



the journal of
Grand Canyon River Guides, Inc.
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boatman's quarterly review

Nancy Streator Reuling: *A Passenger's Perspective*

Did you make the hike to Rainbow Bridge? Did you go up there?
We slept on top of that bridge.

Oh, really? Tell me about that!

That was really fun. Well, at that point in time, I think, the hike up to Rainbow Bridge was about six miles, one way. It was quite warm, and we started in the evening, so Norm, Ardie and I spent the night. We didn't sleep because it was really quite narrow up on top there; it starts curving a lot, you know, you are really up there. So we spent the night up there; we went up and got up there after dark, kind of after dark. As you face the bridge from the river, we went up the right side. There was a rope up there, as I remember, that had been placed there. We marched up there and kind of spent the night up there, but we didn't do a lot of sleeping. Then the next morning we walked across the bridge because they were taking movies of us and that sort of thing. I have those movies; you can see these three little figures walking across the bridge.

Why did you do that, was it just for fun?

Oh, I don't know. Norm was very theatrical, you know. He liked to do these things that were quite different.

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At the end of a
Grand Canyon trip.
Unidentified man, Nancy
Streator, Norm Nevills,
with ice cream.
Bill Belknap photo
Courtesy Cline Library
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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. Our Board of Directors Meetings are held the first Monday of each month. All innocent bystanders are urged to attend. Call for details.

Officers

President	Christa Sadler
Vice President	Bob Grusy
Secretary/Treasurer	Lynn Hamilton
Directors	Mary Ellen Arndorfer Nicole Corbo Chris Geanious Jon Hirsh Jeff Pomeroy Lynn Roeder

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

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

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

Our office location: 515 West Birch, Flagstaff, Arizona

Office Hours: 10:30-4:30 Monday through Friday

Phone	520/773-1075
Fax	520/773-8523
E-mail	GCRG@infomagic.com

Out of the Frying Pan...

IT'S BEEN A BIG SEASON on the river so far—lots of strange things happening. A woman falls on a routine part of the Stone Creek Trail and is permanently paralyzed from the waist down. A young boy is lost at Havasu, another young girl almost drowns there. Two of our guide community almost died—one from Hantavirus, another from a ruptured cyst. Boats wrapped, boats going into the Ledge Hole regularly, fires, flash floods and changing rapids. Is something weird up, or is this just business as usual?

Is there such a thing? Probably not on the river and it sure doesn't seem so with GCRG. We are heading into our next ten years and we sometimes still have a hard time defining our goals and mission, especially when issues gets scary and divisive. I guess the message from the river is to never get too complacent—it certainly works around here as well.

I like to imagine the river 30 years ago, in 1968: fewer than 500 people had ever been down the canyon, only a few companies running the river, private boaters just jumped on the water with no wait, army surplus was state of the art for equipment.

Now come forward 30 years: more than 22,000 bodies going down this river every year, a large percentage of them leaving part way through by helicopter, 15 companies, crowds of people at Havasu and Deer Creek, food handlers licenses, drug testing, a 10-year (or longer) wait for a private permit...

What will the status quo be 30 years from now in 2028? Is it possible that we might have 70,000 souls on the river, a 30-year wait for a private permit, only three large mega-corporations running trips in Grand Canyon? It may seem far-fetched, but I'll bet Norm Nevills would have thought 20,000 people far-fetched back in the '40s. Hell, Ives figured this locale was "profitless." Boy, was he ever off-base.

So how best to protect the canyon and the river for the future—that's the 64,000-dollar question and everyone has an idea about how it should be done. No one wants to lose jobs or income or a way of life. That's a scary thing, and it creates a lot of fear that makes it hard to listen and talk. But I think it's possible to stand by our goals and still maintain our very unique lifestyle and community. I looked around the room at a recent Board Meeting and realized that for the first time in my 9 years with GCRG, the entire Board and two of the three officers are currently active, full-time or close to full-time boatmen.

We've got men and women, motor boatmen and oar boatmen, old-timers and new guides. Bob, Chris, Lynn, Mary Ellen, Jon, Nicole, Jeff and Lynn are a great group and there is no better time than now to have the board that we do.

So what do we see as our goals for GCRG over the next year? We'd like to clarify this whole Wilderness question and see if we can't come up with a statement from GCRG that most of us can agree on. But even if we can't agree on a position in this issue, there are still a lot of things that we'd like to accomplish and continue. Among these:

- The BQR is our most valuable visible product, one that educates and informs over 3,000 people every time it goes out. Brad Dimock, the god of the BQR, has been almost solely responsible for transforming the journal from a 6-page xeroxed newsletter to a fine piece of journalism. We're going to miss him, but he's training his successors as you read. If anyone out there wants to help carry the torch, our feelings wouldn't be hurt...
- We feel pretty strongly that the GTS and other educational efforts we make are really valuable and should be continued and expanded wherever possible. We believe in our mission of being a forum for all opinions and voices. Our Adopt-A-Beach program is well-respected and well-received by the scientific community—we'll continue that as long as there is funding for it. Lew Steiger's oral history interviews are incredible, the BQR wouldn't be the same without them.
- We need to stay involved in conservation and science issues such as the Adaptive Management Work Group, overflights, the CRMP, air quality, etc. You'd be amazed at how many people look to us for advice, thoughts and opinions on these and other issues. We just received a river advocacy award from American Rivers (see the notice in this BQR). We know the canyon, the river and our visitors' experience better than anyone else (don't let anyone tell you otherwise), so we have some great input in these areas.
- We are trying to put together some ideas for the outfitters on possible benefit packages, help with health insurance, wage increases, etc. for the guide community. We aren't going to become a union, so the only way to try and accomplish these advances for the guide community is by talking. If we can show that companies like Arizona River Runners, Arizona Raft Adventures and Canyon Explorations/Expeditions can increase guide pay substantially, start a profit-sharing program and help with health

insurance for their guides, then maybe we can all encourage other companies to do the same for their guides. GCRG can't *make* this happen, we can only come up with ideas, show what's working elsewhere and try and open dialogue. We'll all need to go talk to our outfitters as well, individually. It's high time we all started valuing ourselves more as guides. We are the reason these companies are so successful and we give our hearts, souls and bodies to our jobs. We have trained and sweated, read, listened and learned, paid money for health certificates, first aid and interpretive training. We are asked to be professionals—we deserve to be treated as such. Enough said—keep your eyes open for information in upcoming BQRs.

- Our efforts with concepts like the Whale Foundation are really important and need to be supported and expanded. All of us know how hard it is to make the transition from guiding in Grand Canyon to any other kind of lifestyle and the more support and information we can pass along to our community the better.

We need to go back periodically and revisit our stated goals. "Protecting the Grand Canyon" has always been first and foremost on our agenda. It is what gives us credibility and power. Tom Moody used to call it "Taking the High Road". If we ever choose to change that, we need to consider what road we will be walking down in the future. The more voices and opinions and well thought-out input we can get from all of our membership, the more we can keep in touch with the needs of the canyon and the community and guide this organization in a direction that we all feel good about. So I know you've heard it before, and you'll probably hear it again, but: please come to the Board meetings (usually the first Monday of every month at the GCRG office—5 p.m.—we have pizza!), come to the spring and fall meetings, come to the GTS, read the BQR, call or write if you don't understand something we say or publish... This is one river trip that we're all on together, and it'll work better if we all have a say. Looking at the community and all the people whose shoulders we're standing on—I couldn't ask for a better group to go downriver with...

Christa



So Long and Keep the Ball Rolling!

MY TERM'S UP, and it's time for this president to step down. Thanks for the opportunity to serve our fine community. In my nine years with GCRG, I've had the pleasure to work with many great individuals. We have a terrific slate of people now serving on the Board of Directors and as officers, and there are more in the wings. Secretary-Treasurer Lynn Hamilton continues to do a tremendous job at keeping everything moving along. She has shown incredible competence and enthusiasm in embracing the interests of GCRG. I am confident that incoming president Christa Sadler will continue to keep the ball rolling, and I will continue to serve GCRG and all recreational river interests in the Adaptive Management Program for the operation of the dam.

We have accomplished many things this past year. We organized and ran the annual Guides Training Seminar and advanced first aid courses. We labored through the daunting task of producing our statement on the revision of the Colorado River Management Plan. We stayed involved as a player in the Adaptive Management Work Group. We continued to build the Whale Foundation, a community support system for river guides. We continued the Adopt A Beach program for river guide participation in the monitoring of camping beaches in Grand Canyon. The Boatman's Quarterly Review continues to sew us together and is arguably the most important thing we do. We are all deeply grateful to Brad Dimock for building such a well-loved journal, and we look forward to working with those who will succeed him in producing the BQR.

Grand Canyon River Guides is a lot of things to a lot of people. For many, it's the best gig going, a force that unifies a diverse community. It provides a place from which to speak and a group to feel connected with. For others, it just doesn't measure up to their expectations. But griping never really helps anybody—if you care about something, dive in there and make a difference. Despite what some people think, GCRG is still a wide open forum, a place to do things that really matter to all of us. Thanks and so long!

Andre



Thanks, Andre

ANDRE POTOCHNIK stepped down as president of GCRG on September 1, off to pursue new dreams and continue with some old ones. Andre's working on finishing his Ph.D. in geology at asu, no small task while you're also trying to be president of this group. He's got research on debris flows and geoarcheology going in Grand Canyon as well, working with Kate Thompson on figuring out the past of the place we love so well here in the present. And he sits on the Adaptive Management Work Group (AMWG) as the representative speaking for the guides on how the dam should be run.

Andre learned about geology as a dory boatman in the canyon. He started in the early '70s—a round-faced kid of 21 or so: cut-off jeans and old tennies, squinting into the sun, no hat. This place changed his life, he said—he told me how much he was indebted to the canyon and the river, and he wanted to try and give something back. He went back to school to learn more and more and more about this love. His research in school has always been about the canyon, even if it doesn't seem so initially. Get him to tell you about his idea for how the river got over the Kaibab Plateau. You just might be telling your folks one day. It makes sense and it's a lot simpler than “headward erosion and stream capture”.

Andre brought the same intensity and concentration to his work at GCRG as he did to his studies. He has been tirelessly working on the things that go on behind the scenes: testifying in Washington on behalf of the Grand Canyon Protection Act, helping define parameters for the Glen Canyon Dam eis, sitting on the Adaptive Management Work Group, working on CRMP issues. He's the reason we know a lot of what we know about the scientific issues facing the river. Andre's got the great ability to be able to speak to scientists and politicians and then turn right around and translate it for all of us who aren't as into the techno-speak. He hasn't always been at the forefront of the flashy issues, like drug testing or the alcohol policy (remember that one?), but his work, wisdom and diplomacy has been extremely valuable and greatly appreciated.

Andre will continue on as the GCRG representative at the AMWG meetings as our River Science Coordinator. Thanks for all your work, Andre—good luck on the Ph.D. We look forward to calling you “Doc.”



Christa



COOLING THE CARTERENS

Revisiting Our Editorial Policy

RECENT FEEDBACK has brought it to our attention that there is some discomfort with a few of the articles being published in the BQR, and some of the people we “allow” to come stand up and make statements at our meetings and the GTS. It appears that some people don’t want to hear dissenting opinions or read articles that do not fully support their particular views, and they feel that the guides’ organization is an inappropriate forum for these opinions. Because of this, a few of the outfitters are talking about withdrawing support for GCRG and the BQR. This is too bad, since they are as welcome as anyone else to contribute to the journal or come to our meetings.

We will stand by our decision to allow GCRG to be a forum for *all* opinions to be expressed, in person and in writing. We do not agree with all that we print or that is said at our meetings, but we will vigorously defend its right to be expressed. We will not necessarily print everything that we receive, and personal attacks are frowned upon, but anyone is encouraged to write or speak their mind with us. We believe that access to a diversity of written and spoken expression allows people to make better informed decisions about the issues at hand, and inspires them to become active.



