen Canyon demands the courage to face its implications.

Bruce W. McElya

ERRATA: The recent P. T. Reilly article (*bqr* winter '96-97) contained a few errors that should be corrected. Previous donations by Reilly were to Utah State Historical Society; his date of death was 24 October, 1996; and Pat found the broken oar below North Canyon on 19 June 1956, leaving the phony Powell relic above Hance on 23 July 1956. You will notice that the 1956 date of this practical joke was almost seven years after Norm Nevills's death, so obviously he could not have participated in this event. The author and editors regret these errors and hope they have caused no undue harm.

As the summer season moves on through September, Canyon visitors will increasingly see how stingy is the sunset curfew that FAA provided in the Dragon and Zuni air tour corridors.

The summer curfew (May 1 to Sept 30) is before 8 am and after 6PM, not 5PM as stated in *Air Tours*. During the long daylight months of May, June and July, the curfew affords therefore about an hour and a half of quiet before sunset. (Grand Canyon, like most of Arizona, is on Standard Time, year-around).

However, by early August the pre-sunset quiet time will be down to just over an hour. By the last week of September (a favorite on the River) the window of respite will be paltry- just 15 minutes or so of hard-won sunset. What a travesty.

The FAA marched to the beat of the air tour operators on curfew as well as routes. Business cycles came out supreme over natural cycles. Is that appropriate? At the Grand Canyon?

Curfews should be matched to the progression of the Sun and the natural seasons. There needs to be immediate call to expand any aircraft curfew so as to provide three hours respite before sunset and again after sunrise, in every season, everywhere in the Canyon.

Dick Hingson

By all means renew my subscription to the newsletter. The last issue (big ego edition) kept me entertained for days. Wow! Katie Lee. David Brower. Art Gallenson. And others. When it comes to fighting dambuilders it takes monumental egos I suppose. I enjoyed every single word. Possibly your best edition so far. When I figure out what Art said in that letter, I'll probably be as impressed as I was with the rest of the news. David Brower's ego is exceeded by his accomplishments of course, and he can say or do whatever he wants. I'll still worship him. An omniscient narrator for sure and Floyd E. Dominy is the anti-Christ.

Actually, I love them all, the Canyon folk. Many, like Michael Jacobs, Shorty Burton, Clair Quist, Whale, and a myriad of others we all know, learned humility in the face of the reality of the Grand Canyon. And with their humility came love and respect and quiet competence. When I was a guide there, I would sometimes pretend I was the Canyon (no small ego trip in itself) and try to look out at the persons who came through my portals, and attempt to judge them on the Canyon's merits. But nothing ever came of it. I always ended up judging them solely from my own narrow and biased focus. So nothing changes. The Grand Canyon may be like truth itself. We can approach her but we can never hold her in a tight embrace.

Amil Quayle

I have yet to find anyone that knows the history about the chimney across the river from Pumpkin Spring. The lore is that it is where Georgie hid her felonious brother after he escaped prison for a murder conviction. What is the truth? I have always assumed that it was tied to the Bundy cattle operation. If nobody knows for sure what the factual history is, perhaps you could put the question out to the general guide community via the *bqr*. Thanks

Tom Furgason

[Helen Fairley of NPS believes it to be a prospector's thing. I often tell folks of the Kolbs passing through there in 1911. They met a crazed old prospector named Snyder sitting in a wickiup, "cheerful as a cricket and sure that a few months at the most would bring him unlimited wealth" Maybe he built the chimney. Or someone like him. Any other thoughts out there? Brad Dimock]

My entire family and I thoroughly enjoy reading the *bqr*. My son, Travis, read the most recent issue first, and asked me if I knew John Cross. I started telling him a story about meeting John in a hard hull motor boat at Hance in 1970, when his motor died and a wave blew out his windshield, but before I could finish the story Travis told me the rest of it. So I grabbed the *bqr* and sure enough, John and I had roughly the same memory of the event. Pretty rare for a 27 year old river story.

Walt Blackadar, one of the grand men of kayaking, was the physician who paddled over to see if they needed medical help. We'd met in the late 1960's while I was working on the Middle and Main Salmon for ARTA (now AzRA). Walt had asked me if I'd organize a private Grand Canyon trip for him and 27 other kayakers. I wanted to convince Lou Elliott (Rob's father) to run commercial oar trips in the Canyon, so I got a private permit and lead the support rafts.

This was Walt's first Canyon trip. He had to run Lava four times before he made it through without having to roll. A friend of his, Al Beam, had a piece of hose stuck into his sprayskirt, and when he'd turn over, he'd breath the air in his kayak until the end of the rapid, where he'd roll up in the flat water. We panicked every time he did this.

Walt had his 50th birthday on the trip just below Lava. He got stumbling drunk on Tekillyou and limeade. He had set up a tube tent in a dry wash, with a mummy bag on a full length air mattress. That night it rained, and the wash ran just enough to float him out of the tent and into the eddy. I was up checking on everyone and heard this faint, slurred call for help. He was floating about 10 feet from shore, afraid if he moved he would fall in and drown in his mummy bag. It took two of us to haul him up above the highwater line. Walt was very thankful—he wanted to die kayaking, not in his mummy bag!

Peter Winn



The Colorado River Management Plan

The Colorado River Management Plan (CRMP) is being revised. So what? you say. Another government document that will be filled with the usual jargon, not at all pertinent to the situation and constituents for which it was designed. Perhaps. But we'd better make damned sure that's not the case. This CRMP may be the most important piece of work that we ever encounter in our river careers: it has the power to determine *everything* about our river trips, from the number of people on the river to the type of experience that private and commercial river runners have in the canyon. Do not take this lightly: it *will* affect your river trips in the future. Lucky for us, we can have a say in what is included in this management plan and we fully intend to express our opinions and concerns and fight hard for them if need be. We'll need everyone's help.

The National Park estimates that the process of revising the CRMP will take about two years. They have begun sending out information about how to get involved in the process and the following is excerpted from the most recent *Canyon Constituent*, sent out to interested parties in May of 1997. Following this will be a schedule of important dates and meetings you may want to attend to be involved.

In the 1995 General Management Plan (GMP) for Grand Canyon National Park, the Park Service defined their management objectives for the Colorado River in Grand Canyon. Briefly, these are:

- To restore altered ecosystems to their natural conditions (to the maximum extent possible).
- To manage visitor use, development and support services to protect the park's resources and values.
- To protect the park's natural quiet and solitude, and mitigate or eliminate the effects of activities causing excessive or unnecessary noise.
- To manage the areas meeting the criteria for Wilderness designation as Wilderness.
- To manage the Colorado River corridor to protect and preserve the resource in a wild and primitive condition and to actively pursue the designation of eligible sections of the river and its tributaries as part of the Wild and Scenic River System.
- To provide a variety of primitive recreational activities consistent with Wilderness and NPS policies on accessibility.
- To work with local Indian tribes in planning, developing and managing lands adjoining the park in a compatible manner.
- To provide a Wilderness river experience on the Colorado River, while still allowing for uses non-compatible with Wilderness designation (i.e. motors).

So, the CRMP will incorporate resource, recreation and experience management. It's a tall order and there are a lot

of considerations and constituents to deal with. The Park has a set of guiding principles for the CRMP which covers all these bases, but the specifics are still up in the air. That's where we, you, them, all of us come in. Some of the Park's guiding principles are as follows (some of the considerations we might want to contemplate follow in italics):

- **The type and amount of recreation will be regulated to make sure that the degree and type is sustainable, with acceptable resource impacts.**

OK, what type, what degree, what is an "acceptable" impact? What can the canyon and the river sustain?

- **The recreation/experience opportunity spectrum for this section of the river will be based in part on the range of recreational needs expressed by the public and the total spectrum of opportunities available within the Colorado River system.**

Should everyone who wants to go down this river necessarily be allowed to, just because they can pay the bucks - should we try and let people know about other opportunities/ivers that perhaps are better suited to their time/budget/physical constraints? What do we want people to be able to get out of a Grand Canyon trip?

- **Until Congress acts on the GCNP Wilderness Recommendation, the river will be managed as Potential Wilderness, which allows for continued use of motors, but in all other respects manages the area for Wilderness.**

OK - if this is the guiding principle, then we need to look at things like allocation, crowding, visitor experience, accessibility, Science and NPS presence, technology in the corridor, etc. in that light. Does a particular issue or solution to an issue conform to Wilderness ideals and management principles? This is a really important point and one that should not be glossed over because it is RIGHT THERE in the NPS guiding principles).

- **Quiet motor technology will be pursued to the greatest extent possible to eliminate unnatural sources of noise in the river corridor (as is consistent with Potential Wilderness designation).**

Any thoughts?

- **Allocation and permitting processes will be evaluated based on current and projected future conditions and needs.**

Who gets to go? How many? How much should they pay and how long should they wait? How do we handle increasing demand from an ever more adventurous and "place-collecting" public?

- **Methods for managing and distributing use of the river corridor should be based primarily on achieving resource protection and Wilderness management objectives.**

How many people is "crowded"? How many people/trips do you want to see on the river? How do we distribute people and trips? What type of experience do we want our folks, and other people's folks to have?)

- **The spectrum of concession-outfitted river trips will be evaluated and defined as to what is "necessary and appropriate", with the changes appearing in the next concessionaire contract revision in 2001.**

What should the outfitters be doing? Should we look at things like trip length, interchanges, price, accessibility, education, opportunities for passenger involvement? Should we think about the trend towards fewer and larger companies? Whaddya think?)

So that's what the Park is thinking. Now we need to know what you are thinking. A few of us, private, commercial and others, got together back in June to discuss these issues and our preliminary list of important concerns and possible solutions is summarized in the accompanying article. Take a look at it and let us know what you think. We were only a few people. You are hundreds, perhaps thousands; we and the Park Service need to hear from you.

Here's How To Get Involved:

The Park is holding three meetings/workshops for public input to the CRMP in September. At these meetings you need to show up with your ideas arranged thusly: list the stated problem or issue and then a proposed solution to these issues in a written statement. Explain why you think this issue is a problem and why it is a concern to you. The ideas will be listed on flip charts and discussed in break-out groups and the written statements will be collected at the workshops for further use by the Park. Give them your name, address and phone as well.

While the Park needs to hear from you as a constituent, GCRG needs to hear from you as well. We are going to prepare a statement with issues and solutions to present to the Park and we need you to contribute to this. If we cannot speak as a group on this one, we will not have a powerful voice. **So please send us your thoughts. What are your concerns and what solutions have you thought of?**

The meetings are in September and by January they will summarize what they have received from everyone, so we, and they, need your comments ASAP. The meeting schedule is as follows:

**September 5 and 6
Portland, Oregon**

Lewis and Clark College,
Templeton Student Center
Friday: 7:00 PM to 9:30 PM
Saturday: 9:00 AM to 5:30 PM

**September 12 and 13
Salt Lake City, Utah**

Holiday Inn Airport
1659 W North Temple
Friday: 7:00 PM to 9:30 PM
Saturday: 9:00 AM to 5:30 PM

**September 19 and 20
Phoenix, Arizona**

YWCA Leadership Development Center
9440 N. 25th Ave. (east of I-17 at Dunlap)
Friday: 7:00 PM to 9:30 PM
Saturday: 9:00 AM to 5:30 PM

Send your comments to:

ATTN: Linda Jalbert

Grand Canyon National Park Science Center
Grand Canyon National Park
P.O. Box 129
Grand Canyon, AZ 86023

For more information or to get a copy of the *Canyon Constituent* from the Park, contact Linda Jalbert (CRMP Team Leader) or Ken Weber (Recreation/Social Science Program Manager) at the above address or call:
(520) 638-7753 (Ken Weber)
(520) 638-7909 (Linda Jalbert)

Please come to the meetings or send in your thoughts to us and to the Park. If you only do one thing this summer, or ever, this should be it. One thing is clear: river running, private or commercial, will change in the future. As demand increases and more pressure is put on the experience and the canyon from the outside world, this document may be the only thing that we can use to help preserve and protect what we love so dearly about this place, but only if we get our two cents in. Now. Thanks—we'll be waiting to hear from you.



Christa Sadler

"We Shape the World by the Questions We Ask" J. Wheeler, physicist

In considering our stance on the new Colorado River Management Plan, we must remain an open forum to ask the right questions, define the real problems, and obtain accurate data to address these issues. Is the present system broke? Do we need to fix it? In what ways? Let's be open to the quiet voices and wary of the shrill ones. Whatever the outcome, let's be sure that we do our level best to live up to our credo: * *Protecting Grand Canyon* * *Setting the highest standards for the river profession* * *Celebrating the unique spirit of the river community* * *Providing the best possible river experience.*

Andre Potochnik



A Bunch of Different Ideas for the CRMP

The following is a working list of issues and suggested solutions for the new CRMP put together in an informal meeting of constituents, sponsored by the Grand Canyon Private Boaters Association, back in June.

This list is only a spewing of concerns and ideas. Look this over, add your thoughts, let us know.

ALLOCATION

(who is going, what are the numbers, what are we going to do about increasing demand, does the wait list reflect an accurate cross-section of who is going? or is it padded?)

- even 50/50 commercial to private numbers
- keep the status quo
- add an educational user group, in addition to commercial and private
- require the commercial companies to provide low cost trips for educational institutions (one per year per company)
- we need to use the Wilderness guidelines to define a use ceiling
- reduce the total number of use for everyone

ACCESS

(who is going, when are they going, how long are they waiting, how easy is it for the "average Joe" to get on a trip, and is the current system fair?)

- go to a launch or people-based system as opposed to user days for commercial use
- make the private system a lottery
- keep the status quo for privates; it's easy to get on if you play the system
- spread use into the winter season
- keep winter use where it is, the canyon needs time to heal from the summer
- provide more budget-rate trips from the commercials, within the guidelines that they can make a "reasonable profit" as defined by the GMP and CRMP.
- count crew as user days on commercial trips
- count interchanges as two user days, not one
- reverse the trend toward fewer and larger commercial companies. More smaller companies allows for more diversity and increases competition. Will this bring prices down or force outfitters into more environmentally and Wilderness oriented practices?

WILDERNESS MANAGEMENT AND RESOURCE PROTECTION

(what do we need to do to protect the place, how do we have to change our MO's, are current practices of the commercial, private, science and NPS trips consistent with Wilderness protocol?)

- minimum trip length
- better education for private trips
- allow privates to hire a commercial guide to help educate and care for canyon
- manage Lake Mead for riparian habitat, lower the lake level

THE VISITOR EXPERIENCE

(crowding, trip length, interchanges, Wilderness ideals, natural quiet)

- spend CRF money on a computer model to figure out how to avoid crowding
- a launch-based system could reduce crowding
- encourage longer trips with more flexibility
- get rid of interchanges
- get rid of Whitmore helicopter exchanges—use stock instead
- explore quiet motor technology
- should NPS Law Enforcement Division be doing river patrols, or should it be Interp Division? A low-key, minimal impact presence of NPS is more consistent with Wilderness Management. Go back to oar rigs or kayaks; ask the NPS to set an example for Wilderness Management.

FEES

- make all fees equal, private and commercial
- there should be more public input to fee structure and where the money goes
- the CRF should NOT be used for capital improvements; we don't need \$800,000 per year of "improvements" on the river



We Take Our Place at the Table

Adopt-a-Beach Program Gains New Importance

We just received a letter from Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt appointing me to represent, from Grand Canyon River Guides, recreational river runners in Grand Canyon on the Adaptive Management Work Group (AMWG). The AMWG is a newly formed Federal Advisory Committee composed of representatives from a diverse array of constituencies whose purpose is to advise the Secretary on how best to operate Glen Canyon Dam in the future so as to satisfy the Grand Canyon Protection Act of 1992... "to preserve, mitigate adverse impacts to, and improve the qualities of the river corridor for which Grand Canyon National Park was created".

It is an honor to represent the more than 20,000 people who run the river each year on the AMWG. For this reason, our Adopt a Beach program for monitoring the changing condition of critical camping beaches takes on a new importance. We will continue to need your collective expertise, obtained from a program that pulls together observations and knowledge from all of you who rely upon this very important resource. The terrestrial riverine habitat is mostly about sand; where it is, where it isn't, and what processes are causing it to move around.

All 45 of our selected "critical" beaches were once again adopted by commercial river guides. This year's adopters are listed to the right. Thanks to you all! Your photographs last year were great. In analyzing them, we found that your personal comments were incredibly helpful in interpreting the photographs. Every word you wrote was like buried treasure. So, do more of that this year! Give us a short summary of your thoughts and observations. We need to build a solid consensus opinion about the changing status of beaches, vegetation and so forth, so that we can continue to become a more influential force in how the dam is operated.

And many thanks to those of you who adopted a beach financially—your support means everything.



