

boatman's quarterly review

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Bert Jones

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...is published more or less quarterly
by and for GRAND CANYON RIVER GUIDES.

GRAND CANYON RIVER GUIDES
is a nonprofit organization dedicated to

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

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

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

Written submissions should be less than 1500 words and, if possible, be sent on a CD or emailed to GCRG. 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 February, May, August and November. Thanks!
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Changing of the Guard

STEWARDSHIP IS AN integral component of guide culture – a way to give back to Grand Canyon and the Colorado River experience that we cherish. All of the GCRG officers and directors who have volunteered their time and energy over the past thirty years have helped us to navigate issues large and small, while adhering closely to GCRG's mission and goals. Indeed, these volunteers are the "brain trust" of our nonprofit educational and environmental organization – bringing their talents, perspectives, diverse experiences, ideas, and above all, their positive attitudes to the table. Together they have helped GCRG chart our course and provide a strong, clear, collective voice for guides and the broader river running public in defense of Grand Canyon. Thanks to you all!

You will notice some new names on the masthead. As of September 1st, the new Vice President (Margeaux Bestard) and three new GCRG directors (Lynne Westerfield, Zeke Lauck, and Justin Salamon) took office, elected by their peers – the guide membership of GCRG. Additionally, Doc Nicholson (Grand Canyon Expeditions) will move up from vice president to president, bringing his equanimity and many years of experience in Grand Canyon to bear as we face challenging issues over the next year.

We would like to extend our deepest gratitude to outgoing president, Amity Collins, and to our two directors who have finished their terms – Amy Harmon and Al Neill. All of these wonderful stewards gave us so much of themselves, sharing their ideas and perspectives honestly and openly. These river guides represented you to the best of their abilities and did so with absolute integrity and enthusiasm. From their emphasis on establishing positive relationships with the NPS, to their efforts to make the GTS land and river sessions a resounding success, and working together to craft strong letters to policy makers and the NPS about such complex issues as uranium mining, the Hualapai boundary, and more, they brought their expertise and their powerful "guide voice" to the table.

Please give all of these volunteers a heartfelt thank you when you see them next! And please join me in welcoming and congratulating the new river guides on our board. Time marches on, but strong leadership within GCRG continues with stewards such as these. We are so blessed!

Cover photo: Fred Phillips

Prez Blurb

GREETINGS, GRAND CANYON RIVER GUIDES. AS I am writing this, I take a moment to walk outside and look up at the San Juans and what a beautiful site I behold—snow! And with the sky's greeting there is more snow on the way. The weather changed a week ago while I was in Anacortes, Washington, making it difficult to get back to Durango, as I fly my own plane. It was a blessing and a curse for the flying part. Three different weather systems collided. The one in Anacortes came in from the Gulf of Alaska ending the beautiful sunny week I enjoyed in the San Juans, the other came in from the Pacific and hit Northern California, and the third came up from the hurricane in Baja. It made for challenging flying. I'm sure there will be stories from guides on the river in late September/ early October. Typically, fall seasons that start this way provide a healthy snowpack in the Colorado River Basin. We'll see.

While I've written a few articles over the years for the BQR, this is my first as President of GCRG. I take over from Amity Collins who I believe did a wonderful job. Thank you Amity! A few words on my background are in order: I achieved this office by volunteering—I ran unopposed. While being on the Board in 2006–2008, I felt I should contribute more as I was living in Mexico for one of those years, thus not in contact much.

My guiding career began in 1974 with OARS in the Grand Canyon and Sobek Expeditions in Ethiopia. My experience in Ethiopia taught me the dark side of river running, losing a friend, Lew Greenwald, on the first decent of the upper Blue Nile. There is a saying found in some pilots log books: "Good judgement comes from experience; experience comes from poor judgement." One of the more profound statements that I've ever read. We, as river guides, face decisions daily that can have profound consequences. After 45 years of guiding, there is still a knot in my stomach when I drop into Hance and the Upper Granite Gorge. For good reason. The more you see, the more you think about consequences. It's an age/experience thing I guess. As my friend Regan Dale says, "You don't have to look for trouble in the Grand Canyon—it will find you."

So, onward. I used to curse Glen Canyon Dam—I no longer do that. While I wished that the dam was never built, I've come around to Rob Elliot's point of view that it provides a better environment for river running throughout the season. Especially if one is in a dory as I am. We've been getting higher flows than

would be expected given the lower snowpacks in the basin, i.e. drought conditions. Currently, we are in the Upper Elevation Balancing Tier, where the Bureau of Reclamation may decide to "balance" Lake Mead and Lake Powell by the end of the water year. There are two reasons for the balancing and it's why the Bureau of Reclamation could come in conflict with the Colorado River Compact. Lake Mead is at 1078 feet MSL (Mean Sea Level) last I checked. At MSL 1075, both Arizona and Nevada start taking cuts in their allotments while California does not. There is tremendous political pressure to keep Lake Mead above 1075 feet MSL. Both Arizona and Nevada have voluntarily agreed to take less than their allotment if current drought conditions persist.

The second reason for giving Lake Mead more water is that at MSL 1050 feet, power generation at Hoover Dam shuts down. That's a mere 28 feet from current levels. Without the ability to balance or equalize the two reservoirs, that would be a fact today.

So, all things considered, we've got it pretty good. Glen has to deliver 8.23 million acre feet plus if available to Lake Mead providing reasonable flows to boat on. There is one reality that is becoming more difficult. The elephant in the room as it were—beaches or lack thereof. The denudation of the sand seems to be accelerating. Over the years we've managed to mitigate the situation somewhat by High Flow Experiments. But when this is done, we are not just taking Paria and Little Colorado River sediments but also ancient Colorado River sediments as well. It's like withdrawing on a savings account but never adding to it—eventually the account is emptied. We are going to have to get more creative if we want sustainable beaches in the Grand Canyon in the future. More on that in a future "Prez Blurb."

We are in very fragile times politically, with science and the environment under assault. The current administration is aggressively trying to tear down or at least weaken our environmental laws—illegally—to see if they can get away with it. Our only line of defense is to support effective organizations such as GCRG, the Grand Canyon Trust, and others, so that we can make a difference through our collective advocacy, and even through the courts when necessary. Oh, and go see Michael Moore's new movie *Fahrenheit 11/9*, it's informative.

Until next time, get out there and have a great winter!

Doc Nicholson

Guide Profiles

Tom Schrager, Age 49

WHERE WERE YOU BORN & WHERE DID YOU GROW UP? Chicago.

WHO DO YOU WORK FOR CURRENTLY (AND IN THE PAST)? Outdoors Unlimited (ou).

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN GUIDING? 29 years.

WHAT KIND OF BOAT(S) DO YOU RUN? Oar and paddle rafts and kayak.

WHAT OTHER RIVERS HAVE YOU WORKED ON? Chatooga and Arkansas.



WHAT ARE YOUR HOBBIES/PASSIONS/DREAMS?

Whitewater kayak, mountain bike, ski, snowboard. My dreams include creating programs to work with under privileged children.

MARRIED/FAMILY/PETS? I have a twelve year old dog named Paco.

SCHOOL/AREA OF STUDY/DEGREES? I have a degree in Outdoor Education and Law Enforcement from Western Illinois University.

WHAT MADE YOU START GUIDING? I went whitewater canoeing once and decided that I loved it right away. I moved to Colorado for a summer to guide after I graduated from college. I started working with adjudicated youth in Georgia and I would raft guide in between trips for fun. I started kayaking and I haven't stopped since.

WHAT BROUGHT YOU HERE? When I was in Colorado, I heard that you could row baggage and not get paid and get a free trip. That sounded great to me. I signed up for a trip with ou and I've been coming back ever since. Once you go down the canyon once, how do you not come back?

WHO HAVE BEEN YOUR MENTORS AND/OR ROLE MODELS? I worked with a friend, Curry Morris, with adjudicated youth when I was younger. I had the pleasure of doing two trips with him when I worked with kids—the best two trips I've ever done. The first Canyon trip I did, Bert Jones was the trip leader. I've been lucky enough to do several trips with Bert. His ways of interacting with guests and guides have been inspirational to me. He has been inspirational in my trip leading development.

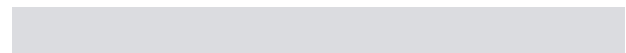
WHAT DO YOU DO IN THE WINTER? This changes from year to year. I am headed to Edwards Colorado this winter to wait tables and be a ski bum.

IS THIS YOUR PRIMARY WAY OF EARNING A LIVING OR DO YOU COMBINE IT WITH SOMETHING ELSE? It is definitely a huge part of my livelihood. I do find work in the off-season.

WHAT'S THE MOST MEMORABLE MOMENT IN YOUR GUIDING CAREER? The most memorable moment was meeting my friend Michael, who I invested my life savings with after we left the river.

WHAT DO YOU THINK YOUR FUTURE HOLDS? The future holds the unknown which keeps life interesting.

WHAT KEEPS YOU HERE? The friends that I work with are my river family. I feel like I won the lottery to come from Chicago and have found the Canyon. I can't imagine doing anything else with my life.



Stephen D'Arrigo, Age 32



WHERE WERE YOU BORN & WHERE DID YOU GROW UP? Tucson, Arizona.

WHO DO YOU WORK FOR CURRENTLY (AND IN THE PAST)? Western River...whole career.

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN GUIDING? Next year will be season twelve.

Farewell

WHAT KIND OF BOAT(S) DO YOU RUN? I've run all types of of boats, but mainly I run J-rigs for Western.

WHAT OTHER RIVERS HAVE YOU WORKED ON? I have worked mostly the Colorado. Grand Canyon, Cataract, and Westwater. I ran Desolation a couple of times.

WHAT ARE YOUR HOBBIES/PASSIONS/DREAMS? Well, I love boating. I also like to brew at home. Maybe I'll make a brewery someday.

MARRIED/FAMILY/PETS? I am married and we have the two cutest dogs ever!!

SCHOOL/AREA OF STUDY/DEGREES? A Lot of them. Mostly Outdoor Recreation.

WHAT MADE YOU START GUIDING? My dad. He took me on a trip with Western in '99. I loved it.

WHAT BROUGHT YOU HERE? I guess my dad did.

WHO HAVE BEEN YOUR MENTORS AND/OR ROLE MODELS? Oh I have a ton of these. But I'll go with Latimer Smith, Mark Pierce, and Michael D'Arrigo.

WHAT DO YOU DO IN THE WINTER? I do some consulting work on rubber repair for out boats.

IS THIS YOUR PRIMARY WAY OF EARNING A LIVING OR DO YOU COMBINE IT WITH SOMETHING ELSE? My wife is a teacher, so she is kind of a high roller.

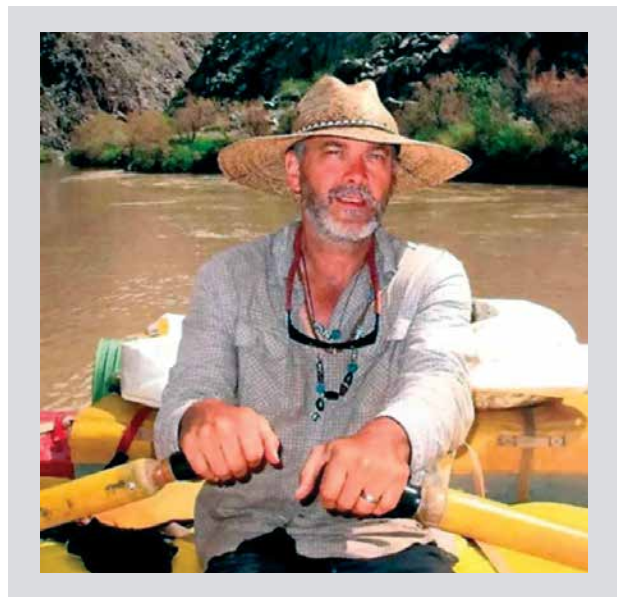
WHAT'S THE MOST MEMORABLE MOMENT IN YOUR GUIDING CAREER? I have a few. But, hitting the wall in Crystal and having a half flipped J-Rig was pretty memorable. So was a flash flood at 19-Mile.

WHAT IS THE CRAZIEST QUESTION YOU'VE EVER BEEN ASKED ABOUT THE CANYON/RIVER? So, the miners dug this part of the canyon?

WHAT DO YOU THINK YOUR FUTURE HOLDS? Ha! No idea. Hopefully a brewery though.

WHAT KEEPS YOU HERE? The look on the few peoples faces that the canyon really has an effect on. I think it affects everyone, but some people really have life changing trips.

WE HEAR THE ASSERTION spoken all the time about something being one-of-a-kind. That phrase like many other words can often be over used until they lose some of their impact. But in my time and travels, meeting many varied souls, I can truly say that Steve Mahan was a unique, authentic soul—truly one-of-a-kind. Steve, long time Outdoors Unlimited (OU) guide, died as a result of a motorcycle accident on July 26TH. Steve had been a guide with OU since 1980; and was one of the initial members of GCRG. He had mostly moved on from guiding in the last ten years but he never could completely leave rivers—especially “The Canyon.”



In his teen years, Steve had a serious bout with cancer which helped form a boldness that was a signature of his personality. He understood how fragile or unforgiving life may be. He lived his life accordingly. He loved taking his family on river trips and had just rowed a Canyon trip in early July with his two daughters Riley (22) and Sadie (12). His wife of 28 years, Mary Lynn, did several Grand Canyon trips with him, and spent his entire first season with him on the Bio Bio.

Steve began his relationship with whitewater in upstate New York kayaking the local small rivers and creeks in his teens. Looking for more challenge, he began branching out to other states, first in the Southeast. After more travels and rivers in Idaho and Montana, he found his way to California and eventually ended up working for OU on the Tuolumne and the Merced Rivers. After a couple of years

working in California, Grand Canyon drew him in where he remained a full time guide until the mid '90s. Steve worked during the high water times in 1983 where he and the OU crew launched from Lees Ferry on the morning that the Park Service shut down the river due to high releases. As one commercial company owner sped down to the ramp and skidded to a stop to call off their trip, Steve, Dennis Silva, and the OU crew hurriedly pushed off, not to be preempted. Thus, probably being the last trip to launch on over 90,000 CFS. He was also on the storied 1984 take out that saw a flash flood at Diamond Creek wash the OU and OARS trucks into Diamond Creek Rapid. Adventure seemed to follow Steve, and if it didn't, he created it.

Always the adventurer, in the late '80s he started working internationally, running rivers in Chile (Bio Bio and the Futaleufu), China (The Great Bend of the Yangtze), Tibet, (on the Upper Yangtze), as well as Africa, Fiji, Jamaica and Europe. To say that he had an outgoing personality that made him friends wherever he went would be a massive understatement. His wit, even when he could not speak the local language, was formidable—he could gather a crowd, and win them over with his flair and antics wherever he went.

He was also a master photographer with photos in a number of museums and galleries, as well as national magazines. In addition to his wit, and serious photography and whitewater skills, he had a very big heart, especially for young people, the underserved, or the marginalized. He later developed, taught and directed a program at Syracuse University that combined university faculty, students and the local school district in a literacy

program using photography as the focus tool. The Photography and Literacy Program (P.A.L.) as it was known, incorporated photography, creative, and autobiographical writing into a nationally recognized grant-driven program to bring writing and communication skills to the local school kids. River compadres of Steve's might not have known how accomplished he was in other areas, but his zest for life made him quite a success across the board.

Those who knew and worked with Steve knew him best for his wicked sense of humor. Most people who knew him would probably go so far as to say he was the funniest person they'd ever met. He had the gift of being able to say, without offending, what others might be thinking but could not bring themselves to say out loud. The usual reaction was a burst of laughter and a shaking of the head along with a slow-to-leave smile. He had the knack for saying outrageous and even inappropriate things but it always seemed to bring laughing approval by those gathered, knowing the meaning and intent were just to point out the absurd.

His nature was fun loving and mischievous. He was as fearless as he was funny, and as tender as he was tough, he was as authentic as an individual gets. If you should wonder what it means to be fully authentically alive, find a guide that knew Steve and listen to their stories. He leaves our world a much less interesting place for those who knew him and will be truly missed, as only a one-of-a-kind spirit can be.

Bert Jones

Cooler Research: An Evaluation of Drained Versus Un-Drained Coolers Loaded With Ice

INTRODUCTION

COOLERS OR "ICE CHESTS" are commonly used to store food and beverages when electricity is not available. Refrigerated storage helps prevent sickness due to foodborne microorganisms. The National Park Service "2016 Commercial Operating Requirements" states that commercial operators must keep "potentially hazardous" food at or below 45F (7.2C). (Ref 1). Canned food does not

need refrigeration, although there is considerable interest in cooling canned, fermented beverages prior to consumption (Ref 2).

There are numerous opinions on the best method of ice management. We have compared two identical side by side coolers in a series of experiments designed to measure the performance of different cooler/ice strategies. Over 150 week-long experiments have been completed over the last seven years. This

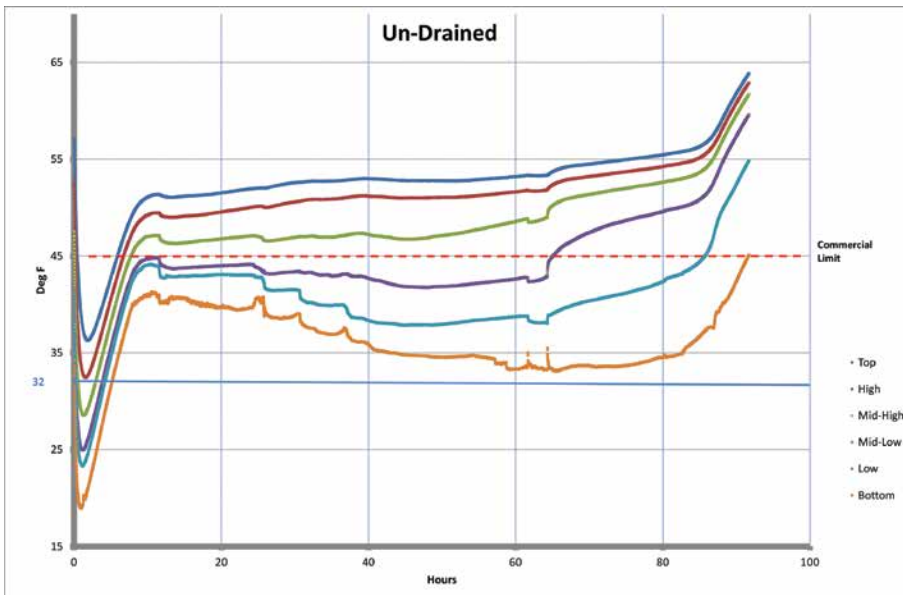


Figure 1

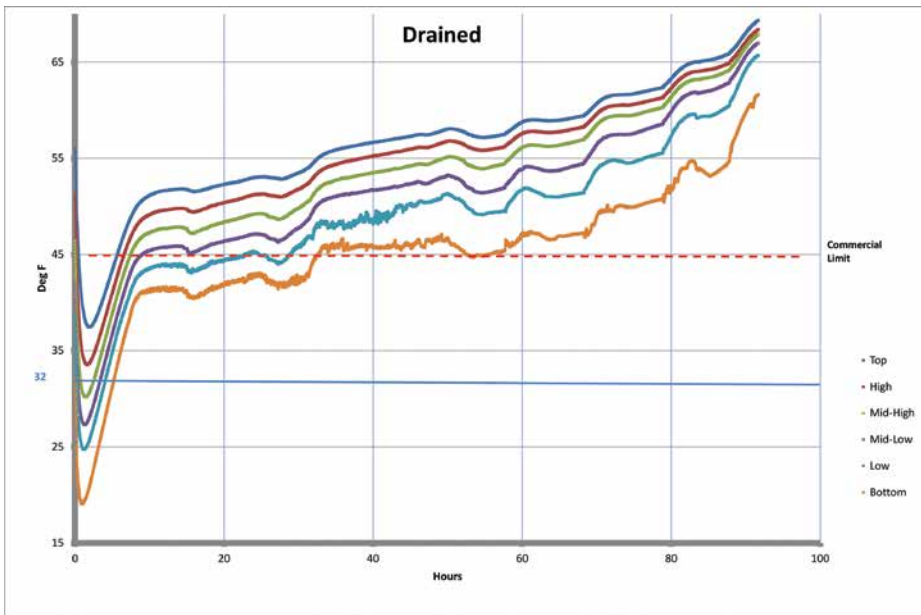


Figure 2

first publication in the series details the comparative performance of a sealed undrained cooler to one which is continuously drained as the ice melts.