Grand Canyon River Guides

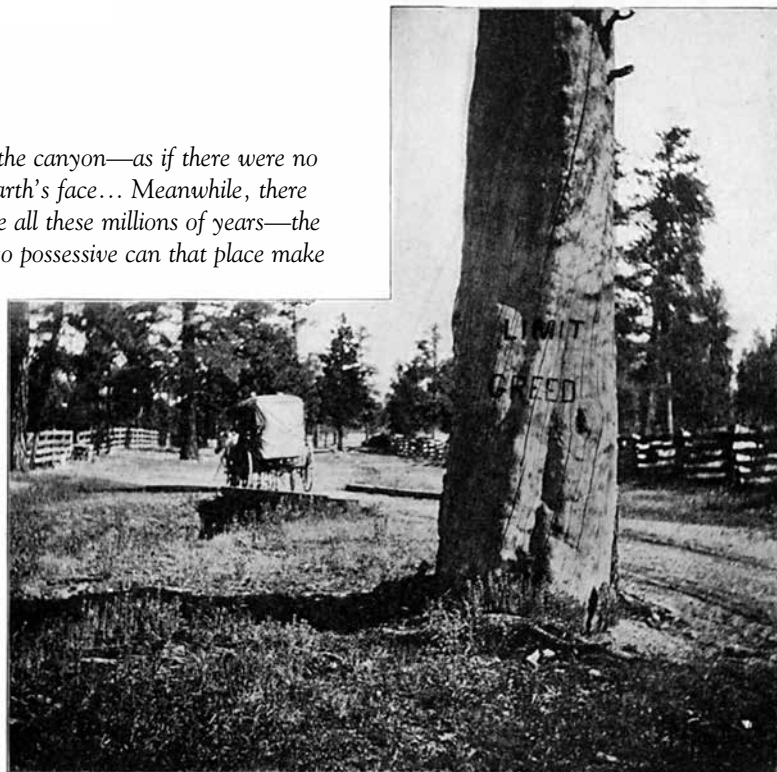
Those who love it call it “The Canyon”—the canyon—as if there were no other such topographical feature on the earth’s face... Meanwhile, there it is, in my own backyard, waiting for me all these millions of years—the Canyon. I am tempted to write “my Canyon,” so possessive can that place make me feel. But the Canyon is not mine, nor anyone’s; the Canyon belongs to all—and to no one. The Canyon belongs to itself, to the world, to God, for whatever those grand abstractions are worth. And so far as the term “possession” has meaning, it would be more accurate to say that the Canyon possesses us. Those who love it are possessed by it. We belong to the Canyon, having known it a little and loved it too much, as indeed all those who love the land, who love the earth, belong to it and consign themselves to it and finally return to it.

Edward Abbey

GCRG Honored

ON OCTOBER 9, Grand Canyon River Guides was honored by American Rivers for outstanding achievements in conservation and river advocacy. Other honorees were former GCRG president Tom Moody, and Bruce Moore and Charlie Calhoun of the Bureau of Reclamation. Founding president Kenton Grua accepted the award on behalf of the guides, accompanied by River Science Coordinator Andre Potochnik and President Christa Sadler. The plaque awarded by American Rivers reads: “For so safely and professionally showing visitors from around the world the splendors of Grand Canyon and instilling in so many the river conservation ethic to protect and preserve it for the enjoyment of future generations.”

This award goes to all of the guides. While we may not all agree on what to do, and how or when to do it—our professionalism and love of the canyon and the river, and our desire to share them with our guests have never been in question. Congratulations to all of you and thanks for helping GCRG keep to the “High Road”.



SUBURBS OF FLAGSTAFF

For What It's Worth

THE COLORADO RIVER IN GRAND CANYON has been the single most formative influence on my adult life. When down there, I am at peace because I am home. When up above, my waking hours are occupied with various productive activities but my thoughts are often on the water. When up above, my sleeping hours are filled with varied dreams, often with a common thread: in a boat, on a river, through a narrow, high-walled canyon. After a long trip or a series of back to backs, upon returning to the "real world," I experience a dull depression which at times borders on despair. Luckily, I share this existence with a group of likeminded individuals who are the Grand Canyon River Guides.

We, as guides, share a unique perspective. One which no other group with a stake in the future of the River can know. While scientists sample precisely and discreetly at intervals, guides live the River with a quality and clarity unmatched. This is our value and why our input is crucial to any policy which affects the future of the river corridor in Grand Canyon. While bureaucrats and scientists come and go, the guides who take them through remain, rowing and motoring the boats through the place we cherish.

This is a divisive time. Many changes are proposed. Some are new while much is merely old wine in new bottles. The guides are stuck in the middle. While we crave to run our trips and be left alone, the time has come for us to take stands on tough issues.

The reason why the current management issues are tough is because they aren't black and white. No good guys and bad guys. This is exactly why, given the current emotion-filled environment, reasoned discussion and deliberation is crucial.

There is a rush to change the way business is done in Grand Canyon. There is a backlash to retain the status quo. Change is going to happen. Times have changed: for the better and worse. Where does GCRG stand?

I focus on a perspective: the quality of the River experience has improved during my time down there and guides with more experience tend to agree. The corridor is cleaner; the quality of both commercial and private trips has improved in terms of equipment, safety, guide professionalism, and experience. Yet, there is a fear that the whole thing is going to Hell in a hand basket.

I focus on a perspective: The crowding and number of contacts has not changed over time. The places where and time of day when I expect to run into other trips are the same as they were 16 years ago. And the same boats and the same boatmen are still there. The main difference is that we talk more and are more sophisticated at working out alternatives for visitation and camps.

I focus on a perspective: the greatest impact on the visitor experience on the Colorado River in Grand Canyon is not the number of contacts or motors or planes droning overhead. It is the operation of Glen Canyon Dam. Period.

Many of us in the boating community have identified particular problems which exist on the River. Many of us feel that particular solutions applied to particular situations may be the best way of dealing with these problems. A blanket designation of wilderness or proposed wilderness or sometimes wilderness may not be the best thing for the management of the river corridor in Grand Canyon. This seems particularly true when the common perception is that the present proposals are a backdoor attempt to ban motors.

GCRG has, in the past, presented reasonable solutions to on-river problems such as contacts and crowding. Guides can do much. We can run smarter and avoid the congestion through communication and planning where we will be when. Outfitters can do more. We have long promoted the lengthening of trips. Give us one more day and the majority of crowding and contact problems will disappear. Outfitters can do much more. Launch dates: spread them out throughout the week and throughout the season. We have only ourselves to blame. Our reluctance to implement relatively simple solutions has the rest of the world jamming their solutions down our throats.

No working guides I have talked to feel that GCRG should abandon interest and activity on the environmental front. Guides are ferociously passionate about the protection of the Big Ditch and are proud of GCRG's efforts in this area. However, all working guides agree that GCRG has neglected the promotion of guide interests in the arena of pay and benefits. Is it a question of one or the other? I don't think so.

There exists a grave discrepancy between companies in the area of pay and benefits. While many guides will leave the River with a tidy nest egg with which to continue their lives, many more will end their careers with only broken backs and memories in tow. GCRG will be inquiring into these matters and will report back.

GCRG has been at the forefront of promoting guide professionalism and education. This is an area we will continue to focus on and expand. Ed Smith and I have recently presented the outfitters with a proposal to initiate internet-based continuing education for guides at no charge to guides. Proposed funding would come from the Colorado River Fund and, in essence, cost outfitters nothing. This industry-wide solution is currently the only one which addresses the recent Park mandate for continuing guide education. We will keep

G Thanks



FOR ART'S SAKE

H EY EVERYONE! I just wanted to say thanks to those of you that voted for me and commend those of you that didn't for your good judgement. Some of you may not know me. I've worked in the canyon for nineteen years running motor boats for Hatch River Expeditions. I've also rowed boats for Moki Mac, Mark Sleight, oars-Science, and have even rowed on a couple of private trips over the years. My background is in recreation and education, and I try always to keep a good sense of humor about everything. All of this hopefully gives me a better understanding of the guides perspective on most issues.

Although I believe the environmental issues of the Grand Canyon are very important, I feel it is time to get back to what this organization is based on, namely the river guides who are working in the Canyon! And guide education. Every one of us—motor guides or rowing guides, living in Flagstaff, Fredonia, or far flung points beyond—needs to start pulling on the same end of the rope. If your membership has run out, send in your dues, be a part of your organization. To the general members: you are very important to us and we need your support. Right now there are fewer guide members than there are general members. There is a reason for this! Believe me, if you haven't paid your dues lately, then you are a part of that reason. Maybe you have lost interest in GCRG? I know, some of you feel as though we at GCRG have put ourselves in an Ivory Tower, out of touch with you and how you feel about the Canyon.

I feel there is a great need to have a representative from each river company present at every Spring and Fall GCRG meeting, and when possible at our monthly board meetings to build better understanding of what is going on. Also, the BQR needs your input. Let's hear from you. What are the five best stories of the summer of '98? A lot happened down on the river this summer, let's hear your story. Let's focus on the present as well as the past and look to the future.

My vision of GCRG's future is the building of a partnership first between GCRG and the Grand Canyon river guides (that is our name after all, right?!). We should not be working *for* the outfitters so much as working *with* the outfitters. We should also be working together with the National Park Service to realize our mission:

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


My strongest belief is that we need to cease fighting about issues over which we are strongly divided. Stop the name-calling. Where has that gotten us? The fact is we are all in a love affair with the Canyon and we are all jealous lovers. If you love something set it free. Let's work together. The Canyon will be here long after we are gone. We need to communicate and work together in order to find our common ground. Education is the key to understanding.

you posted on developments in the area of continuing guide education.

Another area in which GCRG has excelled has been in the realm of communication and education via the Boatman Quarterly Review. The BQR has been nurtured into an outstanding publication and will continue to present a loud and clear voice for the boating community. In addition, the GCRG web site is being resurrected and will be a growing resource of information and opinion. Stay tuned.

These are heady times. There are many loud voices and emotional tirades. There is much to be done. The divisiveness of the past must end. We are all stakeholders in the protection and the future of the Colorado River through Grand Canyon. While not losing our particular focus, we must find common ground and forge working relationships with those who we don't always agree with. As numerous and vocal are the myriad stakeholders, none know the day-to-day, season-to-season experience, which is the River flowing through Grand Canyon, as we do. This is our unique perspective and this is what we, as guides, have to share.

Chris Geanius 

Bob Grusy 

....Into the Fire a clarification of sorts...

GCRG HAS ALWAYS RECOGNIZED that motorized use in Grand Canyon is far different from someone blazing along at 200 mph on a jet ski. Motors are an integral part of the river running community in Grand Canyon, and they play just as important a role in education and facilitation of the visitor experience as anyone else.

Unfortunately, wilderness in Grand Canyon is rapidly becoming a “motor vs. oars” controversy again. Sad but true, very divisive and, as we see it, quite unnecessary. Months ago, in our initial comments to the Park about the CRMP, and in the article printing those comments in the Winter '97-'98 issue of the BQR, we stated that GCRG is in favor of a potential wilderness designation for the river corridor, with “...the use of motorized craft...grandfathered in and allowed indefinitely.” As appealing as this concept might be to many sides, it is not going to fly with either the environmental community or the Park Service at Grand Canyon. So now we need some serious input other than anonymous callers threatening to sue if we mention the “w” word. We need your help to make a statement about this issue.

Following are short summaries of four different options regarding wilderness in Grand Canyon: 1) the private boater's association and many environmental organizations support the river as full wilderness right now; 2) the Park proposes the river as potential wilderness; 3) the outfitters' association recommended the river be declared a non-wilderness corridor while the rest of the canyon be declared a wilderness and 4) some folks have suggested removing the entire park from consideration as a wilderness at all. Where does Grand Canyon River Guides stand? Accompanying this is a questionnaire regarding which option you feel we should support, if any. Many people look to us for our opinions and thoughts about Grand Canyon. It would be a good thing if we could take a unified stand for something, and so far we have not been able to do so.

Whatever is decided in the long run, we must not let rumor, speculation and most of all fear drive a wedge between us. We are, all of us, a community. Our greatest strength lies in maintaining that connection. That is what we give to our passengers, to ourselves and to the Canyon in the end.

A Reminder: Remember that the Park has already been recommended for full wilderness status, with the Colorado River proposed as a potential wilderness. Until the recommendation is acted on, the NPS is required to manage the recommended areas as wilderness. Recommending the land for inclusion in the wilderness system

is only the first step. For Grand Canyon to become a Wilderness requires that an Act of Congress be presented, agreed upon, and signed. Until that happens, we can only help guide management principles for the Park and its future.

Full Wilderness Designation For Grand Canyon and the Colorado River

- The majority of the park and the river are managed as wilderness.
- Motors and all other mechanized transport save emergency vehicles are phased out in the park and on the river over a relatively short period of time.
- The CRMP planning process continues to design how the river is run in the future—what the parameters of a “wilderness” experience are in Grand Canyon. Everything about river trips is subject to debate during this process: trip length, size, crowding and congestion, technology, etc. The public will design the parameters. There are no specifics written into the Wilderness Act to define group size, trip length, number of contacts, phase-out of motors, etc.
- The Park is required to use the “minimum tool” concept in all their actions in the park, deciding what the minimum requirement (tool, regulation, regulatory presence, technology, etc.) is to complete the proposed action.
- The Park is the managing agency for this wilderness area, not another governmental agency.
- The Future: The canyon, the river and the experience visitors can have there are better protected against increase in demand and further environmental degradation and species loss. The river also gains another level of protection influencing the dam and how it is run. No matter who is in office, who runs the Park, what power demands are, who owns the companies or how many people are begging at the door, wilderness status will be the enduring protection for the canyon.