Andre Potochnik

Jackass, left	8.0	Johnny Douglas
Badger Cyn, right	8.0	Ken Kotalik
Salt Water Wash	12.2	Kim Claypool
	12.2	Ginger Birkeland / Lorna Corson
19 Mile	19.1	Jeri Ledbetter
20 Mile	19.9	Bronco Bruchak
North Canyon	20.4	Tom Furgason / Charly Heavenrich
23 Mile	23.0	Mike Campbell
Silver Grotto	29.3	Kevin Johnson
Nautiloid Canyon	34.7	Christa Sadler
Tatahatso Wash	37.7	Kelley Wilson
Bishop Camp	38.3	Bert Jones
Buck Farm Cyn.	41.0	Scott Mosiman / Jerry Cox
Below Nevills	75.6	Paul Haacke
Hance Rapid	76.6	Lynn Roeder
Clear Creek	84.0	Charly Heavenrich / Jenny Gold
Above Zoroaster	84.4	BJ Boyle
91 Mile Canyon	91.0	Andre Potochnik
Trinity Creek	91.6	Bob Dye
Above Salt Creek	92.2	Steph White
Schist Camp	96.0	Bert Jones
Boucher Canyon	96.7	Rob Noonan
Crystal Creek	98.0	Roger Dale
Lower Tuna Rapid	99.7	John Littlefield
Ross Wheeler	107.8	David Brown / Jon Baker
Bass Camp	108.3	Robbie Pitagora
110 Mile		109.4 Jerry Cox / Kenton Grua
Upper 114 Mile	114.3	Tom Vail
Lower 114 Mile	114.5	Anthea Elliott
	114.5	Mary Ellen Arndorfer
Below Bedrock	131.1	Peg Bartlett
Galloway Canyon	131.8	Johnny Douglas
Stone Creek	132.0	Sarah Hatch / Jon Hirsh
Talking Heads	133.0	Ed Hench
Racetrack	133.5	Kelley Wilson
Lower Tapeats	133.7	Kim Bast
Owl Eyes	134.6	Julie Munger
Backeddy	137.0	John Toner
Kanab Creek, above	143.2	Katherine MacDonald
Olo Canyon	145.6	Connie Tibbits
Matkat Hotel	148.5	Bill Karls/Mike Borcik
Upset Hotel	150.4	Kate Thompson
Last Chance	155.7	David Desrosiers / Jon Hirsh
First Chance	157.7	Jeri Ledbetter
Tuckup Canyon	164.5	Mark Piller
Upper National Cyn.	166.4	Eric Christenson / Rob Noonan
Lower National Cyn.	166.6	Mike Davis

Reprising the Colorado River Management Plan

The care of rivers is not a question of rivers, but of the human heart.

Tanaka Shozo

We are about to embark on a revision of the Colorado River Management Plan. The issues are daunting: frustrated private river runners demand access; scared outfitters demand status quo; perplexed conservationists demand preservation; the Park Service, nervous as usual, demands respect; and the guides, divided as usual, demand all the above. Before we launch into the inevitable cauldron, consider why the Canyon, the Colorado River, enriches our lives. How can we preserve these qualities for ourselves and for those many souls who follow 10, 50 and, perhaps, 100 years from now?

Access to the River constitutes one of the most pressing issues. Over 21,000 people float the River each year and more want to go. Aggressive marketing and convenient, short trips allow outfitters to consistently fill their allocation, about 70 percent of the total recreational use. Private river runners line up on a 10-year or longer waiting list for do-it-yourself river trips. While past river management actions (1972, 1980, and 1989) accommodated increased demand with increased allocations, current use often results in overcrowding and congestion. Any substantial use increase under the current launch system would make matters worse.

The Park Service's favorite cliché describing this phenomena, "loving parks to death," comes to mind. How do we love something to death? We can screw it to death, perhaps, but love it to death? To love something or someone is to care deeply. Caring is involvement and commitment. Caring sometimes requires struggle, heartache, sacrifice and, if all else fails, rational thought.

There are two ways to resolve the current demand for river trips. The first option is simply to increase allocation. In 1964, the year the Wilderness Act passed, 547 humans floated the river. In 1972, the Park Service established the first limits based on existing, exploding use of about 12,000 commercial and about 500 privates. In 1980, as demand for private trips skyrocketed, the Park Service increased the noncommercial allocation 600 percent. The outfitters also enjoyed a 30 percent increase.

A second option establishes defensible use levels based on qualitative criteria, and there is only one legislated designation that protects the experience the Colorado River provides. Wilderness alone mandates protection of experiential quality. Wilderness experience, although scarcely a precise, infallible concept, is definable and defensible. Critical elements of wilderness

experience such as group size, the number of encounters with other folks, and other experiential parameters are adequately defined in a growing body of research and should be incorporated in any future Colorado River Management Plan.

Wilderness experience allows a rational basis for establishing overall use. Providing a wilderness experience, accommodating existing allocations and allowing a meaningful increase in private access is possible. But it is possible only if total use is distributed over a longer season to avoid congestion and crowding. The obvious result of establishing limits is the creation of a fixed allocation "pie". We already have a pie, but it keeps getting bigger and the impacts and the disparities in access continue to increase. Wilderness will protect visitor experience, but it will not resolve the difficult, politically divisive issue of dividing the pie.

Managing for a wilderness experience has other implications aside from limiting numbers. Wilderness requires the acceptance of certain risks, including possible dangers arising from wildlife, weather conditions, physical features, rapids, scorpions, sun, heat, ants, and other elements inherent in wildlands. A wilderness experience means we're on a camping trip, not at a restaurant, and not on a carnival cruise. Sometimes we get wet, sometimes tired and hungry. Sometimes we eat out of cans and, God forbid, sometimes we run out of beer.

In Wilderness, the Park Service may not eliminate or unreasonably control risks that are normally associated with wildlands. In Wilderness the agency's primary role is educational, not law enforcement. It should provide users with general information concerning possible risks, recommended precautions, and minimum-impact use ethics. Wilderness requires only a minimum level of regulations and agency presence to protect ecological integrity and other natural cultural values. Management should be on low-key, unobtrusive, respectful of the visitor's desire for solitude and a "primitive and unconfined experience." In Wilderness, river runners can insist upon this approach.

The reason Grand Canyon, unquestionably one of the greatest American wildernesses, is not designated Wilderness lies with the resistance from the river running industry, a preoccupied environmental community, and inconsistent and conflicting directives within the Park Service. Since mechanized use conflicts with the Wilderness Act, most conservationists rightly oppose

wilderness designation which allows motorized use. Since most outfitters and many guides equate the loss of motors with the loss livelihood, the motor issue remains as the principal obstacle to wilderness designation.

In spite of the motor concerns, good reason and opportunity exist to pursue wilderness designation for Grand Canyon. First of all, as required by law, the NPS submitted a wilderness recommendation for Grand Canyon in 1980. This wilderness recommendation provides a rationale for compromise on the motor issue, at least temporarily, by proposing "potential" wilderness designation for the Colorado River. Potential Wilderness is defined as wilderness that has been authorized by Congress but not yet established due to temporary incompatible conditions, in this case: motorboats. This special provision defers the motor issue and gives the Secretary of the Interior the authority to designate potential wilderness as wilderness at such time she or he determines they qualify. Potential wilderness provides wilderness criteria for managing river use, avoids diluting standards for designated wilderness, and provides respite from the politically volatile issue of motors versus wilderness designation. This compromise language provides an opportunity to protect wilderness values and, by deferring the motor issue, avoids an intra-guide battle.

In the mean time, the Park Service policies require long-term preservation of wilderness values, including visitor experience, until Congress addresses wilderness through legislation.

Like it or not, we are about to embark on a necessary, perhaps historic, journey to decide the fate of our river. This may well be the last chance for wilderness on the Colorado of Grand Canyon. Some will cheer at that thought, no doubt. The rest of us must consider why the Canyon, the Colorado River, enriches our lives.

Does any of this matter to anyone or anything? Is the river bothered by what we do? Does the Canyon anguish over our loss of solitude? If we glimpse sight of a peregrine falcon, or awake to the fragrance of sand verbena, or quietly revel in the cool shade of Shinumo or Stone Creek, does the river care? Does it really care if we do this alone, or with a few others, or with the complete contingent of two J-rigs, three S-rigs, a C-Craft, 15 dories, and 24 oar rafts? Does the River care of such things?

Do we?



Kim Crumbo

François Leydet

This spring brought the passing of author and boatman François Leydet. In 1964 David Brower recruited Leydet to join him, Martin Litton, P. T. Reilly, Philip Hyde and others on a dory trip through Grand Canyon. The purpose was to write a book in defense of Grand Canyon, then under assault by the Marble Canyon and Bridge Canyon Dam projects. The resultant large format Sierra Club book, *Time and the River Flowing*, authored by Leydet, was and is a classic conservation text.

But Leydet, like many of us, got hooked and returned year after year as a boatman and eventually trip leader for Litton. "He was very at ease at the oars," recalls Martin. "He was the first person, actually, to ever run Lava Falls in a dory. We had always portaged it, just as Reilly and Nevills had."

"This trip—it might have been 1965—I had already lined my boat down and François and my son Johnny wanted to try running it. Of course we didn't know how to run it, so they just lined up and went straight off the ledge. François was rowing Reilly's old boat, the *Susie Too*—that's the one at South Rim now, renamed the *Music Temple*—and when he launched off the Ledge, a bit of a vacuum must have formed in the hatches, pulling them shut extra tight. Well, the latches Reilly had put on only held when there was tension on them, so they all sprung loose, and when François hit the bottom of the hole, every hatch on the boat flew wide open. It was spectacular."

In later years Leydet sold Jaguars, wrote for the San Francisco Chronicle, wrote the Sierra Club book on the Redwoods; finally retiring in Tucson, where he was long a docent at the Arizona Sonoran Desert Museum.

His legacy lives on, though, in the Canyon he helped to save. He closed off *Time and the River Flowing* thusly:

To paraphrase Newton B. Drury, fourth Director of the National Park Service, America is not so poor that it needs to sacrifice its magnificent places for power generation, nor so rich in such places that it can afford to.

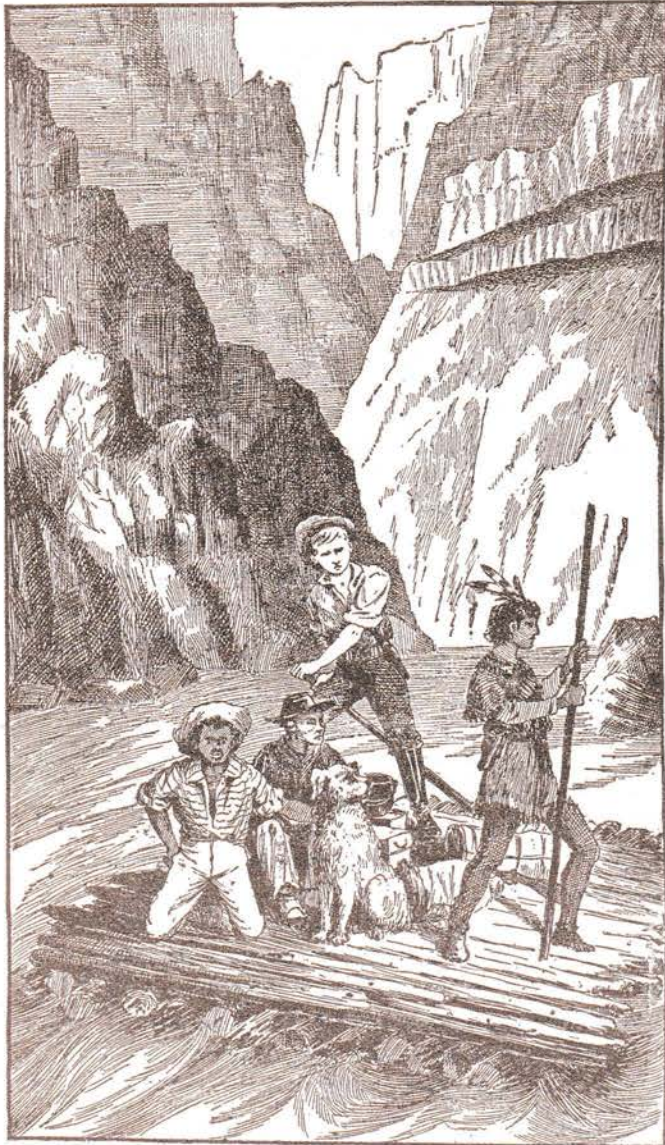
*The next time you visit the Grand Canyon, you might find yourself a quiet perch somewhere on the rim. Look off through the blue cast of space at the cliffs and terraces and amphitheaters and temples, search out the thin thread of the Colorado, rumbling through the gorge it has cut into the antiquity of the world, and breathe in your part of it all. It is within your power and of those you can awaken to make certain that this will endure. In a special way, Edwin Arlington Robinson's admonition in *Tristram* applies to the creative genius in every man:*

*. . . you are one
of the time-sifted few that leave the world,
When they are gone, not the same place it was.
Mark what you leave.*



Brad Dimock

Books, Then and Now



"Sam succeeded in guiding the raft to a ledge of sloping rocks."

Lost in the Cañon

Alfred R. Calhoun 1888

Sam Willett is on a hair-raising quest to save his father from a framed-up lynching back in Hurley's Gulch. He has the critical evidence in his pocket, but a midnight flood washes him, his young black helper Ike, their chinese assistant Wah Shin, a handsome Indian boy named Ulna, and their dog Maj, all off into the flooding Colorado on a makeshift raft. Their harrowing ride through the gorge seems to be based primarily on James White's tale, including getting caught in the dreaded whirlpool at the confluence.

"Golly!" exclaimed Ike, as he looked about him and winked very fast, "dis am curus."

"Too muchee swing swing!" cried Wah Shin, as the raft hung again on the edge of the vortex, only to be hurled a second time to the outer edge...

At the same instant the logs parted and spread out like a fan, throwing all the occupants into the water.

Now the wisdom of Sam's precaution in tying themselves to the raft became evident...

After some 250 pages of such excitement, the boys escape from the canyon, crush the villain Frank Shirley with rocks and save Sam's father.

In the end, Sam becomes a wealthy banker, Ike his porter and Wah Shin his cook. Ulna travels to the east and becomes a doctor.

Although Calhoun tries to keep his condescension towards non-whites to a patronizing level, he fails utterly.

Death on the Colorado Express; The Glen and Bessie Hyde Mystery

Donald L. Baars 1997

In this historical fiction piece Don Baars patches together a tale from many sources: accounts and photos of Glen and Bessie Hyde's fateful scow trip in 1928, the apocryphal tale of a river passenger in the 1970s who claimed to be Bessie Hyde, and the very fertile imagination of the author. The resulting hypothesis takes Glen and Bessie on beyond historical accounts, through whitewater mayhem, sexual escapades and physical abuse, to a grizzly end in lower Grand Canyon.

Whether or not you agree with Baars's deductions, the small text deserves a spot on the shelf of any serious Grand Canyon book fiend. Privately published, it retails for \$10.95 and is available from Cañon Publishers, 2939 Wellington Avenue, Grand Junction, CO 81504. Phone/fax 970/242-7385.

Burntwater

Scott Thybony 1997

Scott Thybony has long been wandering the deserts and rivers of the Southwest, poking into obscure corners, tracking down legends, listening to the stories of the unlikely characters he meets along the way. *Burntwater's* thirteen chapters—all somehow related—chronicle his journeys as a writer and pilgrim in the Four Corners region. In a style as spare and crisp as the desert he explores, he writes of the land, the places and the people those places attract and create. Adventure becomes philosophy, natural history fades into spirituality.

Clambering through the Canyon with his brother John, traveling through the lands and cultures of Mormons, Navajos and Hispanics, and returning to a

parched Grand Canyon to the site of his brother's death, the book never quite lets you know what's around the next bend. All that's clear is we're on the way to a dot on the map called Burntwater.

Certain places take us beyond ourselves. The Four Corners country is one of them. The long distances tug at the soul, drawing us far beyond the familiar. A friend once stopped at a bar in Bluff, Utah, for a gin and tonic before leaving on a river trip. The bartender looked straight at him. "This is the edge of America," she said. "Have a beer."

Burntwater is published by the University of Arizona Press and retails for \$15.95.

The Pony Rider Boys in the Grand Canyon

Frank Gee Patchin 1912

Much in the tradition of the Hardy Boys series, the Pony Rider Boys are sent out to the Canyon with their inept chaperone, Professor Zepplin. Tad (the hero), Stacy, Ned and Chunky (the klutz) arrive with the Professor at the Flagstaff train station where they are met by the old Grand Canyon guide, Jim Nance. Nance, shamelessly modeled after John Hance, takes them first to Sunset Crater where Chunky falls in a hole, then to the River at Bright Angel, where a landslide traps them and Tad performs an improbable rescue (see illustration). From there they head west for a cougar hunt near Havasu. Guns and traps begin to disappear mysteriously, their hunting dogs are poisoned and the cougar they had captured and wired to a tree is released at night. Finally, on the last page, Tad and Nance capture the culprit.

"He's a prowling Navajo," said Nance... "The Navajo believes that his ancestors' spirits go into the bodies of the lions."...