METHODS AND MATERIALS

All experiments were conducted in a custom 512 cubic foot insulated thermal chamber. Room temperature was controlled with a 6 kW electric heater and a PID heater controller. Three fans were arranged to provide uniform air temperature at the cooler locations. Room temperature was continuously monitored and maintained at 107.2F (41.8C) with a standard deviation

of 0.09F (0.05C) over a typical five day run.

Two identical Yeti 125 coolers were purchased new and used in each run—a control and a test. Each cooler was placed on a polymer cart. In order to minimize any effects from differences in the seals, the hinges were removed and the tops fastened down with NRS straps.

For the drain experiments, a drain tube was passed into one cooler through a small hole drilled in the drain plug. The tube drained into a container on the floor.

Six small, fast response platinum resistance temperature sensors were mounted in a vertical insert in each cooler and spaced every two inches from two inches from the bottom to 2.5 inches from the top. Chamber temperature uniformity was monitored throughout the test run by thermal data loggers.

Twenty-four kilograms of ice were used in each cooler, 47 percent of the manufacturer's stated capacity of 113 pounds. The ice was made from tap water and frozen in plastic tubs in an upright freezer with a -4 F (-20 C) internal temperature. The ice was removed from the tubs before loading the coolers. The Drained and Un-Drained runs

used six 4.0 kg blocks of ice in each cooler.

Experiments were initiated by removing the ice from a freezer, loading it immediately into coolers and closing the coolers. Each cooler lid was held down using two NRS nine-foot tie-down straps around the lid and cooler. The cooler was not opened during the duration of the study. The fans were started and the room was closed. The room heater control and temperature collection were started. Room temperature reached set point in approximately eighteen minutes and had fully stabilized by approximately 33 minutes.

RESULTS

The results for each cooler are described below and the data presented in graphs. The temperature at the six sensors in the cooler is plotted versus the hours since closing the cooler. For both coolers there is an initial period (Phase 1) of approximately ten hours when the freezer temperature ice is warming up. The legend in the lower right identifies the vertical position of each sensor in the cooler: (Top, High, Mid-High, Mid-Low, Low, Bottom). A red dotted horizontal lines shows the Park Service upper limits for Commercial Operators. A horizontal blue line shows the freezing point of water.

UN-DRAINED COOLER

The results for the temperature sensors in the Un-Drained cooler are plotted in Figure 1. The temperature at the bottom sensor of the Un-Drained cooler stays below the Commercial Operators Limit of 45 F for 92 hours (three days, twenty hours). The temperature at the low sensor stays below 45 F for 85.6 hours and the temperature at the mid-low for 65 hours.

The temperature at the top three sensors is never below the Park Service limit after Phase 1 when the freezer temperature ice is warming.

DRAINED COOLER

The results for the temperature sensors in the Drained cooler are plotted in Figure 2. The temperature at the bottom sensor of the drained cooler stays below the Commercial Operators Limit of 45F for 32.5 hours (one day, eight hours). The temperature at the low sensor stays below 45 F for 26.2 hours and the temperature at the mid-low is only below 45 F during Phase 1 when the freezer temperature ice is warming.

The temperature at the top four sensors is never below the Park Service limit after the Phase 1.

DISCUSSION

The Table below summarizes the results.

| | Un-Drained | Drained |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Sensor Location | Hours below Commercial Limit | Hours below Commercial Limit |
| Top | ~10 | ~10 |
| High | ~10 | ~10 |
| Mid-High | ~10 | ~10 |
| Mid-Low | 65 | 26 |
| Low | 90 | 26 |
| Bottom | 92 | 32.5 |

Note: ~10 is the initial freezer ice warming period (Phase 1)

The water in the cooler is likely near 32 F while ice is present in the cooler. Draining the cooler replaces this cold water with warm air, resulting in shortened ice time.

Two factors are responsible for this: The difference in the specific heats of water and air and the difference in their thermal conductivity.

Water has the unique characteristic of having a very high specific heat. The specific heat of a substance is the amount of heat required to raise the temperature of one gram by one degree. Water has a specific heat 4.1 times larger than dry air and two times higher than moist air. Keeping melted water in the cooler absorbs more of the infused heat with lower rise in temperature than an equivalent amount of air.

The thermal conductivity of water is 23.1 times higher than that of air. Water and ice exist in equilibrium at 32 F. The intimate contact of the water with the ice in the undrained cooler *does* cause the ice to melt faster than the ice in a drained cooler. But the temperature of the drained cooler is higher. The low thermal conductivity of the air does not transfer heat into the ice as quickly as does the water. Given the lower specific heat of the air, the heat not transferred into the ice goes into raising the temperature of the air in the cooler.

CONCLUSION

The results of this study show that draining water from a cooler significantly degrades cooling performance in a hot environment.

*Blakely LaCroix &
Peter Werness, Ph.D.*
COOLER RESEARCH, INC.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

The authors wish to thank Wrenchman, Inc. for providing facilities, equipment and support. Much of this work was inspired and guided by Dr. Rufus Lumry of the University of Minnesota Laboratory for BioPhysical Chemistry. Dr Lumry was one of the world's leading authorities on the physical properties of water.

REFERENCES:

1. 2016 Commercial Operating Requirements, Page 18, Section 2a.
2. R.J. ZAUNBRECHER AND V.N. ZAUNBRECHER. Analysis of the Cooling Rate of Fermented Beverages in the Grand Canyon. *The Boatman's Quarterly Review*, Volume 29, Number 1, Spring 2016.

NOTE: This is the first in a series of publications detailing ice management in coolers. The authors can be contacted at coolerresearch@gmail.com.

100 Years--and Hundreds of Years Before That

THE 100 YEAR MILESTONE of Grand Canyon as a specially designated national reserve brings to mind questions regarding how it was seen before the clamor for national recognition, how it was known by those who had lived in and around the Canyon for generations, and what were the names for places in the Canyon?

Imagine, if you will, that Christopher Columbus had a GPS unit with him when he sailed to the “West Indies”—instead of calling the people living there in 1492 “Indians,” he might have recorded their chosen names for themselves and their homelands—and, today then, in Grand Canyon we would refer to “Indian Garden” and “Indian Canyon” by much

different place names. Perhaps even, by Havasupai or Paiute names?

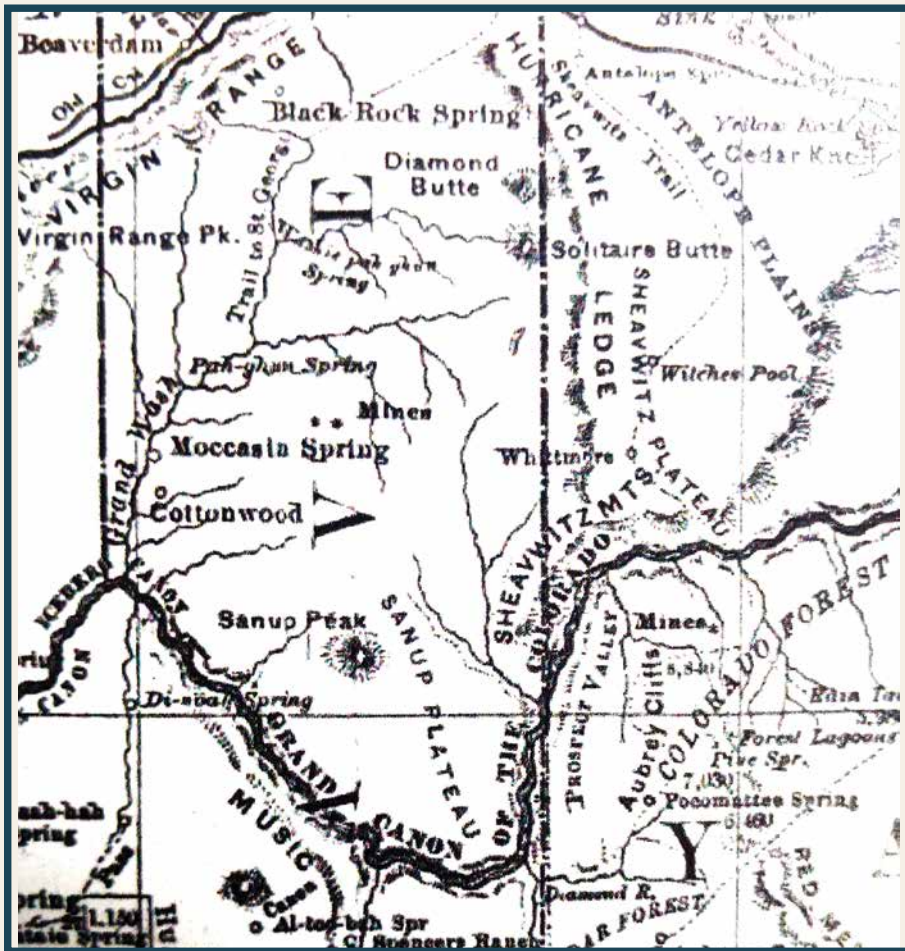
In western Grand Canyon, modern maps show “Mount Dellenbaugh” to the west of where the river runs roughly north-south along the Hurricane Fault zone. The usual account is that Powell named the landform for Frederick Dellenbaugh. However, if one looks at a map from the 1870s, or early 1880s, it might seem that it is more correct to say that Powell renamed the landmark. On the 1881 Rand McNally map of Arizona for example, the place name is Sanup Peak.

Sanupi, in Paiute language, means “pine gum” or “pine sap”—and Sanup is a Paiute and Ute family name. For those of you who know San Juan River history in

southeast Utah, you may recognize the name Sanup from historical events along the river and in San Juan County. In 1887, after Amasa Barton was killed at the river trading post, Sanup was one of the local leaders who helped restore calm. In 1923, “Sanup’s Boy” was involved in the beginning of the so-called “Posey War.”

As the anniversary of 100 years for Grand Canyon as a Park goes forward, the deeper history of the place we all care so much for—and many call, and have called, home—should be part of that commemoration. Research place names, read the histories, and share what you know in 2019!

Greg Woodall



How We Almost Lost Grand Canyon Science

IT WAS IN JUNE 2018 when news first circulated that the proverbial rug was going to be pulled out beneath the feet of numerous Grand Canyon researchers. At stake was the funding for the Glen Canyon Dam Adaptive Management Program (GCDAMP), which supports most Colorado River environmental monitoring in Grand Canyon, as well as the funding for two Upper Basin native fish recovery programs. The outcome would be devastating on many fronts. Science trips would be no more and all the progress that has been made, especially in recent years, would be in jeopardy. Researchers would be scrambling and the potential for everything to come unraveled was very real.

As stakeholders in the GCDAMP, GCRG's Adaptive Management Work Group and Technical Work Group representatives, Dave Brown and Ben Reeder respectively, participated in a flurry of information gathering and stakeholder emails, phone calls, and meetings. In short, the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) intended to redirect approximately \$23 million in Colorado River Storage Project (CRSP) power revenues (which are used to support basin-wide programs through what is called the Upper Colorado River Basin Fund) to the U.S. Treasury rather than the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR), which administers these programs. In essence, the OMB directive would cut the heart out of science and leave nothing but angst and heartache in its wake. No bueno.

As expected a lot of questions arose: How is this possible? What will happen to the native and endangered humpback chub? What about the razorback suckers that are making a comeback? How does this maintain compliance with the Endangered Species Act and the Grand Canyon Protection Act? How would we, as stewards and watchdogs, ensure that Glen Canyon Dam operations are kept in check with reasonable flows that adequately protect the ecological and recreational resources in Grand Canyon?

Fortunately, the seven Colorado River Basin States were opposed to the measure and they have a lot of clout. Within days, they had drafted a letter to the U.S. House Committee on Natural Resources expressing their collective concern and urging members to support a legislative fix—'the Hatch Amendment'—which would restore the Upper Colorado River Basin Fund. Equally fortunate was the fact that all the GCDAMP stakeholders and/or cooperating agencies agreed that de-funding was a bad idea. In addition

to this letter, the Basin States surely worked behind the scenes. Meanwhile, as we anxiously waited for a decision to be made through a slow and tedious political process, our fears about the truth behind the headlines was confirmed.

On August 21ST the story broke through KNAU reporter, Melissa Sevigny, that the Trump Administration had ordered the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to re-direct the \$23 million dollars effective October 1ST. By that same afternoon, GCRG representatives were on a conference call with other environmental stakeholders, sharing information and brainstorming on our next move. Official confirmation of the de-funding at the Glen Canyon Dam Adaptive Management Work Group (AMWG) meeting on August 22ND, resulted in a tortured, yet consensus motion forwarded to the Secretary of the Interior:

The Adaptive Management Work Group has worked assiduously for the past twenty years to provide the Secretary of the Interior with the best advice on operating Glen Canyon Dam consistent with the Grand Canyon Protection Act of 1992, and is concerned about the re-direction of Colorado River Storage Project (CRSP) revenues. The AMWG recommends to the Secretary to continue to communicate to the Office of Management and Budget AMWG's concerns about adequate funding for the Glen Canyon Dam Adaptive Management Program and other critically important programs in the Upper Colorado River Basin consistent with congressional authorization.

Acting quickly, the environmental and recreation stakeholders of the GCDAMP (National Parks Conservation Association, Grand Canyon Wildlands Council, Grand Canyon River Guides, and Fly Fishers International/Trout Unlimited) drafted and signed letters, supported by fifteen other non-governmental organizations, similar in nature to those sent by the seven basin states. All other GCDAMP stakeholders were also working their angles to re-fund these critical basin-wide programs that have been supported by every administration since President Reagan.

Not long before the deadline, the Energy and Water Development and Appropriations Bill was passed through the House and Senate, and signed by President Trump on September 21ST. Language in this appropriations bill restores funding through 2019. But the fight is not over. Funding after 2019 is not certain, which still threatens the stability of the triennial budget and the certainty of Grand Canyon

researchers' funding sources that have been in place for two decades. As a result, the BOR is working on strategies for 2020 and beyond.

Throughout this de-funding drama, many people asked what they could do to help. By far the most relevant impact you can make as an individual is staying informed and writing personal messages to regional and state representatives. As Kristina Young wrote in the *Salt Lake Tribune* on September 9TH, "Collectively, we can make it known that we value science and adaptive management that maintains the resiliency of our riparian systems...Our voices and persistence are needed to ensure our ecosystems receive the necessary funding to function as we want

them to." We thank all of you who raised your voices and continue to speak up in defense of the Grand Canyon and our peers in the science community whose hard work and diligence is informing the scientific basis behind dam operation decisions and consequently resulting in improved conditions.

So much depends on cooperative science-based management, and as the recreational river running stakeholder for the Glen Canyon Dam Adaptive Management Program, we remain deeply committed to protecting downstream resources over the long term.

Ben Reeder, Dave Brown & Lynn Hamilton

High Flow Experiment Approved: November 5–8, 2018

THE RECENT DE-FUNDING/RE-FUNDING drama for science in Grand Canyon underscores the importance of the Glen Canyon Dam Adaptive Management Program (CGDAMP) and the critical role that it plays in bringing stakeholders together to make policy decisions based on the best available science. As an example of this, after assessing resource conditions this fall, and despite some apprehension about an HFE (relative to brown trout issues) expressed by certain stakeholders, the group was able to work through those concerns and come to an agreement for the overall benefit of downstream resources.*

Consequently, the Department of the Interior will conduct a High Flow Experiment (HFE) release from Glen Canyon Dam from November 5-8, 2018. This high-flow experiment will include a peak magnitude release of approximately 38,100 cubic feet per second (CFS) for sixty hours (four days including ramping from baseflows to peak release) to move accumulated sediment downstream to help rebuild beaches and sandbars.

This HFE will be the first conducted under the 2016 Long-Term Experimental and Management Plan (LTEMP) HFE Protocol; similar HFES were conducted in 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2016 in accordance with the 2011

HFE Environmental Assessment Protocol. The 2018 HFE is expected to provide resource benefits in the near term and will also provide scientific information to be used in future decision making.

You can learn much more about the HFE here: <https://www.usbr.gov/uc/rm/gcdHFE/>.

***PLEASE NOTE:** GCRG advocated strongly for this HFE to occur—GCRG's Technical Work Group representative (Ben Reeder) worked closely with our Adopt-a-Beach Program (AAB) primary investigator (Zeke Lauck) to provide the HFE Planning Team with compelling photographic evidence of profound beach change, from early and late season photographs of Hot Na Na, Tuckup, Bishop's Camp, and others. As a watchdog program, AAB helped provide real-world examples that assisted in the decision-making process. Thanks to all of you who have volunteered your time to photograph our recreational resource. You make a difference!

Geology Lesson

SO FAR, I HAVE BEEN ON four rafting trips on the Colorado River through Grand Canyon. The first trip, in 1994, was a one-weeker. The other trips were two weeks.

I know it's crazy, but even today, that first trip lives in my memory as the longest of them all. It was as if time slowed down and allowed me to savor every moment of the experience.

Oddly enough, the only time I was in any danger was on dry land, not in the rapids. It happened during the 1994 trip.

On either the first or second afternoon (I can't remember everything), our group made camp.

Either at Georgie's Camp, river mile 19 (the 1ST night) or at Buck Farm Canyon, river mile 41 (the 2ND night), we passengers dispersed to stake out our sleeping spots on the sand, and the guides proceeded to set up the kitchen and start supper.

We had about an hour of free time, so I decided to stroll off into the surrounding wilds to see what I could see. Per the trip rules, I informed Andrew, the trip leader, and departed.