Full Wilderness for the Canyon, Potential Wilderness for the River

- The Canyon is protected and managed as a full Wilderness, with non-mechanization, minimum tool requirement, etc. in place, as described above.
- The Colorado River is managed as a wilderness with one exception: motorized rafts are allowed to continue on the river for the time being.
- *If* (this is a big “*If*”) a bill goes to Congress to designate the Grand Canyon a wilderness, there *must* be

language in that bill that describes how the question of motors on the river will be handled. That is something we can all decide. It could be delayed to the next CRMP revision process. People could decide that motor use will be phased out over the next 25 years. People could decide to pass it off to Congress entirely.

- The important thing to understand is that motors do not necessarily leave the river right away. There would be time to discuss the issue, and figure out how best to handle it so that no one loses jobs or income, and the river is still protected in all other respects.
- If a bill passes Congress to create wilderness in gcnp, the river becomes a full wilderness once the issue of motors is resolved.
- The Future: The Grand Canyon and Colorado River are protected as wilderness.

The Colorado River As Non-Wilderness Corridor

- The river is declared specifically a non-wilderness corridor while all the rest of the canyon is managed as a wilderness.
- Motors are allowed to exist “forever” on the river.
- The Future: Anything could happen. It is true that the Park is currently meeting with outfitters and other groups to discuss changes and compromises which would make trips more wilderness compatible. The problem is that these advances now being made by the outfitters, Park, guides and private boaters could all be erased with a different set of outfitters, a different park administration, new guides and a whole bunch more people who demand the right to visit their national park.
- One problem: Designating the heart of Grand Canyon as a non-wilderness corridor in the middle of a wilderness weakens all other present and future

wilderness areas in the U.S. It is a dangerous precedent to set for other areas that need protection.

- A Second Problem: The ecosystems of the Colorado River will have diminished protection and less recognition of their inherent significance than will recreational issues.

Removing Grand Canyon From Wilderness Consideration At All

- Everything stays as status quo (unless things degrade), and the changes being made right now to the CRMP and other management plans take effect as soon as possible.
- The Future: See previous, but for the entire park, not just the Colorado River.

When Grand Canyon River Guides sent comments to the Park about the Draft Wilderness Management Plan, they called for two things: 1) a unified wilderness management plan that includes the river and all other portions of the canyon (not just the backcountry trails), and 2) a plan that involves more ecosystem management and concern for threatened and endangered species and ecosystems. A unified plan that includes all aspects of the canyon will help guarantee against the same kind of increases in technology, regulation, crowding and congestion, habitat degradation and species extinction that we have seen in the past 20 years throughout the canyon.

Okay, so where do we stand? Included in this issue is a short questionnaire which we'd like you to send in to us. Please send in your responses by the end of the year. We'll be curious to see what the results are, and we'll publish them in the next BQR—thanks.



One of the penalties of an ecological education is that one lives alone in a world of wounds. An ecologist must either harden his shell and make believe that the consequences of science are none of his business, or he must be the doctor who sees the marks of death in a community that believes itself well and does not want to be told otherwise.

Aldo Leopold
The Round River—A PARABLE,
1953

Havasu

*A sparkling waterfall cascades from the rim of a peaceful canyon,
and splashes into a topaz pool,
terraced with smooth walls of travertine.*

*A border of monkeyflower, maidenhair ferns,
infant toads, and poison ivy rings the pool,
And then quickly dissipates into the barren beauty of the desert.*

This is the Grand Canyon.

Travis Winn

Frequently Asked Questions About the “W” Word

Are you guys trying to get rid of motors?
No.

*Just what the heck is “Potential Wilderness” anyway?
Sounds like a lot of hooy to me.*

Potential Wilderness is a category that Grand Canyon National Park came up with when they made their wilderness recommendations for the Park almost two decades ago. They recognized that the river was something different from the rest of the canyon because of the motorized use, which doesn’t conform to full wilderness standards. Rather than call it a non-wilderness corridor (like the Phantom Ranch/Bright Angel/Kaibab trails area), they called the river a potential wilderness. This allows for the non-conforming use (i.e. motors) to continue until resolved, with all other aspects of the river being managed for wilderness.

Until resolved. Uh oh, you say. That means they’re going to try and get rid of motors. If a wilderness bill is sent to Congress, everyone gets to decide how, when and under what circumstances that happens. This is a very important point to understand. It means that the river has the potential to be a full wilderness if we ever reach a point where we *all* decide to agree. This will take the public wanting it, the guides, the outfitters, Congress and the Secretary of the Interior.

The fact is that even right now, if all of those people wanted it, the Park could remove motors—they *don’t have to wait for wilderness protection*. The Park could limit overflights, change trip size, cut user-days, and anything else if they wanted, all without wilderness protection. It’s their park—we just work there. It would take tremendous public support and agreement from all sides before any such drastic action as removing motors would be taken and that’s just not going to happen any time soon. *If we ever all agree on these issues, we would have a chance to resolve them, because the river wasn’t left less protected as a “non-wilderness corridor”.*

Why not just work for Wild and Scenic protection? Why is Wilderness so all-fired important?

Wilderness is the only type of protection that deals specifically with the experience of the visitor to the wilderness, not just with ecosystems and threatened and endangered species. Wild and Scenic designation complements wilderness’ emphasis on preserving ecological processes. Also, with the canyon as wilderness we have the chance to work for an integrated landscape with protection for lands and ecosystems around the canyon. The larger the area protected, the more chance

we have of keeping the place healthy, and possibly bringing back some species that are gone from the area. Wouldn’t it be cool to perhaps one day see a wolf drinking from the river as you float past Nanko?

*Why not just let the Park Service manage the place—
Isn’t having a National Park good enough?*

Not necessarily. The NPS has a dual purpose: to protect lands and to promote visitation and access (i.e. building things, paving roads and trails, making interpretive signs, etc.). The increase in people wanting to visit the parks has placed greater pressure on the parks to develop and promote visitation, despite an amended Organic Act emphasizing preservation over use. In the past 20 years, since the last Wilderness recommendation was scrapped, there have been increases in almost everything that takes us further and further from protective management: crowding, congestion, noise, inappropriate technology, law enforcement, outside regulations, and substantial habitat degradation. Nine native species have become extinct in the last 20 years alone.

With wilderness protection, what’s to prevent trips from being reduced to 12 people maximum or never allowing two groups to see each other, as it is in other wilderness areas?

All of us will. This whole CRMP planning process is a public process to do just that: figure out between all of us what are the acceptable guidelines for wilderness in Grand Canyon. The Wilderness Act purposefully doesn’t deal with the details of the experience, only the broad concepts. We can create our own vision for this place, not rely on anyone else’s. That’s the cool part.

Great. More government added on top of the Park. Do we really need that?

We don’t, and this won’t add any more governmental agencies to the Park. It is specifically written into the Wilderness Act that if wilderness is declared in an area that is currently managed by another agency, that agency will continue to be the managing presence. Wilderness protection simply provides an extra layer of protection and a set of parameters to live by when considering decisions regarding the natural resources and visitor experience. In fact, wilderness protection is a great way to get other agencies (i.e. Coast Guard, Health Department, etc.) off the river, because a minimum regulatory presence is one of the common threads to wilderness management.

Are outfitted services threatened by Wilderness protection?

No. There are outfitters running trips of all kinds in wilderness areas throughout the country, everything from two-person fishing trips to full river trips. The Wilderness Act states that "Commercial services may be performed within the wilderness areas designated by this Act to the extent necessary for activities which are proper for realizing the recreational or other wilderness purposes of the areas." The Park recognizes the value and importance of the outfitters and the role they play in Grand Canyon.

What about private boaters and access to the river?

This is an issue that won't go away any time soon. In the past, the Park has simply increased allocation to accommodate demand. Demand is going to increase, every year, and every decade. Even when we figure out the current mess, demand will continue to grow. Wilderness protection guarantees that solving the problem of increasing demand by increasing allocation is no longer an option and that other Wilderness compatible solutions must be sought.

Won't wilderness designation create some sort of "elite" outdoor club in which only the few energetic healthy people who want to go into the canyon for a long time can go?

No. Anyone who wants to can still visit the canyon and does not need to go down the river in a kayak for 16 days with a loin cloth and a knife for support. Professionally guided trips provide access to a wide spectrum of folks. That's our job.

Glen Canyon Dam made sure the Colorado River through Grand Canyon isn't a "natural" ecosystem. Why try and protect that any more than we're already doing?

You're right. Forget the beaches, forget the chub and the willow flycatcher. Forget all the species of birds who have begun to use the river corridor because of the 280 miles of new riparian habitat that have formed there (as much as 99% of the original riparian habitat in Arizona has been destroyed since settlement began, most of that in the last 4 decades, and Grand Canyon is one place in the state where there is new habitat forming).

Are there any other national parks that are also wilderness areas, either completely or in part?

The NPS manages a larger amount of wilderness than any other agency: 43 million acres, most of which is in Alaska.



GCNP Bans PWC In The Lower Canyon

IN MID-SEPTEMBER, Superintendent Arnberger announced a ban on possession or use of Personal Watercraft (PWC), including jet skis, within Grand Canyon National Park. They have always been prohibited between Lees Ferry and Separation Canyon (Mile 240), but use was unregulated from there to the Lake Mead boundary. Increasing PWC use in the last few years forced Grand Canyon National Park to re-evaluate protection for the area below Separation Canyon. According to Superintendent Arnberger, "we subscribe to the fact that PWC use is not appropriate anywhere within the boundaries of Grand Canyon National Park and in fact their

use runs contrary to those regulations established to protect park values.

The resource values below Separation Canyon are no less significant than any other part of the park. The values that exist above Separation Canyon exist below as well and should be afforded the same protection.

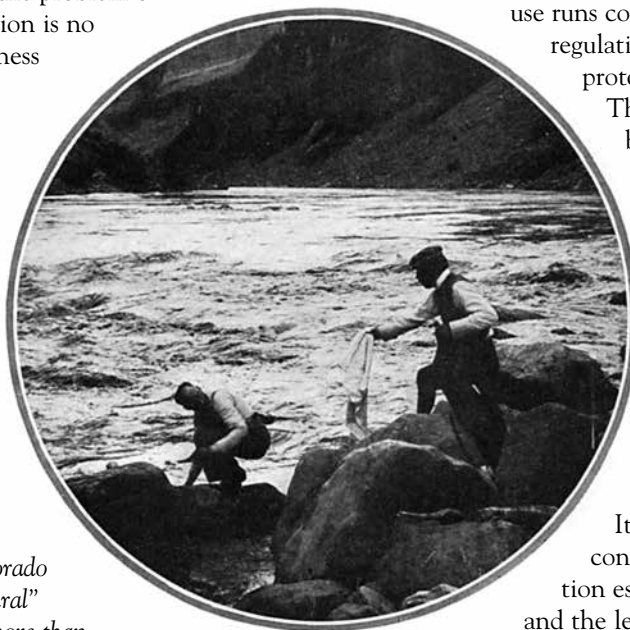
It is important to be consistent with legislation establishing the park and the legislation governing the National Park Service. As a

place of national and global importance,

Grand Canyon is managed to preserve and protect its natural and cultural resources and ecological processes, as well as its scenic, aesthetic and scientific values."

Signs will be posted at the park boundary near Lake Mead National Recreation Area. In addition, handouts will be available at visitor contact stations and on the internet.

Grand Canyon River Guides applauds the Superintendent's position and action in banning PWC use in the lower canyon. It is a significant step in recognizing the importance of preserving and protecting the canyon as a whole, not just the stretch that contains a living river.



ARRIVAL AT THE RIVER



Where the Wild Things Are

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

Kim Crumbo

WELL, LET'S JUST GET STARTED THEN. A lot of the story is right here in the rocks of Grand Canyon. There are the big physical breaks in deposition, geologists call unconformities, like the one between the schist and the Tapeats Sandstone. There are five big breaks in life's grand lineage called mass extinctions, preserved in the changeovers of fossil assemblages. 'Mass' belies the incremental nature of the process. Well, species wink out one by one. The cumulative loss, however, is massive (the Permian extinction, about 245 million years ago, wiped out 95% of all known marine animal species). After the big crashes, the slow reflowing of life spans some 5 to 10 million years.

There is always a background rate of species loss, but it is very low—a quantity measured in millions of years. In stark contrast, Grand Canyon National Park lost at least 12 vertebrate species over the past century: river otter, muskrat, jaguar, Colorado squawfish, two species of chub, Great Basin timber wolf, leopard frog, zebra-tailed lizard, sage grouse. The condor is back again, but the razorback sucker is what conservation biologists call the walking (swimming) dead: a couple left, not reproducing. Not to mention the whole swarm of ecologically critical invertebrates we know next to nothing about. The rate of loss from Grand Canyon is blindingly fast.

Really, this article is about wilderness. It seems these days that wilderness means what we *cannot* have, what we *cannot* do, the aerial dollars floating over Grand Canyon that we are prevented from grabbing. Henry David Thoreau, John Muir, Aldo Leopold, Bob Marshall, and Olaus Murie saw much more in wilderness: abundance, opportunity, mystery, vastness, solitude, and best of all, intricate life. These were not

ideas, they were observations, real as the fifth wave in Hermit. Many today think we have the luxury of pondering and discarding these observations like daydreams, for their lack of immediate importance. But, remember, species loss is incremental, fragmentation of habitat is piecemeal, breakdown of natural processes is gradual, land is degraded by human use patch by patch. As we slide toward the sixth great extinction (the biologists aren't arguing about this one), driven by pervasive human activities, where is the refuge for the living world? In wilderness.

