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CanyonViews

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Stewardship for the Small:

Recovery Efforts for the
Sentry Milk-Vetch

**Do Something Grand with
GCFI in 2012**

Canyon Views Talks
with Grand Canyon's New
Superintendent Dave Uberuaga

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The Grand Canyon Association is the National Park Service's official nonprofit partner raising private funds to benefit Grand Canyon National Park, operating retail shops and visitor centers within the park, and providing premier educational opportunities about the natural and cultural history of the region. Memberships are available beginning at \$35 annually. To obtain more information about GCA or to become a member, please visit our website at www.grandcanyon.org, contact us by phone at (800) 858-2808 or write to us at P.O. Box 399, Grand Canyon, AZ 86023-0399, U.S.A.

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Cover photograph: Snowbound pine at Yaki Point. Photograph courtesy Mike Buchheit



The Grand Canyon Association
 is the official nonprofit partner
 of Grand Canyon National Park.

From the Executive Director Stewardship

by Susan Schroeder

One of the fundamental missions of the Grand Canyon Association is the preservation of Grand Canyon National Park's resources for future generations. With help from members like you, we will continue to help protect and conserve the canyon.

In this issue of *Canyon Views*, the Grand Canyon Association explores the concept of stewardship—the protection and conscientious use of natural resources—something park employees and other exceptional people do every day. Some highlights include Superintendent Ueberuaga describing his plans for the continued protection of the park's resources and articles on the efforts of the National Park Service to protect, recover or study the sentry milk-vetch and the Mexican spotted owl.

President Theodore Roosevelt comes to mind as a famous proponent for stewardship of places like Grand Canyon. When arguing for the preservation of natural resources in the early 20th century, he lamented the loss the American people would experience if we failed to conserve the beauties of our land: “And to lose the chance to see frigate-birds soaring in circles above the storm, or a file of pelicans winging their way homeward across the crimson afterglow of the sunset, or a myriad of terns flashing in the bright light of midday as they hover in a shifting maze above the beach—why, the loss is like the loss of a gallery of the masterpieces of the artists of old time.”

Thankfully Grand Canyon achieved national park status in 1919 and rangers, scientists, interns and people like you continue to help to preserve its resources and beauty. You, our members, prove every day that stewardship is not an out-of-date concept—you help us to preserve Grand Canyon. Thank you.



Photograph courtesy Mike Buchheit

Hostetler Trail Challenge Success

Thanks to your generous donations GCA met the Hostetler Trail Challenge fundraising goal of \$10,000! With your donations matched dollar-for-dollar, more than \$20,000 will go to making Grand Canyon backcountry trails safer and more resilient. Thank you for supporting this important effort!

Workers restoring an inner-canyon trail.
 Photograph courtesy NPS



Walking the High Wire: Riverbank Restoration in the Inner Canyon

by Tom Parker, GCA Development Coordinator

If you were to walk a tightrope strung from Pima Point to the Tower of Set and had the guts to look down when you were above the river, you would see an amazing sight. However, a careful look would likely reveal some troubling elements, too—namely the presence of a labyrinth of social trails crossing the riverbanks and tamarisk trees browning due to leaf beetle infestation. Unprecedented change brought about largely by the spread of the tamarisk leaf beetle from introduction sites in southern Utah has led to a need for action. An innovative restoration project will begin this spring to restore resilience to the riverine system. Grand Canyon National Park, the Grand Canyon Association and other partners will undertake this effort while at the same time maintaining a balance of park infrastructure for recreational use, cultural resource protection, endangered species habitat conservation and a host of other, often competing considerations.

The Grand Canyon Association recently received a huge vote of confidence when GCA was awarded a \$104,500 grant from the Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust to support a two-year pilot project aimed at restoring natural and cultural resources at Granite Camp and Monument Creek. This project will be one of the first to take a strategic approach to maintaining tree cover for the endangered southwest willow flycatcher and for recreational users as beetle populations ebb and flow while keeping high-quality campsites open to visitors on a daily basis. Balancing recreational use, endangered species habitat, and cultural resources protection is truly a high-wire act, but it is one that this World Heritage Site deserves.

The Grand Canyon Association would like to thank the Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust for its support and acknowledge that it is you, our members and donors, who give GCA the resources for science-based conservation efforts for Grand Canyon National Park.

