

Canyon VIEWS

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**Grand Canyon's Traditionally
Associated Tribes**

**Preserving Cultural
Traditions**

**Interview with
Lyle Balenquah**



Canyon Views is published by the Grand Canyon Association, the National Park Service's official nonprofit partner, raising private funds to benefit Grand Canyon National Park, operating retail stores and visitor centers within the park and providing premier educational opportunities about the natural and cultural history of Grand Canyon.

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Cover photo: Maya Tilousi-Lyttle performs a Havasupai blessing dance for the Grand Canyon at the Desert View Watchtower rededication ceremony May 22, 2016.
Photo courtesy Terri Attridge
Photo this page courtesy Mike Buchheit



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FROM THE CEO

On May 22, I was honored to be part of a monumental celebration at Grand Canyon National Park: the rededication of the Desert View Watchtower. The watchtower restoration is one of the results of the revitalized relationship between the park and the American Indian people whose history at the canyon has often been overlooked.

For thousands of years before any European peered over the edge of Grand Canyon, American Indians called it home. Ancestral peoples saw beauty in the landscape, experienced deep respect for the wildlife and the Colorado River, and recognized areas in and around Grand Canyon as sacred.

As the National Park Service (NPS) was being established, many American Indian tribes were still actively living in and around the canyon. When Grand Canyon became a national park, the consequences to these tribes were not taken into consideration, causing a long period of distrust.

In recent years, there has been a concentrated effort by NPS leadership to strengthen relationships with tribes. In 2013 the Inter-Tribal Advisory Council (ItAC) was formed to help create these connections. Through the planning process, ItAC envisioned a place American Indians could showcase their culture within the park. Thanks to funding from the NPS, Bureau of Indian Affairs, ArtPlace America and you, our Grand Canyon Association members and donors, this vision is becoming reality at Desert View Watchtower. There, artists from every ItAC tribe have presented cultural demonstrations, and the deteriorating murals and the building are being restored.

The May celebration at Desert View represented the many partnerships committed to this goal. To all the members and donors who have helped GCA be a proud partner in this ongoing project, thank you!

SUSAN E. SCHROEDER
CEO

Hopi dancer demonstration in the Kiva Room of Desert View Watchtower.

Photo courtesy, Terri Attridge

SHARED INTERESTS

Grand Canyon National Park and the Traditionally Associated Tribes

BY JANET R. COHEN, TRIBAL PROGRAM MANAGER, GRAND CANYON NATIONAL PARK

Adapted from the introduction to *We Call the Canyon Home*

Long before the countless numbers of pioneers, prospectors, railroad men and entrepreneurs came to explore and exploit the Grand Canyon, the canyon had a place in the lives of many of the Southwest's American Indian people. Known today in National Park Service policy as Traditionally Associated Tribes, they share a long and deep historical, cultural and spiritual connection to the land in and around Grand Canyon National Park, and are profoundly invested in what happens here. As tribal representatives often say, "We have been here since time immemorial, we are still here and we will always be here."

Grand Canyon National Park land managers are committed to administering the federal lands under their jurisdiction in a way that is respectful and inclusive of tribal interests and concerns. They recognize that many park discussions and management decisions are enhanced and enriched by conferring with tribes.

In the 1970s, after nearly a century of government policies of assimilation and diminishment of government recognition of tribes, the federal government began to support tribal self-determination. In subsequent years, numerous federal laws and policies, executive



Photo courtesy Terri Attridge

Former superintendent Dave Uberuaga with Dianna Sue Uqualla from the Havasupai tribe.

orders and presidential memoranda were signed. The laws and policies of the 1990s really began to shape the consulting relationship between the National Park Service and American Indians.

With Executive Order 13175, “Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments,” issued by President Clinton in 2000, federal departments and agencies were required to consult with tribal governments when considering policies that would have an impact on their communities.