It seems also that many are stuck broadside against the concept that wilderness is a place designated as legal Wilderness (and all the arguments about whether a place ought to be, shouldn't be, is or is not qualified to be such). The web of life in Grand Canyon has no idea what we are talking about—it is busy being wild. The confusion stems from using the same word for what needs protecting (wilderness) as the word for the protection itself (Wilderness). It's like using the word horse for both the animal and the barn. The horse standing out in the rain has no doubt of its being a wet horse.

This is an entreaty for barnraising. We used to do that, working together. Grand Canyon and its community of life are out in the rain—hordes of humanity demanding access—protected only as a Park. Wilderness designation, the protective structure, requires the National Park Service to stop "improving" the parks, ending the proliferation of buildings and pavement, or signs and beachfront riprap. This is precisely the reason Congress insisted on wilderness consideration for such areas. The National Park Service has shown its willingness time and again to bend under the pressure of demand, sacrificing the wild. Wilderness designation is the only legislation that has stood the test of endurance. It shifts the focus to maintaining ecological integrity



MAJOR POWELL'S PATHWAY

and the opportunities to experience qualities of nature found only in wilderness. Could Powell have imagined 20,000 people a year travelling down the river? What evidence indicates this will not increase again, beyond our own imaginings, over the next century?

Why should we care? I once visited with John Nichols, author of *The Milagro Beanfield War*, after a reading. Over crumpled paperbacks held out for his signature we acknowledged the eventual and inevitable annihilation of the earth when the sun becomes a red giant, one day along the geologic time scale. Vaporized. Inescapable. But meanwhile, life

is marvelous and precious, the unfolding of life on earth magnificently complex, and John and I agreed we don't want to be the ones driving the bus into the sixth great extinction. What better place to try to protect the web of life—native biodiversity—than one of the world's premier big landscape parks. In Grand Canyon, we can let Nature be trip leader.

Kelly Burke



Some of the facts presented here are from David Quammen's recent article in Harper's Magazine, "Planet of Weeds." Extirpated species list from L. E. Stevens.

Protecting Grand Canyon Quiet Affirmed By Court

A silence reigns everywhere. The sun comes up over the Painted Desert through a haze of spectrum colors but there is no sound, and it goes down over the Uinkaret Mountains in all the glory of crimson and purple, but the silence is not broken. The stillness seems like that of stellar space.

John C. Van Dyke, *THE GRAND CANYON OF THE COLORADO*, 1920

GOVERNMENT EFFORTS to restore the natural quiet of the Grand Canyon by limiting noisy commercial air tours was supported by a federal court decision September 4, 1998. Conservation groups (Sierra Club, Grand Canyon Trust, National Parks and Conservation Association, The Wilderness Society, Grand Canyon River Guides and Northern Arizona Audubon Society), which had filed suit against the Federal Aviation Administration in January of 1997 were disappointed that the court did not require the agency to limit flight numbers and restore natural quiet sooner than 2008, the FAA's promised goal.

Congress enacted the National Parks Overflights Act in 1987, which required the FAA and the National Park Service to "substantially restore the natural quiet" of Grand Canyon National Park by creating no-fly zones and other restrictions on air tours, which then numbered close to 50,000. The FAA still has not approved an air tour management plan which meets the "natural quiet" goal, despite several rulemaking attempts, but has promised to meet that goal by 2008.

"We're glad to see the court uphold the need to restore natural quiet at the Grand Canyon, which is now inundated by 100,000 air tours a year," said Sharon Galbreath, Sierra Club Grand Canyon Chapter conservation chair. "But we wish the court had told the FAA to do more faster, because the longer we wait the more noisy flights there are." According to Tom Robinson of the Grand Canyon Trust, "the

most significant aspect of the ruling was the Court upholding the government's right to preserve natural quiet as an important resource."

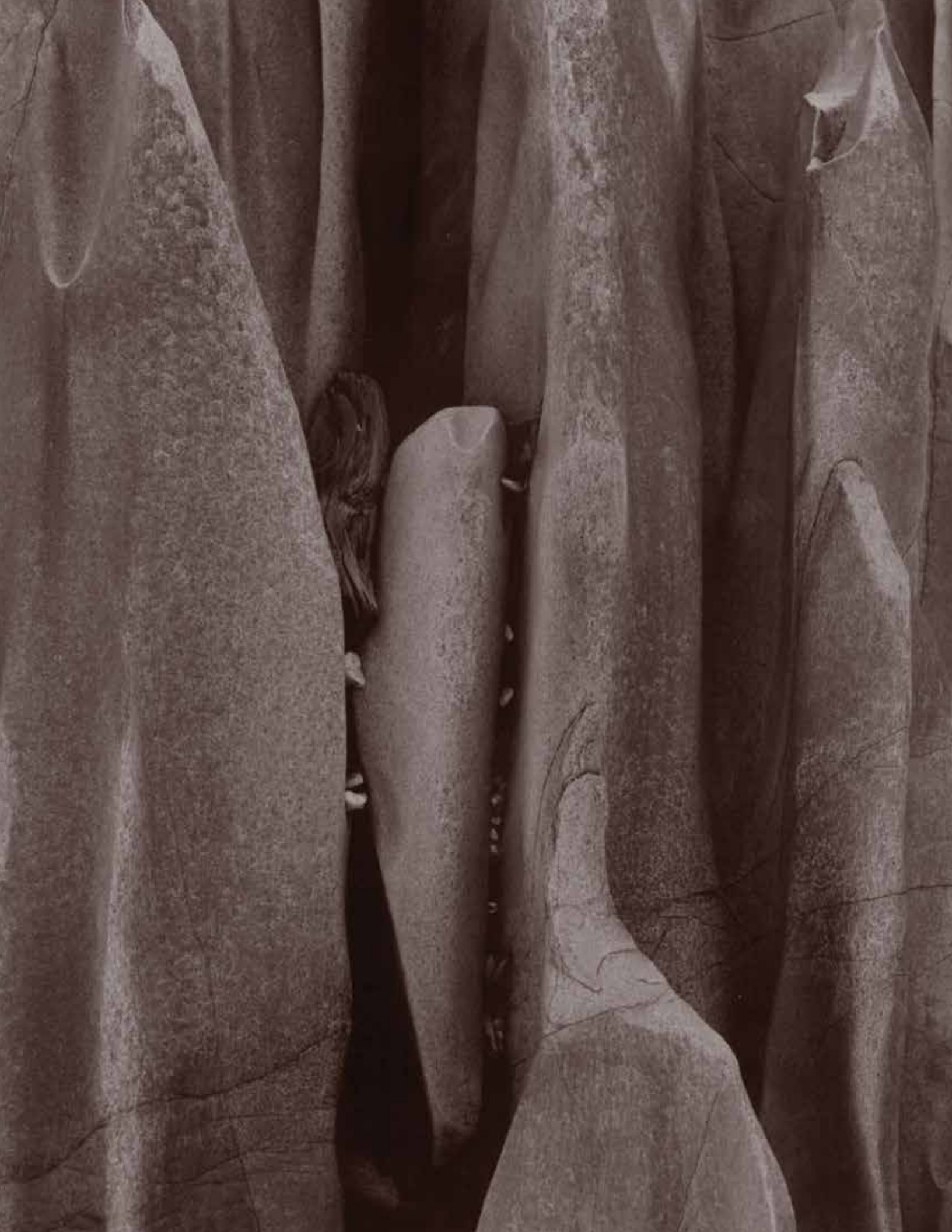
The court stated that "the FAA can regulate aircraft noise in order to protect not only those who choose the well-worn path, but also those who prefer the road less-taken." The judges were harsh on the air tour industry, which had filed suit to prevent further restrictions on Grand Canyon overflights. The three-judge panel noted that the air tour coalition "misread the Federal Register," "misapprehends the agencies' definition [of natural quiet]," and "mischaracterized the Senator's [McCain's] position" (referring to statements made by Senator John McCain supporting passage of 1987 national parks overflight legislation). The court rejected two other arguments made by the air tour industry as "factually inaccurate."

The court noted that the conservation groups' "frustration with the agency's slow and faltering pace is understandable," and "the FAA was tardy" and "undeniably slow." However, the judges said that "we will take the government at its word" now that the FAA is promising to issue new rules which will meet the goal of restoring the natural quiet at Grand Canyon by further limiting air tour noise within a "reasonable timetable."

"The FAA has very clear marching orders to restore the natural quiet of the Grand Canyon," said Jeri Ledbetter, past president of GCRG, "and we'll be watching—and listening—carefully for them to act."



Sierra Club Press Release



Leaving the Colorado

At Peach Springs on the Res
we are met by a Hualapai man with a backpack
who wanders over and stands to watch us change the tire,
fly down,
eyes hidden behind an iridescent strip
I'm a damned American Indian
he says twice, words slow and smeared
thumbs up
His head lops to one side as he speaks and
to keep it from falling off
he holds one hand at the back of his bulbous neck
He asks about the rapids
whose names he must say twice before we understand
says he did the river once
Park Service
Some of my people never immigrated from over there,
on the other side
he jerks his thumb toward the Canyon
and for a moment I imagine there are still
people down there
living as we lived for eighteen days
on the other side of human memory
watching the channel of sky flow by
keeping close to the banks of the river
whose waters ran deeper than light or fear could see

Then at a 7-Eleven in Vegas
a man crosses over from the dark
to lean it at our window
gripping a wrinkled bag by its neck
He seems young until he turns into the orange light smiling
and I see a jittery gray gathered in the gaps
the places where the pieces of his face don't fit together
Going to prison Monday for crack and
wonders if we want a beeper for fifty dollars
He reaches in and hands me a lighter
When I won't buy it he says
Hey, just keep it
gestures with the bottle
and stumbles backward into the standing darkness
Peace
he says, shaking two heavy fingers at us
reaching for balance with the bottle hand

These are the emissaries of an imperfect world
who hold out their hands to welcome us back
I keep mine deep in my pockets
searching for sand in the seams
It is all I have left
for as we drove
and I swayed in and out of sleep
the desert stars fell one by one from the sky
and landed in disorder on the earth
I saw them all
broken and seething
as we topped the hill above the city

I think of the Canyon's messengers
The hoary ravens who shuffled like squat stone idols
on high ledges as we floated by
The doe who drank without looking up
her shallow flanks rippling over her ribs
like water on a sandbar
The tadpoles with pulsing gold-flecked bowels
who sucked softly at my fingers
in a sun-soaked pool
The unseen scorpion of the last night's camp
who stung my arm, saying

Do not leave this land lightly
The numbing hand you feel
tightening beneath your skin
will keep you in place
Carry the stones you have taken
and the dreams you were given
with you, like seeds
Let them bring forth fruit
moonflowers and ocotillo
blooming in your secret places
Shake the sand from your hair and clothes
and with it sow a new sky
to wake you with its stillness in the night

Louisa Bennion

Wise Guise

GRAND CANYON RIVER GUIDES at times suffers from an organizational identity crisis. Who are we? For what principles do we stand? Comments in the last newsletter display a vast array of opinions. For those of us who devoted a lot of time to the organization, our pat answer has always been: to provide guides a common voice regarding issues and decisions that affect the Colorado River. But how can we have a common voice with visions so diverse?

Our primary goals as an organization are printed on every newsletter for all to see:

Protecting the Grand Canyon

Setting the highest standards for the river profession

Celebrating the unique spirit of the river community

Providing the best possible river experience

Protecting Grand Canyon always took the top line, and is relatively unambiguous. The other goals are a little muddier, as “highest standards” and “the best possible river experience” are vastly open to interpretation.

Still, I have always believed GCRG to be, first and foremost, an environmental organization. Others did, too—perhaps even most of us. Yet some believe our primary focus should be taking care of the guides. Certainly this is a worthwhile cause, and one to which we have devoted time—organizationally as well as privately. However, in keeping with our stated goals, this is not our primary mission.

It's easy to print letterhead with benevolent sounding mission statements, but the board of directors is supposed to live by them. Organizations sometimes conceal ulterior motives beneath lofty goals, which are quickly cast aside when the questions become difficult.

The challenge, then, is to set economic and personal issues aside, and decide what's best for the Canyon—to put the health of the river ahead of our own self interests. GCRG has done so remarkably well over the last ten years. It hasn't been so difficult; we share a deep love for the Canyon. But what happens when the questions get harder? There's a fork in the trail ahead; which one will we take?

The outfitters offer an example for us. Their new club, Grand Canyon River Outfitters' Association, (GCROA) was organized with strikingly similar goals:

Protection of Grand Canyon, with particular emphasis on the Colorado River Corridor;
Providing a diverse range of the highest quality river experiences to the outfitted public;
Supporting the people and places of the Grand Canyon river community.