Granite Camp, River Mile 94, adjacent to the mouth of Monument Creek. *Photograph courtesy Grand Canyon Monitoring and Research Center (GCMRC), 2009 Imagery*



Top Ten Reasons to Visit the Canyon in Winter from GCA's Staff

- 1 Because there is less visitor traffic at the canyon in winter, those who do venture out may enjoy quiet snowfall with few interruptions.
- 2 The icicles on the springs are beautiful.
- 3 Thick snow makes winter the best time of year to see animal tracks.
- 4 Winter is arguably the best time to hike in the canyon because it's still warm at the bottom but it's cool on the rim.
- 5 Winter light reflecting on the canyon walls is a breathtaking sight.
- 6 It's the best time of year to photograph the canyon—the interplay of light, clouds, buttes and spires creates a dramatic effect.
- 7 El Tovar lobby sparkles with festive cheer.
- 8 Hot chocolate at Phantom Ranch.
- 9 The night sky is crisp and clear in the winter, without the clouds and haze that sometimes linger during summer nights. So many stars!
- 10 Sunrises and sunsets are spectacular, and you can catch them at a reasonable hour!

The Grand Canyon Association is excited to be issuing our 2010 annual report this December. The annual report is how we let you, our donors and members, know the wonderful things that we've accomplished through your generosity. Please look for the link to the report in the *Call of the Canyon* e-newsletter or visit the Grand Canyon Association website www.grandcanyon.org. Thank you for your support!

Stewardship for the Small:

Recovery Efforts for the Sentry Milk-Vetch

by Allyson Mathis, NPS Science and Education Outreach Coordinator and Janice K. Busco, NPS Horticulturist

If the National Park Service's mission were distilled into a single word, it would be stewardship. Fundamentally, everything that the NPS does, whether it is trail maintenance or providing interpretive programs, is about stewardship—preserving park resources. But only rarely is stewardship as tangible, yet requiring such a delicate touch, as in the actions the park is currently taking to recover its only endangered plant, sentry milk-vetch. The conservation efforts that Grand Canyon's Science and Resource Management staff are leading to preserve sentry milk-vetch demonstrate NPS employees' astonishingly high level of commitment to resource preservation.

Sentry milk-vetch (*Astragalus cremnophylax* var. *cremnophylax*) is a tiny member of the pea family. Its leaflets are only $\frac{1}{8}$ inch long, and a giant specimen has a diameter of just four inches. This diminutive plant only grows at three locations on the South Rim of Grand Canyon, with one of the largest populations adjacent to Maricopa Point along Hermit Road. It has very specific habitat requirements consisting of shallow soil pockets in exposed Kaibab Limestone bedrock or of gravelly soils atop bedrock, and grows only within 25 feet of the canyon rim. Less than 2,500 plants exist in the wild, leaving this botanical jewel at risk of extinction.

In 1990 the plant was listed as an endangered species and the Maricopa Point population was fenced to prevent the plants from being inadvertently trampled by people enjoying the view. The Maricopa Point population rebounded, but it was not until 2008 that active recovery efforts began in earnest.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service prepared a recovery plan for sentry milk-vetch in 2006. In order for sentry milk-vetch to be removed from the endangered species list, eight populations of 1,000 plants each must exist. The recovery program depends on two recent actions: the rehabilitation of Hermit Road in 2008 and the

construction of a passive-solar greenhouse for sentry milk-vetch propagation in 2009.

Most of the former Maricopa Point parking lot was restored with native plants, including small trees, shrubs, wildflowers and grasses. The portion closest to the existing sentry milk-vetch population was set aside for habitat restoration. Vegetation Program crews carefully removed fill material by hand to expose the limestone bedrock without damaging its integrity. They then filled shallow pockets and cracks in the limestone with local soil to prepare the site for planting.

Learning about the plant's biology and growing plants from seed in a greenhouse are the other major components of the recovery project. The sentry milk-vetch greenhouse, funded by a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service grant to the Grand Canyon Association, provides a protected growing environment with ideal light, humidity and temperatures for the plant.

Seeding and germination experiments began in 2009 using seeds collected in the wild. Timing of seed collection is crucial: seeds must be ripe, but if the pods have opened, the small seeds are lost. Collecting sentry milk-vetch seeds requires good eyes, a pair of surgical tweezers, extreme patience and a steady hand. Plants propagated from seed in the greenhouse serve as both an ex situ, or refuge, population and are used in recovery efforts.

The plants' tiny purple pea flowers appear early each spring amid sleet, high winds, hail and snow when few other flowers are blooming on the rim. Their pollinators must come up from lower, warmer canyon elevations to brave a deluge of difficult atmospheric conditions to reach the fragrant flowers.