In an ideal world, I would have had my camera with me, but the accursed thing had died that morning. Stopped working. Croaked.

Andrew said it was my own fault; I had somehow offended the River Gods. He said they won't put up with crap from anybody, least of all a tourist.

The trail was good, and the walk was fairly easy. But soon, the trail being rather monotonous, I decided to venture off-trail. I headed up a slight incline to the right that appeared to lead to an overlook.

The route I followed was a faint sheep trail that climbed the hill in a mostly straight line, angling from lower left to upper right.

The overlook gave me a great view, but I couldn't see the river. I wanted to see the river. So I continued upward.

Before long, I was twenty minutes into the ascent and beginning to gain altitude. I was too far from camp to see or hear the activity below. Not only that, the

nature of the slope was beginning to change.

In Grand Canyon, the rock layers change as you go higher or lower. I don't know what layer I reached that afternoon—my understanding of Grand Canyon geology is only superficial—but whatever it was, the terrain consisted of a layer of thin, fractured, flat grey rocks that were exceedingly unstable.

As I proceeded up the slope, I was forced to ascend on all fours because the loose chunks of slate or shale covering the slope would not be still. They were very slippery, constantly sliding and shifting underfoot as I walked.

Situation: I was on a steep, slippery hillside that was getting steeper and slipperier with every step.

At that moment, the voice of common sense and self-preservation that dwells in one's brain, the survival instinct that one should heed in such situations, spoketh.

I looked around. The sheep trail seemed to have faded out. If I continued, I

might become ledged out and in real trouble. The voice said it was time to turn back, and I concurred.

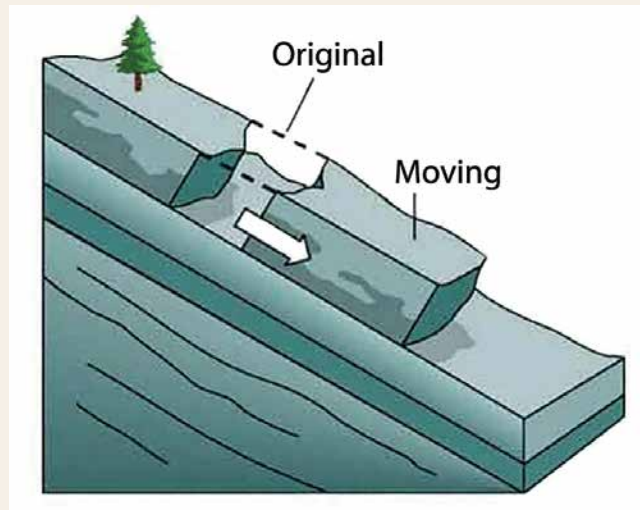
Carefully, I turned around on the path and positioned myself sideways, using my right arm to form a tripod and gain stability.

It was a good thought, but it didn't work. I took one step, and my feet slid out from under me. I landed on my backside with a thud.

I tried again, this time descending backwards, looking over my shoulder, both hands on the trail for stability. After one or two steps, I ended up flat on my belly. By golly, that slope was a lot easier to ascend than descend.

I turned around, sat up, and studied the slope. It appeared that the dicey part was a stretch of only ten or twenty yards. If I could cover that distance without losing it in a spectacular way—and by that I mean cartwheeling head-over-teakettle several hundred vertical feet back into camp—I would be back on more firma terra.

I probably took a sip of water, adjusted my daypack, and wiped my brow with a bandana. Then, very



Technical depiction of your average rockslide.

gingerly, standing sideways, I took a step downhill.

Immediately, there came a deep rumble, as if of thunder. The ground around me shook. Dust began to rise. I was being shaken violently, but somehow remained standing. My first thought was *earthquake!* My fate was in other hands, and I probably was doomed.

But something wasn't right. In spite of the sudden wild activity and movement, the ground beneath me looked perfectly normal. The earth should be splitting asunder, shouldn't it? Then I realized it was no earthquake. It was a landslide.

A giant slab of the shale/slate material, probably a dozen feet square, had broken loose and was sliding down the slope in one chunk, with me on top of it. Our slow, rumbling, downhill slide probably lasted ten seconds. The slab stopped and started three times. Each time the slab stopped, I thought, Thank God! Thank God! Each time it started again, I thought, Oh, God! Oh, God! And believe me, I wasn't addressing the River Gods.

Eventually, the slab came to rest. For a few seconds, rumbling and booming echoed through the canyon. The dust was awful, but I didn't care. I had ridden the beast, kept my balance, and survived completely unscathed. It was good to be alive. It was *so good* to be alive. The slab of rock had moved about fifteen yards downhill and stopped at the base of the slope—the very spot I needed to reach. I stepped onto more solid ground and made my way joyfully back down the hill.

On the way back to camp, I decided not to mention the event to my traveling companions. The guides might bar me from leaving camp alone. Or at all. Besides, no harm was done. It would be my little secret.

When I arrived back at the beach, Andrew was waiting. "I was about to go looking for you," he said. "There was a rockfall somewhere back up there. We heard it in camp." "Really?" I said. "Too bad I missed the excitement."

Walter (Rocky) Smith

NOVEMBER 2009

Grand Canyon Geology and Geoscience Public Symposium

THIS EVENT IS IN HONOR OF Earth Day 2018, Grand Canyon National Park's Centennial celebration, and the 150TH anniversary of John Wesley Powell's 1869 pioneering Colorado River exploration. It takes place April 18–20, 2019 at the South Rim in the Shrine of Ages Auditorium next to the GCNP Headquarters.

CONVENERS

- Karl Karlstrom and Laurie Crossey (University of New Mexico)
- Steven Semken (Arizona State University)
- Jeanne Calhoun and Todd Stoeberl (Grand Canyon National Park)

OBJECTIVES

Grand Canyon is one of the world's iconic geologic laboratories and has long-served as a centerpiece for geoscience education and science literacy. This symposium honors 100 years of geoscience education at Grand Canyon National Park and 150 years of Grand Canyon geology. The objective is to provide an update on research progress and on innovations in geoscience education that have taken place at Grand Canyon to promote a next century of geologic research

and outreach in this iconic region. The symposium is open to the public as well as the geoscience community.

AGENDA

- Friday April 19, 2019: 8:30 A.M.–4:30 P.M.—Geology of Grand Canyon.
- Saturday April 20, 2019—Geoscience Education 8:30–12:30, and walk the Trail of Time with geologists 2–5 P.M.

ATTENDEES AND ESTIMATED COSTS

The meeting sessions are free to the public and Saturday is a no-fee entrance day to the Park. Accommodations at Albright may be available (approximately \$60 per night) and camping at Mather Campground group site (free) is available for speakers and those who register in advance (email keki@unm.edu). Potential speakers should apply by Jan. 15, 2019 and will be notified by February 15, 2019 if accepted. Potential speakers should plan to give twenty minute presentations and facilitate ten minutes of Q and A. Please send proposed title, application, and one page abstract (for the program) to Karl Karlstrom (keki@unm.edu).

A Huge Legal Victory, But We're Not Done Yet

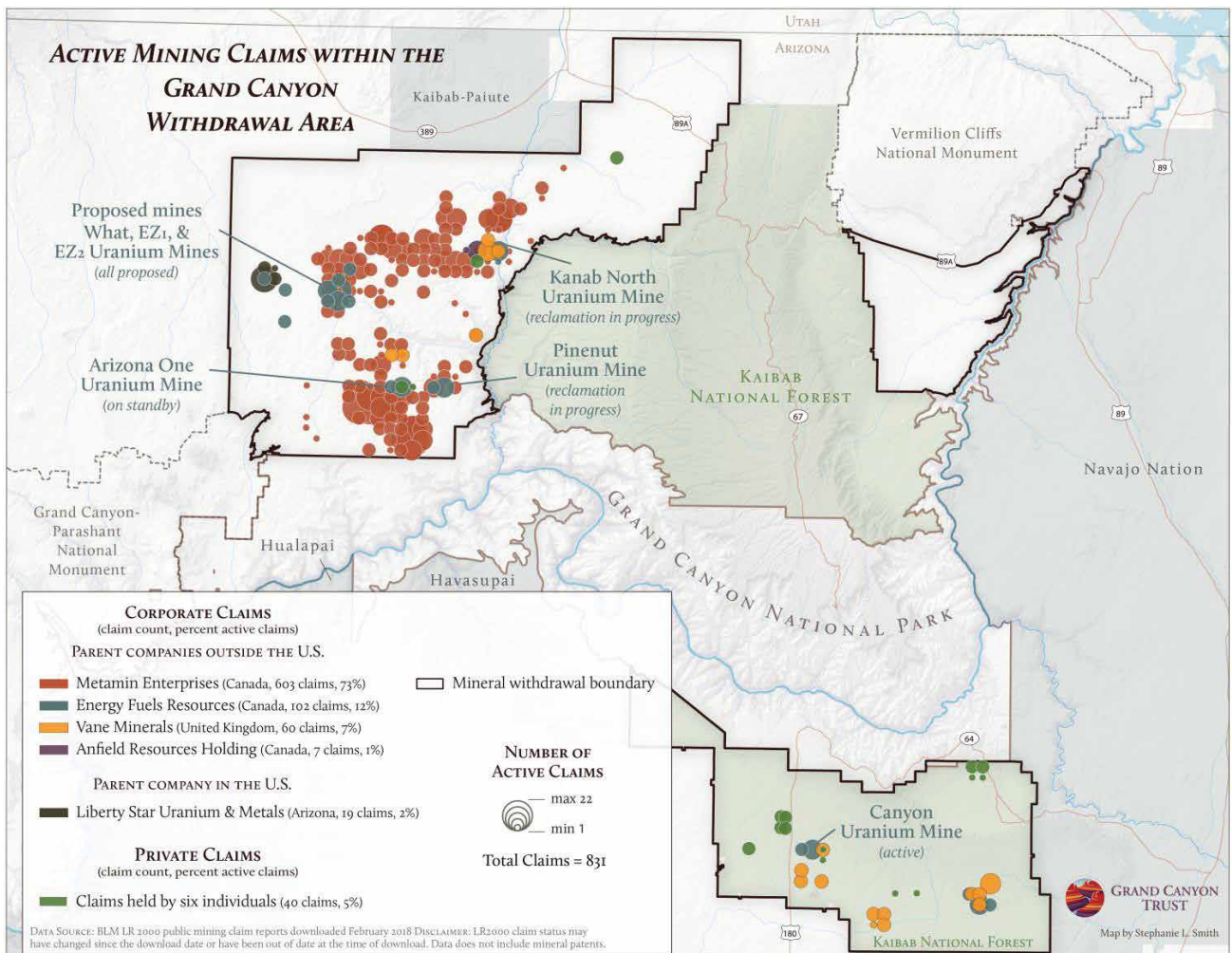
REPRINTED WITH PERMISSION FROM THE GRAND CANYON TRUST'S BLOG AT <https://www.grandcanyontrust.org/blog/supreme-court-grand-canyon-uranium-mining-ban> on October 03, 2018.

THIS WEEK, SUPPORTERS of the Grand Canyon mining ban saw a much-anticipated victory. Since the ban on new uranium claims on public lands surrounding Grand Canyon National Park was implemented in 2012, it has faced legal challenges from the mining industry. The challenges centered around the accusation that the ban was an example of overreach by the federal government. The mining industry lost its case first before the Arizona District Court in 2014, and then it lost an appeal before the 9TH Circuit Court of Appeals in 2017. This week, we learned that the legal fight is, at long last, over. In a final bid to see the mining ban dissolved on legal grounds, the National Mining Association asked the

Supreme Court earlier this year to hear its appeal. On Monday, that request was denied, affirming that the Grand Canyon mining ban has the right to exist.

TRUMP ADMINISTRATION COULD STILL LIFT THE MINING BAN This good news is a very big step in the right direction, but our work isn't done just yet. That's because, while the legal framework for the mining ban has been affirmed, the administration could still decide that the ban itself is no longer needed. And despite small indications that Secretary Ryan Zinke's Department of the Interior may support the mining ban, Grand Canyon advocates lack the reassurance we need to let down our guard.

Local elected officials and members of Arizona's congressional delegation have requested a formal statement from the Interior Department supporting the mining ban, but so far those requests have gone unanswered.



Some hopeful hints that the Interior Department may support the ban came when the Trump administration defended the ban in court, just as the Obama administration had before it. We're deeply grateful for the government's savvy and forceful efforts to defeat the mining industry's lawsuit, from the trial court to the U.S. Supreme Court. Yet whether that successful legal defense means that Secretary Zinke is committed to keeping the Grand Canyon mining hiatus intact—and pursuing the research that hiatus was meant to enable—isn't beyond doubt. A host of complex considerations goes into the government's legal strategies, leaving open the possibility that the secretary might yet want to pursue political channels to undermine or undo the withdrawal.

The second indication of possible support for the ban came via a tweet from the Interior Department's press secretary in June 2018, admonishing sportsmen's groups for "such a tremendous waste of precious conservation dollars" after the groups paid for billboards along the I-17 corridor in Phoenix, Arizona asking the public to contact the agency and urge the government to keep the mining ban intact.

The Grand Canyon Trust, in a meeting with Deputy Secretary of the Interior David Bernhardt in September 2018, got the message that the agency currently has "no reason" to reconsider the ban.

To be clear, we're glad that the Interior Department seems to support the mining ban. But the mining industry says it will continue to advocate against the ban in the name of national security and some politicians continue to specifically ask for the ban to be rescinded.

URANIUM QUOTA INVESTIGATION AND CRITICAL MINERALS STRATEGY

The Department of Commerce is in the midst of a uranium quota investigation and critical minerals strategy development that have significant potential to add political pressure to lift the ban. And a U.S. Forest Service recommendation to review and revise the ban is still floating in the ether of "no one knows what's happening with that." In short, this is why a simple "seems to" support the mining ban isn't good enough.

In the world of advocacy, it's important to celebrate the wins while remaining soberly aware of still-moving pieces. That's what the Grand Canyon Trust is doing right now. The uranium quota investigation, the Commerce Department strategy around critical minerals, and pending Forest Service actions are moving pieces with the potential to change the playing field upon which the mining ban sits. In an attempt to stay ahead of these decisions, this fall we traveled

to Washington, D.C. with representatives of the broad coalition of mining ban supporters to meet with the people behind these administrative processes. We've also participated in public comment opportunities around these important decisions.

The Grand Canyon Trust is doing everything in our power to make sure decision-makers know that supporters of the Grand Canyon are still watching and that we're still at the table. Thank you for standing with us.

Amber Reimondo

ENERGY PROGRAM DIRECTOR, GCT

Canyon Mine Update

DESPITE THE twenty-year uranium mining moratorium on public lands surrounding Grand Canyon, a few valid claims with existing rights were exempt. Canyon Mine, less than ten miles from the South Rim of Grand Canyon, was one such mine that could resume operations. The mine has been the subject of a protracted, decades-long legal battle, filed by the Hualapai Tribe, the Grand Canyon Trust and other environmental advocates. The latest opinion from the 9TH Circuit Court of Appeals says that Canyon Mine should no longer be exempt from the mining ban, and has sent the case back to District Court. A victory for sure, but is it too late? Groundwater may already be contaminated, and the legal battle will rage on....

Fall Rendezvous Wrap-up

DID YOU KNOW THAT 95 percent of the collections at the Museum of Northern Arizona (MNA) are not housed in the museum itself? Twenty exceedingly lucky Fall Rendezvous participants found this out first-hand, as we met up with museum curators (Dr. Larry Stevens/Biology and Dr. Kelley Hays-Gilpin/Anthropology) at the Harold S. Colton Research Center parking lot for a “behind-the-scenes” view of MNA collections on October 27TH.

Splitting up into two groups, we entered the Easton Collection Center (ECC), the premier building of MNA’s Research Campus—a 17,000 square foot state-of-the-art building that received an award for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Platinum certification from the U.S. Green Building Council. The building itself, with an innovative living roof, is gorgeous—emphasizing connections to Northern Arizona’s American Indian community through symbolism, the curvature of Coconino Sandstone, the east-facing entrance, and the inspiring views of the San Francisco Peaks from the lobby. The building’s architects took the design to the next level by incorporating a glazed solar aperture next to the main door that captures rays from the rising sun onto the building’s inner door on the vernal and autumnal equinoxes. It also marks the path between the summer and winter solstices on the inner wall of the building’s vestibule. From energy efficiency and climate control, to thoughtful design elements, this building exhibits the highest standard of care for the incredible collections at MNA.

Once you pass through the inner doors of ECC, countless rows of tall cabinets on rolling tracks house the amazing MNA collections—over 800,000 artifacts, objects, and specimens in its permanent collections of

biology, geology, anthropology, paleontology, and fine arts, extensive federal and tribal research collections, and even archival library collections. Our group also had the opportunity to visit the Springs Stewardship Institute (SSI) and learn about their important work from director, Larry Stevens and program manager, Jeri Ledbetter. SSI is a global initiative of MNA to advance understanding and stewardship of springs ecosystems, with over 90,000 springs in their database (and more being added all the time).

Just a few fun facts that we learned during our Fall Rendezvous:

- True Hopi katsina dolls are only made with cottonwood root, emphasizing the spiritual and ecological relationship with water.
- With 11,000 chromosomes, water sliders have more than any other organism.
- Some water beetles have extreme habitat specificity (ex. living only in a spring at Lava).
- MNA’s herbarium houses examples of all of the flora of the Colorado Plateau.
- There are three dozen species of ant lions in Grand Canyon.
- Hopi baskets (such as those we saw) were made with plant and mineral dyes, and were used in dances and for carrying food such as piki bread.
- Rabbit skin blankets were used for sleeping by the Hopi people. Some of them were interwoven with bits of rabbit heads or feet. Although the sample we saw was from the 1930s, these warm blankets were also used as far back as the Archaic period.
- There are under 1,000 springs in Grand Canyon (below the rim), and ten of the twelve types of classified springs found in the world are found



3rd Mesa Hopi basketry.



Yes, they even have bones..



Bugs and more bugs.



Zuni jewelry.



Navajo necklace, circa late 1940s.



Navajo necklace detail, circa late 1940s.

- within Grand Canyon National Park.
- Eleven percent of the plants in Grand Canyon are springs dependent.
- Five percent of the flow of the Colorado River is from springs.
- The story of springs is the story of refugia. Many springs also hold cultural significance.
- You can volunteer with Springs Stewardship Institute and use their data collection apps.

We are ever so thankful to the Museum of Northern Arizona, and to our gracious hosts, Larry Stevens, Kelley Hays-Gilpin, and Jeri Ledbetter, for the unparalleled interpretive experience, melding their passion, expertise, and their gift for sharing their knowledge with others. I think it's safe to say that Fall Rendezvous participants who came from near and far (Northern Arizona, California, Colorado and New Mexico) were absolutely amazed by the educational experience, and without exception, they were incredibly thankful that they made the effort to attend for those few special hours. Everyone was completely

engaged throughout—scribbling notes, taking photos, and asking good questions.