The boys and Nance took the Indian to the Indian Agency. They learned that a party had been away from the reservation, but all but this man had returned. The only reason that he would give for his actions was that the whites had tried to kill his Navajo ancestors without mercy.

"He'll be kept within bounds after this," the agent assured the boys.

With justice apparently served the boys head off into their next book, *The Pony Rider Boys with the Texas Rangers on the Trail of the Border Bandits*.

Brad Dimock



With a Wave of His Hand, Tad Plunged Into the Swirling Waters.



Dam Riddance?

Is running Separation or Lava Cliff Rapids something only Powell did or just a dream until the dams are gone? Maybe not, but wishing the dams away or arguing their futility 100 years hence won't work. Just draining them, if there were a plug to pull, might not be much different than the imaginative catastrophic dam releases often seen in movies or some real past dam failures. For example, Lake Powell has four years of accumulated river flow in storage, hundreds of feet deep unconsolidated muddy sediments at the source end. At the surface is a pot full of lazy houseboats and scurrying jet-skis. What do you do with all that? Review the situation and specifically make a case for what's right for the Colorado River in Grand Canyon!

Granted lakes, natural or otherwise, are ephemeral which still may stretch back to the last ice-age compared to rivers which may flow for millions of years. And you can't deny their popularity particularly in the arid Southwest. So their ultimate infill or destruction is not really something you want to hold your breath for. The more cogent question now that they're part of the scene is: in what ways do they belong? A lot has changed since some of the early massive structures were built, based essentially on maximum water storage and hydroelectric potential at the best technically feasible spot. The river above & below and the potential lakes had no real consideration. Their use by others was minimal or considered trivial or actually nonexistent.

Boulder Dam upon completion was a wonderful thing. It and Grand Coolie's electric power contributed tremendously to our success in the second great war. Others larger, later and profligate were not so easy to interpret. The last 50 years have shown both the reservoir lakes and the flowing rivers have as many recreational economics as the former intended industrial and agricultural interests. Yet real structural aging and the natural consequences of time must be re-evaluated and ultimately addressed. We dammed the big rivers; we can no longer just 'damn' the rest of the issues.

Can anyone claim the water? English law is based on precedence, Mother Earth having the first four billion years of water rights. Treaties in the 1800s granted rights here and there for "as long as the rivers shall run". And the present century brought total over-allocation, private domination, gross subsidies, user inequities and outright fraud. All parties—the earth, the Native Americans and all the myriad groups of this century—have their constituencies. Progress lies in rewriting the laws.

In a democracy we could vote on the issue, and to the surprise and consternation of some, have not two, but three choices: damn the river-runners, damn the

house-boaters, or find a compromise. Ideally, an honest 'win-win' compromise would be best.

In general, here are the things that must be addressed together for the next 50 years:

- 1) Protection from floods must be assured, with honest estimates on capacity reserve. This can be accomplished with significantly lower lake levels over the winter season.
- 2) Water is a multi-use, volatile resource in both rivers and lakes. All natural, public and private needs should be balanced.
- 3) Silt and sediment must be transported and maintained in a long life system for both the lakes and the rivers.
- 4) Grand Canyon is directly affected by what occurs in Lake Mead and Lake Powell and should claim its functional rights.

The Grand Colorado River - Wild to fully utilized

Times have changed; now many diverse people care. We must question how to attain balance in water use, conservation of resources and viable life of the system. The solution recommended here is by lowering lake levels to re-establishing the prime directive of dams (which is and always will be 'flood control') and adding silt transport via a lake-long penstock. The additional argument is claiming certain rights for the river in the Park domain, namely needed silt and active river gradient through the whole Park.

Lowering lake levels would increase the active flowing length of the Colorado River in both Grand Canyon and Cataract Canyon. In Grand Canyon, lowering Lake Mead 120 feet would result in the resurrection of the famous Separation and Lava Cliff Rapids of Major Powell's time. In Cataract Canyon, not only could the river and active rapids be almost doubled, the total run would be a realistic runout and greater potential for a river experience of Grand Canyon caliber. Both wilderness and natural riparian environments would be added to Grand Canyon and Cataract Canyon, and the latter would still have the high spring flows. The San Juan River, part of the Lake Powell system, would also have new use potential. Incisement of the existing upper lake sediment accumulations would actually be beneficial, even in the short run. While there would be a partial reduction in total storage and lake size there would be a significant improvement in evaporative losses, now a more valuable consideration. In fairness for both lakes, investment in various marina improvements and other accommodations for the lower lake levels are justified and should be included in the public cost of the project.

A lake-long penstock to transport river silt is an absurd idea until put into perspective. The penstock concept is as old as the Roman aqueducts as a method to cross river valleys. Lengths of hundreds of miles have been attained in urban water systems. The fact that the Bureau was considering a penstock 35 ft in diameter for a distance of 38 miles to redirect up to 90% of the river flow in Grand Canyon some 50 years ago dismisses any objections as to what they could do today to rescue their lakes from sediment infill and restore the river environment at the same time. Whether done by tunnel or a lake bottom conduit is not important.

Some specific considerations are:

- 1) Properly deal with flood and drought protection based on accommodating actual spring river flows rather than inadvertent improper estimates by maintaining new basic lake levels 50 foot below present dam heights nominally and 100-150 foot over winter and spring.
- 2) Balance river inflow with sediment transport and power potential
- 3) Balance *reservoir lake potential*, including some restoration of Glen Canyon beauty with *flowing river potential* by extension to reasonable run-out sites such as Hite and Pierce Ferry.
- 4) Redefine river inflow, water allocation, water conservation and flood & drought assurance to physically real and appropriate ethical standards over an extended attainable system life.

In summary now is a good time to discuss the vast problem and face realistic changes. These ideas may be considered interim solutions of the magnitude that created them in the first place. In another 50-100 years let it be looked at again. How can the argument for lower lake levels be justified? Thinking about who originally set lake levels and why is justification enough.

Some dams are presently due to go. Hetch Hetchy in Yosemite, two salmon blocking dams in Olympia and an old one on the Kennebec River in Maine are offered as much smaller and justifiable projects. It is time for other dams and river systems to be reevaluated and considered as new projects. New interim solutions must account for all the modern issues and factors. Here Grand Canyon and the Colorado River make a good case in point.



Noel Eberz

Why I Choose to Charge at the Glen Canyon Windmill

I have decided to contribute time and money to the mission statement of the Glen Canyon Institute; to the goal of restoring Glen Canyon and honoring the concept of Escalante National Monument as proposed by the administration of Franklin D. Roosevelt.

I believe that Glen Canyon Dam should be decommissioned because it is the right thing to do. I feel that it is impossible to manage the riverine ecosystem of Grand Canyon National Park with a cash register dam operating upstream; it is an oxymoronic relationship.

I believe it is wrong to manage an ecosystem that would have a lifespan of the very dam that altered it. We should never forget that Glen Canyon Dam was built knowing that it would silt in; that it would evaporate and absorb water; that it would destroy prehistoric cultural sites; that it would invade Rainbow Bridge National Monument; that Navajo sandstone is not a structurally sound bedrock for a high gravity arch dam.

I believe it is time to stop enabling the present economic system that has entrapped us and is propelling us into a realm of chaos. It is time to develop new technologies; to renew our commitments to family planning, clean air and water, and habitat restoration. I believe that if we fail to meet this challenge now— quality lifestyles will become passe.

The contemplation of raising the elevation of the spillway gates at Glen Canyon Dam to increase the pool of Lake Powell is not progressive thinking. Willingly managing a temporary ecosystem is not a progressive action. The course of nature has already made for us—the decision concerning the future of Glen Canyon Dam. My hope is that we ally ourselves with this inevitable fate and forge ahead on the process to decommission Glen Canyon Dam; to readjust our water and energy policies for the future.

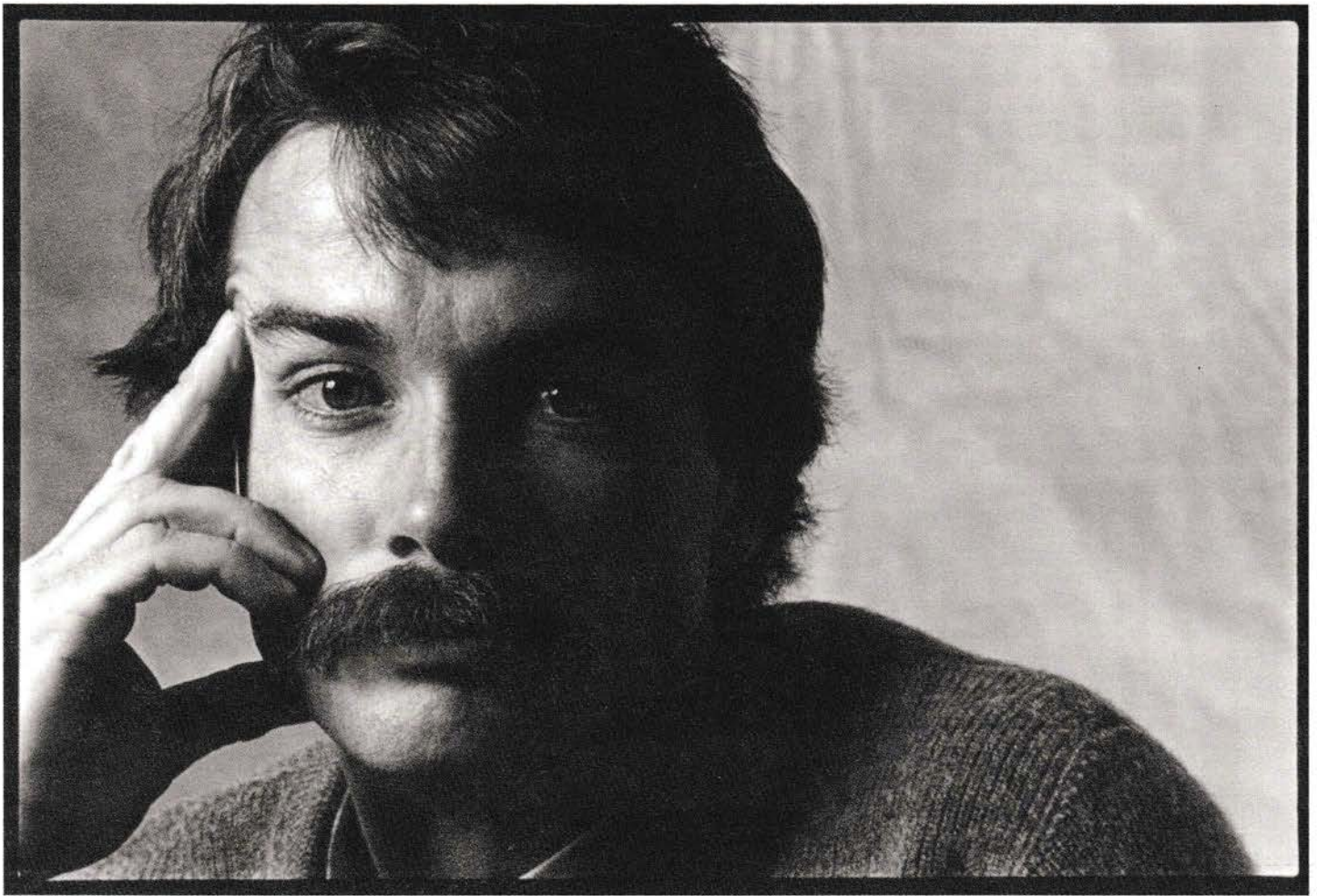
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John Weisheit



Obscure rituals.
Earle Spamer pours Grand Canyon water
and sand on John Wesley Powell's grave.



© Sue Bennett

Downriver

Sometimes you drift along, glancing up at the cliffs more than the river, not noticing the slight bulge of water ahead. And then the jolt comes.

"I'm afraid I have some bad news," said Dave Edwards. "It's about Dugald—he's dead. He's been killed on a river in California."

On June 3, 1997, Dugald Bremner and three companions found themselves on the Silver Fork of the American, running through a gorge of carved granite. By early afternoon they reached the most difficult rapid and stopped to scout it.

High flows poured over a ledge, obscuring a sieve of faults and cavities siphoning much of the river through the bedrock. Below the top falls, a fallen tree added an extra hazard to the Class 5 whitewater. Only a handful of kayakers had run the upper river before and, as far as they knew, all had portaged this rapid. Dugald studied it, reading the water for a way through the obstacles below. And he found it.

Snugged into his blue kayak, Dugald entered the current and lined up on what from above had appeared to be only minor turbulence, a swirlie, at the head of the falls. But in fact it marked a submerged fissure cutting deeply into the bedrock with water folding in from both sides and a heavy flow funneling through it. As he followed the line, his boat nosed into shallow rock and stalled, losing enough momentum for the tail to snag in the crevice.

Quickly the powerful current wedged the kayak in the narrowing sluice and dragged the tail deeper. "I need help," he calmly told Eric Brown, standing on the shore nearby. The other kayakers were downriver scouting, ready to assist if needed when the paddler reached the lower pour-offs. Eric waded across the fast water, expecting only to give the kayak a nudge. But the situation rapidly turned serious. A strong current ran beneath the surface, drawing the stern downward and jamming it tighter into the crevice. Taking quick action, Eric strad-

dled the crack and used his body to deflect the water from Dugald. With one hand he grabbed a shoulder strap of his life jacket and the boat with the other. Using all his strength, he lifted. "I'd pull back and create a pocket," Eric said, "and then lose it—back and forth, the fight was on like a tug-of-war. But the river just wouldn't quit."

Ralph Michlisch worked his way across to assist, but slipped just as he was reaching the kayak. The river drew him under, pulling him into the crevice and out through an opening in the rock. It carried him down the falls, sweeping him beneath the log and into an eddy below. Bill Morse waited to make sure he was safe, and the two of them climbed back to the top of the rapid.

As Dugald sank lower, the full force of the current pinned him forward against the boat, trapping his legs inside. The river kept pulling deeper and deeper as the bow pivoted higher. He reached a hand out of the water and Eric grabbed it. Dragged under, Dugald fought as long as he could. And then his hand relaxed.

"He just went unconscious," Eric shouted to the others, less than five minutes after Dugald became trapped. Splitting up, Ralph went for help and Bill stayed. Side-by-side, the remaining two struggled to extract the boat, desperate to free their friend as the river kept surging, throwing them around. But nothing worked.

Seeing no other option, Bill jumped onto the stern of the kayak, bracing himself on the rock and letting his back take the brunt of the current. He yanked on Dugald's life jacket but it tore apart. Again reaching deep, he grabbed Dugald's helmet and pulled. The chinstrap broke and the helmet flew off. He lost his grip, and with the river slamming against him, disappeared. Another crack, perpendicular to the main crevice and leading straight into the bedrock below the surface, sucked him under.

"I'm looking downstream," said Eric. "Nothing." Dugald was gone, Ralph had left, and Bill had just vanished.

Feeling suddenly alone, Eric noticed an arm thrashing around underwater. Pounded by the cascading water, Bill had braced himself on a chockstone to keep from being dragged even lower and found an air pocket beneath a projecting rock. Water was hitting him from every direction. Unable to surface, a voice kept telling him to let go and end the terror, but another, the one he listened to, told him to keep going. "The river didn't care," he said. "It wasn't the enemy; it just didn't care. It just kept on flowing."

Despite the terrific force of the current, Bill managed to work a hand upward. Eric sat down and braced a leg on the far side of the submerged shaft, risking the danger of being pulled in. He lowered the other leg to his friend and felt him grab on. As water continued flooding down, Bill hauled himself up hand over hand, using his last ounce of strength. As he struggled to surface, his face broke into daylight and he gasped the clear air. With the first breath came a great urge to rest for a moment, only a moment, but he heard his

friend shouting at him not to give up. Eric knew if Bill relaxed for a split second the river would have him again.

"He was just taking it right in the face," Eric said. "He came up choking and gagging." With his back to the current, Eric's own dry suit top was ballooning with water, spraying out around the neck. He gripped Bill's life jacket and pulled him free. "There's nothing more we can do," he said, both exhausted. "We have to go for help."

A video clip taken earlier that day showed Dugald running a waterfall. He moved gracefully, letting the current take the kayak, matching the river's flow perfectly. Following a clean line, he plunged down the drop into the churning water below. As the camera panned in, he looked back at the falls and gave a shout, his voice drowned in the roar of the water.

"He was ferociously brave," said Dave Edwards, friend and fellow photographer, "but not rash. It's not so daring when you have the skills, and he really had the skills."

Word of the accident reached Dugald's close friends, and soon his partner Kate Thompson, Sue Bennett, Chris McIntosh, and Kelly Burke left for the Silver Fork. Arriving at the scene, they found a spectacular setting—stormclouds breaking up, a double rainbow arcing down to the river, a roostertail fanning above the nose of the blue kayak.