A milestone in the sentry milk-vetch recovery program occurred in late July 2011, when 80 plants and 240 seeds were planted in the restoration site in the former parking lot. After planting, each small plant was



A Grand Canyon Science and Resource Management staff member holds a sentry milk-vetch plant. Photograph courtesy National Park Service

carefully surrounded by pieces of fine gravel that characterize sentry milk-vetch habitat. The gravel serves as a protective blanket, collecting warmth and moisture to help the little plants grow in an arid, windswept world. In the restoration site, seeds require even more protection from sun, wind and rain. They were covered with a shallow dusting of native soil, surrounded by a protective collar and veiled with a small piece of landscape fabric that lets in air, sunlight and water and keeps out wind and insect pests.

The park is taking an adaptive management approach to this first planting at Maricopa Point. When a problem or threat is encountered at the restoration site, the management practices are changed in order to protect and nurture the plants. This practice of adaptive management distinguishes this recovery effort from an experimental one to a stewardship action that ensures maximum survival and successful establishment of the sentry milk-vetch plants.

Fly By Night:

Dispersal Behavior of Juvenile Mexican Spotted Owls

by Joseph Monfeli, Polk Wildlife Fellow, Grand Canyon National Park

To date, 74 of the 80 plants are alive and well on their way to becoming able to live on their own in their harsh natural habitat. At least 70 percent of the seeds have germinated.

Next spring, when these tiny plants open their first flowers, mason bees will buzz to the flowers, raucously jostling for a chance to pollinate the most beautiful and fragrant. When seeds form, it will not be the result of chance, but of the diligent actions of park staff and interns, careful planning and the commitment of Grand Canyon National Park management to stewardship, even of the tiniest of plants perched on the rim of this very large canyon.

The National Park Service is grateful to GCA and its members for support of recovery efforts for this endangered plant. Funds from Nature Valley and the National Parks Conservation Association allowed GCA to fund a full-time park employee and a volunteer coordinator from the Student Conservation Association to assist with the monitoring and restoration of the sentry milk-vetch.

It's evening, and we're descending into the canyon at a breakneck pace. We want to be on station before the owls begin their evening activities, and we had a late start. It's early August, and even as the sun is setting, it's hot in the canyon, the temperature increasing as we descend. The temples and buttes are beginning to glow bronze and red as daylight fades.

I have recently begun work as a Polk wildlife fellow for the park. My first assignment is assisting on a study of the dispersal behavior of juvenile Mexican spotted owls. They are distinct from their northern cousins, making their homes in nooks and crannies in the Grand Canyon's towering limestone cliffs, rather than in old-growth forests.

Once we're set up, it doesn't take my colleague, wildlife biologist Tim Bowden, long to radio that he's found a pair of owls and that they have juvenile offspring. I hightail it back up the trail to his location, arriving just as dusk is falling. I can hear the screeching calls pealing out across the canyon, young owls begging to be fed. It's the young that catch our interest, since our project is to determine where they go after leaving the nest. We only have about six or seven weeks to find them because after that time, they'll leave their natal canyons and scatter to the four winds.

The goal of our project is to identify areas used by juvenile Mexican spotted owls during dispersal. We'll do this by tagging and monitoring the juveniles for the next several months to see which of the north canyons, if any, they are using. Such knowledge will be useful for future decisions concerning species management as it relates to the landscape, particularly with an eye toward managed burns, and will allow us to broaden our understanding of the owls' use of its habitat.

To tag these owls, we'll have to catch them first, and therein lies the challenge. Tagging consists of attaching a tiny transmitter to their tail feathers. Tim has worked with owls for 10 years, and in that time he has gained a nuanced understanding of their behaviors, calls and proclivities. As he sets up our trap, it takes me a moment to realize that I still have the electronic game caller in my backpack. Tim is making owl calls by mouth.