At some point in the future, we'll need to go back! The paleontology/geology department is getting organized with new cabinets, and they will be very proud to show off their collections—anything from dinosaur bones to sandstone slabs with preserved footprints.

Fall Rendezvous events are always incredibly fun and interesting. If you have a great idea, just let us know! And we'd love to include more guides, even though we know fall can be a tough time to make it work for your busy schedules. Just keep it on your radar, and you will not be disappointed. Our river community is a curious bunch—and there is nothing better than spending time together and learning something new. We'll be planning another event for 2020. Hope to see you there!

Lynn Hamilton



Easton Collection Center.



Thistle—herbarium specimen.



Hopi pots from 1930s.

New Inductions to the River Runners Hall of Fame

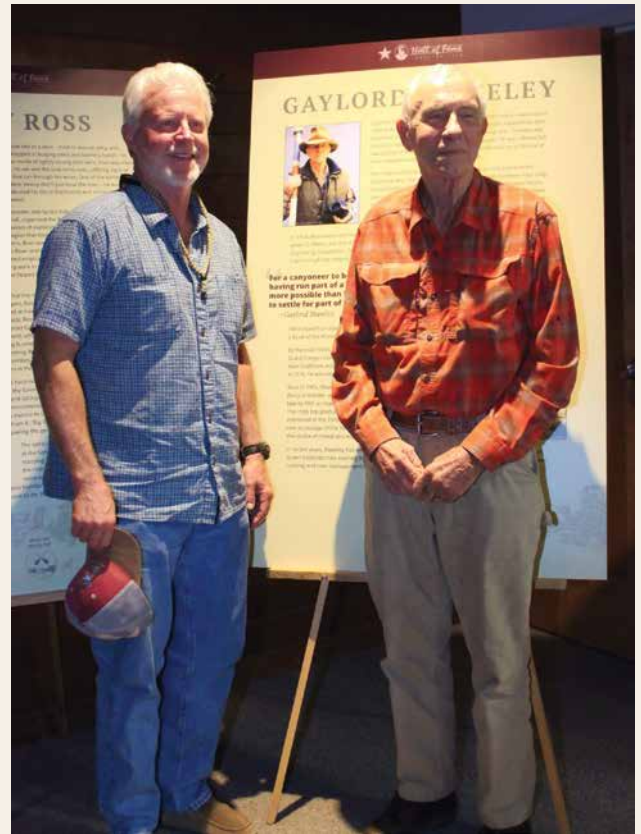
THE HISTORICAL LANDSCAPE of the Colorado Plateau has been shaped as much by the passion of individuals who call themselves river runners as it has been by rolling water under canyon walls. A handful of river runners—people like Bert Loper, Norm Nevills, or Georgie White Clark—have helped lay the building blocks of river folklore, a foundation for the poems, songs, and stories that modern river guides often tell from sand bar to sand bar. On

in 1969. For more than four decades, Wendt leveraged his company's success to support conservation and education efforts in places of wilderness, donating over five million dollars in his lifetime to non-profit organizations who support river conservation.

Gaylord Staveley, a living link to past river legends, stands among some of the most accomplished boaters on the Colorado Plateau. In 1957, he became the owner of Mexican Hat Expeditions, the same company



Tyler and Clavey Wendt with George Wendt's Hall of Fame panel.
photo courtesy: Delise Torres Ortiz.



Gaylord Staveley with his son Cam Staveley.
photo courtesy: Delise Torres Ortiz.

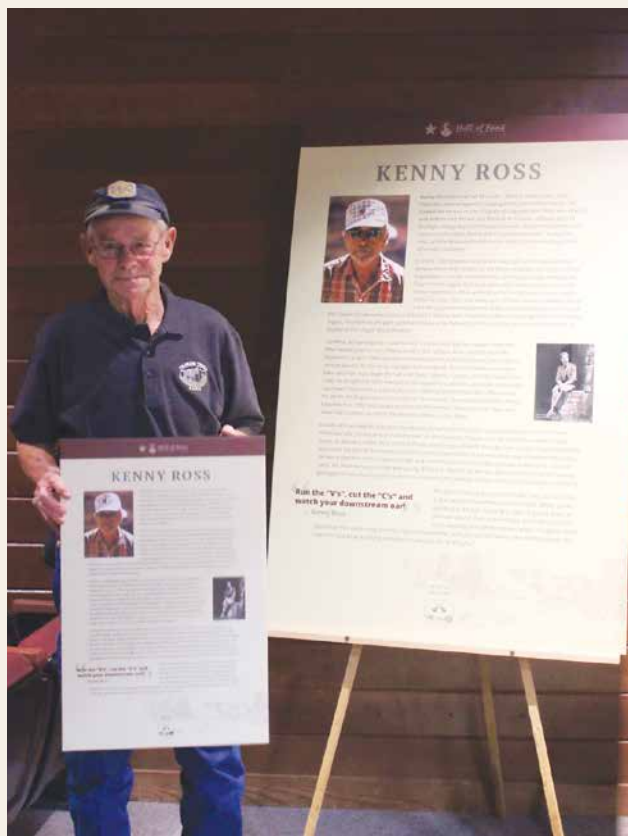
September 29TH, 2018 the river running community officially added a few more blocks to that foundation in the names of George Wendt, Gaylord Staveley, and Kenny Ross, as they were officially inducted into the River Runners Hall of Fame at the John Wesley Powell River History Museum.

Wendt, the founder of OARS and a conservation icon, built one of the largest companies in the river running industry. In an era when motor trips were the norm, Wendt established OARS as the first Grand Canyon outfitter to exclusively run oar powered trips

started by Norm Nevills. The company, now called Canyoneers Inc., remains the oldest river running outfitter in the Grand Canyon. For more than fifty years, Staveley has been a steady hand in the industry. He's authored three books on the history of river running in the region, he served as the president for the Colorado River Outfitters Association for more than a decade, and he has worked diligently to preserve the history of boating on the Colorado River.

Kenny Ross has been described as a forgotten figure on the Colorado Plateau, but his influence on river

running in the Southwest should not be overlooked. Ross worked as a boatman on the Rainbow Bridge expedition in 1933, he worked as a naturalist at Mesa Verde for many years, and fell in love with the four corners region. In those early days before commercialization, river runners focused on the geology, history, and the science of the canyons, and Ross found himself deeply connected to the landscape. Even after he created his business, Wild Rivers Expeditions, Ross maintained a closeness and respect for the land, emphasizing education and customer experience over numbers and profit.



Don Ross with Kenny Ross' Hall of Fame panel.

photo courtesy: Delise Torres Ortiz.

Though each inductee reached varying levels of success and acclaim within the river running community, each is highly respected by their peers—a quality that lifted their names to the top of our list. As the director of a museum that has tasked itself with overseeing the River Runners Hall of Fame, I am often convicted to consider the job that we're doing. Visitor feedback might suggest that we don't know what we're doing. Everyone's a critic, I guess, and sometimes for good reason. But there is a method to our madness.

In my mind there are two types of museums—those that are interpreted from the top-down (meaning that experts in the field tell you what is relevant and important), and those that are interpreted from the bottom up—where a community contributes to a collective memory and together we decide what is relevant. We want our museum to be the latter, and that's why the River Runners Hall of Fame is so important to our organization.

In recent years we have formalized the nominating process. We hold an annual meeting with a Hall of Fame Committee that represents various backgrounds, geographic regions, and levels of expertise in the river running community. Throughout the year, we solicit nominations from the general public, and then consider those nominations along with a list of worthy nominees who have already been nominated. The process is admittedly slow, and sometimes flawed. For instance, our museum is dominated by old white men, and we need more women and people of color in our Hall of Fame. We are often playing catch-up with history and there are plenty of deserving names who have yet to be inducted. But our hope is that through the process, we can curate something that is a genuine reflection of the river running community as a whole, and to create a museum that this community can be proud of.

Which brings me back to this year's inductees. Each has played a significant role in the story of river running on the Colorado Plateau, and each was selected unanimously by our Hall of Fame committee. Through their actions, they have had lasting impacts on countless members of this community, and within the halls of our museum, their stories will rightly stand alongside people like Buzz Holmstrom, Katie Lee, Dee Holladay, the Kolb brothers, and Ken Sleight.

Tim Glenn

Back of the Boat— The Whale Foundation News Bulletin

AT OUR RETREAT THIS November, we had three integral members of our board fulfill their final duties. After six years of guiding our foundation, Connie Tibbitts, Michael Collier, and Amy Prince are moving on. Each brought their own perspectives and strengths to our little band, and we'll all miss the gift of simply spending time with each of them.

As a botanist who still spends time on the Colorado as such, Amy, now a nurse, was an integral voice of the Tim Whitney Wellness Committee, assisting in the guidance of that program very early on. She also played a starring role on our Wing Ding Committee and participated each year in that Herculean effort. I'll personally miss her calming, easy demeanor and no-nonsense approach to the task at hand.

Michael Collier served as the voice of reason in all discussions during his time on the board. His steady, pragmatic approach in reaching decisions was often the only factor bringing all the other (louder) voices and perspectives in the room to bear. He advocated for the formation of the Health Insurance Assistance Fund and developed much of the future funding for it through a major donor. He was also the maestro behind our most creative and successful calendars, producing the rich audio stories from guides that brought so much life and attention back to the guides of Grand Canyon (www.whalefoundation.org/calendar-stories/). The community owes Michael a debt of gratitude for the consistent intention he has applied to this program and their well-being for so long.

Our family of guides maybe should have Connie Tibbitts to thank most of all for her tenure on our board. Time and again, as we waded off into the weeds of non-profit management or the business end of things, Connie would quietly remind everyone in the room that we were here for the guides and should keep things simple. She spoke up for the hard cases in our community, and as a member of the Kenton Grua Scholarship committee, fought for the folks who needed that assistance the most. Connie is a heroine to most who know her, but sadly, her quiet, stalwart behind-the-scenes support of the community she has been a part of for four decades goes unsung. I'm singing her praise now—they don't make 'em like her anymore. With all my gratitude, Connie.

These folks have given so much time and effort into directing the growth and service of the Whale Foundation. It is my intention that they will remain on their respective committees and involved in the work we do. Collectively, their knowledge and historic understanding are too much to lose entirely.

From the remaining board members and, if I may be so bold as to speak for the entire commercial guiding community, thank you for lending your heart and consideration to the work of the Whale Foundation. All the best.

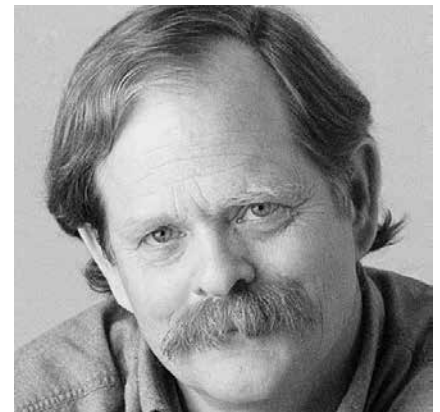
John Napier
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Amy Prince



Connie Tibbitts



Michael Collier

Staying in the Current

GRAND CANYON IS HOME to a vast array of wonders, including, but not limited to, the enormity of its geologic time, the scale of its vistas, and the lure of its hidden waterfalls. A lot of metaphors can be used to describe the cyclic nature of a guide's life in Grand Canyon, too: the seasonal changes that come every year when shadows lengthen or the water rises, or the comfort of hot breezes that warm our bodies after a drenching in the gorge. This is the life of a Grand Canyon river guide, never boring and full of change, each night settling into a new location with new people trip in and trip out.

A constant challenge to river guides is finding the best current to be in. Eddies abound everywhere, ready to slow you down or grab your momentum. The same principle extends outside of our canyon homes as well, where each return to civilization poses the same problem. How do I keep myself in the current of life, how do I keep myself abreast of all that is happening of my community, family and world? This is no easy task. The life of a Grand Canyon river guide is constantly reassessing how to keep moving downstream.

We are not devoid of history in our work; we live and grow on the shoulders of guides and explorers who have paved the way for our profession. Few exemplify that so succinctly as Kenton Grua, a guide who made history with speed records, new routes, and an endless search for efficiency. Many of the new generation have only heard his name from books and stories and retold antics of the "Factor", a loving nickname given to someone with an unquenchable thirst for more.

The Whale Foundation has tried to pick up the torch passed on by Grua by creating an annual scholarship based on his legacy, the Kenton Grua Memorial Scholarship (KGMS). This includes up to a \$2,000 stipend that goes to furthering a guide's educational career.

This year's recipients are a prime example of how talented our guiding community is.

* * * * *



Weston McCue

Weston McCue from Tour West got his start in 2012, quickly rose in the ranks and was running his own boat in no time. Wes entered Grand Canyon with a dual love of river running and biology. Season after season went by with Wes looking for more.

As he put it, "I realized I was entering a period of my life where I would not be able to perform at a high level in both of my passionate circles of interest." And with that, Wes chose the follow a path of cellular biology and dedicate his life to understanding the possibility of stem cell therapy. We look forward to hearing more from him in the future.

* * * * *



Meredith Dahle

Meredith Dahle, an oarswomen from Outdoors Unlimited, is currently part of a clinical rotation in Vietnam with an oncological surgical team. She is finishing a degree as a Physician's Assistant (PA). Her determination for such a rigorous career in medicine is credited to her time working with fellow guides in Grand Canyon. "The most important life lesson that was ingrained in me in the canyon was the concept of emotional intelligence... Either celebrating a successful run through Lava in a paddle boat or dealing with some scary swims in Granite (yikes!), working through the good times and bad times gave me an advanced set of interpersonal skills." This community looks forward to Meredith's return from Vietnam and her new career as a PA.

* * * * *



Owen Ludwig

Owen Ludwig has been guiding for AZRA since 2009 and has seen the ins and outs of all sides of guiding, from warehouse work to trip leading. His ambition to better himself and contribute to this community has led Owen to pursue a welding certificate from Coconino Community College. There is pragmatism to Owen's love of the canyon, seeking balance and skills to keep himself healthy. "If my financial security and mental health allowed it, I might continue down this road for the rest of my life," Owen wrote in his application. "But as I grow older, other avenues are beginning to interest me. It is funny how life works."



Riley Weathers

Riley Weathers, a talented river guide from ARR, came to the Grand Canyon from the Pacific Northwest. Working as both motor guide and rowing guide, Riley has since gained invaluable knowledge of leadership and teamwork. According to Riley, working with varieties of crews helped him understand the importance of trust on the river, that trusting yourself and your team is crucial for a successful trip down river. Riley is also involved with a local business that spurred his return to school for a business degree. Looking to better himself and his family, Riley is a great example of river guides striving for more. Riley put it nicely by saying, “My life has grown beyond what I could have ever anticipated and with that I must keep growing as well.”

* * * * *



Chelsea Taylor

Chelsea Taylor, an ARR guide, has a very philosophical and pragmatic approach to her future in relation to Grand Canyon. From her first trip in 2002, the canyon and its community held a wonderful mystique for Chelsea. Finally breaking into the ranks of full-time guide, she is recognizing and fulfilling her other passions as well. Chelsea is finishing her Masters Degree in Psychology at Northern Arizona University and continuing on to a Doctoral program, hoping to use the transformative power of Grand Canyon to help reach other people. “We all know and love the Grand Canyon, and even though our metaphysical experiences within it are relatively unique, they all stem from the same flavor of beauty-space-time overload.”

The balance of life has drawn this year’s winners of the KGMS to new horizons, channels, and challenges. One overriding theme of our guiding community is the passion we have for our shared home. Like the river, we too get pulled downstream by the momentum of life. From metal fabrication, to oncological surgical teams, to the halls of academia, our guides are as layered and diverse as the rocks in Grand Canyon.

To learn more about the Kenton Grua Memorial Scholarship visit our website at www.whalefoundation.org/scholarships/. The application is open February 1 to May 15.

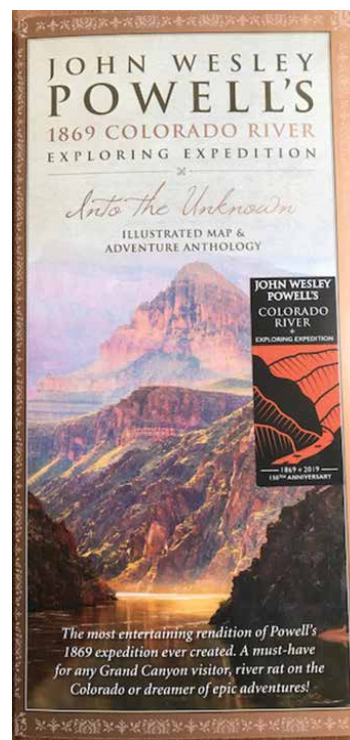
Omar Martinez

Map Announcement

JOHN WESLEY POWELL’S 1869 COLORADO RIVER EXPLORING EXPEDITION, *Illustrated Map and Adventure Anthology*, Time Traveler Maps, ISBN 978-0-692-15140-2, \$19.95.

TRAVELER MAPS’ John Wesley Powell’s 1869 Colorado River Exploring Expedition map is a terrific resource! This is far more than just a map, and it’s got something for everyone. In addition to a wonderful annotated map of Powell’s journey through the region, an excellent text gives the reader important background on Powell’s journey and its purpose, crew, boats, and gear. And beautiful images bring the reader into the landscape and along on the journey—which is unusual for most maps. It would be a valuable educational and interpretive resource for regional river guides and passengers, history buffs, artists, and interested armchair explorers. If you don’t want to read a huge tome about John Wesley Powell and his exploration of the last unknown lands in the American Southwest (or even if you do!), this map makes an excellent and highly portable addition to our knowledge of the man who braved the unknown and helped open the West to settlement.

Christa Sadler



Important Dates 2019!

HARD TO BELIEVE BUT YES...it's already time to start planning for the spring. So get your calendars and mark these important dates.

- **WHALE FOUNDATION WING DING:** February 16, 2019 at Coconino Center for the Arts in Flagstaff
- **WFR RE-CERTIFICATION** (sponsored by GCRG): February 15–17, 2019 at OARS in Flagstaff
- **BACKCOUNTRY FOOD MANAGER'S COURSE***: March 29, 2019 at Hatch River Expeditions
- **GTS LAND SESSION:** March 30–31, 2019 at Hatch River Expeditions in Marble Canyon
- **GTS RIVER TRIP** (upper half): April 1–7, 2019, Lees Ferry to Phantom Ranch
- **GTS RIVER TRIP** (lower half): April 7–15, 2019, Phantom Ranch to Pearce Ferry

You can get your WFR recertified and have fun at the

Wing Ding the same weekend! Please check out the GCRG website for information on how to sign up for our WFR recert course and our Guides Training Seminar.