A local swift-water rescue team had postponed their efforts to remove the body after an unsuccessful attempt, calling it the most difficult extraction they had faced. But friends and family, concerned by the delay, felt they should take matters into their own hands. "It became clear to me," said Kate Thompson, "that Eldorado County should not be responsible for this rescue. We assume our own risks," she added, referring to the climbing and boating community, "and we take care of our own."

On June 8, an expert team gathered at the site under the direction of rigger Mike Weis, with Lars Holbeck and Eric Magnuson handling the in-river work. Within a few hours they had completed the recovery.

His friends brought the kayak home to Flagstaff and leaned it against the wall of his studio, bow skyward. As the sense of loss deepened, memories surfaced, the little things once overlooked. Blake Spaulding described how Dugald used to move his head a certain way and glance off, a mannerism she picked up while working for him. "See, I just did it again," she said. "We're composites of each other, all of us." Jeri Ledbetter recalled standing next to Dugald, scouting a rapid on the Colorado. "It's only water," he said to reassure her. And later, when she nearly drowned on the Bio-Bio, his words came back to her. "It's only water."

The photographer's portfolio lay spread out on the light table: A climber stretched out in a hammock strung high among the golden aspen; a blue kayak, almost aerial, floated between boulders and whitewater; Granite Falls caught the last light of day reflected from the rim. The images revealed a sense of beauty in action—not a life viewed from a distance but one fully engaged. On the wall of Dugald's

studio hung a single photo of his own, one of his favorite shots. It showed boatman Mike Yard diving off the cliff at Three Springs, suspended for an instant in pure emptiness.

"He was following his own path and he succeeded at it," Dave said. "A true Scot." Born in Edinburgh, Scotland, the 41-year old photographer guided river trips on the Colorado for 20 years. He attended Prescott College and graduated magna cum laude from Northern Arizona University with a degree in psychology/biology. Photography took him around the world on assignments ranging from Siberian rivers to Turkestan peaks. His first article for National Geographic, documenting the first descent of a Kazakstan river, will appear in the November, 1997 issue.

News of the accident spread fast. Hundreds of friends converged on Bobby Jensen's place below the San Francisco Peaks for a memorial gathering. The drone of bagpipes could be heard coming from an aspen grove, carrying far like the deeper tones of a rapid. Old friends and family members stood before his dory, the Skagit, and said a few words of goodbye.

Dugald's mother, Jean Bremner, recounted an early move the family made from Missouri to Texas. The farther west they drove, the more apprehensive she became. She almost cried when they reached the outskirts of Dallas at sunset, finding it flat, dry, and barren. Then five-year old Dugald leaned over the seat. "See, Mom," he said, "didn't I tell you it would be beautiful?"

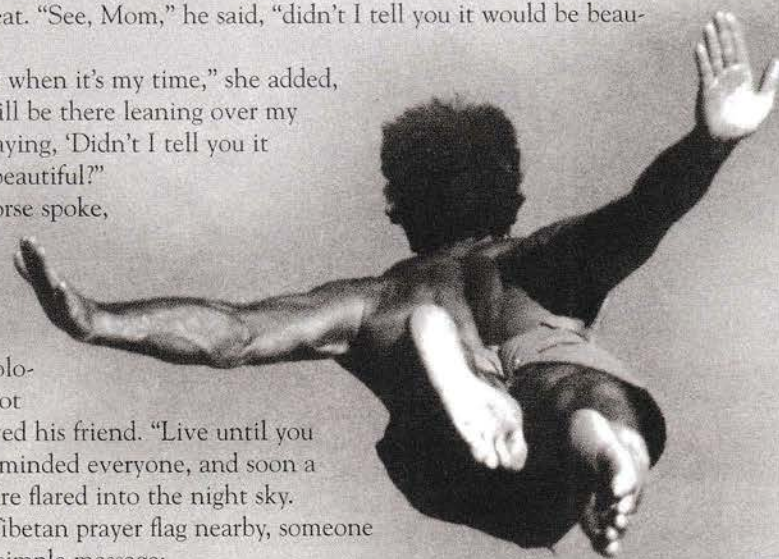
"I hope when it's my time," she added, "Dugald will be there leaning over my shoulder saying, 'Didn't I tell you it would be beautiful?'"

Bill Morse spoke, savoring each breath of mountain air. He apologized for not having saved his friend. "Live until you die," he reminded everyone, and soon a huge bonfire flared into the night sky.

On a Tibetan prayer flag nearby, someone had left a simple message:

"Dugald,
We'll talk downriver."

Downriver, where the light in the evening pulls back from all but the highest rim and the rock gives off heat like something alive.



Scott Thybony

*Fallen comrades lie hard.
What darkness lies beneath the river's crevice
An innocent line into eternity awaits
The gentle warrior;
wary yet unaware.
The purest of moments,
the purest of days;
leads so quickly
into the transcendent place
of worlds beyond.*

*A rescue in vain,
was there ever any hope?
Is the river to be blamed?
Or is it just a moment;
a point in space and time.
Combined at a confluence of destiny;
that brings the end of a life.*

*No vanquished warrior,
our humble hero;
will always stand strong in memory.
In images of others,
Portraits of human history.
He played a part.
An inspiration to all.
From deeds and words to images.
We all take lessons,
from his life and in his passing.
He would ask us to linger this moment;
But not too long.*

Steve Munsell

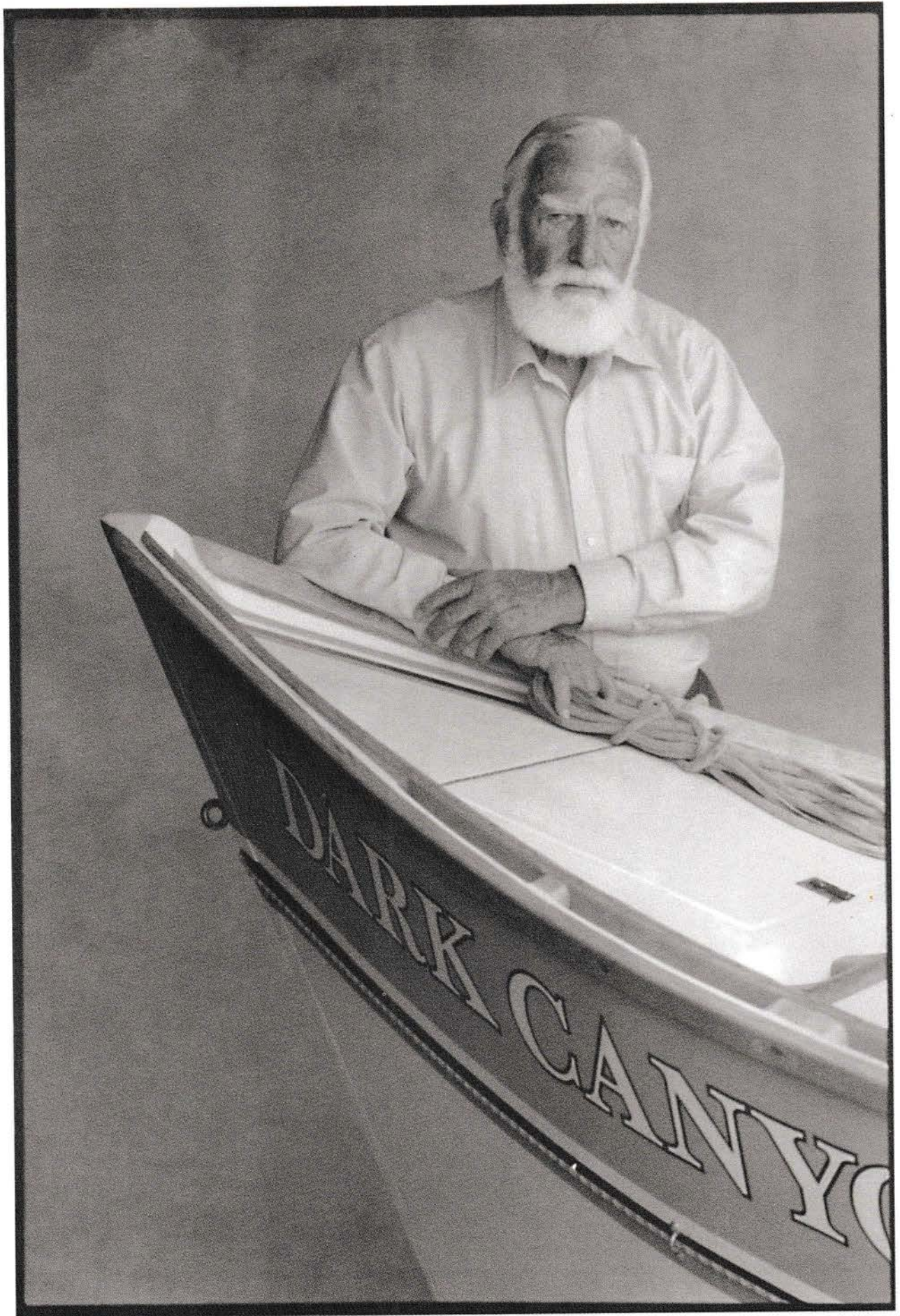
A Series of Portraits by Dugald Bremner

Over the last few years, Dugald Bremner had taken on a magnificent and meaningful project. He was creating formal portraits of the elder statesmen of Grand Canyon—early river runners, political figures, outfitters and the like. For each portrait he would find or create some object relevant to that person's life. We recently printed his portrait of Katie Lee. A year ago he put together a poster of his portrait of Kent Frost, with the proceeds going to GCRG. At the time of his death Dugald had plans to devote much of this year to the portrait project—a project some friends say was his most personally satisfying and meaningful. What follows is a brief glimpse of that unfinished legacy.



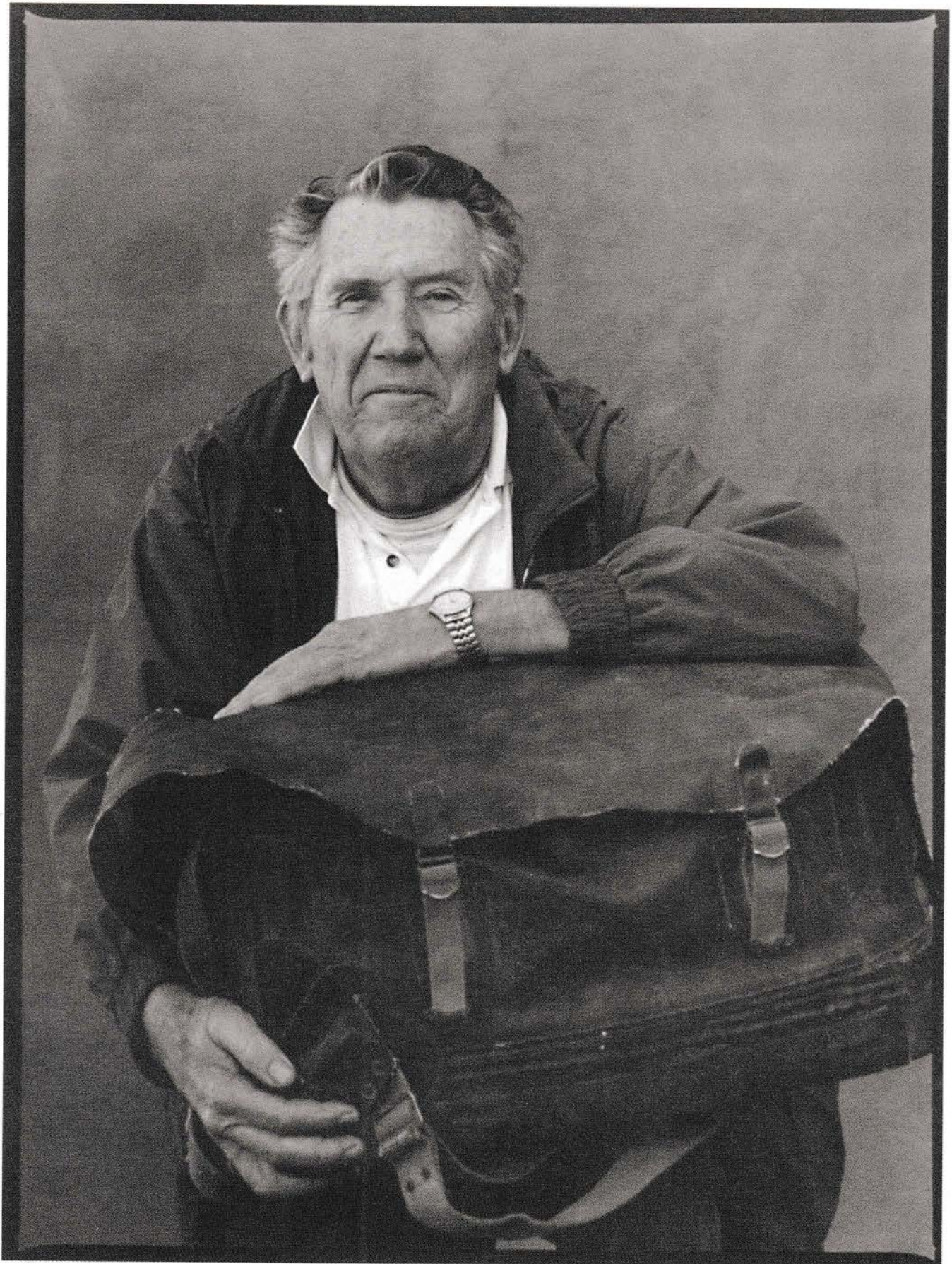
Les Jones—originator of the scroll map.

© Dugald Bremner 1994

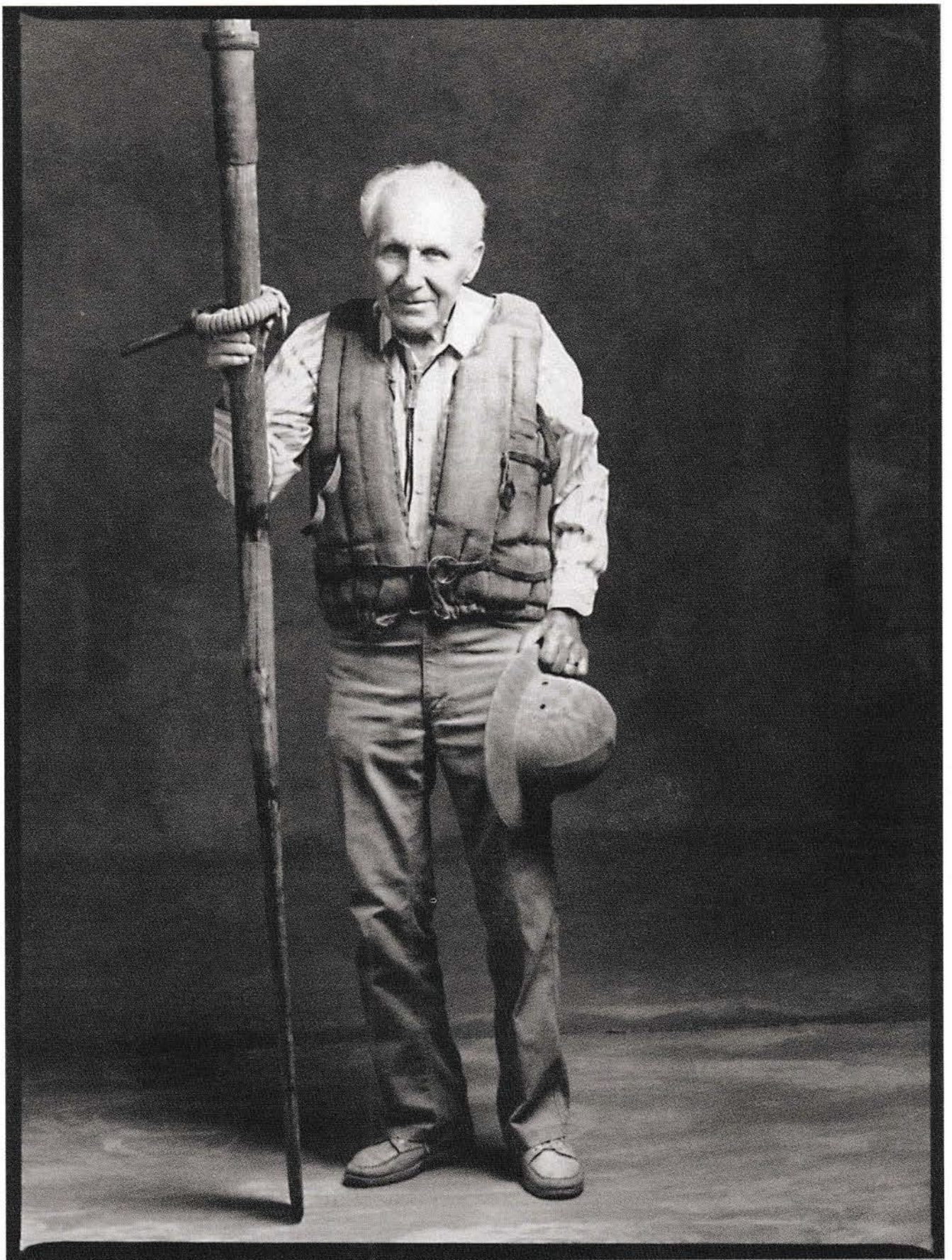


Martin Litton—he brought dories to the canyon he helped save.