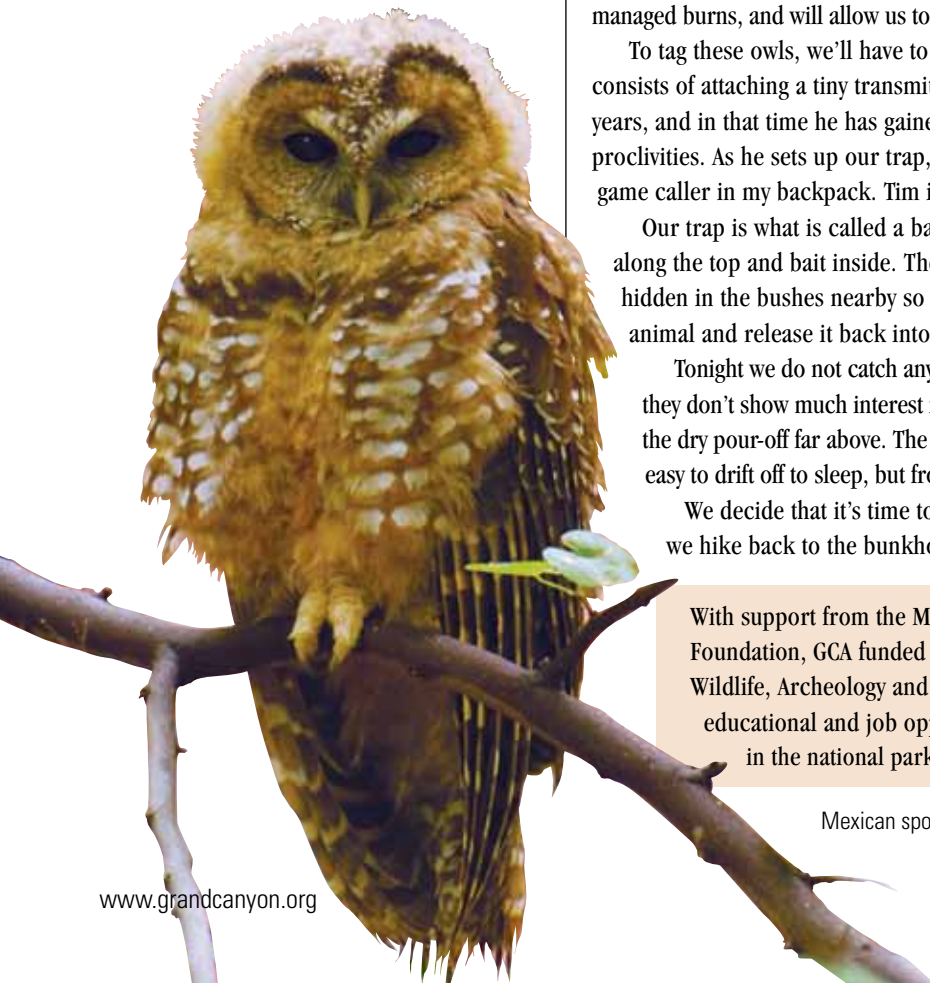
Our trap is what is called a bal-chatri trap, essentially a wire box with a series of loops along the top and bait inside. The loops are designed to cleanly catch an owl's foot. We sit hidden in the bushes nearby so that when a bird gets caught, we can quickly handle the animal and release it back into the wild.

Tonight we do not catch any owls. We can hear our quarry calling above us in the cliffs, but they don't show much interest in us. Some rock falls. The stones are a cascade from the lip of the dry pour-off far above. The sound startles me out of a doze. The warm desert night makes it easy to drift off to sleep, but from the sound of things, the owls are still wide awake.

We decide that it's time to pack it in. Perhaps we'll be luckier another night. For now, we hike back to the bunkhouse to sleep and wait out the heat of the day.

With support from the Margaret T. Morris Foundation and the J. W. Kieckhefer Foundation, GCA funded three Polk Science Fellowships in 2011—one each for Wildlife, Archeology and Vegetation. The Polk Fellowships provide important educational and job opportunities at Grand Canyon for young people with an interest in the national parks.

Mexican spotted owl. Photograph courtesy Brian Gatlin



Do Something GRAND with GCFI in 2012



by Mike Buchheit, GCFI Director

Late fall is a magical season at Grand Canyon. The luminous Milky Way anchors crisp nights, animals big and small hunker down for the impending snow and park visitation slows to a trickle, save for the hardy hikers seeking the unusually forgiving temperatures on the canyon floor. For the Grand Canyon Field Institute (GCFI), the premier outdoor education program of the Grand Canyon Association, fall marks the end of one season and the launch of another. This November is no exception, with fond memories behind and excitement ahead.

New Adventures in 2012

We are pleased to announce another full complement of learning adventures for participants of all ages, interests and levels of experience. Along with the perennial favorites such as introductory and rim-to-rim backpacking, mule-assisted camping on the canyon floor at Bright Angel Campground, archaeological surveys and photography

workshops, we have a host of first- and second-time offerings that are sure to delight and inspire.