*The Backcountry Food Manager's class will be held the day before the GTS land session. It will be held from 10 A.M. to 2 P.M. at Hatch River Expeditions in Marble Canyon, AZ on Friday, March 29TH. Cost is \$55. You should bring: Chair, mug, bag lunch, and driver's license (ID is required). Payment is due before the course. Contact Lydia Hernandez to register at 928.679.8760 or email her at lhernandez@coconino.az.gov, or mail payment to her at:
 CCPHSD, Environmental Health
 Attn: Lydia Hernandez
 2625 N King St
 Flagstaff, AZ 86004

Down the Rabbitt Hole — Thirty Years of GCRG T-Shirts

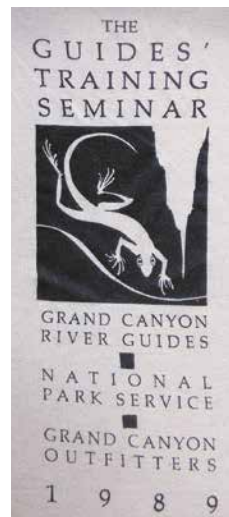
In another moment down went Alice after [the rabbit], never once considering how in the world she was to get out [of the rabbit hole] again.

— LEWIS CARROLL, “Down the Rabbitt Hole,” *Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland*

RECENTLY LYNN HAMILTON asked me about an old GCRG GTS t-shirt, since she knew I had a complete set. It was the one with the John Wesley Powell quote from his 1875 report to Congress, “The book is open, and I can read as I run.” (Page 89, attributed to August 18, 1869, thus in Grand Canyon; sometime between quote submission and t-shirt design, an extra word, “it,” had been inserted into the t-shirt quote). In 1989, one year after its founding, GCRG took over organizing the annual GTS, with a corresponding t-shirt. That first spring’s event took place at the Flagstaff City Hall, with some classic speakers including Martin Litton, Bruce Babbitt, and Bob Rigg showing 1950s movies of cataract boats in action. Digging through various drawers, I came up with 31 t-shirts for the thirty years of the GTS, which sent me down the rabbitt hole. As not all t-shirts appeared in the BQRS, nor did they all include designers or dates, investigation and correspondence between

myself, Lynn, MLQ, Bill Bishop, Mary Williams, Renny Russell, Denise Napolitano, Sam Jones, and Bob Grusy, led to figuring out almost all of them. In 1991 Renny designed two t-shirts, one each short- and long-sleeve, so that mystery is solved. We’re hoping that you enjoy the visual tour of images and that someone out there can identify the designers for 1999 and 2004.

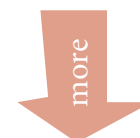
C. V. Abyssus



1989 | Cynthia Bennett

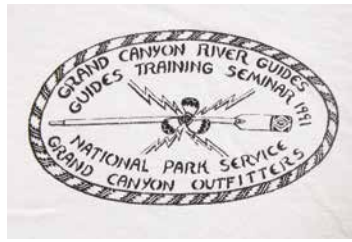


1990 | Deena Dierker

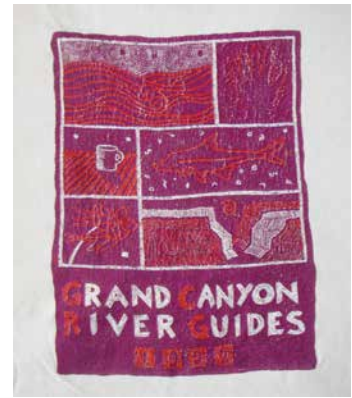




1991 | Renny Russell



1991 | Renny Russell



1992 | Mary Williams



1993 | Carol Fritzing



1994 | B. D. Rasmussen



1995 | Renny Russell



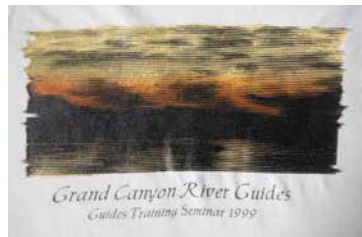
1996 | Mary Williams



1997 | Mary Williams



1998 | Ote Dale



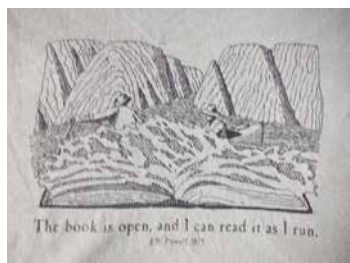
1999 | ?



2000 | Bob Grusy



2001 | Kim Kliewer



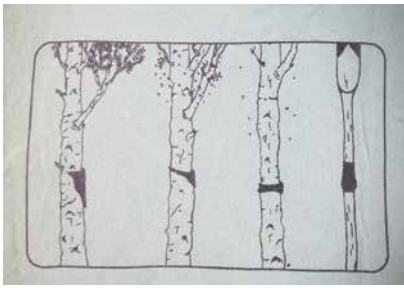
2002 | Sam Jones



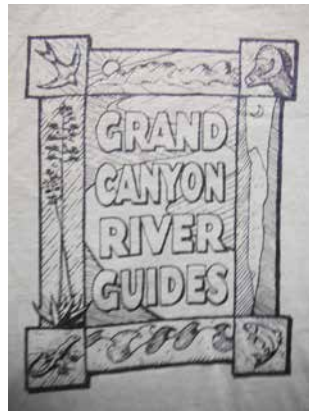
2003 | Renny Russell



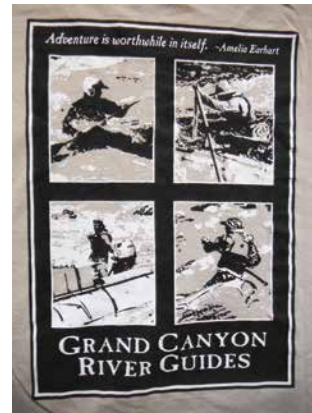
2004 | ?



2005 | Liz Sharp



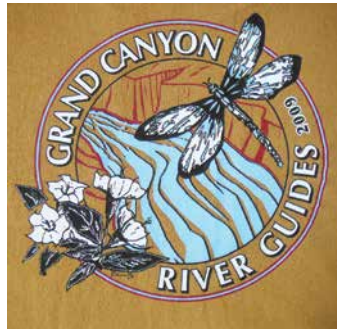
2006 | Bronze Black



2007 | Bronze Black



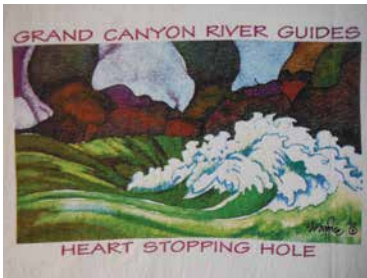
2008 | Mary Williams



2009 | Bronze Black



2010 | Sam Jones



2011 | Serena Supplee



2012 | Ani Eastwood



2013 | Bronze Black



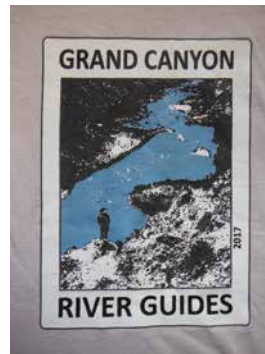
2014 | Ani Eastwood



2015 | Lee Bennion



2016 | Erica Fareio



2017 | Bronze Black



2018 | Heather Solee

Bert Jones

MY FIRST TRIP WAS ROWING BAGGAGE in the Canyon in 1976, September. I'd worked for the company [*Outdoors Unlimited* (OU)—in *California and Oregon*] for three years, and it was the end of the season (in Oregon and California). I'd been lobbying. "I want to go, I want to go." Amazingly, I got my wish.

As it turns out, Wilderness World (WiWo) was launching the same day as we were, and of course we all know each other, so we decided to camp across from each other at Badger. Tom Olsen and Kyle Kovalik were on the WiWo trip, and they were at Jackass, we were at Badger. That evening, they rowed across the tail of the rapid and over to our camp, and we partied. That was my first night ever in Grand Canyon.

I, being a dumb shit, took my guitar down the river. I had bought a Martin guitar, and I took it down the river, which has never happened again with that guitar. (laughs) But it was great for one thing, because Kyle, as we know, is a great guitar player. And so he played my guitar that evening, which was quite entertaining. But I remember sitting there, talking. I was looking up at the cliffs, my first night ever in Grand Canyon... I said, "Man, this place is unbelievable. Look how huge these cliffs are. I can't believe how high this is." Kyle looked at me, he was like, "Dude, you ain't seen nothin' yet." (laughter)

Some of the equipment wasn't all that good. OU had dropped snouts a couple of years before that, and we were running Campways Havasus, and Maravia Chubascos. There were two of us rowing that baggage boat. It was myself and Peter Ryan—he was a stalwart for OU for a couple of years in there. Peter was a stout kid. I call him a kid, but he wasn't. I'll tell you a good story about Peter too. But anyway, Peter and I rowed the boat, which was good, because the boat was so leaky that it took two people. I remember specifically coming around that last bend before you get to Unkar, and we were there pumping the boat up. You know, one of us is holding the nozzle in the boat, and the other one's pumping and pumping and pumping. Then the guy who gets to row that rapid jumps down and grabs the oars, and the other guy wraps up the pump and puts it away, and then sits down and holds on. (laughs)

Yeah. The rapids were impressive; but I just remember the canyon mostly... I got down there, the rapids were easily more than I expected. It was amazing, the size of things, the whole adventure, and just rowing

through this stuff—not being technical, but being big and powerful. But I get to the end of the trip—the rapids were even more than I expected, and it still wasn't the best part of the trip. The canyon is why you're there, really. I just remember that striking me. I came down here for the rapids, and even though they were more than I even expected, it wasn't really why I loved the trip the most.

STEIGER: What was it?

JONES: Well, just being there. You meet people down there, you're *living* with people every day. They're there when you go to bed, they're there when you get up, and it's a real place. You're very real, you're going to be yourself in a period of a week or two, just because of the way that place is. The other thing that I see as the canyon's allure, is that you're focused there in the now. When you're down there, you're not thinking about what's above the rim: "Oh, I gotta mow the lawn, or go to the grocery store, or I gotta call So-and-So." Those things aren't part of your life in the canyon. You are what is in the canyon. What you can see is your world. So it's one of the few places that you can go, that you can be in, where you are living in the present for a long period of time. As Ram Dass entitled one of his early books: *Be Here Now*. You are there now. That, I think, is the thing that people who go to the canyon and are passengers that come on trips, the ones who get it—that's how they live that trip, and that's why they want to get back to it, because it's something that's hard to capture anywhere else.

* * *

Bert Jones, all-around good guy and perpetual contributor to both GCRG and the Whale Foundation, has been John Vail's right hand man at the OU warehouse in Flagstaff for quite some time now. This Adopt-A-Boatman interview was conducted at Bert's house in Flagstaff on January 24, 2018. —LEW STEIGER

* * *

I grew up in Sacramento, California. Pretty outdoorsy. I was in the Boy Scouts, did a lot of camping. Our family did car camping back in the day. So I spent a lot of time doing that kind of stuff. It just kind of felt natural to me, really. We used to go to Yosemite, because it was only three or four hours away, and car camp back in the days when they did stuff like push fire off of the cliffs into the valley at night—which is crazy when you think

about it now—but they had these things called firefalls.

STEIGER: People used to do that?

JONES: The *Park* did it! The Park would push fire right off the rim into Yosemite valley.

STEIGER: Just to make a show for everybody?

JONES: Yeah, had a show every night. Or maybe it was not every night, maybe it was just weekends. But, I mean... We can't even *imagine* that happening now... Well, we're talking in the late fifties probably—mid to late fifties. Anyway it was kind of neat. My family always did that kind of stuff, went to the coast and camped. So I kind of had that part of it in my life before. Of course, you know, river running, in California anyway, I hadn't ever heard of it, wasn't even on the radar for me.

I spent all my time there, grew up in Sacramento, high school, started to go to community college with not much motivation, not knowing what I wanted to do. And my grades reflected that. (laughs) I wasn't motivated enough to stay in school, so I ended up getting drafted. That was in 1967. So I went through all of that, and ended up—instead of going to Vietnam, I ended up in Korea because of the [USS] *Pueblo*. That was a spy ship, and the North Koreans took it hostage, and all the crew. "You can't do that!" So we'll send troops over there to show force, and I got my orders changed from Vietnam to Korea because of that, which maybe was a good thing.

STEIGER: What branch were you in? What was your job?

JONES: I was in the Army, radio communications and maintenance, so I did communications for missile sites. I was in a very remote area, which actually turned out to be really lucky. I was out on a mountain ridge that was in the way of communications. In those days, we didn't have satellites, and so it was a matter of relaying signals over the mountain. And we were the relay. We were stationed on this mountain, so we were communicating, we were relaying the signal over from headquarters to two missile sites. Basically we were just babysitting radios. It was only about a dozen of us there, and no real supervision. We had a sergeant, and that was about it. We kind of just kept the radios going, and nobody cared what else we did.

STEIGER: Sounds a lot better than Vietnam.

JONES: It was a lot better.

STEIGER: Especially in '67 too.

JONES: Yeah, '68, '69. So it was still the Army, but it was a lot better than a lot of other places I could have been, even in Korea. We'd get up at noon and play cards all night. (laughs) One of us had to be up all the time. We always had to have somebody monitoring the radios and everything—and walking guard, in theory. The rest of us just stayed up half the night and played cards, and got up when it was time for lunch.

STEIGER: Was it North Korea that had captured the *Pueblo*, or was that China?

JONES: No, North Korea. That was the guy who's right now, Kim Jong-un, it was his grandfather. And then his father took over. Now he's the third in line. So it's been going on a long time. When I came back from there, I was telling people, "We're going to have more problems with this country." They're really unpredictable, and it's a different mindset.

STEIGER: I guess the radio technology was a far cry from what it is now?

JONES: Yeah. We had antennas, like you would do with an old TV set. They were actually very directional. That was one of the ways you kept anybody from intercepting your signals, is you had to aim at each other, so you had to know coordinates and aim them

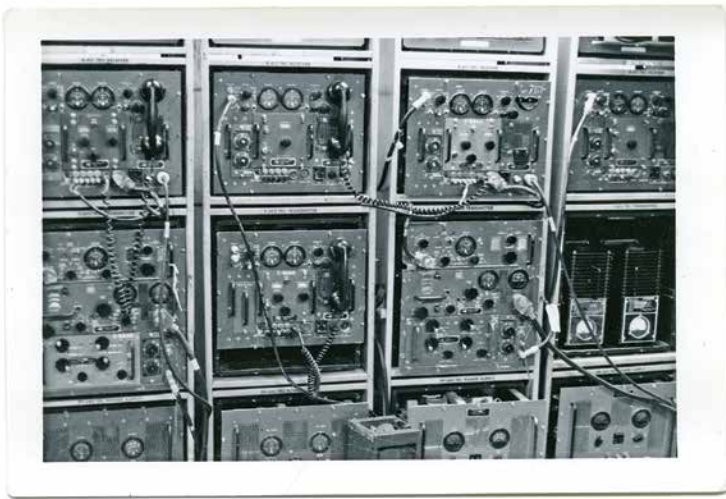


Bert Jones (left) in South Korea, 1967.

exactly at each other. If you were off a degree, it would miss communication.

STEIGER: I can't remember, they finally let all those guys go, didn't they?

JONES: They had 'em while we were there, and then they actually released them in December, but I was still there until March or April. Yeah, I left in April of the



High tech radio communications, pre-sat phones.

following year I think. Was that right? Yeah. Got there in March of '68 and left in April of '69. But they were there for the whole time that I was there. They were there before I got there, and then a couple months later, and then they released them right before Christmas, as some kind of goodwill gesture, but the troops were still kept there. My orders were I had to stay there 'til April. So they left before I did...I got there March in '68, and I was there for a few days and actually had my 21ST birthday there and didn't realize it, because I wasn't yet assigned to a camp, so I was in this temporary duty housing, so you just kind of didn't have anything to do. One day I was reading the government newspaper, called *The Stars and Stripes*, the Army newspaper, and Martin Luther King was assassinated. I looked at the date and it was like three days after my 21ST birthday, which I missed completely. (laughs) And so Martin Luther King was assassinated when I was there, and then Bobby Kennedy a few months later.

STEIGER: Yeah, those were dark times.

JONES: No kidding! Plus the Tet Offensive was going on in Vietnam. Yeah.

STEIGER: What did your folks do, if you don't mind my asking?

JONES: My dad was an electrical engineer, and he worked for the utility company that supplied the electricity to Sacramento, Sacramento County. In fact, his job was distribution. He ended up being kind of in charge of that, by the time he retired. My mom did various clerical stuff for different insurance companies and things like that, and eventually for universities, for office staff, for professors and such; and a housewife.

STEIGER: When you got drafted, did you guys all see that as a bad thing, or was it before that shift happened?

JONES: Oh no. Well, it wasn't talked about a lot, actually, in my family—you know, about the politics of the war or anything. I mean, I had my own opinions, but mostly my opinion was that I didn't want to go over there and get shot. I was more worried about health and safety than the politics. My politics more evolved during the military, when I was in the service, and what I saw going on, and what I felt, and knowing some of these people that came back from there and how it affected them. They were friends, we were maybe stationed together, or on R&R. I was seeing guys in Japan, when I was on R&R. These guys are back from Vietnam, and I could just see the difference in how I was and how they were, as far as just jittery and even kind of just their demeanor about things. I remember standing in line one day, getting ready to mail something at a post office, and a fire siren goes off, and the next thing I know, I'm the only one standing up. All these guys hit the dirt. It was like, wow. I was pretty fortunate that I wasn't there. That was a tough time. And we've had friends, buddies, that were in that situation, that were guides. We know who they were, and you know how it affected them. You know it affects them the rest of their lives.

STEIGER: Yeah. If I had it to do over again, I think I might have joined the Coast Guard, but I was already working on the river. I was already swamping, and I met Whale right away, and Skip Jones, and these guys that had been over there.

JONES: Wesley Smith.

STEIGER: Yeah. I didn't meet him until later, but those guys that I did run into who had been there, they were like, "No, no, no, absolutely not. Do not even think about going into any kind of service." They hated the government, and they hated everything to do with that.

JONES: Well, there is a reason why they get you when you're young, before you've formed those strong opinions. But being in helps you form those, you know. And it's funny, there's a thing about going in, there's two sides to it. One is, it's obviously the negatives, and it's

hard, and you're in harm's way and all that, but there's another side of it too. When you're young like that, I mean, I was young and pretty naïve at that point. I still lived at home when I got drafted. I'm going from Mom and Dad and meals on the table to getting drafted, and you're standing in formation there, right in your first day or two. Some guy with spit-shined boots that you can see your reflection in, and a hat pulled down to where you can't really see his eyes—he's screaming at you. He's telling you, "I'm your mother and I'm your father!" You're thinking, "Oh shit, I'd better start taking care of myself real quick, 'cause he don't care." You grow up fast, you know. When I came out—and I was only in for two years, in active duty—when you came out you were a lot different than when you went in. You were much more reliant on yourself and made decisions; things meant something, you had to take care of it. Whereas when I went in at nineteen years old or whatever, it didn't matter, you were goofin' off and seein' your pals, "I might come over, I might not." But that changed.

