

CONGRATULATIONS, HARVEY BUTCHART ON YOUR 86th BIRTHDAY

The Grand Canyon Pioneers Society was well represented at **Harvey Butchart's** 86th birthday celebration given by the National Park Service at Grand Canyon on May 10, 1993. The festivities began with a luncheon at El Tovar where **Al Richmond**, past President and member of the board of the GCPS, spoke for the Pioneers. **Lee Albertson** introduced the guest of honor. The party continued later in the afternoon at the Grand Canyon Natural History Association office with **Bruce Wadlington**, GCNP Assistant Superintendent, presenting Harvey a beautiful framed



Al Richmond addresses luncheon in honor of Harvey Butchart.

copy of Grand Canyon National Park 75th Anniversary Limited Edition Print of a painting of Grand Canyon. The day's events closed with the serving of a birthday cake that was too beautiful to cut, and even more delightful to taste.

Harvey is a regular member of the Pioneers Society and a frequent contributor to this newsletter. His books on hiking the Canyon are a must for anyone following the trails into the

depths of the gorge. Harvey, a retired math professor at Northern Arizona University, started hiking at Grand Canyon in the 1940's and chalked up more than 12,000 miles, reaching many remote and unexplored locations. The stories he relates hold you fascinated for hours. In his 60's and 70's he was still out-distancing many of his younger companions but began slowing down at 75. At our Pioneers' outings Harvey will follow along at a pace equal to any of the younger members, but travels best on level terrain rather than the ups and downs of the canyon trails.

It has been an honor to know you, Harvey, and we look forward to having you with us on our outings for years to come.

The following excerpt from Harvey Butchart's journal of his hikes into Grand Canyon was read by Bruce Wadlington, GCNP Assistant Superintendent, at the presentation of the Grand Canyon painting to Harvey May 10, 1993.

Notes from Harvey Butchart's Diary

My First Visit to Supai

This was during the spring of 1946. Jim Jackson was president of the hiking club and the club went to Supai for their first outing. I recall that we cooked as a group. The mineshacks were still in place at the north of Havasu Falls. I can recall going up Carbonate Canyon and noting the mining shaft there, but the most impressive thing I did on that trip was to walk to the river and back. Right after the Second World War there was no trail down to the river, at least for long stretches where the way was overgrown with a dense tangle of wild grape vines. Jean Rowland told me about killing seven rattlesnakes on the

way to the river so I carried a big stick to defend myself. I wondered how I would ever see the rattlers under that tangle of growth. There were places where I tried going along the base of the cliff in order to pass the worst thickets, and in this way I found a couple of mine shafts quite far downstream. They were deep enough to re-

quire ventilating machinery.

Towards the river I got high enough on the slope to get away from the vines and I slipped and came down with one hand on sharp limestone and the other on a barrel cactus. I used my stick to keep my balance when I was crossing the river on the travertine dams in the creek. It took a long day of struggle to go from Havasu Falls to the river and back. This was a four day trip since at that time qualified hikers were allowed to add Thursday and Friday to the weekend for the club spring trip.



Harvey Butchart - May 10, 1993.

A TRIP TO TWO GUNS, ARIZONA

by Bill Suran

Even though the wind blew a gale and dust filled our ears and noses, thirty-two members and visitors of the Grand Canyon Pioneers Society visited the site of Two Guns, Arizona, Saturday May 8, 1993. It was the largest number of folks yet to attend one of our outings. **Howard Armstrong**, the owner of the site, guided us on a tour, and explained in detail his plans to restore the "old tourist trap", as he called it, and create a modern place of historical interest.