Sound familiar? You bet. At first we thought, “Wow, they must think we're really cool!” Imitation is flattery, as they say. But almost immediately, stark differences between the organizations become apparent. Some wonderful people are involved with the outfitter's organization—passionate folks who care deeply about the Canyon, the guides, and the river experience they provide. And they have done some good things to protect the canyon. But as a group, the organization seems to have been overpowered by the lowest common denominator. Although the goals sound noble, GCROA has a very clear economic agenda and financial interests will take priority.

Air tour operators also have a club, whose primary mission is—you guessed it—protecting Grand Canyon. To do that, they must be allowed to make hundreds of thousands of flights over the Canyon each year, marketing vigorously and reaping vast profits. Hell, if they could make 400,000 flights a year, they could protect Grand Canyon even more. Pressing for the continued unbridled growth of their industry, air tour operators bring in busloads of pilots to public hearings who whine about jobs, their hungry children, and all those poor disabled people who have no other way of seeing Grand Canyon. Yes, this nonsense has been effective. The air tour industry has enormous political clout, as well as a supportive managing agency (the FAA) who won't yank their britches down when they start exuding such tripe.

We don't want to go there, nor do I believe we could get away with it if we tried. Anyway, the tired old “jobs vs. environment” tirade is dubious at best. Usually there need not be a choice. Too often big corporations use this as a scare tactic to manipulate workers into standing in the way of environmental protections. Those workers are simply a means to an end for upper management. One should be highly suspicious when companies threaten loss of jobs as the only possible result of environmentally sound actions.

It seems to me that Grand Canyon River Guides has always *believed* in our stated goals. We see ourselves as the first line of defense for the Canyon and for the experience, because we're down there so much and because we care so deeply. At the fork in the trail, let's not take the path of the Wise Use movement; let us remember why this organization was founded, to protect Grand Canyon.

Jeri Ledbetter



America is a great story and there is a river on every page. Let's remember that and dedicate ourselves to the great work of restoring these rivers to health.

Charles Kuralt

Arnberger Testifies Before Congress

On September 24, Grand Canyon National Park Superintendent Robert Arnberger testified at an oversight hearing of the House Resources Committee, Subcommittee on National Parks and Public Lands, regarding the Draft Wilderness Management Plan and the Analysis of Air Overflight Sound at Grand Canyon National Park. Among others invited to testify were Mark Grisham of the Grand Canyon River Outfitters' Association, Brian Merrill of Western River Expeditions, Bill Reffalt of the Wilderness Society and Robert Lynch of the Central Arizona Project Association (capa—not the cap). After his initial explanatory statement, Superintendent Arnberger was questioned for over four hours regarding his policies in both these areas.

Representatives Stump (r-az), Shadegg (r-az) and Hansen (r-ut) expressed considerable concern about the planning process for the Wilderness Management Plan (wmp) and the Colorado River Management Plan (CRMP). They felt that the public had not been sufficiently involved. Superintendent Arnberger assured them that the Park was involving the public and following legal protocol for both management plans. Representative Shadegg concentrated expressly on the public process, which he said was hugely flawed. He urged the NPS to hold public hearings on the Draft wmp, despite the fact that Superintendent Arnberger assured him that this has and is being done. The representatives specifically asked Arnberger if the Park plans to ban motors, to which Arnberger replied that both the wmp and the CRMP defer any decisions on this issue until a future date. This was apparently not acceptable to the representatives. Shadegg, Hansen and Stump also expressed the opinion that any area that has so many roads (i.e. the North Rim) should automatically be excluded from wilderness consideration. Bill Reffalt of the Wilderness Society stepped in to explain that the Wilderness Act allows consideration of areas with non-permanent vehicular trails for wilderness designation, and that the size of the adjacent forest blocks and the highly primitive nature of the specific North Rim roads in question were significant in the

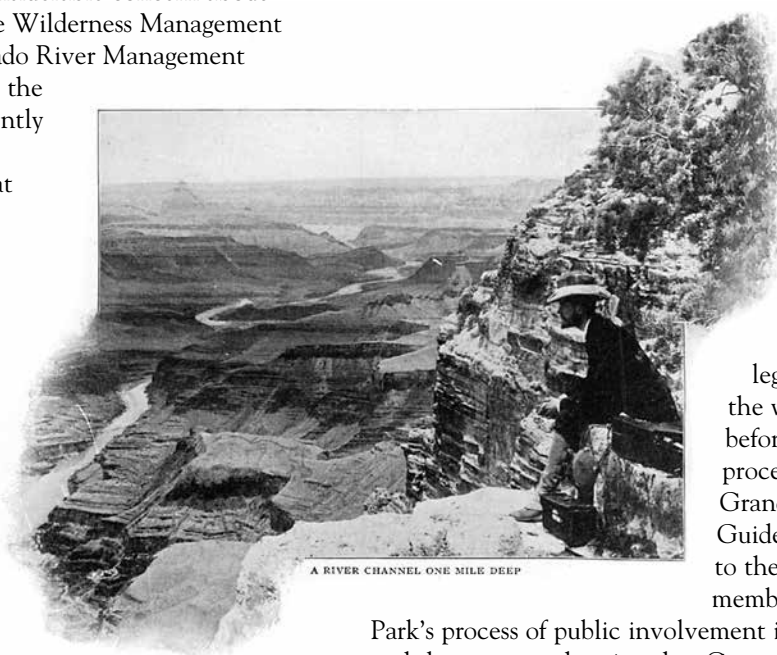
ability to consider these sections for wilderness.

Robert Lynch of the capa expressed concern about water rights, despite Arnberger's assurances that the issue was addressed in a section of the plan. Mark Grisham of GCROA urged the exemption of the river corridor from wilderness consideration. He said there was no resource crisis in Grand Canyon and that the commercial users of the Canyon were environmentally responsible operators. Brian Merrill of Western River Expeditions stated that the river corridor should be specifically designated as a non-wilderness corridor.

During the hearing, Superintendent Arnberger stated that he was not the enemy, nor was he the problem, and that the Park was fulfilling its responsibilities for public input as dictated by law. He stated and reiterated that

Congress would have the final say when a Wilderness bill was presented to them.

There is some concern that there will be an attempt to get Congress to legislate changes to the wmp or the CRMP before the planning process is finished. Grand Canyon River Guides sent comments to the committee members supporting the



Park's process of public involvement in both the wmp and the CRMP, and urging that Congress not take any action before the process is completed. We believe that this process should continue to completion—whether you agree or not with the issues, no matter what side of the fence you are on—this is a democratic process that must run its course before any action is taken. It is the public's national park and we all need to be able to give input into how it is managed. If action is taken prior to completing the public process, it negates this and all other such public input processes, and simply assures that special interests may buy legislation from our government. We may not always have seen eye to eye on issues with the Park, but we need to support them in their efforts to bring this planning process to completion, or we all lose in the end.



Expand the “Spectrum”

THERE IS A GENERAL BELIEF that the current commercial river allocation benefits only those who can afford a one- to two-thousand dollar river trip, in other words the affluent. Although people earning less than an upper-middle income can save up for a Grand Canyon vacation (generally in less time than required to wait for a private trip), the current access system favors the financially secure. Part of the current Colorado River Management Planning (CRMP) process centers on how concessioners can better serve a broader spectrum of the American public. The following is offered for discussion purposes.

There are at least several neglected “publics” deserving serious consideration. One consists of educational groups, i.e., university/college-level organizations. In theory, this group should provide college-level courses for credit, with the actual on-river experience provided at cost. The river trips should be participatory (e.g., paddle trips with limited oar-powered support), integrating rigorous college-level educational requirements.

The history of these types of trips indicates potential for abuse, so stringent academic and cost stipulations must apply. For example, a panel of educators representing various colleges and universities (and the NPS) could recommend standards and costs for courses, as well provide a peer-reviewed, prioritized list of courses submitted by the various colleges. These courses, scheduled over the life of the concessioner’s contract, could be conducted by the college or university involved. The allocation would come from the commercial sector. While most current outfitters offer “educational” trips, the proposed concession’s sole purpose would be following the advisory panel’s educational recommendations and providing low cost river access.

A second group consists of individuals or groups interested in a high degree of participation but who also desire or require a guide’s presence. This service constitutes the traditional “support” trip. The perception exists among some private boaters and guides that many boaters waiting for a noncommercial launch date actually desire this type of trip. A querying of the current private waiting list could quickly determine if this service is “necessary and appropriate.”

As proposed, participants could select their guide from a pool of qualified trip leaders. The guide would not transport folks but would provide advice regarding rapid running, camp selection, scheduling hikes, interpretation, etc. These folks either have their own boats or require rental equipment, but there would be no distinction between “passengers” and boatmen. They, as individuals or as a group, would be responsible for getting down the river.

The requirement or desire for a guide separates these users from the private sector. Those who prefer riding as passengers in a professionally-operated raft would contact the traditional outfitters. Since a guide presence (albeit minimal), food cost and equipment rental constitute the principal expenses, these services should be considerably lower than charged by any current concessioners. Obviously, issues regarding insurance and other business-related concerns need addressing. This concession could provide a valuable service while significantly reducing the private waiting list, but only if the allocation comes from the commercial sector.

Another important “public” not adequately represented in current concession operations consists of “youth groups.” The current effort to revive the Grand Canyon Youth program deserves praise and encouragement, but their success is dependent on the outfitters’ generally sporadic and, for this public, expensive support. I propose consideration of a separate concessioner devoted to low-cost river trips for a broad range of youths (At Risk, disadvantaged, and other kids from low to middle income backgrounds). As proposed for the educational groups, a citizen’s panel consisting of representatives from the various youth groups (governmental as well as nongovernmental organizations) could review requests, as well as propose scheduling and funding alternatives for the life of the concession contract. The emphasis would be an equitable, effective, and economical youth program. Again, this should be part of the commercial allocation.

A fourth group consists of the physically challenged. A similar concessioner as described for youth organizations, with a similar panel of experts and review process, could be created. Again, this would comprise a commercial allocation.

As mentioned above, these proposals are offered only to encourage constructive debate. This list mentions only a few of the disenfranchised. The proposals are preliminary, but in order to adequately address the needs of the populations describe above it is essential that a broad representation of relevant experts join the CRMP process. By seriously addressing in open debate the public needs described above, and confronting the discriminatory realities of the current commercial allocation, we could ultimately expand professional guiding’s service to America’s public.

Kim Crumbo



Faced with the choice between changing one’s mind, and proving that there is no need to do so, almost everyone gets busy on the proof.

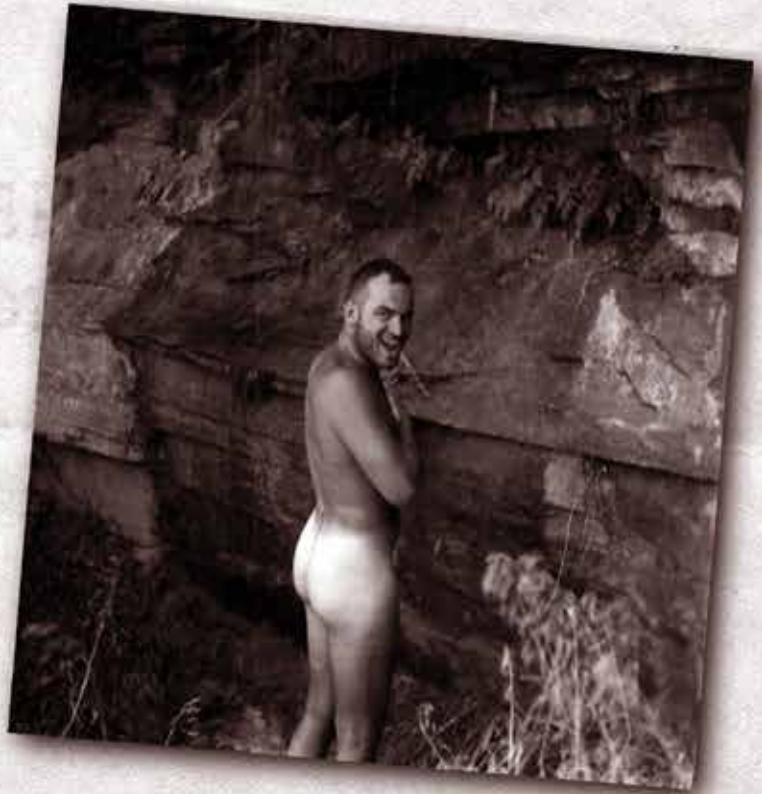
John Kenneth Galbraith

Barry Goldwater
P.O. BOX 1601
SCOTTSDALE, ARIZONA 85252

February 9, 1996

**The Many Sides of
Barry Goldwater.**

1909-1998



Mr. Lew Steiger, President
Boatman's Quarterly Review
Box 1934
Flagstaff, AZ 86002

Dear Lew:

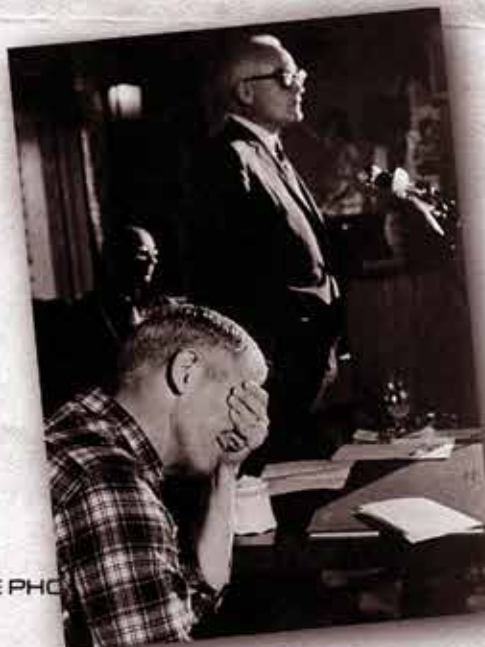
I receive your publication everytime you publish it, and read every page before doing any of my other work. Just keep putting out that good little magazine, you are doing a good job.