STEIGER: You mean after that, if you said you were going to be somewhere, you were there?

JONES: Yeah, or you didn't say it.

STEIGER: All my friends I know that were there, especially for some reason the Marines... Wasn't that Wesley?

JONES: No, Wesley was Army.

STEIGER: Definitely there's a strength there that you see in people for the rest of their lives, that I kind of envy, actually—being a spoiled little rich kid all of my life.

JONES: There's definitely an upside to it, but the price is pretty high. It's a lot higher if you end up in places like Vietnam, too, in those combat situations; or even today, you know. I used to think maybe it wasn't quite as bad these days, like going over to the Middle East, to Afghanistan or Iraq, because of all the modern conveniences, but I've seen the same thing. I have some people in my family, my sister's stepsons and stuff, that come back, they've been in the military—and my nephew too. It's affected them greatly in a lot of ways. It's just as tough. It's the mental side of it, you know, that just tears you up: the things you're asked to do, and the things that you see.

STEIGER: Yeah. And you wonder why. Why are we doing all that shit?

JONES: Well, you do, and you don't get choices. Especially once you're thrust into it, it's you against them, you don't have a choice.

STEIGER: So how'd you get from there to river running?

JONES: (laughs) Well, I got out and went back to

college. I got the GI Bill. I was a little more focused then, and I was actually starting to move in a direction. I was really interested in photography at the time. We—me and my roommates—lived on a farm eventually, outside of Sacramento, and so there were three or four of us, depending on which iteration lived in this old farmhouse, and two of my roommates were doing river trips. One actually was doing it for a while before that, a guy named Lyle. He got involved in river running thanks to John Seppi. John was also a friend of mine. Actually, John took me on my very first river trip. We did the Stanislaus, a little private trip: John Seppi and Tom Olsen and Brad Coughlin. I don't know if you ever knew Brad. But anyway, we did the Stanislaus, and a couple of years later, these guys, my two roommates, are doing river trips, and they're coming home after the weekends and talking about the trips. It's like, "Wow, that sounds pretty cool!" I was sometimes dropping them off at John Vail's house, which is where the company was run out of at that time—out of John's garage in Sacramento. "I'd like to do this too." "Yeah, thanks, talk to you later, sonny." (laughs) And I went over there one day. He said, "You still interested in working?" I said, "Yeah." And he handed me the keys to a van and said, "Okay, you can drive the shuttle." (chuckles) So I drove the shuttle for about a month, and in the meantime I think I did one or maybe two trips down the river, rowing a baggage boat, basically follow... You know, "How do I know what to do?" "Just follow somebody, and do what they do."

Stanislaus, yeah. It's like, "Okay." So you follow somebody down the river. And then I showed up one day to drive. They said, "Hey, So-and-So didn't show up. Think you can row?" And they put me on the South Fork of the American. I said, "Well, yeah, but I don't think I can... I've never even seen the American." So they switched somebody around and put me on the Stanislaus, and I rowed that, and nobody died. (laughs) And I didn't drive the shuttle anymore. I was a river guide! That was probably my third trip.

STEIGER: Ohay! Outstanding! And that would have been what year?

JONES: '73. There weren't guide schools back then. We've heard those stories, and read those stories in the BQR before. Nobody went to those guide schools; they were like running their own boat after being a passenger. (chuckles)

STEIGER: I remember kind of looking down on... thinking that was kind of a scam. I mean, anybody that went to a guide school had been taken advantage of. (laughs) That was kind of the way I viewed it.

JONES: I do the scheduling for OU for baggage people, new people coming into the company. I get résumés

from people and all that, but I'll tell you, just having worked with these guys, the amount of ability they have after a few trips after being in guide school is amazing. I mean, they're really pretty darned good—way better than I was after a couple of years, because they'd learned in just weeks. I mean, ten days, two weeks, they're running Class IV stuff. They might be paddling. If they're the paddle captain, they're in charge, and they're calling the shots. They learn it fast. It's a big help. They have a lot to learn still. You and I know you learn a hell of a lot of stuff—I *still* learn stuff—after forty-some years you still see stuff and you go, "Whoa! I can't believe I did *that!*" I'm still learning. But guide schools have made a big difference. People come out of guide schools with some pretty good skills.

STEIGER: Are there schools in particular that leap out at you as being really good?

JONES: Well, yeah, there's two that I really know about. One was started by Doug Stanley and his friend Roger Lee. It was called California's Own, O-W-N. California's Own, basically shortened to Cal's Own. Neither one of them are involved in it anymore. I think Doug's wife now is kind of running it, and I don't know as much about it. I knew Doug and his brother Todd—Todd Stanley—and all those guys. We had an agreement with them for a long time when Doug and Roger were still running it, that if they had their top person in their class, which they called "the top gun," the top gun from their class got to do a baggage boat in Grand Canyon after two weeks of guide school. And that was kind of a reward, and it was kind of a perk, and it was good for their image that they have this connection to Grand Canyon. And it was good for me to get some people coming in, and a connection there. Often some of the other people from the class would call to get trips, and I'd usually have 'em get a little more experience, but we had this connection, and it was a good way of getting new people in. So that was one of 'em. And the other one I talk about now to most people when they call me and they don't have any experience but they want to be a Grand Canyon guide, is I tell them to go to Whitewater Voyages, which is Bill McGinnis' old company. They do a pretty good job too. But guide schools are really pretty much a must these days, I think, for getting started, because the learning curve is so steep if you don't. Those things are almost boot camp. I know Doug and Roger's school was like a boot camp almost. They would really push those guys, you know, and do different rivers... In like ten days they might do seven different rivers, and they'd be driving between rivers. You'd have to rig the boats again the next morning, and sometimes they'd just be driving down the road and they'd just turn the key off on the bus and say, "Well, the

bus broke down. Now what are you going to do? Gotta get this stuff to the river." Well, that's reality, you know. We started ou... You had to be a mechanic, and it was like being MacGyver! (laughter)

STEIGER: I remember one time, we were taking out an ARR [*Arizona River Runners*] trip, and the truck caught on fire just before the South Cove junction. We got the fire out, but it burned up everything under the hood. Tim Whitney's like, "Well, I'll just start walking. I'll hitchhike into Meadview so we can call," because nobody had cell phones or nothing. I just laughed. I'm like, "Sure you will!" Whitney had this Hawaiian shirt on, and these dark glasses, and a lot of hair, big beard. "You look like Charles Manson, buddy. Nobody in their right mind..." And sure enough, nobody was about to pick him up out in the middle of the desert like that, no way.

JONES: Yeah. That was the way it was. So that guide school was pretty tough. People came out of there good. They knew stuff, and they knew that things weren't always going to be exactly right. You might not get the best boat or the best oars or whatever.

* * *

I got another baggage boat the next year [*after that first trip*]. Getting baggage boats was a little difficult back in those days. I was lucky. I don't know why I was able, but I got one two years in a row. Because everybody that was rowing boats for ou in California wanted to come out and do a Grand Canyon trip. We had a lot of people in the company in California, and only one baggage slot—or two, depending on the boats. And so there would be like thirty guys... a lot of competition to get that baggage boat spot. We were a really, really small company [*in Grand Canyon*] back in those days; like 1,200 user days or something. Yeah, we had trips on the Stanislaus, the South Fork of the American, and Tuolumne. I think we were doing the Merced by then. We were running Rogue River in Oregon. In fact, that was kind of where I was working a lot, was on the Rogue and Klamath back in those days. I actually had a pretty ideal schedule back then. After like '79, I got my first paid trip in Grand Canyon, on the crew with Gary Bolton and Dennis Silva, Brad Coughlin. I was working in Oregon in midsummer, June through August, so I had this great schedule for a number of years there, from around '79, '80, until the mid- to late-eighties when I stopped doing those other trips. But I would work the Tuolumne and the Merced in the springtime when the high water was there. I got to row those things—you know, exciting, high water, difficult, technical stuff. And then June I'd go up to

Oregon and float around on the Rogue River and do the Klamath River and go kayaking on the Umpqua or something in between trips. And then in late August I'd go down and do three Grand Canyon trips. So it was a pretty sweet schedule there for a while, and I really liked it, but decided to go back to school. I—just like a lot of guides—have to look at the future and maybe making a living, and things like insurance and saving for retirement. And so in those days the obvious choice was teaching. So I went back to school to get a teaching credential. When I did that, I wasn't able to do the fall trips in the Grand Canyon anymore, so I had to make up my mind, am I going to work on the Rogue and not do any Grand Canyon trips, or am I going to work in the Grand Canyon? So I left the Rogue and all these other trips, the Merced and Tuolumne for the most part, and just started doing Grand Canyon trips full time then.

STEIGER: And when you got out of school, did you actually teach?

JONES: I did, but only one year. (laughs) It wasn't my thing. It wasn't that bad. I actually was in a school that just wasn't very—with a bunch of old-time teachers there that had been there since the school was built, literally. I was out of a really hot program at that time for teaching education, and education classes, and it was pretty innovative, and I was trying some of these things, and they were like, "Ah, no, no, don't do that." So we didn't get along well.

STEIGER: "That's not the way we do it here.?"

JONES: Yeah. So I didn't go back after one year there. So I worked in an outdoor store for a while—a ski shop and rental shop and repair shop in Sacramento, mostly dedicated to cross-country skiing. I did that for a long time—like a lot of guides, had the guiding thing in the summer; in the winter, a seasonal job. (chuckles) So it worked for me. But then John [*Vail: founder of OU*] offered me a job moving to Flagstaff and working year round in management and administrative stuff. The job was not very well evolved at that time. He just needed help, the company was growing and things were difficult. One person can't run everything. And so I became that guy, and my job has varied over the years a lot. Small company, there's no easily defined job. You do a lot of different things. You're kind of a fireman, you just put out fires.

* * *

I did these trips in China with a company called Earth River, which was owned by a guy who used to be an OU guide, named Eric Hertz. One of his buddies was my friend Steve Mahan, who I did the Grand Canyon trips

with. Steve is kind of a partner on these trips in China with Eric—they're old friends, buddies from way back when in upstate New York. They were kayak partners. Steve calls me up one day out of the blue, "Hey, you want to go to China?" "Uhhh, sure." So anyway, one thing leads to another and we're going to do these trips in China. It's on the Yangtze, the first one. We did two different trips on the Yangtze River. One was called the Upper Yangtze, which is in Tibet on the Tibetan Plateau, way up near the headwaters. It's 400 miles from the headwaters of the Yangtze, which sounds like a long way, except for the river's almost 4,000 miles long. And then the other section we ran was called the Great Bend, and it's somewhat famous, I guess. You know, Sobek did that trip. It was in a book that Richard Bangs wrote, called *Riding the Dragon's Back*. That river trip was kind of the focus, although there's a whole lot of other stuff in there too. There were a number of guides on that trip that probably some of the boating community knows, like Dave Edwards and... What's his name? He had those trips up there on the Snake River for years. Breck O'Neill. Anyway, it was one of those. And so we ran that trip. I did it three times. I think they (Earth River) did it one or two more times than that—one time, for sure, before I got there. My first time there wasn't Steve's and this other guy, Robert's, first time on the river—which was good for me. I was rowing a baggage boat, which was a long way from what I would call a boat, normally. It was a big old 22-foot-long cataraft. It had huge tubes, like thirty-inch tubes, and had a big drop frame that just sat in the middle between the tubes. It was a piece of junk, really. I rowed it the first day, and the first day there's some real... I mean, that's a *real* river. There's some *real* rapids. It's Grand Canyon volume, or larger, and tough, tough rapids.

STEIGER: Cold water too?

JONES: Yeah, pretty cold. There's some real rapids on there. I'm rowin' this boat the first day, and it's like, God, this thing... Well, first, it was overloaded. And so the first day I'm rowing this thing, and I got to camp, finally, and there was a *really* hard rapid right before camp, where it comes down and makes two ninety-degree bends during the rapid—one right and one left ninety-degree turn. And the second ninety-degree turn goes into a wall.

STEIGER: And this is 20,000 or something like that?

JONES: Oh, no, it's more like 50,000 or 60,000. Yeah. So by the time I got to camp, I was like, "I am not rowing this boat again." I looked down, and the drop floor, which is completely loaded with bags—in fact, the bags are so high that I actually had to build a depression in the middle so I could see. Otherwise, I couldn't see over 'em. That's how I loaded the boat. And the floor is



In Tibet.

actually three or four inches into the water—this drop floor.

STEIGER: Couldn't move it?

JONES: No. So I ended up getting out the repair kit that night, and the floor was hung from the frame, but the frame was hung off the tubes, and the floor was hanging off of that by these pipes that were threaded. And so I had to measure everything out, and I figured out I could cut part of the pipe off, but I couldn't cut enough off of one end, so I had to cut both ends to get enough distance to raise it.

STEIGER: And still have threads.

JONES: To still have threads on each side. And so I'm there with a hacksaw. I had to make eight cuts with no handle, just a hacksaw blade (laughs) and cut these four pipe ends off, to raise the floor up enough to get it out of the water. I said, "I'm sorry, we're gonna leave camp late, but I am not gonna row this boat any further..." Maybe it just didn't have that much weight in it before. You know, every time you did that trip, it was different. I did the Great Bend three times, and every time was different—way different water levels. First we were searching for the right water level, because we didn't know that much about it, really. It's tough, really—pretty tough river.

STEIGER: Aren't they just damming it up now?

JONES: Well, the Great Bend has been dammed,

where half of the Bend is now underwater. It was a great river, and the culture there is amazing, because that area of China is in Northern Yunnan Province, near Szechuan. In fact, when you make the bend, one side of the river is touching the Province of Szechuan, and then it bends back down, but it's a hairpin turn. I don't know, if you've started out on small little rivers, doing day trips or overnight trips, like I did in California, invariably, a few times a year you'd get somebody asking the question, "Well, how is it that we end up back at our cars?" Like it's a circular river or something. Well this is the closest thing I've ever seen, this was almost that, because we would start at this city called Li Jang, and Li Jang is one of the most remarkable places I've ever been in my life. It's a World Heritage Site, and the old town part of Li Jang is literally like going back 500 years. It's cobbled streets. The cobbles of the streets are so worn that they're smooth and shiny. The rooftops of the buildings almost touch each other. It's almost like walking through tunnels. And the whole town is just braided with this stream, and so there's something like 300 bridges. Some of them are just little foot bridges that go across from the street to the house, because there's a creek right in front of you. And it's an amazing little place. So we would start our trip in Li Jang, and we would drive a three-hour ride, truck everything to the beginning of the put-in, and we would rig the boats.

The put-in was literally at the end of another piece of water that's pretty infamous, called Tiger Leaping Gorge, which has never been run, that I know of, except by a balloon with guys inside of it, like the Michelin Man. The Chinese did that, and claimed they ran it. So we drive three hours to the put-in, do a nine-day river trip in this big hairpin turn, come back, take out, and drive two hours back to Li Jang. (laughs)

STEIGER: Wow.

JONES: Yeah, it was pretty amazing. But that was a scary piece of water in a lot of ways. And then the other section we did was up in Tibet, and that was on the Tibetan Plateau, and that was a lot less rigorous as far as rapids and stuff, but amazingly remarkable as far as Tibetan culture, because you're on the river, and you're in canyons in places that are really not very accessible at all, except by very minor dirt roads. And so the people that live along the river, and the monasteries that are along the river are *really* undisturbed by the outside world, and so it's really traditional Tibetan life.

STEIGER: Pretty tough, I imagine.

JONES: It is.

STEIGER: Relative to what we've got goin' on here.

JONES: Oh! Yeah, it is, but it's the most remarkable trip. I mean, I would go back in an instant. It's just an amazing place. And it's tough up there, because the put-in was at 14,000 feet. So making a hard pull-in to camp with a boat loaded with gear and people was, like, exhausting. (laughs)

The trip met in Beijing, and then from Beijing we would fly to a western province called Qinghai, and then we would take a three-day bus ride up to the put-in. You would go through little just roadside towns in Tibet. They were very undeveloped. The highway went down the middle of the street and it was one row of buildings on each side of it, and

they were basically truck stops. Very isolated people who still live very traditionally for the most part. It took three days to get to the river that way, and you'd slowly go up. You'd go over passes on the way. We would go over a couple of passes that were over 16,000 feet. You

could tell the difference between 14,000 and 16,000, just walking up a small hill, because all the hills are covered with prayer flags. Those high places are sacred. We'd stop for bathroom breaks, and you'd walk up these hills, and you could walk about thirty feet and have to stop and catch your breath, take a picture. I never got out of breath, I just took pictures. (laughs) "Oh no, I'm not tired, I'm just gonna take a picture." (laughs) But those were amazing, amazing trips. I ran, I think, the Tibetan trips seven times. But there were also trips where we *didn't* run the river. We'd get there to the river, and it was just like... I remember driving up to the river... We actually went to the take out first; went *past* the—take out there was a bridge across the river there. We'd go to this town/city called Yushu. So we'd see the river at the take-out area before we'd get to the put-in, half a day or the day before. We drove up to that, came to that bridge, and we knew the river was probably going to be too high, but we weren't sure what it was going to look like. And as we drove up and saw that river (laughs), it was like... I looked over at Steve. We were sitting in the bus, kind of across the aisle from each other, and we looked at each other. We had plenty of room on the buses, you have a whole row to yourself usually. I looked over at Steve. He looked at me, and I just said, "I am *not* doing



One guide, nine kids. Photo: Bert Jones

this!" And he shook his head, "Not me neither!" I mean, it just looked angry, and even guests who didn't know anything about river running would just look at that river and turn around and look at us and say, "Are we gonna do this?!" I mean, literally it was like 300,000 CFS,



Yes, that's a yak in camp. Photo: Bert Jones

we did this enough times where the people knew us—but I remember even just pulling up there like the first time to a place, and you could see smoke coming out of some area way up the hill, maybe 300-400 yards away, and there would be a few yaks roamin' around—they were feeding on the grass. We'd pull up and tie our boats to shore and start unloading, and these people would walk down and look at us and see us unloading stuff. The next thing you know, they're in line, helping carry stuff off the boats. If you did that in the United States, they'd come out with a gun! (laughs)

STEIGER: Yeah.

JONES: These people would help you unload, and then help you load again in the morning. You put up a tent, they'd see you put the poles together, the next set of poles *they're* putting together. You know? It was wonderful. Wonderful people, and great to

and boils coming up out of flat water. There were no rapids, but you knew that you couldn't run this. There was no way.

STEIGER: Too fast.

JONES: Yeah. And too violent. I mean, it was 20–25 miles an hour. On one of those trips, one of the guides on the crew was MacGyver, the guy that played MacGyver on television—Richard Dean Anderson. And so we were going to do a documentary on this trip, and he was doing the narration. Literally, doing the documentary, we floated downstream, and I had a GPS with me, which can give you speeds. We were floating along, with just the boats tied together, just making miles to go to a village, because we had no guests with us. I looked at the [GPS], we were going 22 miles an hour, without rowing. And that was only about 100,000, not 300,000.