Initially, five tribes were thought to have connections to the Grand Canyon. Today, as a result of engaging tribes in the consultation process, the park considers 11 federally recognized tribes across the states of Arizona, New Mexico, Nevada and Utah to be

traditionally associated with Grand Canyon National Park (see map on page 7).

The need to manage the increasingly complex relationships between Grand Canyon National Park and the tribal governments led to the creation of a full-time dedicated position of tribal program manager, or tribal liaison, in 2009. Because of the commitment of the superintendent’s office, the generosity of Grand Canyon Association members and donors in funding projects and the addition of the tribal liaison, the park has increasingly engaged with the tribes over time.

Involvement of the tribes in the development of the park’s General Management Plan, the Glen Canyon Dam Environmental Impact Statement and, later, the Colorado River Management Plan helped lay the foundation for a better understanding of tribal values, interests and perspectives. Beginning in the 1990s, on river trips initially funded by the Bureau of Reclamation (which operates Glen Canyon Dam), representatives of the park and the tribes developed working relationships.

“The Colorado River, powerful and beautiful, was our guide to our beginning and through the Grand Canyon. This is who we are, this is where we are from, and this is the center of our world”

—Las Vegas Band of Paiute Indians

In 2010, then-superintendent Steve Martin took a group of Havasupai elders to visit Indian Garden, an important part of the Havasupai’s traditional territory and an area from which they were forcibly removed in the late 1920s. Since then, the park has led several inter-tribal river trips and sponsored a camping weekend at Tuweep with the Southern Paiute tribes.

Over the last six years, the park has successfully collaborated with the tribes on interpretive materials, including the tribal medallion near the visitor center and a number of brochures. The Southern Paiute Consortium provided meaningful input for new exhibits at the North Rim Visitor Center, and tribal representatives have been invited to participate in the design of new exhibits planned for Verkamp's Visitor Center.

Recognizing that the tribes had many shared interests and concerns that would benefit from a collective discussion with the superintendent, the park inaugurated a pilot project, the Inter-Tribal Advisory Council, in 2013. The council was not intended to replace existing relationships but rather to supplement them. In the first few meetings, tribal representatives identified many categories of interest and concerns. As it turned out, many

coincided neatly with the park's intention to assume management of Desert View Watchtower and to involve the tribes in shaping a new vision for Desert View as a tribal cultural heritage area.

Since then, the council, park and partners (including the Grand Canyon Association, the American Indian Alaska Native Tourism Association, the Bureau of Indian Affairs and ArtPlace America) have worked on strategic planning and project implementation. Tribal involvement is being enhanced with first-voice interpretation, cultural demonstrations, youth education and employment, and economic development.

Cultural demonstrations at the Desert View area began in 2014 with a grant from the Grand Canyon Association, and they

The tribal medallion near Mather Point was funded by GCA donors.



Photo courtesy NPS

continue today. To date, the Havasupai, Hopi, Navajo, Yavapai, Hualapai, Southern Paiute and Zuni people have participated in these demonstrations. The subjects have been wide-ranging: pottery, basketry, weaving, silversmithing, dancing, lectures and storytelling, music, fetish carving, painting, traditional toy making, sculpting and carving. We hope to host even more tribes and demonstrators and expand into new programs and activities in the coming years.

In 2015, in partnership with the National Park Service Youth Programs Office and the Arizona Conservation Corps, the park assembled its first Ancestral Lands Conservation Corps. This program engages native youth and young adults in the care and management of natural and cultural resources that often hold great significance to the tribes. In the summer of that year, an eight-member conservation crew and two interns rotated through many park work groups, becoming immersed in NPS operations, culture and potential career offerings.

“I am encouraged by the dedication and collaboration I see between and among the tribes, the park and its partners.”

—Janet Cohen, Tribal Program Manager,
Grand Canyon National Park

The crew took part in trail and campground improvements, vegetation and wildlife surveys, archaeological preservation and interpretive talks and tours. Their summer culminated in an end-of-season raft trip down the Colorado River through the inner canyon, where they were able to see the park from yet another perspective. All of these activities afforded them the opportunity to experience and understand the canyon from their own unique tribal perspective.