© Dugald Bremner 1997



Bill Beer—he swam Grand Canyon © Dugald Bremner 1994

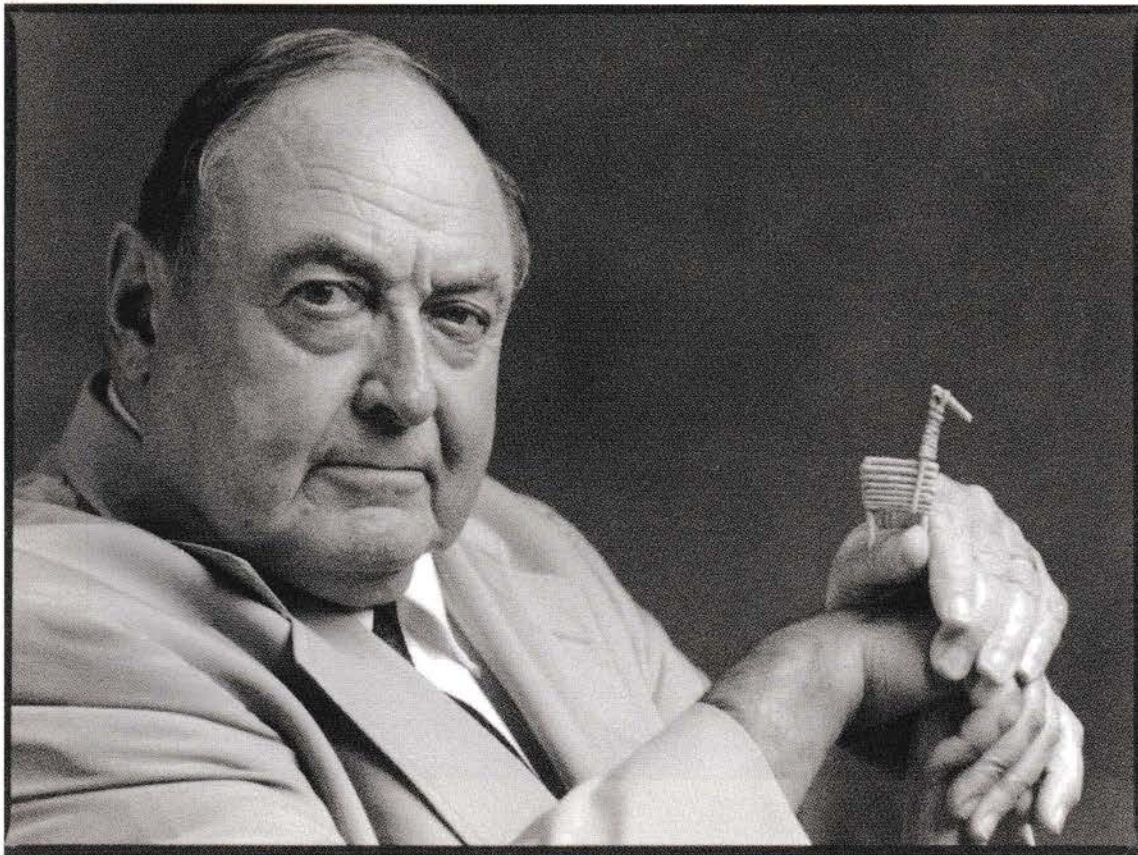


With Loper, Nevills and Brennan; in Cataract Boats, hard-hulled outboards and motor rigs; Don Harris did it all.
© Dugald Bremner 1994



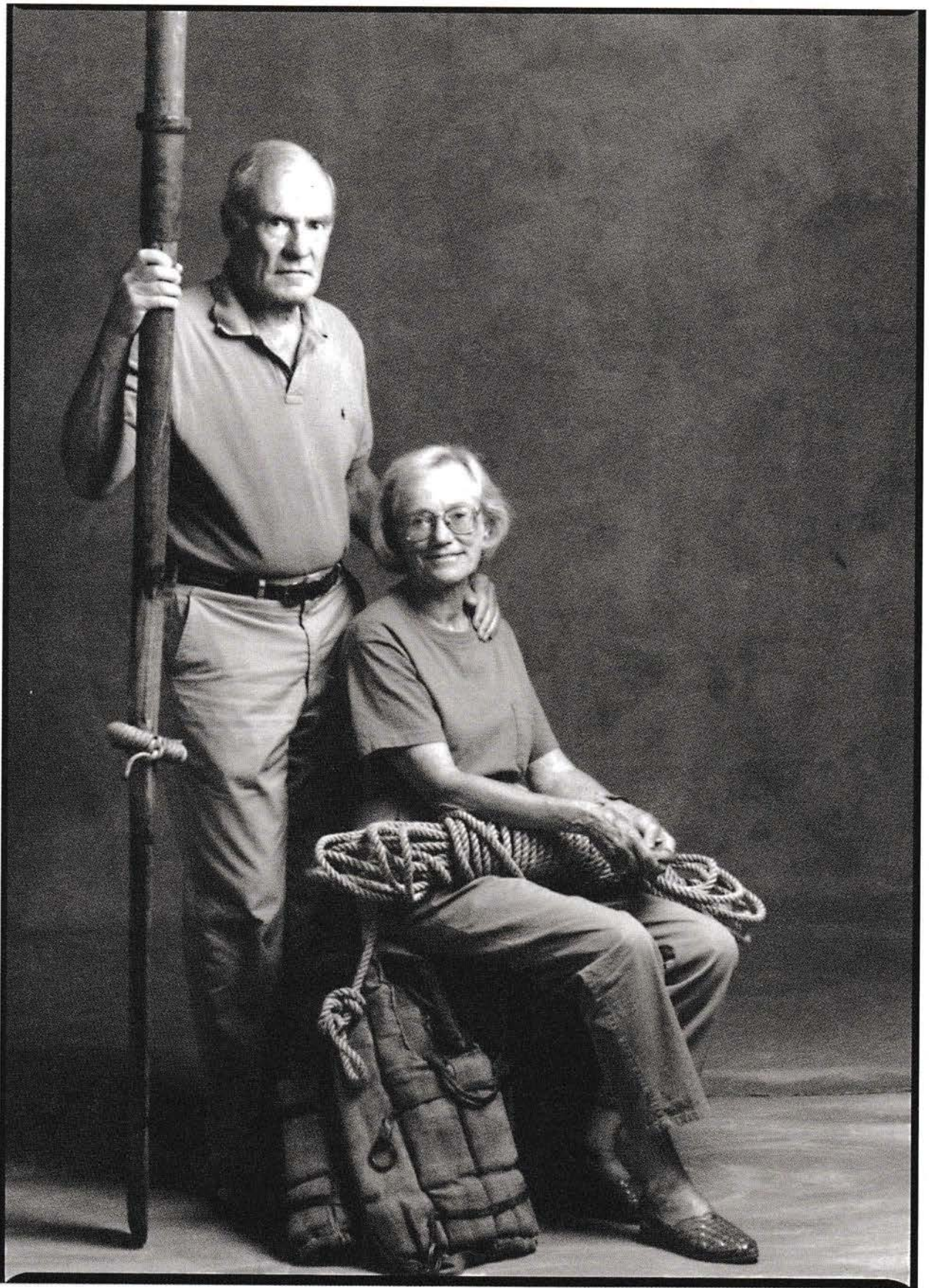
Tad Nichols—photographer extraordinaire, Mexican Hat Expeditions

© Dugald Bremner 1994



Bob Euler—archaeologist, Grand Canyon

© Dugald Bremner 1994



Garth and Shirley Marston—boating from the days of Nevills and Dock Marston on into the nineties

© Dugald Bremner 1994



Moonlight Magic Mixed, by Serena Supplee

Three Poems

CFS

The canyon doesn't need goodbyes.
For you I leave these lines
about another place,
another insane love affair,
another reason turned to silt
meandering along,
carving a soul out
of its own.

Current

Nothing to do but pack and leave,
he looks around the canyon one last time,
makes ready to shove off.
She wants another cup, another cigarette,
the calls, bills, worries waiting at the takeout.
The river flows with or without them.
She's determined to drag it out
eyes down, silent in the dory
but its time to go.
She slides the oars into their locks
and strokes into the current.

Women

We talk about all kinds of stuff
in three weeks on the river,
wars shared, friends buried.
The conversation turns to women
from grammar school to grave
in terms nice girls might find revolting
but women who understand us,
women who don't hide behind
prissiness, propriety or political correctness,
who laugh and give
good as they get;
women who aren't confused
by all the latest trends,
secure in who they are,
regard as no big deal
considering the source.

Oleh Lysiak



Views of an Ordinary Citizen on Search and Seizure

I am an American, a regular issue third generation grandson of immigrants. I am, on balance, a very ordinary working citizen. The only minor difference between myself and others is that I travel a bit in my work and have had the opportunity to observe other countries and how they work or don't work. Like most Americans, I have long since accepted the strength of our Constitution and the Bill of Rights as being inviolate. It clearly makes us different than other nations. I'm proud of that. Alterations to these documents are few and far between. They are hard to come by and require diligent work by the Congress and the Law to make even the smallest changes. Well, that is what I used to think. I don't now. Some "changes" aren't really actual additions, deletions or interpretations to the documents but simply the Federal Judiciary choosing not to follow the Constitution on particular issues. This is the case with Article IV of The Bill of Rights. Article IV states in plain and simple English that citizens of the United States of America do not have to suffer "search and seizure" unless there is "probable cause." The people are therefore supposed to be protected from abuse by authority. That's it. It's simple. We have it on paper; most nations on earth do not.

I like to mention a very brief history of how it all started. Back when we were a British colony and under the crown of George III our people suffered the infuriating indignity of being stopped and searched at will. Doors were kicked in, residents beaten, letters and books seized and so on. Our forefathers got heartily sick of it. Never again. The idea of individual rights of a free person took hold for the first time. Unfamiliar words like "rights," "inalienable" and "self-evident" came into use for the ordinary citizen. It was a bold move in a bold time. We all know what happened. The British soon had a wild cat by the tail. "Search and Seizure" was only one of many fiery issues that led to a revolution and the independence we all cherish. Finally, at long last, in America, government would be under control.

Times have changed. To my surprise, the American people of the late 20th Century and especially the rich and powerful, have in great part and with the questionable guidance of the Federal Judiciary come to view the "search and seizure without probable cause" issue of Article IV of the Bill of Rights as a "trivial inconvenience." The word "inconvenient" is crucial to our understanding of what is happening. To look at it another way, the protection of the rights of the people under Article IV has proven to be "awkward" in that it seems to effectively frustrate the expansion of governmental power and supposedly provides haven to law

breakers. It is apparent that the majority of America's citizens are to suffer so that the government can get easily to the criminal few.

So, how should we feel about law, logic and convenience? It is only natural and logical to want to stop or alleviate evil deeds in a civilized society. What our forefathers knew, however, is that we as a people had to make a daring historical stand; we had to assume—by law—that all people would be assumed innocent until proven guilty. This was, at the time, outrageous revolutionary rhetoric. The sort of heady stuff that in other nations resulted in being imprisoned or hanged. This previously unthinkable notion of "innocent until proven guilty" tied in with the previously unthinkable laws against "search and seizure." Our Bill of Rights says you cannot search and seize anything unless you have a very good reason: "probable cause." And we assume innocence!! This was blasphemy to the kings and aristocracy of Europe. America was thoroughly despised. The idea that certain basic rights of all the people actually preceded the power of authority was bestial and disgusting. Today, to we Americans, it sounds so obviously fair and just. But! Please note! It was and is not perfectly just. The Bill of Rights, for example, is tediously "inconvenient" and troublesome to the authorities carrying out what at times seems to be the obvious and quick route to justice. It was, I hasten to add, designed to do just that; to be bloody inconvenient and time consuming. Why? For our protection. Slick, clean and effective laws lead to slick, clean and effective authoritarian control.

This is where you, the present day citizen, come in. You have to decide if you want everyone to be treated as a "possible felon" for the convenience of the authorities or, if you think everyone—that means each of you—ought to be treated as innocent and never endure search and seizure unless there is very good reason. You either have Article IV of the Bill of Rights or you don't. That's the issue. It is deserving of careful thought.

Before you decide, consider your corporal body. The human body is the temple of the soul. It is a magnificent gift from nature in both form and function. It houses your mind and soul. It is considered devoutly sacred by some yet barely tolerated by others. It is safe to say on behalf of everyone, however, that it is yours. It is the only instance in a capitalist Republic of you being your own private property—free and clear: you literally own your body. You can do with it pretty much as you wish. You can take it places, feed it or not, work it shamelessly, be good to it, exercise it and dress it up or take it straight to hell. Few would argue this.

Would you not consider your body more personal and private than, for example, your journal, personal papers, business records, bank books, letters, wills, or an unpub-

lished manuscript? Would you not consider your body even more private than your home or rental unit? Is it more sacrosanct than, say, your automobile? These things are protected from illegal search and seizure by law. Why then, do you submit to your body chemistry being searched without "probable cause?" By submitting to this invasive violation of your person you humiliate yourself. What will be the consequences? What, I ask, will happen to your children, your loved ones, relatives, friends—your mother and father? What of them? What about future generations? Do you care? This may be the most troublesome question, but where will it end? At what point will search and seizure be limited? Moreover, give me an example in the history of mankind of legal protections being taken away from the people by the government and then returned. Rights are never, ever returned voluntarily and without a fight.

Our forefathers believed it was unwise to place too much trust in governments. Why? Simple answer. Governments are run by ordinary people who make laws and become impatient or willful and try to make everyone else do exactly what they want (usually for their own benefit or convenience). You just can't trust people in power all the time; it's not wise. Our Republic wanted a government that would itself have laws to follow. We wanted laws above the government. So, we made a Constitution. In a way, you could say that ours was the first government in history to have as its basic premise, "Every citizen whatever their station must respect the rights of others." Our forefathers figured you needed a certain guaranteed independence from government and that made the best people. There just plain had to be rights for individual citizens the government couldn't touch, so it was spelled out in clear and simple language for all to read and understand. These documents were solemn oaths sworn for present and future generations. It was clear to everyone in the world, rich and poor alike, that for the newly free and independent Americans these were words to die for. Because of the American example, it has become increasingly clear to the world over the generations that if, government respects human beings, a nation will develop fine, responsible individuals. Not bad thinking, eh?

Having said these things consider the following: In America today, for the Federal guardians of the Constitution and The Bill of Rights to allow employers to demand and require you to take a drug test without "probable cause" or lose your job is wrong. It is an absolute violation of the law as painstakingly spelled out in The Bill of Rights. It is an insulting, degrading, humiliating experience for us. If, you don't think so, those of you in government, then try it. Try it our way! Go to the appointed facility on your own free time. Suffer the embarrassment of reporting in. Ask yourself during the ensuing process, why are they doing this to me? What have I done? Empty your pockets on a table like a common criminal, turn your

pockets out, remove all outer garments, turn around for inspection, bear the disdain of the person who hands you a bottle and orders you to fill it in some toilet with a taped down water tank. Hand over a warm bottle of your urine, get checked off a list and ordered to gather your possessions and leave. If, this experience doesn't bother you, you don't deserve either freedom or liberty. Moreover, your weakness in accepting this treatment will wreak havoc for others over time. Future generations will ask you why in God's name you didn't speak up.

It is akin to being summarily arrested for no apparent reason and searched. It is common practice in the world at large and perhaps you see it as acceptable in America for just that reason since, "Everybody else does it." Maybe it is that you just like to "get along," so you follow most such requests willingly. You can always say, to quote one motorboatman, "Well, it's the nineties."