From the interstate I-40, one would have no idea anything existed beyond the pile of rocks and debris you can see, but beyond, there is much of interest, more than there is room to expound on in the space allowed in this news letter. One

thing impressive was the Apache death cave. Back in the 1870's the Apache Indians began raiding the Navajos, killing and stealing from them. The Navajo warriors chased after their enemies, following them into the area of what later became Two Guns near Canyon Diablo. Here the Apaches mysteriously disappeared. The scenario was repeated several times over the ensuing months, and each time the Apaches suddenly vanished. Then, by chance, two Navajo scouts spied a wisp of smoke rising from a crack in the ground, and approaching the opening, they heard voices. They had discovered the hiding place. The Navajos collected wood that had through the years washed down Canyon Diablo, built a fire and

dropped the burning logs into the hole. The fire burnt for two days.

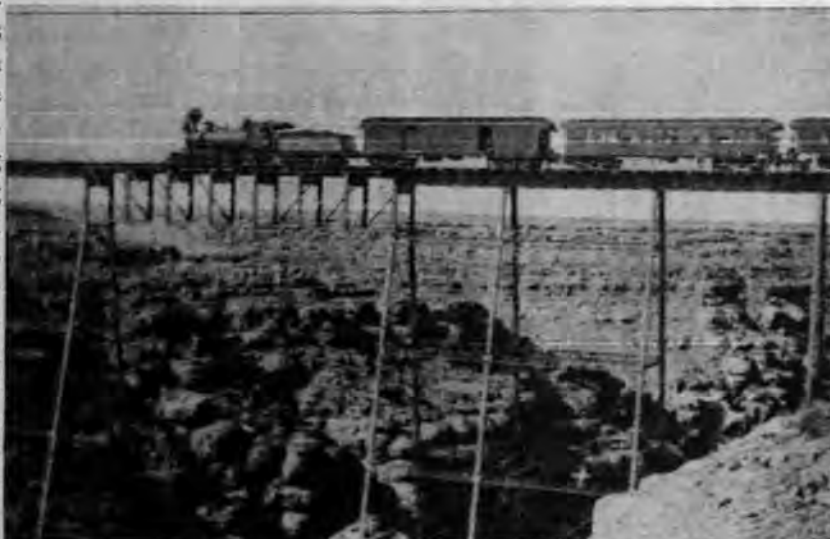
In the underground hiding place, the Navajos had trapped forty-two Apache Indians and their horses. The fire blocked the only exit. First the Apaches slaughtered the horses and attempted to extinguish the blaze with the animals' blood. This failed, because as fast as they put out the fire the Navajos above dropped more fuel through the opening in the ceiling of the cave. Next they butchered the horses, hoping to smother the blaze. Again the plan failed. When the Navajos felt it safe they left the area leaving the remains of their adversaries and never returned to the area fearing the ghosts of the dead. No

Cola, fry bread and. . . Indian skulls and bones.

After a picnic lunch we journeyed across I-40 for a visit to the site of the once flourishing town of Canyon Diablo. In 1882 construction of the Atlantic and Pacific railroad, making its way to California, suddenly came to a halt. The deep canyon blocked further work until a bridge could be completed allowing the tracks to proceed. As usual, a large number of people followed the progress of the railroad. Not only workers but gamblers, prostitutes, and saloon operators set up temporary places of business beside the uncompleted tracks. For a year the town thrived. Anyone wishing to proceed west from this point had to

continue by wagon, stage coach, horse back or on foot. On July 1, 1882 the railroad completed the bridge and the train rolled on toward Flagstaff. A week later the only thing remaining of the town was the Voltz trading post on the north side of the tracks and the cemetery on the south. Today it is unknown just how big the town was or on which side of the tracks it existed.

The pioneers took a look at the canyon gorge and saw the concrete piers that held up that first bridge across the canyon, explored the remains of the trading post and visited the cemetery where there is evidence of a number of graves, but only one granite stone marker remains. . . that of a later owner of the trading post named Hermann Wolf, guarded by a big bull and a rattlesnake.



The Atlantic & Pacific train crossing Canyon Diablo c. 1883.

longer were they bothered with Apache raids.