Grand Canyon Association members and donors have funded some of the expenses associated with building the relationship between the park and associated tribes, including the pilot year for the Inter-Tribal Advisory Council meetings. In addition to publishing a new book about the tribes, *We Call the Canyon Home* edited by Stephen Hirst (see page 13), the Grand Canyon Association is currently supporting field trips for tribal youth and elders to culturally significant areas of the canyon through its priority project, Honoring Tribal Values. (See page 9 for a funding update.)

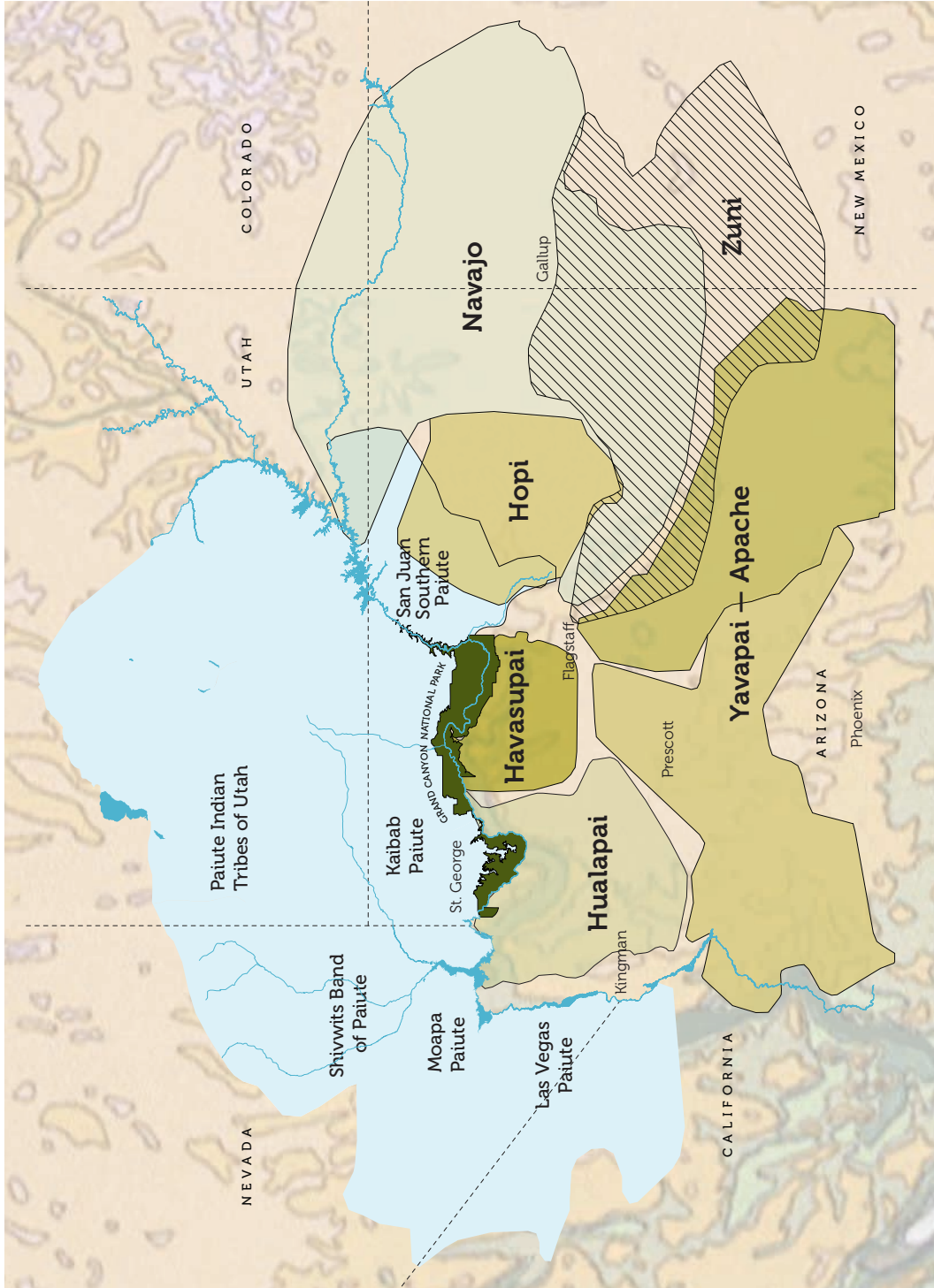
I am encouraged by the dedication and collaboration I see between and among the tribes, the park and its partners. The future looks bright for us all. While there are, and will always be, some differences and conflicts, we must continue to work together—there is too much at stake not to.