STEIGER: Wow. That was the one with the guy who played MacGyver? Wow. That's incredible.

JONES: Yeah, it was. I loved it. I mean, the Tibetan people are remarkable. They're just wonderful, almost childlike. You spend some time up there, and you go, "You know, I think there might be something to this Buddhism thing."

STEIGER: Oh yeah? Are they having a better time than us, you think?

JONES: They are happy people, and they are very open, almost childlike. They just are very welcoming. I mean, when we pull up at a camp that we'd use—

be there. The monasteries, the same way: You go up to a monastery and they would invite you in and feed you soups and stuff. These are primitive buildings, stone buildings in the middle of nowhere. The monks would come out and greet us and feed us and invite us into their temple while they did their prayers and chants. In fact one time we even sat—literally, they had us sit on the cushions in between the monks, and they chanted while we sat there in between them.

STEIGER: Did you ever know Jack Morrison?

JONES: Uh-huh, I did.

STEIGER: I remember Bart [*Henderson*] got this Sobek reunion trip together in '06, and I had to go



Tibetan girls. Photo: Sam Walton

record all this stuff. Jack Morrison told a story—I can't remember what river it was. We never did transcribe it, but he told a story, they were on this Sobek trip and they were running this gnarly stretch of river, and Jack gets stuck in this keeper hole: the boat is just going round and round and round and round, but Jack has time—and he's just in there for eternity; people are getting kind of bounced out, but he keeps high-siding, and he's keeping it upright. He looks up, these locals have run down and they're watching him, aghast, while he's in this hole. He notices the people watching. A little time goes on, he keeps going round and round, and he looks up again—they're all on their knees praying for him!

JONES: Yup. That sounds right! I remember the first trip I did there on the Tibet section of the river with that same 22-foot cat [cataraft] in a different configuration, I was rowing baggage on *that* trip, and MacGyver [Richard Dean Anderson] was riding with me because it was a women's trip, and he decided that he should kind of let them have their own trip.

STEIGER: That's pretty sensitive of him.

JONES: We were going to do this documentary on this trip, and he was doing the narration. He was a great guy, I really liked him: very, very environmentally conscious, really strong environmentalist. But there was almost no place to really get into trouble, except that this boat was so overloaded, quite top heavy that I actually flipped. (laughs)

STEIGER: With MacGyver?

JONES: Flipped with MacGyver.

STEIGER: Oh no!

JONES: But we got the boat over to shore, and we're just out in the middle of nowhere, really. There's villages spotted all along these places, and I don't know how, but literally by the time we got kind of reconnoitered together there, you know, and like, "Okay, let's get this boat and let's do this," there were probably fifteen or twenty locals standing on shore, from no place, there, ready to help, and pull on ropes, and untie stuff. "Where did these guys come from?!" They're there. They were probably doing some praying for us too at that point. You know, the river's quite cold, it's glacial melt. There's no dams above there, and it's kind of that milky color of water, and it was pretty damned cold. Plus, you're at that point maybe 13,000 feet, so it's not that hot.

STEIGER: Were you guys suited up for that kind of thing?



Building frames in Tibet. Photo: Bert Jones

JONES: Not really, not really. We had...

STEIGER: You couldn't be standing in that water very long?

JONES: Well, you didn't have much choice, really. You keep your mind so busy you don't notice it so much, until you get out. But you're wearing some kind of insulation in a paddle jacket or something, because you're rowing and it's sunny. You don't want to be wearing a wetsuit or anything. To tell the truth, I don't remember being that cold at that point, until later. I remember getting to camp and having to dry things out. I felt pretty cold at that point.

STEIGER: How'd MacGyver do?

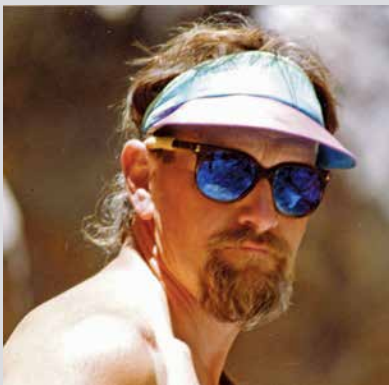
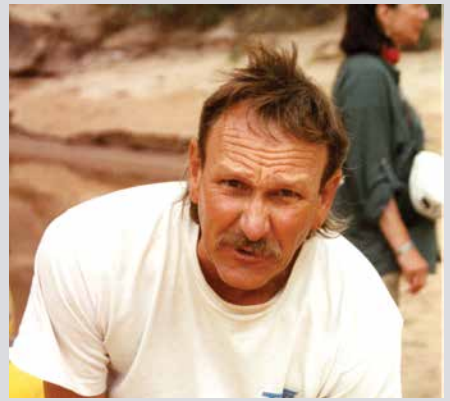
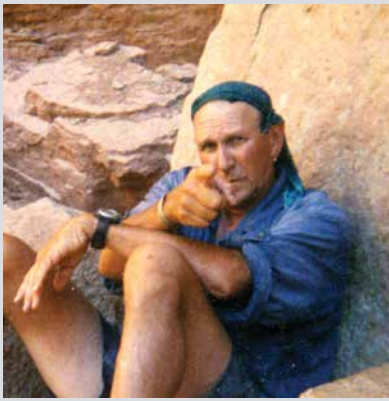
JONES: Um, he did alright. I came up pretty quickly next to the boat, and I didn't see him right away. He popped up probably three or four feet away from me, hangs onto the side of the boat, and I looked over at him and said, "Well, you got a good story to tell now!" And he goes, "Fuck you!" (laughter)

STEIGER: Yeah, so he was doin' alright.

JONES: Yeah. He ended up rowing a lot. He wanted to learn how to row, and so it was actually great for me too, because it was my first time there and I wanted to photograph, and he wanted to row. It's a lot of flat water, and the water's pretty fast. And he's a pretty athletic guy, he picked up rowing pretty quickly, and he would row the boat a lot, and I'd just sit on the boat and shoot pictures.

* * *

I can't give you a year here. It was probably in the late eighties. Remember the days when everybody wanted to try to get to Havasu and do those big hikes? We wanted



42 years in the Canyon and you're going to go through a lot of hair styles and glasses.

to get to Mooney Falls and stuff; so everybody was always jockeying for position there in that gorge, like you could camp at Last Chance and all these other ones. If you got Last Chance, that was great, because you could get there with like a mile to go, and Last Chance was actually a decent camp at that point. If you didn't get Last Chance, it was like you were in trouble, because there wasn't much after that. So you usually tried to figure out, "Okay, there shouldn't be anybody down there, I can take a shot at going to Last Chance." And I remember going down there—this was Dennis Silva and Steve Mahan. I can't remember if Gary Bolton was there or not. But anyway, we got down to Last Chance, and of course somebody was there (chuckles), and we had to go down to what we called Last Last Chance, which is down another maybe two-thirds of a mile on the same side of the river.

STEIGER: Still on the right?

JONES: Still on the right. And you can see Havasu pretty easily from there. There is nothin' there. There's a couple patches of sand that are steep on the hillside, and some ledge kind of stuff. To make a camp, you kind of have to scoop sand, if you can find enough to make it a flat spot. A lot of places you can't even sleep side-by-side with somebody else. There's no way to put up a tent. So we set up and get a kitchen where the bottom of the legs of one table are about the height of the next table's top. (laughter) And so we make dinner and all that, and it gets really cloudy, and then it just outbursts and we get *hammered* by rain—just really, really torrential—lightning flashing, it lights up the canyon, it's pitch black and all of a sudden... we'd just finished dinner, it's raining cats and dogs, and lightning is flashing, we're getting these, like, flash pictures of the canyon, but then we start getting rock falls coming off the rim. And you know the rim is *not* very far away there. At that point, it's coming right down. So we tell everybody, "Put your stuff away. Put your stuff in your dry bag, and ride it out. It won't last."

STEIGER: Nobody's set up any tents?

JONES: Well, there's no place to set 'em up. So we're trying to get everybody as comfortable as possible, and then we're thinking, "There's enough rocks coming down..." Your first thought is, "I want to get up against the wall, where the rocks will be further out. They can't come straight down the edge." But you can't take a chance of running through it, because there's that many rocks coming down—you're afraid you'll get hit. So we're kind of out hiding behind ledges, and out by the boat and stuff, which is not that far from the wall. There's a few rocks, smaller pebbles, hitting the boats. But it finally quits raining. It's still darker than hell, and so Steve and I get up again. We start walking around the

camp, checking on people. Of course half the people *didn't* put their stuff away, and so we find people with sleeping bags that are setting there, and there's like those little rivulets that come down, and the bag is too heavy to lift because it's full of sand and water.

STEIGER: Oh God.

JONES: So we checked on everybody, but we find one guy who got hit by a rock, and he has a compound fracture of his forearm. It's not quite sticking through the skin, but there's a lump sticking out to the side there. And he's from Switzerland and he doesn't speak English. His wife is there, and she speaks *some* English. So she's translating all this stuff, and we're trying to translate back to him. He's remarkably calm, considering. But we're worried about, well, we have to get him out of here. Obviously that's not going to happen. This is the days pre-sat phones. And of course you know ground-to-air radio in a little narrow space like that is not great. So anyway, we get him behind a large rock there—it's still there, I look at it just about every time I float by—I remember him. There was a flat spot right behind that rock, and it's big enough to shelter stuff coming down the hill, and so we spent the night there. And in the meantime, it rained so hard that the river is literally coming up.

STEIGER: Oh yeah, Kanab or something—or all those little drainages,.

JONES: We talked to people the next day... But anyway, we had to move the boats up, retie them. These are limestone ledges. And then, of course the water starts dropping, so we had to stay up all night. So we just got the blaster going, we're making hot water for tea and hot chocolate, and then moving the boats slowly as it goes back down, getting them off the ledges and stuff. But the next morning we're talking to other trips, and I remember talking with Tony Anderson—T.A.—who was camped across from Deer Creek, and he said Deer Creek was shooting out into the river.

But anyway, everything was probably going off in that whole area, if it was all the way up to Deer Creek from where we were. And so the next morning, as soon as it gets light, Steve Mahan takes off and goes down to Havasu and runs up to the village to make phone calls, because we don't know how long it's going to be before we can get through with the ground to air radio. We finally pack up camp after a while and move down to Havasu Ledges and a chopper came in and took the guy out there at that point. But I remember just having to sit up all night, moving boats up and down as the water changed, literally, probably about six feet in height, in that gorge, which I've never seen the water change like that, from just rain, other than that one time.

STEIGER: It's funny, I remember, just talking about

Havasu, we always wanted to spend all day there, and go to at least Beaver and maybe to Mooney. Now it seems like we hate to go in there. I hate to even stop there, it's just gotten so dirty or something. It's changed, it's not as much fun to hang out there.

JONES: It's not. It is different, and maybe it's just because we've been there, and familiarity, but you know the other thing now is that there's this ongoing battle back and forth with the Havasupai charging people. So you can get all the way to Beaver Falls and literally have a hundred yards to go, and you have to stop before you get to the falls.

STEIGER: Or they'll charge you forty bucks a head?

JONES: Gee, I forgot my wallet.

STEIGER: Yeah, that's a tough one. I don't begrudge it to them, though.

JONES: I know, but...

STEIGER: It's hard for us. You'd have to pay them in advance or something. You can't just have people—everybody bring their forty bucks.

JONES: No.

STEIGER: But also, it seems like since it flooded, since it blew out all those big pools it's not as much fun to go there anyway. Not to mention those Last Chance camps are all gone too.

JONES: Yeah. Well, I remember those pools. It was like a little fairyland back in the day, before that first really big blowout where you had all those little travertine dams and cottonwoods all over, from the bend where you turned and go up there. It was wonderful, it was amazing, and it was like when that got wiped out it was like you couldn't believe anything could change so dramatically, so quickly.

STEIGER: Yeah, and it really feeds on itself, once it got blown out to that degree.

JONES: Yeah.

STEIGER: And every time it goes, it just keeps going.

JONES: Yeah, it takes a little more.

STEIGER: I think Saddle Canyon is going to do that now.

JONES: Maybe.

STEIGER: I'll bet ya'. That'll never stop running, with that watershed gone up there, and just that whole drainage. That's just gonna keep cuttin'.

* * *

STEIGER: Got any more good stories? I know you do.

JONES: I know I do too—almost always involve some kind of disaster. (laughs)

STEIGER: The ones that happen to us personally we don't like to really get into. (laughs)

JONES: Yeah.

STEIGER: They *do* involve disasters. You've been on the board at GCRG forever.

JONES: Well, yeah. I haven't for a long time, but I did three terms on the board for a while. The last one was a while back. I did two kind of when I first came to town. I was on the board. Back then, you know, if they could find some sucker to say, "Okay, I'll do that"... And then I think I was running for re-election at some point, and that was the first time I really looked. I thought, "Oh my God, what am I doing?!" Because there were other people running for the board at the same time—they were going to elect three people to the board, and I was running. There were like six people on the ballot, and I was an incumbent. I was presently on the board, and two of the other people running were Larry Stevens and Kim Crumbo. I'm thinking, "Boy, this is going to be embarrassing if I lose. (laughter) I won, but I was kind of worried about it, looking like, God, I can't even get re-elected when I'm already on the board. So that was kind of cool that I got to be on the board with those two guys, which was great, because I got to know them. I knew Larry, but not hardly well at all, but we got to know each other much better at that point.

STEIGER: Yeah, both those guys are amazing.

JONES: I did six years on the Whale board after that, which I just got off of a year ago. They have term limits. Yeah. So I termed out. I stayed on a committee anyway, just because I enjoy being a part of that, and I thought it was a real dynamic committee, for two reasons: One is, what we were doing was the Tim Whitney initiative where we had that big influx of money from one of Tim's passengers. We were doing some pretty cool things with that, I thought: trying to promote insurance for guides who didn't have it. Anyway, it was a good group, a good committee, but I also really enjoyed being on that committee because of who was on it, which was Michael Collier and Scott Davis. Pat Rose was on it with us. I just thought it was a real dynamic committee, and I really got to know Michael Collier that way, and I hadn't known him at all before—I just knew his name. I have a lot of respect for that guy, he's great.

STEIGER: Yeah, kind of disgusting how prolific... I mean, here the guy's a doctor, a great pilot, and great photographer, writer, geologist. He's really been productive.

JONES: Yeah, and he's been doing these cool things with the calendar the last few years, with those QR codes in the interviews and stuff.

STEIGER: Well, I think there's no doubt the Whale Foundation has done a lot of good.

JONES: Oh boy!

STEIGER: And GCRG too. I did my stint on the board and all. For me, you can only do so much of that. I had

to be the president one year, and I haven't been back since, basically. It's like, "Okay, I've paid my dues. I did it, now somebody else has got to do this stuff." Although I'm glad... I think just in these times right now, I'm glad that GCRG is going.

JONES: Oh yeah.

STEIGER: I kind of dread the next little while with these yahoos that are in power in Washington now.

JONES: Yeah. Well, my fear is... They hired a new group of rangers, but they're not rowing the river. They're subcontracted, you know, which means to me—and I could be wrong on this—but I think it's at least somewhat right in that direction—that they're going to be more law enforcement officers than anything, because they're not really river runners. Their main focus is either to do some kind of administrative things, you know, or patrol, enforcement, that's really their job.

STEIGER: Well, that's how they *view* their job, but I just hark back to the days when Kim Crumbo was in there as the river ranger. I wish we could get back to that kind of thing, when there was a whole generation of those guys, and it wasn't just Crumbo, it was a bunch of 'em who were just really, really good. It was always great to see 'em on the river. In fact, in *my* mind, Crumbo is the one that started the Guide Training Seminar. They called it not the GTS, it was the BTS [*Boatman's Training Seminar*]. Did you ever go on one of those?

JONES: I did. It was at Lees Ferry. It was at Lonely Dell.

STEIGER: I had the greatest experience. I went on this one, it was a river trip. It was like 1981. I was working for Arizona River Runners and I got a call from Fred Burke. He wanted me to hike in at Phantom because he had donated a motorboat, and Dick Clark was running it down to Phantom, but he wanted me to run it from Phantom down. I'm like, "Well, okay. How much are you gonna pay me?" "I'm not gonna pay you! You're getting a free trip, Lew! All these other people have to *pay* to be on this trip." I'm like, "No, no, no, I'm not doin' it for nothin', you're gonna have to pay me *some*thin'." I was like, "This is not going to be fun and games, this is the Park Service. That's going to be work, I'm not doing that for nothin'." So we agreed that he would pay me ten dollars a day. (laughter) And I went down there—I was there thirty minutes and I realized I would have paid *him* twenty dollars a day just to be there. It was *so* cool. That's where I met and got to know Dennis [*Silva*], was on that trip; and Tim Whitney, and Suzanne [*Jordan*], and Martha [*Clarke*], and all these guys. Drifter [*Smith*]. I mean, that was way before Grand Canyon River Guides. But Crumbo's idea was we need to bring this community together, motor and

rowing, and let these guys get to know each other. Boy, that really worked good. I sure wish we could get people like that in there again.

I should get back on track here. I just appreciate you being involved in the Whale Foundation *and* GCRG over the years. I think it's kind of miraculous that GCRG is still going, but I'm glad that it is because I think we might sure need all that stuff again.

JONES: Yeah.

STEIGER: It's not like anybody gives a hoot what the river guides say, but they care about these people that we take down the river. We can indoctrinate them, and then a lot of those people go home and write their legislators. That makes a difference.

JONES: I think sometimes we lose track of what it was like, though, before GCRG. It was a very real thing, the motors versus oars kind of thing. We really didn't know each other at all. You knew who each other was, or you'd wave at somebody when they went by and stuff, but there wasn't much camaraderie there. We didn't all feel a part of the same thing. It was two separate entities. In fact, when GCRG first started, I remember a lot of the people from outside of Flagstaff just thought of it as the "Flagstaff Rowing Club."

STEIGER: Yeah.

JONES: But over the years we got to know each other, and going on GTS's together and actually hanging out with people. And we came to understand and know each other, and we'd mix and match pretty well. And I think that there's such a huge difference now than there was before that, in what we would call a community, that wasn't really that way. *We* might lose track of that, because we saw that, we were here before that. But the people that have come along since then, and GCRG has been around for 25 years now...

STEIGER: I think it's more than that. We're getting close to thirty.

JONES: Yeah. But I remember. There's people that have even been working in Grand Canyon twenty years who didn't see that division and who didn't see that change, that difference afterwards.

STEIGER: Yeah, that is true.

JONES: I think GCRG is very valuable because of that.

STEIGER: Yeah, it's true. I remember all through the mid-seventies it was really tense. There were the motor guys and there were the rowing guys. And that's where my hat's off to Crumbo, because in my mind it was those BTS's that first kind of started softening that up, where we kinda... And it really wasn't until that was over [*outlawing motors*]*—*what was it, the Hatch Amendment or something they put in there, that whupped that thing out?

JONES: Yeah.