Around 1925, Indian Miller, an entrepreneur, established a tourist center at the site that he named Two Guns, built a zoo and cabins where visitors could spend the night and view native animals. Discovering the cave, he cleaned out the Apache bones and opened it to the public. He set up a concession stand where he sold Coca

A CHANGE IN POLICY

In the past few months it has been necessary to mail letters to members announcing various activities of the Society. Consequently we are going to attempt to utilize that extra postage and, during the summer months when our activities are greater, we will publish a shorter edition of the Newsletter every month. This is an experiment; if it works fine, if it doesn't we will return to our normal bimonthly issues.



Howard Armstrong, Mark Maynard, Devon Richards, Al Richmond and Eldon Roth at the old Two Guns Texaco Station.



The Pioneers take a look at Canyon Diablo from the old Route 66 bridge.

Members attending the get-together at Two Guns were: **Harry and Ethel Cole, Bill and Sibyl Suran, Marie Maiorana, Doug and Diane Van Cleave; Bob, Devon and Adri Richards, Nancy and Mike Gibson, Carol Furey-Werhan and Ron Werhan, Eldon and Maxine Roth, Al Richmond, Steve Verkamp, Mary Ellen Hamilton, and Teri Cleeland.** We had as visitors **Michael, David, Shea, and Max Monihan; Mark, Megan, Merideth, and Maureen Maynard, and Cynthia Frobes.** Our guides were **Howard Armstrong, owner of Two Guns, and Michael Hoffman.**

ARIZONA'S IN MY BLOOD

By Gale Burak 1943

My heart is tuned to the throb
Of windswept plains
And bronze deserts;
Of mountain storms
And quiet canyons.

The smell of sun on 'dobe,
Sage after rain,
And raw leather
Fill my nostrils.

The sound of coyotes' wails,
Wind among the cedars,
And cattle bawling
Fill my ears.

The flame of a canyon sunset,
A still blue lake
Among vivid cliffs
Color my soul.

They are the pulse of Arizona,
And Arizona's in my blood.

New Members

We welcome **Lee and Shirley Albertson** as new members of the GCPS. The Albertsons hail from Tempe, Arizona. We hope to see them often at our outings and get-togethers.

Ethel Metzger wrote these historical footnotes that are now saved in the GCPS's Metzger collection in NAU's Cline Library in Flagstaff.

J. W. Thurber

J. W. Thurber plays a more important part in the early history of Grand Canyon Village than is generally known. His part began in 1895 when he purchased the three-year-old Flagstaff Grand Canyon Stage Line from E. S. Wilcox. This line originally was the brain child of the Atlantic and Pacific Railroad and came into exist 33 ence in 1892.

Thurber made three trips a week from Flagstaff to Grand Canyon traversing interesting country, though rough at times, especially so in the swaying second coach. The route crossed

Dead Man's Flat, through Cedar Ranch, the Moqui Tanks, then to the Red Horse Changing Station, and Hance's ranch, The route ended at Grandview in the early days but later he extended the trip on to Grand Canyon Village. The stage stopped at Cedar Ranch and Red Horse to change the teams of horses and to allow the passengers to rest.

When Thurber bought the stage line he also purchased Hance's place on the rim and his trail to the bottom of the Canyon. When Pete Berry built his Grandview Hotel Thurber extended his

By Ethel Metzger
service to there and continued on to what is now called Grand Canyon Village where he built the old Bright Angel Lodge on the site of the present building in 1896. When the railroad reached Anita in 1899 his stage coach transported passengers to his lodge at the rim.

He sold his interest in the hotel to Martin Buggelin in 1901, and worked for the Railroad furnishing teams and men for grading the right of way from Anita to the rim.

A Letter of Appreciation

To show our appreciation for the tour of the Sharlot Hall Museum the GCPS sent a donation of \$100 to the museum. The following letter was received April 12, 1993:

Thank you so much for the kind words and the wonderful surprise of a \$100 check. As you can imagine, we are very proud of our museum and our knowledgeable and friendly docents. Over the years, Sharlot Hall Museum has been blessed with caring and hard working volunteers.