Sincerely,

Barry
Barry Goldwater

Above: Goldwater sprucing
up in Glen Canyon.
Nevills Collection.

Below: In the wake of Glen Canyon
Dam's construction, Sierra Club's
David Brower agonizes at a South Rim
hearing as Goldwater
comes out in favor of
dams in Grand Canyon.
Unknown photographer.



In 1940, young Barry Goldwater ran the Green and Colorado Rivers with Norman Nevills, forging a life-long love for the Canyons. But by the mid-1960s political pragmatism swayed him to support the damming, not only of Glen Canyon, but of Grand Canyon as well.

In later years, Goldwater recanted his unequivocal support of right-wing doctrine. His feelings for living rivers resurfaced as well, and he openly regretted his support of dams on the Colorado.

Deadly Virus Infects Grand Canyon

WORLD RENOWNED for its spectacular landscapes and unmatched beauty, the American Southwest, and in particular the Four Corners area of the Colorado Plateau is undeniably unique. Still, uniqueness comes in many forms, some not so awe-inspiring, some even deadly. Unfortunately, this area is also one of the few places to find one of the world's most deadly viruses.

Hantaviruses actually exist in most regions around the world. As a genus of the family Bunyviridae, hantaviruses are illness-causing vectors in a category called Zoonoses, that is they transmit diseases from nature to man. They are not new. In fact, an epidemic condition from hantaviruses has existed in Sweden since 1934. They are agents for two kinds of acute and severe illnesses, one affecting the kidneys and the other the lungs. Worldwide, the kidney-related disease form is much more common, but it is the lung or pulmonary form that is the deadliest.

In May 1993, a cluster of deaths from a mysterious respiratory illness occurred in the Four Corners area of the United States, causing not only widely disseminated fear in the Southwest, but a flurry of research by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) to identify the cause. "Four Corners Virus", "Muerto (Dead) Canyon" and "Sin Nombre (Without Name) Virus" were all names given to what would ultimately be identified as a hantavirus strain in June '93. Causing a severe form of respiratory distress, the illness was termed Hantavirus Pulmonary Syndrome or "hps", and caused 32 deaths (60% mortality) in 53 cases that year.

Pulmonary hantaviruses are transmitted by rodents (in whom they generally cause no disease), primarily deer and pinyon mice, with the virus being "shed" in the rodent's saliva, urine and feces. Humans usually become infected after inhaling aerosolized droplets of urine or particulates contaminated with rodent excrete, but a remote risk does exist from a rodent bite.

In July 1998, a professional Grand Canyon river guide developed a case of hps. His reported exposure was the camp on the left bank at river mile 19.5 (just upstream from North Canyon). While he lay sleeping under an overturned paddle raft to stay out of the rain, a mouse ran across his face. His reaction apparently startled the mouse which then urinated, and the guide accidentally aspirated several urine droplets. He became very ill a few weeks later. He was hospitalized and tests confirmed Hantavirus. Fortunately, he completely recovered. Unfortunately, Grand Canyon researchers later confirmed Hantavirus in the reported area with 4 of 42 mice as positive carriers.

The potential seriousness of this development is

tremendous and should not be underestimated. There are nearly 27,000 annual river runners and 120,000 backcountry hikers. Multitudes of mice exist, and are extremely prevalent at all the popular camps, especially along the river corridor. How long has the Hantavirus been there? Is it prevalent only in isolated rodent populations in certain areas? Is it spreading? There are many unanswered questions. Research is continuing, but for now be on the lookout, and take appropriate precautions.

Hantavirus Pulmonary Syndrome

- 1993: Serious (potentially fatal) viral lung infection outbreak occurs in U.S. Southwest transmitted from mice. Ultimately identified as Hantavirus.
- Acquired from inhaling viral particles from mice urine (rarely acquired through bite). Dust from droppings in mice nests, dens or burrows may be contaminated with virus and transmit infection if inhaled.
- Responsible for 6 fatalities in Arizona since 1993.
- July '98—First and only case reported in Grand Canyon involved a professional river guide.
- August '98—Researchers in Grand Canyon find 4 of 42 mice at Colorado River Mile 19.5 (left bank camp) in Grand Canyon positive for Hantavirus.

Signs and Symptoms

1. "Flu-like" symptoms beginning 1–6 weeks after exposure, i.e. fever, muscle/body aches, dry cough, and sometimes abdominal cramping and vomiting. These symptoms last 2–15 days.
2. Life-threatening respiratory distress or respiratory failure (Adult Respiratory Distress Syndrome or "ARDS") may evolve rapidly within 24–48 hours following above flu-like symptoms. Lungs fill with fluid and become inflamed causing progressive difficulty with breathing or "respiratory distress", characterized by:
 - Rapid, shallow respirations.
 - Use of accessory muscles to assist breathing (e.g. neck and rib muscles appear to pull or retract in, as if sucking on a straw) during inhalation.
 - Skin color (especially lips and fingertips) may become gray, bluish or mottled.



Below the L.C.
Robyn Slayton

Treatment

1. If strongly suspected, *evacuate immediately* to see a doctor. *Let them know* that you suspect you have been exposed to Hantavirus and insist on tests. The symptoms look a lot like pneumonia and the treatment for that is exactly what you don't want for Hantavirus. For people going home to areas outside the Southwest, they need to tell their doctors what they suspect, because doctors outside the area will not think to test for the virus and may not know the procedures.
2. No antibiotic therapy exists.
3. Hospitalization is required, usually in critical care for advanced life support measures.
4. Survival rate for ARDS with Hantavirus is 44%.

Hantavirus Precautions for River Runners and Backpackers

1. Avoid contact with rodents, rodent burrows or den sites (commonly found under rocks, vegetation, logs etc.).
2. If possible, sleep in enclosed tent or on the boat rather than directly on ground, avoiding areas near rodent den sites.
3. Do not enter or use cabins or enclosed structures that are or could be rodent-infested.
4. Keep all food and trash in rodent-proof containers to avoid attracting them to campsite.



Tom Myers, M.D.
Grand Canyon National Park

GCMRC Sponsors Recreation Research

THE GRAND CANYON MONITORING AND RESEARCH Center (GCMRC) is sponsoring a recreation research project directed at understanding the attitudes and preferences of recreational users of the Colorado River in Grand Canyon, particularly as they relate to flow levels. By representing viewpoints of river guides and recreationists, the objectives of this study ultimately aim to maintain and enhance opportunities for rewarding recreational experiences. The study is being conducted by Bill Stewart, University of Illinois; Bob Manning, University of Vermont; Jonathan Taylor, USGS Ft. Collins; and Dave Cole, Leopold Institute.

There are two aspects of flow level being studied that may influence recreational use of the river. One is associated with flow levels that users experience while on the river, the other is associated with the long-term flow regime that users experience primarily through the number and type of beaches they encounter while on their trip. A previous study conducted during the 1980s and sponsored by GCMRC was directed at preferences for flow levels experienced while on the river. Although the current study replicates some of the items of this previous study, it also extends the scope of issues to include a user assessment of preferences for beaches and beach types. The type of beach resulting from a spike flow depends on many factors, some of which are influenced by the Dam operations, including spike release level, duration of spike, and downramp time. The numbers of beaches, their size, and vegetative covering are related to management of release flows, and considered relevant factors in recreational use of the Colorado River.

Mailback questionnaires will be sent to a number of user groups during the first part of 1999, including anglers upstream from Lees Ferry, day-use rafters between the Dam and Lees Ferry, commercial raft patrons, private river trip leaders, and river guides. The questionnaires for each user type will be different, however there will be some shared content. A section of the questionnaires will be associated with preferences for setting attributes related to flow level, which include delays at rapids, speed of travel while on the river, time spent floating, time spent at attractions, arrival time at campsites, size and number of beaches, and perceptions of safety. Another section of the questionnaires adapts a relatively new technology of photographic imagery to assess user preferences for flow-related parameters, particularly directed at beach types. A third section of items on the questionnaires will be drawn directly from the previous study of user attitudes and preferences conducted in the 1980s. Employment of items used in this previous assessment ensures the validity of interpreting changes or trends in attitudes and preferences of recreationists.

As a time frame, focus group discussions will be held during Fall 1998, and will include discussions with the Technical Work Group of the adaptive management team, as well as a presentation and discussion at the meeting of the Grand Canyon River Guides Association on November 7th. The purpose of these focus groups will include discussions related to objectives and/or visions for the future of the Colorado River and its recreational use, as well as identification of issues related to linkages between recreation opportunities and river flows. In addition, participants in the focus groups will be asked to comment upon various photographs and their ability to represent flow levels and beach types. Mailback questionnaire administration will occur in Spring 1999. Data analysis and report writing occurs during Summer 1999, with a draft final report scheduled for August 1999 to be submitted to the GCMRC.

There are currently two other recreation research projects associated with the Colorado River in Grand Canyon; both of these studies are being funded by the Grand Canyon Science Center. Troy Hall from Virginia Tech is investigating issues related to number of contacts and crowding, which facilitates the development of indicators and standards associated with river use management. Her data collection started this past summer and included participant observers on raft trips. Another study is being conducted by Randy Gimblett from University of Arizona to develop a simulation model for river recreational use, and is directed at understanding issues related to management of trip scheduling. Researchers from the three projects have held several discussions to prevent overlap and enhance the collective impact of the three studies.

The research being sponsored by the GCMRC is an opportunity for river guides to be represented within the context of release flows from the Dam. There have been numerous studies directed at the assessment of the downstream effects of the Dam; most have been associated with sediment transport, fisheries habitat, or wildlife such as flycatchers or snails. This study provides an important platform to reaffirm the importance of recreational use within the river corridor, particularly as user evaluation of the quantity and quality of beaches plays a meaningful role in recreational opportunities.

If you have questions about this study, contact me at (217) 244-4532, or by writing Department of Leisure Studies, University of Illinois, 1206 S. Fourth St., 104 Huff Hall, Champaign, IL 61820; or email: wstewart@uiuc.edu. Or come to the GCMRC fall meeting to participate in discussion about this research.

Bill Stewart



Holmstrom Honored



ON AUGUST 22, the small town of Coquille, Oregon, dedicated a monument to hometown hero Buzz Holmstrom, first to run the Green and Colorado alone. In a series of short, moving talks, local officials, Buzz's younger siblings Anna and Rolf, and Buzz's biographers each paid homage to the humble river runner. Anna Holmstrom Smith then unveiled the bronze plaque, affixed to a massive boulder on the banks of the Coquille River.

From across the West, river men and women, family, and old friends spent the rest of the morning exchanging tales of Buzz Holmstrom, and assaulting the mountain of cookies Anna's family baked for the occasion. If you're ever passing through Coquille, stop by Sturdivant Park, pull the weeds around the monument, and spend a quiet moment with Buzz.

Rolf Holmstrom

Anna Holmstrom addressing the crowd

Vince Welch, Cort Conley and Brad Dimock, authors of the new Holmstrom biography, "The Doing of the Thing," at the monument.

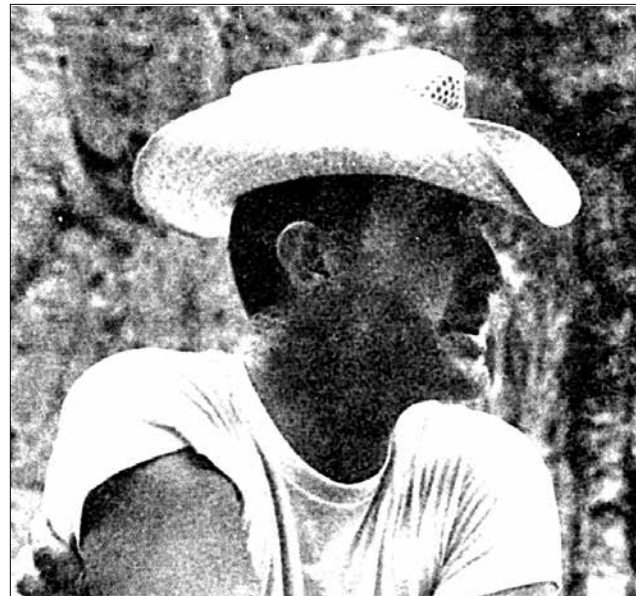


Jake Luck

A GREAT VETERAN BOATMAN caught that big backeddy in the sky this fall. Jake Luck entered and ran his last rapid on September 2, after a long illness.