STEIGER: It was funny, because Kenton [*Grua*] didn't get enough credit in that regard. He was an old Hatch boatman. The guy, when I knew him, he was never anti... He never looked down his nose at anybody motoring at all. He was really egalitarian that way. There was awhile there where some of those guys were a little bit precious about it...

JONES: But yeah, I think it's really made a difference, and it's just the way it is now—it's more of one big community, but it wasn't always that way at all. So I think that's pretty valuable. I think it's pretty great that it brought us together as one voice, and we all care about the same resource.

STEIGER: If you had to put your finger on what's been the best part of this whole adventure for you, would something leap out at you?

JONES: Well, I'd say everything... This is gross simplification, but the canyon hasn't changed a lot since I started, but I still get down there as much as I can, and I still look forward to each trip. It's not because I'm expecting to see a huge change in the place, but it's the people. It's the people that you share it with when you do these trips. I don't think you can be a river guide if you don't *love* being with people, and showing them this place, and sharing it with them. I think that's probably the biggest thing for me, is that I just like being there in that canyon, and showing people. And like I said, you're in the present when you're there, and it's really something that's hard to duplicate anywhere else—at least for any period of time.

I would have to say early in my life I was a fairly shy, not very outgoing person. That's changed a lot. There's still some of that back there in my personality too, but overall there's a lot of change that happened with me and my interaction with people, and it's because of being a river guide and being in the Grand Canyon, and having those experiences and sharing those experiences with other people. I think that's probably the biggest thing I can say I take away from being a river guide. Where do we meet people? Some of the people we meet on the river.

STEIGER: Oh my God.

JONES: I'll tell you one quick story here. This is on the Rogue River, still, so this was back in my early days. This was probably in the early eighties. So we get a note, "call the office" and get a list of people I'm supposed to meet. So I call the office and they give me this, "Okay, So-and-So, Jane Smith..." And I'm writing all this stuff down. And then I get this one name and they say, "This fellow you're supposed to pick up at the bus station." We never picked anybody up, ever, for a trip—they always showed up when they were supposed to, and that was

it, and they have their car shuttled, whatever. And so I'm supposed to pick this guy up at the bus station. It's like, "Huh. Okay. That's interesting." So I go into Grants Pass and I pick this guy up at the bus station. My first impression is I think he might be developmentally disabled. So we pick him up and he needs to go to the laundromat, so we take him to the laundromat and he's doing some laundry and stuff. And so anyway, we ended up having him stay with us that night. We go to the put-in the next day, and it's obvious... He works someplace as a janitor, and he's just decided he's going to do this river trip. So we go down the river for a couple of days, and he's perfectly capable of taking care of himself, but he obviously has some disabilities. So we're sitting around the campfire about the third night, and we're down to like the last four or five of us up—me and one of the other guides and these two guys that were from the Rand Corporation think tank, brilliant guys, and this guy—I can't remember his name. He's sitting there, and we're all sitting around, and we're passing around a bottle of whiskey, sitting around the campfire. And after awhile, I just started thinking to myself, where else am I going to have a situation where I'm sitting there with



Photo: Fred Phillips

two guys from the Rand Corporation who are think tank guys who are developing all kinds of information and systems and stuff for the government...

STEIGER: PhD's. Yeah, doctors of this and that...

JONES: ...two river guides, and a developmentally disabled fellow who talks to us through a puppet.

STEIGER: He talked to you through a puppet?

JONES: His puppet talked to us.



Photo: Cindy Monell

STEIGER: Like a hand puppet?

JONES: A hand puppet. He's sitting there drinking whiskey with us, and we're sitting there, and I thought, "This is not gonna happen too many places on the planet."

STEIGER: My God.

JONES: You know, where you can bring people together, and what's the common denominator here? It was an amazing experience, to think of that, sitting there like that.

STEIGER: So he wouldn't talk straight at you, he had to let his puppet talk to you?

JONES: Yeah.

STEIGER: Ooo, that is interesting. And he did that the whole time?

JONES: Not all the time. When you were just engaged in instructional kind of stuff, he would talk directly with you. But anytime you got into any kind of conversation, sharing about whatever—philosophy or thoughts or whatever—the puppet was the talker.

STEIGER: This is like a sock puppet or something?

JONES: Uh-huh.

STEIGER: Wow. Do you remember what you guys were talking about with the Rand guys?

JONES: I don't.

STEIGER: Just shootin' the breeze?

JONES: Just shootin' the breeze. But that's the thing, we meet people on these trips that we wouldn't meet any other way. You meet PhD's and guys that invented...I had a guy who invented the touch screen, on a trip. Where am I going to run into people like that?! Or people who are secretaries of something in the administration. We've all had those kind of people on river trips, that are cabinet members with the president. There's no way that I would come in contact with these people normally in my life. I think that's what I think

is the biggest part of my river running and my guiding experience, no matter which river it is—particularly in the Grand Canyon, because of the time element. You're gonna be who you are in two weeks. (laughs)

STEIGER: Pretty much, I'd say.

JONES: So I would say that's my biggest touchstone with guiding.

* * *

STEIGER: Well, can you think of anything, when you were just anticipating this, that you might have wanted to talk about, that we didn't get to?

JONES: Um...Not really. I expected we'd probably talk about starting out in California and learning to row, one mistake at a time. (chuckles) Which is how we learned back then, you know—from watching somebody else make a mistake. "I don't want to do that!" So we kind of covered that, in a way. I just remember the days on the Stanislaus River. That's what pretty much sealed the deal for me. Stanislaus was such a special place. It was only a nine-mile-long stretch of river we ran there.

STEIGER: So you started before the big battle, right?

JONES: That was going on.

STEIGER: But you saw it before it got dammed up and all that?

JONES: Yeah, exactly. Yeah, but the battle was kind of going on at least a year when I started. The politics was crazy. Of course I knew Mark DuBois and the Friends of the River and all that. And actually, Friends of the River started out as Save the Stanislaus Committee, and we were fighting—it had an initiative on the California ballot to stop the dam from being built. It was my first introduction, really, to politics, although I kind of was a little bit political. I was a journalism major in college, so I kind of thought in those directions some. But the Save the Stanislaus Committee was formed, and probably mostly by—the big driving force was probably Mark DuBois and a few others in there—Alexander Gaugin and Bruce Simbala. Anyway, it was one of those stupid elections, an initiative, statewide California initiative on the ballot to vote, and it was one of those things where if you don't want the dam you should vote "yes" kind of thing. And of course the advertising and the political ads completely confused it so much that after the initiative to save the Stanislaus from being dammed lost in the election, by voting "no" if you *did* want it (laughs).

STEIGER: Yeah, vote "yes" if you don't want the dam. Vote "no" if you want them to build the dam.

JONES: Yeah, exactly. So after the election, they polled the California voters and it came out that something



Photo: Fred Phillips

like almost sixty percent of them thought they had voted against the dam.

STEIGER: But they didn't, it went the other way?

JONES: But they didn't, and it was the other way around. And so Save the Stanislaus Committee lost that battle, due to a couple of other things too—you know, money being contributed at the last minute where people didn't have to report who they were, like banks and Caterpillar Corporation, guys who were going to make millions. But the Save the Stanislaus Committee didn't go away, it evolved into Friends of the River, which I thought was really pretty cool. But those were my first years of boating. And the Stanislaus was a nine-mile run, with a two-day trip. It was just one of the most wonderful trips you could do. Everybody had set camps on that river. You camped at the same exact camp every time. Obviously we left some equipment there overnight. We didn't leave it set up on the beaches, but we put it away, and we had little places to hide/stash our stuff. And we had the same camp every time. Our camp was the very first one on the river. We only went three miles the first day. We spent a lot of time at a place called Rose Creek. And everybody else spent a lot of time at Rose Creek too. But everybody else had to leave before us, because they had to go further to camp. So we always had that place to ourselves, for at least a little while every trip. And our first camp was straight across the river, from a 1,200-foot limestone cliff, and it was just a magic place, to sit in that camp and see that wall. And that wall faced east. I was going to talk about this a little bit earlier. I was going to tell you a Peter Ryan story.

STEIGER: Okay, if you've got time.

JONES: Yeah. Peter Ryan was working with me on these trips. He was the one, and Gar DuBois, and a

bunch of other guys that I'm still friends with actually, in California. Peter had his birthday there one night, and we always stayed up late. It was a contest, if it was a good moon. A full moon, you would try to stay up until the moon, you'd see it hit the top of this 1,200-foot cliff, and then slowly, during the night, it would creep down that cliff, and then it would get to the bottom of the cliff, and then it would come across the river. And when it got to the fire, then you could go to bed.

STEIGER: (laughs) Those were the days!

JONES: So I was sitting up, and it was Peter Ryan's birthday. And here's this—you know, he's taller than me, and I'm not that short. He was six-

foot-four, strapping, redheaded kid. And we're sitting up, and we're the last two up. I'm pretty sure we weren't drinking any alcoholic beverage, but... So at one point I asked Peter, "Pete, how old are you anyway?" He sits there and looks at me, and probably puts down his beverage, whatever he was drinking, and says to me, "Fourteen." (laughter)

STEIGER: Was he really fourteen?!

JONES: He was.

STEIGER: He's a river guide at fourteen—yeah!

JONES: He was a river guide at *thirteen*.

STEIGER: Oh, that's great. And how old were you?

JONES: I was like 27.

STEIGER: That's a good story.

JONES: I got started late. I didn't start my first commercial trip until I was like 26, 27 years old, something like that.

STEIGER: That's hilarious.

JONES: Yeah. I remember telling people, when I was in journalism school in college, one of our first assignments one time was to interview somebody else in the class. Okay, interview this person and write up your interview. The guy who was interviewing me was talking to me and he said, "So what do you do in the summer?" And I said, "Well, I'm a river guide." He goes, "A river guide? What's that?!" Like nobody even knew what a river guide *was*, you know. And so I had to tell him. And then it's like, "So you've run the South Fork of the American? I go up there to fish, and you're in one of those boats that go floating past me?" And I said, "Yeah." He goes, "And they *pay* you for that?!" (laughs) I said, "Yeah." (laughs) "They do."

Financials

GRAND CANYON RIVER GUIDES, INC.
DRAFT STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
FISCAL YEAR ENDING 6/30/18

GRAND CANYON RIVER GUIDES, INC.
DRAFT BALANCE SHEET
FISCAL YEAR ENDING 6/30/18

REVENUE

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| General contributions | \$ 42,262 |
| Membership dues | 36,102 |
| Foundation grants | 35,500 |
| GTS revenue | 20,094 |
| Circle of Friends | 19,611 |
| Interest & investment income | 9,361 |
| Noncash contributions | 7,200 |
| First aid class income | 4,785 |
| Government grants | 3,280 |
| Memorial contributions | 1,250 |
| Endowment gifts | 845 |
| Sales of t-shirts, hats, etc...(net of cost) | 845 |
| Total Revenue | \$ 181,135 |

EXPENSES

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Salaries & benefits | \$ 49,834 |
| Outside contractors | 35,888 |
| Printing (mostly BQR) | 20,982 |
| Rent (includes \$7,200 donated rent) | 12,000 |
| Postage (mostly BQR) | 9,421 |
| Food (GTS, etc) | 7,989 |
| Outside services & outfitters | 6,829 |
| Insurance | 4,984 |
| Equipment & venue rental | 4,097 |
| Payroll taxes | 3,624 |
| Office expenses & supplies | 2,893 |
| Telecommunications | 2,811 |
| Travel & per diem | 1,955 |
| Honorarium | 1,450 |
| Utilities | 1,337 |
| Professional fees | 1,295 |
| Depreciation | 1,019 |
| Investment fees | 1,016 |
| Merchant & service fees | 677 |
| Repairs & maintenance | 461 |
| Advertising & promotion | 199 |
| Subscription & books | 84 |
| Total Expenses | \$ 170,845 |

Net Income **\$ 10,290**

ASSETS

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| Cash in checking/savings | \$ 52,655 |
| Grants receivable | 10,000 |
| Postage & security deposits | 1,071 |
| Computer & office equipment | 43,351 |
| Field equipment | 7,309 |
| Database | 1,088 |
| Website | 4,863 |
| Accumulated depreciation | (55,108) |
| Endowment Fund | 64,070 |
| Reserve Account | 50,065 |
| Total Assets | \$ 179,364 |

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Accounts payable | \$ 1,000 |
| Payroll tax liabilities | 1,070 |
| Unrestricted net assets | 112,946 |
| Temporary restricted net assets | 64,348 |
| Total Liabilities & Equity | \$ 179,364 |

Major Contributors

July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018

Grand Canyon River Guides proudly presents the very long list of major contributors who supported our organization in numerous ways during this last fiscal year (*July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018*). Due to space considerations, this list does not reflect the five-year memberships or contributions under \$100 (including general contributions and Circle of Friends), of which there were many. Your support helps us to move forward and maintain a healthy and vital organization that is better equipped to protect and preserve the Grand Canyon and the Colorado River experience.

We apologize in advance to anyone we may have missed in the lists below. Please let us know. And thanks again, not only to those acknowledged here, but to each and every one of you who support our efforts and believe in GCRG. We appreciate that support more than we can express. Thanks to you all!

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Anonymous

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| | |
|-------------------------|---------------|
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The Ballad of the Santa Ana

Born a boatman don't you see
It's in my blood it's destiny
Always looking downstream

McKenzie River runner Portuguese design
Just had to add a little love of mine
You can read it in the chines

Made of wood and fiberglass
I oiled these gunwales with my own hands
I love this boat

Slicing through waves slicing through time
This little red jewel of mine
Grab the oars and hold on tight

Open the hatch and what do you see?
Martin Litton looking back at me
The man that kept the river free

I got a dory named Santa Ana
One hundred miles down the Colorado
I love this boat

I take this dory whenever I can
Down this wall filled wonderland
If you have to ask you wouldn't understand

Doctors, lawyers, bankers and thieves
They all left the river with their minds at ease
Just ordinary people finding peace

Pick a piece of paradise
Hit the river and you realize
This is a grand life

Eddy on the left big rapids on the right
Thread the needle and pick a line
The river holds the key

I got a dory named Santa Ana
Two hundred miles down the Colorado
I love this boat

Bow riding in the Hakatai
Sitting up there makes you feel alive
Throw your hand up and ride

The Anasazi have long since gone
But their spirit still lingers on
Guiding me every day

We saw a ram and ewe
The smoke cleared out and the sky was blue
Just like the river we're running through

Staring down at Crystal Falls
Listen to it roar it beckons it calls
I made it through one more time

I got a dory named Santa Ana
Three hundred miles down the Colorado
I love this boat
I love this life

— Mark Konings & Travis Spaulding

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Thanks to the businesses that like to show their support for GCRG by offering varying discounts to members...

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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!

You can pay securely on the GCRG website at www.gcrg.org or send a check to: Grand Canyon River Guides, PO Box 1934, Flagstaff, AZ 86002-1934. Note whether you're a guide member or general member.

\$40 1-year membership

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\$16 Short-sleeved t-shirt size _____

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

Box 1934
Flagstaff, AZ 86002

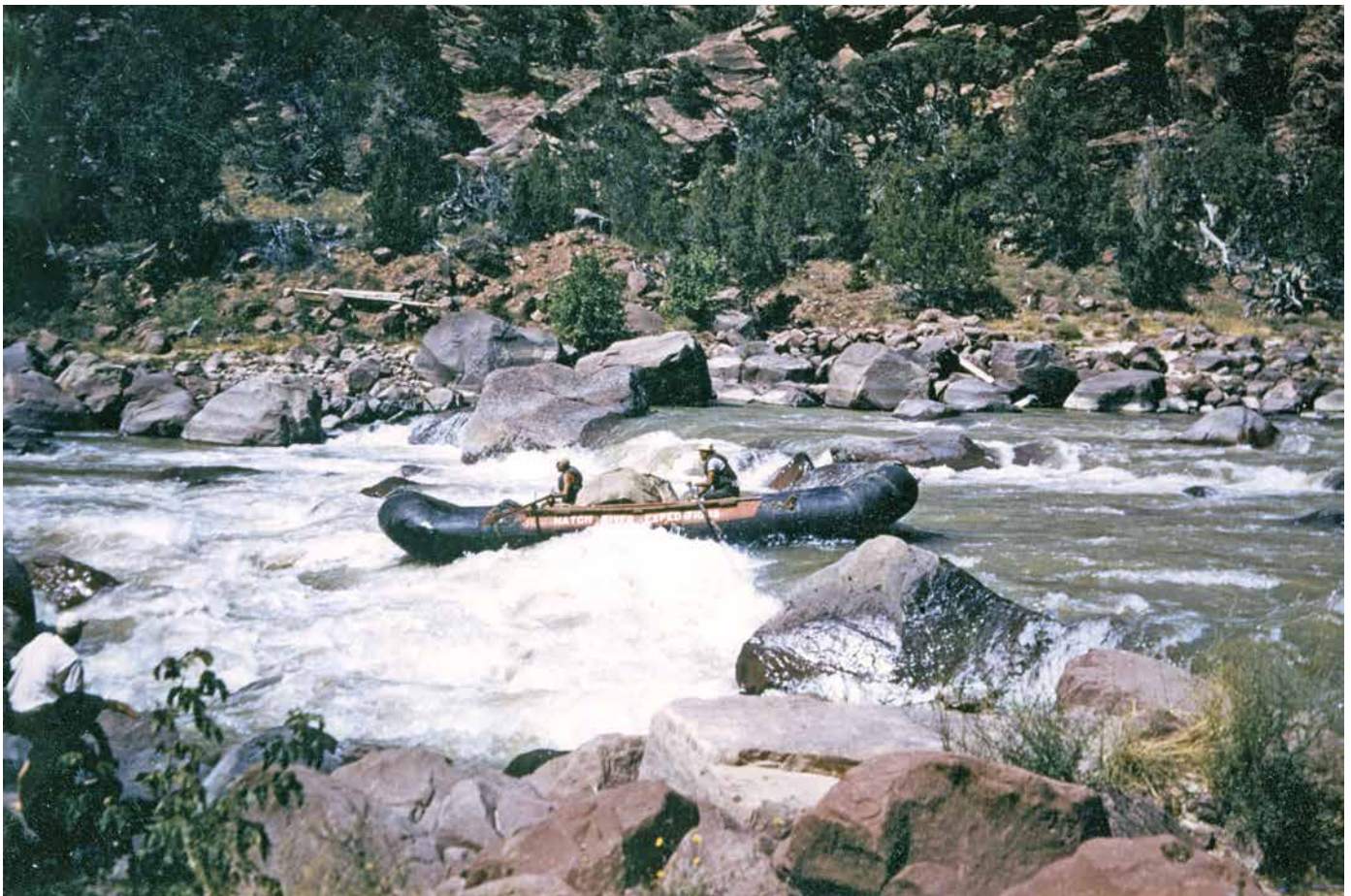
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Twenty-eight foot Hatch boat in Hell's Half Mile, Gates of Lodore, Green River. Possibly late 50s to early 60s.
Photo submitted by Larry Hopkins, from the estate of Mrs. Hopkins.