Please visit us again and enjoy our new exhibit opening April 16th on Sharing Arizona: the Fragile Coexistence of Man and Wildlife.

Max R. Harris, Director.

Obituary

It is with regret that we report the death of Don Lyngholm. Don passed away May 12, 1993 after open heart surgery. Don joined the GCPS in November last year after visiting a number of times as guest and has attended our meetings regularly since.

From the President:

I've teased our Editor so much about not leaving room for me to write in the newsletter, that now that there's a spot, I feel that I've got to use it or lose it! Just a few notes:

I received a thank-you letter from Susan Oberding for this year's Pioneer Society scholarship award. I look forward to reading the results of her research.

I'm pleased and excited about Fred and Jeanne Schick getting us Shoshone Point for a get-together June 12th. I'm hoping for a really good turnout of members because I've wanted to get a group photo with the Canyon as background; this will be a perfect opportunity. Let's all set our minds on getting good weather!! We're getting a reputation for foul-weather-field-trips (that's why they call us *Pioneers*, maybe!?)! Our trips have taken on a kind of short-hand notation indicating the weather conditions that we battled. For example, the "Mud" (or Mudder) trip, the "Sand-blast" trip. I think the Two Guns trip will become the "Windy" trip; the one to the Vermilion Cliffs could be the "Melt-down".

But speaking of weather, perhaps we should have Sibyl plan all our field trips; she must have an "in" with the creator-of-weather. Our last trip to Elden Pueblo, Sunset Crater and Wupatki had the best weather I can remember for us! ...and her idea about getting Navajo tacos in Cameron on the way home was an inspiration ...but you'll read about that trip in our next newsletter that Bill's getting ready now (you see, I get to add this the last thing before "going to press" (though my laser printer's hardly a *press*).

Thanks, Sibyl, for all the cookies; they alone are worth the trips!

Also I'm working on building a video library from which members can borrow, so if you can't go on a field trip, you can at least see a little bit of it on tape, with perhaps other info that relates to the Canyon area too; more later. Also, I'm *starting* to get the Schicks' and the Coles' vast historical knowledge down on paper for members to read or research; more on that later, too. This, along with Ron and Carol's compiling of stories from past newsletters and historical papers, will be soon shaping into a pretty good Grand Canyon Pioneers' Library. Exciting!

See you at Shoshone,
Marie

A letter from Gene and Marvyl Wendt to Marie Maiorana had some interesting sidelights that are worth sharing with you.

MUSING ON THE OLD DAYS AT GRAND CANYON

... I don't think you realize what your request for stories of my trips into Grand Canyon could unleash on you and the Society. I have hiked many of the Canyon trails beginning in the 50's. My first trip down the Bass trail was one of "bush wacking" and "trail searching" and even then we got lost, ran out of water and almost drank the river dry when we arrived near the old Bass cage crossing.

I took the River trip from Lee's Ferry to Temple Bar in the mid 60's when less than 3500 to 4000 people had gone down the river. I understand they now permit well over 20,000 per year to make the trip. Mine was done with the John Cross group out of Orem, Utah, on black rafts. At that time we could still drink water from the River by dipping our cup, letting the sediment/mud settle to the bottom for about 10-15 minutes before we

took a drink. Not bad water in those days. The beaches then were clean and relatively "untrampled...."

When I was going to the Canyon 3 to 6 times a year I always stayed at the El Tovar. I found an old room bill from the hotel the other day that had a charge of \$28 for the room. I believe a standard room is now well over \$100. We even stayed in the suite on the second or third floor that had the porch overlooking the Canyon for about \$35 and when we woke up the next morning the snow was about twelve inches deep in front of the door that went out onto the roof. I believe this suite now rents for \$200 per night or more. I took part in the "fight" to save the El Tovar when Amfac came in and wanted to tear it down and build a 28 story hotel in its place. What a tragedy that would have been.