Grand Canyon's Traditionally Associated Tribes

Initially, five tribes were thought to have connections to the Grand Canyon. Today, the park considers 11 federally recognized tribes across the states of Arizona, New Mexico, Nevada and Utah to be traditionally associated with Grand Canyon National Park: the Havasupai Tribe, Hopi Tribe, Hualapai Tribe, Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians, Las Vegas Tribe of Paiute Indians, Moapa Band of Paiute Indians, the Navajo Nation, Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah, Pueblo of Zuni, San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe and the Yavapai-Apache Nation.

Considered “traditionally associated” under NPS policies, each regards the park’s resources as essential to its development and continued identity; each has an association with the park that has endured for at least two generations (40 years); and each association began before the park was established.

These 11 tribes represent 8 distinct cultural groups that survived early governmental recognition and efforts to reorganize them. But all 11 are united by their association with the Grand Canyon.



GrandGiving

Preserving Cultural Traditions for Future Generations

Thank you to the many people, corporations and foundations that support Grand Canyon National Park through Grand Canyon Association. You are helping to protect the park for future generations. Here are a few new and noteworthy contributions.

Explore the Grand Canyon Museum Collection Online

Thanks to a donation from an anonymous donor aimed at making the park's collections more accessible, Grand Canyon National Park is collaborating with Northern Arizona University and the Museum of Northern Arizona to add high-resolution photographs of important artifacts to the American Southwest Virtual Museum website, swvirtualmuseum.nau.edu. Some objects are being photographed using experimental reflectance transformation imaging (RTI) and 3-D modeling. RTI enhances surface shape and color, providing greater detail and allowing the artifacts to be studied in depth on the website.



Photo courtesy NPS



Hopi kachina maker (top) and Hopi traditional dancer (right) demonstrating their art at Desert View Watchtower.



Photos courtesy Terri Attridge

A Helping Hand to Transform Desert View Watchtower

The mission of the American Indian Alaska Native Tourism Association (AIANTA) is to define, introduce, grow and sustain American Indian, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian tourism that honors traditions and values. Working in collaboration with the Bureau of Indian Affairs, AIANTA supports partners in the Inter-Tribal Advisory Council from the Hopi, Navajo, Zuni, Havasupai, Hualapai and Yavapai-Apache tribes and the five bands of Southern Paiute. The council is working in partnership with the Grand Canyon Association to raise funds to expand cultural demonstrations and tribal heritage programming at Desert View.

In Their Own Words:

Wells Fargo Honors Tribal Values

Many of the Southwest's tribes consider the Grand Canyon their place of origin, but tribal members rarely make a trip into the canyon. For many, traveling from their home to the park requires significant time and expense. A grant from Wells Fargo will allow tribal youth and elders to go on expeditions into the canyon to renew their connections to sacred and life-affirming places.



Photo courtesy Mike Buchheit

Left to right: GCA Board Chair Steve Watson, retired Superintendent Dave Uberuaga, Katie Campana from Wells Fargo and GCA CEO Susan Schroeder.



Photo courtesy NPS

Zuni tribal members at the Whitmore Panel archaeological site.

“Eighty percent of Southern Paiutes have never been to Grand Canyon or even know that Southern Paiutes have a connection to the Grand Canyon. Being inside the canyon is welcoming. You see your ancestors; you hear the names, hear the songs. On a recent trip, one of the participants saw her ancestors on the banks all along the way down the Colorado River.