Recalling the Canyon experience, Jake said, "Being able to learn about it, to impart it to the people that traverse the Grand Canyon. Study it, care about it, and try to realize what happened here. That's all we can do, is try to realize. There's no way we could know, because we were not there. We cannot be there..."

I don't put myself up to be a smart old sonofabitch. Alright? But I have tried to listen to those who *think* they know."





Nancy Streator taking it at the oars. Nevills standing far left; Garth Marston firing bucketful, center; Dock Marston about to fire from lower right.
Cline Library, Bill Belknap Collection NAU.PH.96.4.114.32

Nancy Streator Reuling The Passenger Experience in the late 1940s

I AM A NATIVE from Salt Lake City and I was born here in Salt Lake in 1929. I attended the Rowland Hall school for girls throughout my pre-college years. I first heard about Norm Nevills's river trips from Father Liebler, who had the St. Christopher's Mission down in Bluff. I think it was '45 or '46. We had a school expedition down there and we saw some of the pictures of the trip that Norm had taken Father Liebler on. I was just fascinated, and that is how I became interested in it. I had been very interested in that part of the country, the Indians and all that sort of thing, so it was just kind of natural that I fell into it.

It would have to be '44-'45 because I think that I

went down the river—yeah, I went down the San Juan in '46, so it had to be before that.

My father was very particular about this expedition that I was going on, as I'm sure that you well imagine. He owned Streator Chevrolet, here. He wrote to Norm and said the stipulation was that if I went I would go on Norm's boat and that sort of thing.

Was that for the first trip?

For all of the trips. I usually ended up being the thirteenth person, since I was fairly light and small. Norm would put on his boat three passengers plus himself. So I would usually share the back deck with someone.

Could you tell me something about that, like how it worked out, how you registered, and what it cost?

It was really quite expensive, and I don't remember how much it was. I think that each part of the Colorado River trips was something like twelve hundred dollars. I don't really remember what the San Juan was.

In those days we didn't carry ice chests and we had all canned food; there was no fresh food. There was never any liquor or beer available. It was a really straight trip because I think that Norm wanted to keep everybody alert, you know, none of the fun stuff. It was serious business.

It was in the summer. I don't remember exactly what time, but it was probably in the end of, I think, June, because we always ran the Colorado—the Grand—in July. In those days, that is when the water was the highest and the melt-off was the biggest.

How did you get down to Mexican Hat?

Well, I am sure my father (laughter)—I am an only child. I am sure my father deposited me and picked me up from the river; I am sure that he did. And in those days, there was nothing past Moab. [laughter] Literally nothing. The roads were graded, but they were all dirt.

What was that trip like? Was that trip a little more relaxed than the Grand Canyon trips?

Yes, I would say so. It was about a week, six days or seven days.

Who all went on the San Juan trip? Can you remember the other boatman or any of the passengers?

I would have to go back and look. I got movies of that trip which are just hysterical. But a classmate of mine was Ardie Robison, from Rowland Hall, and she went on that trip with me.

Once you did that, is that what interested you in going on the Grand Canyon?

Yes. Then the next year I did the lower end of the Grand Canyon from Phantom Ranch down. The following year I did the Green and the upper Grand. You see, the lower end in those days was two weeks. So the whole trip through the Grand Canyon was a three-week deal.

What was the attitude of people that you knew, about you going? Was it really a crazy thing to do then?

Oh, yeah.

Like your schoolmates and your parents? They let you go, but did you have to convince them pretty hard?

Well, my father was always pretty good about things that I was interested in. He would investigate thoroughly, and he certainly looked at Norm thoroughly. But, no, when he decided that it was safe for me then he would let me go.

What did your mother think?

Oh, she was always a good sport about it.

A lot of people have written to [Norm], and their parents wouldn't let them go or their wives wouldn't let them go, so it is interesting that yours did.

Kent Frost—he never was a boatman on one of our trips—was down there at one time and got my mother out in the middle of the river. My mother always wore gloves and a hat. I can't remember, I don't think that she probably would have at that time of year a fur cape on, but she always wore furs. Kent got her out in the middle of Lee's Ferry and said, "Now, I am sorry, Mrs. Streater, but I guess we just can't get back to shore, I guess we will just have to go right through the canyon." She was so gullible that she believed him. (laughter) Oh dear, it was funny. So she was kind of panicky about that.

I just happened to be looking through your diary—I noticed that it said that you ran quite a few rapids with him because you were smaller?

Yeah, I think so, I was little. He could see over me and I wasn't a big body.

Did you ride in the boat or on the deck?

No, on the deck; all passengers always rode on the deck. Stern first, always facing down river. There was actually nobody except the boatman in the boat.

Tell me a little more about Norm. You say that he was theatrical?

Yeah, you know, he was promoting his business, and he liked things to be fun and he liked them to be different and exciting and that sort of thing. He was really very dramatic and theatrical.

In his pictures he seems really strong and really big. But he was small?

He was a small man. Well, he was probably about five foot nine. I don't think that he was much bigger than that. He was very wiry, you know, very muscular, but he was not a tall man at all.

I guess he was very much in charge of the trip. Were there ever any kinds of disputes that you noticed of any boatman talking back to him or anything?

No, because if you remember Frank Wright and all the Rigg fellows, there were three Riggs. You know, they were in business after Norm was killed. So everybody was very, I felt, congenial. They would consult—I mean, they were his friends, too. I don't remember the boatmen on the San Juan, particularly, but when we got to the Grand it was Frank Wright, who is still alive, and Jim Rigg, who is not alive, you know, all the Rigg brothers and so forth.

Did he have a loud or fine voice?

No, it was fairly deep, I would say.

He had eyes that were piercing and blue like a bird's, almost. I mean, you could tell that he saw lots of things that none of the rest of us saw. Very alert. I think that his eyes were the most striking feature about him.

He always had a twinkle in his eye, you know, jovial.

So when he was on the river, then—not at camps, per se, but on the river itself—was he all business?

Oh, he was fun. He was singing and jovial. I mean, we had water fights and, you know, he would make it fun. He got serious when we ran rapids, you know. But no, he was always thinking up things to do with these huge great big driftwood piles on down there, you know, that would come down with the spring runoff. We would set those all on fire. You can't do that now, but it cleared out the river. You know, in those days it was really a plus and not anything that was damaging the environment.

Did he do a lot of exploring and look at the canyons?

Well, not as much as they do now because there weren't any trails and there was a lot of heavy growth down there that really made a lot of the canyons inaccessible. In fact, the trip to Havasu was almost impassable. Because of the brush and all of the stuff. But you see, there have been so many river people down there now and they have made trails and they have come down from the village to the river and then up from the river and so on and so forth. So actually, we didn't do a lot of extensive exploring in the canyons. Oh, there was some, you know. Dock Marston was on our trip. I am sure that you have heard all about him. He would sometimes go off for long treks, but the rest of us really didn't do a lot of hiking around because there weren't any trails at all.

You know, we would go to Deer Creek Falls and that sort of thing.

Did he do layovers; did he stop for a day in places?

No, we always traveled. But we always had lunch

and then we always had a rest because it got to be over 150 degrees in that canyon over the summertime, and it was hot. So we always had an hour or so rest after lunch, just in the hottest part of the day. Then we would go on down and find a campsite, but there were a lot more campsites then than there are now.

Did he usually camp in the sand or did he camp up in the ledges?

Both. I will tell you one thing, the sand was cooler than the rocks. Now the entrance to Havasu Creek, there were just ledges to camp on. The pools were so pretty up that canyon part way that we camped there, but the rocks were so hot and you just never cooled off at night. So the sand was really cooler than the rocks.

What was his camp routine like?

His boatmen shared in the work and we all helped with the dishes and stuff. It was kind of a mutual operation.

So mostly canned foods?

Oh yeah, nothing fresh. I don't remember dinners as well, but I remember that we would have tongue for lunch. I don't care for tongue. (laughter) I would slather a lot of mustard on it to kill the taste.

All the milk was canned, you know, to eat on cereal and that sort of thing. We had eggs and bacon for breakfast. But for dinner—isn't that funny, I don't really remember. Lunches and breakfast I remember, but I don't remember dinner.

Apparently you ran quite a few more rapids, it seems, than most people. Do you remember the big ones that you ran with them?

Well, nobody ran Lava. I ran, I think, Granite Falls and Hance. When we went down to the top part of the river in '48—I guess it was—or was it '49? My diary would say, but I can't remember. There was eighty thousand second feet of water, which is a good amount of water. It was a high river. I mean to tell you that some of those rapids were something else, great big waves in them. So yeah, I ran Hance, I'm sure, and Granite the year before, but the water was lower. I don't exactly remember what it was, but I guess it was in the twelve thousand second foot range. I ran a lot of rapids with him, I guess.

What was he like in rapids, was he real cool? He was obviously good at it.

Yeah, very analytical of his water and everything, very good.

Did he let you row many times?

Yeah.

Then, you see, on one of our Grand Canyon trips there was the fellow out of Green River that we found his boat. We were the first ones to find his boat when we were looking for his body, Bert Loper. Yeah, we were looking for his body, but we never found it. But we were the first ones to find his boat.

You pulled that up on the shore?

Yeah, we pulled it up further.

At the end of the Grand Canyon he was met by a power boat and you were towed out?

I think that we were towed all the way to Boulder. My father came up on the powerboat.

So he would make it a very enjoyable trip, so people would come back. Did he have quite a few repeat customers?

Well, let's see, I think that I was on the river with Fish Eyes. [Frank Masland] He is just a wonderful person. He has owned Masland Carpet Company, as I am sure you are aware of, and he was on the Parks Service Board for a good many years. He was very interested in conservation in the early years before it was popular to be one of those.

What was Marston like, Dock Marston?

I remember that [Dock] Marston just had all kinds of reasons, psychologically, why people ran the river. He decided that everybody had to have a deep-seated psychological reason for running. You couldn't just run it for fun, there had to be something. He kept volumes and volumes of material on the river and he was going to write a book. I don't know that he ever did.

But he collected more material and was always exploring and he always had theories about this and that and the other thing. He was very interested in the history of the river and the people that had been down there and so on.

That is interesting that everybody had deep-seated psychological reasons. I always wondered if he did. (laughter)

Oh, that is what I was wondering, too. He really thought that we were all nuts or something and we had to have some reason for doing this crazy stuff.

Did you know Doris very well? What was she like?

Much more quiet than Norm. I never knew her as well because, obviously, she was home preparing all the

trips and the food. You know, she was the lady behind the scenes, so to speak. You never really got to know her that well. At least I didn't.

Was she quiet?

Uh-huh, you know, just a lovely, nice person. We would be there overnight to embark on a river trip, and you don't really get to know a person very well.

Did you stay at Mexican Hat, like for your San Juan trip, and stay with her?

Yes, Norm's mother had the motel there.

Did you get to meet her and know her or anything?

Yes, but I don't remember her that well.

What did you think about your Green River trip as compared to the Grand Canyon, did you enjoy that?

Not as much. I like the desert, I think, more than I like the Green River vegetation, though it was fascinating and we found some Indian things and the guano caves up by Steamboat Rock.