By Gene Wendt

The destruction of the old Grand Canyon Hotel to put in the uranium mine just west of Maricopa point was a sad day. I remember sitting at a window table having coffee and staring speechless into that great chasm and longing to know what was at the bottom shortly before the Caterpillar bulldozers inflicted havoc on this historical old structure. Little did I know that my love for the Canyon would become an obsession with me in the later years to the point that I referred to it many times as my second home....

I will begin my search for a story of one of my hikes into the Canyon or one of the Rim Trips and send it to you....

Editor's note: We are looking forward to some of those stories in the near future, Gene.



ATTENTION

In case you overlooked the notice in the May newsletter, an invitation was issued by Fred and Jeanne Schick to attend a potluck affair at Shoshone Point at Grand Canyon on June 12.

Jeanne advises they will supply fuel for the grill. Bring your own meat, plus a favorite dish to share. You will also need to bring water or drinks and your own eating utensils. Shoshone is a private area reserved by the Park Service for such occasions as this. We look forward to seeing a good turnout for this event; please be there by 2:00 p.m.

A LETTER OF INTEREST

Al Richmond received the following letter which will interest those who are interested in or partook of the GCPS' outing to House Rock and Willow Springs for a look at the inscriptions on the cliff walls. The letter was instigated originally by a request from Mr. James H. Knipmeyer to the Museum of Northern Arizona, and will explain Mr. Knipmeyer's interest.

... Perhaps I should tell you a little about myself. I am a 45-year-old Earth Science and Geology teacher at Lee's Summit High School. But my avocational interest has long been the history of southern Utah and northern Arizona. I first visited the area on a family vacation with my parents back in 1960. I literally fell in love with the area and except for three or four years have returned every summer since that time. I have done extensive jeeping, hiking, and boating, and began running across old, historic inscriptions as a result. Some of these I recognized from my reading about the region. As of now I have in my personal library some 775 published items dealing with the Colorado Plateau area, about 125 unpublished manuscripts, close to a thousand articles from various

magazines, and a little over a hundred newspaper articles.

In 1976 I began to seriously locate and photograph the old, historic inscriptions of the plateau. To date I have about 675 such photographs, most of which predate 1900 unless they are of some historical significance. However, from my research and from leads from people out there whom I have gotten to know, there are over 150 more that I know of "waiting to be photographed." This does not include the myriad inscriptions of such places as Willow Springs and Houserock Springs, from which I have only a dozen or so. The cost would almost be prohibitive.

So there you have it. I do this purely for my own enjoyment; there is no profit motive behind it. I have had two or three magazine articles published about some of the inscriptions I have photographed, but in most cases I do not even accept payment, but rather accept several issues of the magazine that I can send to friends!

There are three other places along the "Honeymoon Trail" that I have read of inscriptions, besides Willow and

House Rock springs. But I have never had a chance to visit any of them. I plan to do so sometime in the future, but that may be a couple of summers away. In the meantime, perhaps you or your Grand Canyon Pioneers organization would like to do so. Here they are: (1) Castle Rocks, about two miles northeast of Tuba City. (2) Mouth of Canyon leading to McClellan Tanks, north of The Gap. (3) Vicinity of Navajo Springs, near Marble Canyon. I have never heard of any at Cottonwood or Limestone Tanks, but since those are also water sources it would not surprise me if there were some at those places also. I believe that I have told you on the phone that I have found a few old names and dates on the cliffside just northwest of Tanner Well. If you would like any more information or details about any of these places, just let me know. If you do get to any of them before I do, please let me know what you find. If I get there first I will be glad to do the same for you.

James H. Knipmeyer.
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All comments, submissions and suggestions are welcomed at the address below.
Membership, including newsletter subscription, is \$10 individual and \$15 family annually.

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