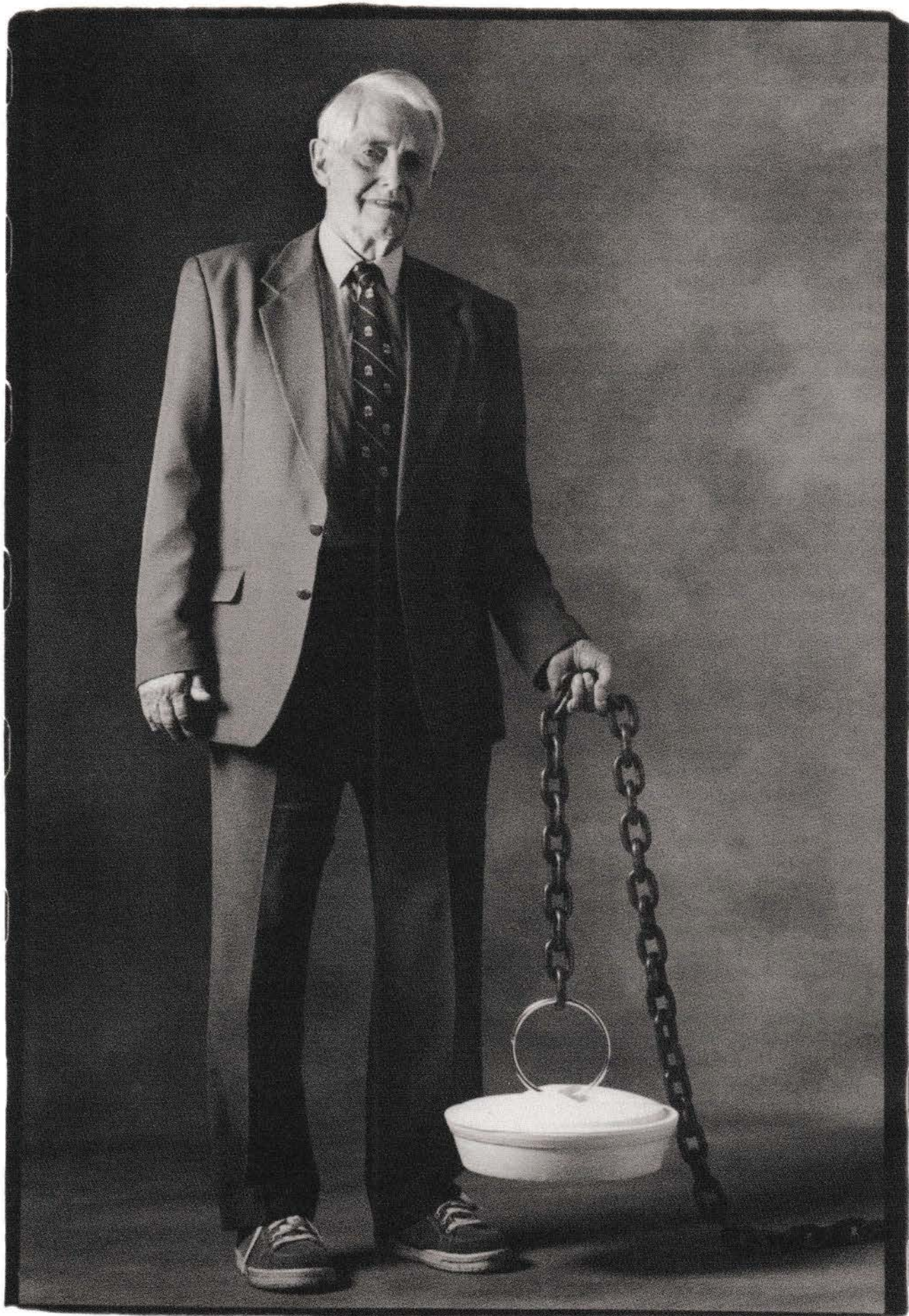
Isn't it the responsibility of a free society such as ours to educate people as best as possible and then dare to rely on individual responsibility? Don't we need to maintain that daring risk in life, that dignified chance? Isn't Article IV of the Bill of Rights meant for us: a free people? Should not the law honor the innocent majority? I, for one, despise drugs but I despise even more being treated as a possible felon to satisfy someone's paranoid curiosity. And I loathe those who contemptuously disregard honoring my word as an individual and imply my guilt until I prove myself innocent.

The government argument to this controversy is that search and seizure by drug testing without probable cause is "for the greater good of the people." This means for "the greater good" of the government—not the people. Something for the greater good of the people would be to go after importers, drug brokers, dealers and such without stint as to their position in politics, society, international business, financial banking ties and political ramifications, or any other considerations. This won't happen, folks. Ask yourself, if they won't pursue these things, why are they looking at me? It is because you are at hand and it's a matter of power and convenience.

We all know there is no such thing as a perfect society. Ours was founded on the acceptance of human frailty and the knowledge that people need certain inalienable rights that cannot be taken away no matter what. The consequence of your giving up on Article IV of the Bill of Rights is to abdicate your personal responsibility as a citizen for the mere convenience of authority. The reward for this acquiescence is that your life will, in fact, be easier, safer and smoother under an all powerful, centralized authority. Follow the rules and you will be quite snug, happy and pleased with your life. Until they come to your door, that is. And when has history ever let us down?



David Edwards,
river guide



David Brower—pulling the plug

© Dugald Bremner 1997

I started running around in the mountains at a very early age because my family liked to camp, and we went into the Sierra. Yosemite. My first trip there was 1918. The I-80 at that point was a one-lane, dirt road. It's changed a bit (chuckles) since then. But that meant there was a chance to take a long trip. Took four days to get to Tahoe. Seventy-four hours. We camped out, and just that experience... and finding out [the very next year] what the loggers were doing, way back even then, spoiling something that I'd just discovered... I mean, I started off with a bias that I have never escaped. (laughs) Never trust a logger. But then I worked for the Berkeley Echo Camp for three summers and took people up mountain peaks, easy peaks, and learned that the real high stuff is in the High Sierra. Took backpack trips: one in '33, a seven-week trip; in '34, a ten-week trip, trying to climb everything I hadn't climbed yet.

Didn't get into rivers until I guess about 1950. I was on the Sierra Club board, and we heard a description of what to do about the Grand Canyon. At that point we were persuaded that the Sierra Club should vote in favor of the Grand Canyon Dam, and Glen Canyon. And I went along with it. I asked the one advocate we had on our board, Bestor Robinson, I knew, who liked development. Had he checked this out with Frederick Law Olmstead? Yes, he had, and he was a good follower of Olmstead's father...

Anyhow, Frederick Law Olmstead thought nothing damaging would be done to the Grand Canyon by these dams: that the canyons would still be rising very high above the reservoir level... and we got over that idea. We voted for those dams, and I was one of the people who did. That was back in 1949. In 1950 I began to hear about Dinosaur, and that got me quite excited. I didn't think that we should allow dams in a national monument. One of our directors said, "Well, there's nothing there but sagebrush." But I'd heard some other stories. Had no good photographs. Then in 1952, Harold Bradley—one of the oldest presidents of the Sierra Club—he was a son of a charter member of the club... took his family down through Dinosaur and made a 16mm movie. When I saw that, I said, "This place has got to be saved." It took photography to wake me up. And then I got into the battle and started in '52, and it's been going on since then. 1952 to 1997. When does it end?!

David Brower has been an environmental activist for almost half a century. At 85, he still may be the best known, most recognized figure in the game... as well he should be. Along the way he was executive director of the Sierra Club for 17 years. He founded the League of Conservation Voters, Friends of the Earth, and Earth Island Institute. He participated in battles that stopped dams in the Grand Canyon and Dinosaur National Monument; and successfully set aside areas such as Point Reyes National Seashore, Fire Island, Cape Cod, Redwood National Park, and North Cascades, to name just a few. In a broader sense, he has been a beacon of conscience and hope, where nature is concerned, for practically an entire planet. Last fall he, the Sierra Club, and an organization called the Glen Canyon Institute made headlines once again by calling for the draining of Lake Powell and the restoration of Glen Canyon.

In late January, Brad Dimock and Jeri Ledbetter made a pilgrimage to California and interviewed Brower at his home. This spring, Lew Steiger was lucky enough to catch him in Flagstaff as well. The following is a compilation of both conversations, with occasional interjections from his multitudinous writings...

When did you become the executive director of the Sierra Club?

In 1952. So I was given a new platform, really, a place to operate from, and a budget. It was in the following year, 1953, that we persuaded Bus Hatch to take a bunch of us through the canyons. We had three trips of about 65 people each, so that we got 200 or 300 people through Dinosaur in that year, down through Echo Park, out through Split Mountain Gorge, and they got to experience a six-day trip. And that was the major beginning for Sierra Club river trips. It was the first use that I know of, of the big baloney boats. Then... we had the capability, [suddenly], of taking a lot of people down rivers. And I'm certainly glad that tradition got going

full bore. The experience of a river trip, I remember, was just... I was just in a kind of ecstasy... here you are down by the river, washing pots. Go wash everything out into the river and clean things up, come back, get good and wet, get dry. (chuckles) Find campsites along good spots. And you could get into places that nobody else could get to.

It wasn't until Glen that I began to get the side canyon experience (and we got more of that later in Grand). I'd tell people, "What side canyons have you seen?" That goes for Grand or anything else. But in Glen, the side canyons were the thing. I've just got to see those start to recover...

You really seem to take Glen Canyon personally...

The first thing I thought of when we got into the congressional hearings, was a compromise indeed—the biggest compromise of all, that in order to save Echo Park and Split Mountain from being dammed, we put all that water in a bigger Glen Canyon Dam. And I was the guy who advocated that Glen Canyon Dam be built higher. River runners in Salt Lake got after me on that one and said, “What the hell are you up to?! You haven’t seen it, have you? And you don’t know what you’re talking about.” And that was right. But beyond *that*, the Bureau of Reclamation’s commissioner said, “We would have difficulty protecting Rainbow Bridge if it were higher. And considering we have serious doubts about the foundation of Glen Canyon itself, [we] don’t want to make it any higher.” That quote needs to come out again. They were concerned *then* about it—they should be concerned more now.

But then the battle came on. And as the battle went on and on, I saw that there were other things wrong with the whole project [the Colorado River Storage Project]. It was a bum project, it was too expensive, taxpayer expense—all the bad things. And we had plenty of people with us on that. We knew that it was bad engineering. I knew that from Walter Huber who was the dam expert for President Eisenhower. And we knew from Luna Leopold, one of our best hydrologists, of the U.S. Geological Survey, that they were not thinking right about sedimentation and aggradation. And I got going on *those* subjects, and got really excited about it. We had a *very bad* project. It was going to waste water [through evaporation and bank-storage loss]—I had no idea how much *then*—and it was a bad idea altogether. And we had enough people ready to oppose that right at that point, a block of 200 votes from the House of Representatives to shoot it down, and they would have enough trade votes to kill it.

At that point, when it was, I think, on the ropes, and the whole Reclamation program on the ropes with it, I got a wire when I was lobbying back in Washington from the executive committee of the Sierra Club saying, “If Echo Park and Split Mountain Dams are taken out of the project, the Sierra Club will withdraw its opposition to the entire project.” They didn’t really know much about the whole project, because they hadn’t been thinking about that—they’d just been thinking about the national monument precedent. When they did that, the people who were trying, along with us, to block the dam, realized that with the Sierra Club out of this—it was the keystone of the opposition—the opposition would fade, and the project would go through, which it did.

But the thing that bothers me still, is that when that decision came by wire from San Francisco to

Washington, instead of grabbing the next plane home and getting the board to meet and squaring them out, giving them the story about this, “Look, this project is wrong on all these bases. And besides, it violates the Sierra Club’s own policy: ‘there should be no major scenic resource lost for a power project.’” But I *didn’t* get off my duff; I didn’t move. And I don’t know yet, to this day, exactly why I didn’t.

That was the difference. I could have made the difference at that point. I was the one person who could have. I had all these pieces to work with, and they didn’t, and I didn’t make that trip. It was an excuse for me later that, well, I hadn’t seen it yet, or I’d have been as excited about that as I was about Dinosaur—I hadn’t seen it, indeed. But whatever the reason, I was in a position to keep the Sierra Club intact, to keep the opposition intact, and Senator Paul Douglas asked, “Why did you quit?” and Senator Clinton Anderson, a great reclamationist, said, “If it hadn’t gone through [then], it would never have gone through.”

So then the CRSP went through without Echo Park, but with a provision to save Rainbow Bridge?

Yes. And the provision to save Rainbow Bridge was interesting because we’d fought for that, and Howard Zahniser got those words in, “It is the intention of Congress that no dams or reservoirs be in national parks or monuments, and protection of Rainbow Bridge...”. And then we got into court on that later. But meanwhile, what happened in Congress is what happens often—that you can get a lot of public attention on a major issue, but when you get the appropriation, there’s very little chance for public participation. And I was at the hearings on the appropriation bill, where there was no chance for me to talk, and Wayne Aspinall was asked, “Well, wasn’t there some provision that Rainbow Bridge should be protected?” “No.” He just out-and-out lied. And there was nothing we could do about it. I was there.

They didn’t protect it. We had this later trip when Stewart Udall took a lot of people by helicopter, including Connie Wirth of the Park Service and all kinds of people—I was there—to the site they were supposed to have protected, Rainbow Bridge—to build the coffer dam that would keep any flow from Glen Canyon Reservoir from getting to Rainbow Bridge. And Floyd Dominy was there, among others, and I said, “This is the place you’ve got to build it—that’s the one place where you can handle what has to be handled. And yes, you’re going to have to have something that’ll take the flow out of Aztec Creek and Bridge Creek, and put it up into the reservoir. It’s going to take a pumping station.” And Floyd Dominy

just did a couple of kicks at some of the soil around there, and said, "You can't build a dam here." That was the attention given it.

When did the Grand Canyon bill begin?

Well, I think it began once they had the assurance of the silt trap in Glen Canyon, then they could go right ahead with Marble and Bridge. Because without Glen's control of sediment, and without some control to be built on the Little Colorado, which is a big sediment carrier—Bridge, of course, was the one vulnerable there—Marble would not last long if it had to carry the sediment that Glen was getting. And Bridge wouldn't last long if it had to carry both. So there was no point in thinking about either of those dams until Glen was assured, and the Coconino Project was well reassured. It'd be a hard job stopping, protecting the Little Colorado drainage. I suppose we could do it, but... That's a great big bunch of silt comes down there.

In any event, once Glen was assured, then the Bureau began to get ready for the Southwest Water Plan—everything else they could do to hurry up with the Grand Canyon, with Bridge and Marble. Now they've wrecked one, they want to wreck the rest of it.

Martin Litton says that when the Grand Canyon dams first came up, that Bestor Robinson was the president of the Sierra Club and was not opposing the dams—that he merely wanted adequate recreational facilities—elevators for the fishermen—as part of the dam. How did that get changed?

Bestor came on with a very persuasive statement. He was a good lawyer, and he knew how to swing a jury. But he could not overcome what Martin did, who made the speech following Bestor's. That was when we had more members listening in on board meetings than we do now. There was quite a bunch listening. And they listened to Bestor and there was silence. Then Martin poured it on, on what a ridiculous thing this would be to do. And the audience applauded. And Bestor subsided, and we voted "no."

Had Martin been primed for this speech?

Martin doesn't have to prime for a speech. (laughter) He's ready. He's very eloquent.

And then the fight began.

So the fight was ready to *continue*.

The Pennington film [of the inundation of Glen Canyon] was extremely helpful. Then a whole series of things began to be extremely helpful, including the numbers that we got out of the three principal assistants I had—one a nuclear engineer, Larry Moss. Another, our mathematician, Jeff Ingram. And then Alan Carlin, who was of the Rand Corporation, an economist, began to

feed numbers into the system that were devastating. The principle argument that Larry Moss was coming up with was we could go to nuclear instead. I was trapped in that briefly, but got out of that trap. But Jeff pointed out to the then Office of Management and Budget, then called the Bureau of the Budget, his analysis of the figures the Bureau was using. They were counting on using the revenue from Grand Canyon to finance further Reclamation work, to sequester that from what was required under the act that it go to the general account, the Treasury. And the Bureau of the Budget didn't like that. This was kind of shocking that the Bureau would try to do that, and the Corps of Engineers, when they got wind of what was up—that this was a long-range plot for the Bureau to get into the water of the Columbia—and when the Army engineers heard that, then we had all kinds of help—and help from Pacific Northwest members of Congress. That was some of the quiet help we got on the Grand Canyon. We got some pretty important people saying, "No way." That included the guy who was the Speaker of the House, didn't stay there, Mr. Foley. He was very helpful in the Grand. And Senator Jackson was very helpful.

What brought about the ad campaign?

I'd started the ads after I'd been given the example in Dinosaur. There was a meeting of the Colorado River Board about Echo Park and Denver coming up. This man who was heading this took up a full-page ad in the Denver Post that arrived in the daily meeting. And that ad included "if there are any secret hopes continued by you people for the Echo Park Dam, we will block the entire project." (laughs) So I saw the power of the full-page ad at that point, and began using them for the Redwoods.

The one that's most famous of all was the one with my story about what was wrong—I'd given a whole story of the history of the earth and everything else, when things were built and so on, and when Grand Canyon started—and also about words that had come to us in a letter from a Sierra Club member who lived in New Jersey and used the line, "Should we flood the Sistine Chapel because it gets us nearer the ceiling?" So that was put in the ad, and that has been one of the most famous ads of all time, and people still love it.

It was a very effective ad. Then the other ads were effective. We put out, I guess, five all together, on the Grand Canyon. And three books, two films. All that stuff—the ads, the films, the books—those helped as tools. And getting around to the meetings, the hearings, the arguments, the interviews.

The first ad we took out, "Should we flood the Grand Canyon for profit?"—that was an ad with a bunch of coupons, saying "write your congressman" and so on. That's where Mo Udall had drinks with Sheldon Cohen

at the old Congressional Hotel, and said, "How can the Sierra Club get away with this?" And so that day the IRS clouded our tax deductible status. I got into the bad graces of Stewart Udall briefly because I thought that I didn't know that Udall had done it, but I thought something had happened here. And Mo never admitted it in public, but he told me privately in his office that was the worst mistake he made. But the IRS action was extremely helpful.