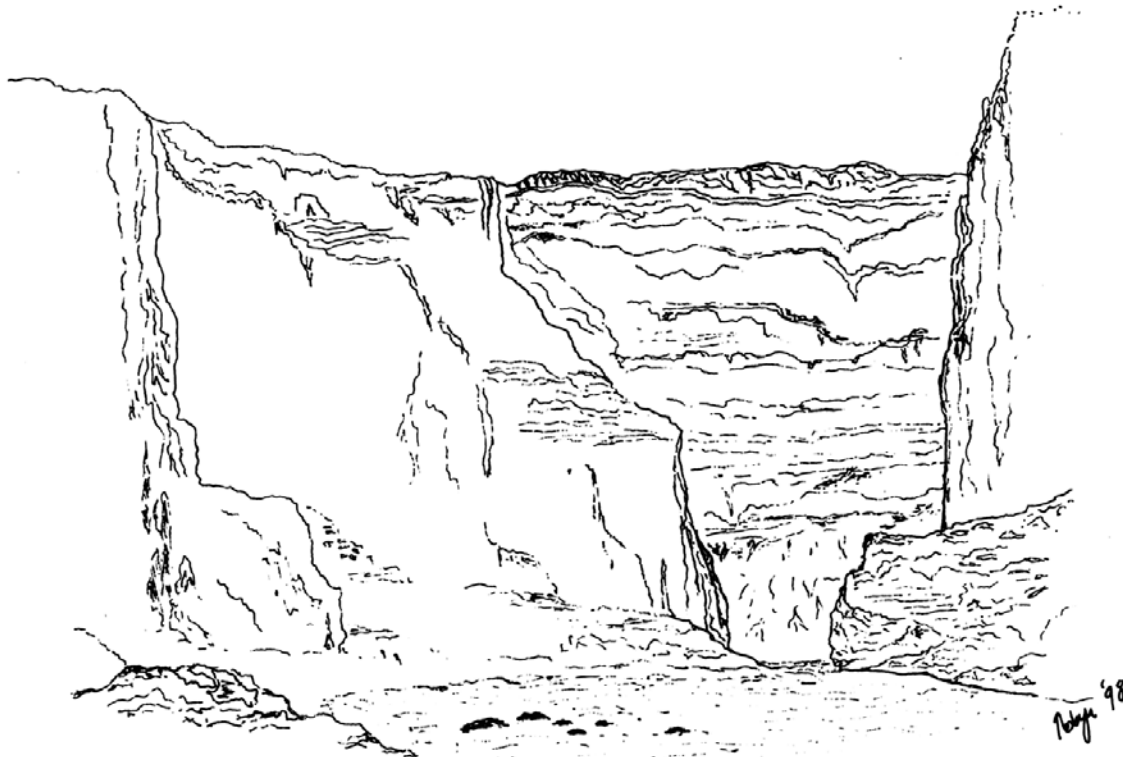
The water was colder. I mean, I don't like cold, so the water was clearer and colder. The Grand, of course, at that point was very silty, it was always warm. We used to drink that water, by the way.

It was a June trip and it was right after the heavy snow. I guess it was in '48 or '49, I don't remember. The mosquitoes were just terrible. My father insisted that I get Rocky Mountain tick shots. Ros Johnson got Rocky Mountain spotted fever. She was taken out to the hospital in Rock Springs. Her hair turned gray from it and she lost a lot of her eyesight from it.

Really?

Uh-huh. It was a very serious disease. Rosalind used to live in Pasadena. I went to college at Scripps, so I used to see her occasionally in California during my school year. We were always quite good friends. She was kind of, I guess, a big sister image to me or something. She was a horsewoman and she taught riding. We always got along quite well together—she was very outdoorsy and fun to be with.

Now, let's see, Jim Riggs was on that trip, Frank [Wright] was on that trip, and Norm was on that trip. I think that there were just three boats. Anyhow, I think that Jim had been in the South Pacific during the War or something—Frank had—I can't remember which. But they said the mosquitoes were worse than anything that they had ever experienced during the War, it was just terrible.



"Through the Redwall"
Robyn Slayton

Was that through the whole stretch?

Oh yeah, it was awful, it was just terrible.

Did you take tents?

Oh, we never did have tents.

Have you ever gone down the river since?

Yeah, I went down in about '81 or '82.

Who was that with?

Ted Hatch. Ted sat on the (Utah) State Aeronautics Committee with me. So that is really the reason that I went down with him. I mean, he wasn't on the trip, but I took my youngest son with me.

Did you tell Ted that you were down there before him?

Yes. (laughter)

Did you ever fly with Norm in his airplane?

No. You see, my father flew and I subsequently flew. That is what I have been doing. Before I retired that is what I was doing, I was an FAA examiner. The reason that I started flying is because my father had detached

retinas. He couldn't get a medical, so I took up flying and flew with him and then took it over as a career, sort of.

I didn't know that. How did you learn about Norm and Doris' death?

Oh, that was very interesting; I was driving to college with my mother and we were down there in Nephi. I had pretty good ESP at some point. I was eating fried chicken. I thought, "We are going to have an accident," and thought I'd better put this chicken down and have both hands on the wheel. Sure enough, somebody hit me from behind. A truck was stopped on a two-lane road, you know, that way. The truck was stopped and you couldn't get around it because of oncoming traffic. So I stopped, but the car behind me hit me. We went into the truck and my mother kind of whiplashed her neck a bit. I called my father and he came running down to get us and he brought the news down.

You must have been shocked...

Yeah, I was, because we were very good friends. We really were good friends.

*Interview by Roy Webb
September 1990*



The 1998 GCRG Fall Meeting

THE FALL MEETING is shaping up nicely—we've got a pretty packed schedule, complete with talks, great food and exceptional entertainment. Here's a quick look at the plan:

Museum of Northern Arizona's Colton House in Flagstaff.

Saturday, November 7, 9:00 a.m. to whenever (somewhere around midnight).

Before Lunch—Meet the new board, discussion of guide benefits, Dave Wegner from Glen Canyon Institute, Vernon Masayesva from the Hopi Tribe discusses Hopi beliefs in the Canyon. **After Lunch**—CRMP stuff, discussions of the social science modeling projects happening on the river, wilderness. Brad Dimock and Katie Lee will have books for sale all day, Katie Lee and Green Sky will play after dinner, Martha Clark will cook the food — do you need any more reasons to come?

Warm clothes, a small river chair, open mind, good attitude, yada, yada, yada...

Go northwest on Hwy 180, 1.6 miles from the Humphreys Street junction. Park in the lot of the Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church (on the left). Walk or bike about 500 YARDS up the road on the right side across from the church. Turn at the first (new) house on the right onto a dirt road that crosses a small bridge. You've arrived at the stone house. Sorry, no camping allowed



Announcements

JOB OPENING for a Foodpack Manager/Office Position is available. Full Time/Part Year. Please send resume to: Box 635, Flagstaff, AZ 86002.

New Radio Frequency

ONE of the air tour radio frequencies over Grand Canyon has recently been changed. The eastern sector of the Canyon, from Lees Ferry to Havasu/Kanab Creek has changed from 122.85 to 120.05. This is now the frequency that a person would use to contact an overflight of a tour plane/helicopter in Marble Canyon, Icr, and central section of the gorge (Phantom Ranch, Crystal, etc.). Of course, 121.5 is still the "emergency" frequency.

This change was due to conflicts that had arisen due to different uses of frequencies too close together, and has been in the works for about 2 years.

Be aware that the current regulations still show the old frequencies. Once new ones are printed and distributed with new permits, the change will show.

*Ed Cummins
Lees Ferry Ranger*



GTS Dates Changed

Well, okay—so we weren't looking too carefully. Our original dates for the GTS covered Easter Sunday, and since the Easter Bunny will be too busy with all those kids' houses to come to the meetings, we decided to change the dates. The new dates are:

GCRG Spring Meeting	March 26
GTS Land Session	March 27–29
GTS River Trip	March 31–April 13
(maybe the Easter Bunny will show up on the river trip)	

Look for a mailing with more specifics this winter.

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.

Canyon Supply Boating Gear 505 N. Beaver St. Flagstaff	779-0624	Five Quail Books—West River books 8540 N Central Ave, #27, Phoenix	602/861-0548
The Summit Boating equipment	774-0724	Willow Creek Books Coffee and Outdoor Gear 263 S. 100 E. St., Kanab, UT	801/ 644-8884
Chums/Hellowear Chums and Hello clothing. Call Lori for catalog	800/323-3707	Canyon Books Canyon and River books Box 3207, Flagstaff, AZ 86003	779-0105
Mountain Sports river related items 1800 S. Milton Rd. Flagstaff	779-5156	River Gardens Rare Books first editions 720 S. River Rd. Suite a-114, St. George, UT	801/674-1444 84790
Aspen Sports Outdoor gear 15 N San Francisco St, Flagstaff	779-1935	River Art and Mud Gallery river folk art 720 S. River Rd. Suite A-114, St. George, UT	801/674-1444 84790
Teva Sport Sandals and Clothing	779-5938	Cliff Dwellers LODGE GOOD FOOD Cliff Dwellers, AZ	355-2228
Sunrise Leather , Paul Harris Birkenstock sandals. Call for catalog.	800/999-2575	Mary Ellen Arndorfer, CPA Taxes 230 Buffalo Trail, Flagstaff, AZ 86001	525-2585
River Rat Raft and Bike Bikes and boats 4053 Pennsylvania Ave. Fair Oaks, CA 95628	916/966-6777	Trebon & Fine Attorneys at law 308 N. Agassiz, Flagstaff	779-1713
Professional River Outfitters Equip. rentals Box 635 Flagstaff, AZ 86002	779-1512	Yacht True Love Bill Beer, Skipper Virgin Island Champagne Cruises	809/775-6547
Canyon R.E.O. River equipment rental Box 3493, Flagstaff, AZ 86003	774-3377	Laughing Bird Adventures Box 332, Olga. WI 98279 Sea kayaking tours Belize, Honduras and the Caribbean.	503/621-1167
Winter Sun Indian art & herbal medicine 107 N. San Francisco Suite #1, Flagstaff	774-2884	North Star Adventures Alaska & Baja trips Box 1724 Flagstaff 86002	800/258-8434
Mountain Angels Trading Co. river jewelry, call for catalog Box 4225, Ketchum, ID 83340	800/808-9787	Chimneys Southwest Chimney sweeping 166 N. Gunsmoke Pass, Kanab, UT	801/644-5705 84741
Terri Merz, MFT 1850 East Flamingo Road #137 Las Vegas, NV 89119 Individual/Couples/Family counselling. Depression/Anxiety	702/892-0511	Rescue Specialists Wilderness Medicine, Swiftwater Rescue, Avalanche & Ropework Box 224, Leavenworth, WA 98826 www.rescuespec.com	509/548-7875
Dr. Jim Marzolf, DDS Dentist 1419 N. Beaver Street, Flagstaff, AZ	779-2393	Rubicon Adventures Mobile cpr & 1st aid Box 517, Forestville, CA 95436 rub_cpr@metro.net	707/877-2452
Snook's Chiropractic Baderville, Flagstaff	779-4344	Vertical Relief Climbing Center 205 S. San Francisco St., Flagstaff	556-9909
Fran Sarena, NCMT, Swedish, Deep Tissue, & Reiki Master	773-1072	Fretwater Press Buzz Holmstrom biography Discount to guides. www.fretwater.com	774-8853
Dr. Mark Falcon , Chiropractor 1515 N.Main, Flagstaff	779-2742		

Thanks to all you poets, photographers and writers; and to all of you who send us stuff. Don't ever stop. Special thanks to Robyn Slayton for the drawings and Bruce McElya for photography. Printed on recycled paper with soy bean ink by really nice guys.

Wilderness First Aid Courses 1999

Wilderness Review Course Date: March 19-21, 1999 (2 1/2 days)

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

Cost: \$155 plus lodging

Whitewater Advanced First Aid (Wafa) Date: March 22-26, 1999 (5 days)

Cost: \$255 plus lodging

Place: Albright Training Center, Grand Canyon National Park South Rim

Lodging: Albright cabins: \$15/per person per night double occupancy, \$25/per person per night single

Meals: On your own; small kitchen in each Albright cabin has everything you need but the food.

Both courses include 2-year CPR certification.

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

Circle One:	Wafa	Review Course	
Name	_____		
Address	_____		
City	State	Zip	
_____	_____	_____	
Phone (important!)	Outfitter		
_____	_____		
Guiding since	# Trips	Type of current first aid	
_____	_____	_____	

Care to join us?

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

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



DINNER IN THE DEPTHS

IN THE SUMMER OF 1898, travel writer and lecturer Burton Holmes visited Grand Canyon. Not one to do things half way, he descended to the river three times—with W.W. Bass, with the Fred Harvey Company, and with Captain John T. Hance. His illustrations appear throughout this issue.

His record of Hance's story-telling antics, in all its arm-waving glory, is presented here for the edification of the modern boatman. Study well, grasshopper, for Hance was the master.

AS A ROUGH RIDER Captain Hance has made a record, but he admits that his attempt to leap a horse across the cañon was a failure. "He giv a fine big jump—but when we was 'bout ha'f-way over, I sead we couldn't make it, so I turned him back."

We made a motion picture of the Captain telling of his famous experience with a big silver salmon in the river.

The Captain loves to fish; he also loves to doze, and so one day he tied his line to his left leg and settled down upon the river brink to snooze; a big fish took the bait, jerked slumbering Hance into the flood, and towed him rapidly down stream. "I didn't mind the rapids or the rocks," the Captain tells us; "but I was afeard that when that darn old fish came to a deep whirlpool, he'd sink down to rest in quiet waters at the bottom, and I knew the line wa'n't long enough to let me stay on top. And that's just what he done, pulling me down after him. Of course I didn't want to lose my line, so, seeing there was no other way, I clim down that line handover-hand till I reached Mr. Salmon. I whips out my knife, cuts off the line right by his mouth, and giving him a big kick square in the face, I swum ashore, and I never see that fish again."

phone 520/773-1075

fax 520/773-8523

gcr@infomagic.com

<http://vishnu.glg.nau.edu/gcrg/>

Box 1934

Flagstaff, AZ 86002



boatman's quarterly review

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