“We’re hoping we can share the stories not just with everyone else but with our own youth. Some of these kids are not on a good path. After these trips, they have a connection. They’re off on a different path.”

—CHARLEY BULLETT,
Kaibab Band of Southern Paiute

“Trips to the Colorado River and Grand Canyon sound fun, but they really are so much more. It connects us. Honoring culture, honoring a sacred site is important for our youth. It’s so important to keep our culture and our history alive. It is literally a spiritual journey.

“The connection between the youth and the elders, it’s something to always preach. The older ones would say, ‘I used to come here as a youth but I haven’t been back. It sure feels good to be here.’ And to have your grandkids there with you, it’s a memory. Grandparents with grandkids, parents with kids, whole families participating—there were no barriers, just cultural knowledge.”

—MONICA MARQUEZ
Yavapai-Apache

Your Impact at Grand Canyon

Desert View Watchtower Mural Conservation

The Desert View Watchtower, designed by architect Mary Colter and constructed in 1931–32, is situated on the South Rim of the Grand Canyon to take advantage of views of the canyon and the Painted Desert beyond. Inspired by prehistoric stone structures in the region, the five-story observation tower is framed in steel with stone masonry infill. Interior walls and ceilings of the tower are comprised of a cement-based plaster and are vividly decorated with murals by noted Hopi artist Fred Kabotie and Fred Harvey Company designer Fred Geary; both artists were commissioned by Mary Colter herself.

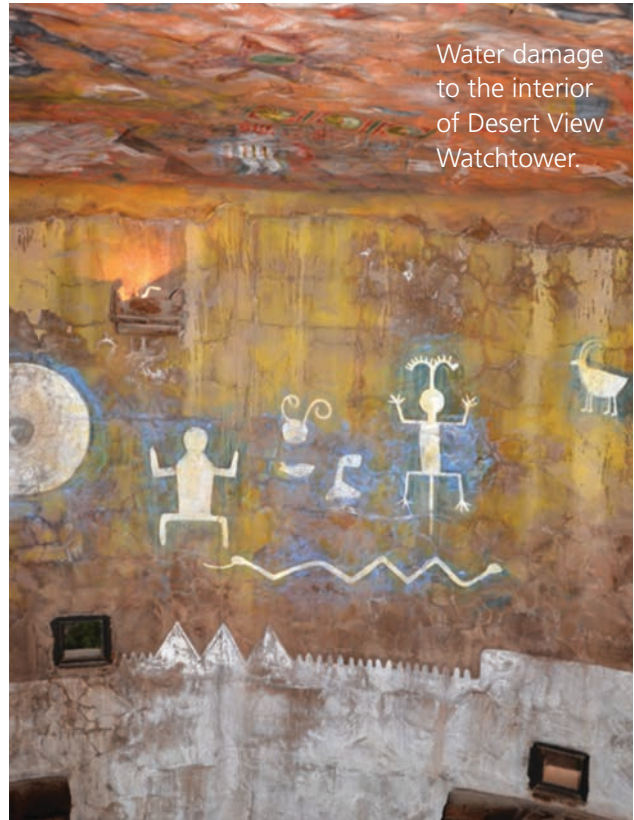


Hopi Artist
Fred Kabotie.
Photo courtesy NPS

The watchtower has suffered from varying degrees of water infiltration over many decades. In 2015, with help from a grant from American Express, a team of restoration experts evaluated the watchtower to assess the extent of damage to both the structure and the artwork within. The resulting Condition Assessment and Treatment Plan identified the most pressing conservation issues and recommended a long-term strategy to restore and protect the murals from future damage. The conservators identified cracks in the masonry where water easily enters the building. Because of the precipice on which the watchtower sits and the severe weather that occurs at Desert View, they noted that unseen damage may persist within the masonry and that further investigative studies are needed.