I tell that story that a lot of people didn't know the threat to the Grand Canyon, or much about it, but they *did* know they hated the IRS. And here's a little organization out in California trying to save the Grand Canyon for the world, and the IRS penalizes them. What the hell is the matter with the IRS?! And this was *extremely* helpful. So we got news coverage across the country, editorial coverage in many papers—all friendly.

And it is strange that although Stewart [Udall] was key to the success of [the CRSP] in the House, that he was also key to the reversal on saving the Grand Canyon—because he did his switch. And he gave me credit for causing the switch in his attitude. And I gave credit to a woman, Sharon Francis, who was working for the Wilderness Society—then she went to work in the White House for Ladybird [Johnson] for the Office of Beautification. And she worked on Ladybird constantly. And finally we got the statement of Lyndon Johnson, over whom I guess Ladybird had some influence, that, "if this legislation includes dams in the Grand Canyon, I will veto it."

But I saw her at a timber hearing in New Hampshire about three years ago, gave her credit for saving the Grand Canyon—said, "You got Ladybird to put the pressure on." She said, "Well, there are a hell of a lot of letters that helped. And the ads were extremely helpful."

And that was it? After Johnson said that, it was struck from the bill?

Uh-huh.

Both dams?

Yeah.

* * *

But still, in spite of being largely responsible for the victories at Echo Park, Marble and Bridge, it seems the loss of Glen Canyon is the big thing to you, that you feel personally responsible for that...

Yes, and I've had this hanging over my head ever since... until last November—forty years plus after that disastrous move by the Sierra Club board—the board voted unanimously to drain Lake Powell, to let the river run through it.

So this is where we are now, and we have the

chance... and among all the other reasons we know *now*, things that we didn't know *then*, what is imminent at Glen Canyon is an economic catastrophe beyond belief for Arizona, California, and Nevada, because that dam is *not* in good shape, and it's going to be in *worse* shape. We damned near lost it in 1983. We've got enough water to lose it again [in 1997] if they don't play it right. And it's weaker than it was, and besides that, we're losing a lot of water we didn't *know* we were losing—a lot by evaporation, and a lot because we have this *huge* reservoir with a lot of thirsty deserts on all sides, and as a result right now, we're losing something like one million acre-feet of water a year because of the great Lake Powell mistake. We don't *need* to, and that's what we've got to stop. We've got to let the water go through, let the sedimentation go through to Lake Mead. When Lake Mead is finished, maybe a century or two from now, that would be time to rethink Glen, if anybody at that point wants to make that kind of mistake again. I don't think they will, but we'll leave that option. That's the compromise.

The sedimentation was not considered, they don't know what they're doing, and as that fills up more and more, then the lake spreads out more and more. There's more to be lost by bank storage and evaporation. So now is as good as it's ever going to be—it's going to get worse. And this river can't afford that kind of waste. It's a matter of: "Let's have better water, more of it, and stop putting a great scenic resource out of action because we want to make hydroelectric power." *These* days, that is old-fashioned.

"Great scenic resource" meaning Glen Canyon?

Glen Canyon itself was one of the greatest scenic resources on earth, and when we restore that, people are going to have a chance to learn that, and they'll never let it happen again—in my judgement. But meanwhile, there are lots of alternatives, and we're concentrating on those, the other things that can make the people who *think* they're unhappy, happy about this project, which they should be.

But how on earth are we going to turn the clock back? I mean, seriously.

I say this isn't a matter of turning the clock back. It's keeping the clock running. And our institutions don't have that idea yet. That means the corporations, the government, the universities, the investors. We haven't got the message yet, it hasn't caught true. We don't get it.

Just one number, it comes from Paul Hawken, who wrote the book *The Ecology of Commerce*. It's not in that book, but I think it'll be in his next one. If things go on as they're going on, we're going to have to produce as much food around the world in the next 40 years, as has been produced in the last 8,000 years. Now, you might not want to believe that, but you'd better not *disbelieve* it

'til you've proved that it's wrong. We've gotten into this exponential curve of growth and demand on resources. We've grown right up the wall. We're getting along reasonably well here, but we're going right up the wall, and the wall isn't going to take it forever. We cannot produce that 8,000 years' supply of food. It's out of the question. But we don't have any of our institutions, no presidents, no vice-presidents—taking the option—no university president is thinking about this. It's time to rethink what we do with water, what we do with energy, and what we do with growth. And we've got to do it, we don't have much time to do it. So I'm worried about taking too long to get this started.

If we make Glen Canyon an example, we let the river run through it, I have no doubt—though I have nothing to prove it with—that 150 years from now, when we really need something like it as a substitute for Lake Mead... no one will permit it. But if we try to take the dam down now, we've got the huge budget of taking it apart. That's huge. Right now, for example, there's been general agreement that a dam should be taken down up near Olympic National Park, the Elwha River Dam. But it's been dropped by a mere \$150 million problem: they think it's going to cost that much to take the sediment out. So nothing has happened, and the Department of the Interior wants to do it, the people want to get it done, but they're stuck in a budget, because we get stuck on budgets.

We're incapable right now of thinking what it's going to cost the earth and the future if we *don't* do some of these things. All we think about, "What's it going to cost us if we do it now?" And to hell with the future, to hell with the earth. But we've trashed the earth for a good 250 years since the Industrial Revolution. We've been fairly good at it, and nobody's been better than we in the United States.

We *can* do something else, we don't have to trash it anymore. We can run a society that doesn't require that the earth be trashed. We're bright enough to do that, I have full confidence in that, and that's what we gotta get going on.

So I'm willing to let the dam stand as an example. "That was a silly act! Why the hell did they ever put that up in the first place?!" Let that be the tourist attraction, the horrible example. And once people really understand what Glen Canyon *was*, as it begins to restore—and it'll begin immediately, once you get the water out of it—they will never let that happen again. They would never let Hetch Hetchy happen again in Yosemite. It's a new world coming up, a new bunch of thinking on dams. It was a great idea, it's time has passed, and it's time for us to realize that.

Why do you suppose they keep that lake so full, even on a wet year like this?

We keep it full because we're a little chintzy. The higher the head, the more hydroelectric power can be

produced, and the more income to pick up the tab on all these little goodies that were part of the Colorado River participating projects, including the Central Utah Project, and including no small part of the Central Arizona Project, and these other little projects along with the other little dams. There's a lot that came out of that Christmas tree at Glen Canyon, because nobody in the marketplace or anybody else was ready to calculate the costs. Cheap money. They took a place without paying anything for it—one of the most beautiful places on earth. They created the possibility of a catastrophe. They created monstrous growth. They did all kinds of things without quite thinking them through. Now, I don't expect to think anything through in my eighty-four-plus years, but at least you make a try at it. And our minds are good enough to make a try at this.

I was in intelligence in World War II in the mountain troops in Italy. And in intelligence you're told, "gather information, evaluate it, interpret it, then *do* something about it." And one of the things you're supposed to do in the course of all this is to consider what the enemy capabilities are.

Well, I wouldn't call, in here, the enemy Nature, but Nature *is* the one. And the other enemies are the people who are sick and tired of the United States using up most of the world's resources. The number I have is that in the last fifty years, the United States has used up more resources than all the rest of the world in all previous history. Extremely hard to believe. I'm not sure I believe it myself. But I certainly believe this seems to be our direction, that we're determined to do this.

And I like René Dubois' remark: "Trend"—and this is a trend—"is not destiny." We're not committed to this stupidity. We're brighter than that. We're a *hell* of a lot brighter than that. And I just would like us to catch on how brilliant we are (chuckles) and stop turning our heads away from problems, from opportunities we can handle. That's deep dish philosophy here. As you get older, you get into it deeper and deeper. I guess this happens, because I followed the example of Ansel Adams. He said, "If you're going to get old, get as old as you can get." And that's what I'm up to. (laughter)

Well, you don't seem to lack for optimism either.

No. This is the great point of Paul Hawken, that we *do* have to redesign everything. And here's some examples of this. One is they redesigned the 3M Company. They redid every project they had so they would cut their contribution to the waste stream. Over a fifteen-year period, they cut it in half, and they made half a billion dollars more profit by doing it right. Now, this is the example that needs to go through with the corporate world. Have you any plans for doing it right? Try it; it might be fun, you might make even more money, if that's what you're into. The earth could certainly feel relieved.

And I like to tell people in my audiences, "There's nobody in the audience who between now and sack time couldn't think of at least three things that need to be redesigned." And I give a couple of examples, just simple-minded ones.

The low-flush toilet. How many do they have in Arizona? We finally got one at our house. We've been in that house for fifty years. We've got two, as a matter of fact, instead of the others. And I've done a rough calculation: if we'd got those fifty years ago, we'd have saved \$3,000 in water bills. That would have been worth trying. But anyhow, that's just a number. But there are more things than that.

The beer can. Remember when you pull off the tab and toss it away somewhere, and that was environmentally unsound? So somebody said, "Well, we'll fix it so you don't take it off, you just loosen it, and then you recycle the can." Simple redesign. And people... just start redesigning, start rethinking, because the earth is just *crying* for this effort on our part, since we seem so determined, unlike any other species, to trash it...

This is rethinking dams, but it's rethinking [everything]. And along with this [draining Lake Powell], I want a rehabilitation of the entire Colorado River drainage. Why does it flow so muddy? Because we've done such damage, some stupid things upstream. Well, let's cut it out. We've got lots of people who need work, let's put those people to work the way they did back in FDR's day and *fix* it. There are plenty of people that could, there's plenty to be fixed, why let it continue to be eroded unnecessarily? And so on.

Martin Litton [during an earlier conversation] hit the key idea: that is, underlying [our most pressing problems] is this strange addiction to growth. And where we got it, I don't know. But you can't find anybody who'll say anything but "you gotta have more growth." I started questioning that about, oh, thirty or forty years ago. And we *can't* have more growth much longer. But we're still trying. We're selecting as if we could grow and grow and grow. Yes, the population of the earth has upped a factor of 3 in my lifetime of eighty-plus years. But then, if you start looking into things that have happened just in my eighty years, you realize we can't do it again.

Simple example: In California in the great valley of California, where we produce—and I'm a Californian bragging—one quarter of the food America eats. We had 6,000 miles of salmon streams—we're down to fewer than 200, and the farmers don't like *that*. You can't do *that* again. We had something like 75 percent of the original redwoods—we're down to 4 percent. You can't do *that* again. We had a sardine fishery—we don't have it. You can't do *that* again. And these are the things that you can't *do* again, and nobody wants to *think* about that. "There'll always be more. High tech and science will fix this." High tech and science are adding about two prob-

lems, at least, to every one they solve—maybe more. I would rather think of ten, 10 to 1. But it's happening.

Another problem we haven't solved is how to get the marketplace to give us some numbers that we can *think* with. The marketplace is, I would say, out and out stupid. My simple example: what's the value of a tree? The marketplace will say what it's good for, for pulp or two-by-fours. That's it. *Nothing* about what it does for carbon monoxide balance. That's rather important: we don't like global warming. Nothing about what it does for oxygen, and I rather like oxygen myself. I use it myself. Nothing about what that tree does for keeping the soil in place. Clear cutting is a very sophisticated device for getting soil downstream to the nearest reservoir as fast as possible. The marketplace doesn't say a thing about habitat, and the forest is the habitat for millions of species, most of which haven't been discovered yet. And it doesn't say anything about the quality and quantity of water. Trees are great sponges, and they have this release system, sustained release. Marketplace doesn't mention it. And they're beautiful! None of that stuff, all critical, is worth a fig—not even a fig—to the marketplace. And that isn't right!

I don't know how long they can continue not being at least bright enough to realize that these things exist, they *are* valuable, they are subsidizing everything we think we're doing that's so smart. Nature is paying our way, and we're kicking it in the teeth, and I don't think that works.

Our biggest problem [is this idea that] the only thing to do is have more growth, so we'll have more money to pay off the old debt, or something—some strange quirk, so that we can go on growing and growing and growing. I remember in San Jose, which is now our third-largest city in Southern California... it's Los Angeles, San Diego, San Jose, *then* San Francisco. When I was born in Berkeley, San Jose was smaller than Berkeley. All right, so I was asking a bunch of planners who were coming up with what they're doing about transportation and all that. And they had some good ideas, but I said, "Have you thought of when you would like to see San Jose stop growing?" They didn't want to hear it.

Didn't want it to stop growing?

They didn't want to hear it, they didn't want to discuss that. They were just never—it didn't cross their threshold. And pardon me if I sound excited about this, but this damned-well has got to cross our thresholds. We *cannot* continue being that stupid. And we aren't *destined* to be that stupid. We've got extraordinary minds. There are incredible things we can do. (pause)

Maybe it's just television. (chuckles) As I was just telling a panel at Stanford once, chaired by Ted Koppel, "Television is causing cerebral gridlock across America." He didn't like that statement very much, so we had a

discussion. But it is, somehow. We cannot be that bright, if we're gonna just sit here and have the screen give us stuff all day, day in and day out, and change channels. Because what happens when you don't do your own thinking?

When I was in the Army, I taught. That's one of the things an officer is supposed to do, is teach. And you give a good demonstration, you give a good explanation, then it's supposed to be practical work and there's a test. So in television we get explanation, we get some demonstration, but it's pretty well biased. But there's no practical work you have to do. All you have to do is go out and buy. And then beyond that, there is no test. "Is this working? What has this done to you? What have you learned from this that's going to help you, your family, the earth, or whatever you think is important these days?" Like quality—what's it doing? Pretty close to zip.

It's just, these people in Page...

They want to shoot me. You didn't see that article in the latest *Economist*?

No.

"These environmentalists all ought to be lined up and shot, every one of them." (chuckles) So I was thinking twice about, "Well, do I want to go to Page right now, considering all the crazies we've got around, including Page?"

But Page has got great opportunities... they can be the takeoff point for trips down the Grand Canyon; the takeoff point for trips up Glen Canyon. They can be the supplier for whatever happens at the revised Wahweap. Or, yes, they've got their hotel and so on, and they're not going to have all those boats, but they can have something else, something else besides flatwater recreation. There's a lot of nonflatwater recreation in this country, and it's a big business. Get into it!

And go on from there, figure out how we're going to get some water up from Glen for the 30,000 acre-feet you need for the Navajo Generating Station, keep that on for a while, and try to get it polluting less. But there are all kinds of things they can do if they use their imagination. And so far as the people who want their houseboats, I'd say (chuckles), "Well, if Glen Canyon Dam goes, one way or the other, their house boats will all be in Lake Mead anyway." But rethink what to do with flatwater recreation at Lake Mead, and rethink what could be done with the exquisite terrain and scenery—if you just want to call it scenery, it's so cheap—but this extraordinary example of geography. Well, I call it geography. Think of what could be done once we say, "Let's use this, and use it in ways that maximize the effect of this place on its visitors, and minimize the effect on it by them.

These are things that can be thought through. All you have to do is start thinking about it, and coming up with the imagination, the ideas. Page doesn't have to disappear at all. And if we keep Glen Canyon Dam around as just a tourist attraction for a while, you can run up and down it and you can see how much water leaked in it and through it. (chuckles) You can watch it leaking... But all these things could happen at Page. And I guess if anybody wants to hear me say it, I'll tell 'em up there. I got a few notes.

* * *

It's possible to look superficially at Brower these days and see an old man driven crazy by a perceived mistake he made thirty years ago. His passionate call for bypassing Glen Canyon Dam seems a bit whimsical, certainly impractical to many of us. But read his and Steve Chapple's recent book "Let the Mountains Talk, Let the Rivers Run" and the picture opens up considerably. It's not just Glen Canyon that Brower's thinking about these days, it's the whole damn planet. He's 85 years old and in his time we've eaten up a hundred times more good stuff than we ever saved; and the truth is, it ALL pains him.

But he still has hope, he's still in there pitching. In addition to draining Lake Powell he'd like to see across this continent (and the world) a network of linked havens: large wilderness areas with connecting corridors that are left alone not for the benefit of man, but for biodiversity itself— for all the other living things that are still here, so they can move around when they need to. He'd like to see a revised version of the old Depression-era CCC: instead of welfare, sign up people for the "CPR Corps." Have an outfit dedicated to Conserving, Protecting, and Restoring the earth on a global scale. As for practicality, he says in that book:

"Whatever and whoever has brought humanity to the edge of this chasm probably thought they were just being practical. Practical people, as has been pointed out, are those who have made all their decisions, lost the ability to listen, and are determined to perpetuate the errors of their ancestors. They have all the foresight implicit in this advice: 'When you reach the fork in the road, take it.' More people need to understand that milk does not come from a plastic container, or water from a valve, or gasoline from a throttle. The sources of human wealth have been provided for by nature on the only planet most of us are ever likely to reside upon comfortably. The Earth's ecological capital has been sorely overdrawn. We are running out of the things that fuel economic growth."

Glen Canyon? Well of course it's symbolic, just like Grand Canyon. The point now, in Brower's mind, seems to be that holding a little ground here and there (as we've been wont to do lately) won't be near enough for the next millennium. We've got to actually turn around and head the other way...

* * *

But you run into all those logistical questions. I mean, when you try to literally think it through, step by step, how are we gonna do this thing? It's pretty amazing that people are actually

standing up and saying "do it" out loud. I was quite surprised.

Well, I'm surprised, and surprised at the number of people who buy it, and say, "Hey, that's cool!" (laughter) But then all I have to do is remember my own family's experience when we were taking the few trips we took before Lake Powell filled. We watched the filling begin. Before any of it had happened, we went up a good many of the side canyons. That was one of the greatest experiences our family had in our lives.

I know when I was going through there with John McPhee and Floyd Dominy some years ago, for the book *Encounters with the Archdruid*... We reached a point where we were in Cathedral Canyon, and John McPhee said he was watching Dave, but he wasn't watching very closely, or he would have seen that I was crying, because I remembered what it was like for my kids, going through, exploring this place, just loving every minute of it, going from pool to pool, and being helped up the slippery stuff, on up to the rather common stuff that gets up higher. But those beautiful things that happened in those side canyons are incredible. And I want to see them again.

I've had some big ideas in my life. I've made some things happen. But the idea I believe I will be checking out on is restoration. I want to help save a taste of paradise for our children. Give us back Hetch Hetchy and Glen Canyon, and I'll go quietly.



Lew Steiger



Andre Potochnik
GTS Chairman, 1997

Big Fun at 1997 GTS

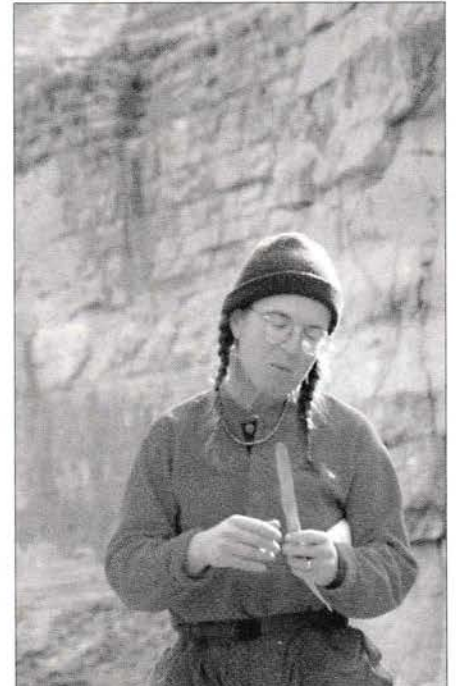
In early April we gathered once again at Cliff Dwellers for the annual Guides Training Seminar. Patrick Hattaway and Dave Haskell from Grand Canyon National Park and Laurie Lee Staveley from the river outfitters joined with our GTS committee to organize the two-day land-based session. Larry Stevens gathered a tremendous host of speakers for the session, including many scientists who collaborated on last years Experimental Flood Flow.

For the river trip that followed, Jeri Ledbetter and Jon Hirsh orchestrated a great on-river session that brought together guides from many companies and some more excellent speakers.

Thanks to all you who pitched in to help make it happen: the guides who helped with logistics, the plethora of fine speakers who volunteered their time to give presentations, equipment loans from outfitters and the Park, and, not but not least, to Ted Hatch for hosting it at his Hatchland warehouse once again.

Funding was provided by a grant from the Colorado River Conservation Fund, contributions from river outfitters, and the many unsponsored guides who ponied up for the land and river sessions.

The annual Guides Training Seminar continues to provide an excellent model for cooperation in the river community in the interest of relevant educational experiences for guides. A good time was had by all.



Jon Hirsh, Dave Haskell and Helen Fairley on the GTS river trip

Ten Best Ways to Prepare for a Rafting Trip

- One week before the trip, have a yard of sand delivered to your home. Sprinkle liberally in your bed, dresser drawers, on kitchen and bathroom counters. Fill your salt shaker, sugar bowl and cereal boxes with sand and use them as usual. Place garbage can lids of sand in front of your fans and run them continuously at maximum speed.
- After renting a projection TV, illuminate the walls and ceiling of your bedroom with old dracula movies, especially the snake, spider, lizard and bat infested scenes.
- Have your friends form a long line. Then, systematically pass the entire contents of your home out of the front and into the back door of your house.
- With an industrial size brush and a bottle of bleach, wash, rinse and sterilize the hubcaps of your car thirty minutes after sunrise and immediately after sunset every day for eight days.
- With a large meat tenderizer, practice beating beer cans down to the diameter of a hockey puck.
- Sit on the hood of your car while riding through the car wash.
- Line your sandals with sandpaper and spend two hours per day on a stair master.
- Drape the allotted contents of your brown grocery bag on the bushes and rocks in your back yard. Twice a day practice changing while your neighbors watch.
- With twenty-seven friends standing in the shallow end of a swimming pool, practice looking nonchalant as you carry on a conversation and pee simultaneously.
- Crap in your upstairs waste paper basket, then, with your pants still around your ankles, run downstairs and pee in the tub.

Other helpful hints:

- Keep putting out cans of kippers and oil soaked sardines until someone finally eats them. This will usually take around six to seven days.
- Hand out free beer to anyone that can Eskimo Roll a kayak and looks as if they will rob your house during your eight day rafting trip.
- Put liberal quantities of "Gun Slinger" hot sauce on everything you eat. Practice saying "I love this stuff" without your eyes tearing and your nose running.
- Always answer "yes" to the question "Do you see any rocks?"
- Always answer "no" to the question "Does anyone want to go on a power hike?"

sent in by Tim Whitney, who got it from Roxanne Denoyer at Grand Canyon Expeditions, whose passengers created it.



Canyon Condors

The five surviving California condors released on December 12 are doing quite well. The sixth one died in January, apparently after being slashed by the talon of a golden eagle. One of the five has taken a few trips away from the release site. This female (#36) first moved about 25 miles south toward House Rock Buffalo Ranch, and then down into the Grand Canyon, where she stayed for several days. One evening she perched on a cliff near a raft camp on the river, but showed little or no interest in the humans below.

She took two other condors up to Lake Powell and the Page area. She stayed there, but the other birds returned to the Cliffs, again showing little or no interest in humans, roads, or man-made structures while enroute.

Further interactions with golden eagles have been observed, with no aggressive behavior resulting. One of the field crew even observed a condor chasing an eagle without any detrimental results. The released condors are thriving, and human life in the area continues much as it did before the birds were released.

An additional nine condors were released in May. Since that time there has been one more casualty—apparently a fatal encounter by Condor 51 with an electric line. The birds are developing quite a range now, travelling as far as Kayenta and Havasu Canyon. Keep looking up!

California Condor Project Update



contributors

The Board and Officers of GCRG want to thank all of our members whose generous donations during the past year have enabled us to continue our work. We deeply appreciate the extra support of the following contributors and sincerely apologize to anyone we may have inadvertently missed.

Major Contributors

Community Donations in Memory of
Dugald Bremner
Anonymous contributor through
the Brothers Fund, San Mateo, CA
Environmental Experiences, Wooster, OH
Grand Canyon Conservation Fund
McJunkin Corporation, Charleston, WV
Michael Wehrle, Charleston, WV
In Memory of Tom Yerkes

Patrons

Bill Crane, Sebastopol, CA
- in memory of Whale
Jim and Denny Hoelter, Piedmont, CA
National Geographic Society
- in memory of Dugald Bremner
Seagate Software, Scotts Valley, CA
- in memory of Tom Yerkes

Benefactors: Guides

Steve Asadorian, Los Angeles, CA
Arizona Raft Adventures - in memory of Whale
Don Briggs - River Runners film proceeds

Benefactors: General

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Newman's Own Organics, Westport, CT
Donald Waite, Scotts Valley, CA
- in memory of Tom Yerkes
Anonymous

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John Whittlesey, Portland OR

Financial Statement
Fiscal Year Profit and Loss
July 1, 1996 through June 30, 1997

Income

GCRG Income		
Membership	\$55,359	
Contributions and Grants		
Adopt a Beach	6,885	
Bremner Fund	4,322	
General	16,510	
Total Contributions	27,717	
First Aid Class	12,018	
Resource Trip Grants	4,375	
Interest	202	
Bad Checks	(30)	
Reimbursements	1,404	
Total GCRG Income		\$101,045
GTS Contributions		15,324
Sales		<u>8,263</u>
Total Income		\$124,632
Less Cost of Goods Sold		<u>5,512</u>
Gross Income		\$119,120

Expense

Bremner Fund	2,611	
Contract Labor	118	
Depreciation	6,115	
Diem Payments	90	
Donations and Gifts	143	
First Aid Class	11,808	
GTS Expense	15,614	
Insurance	790	
Internet	677	
Meeting Expense	1,582	
Office Supplies	1,949	
Payroll Expense	10,679	
Postage	8,783	
Printing	21,689	
Professional Fees	10	
Projects	15,386	
Rent	4,414	
Repairs	505	
Resource Trip	4,575	
Service Charges	151	
Subscriptions	201	
Telephone	2,249	
Travel	1,409	
Utilities	366	
Total Expense		<u>111,914</u>
Net Income		7,206

Balance Sheet

Current Assets

GCRG Cash Accounts	19,444	
GTS Cash Account	2,609	
Other Current Assets	<u>2,244</u>	
Total Current Assets		24,297

Fixed Assets

Equipment	30,575	
less Depreciation	<u>(-21,319)</u>	
Total Fixed Assets		<u>9,256</u>
Total Assets		33,553

Liabilities	599
Equity	<u>32,954</u>

Liabilities + Equity **33,553**

General Members	939
Guide Members	751
Circulation	3060

Tom Yerkes

Tom Yerkes was an avid Grand Canyon hiker who discovered the River on a raft trip with his family in 1990. An executive vice president for Seagate Software, the River captured the hearts of him and his family.

Tom passed away in January. His wife Lynne and children Thomas and Lindsay asked that memorial contributions be made to Grand Canyon River Guides. We extend our deepest sympathy to Tom's family and friends and we have been very moved by the generosity of the contributions in his name.



Tom and Lynne Yerkes, 1990

Announcements

a call to artists

Coconino Center for the Arts presents

Haunted by Water: Artists of the River

Opening Reception: October 31, Halloween

Show runs from November 1 - December 28, 1997

PURPOSE: To showcase works by river guides that demonstrate the many talents of the professional river community and to educate the public about the role that this group plays.

ELIGIBILITY: Open to artists/river guides who are currently employed or have in the past been employed by an outfitter that operates on any river in the western US.

Call or stop by the Coconino Center for the Arts
for an entry form/artist guidelines.
520.779.6921 Flagstaff, Arizona

Thanks to everyone who has generously contributed stories to the *High Water Years* oral history project, including the 25 who showed up at the Pole House in February to pass the whiskey and record five hours of hair-raising and hilarious stories. The project continues, so please contact Mary Ellen Arndorfer at 520/525-2585 if you'd like to make your mark on the collection.

Standing Wave, the new whitewater literary magazine, just published its first issue. Poetry, fiction, prose and black & white photography—and more. You can subscribe for \$8 (1 issue) \$14.50 (2 issues).

P. O. Box 12287, Prescott, AZ 86304-2287

Businesses Offering Support

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

Expeditions Boating Gear 625 N. Beaver St., Flagstaff	779-3769	Snook's Chiropractic 521 N. Beaver St. #2, Flagstaff	774-9071
Canyon Supply Boating Gear 505 N. Beaver St. Flagstaff	779-0624	Fran Rohrig, NCMT, Swedish, Deep Tissue, & Reiki Master	527-0294
The Summit Boating equipment	774-0724	Dr. Mark Falcon, Chiropractor 1515 N. Main, Flagstaff	779-2742
Chums/Hellowear Chums and Hello clothing. Call Lori for catalog	800/323-3707	Five Quail Books—West River books 8540 N Central Ave, #27, Phoenix	602/861-0548
Mountain Sports river related items 1800 S. Milton Rd. Flagstaff	779-5156	Willow Creek Books Coffee and Outdoor Gear 263 S. 100 E. St., Kanab, UT	801/644-8884
Aspen Sports Outdoor gear 15 N San Francisco St, Flagstaff	779-1935	Canyon Books Canyon and River books Box 3207, Flagstaff, AZ 86003	779-0105
Teva Sport Sandals and Clothing	779-5938	River Gardens Rare Books first editions 720 S. River Rd. Suite A-114, St. George, UT 84790	801/674-1444
Sunrise Leather, Paul Harris Birkenstock sandals. Call for catalog.	800/999-2575	River Art and Mud Gallery river folk art 720 S. River Rd. Suite A-114, St. George, UT 84790	801/674-1444
River Rat Raft and Bike Bikes and boats 4053 Pennsylvania Ave. Fair Oaks, CA 95628	916/966-6777	Cliff Dwellers Lodge Good food Cliff Dwellers, AZ	355-2228
Professional River Outfitters Equip. rentals Box 635 Flagstaff, AZ 86002	779-1512	Mary Ellen Arndorfer, CPA Taxes 230 Buffalo Trail, Flagstaff, AZ 86001	525-2585
Canyon R.E.O. River equipment rental Box 3493, Flagstaff, AZ 86003	774-3377	Trebon & Fine Attorneys at law 308 N. Agassiz, Flagstaff	779-1713
Winter Sun Indian art & herbal medicine 107 N. San Francisco Suite #1, Flagstaff	774-2881	Yacht True Love Bill Beer, Skipper Virgin Island Champagne Cruises	809/775-6547
Terri Merz, MFT 1850 East Flamingo Road #137 Las Vegas, NV 89119 Individual/Couples/Family counselling. Depression/Anxiety	702/892-0511	Laughing Bird Adventures Sea kayaking tours Belize, Honduras and the Caribbean.	800/238-4467
Dr. Jim Marzolf, DDS Dentist 1419 N. Beaver Street, Flagstaff, AZ	779-2393	Chimneys Southwest Chimney sweeping 166 N. Gunsmoke Pass, Kanab, UT 84741	801/644-5705

A *Arizona Highways* has never published a Grand Canyon book. That is about to change. Work has begun on such a project to celebrate the magazine's 75th anniversary in the year 2000. The editors have had meetings with the NPS administration and permission has been granted for up to eight "hitch-hiking" river trips to aid with the photography to be included in the book. The photography will concentrate on the surprisingly numerous and beautiful water sources in Grand Canyon, everything from seeps to springs to creeks to the Colorado itself.

I will be making these trips from July, 1997 through September, 1998. Your help is needed. If you see a guy with a large format camera and a backpack waving a blue life jacket on shore, more than likely it's me. I may need only a ride across the river or a ride downstream. If my presence will not exceed the safety regulations for your size rig and it is okay with your crew and company, please stop. Even if you cannot help with a ride, information about who's coming downstream will be very helpful. All the boat companies are being sent letters informing them of the *Arizona Highways* project and my photography work on the river. Thanks! Hope to see you down there.

Gary Ladd

Dugald Bremner Fund

A fund has been established through Grand Canyon River Guides in memory of Dugald Bremner. This was initiated to assist with costs associated with recovery efforts. For the surplus, a number of ideas have been suggested, including a photography scholarship through Prescott College and publishing his work. The fund will be managed in cooperation with the Bremner family, Dugald's colleagues and his friends.

Fall Meeting

Fall Meeting of Grand Canyon River Guides
Nov. 1, 1997

We are excited to say that our annual fall meeting will be held Saturday, November 1 this year in conjunction with the opening of *Haunted by Water: Artists of the River*, an exposition of river art to be held at the Coconino Center for the Arts in Flagstaff. Mark your calendars. It promises to be yet another great feast and gathering!

Thanks to all: to Kate Thompson, Sue Bennett, Scott Thybony and Cynthia for help on the tribute to Dugald; to all you poets, photographers and writers; and to all of you who send us stuff. Don't ever stop.
Printed with soy bean ink on recycled paper by really nice guys.

Care to join us?

If you're not a member yet and would like to be, or if your membership has lapsed, get with the program! Your membership dues help fund many of the worthwhile projects we are pursuing. And you get this fine journal to boot. Do it today. **We are a 501c3 tax deductible non-profit organization, so send lots of money!**

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



John Cross Jr. and Sr.

One of ten portraits by Dugald Bremner presented in this issue.

© Dugald Bremner 1994

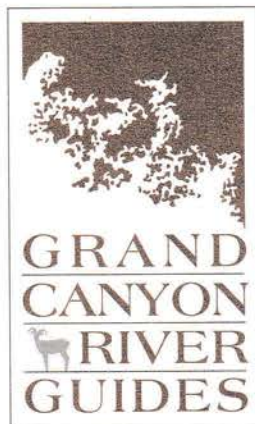
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