Beginning in October 2016, the conservation team will be back at work in the watchtower to implement their treatment plan by cleaning and stabilizing the cement plaster. They'll also remove

graffiti and repair the damage and discoloration to the painted figures. A thorough investigative study is planned for the fall using microwave radar (also known as ground-penetrating radar) to inspect for interior cracks and other places where water is able to channel through to the interior.





Photos courtesy NPS

Trails Restoration Update

Your donations are hard at work on Grand Canyon trails! These photos were shot by trail crews as they created a retainer wall and steps on the Tanner Trail. Thank you for your continued support in making Grand Canyon trails more accessible and safer for thousands of hikers through the Trails Forever Restoration project.

You help fund projects like these.
Learn more about how you can
help Grand Canyon at
www.grandcanyon.org

Grand Canyon Association is proud to be a part of this historic restoration effort and is delighted to announce that during Members Weekend this past May, more than \$200,000 was raised for future work in and around the watchtower. A grant of \$250,000 from American Express and the National Trust for Historic Preservation (see page 15) will help preserve this historic building. Through generous support from Liz and Bill Sweeney, Arizona Public Service and members like you, we are providing the park with the resources it needs to plan for the future of this historic building.



Leave a Legacy at One of the Seven Natural Wonders of the World

BY SHEILA HENRY, MEMBER AND DONOR



Photo courtesy Sheila Henry

My passion for hiking was born when I moved to Ojai, California, in 1972 to work at the Thacher School. For the first time in my life, I was surrounded by beautiful and peaceful mountains and took every opportunity to hike or ride my horse on miles of trails. This was a dramatically different life for someone born and raised in New York City! I eventually moved to New England for professional reasons but continued to indulge my passion for hiking.

My husband Allen and I made our first trip to Grand Canyon with REI in 2006 when we hiked and camped in Havasu Canyon. We were hooked! After we bought a seasonal home (soon to be a primary residence) in Fountain Hills, Arizona, in 2008 and participated in a memorable rim-to-rim adventure, we joined the Grand Canyon Association. Meeting fellow hikers gave us a feeling of shared friendships, adventure and love for Grand Canyon.

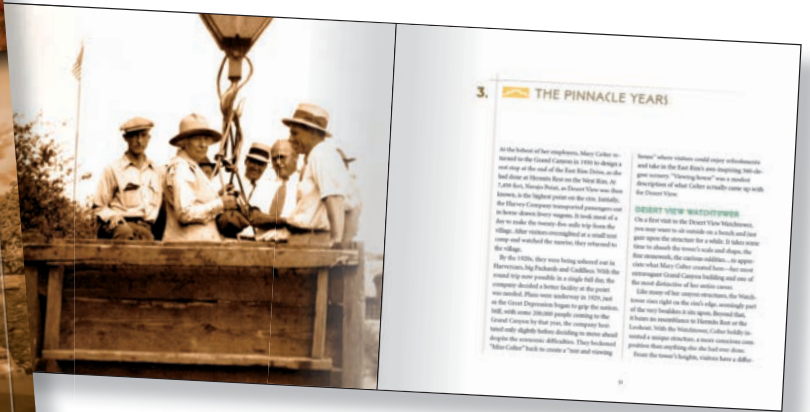
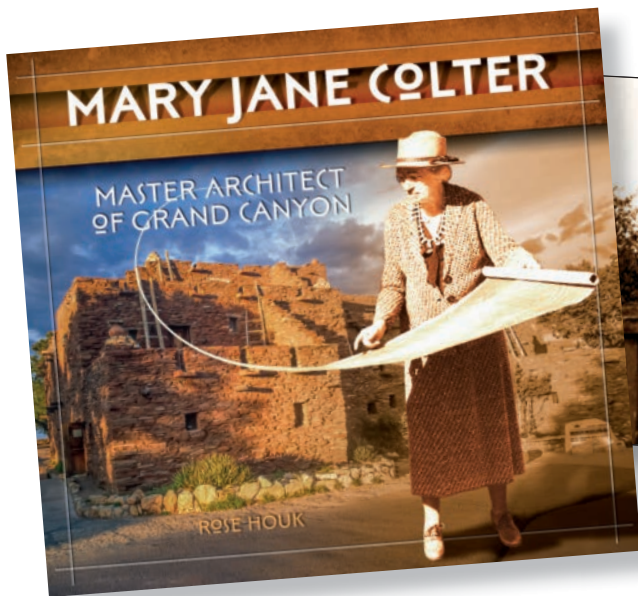
Last February, I joined seven other women and Grand Canyon Association Field Institute guides Marjorie “Slim” Woodruff and Kate McHugh for a Women’s Phantom Ranch Natural & Cultural History Adventure. Studying the wide spectrum of life zones and the rich geologic record of canyon country, as well as making wonderful friends, confirmed for me that I wanted to leave a legacy by means of a bequest to Grand Canyon Association. I am proud to be part of the Bright Angel Circle.

The **Bright Angel Circle** honors those who make a bequest to the Grand Canyon in their will. Sheila Henry has been a member since 2013 and became part of the Bright Angel Circle in 2016. Sheila shares why she chose to leave a legacy at Grand Canyon.



To create your lasting legacy at Grand Canyon National Park, call Ann Scheflen, Chief Philanthropy Officer, at (928) 863-3876 or email her at ann@grandcanyon.org.

Upcoming Publications from GCA



Mary Jane Colter: Master Architect of Grand Canyon

Rose E. Houk

Grand Canyon National Park has the largest collection of historic buildings designed by one of America's earliest female architects, Mary Elizabeth Jane Colter (1869–1958). Colter's remarkable buildings, with their site-specific sense of place, helped set the foundation for what would evolve into National Park Service Rustic style. While working for the Fred Harvey Company, Colter designed many of the park's iconic buildings, including Hopi House, Hermits Rest, Phantom Ranch, and Desert View Watchtower, from 1905–37. As author Rose Houk explains, "She was also a pioneer, a rebel and a trailblazer, defying most of the architectural trends of her day and imprinting her own distinctive style."

We Call the Canyon Home: American Indians of the Grand Canyon Region

Stephen Hirst, Contributing Editor

We Call the Canyon Home presents the 11 tribes traditionally associated with Grand Canyon and their long historical, cultural and spiritual connections to the canyon. Through firsthand accounts, elders, leaders and other tribal members tell the stories of their people. Each illustrated chapter also provides information on tribal government and visiting the reservations. As Stephen Hirst remarks, "You will find this book a valuable insight into the timeless world of people who have cherished this canyon and its surrounding landscape for thousands of years."

Visit our online store to place an order today: www.grandcanyon.org

Grand Canyon Association works with topic experts to develop books about Grand Canyon-related themes such as natural history, geology, wildlife, American Indian culture, pioneer history, hiking and more. Proceeds of book sales help support Grand Canyon National Park.



Photo courtesy Mike Buchheit

Cultural Connections to Grand Canyon

A PERSONAL VIEW FROM
ARCHAEOLOGIST

Lyle Balenquah

Lyle Balenquah, Hopi, is a member of the Greasewood Clan from the village of Bacavi. Lyle received his bachelor's and master's degrees from Northern Arizona University (NAU) in Flagstaff, and for more than 15 years he has worked throughout the American Southwest as an archaeologist, first with NAU and later with the National Park Service. With a specialization in ruins preservation and stabilization, Lyle has done fieldwork on ancestral settlements at Grand Canyon, Wapatki, Walnut Canyon and nearly every other NPS site in the Southwest.

Lyle also works as a part-time hiking and river guide, combining his professional knowledge and training with personal insights about his ancestral history to provide a unique forum of public education. This year, Lyle joined the Grand Canyon Association Board of Directors. His years of experience and personal connection to Grand Canyon add an important perspective to our organization.

As part of GCA's vision to provide enhanced educational experiences for the park, the Grand Canyon Association Field Institute runs a two-day training seminar geared toward the outfitters and guides who help people hike and explore Grand Canyon. Lyle has been an integral part of this training opportunity, offering vital education about tribal connections to Grand Canyon as both a member of the Hopi tribe and an archaeologist.

How does your Hopi ancestry inform your personal relationship with Grand Canyon?

Hopi connections are very deep at Grand Canyon. Our ancestors developed and refined our culture here. We see the canyon as a place of emergence, and various Hopi clans carried that spiritual knowledge from the canyon, continuing to refine our culture on the Hopi Mesas. Grand Canyon is the birthplace of the Hopi people, and yet we maintain an everyday

connection with the canyon. Even though it's outside the Hopi boundaries, we have a vested interest in the canyon that transcends distance.

In your view, what is the most important thing people should know about American Indians' cultural connections to Grand Canyon?

Native people are still here physically, and so Grand Canyon has meaning for us every day—when we say our prayers, sing our songs and take part in our ceremonies. The foundation of our knowledge has a basis at Grand Canyon, and we maintain a modern-day connection to the canyon.

What are some of the impacts you have seen in the last few years at Grand Canyon as a result of partnerships with the park, among tribes and with the guiding community?

I've seen a very positive trend, with more information—and more correct information—about tribes. The National Park Service has made a big effort to integrate our voices. A reflection of that is tribal members being a part of the interpretation and the scientific management of the park. The superintendent and his staff have shown what can happen when that invitation to participate is honest and clear. This environment has also allowed the tribes to come together to have a unified voice about park issues. It's good for tribal people to come together on common ground, and it has benefited the park service too.



Want to learn more from Grand Canyon experts like Lyle? Grand Canyon Association members receive a discount on many Field Institute classes. Learn more at www.grandcanyon.org.

Find Your Park Facebook Contest Winner

Thank you to all who participated in our first Facebook photo contest by submitting photos of your experiences at Grand Canyon. Your submissions remind us of the ever-changing nature of the canyon. Visit our Facebook page to learn more about how to submit your photos and Find Your Park. Our contest winner is Doug Aday.



Doug will receive a copy of *Mary Colter's Guide to Grand Canyon*, Grand Canyon Association's new publication about the architect who designed Desert View Watchtower. For more on this book, see page 13.

Thank You for Voting Grand Canyon "Your Park"!



You voted and Grand Canyon won! Because of your participation in the Partners in Preservation "Vote Your Park" contest, Grand Canyon received a grant of \$250,000 to help fund the restoration of Desert View Watchtower. To see all the winners, visit www.voteyourpark.org.



Support YOUR Park: Ways to Give

Your contribution to the Grand Canyon Association provides critical support to protect and preserve Grand Canyon. However you choose to give, your generosity will be recognized and appreciated by all who treasure this World Heritage Site.

MEMBERSHIP

From historic preservation to wildlife research, members make it happen. You support a wide range of visitor services throughout the year and are part of a community of people from around the world who care deeply about nature and our national parks.

GRAND GUARDIAN

Help protect and sustain one of America's most enduring landscapes with a gift of \$1,000 or more.

TRIBUTE & HONOR GIVING

Recognize an important person in your life, honor a special event, anniversary or remember a loved one.

LEADERSHIP GIFTS

Make a lasting impact at Grand Canyon with a leadership gift of \$10,000 or more to trails, historic preservation, research and science or youth education.

TRAILS FOREVER & ENDOWMENT GIVING

Your gift to Trails Forever will be invested in a permanent fund and the earnings will provide a source of income each year to help the park maintain more than 350 miles of wilderness trails.

BRIGHT ANGEL CIRCLE

Preserve and protect the park for future generations by remembering us in your will. Your estate gift or bequest leaves a lasting legacy, and you are honored today with recognition in our Bright Angel Society.



To make a gift, call Ann Scheflen, Chief Philanthropy Officer, at **(800) 858-2808** or email Ann at **ann@grandcanyon.org**.