GCFI has put together a three-class series for the summer months that will explore the geology, history and ecology of Grand Canyon National Park. Taught by experts in their respective fields, *Geology on the Edge* (Wayne Ranney), *History on the Edge* (Marjorie Woodruff, Ph.D.) and *Ecology on the Edge* (Stewart Aitchison) will each consist of three days of lectures and exploration on the South Rim. Time will be split between a lecture hall, backcountry trails and rim-based interpretive points of interest. Take all three, and you'll be well on your way to understanding the intricate and multifaceted wonder that is Grand Canyon.

Other first-time rim-based offerings in 2012 include a fiber arts workshop taught by local

artists Jennifer Marshall and Kim Buchheit, a writing workshop led by Prescott-based author Jeff Fearnside and a plein air painting workshop with Linda Glover Gooch. The latter will be conducted in partnership with the Scottsdale Artists' School immediately following the 4th annual Grand Canyon Celebration of Art, hosted by GCA and the National Park Service.



“Our instructor Marjorie was a perfect match for our family: knowledgeable, patient and as open to sharing her old friend, the Grand Canyon, with us as we were eager to meet the canyon. It was through her that we were actually able to see and learn from the canyon what we hoped to see and learn.” —E. S., Sacramento, Calif.



Family Classes

One of the most significant trends in recent years for GCFI has been a 200 percent increase in on-demand tours for families and groups. It’s a simple concept, and one that has opened up the program to younger participants—a long-term goal for not only GCFI, but for National Park Service educators and interpreters as well. These classes are called Meet the Canyon and Learning & Lodging, and can be found in the Family Classes section of our website. Subject to availability of staff and backcountry permits, GCFI also routinely conducts custom classes for groups whose travel plans conflict with our advertised schedule. Contact our office if you’d like more information on these opportunities.

We encourage you to visit the GCFI website at www.grandcanyon.org/fieldinstitute. There you will find our entire 2012 schedule, program history, instructor biographies,

helpful trip-planning information, detailed information on all of our 50-plus classes and a secure shopping cart feature you can use to enroll in the class of your choice (including discounted tuition for GCA members). If you do not have access to the Internet, please contact our office and request a printed schedule of classes.

Join the more than 20,000 canyon enthusiasts that GCFI has had the honor to lead along the edge and into the depths of the grandest of canyons!

Opposite, top: GCFI backpackers descend the South Kaibab Trail. *Photograph courtesy Mike Buchheit*

Opposite, left: GCFI river runners celebrate a summit of Nankoweap Butte. *Photograph courtesy Mike Buchheit*

Above: Archaeologist Greg Woodall discusses ancestral Puebloan farming techniques at South Canyon. *Photograph courtesy Mike Buchheit*

2011 GCFI Highlights

The year 2011 was a record-setting year for GCFI. You, our GCA members and donors, played a critical role in our success. Thank you for doing something GRAND by supporting GCFI through your membership, participation and donations. We couldn’t have achieved the following without you:

- Nearly 2,000 students attended GCFI’s wide-ranging classes, an annual record.
- Collectively GCFI instructors logged more than 30,000 educational contact hours.
- GCFI offered a series of new classes including a rim-to-rim photography backpack and yoga workshops.
- GCFI hosted the annual Guide Training Seminar with a record turnout.

High school students from Texas enjoying a visit to Cedar Ridge on the South Kaibab Trail. *Photograph courtesy Mike Buchheit*



Visit www.grandcanyon.org/fieldinstitute to learn more!

Canyon Views Talks with Grand Canyon's New Superintendent Dave Uberuaga

Interview by Emily Jacobson, GCA Publishing Coordinator

When you were announced as the new superintendent, Regional Director John Wessels stated that he was "pleased for the visitors, the public and the canyon, because I know that they will all get the kind of stewardship that this . . . landscape deserves." How do you plan to steer Grand Canyon's stewardship plans?

Stewardship can mean many different things, depending on the context. Being a good steward for Grand Canyon for me is having a park that is well run and engages visitors. It is important that the visitors enjoy the canyon and have a great experience. It is vital to continually work with the public to help them get connected to the resource, to help them with [an] understanding of its value; once they have this understanding and acceptance of the resource, then they can support it. I want them to come away with the feeling that this is a special place. What we need to do is grow stewards and have many people take on the stewardship role.

Perhaps Grand Canyon can inspire visiting families to return home with a sense for the value of our natural resources. Are these people living their lives in ways that actually make them stewards of resources in general? This adds huge value to the stewardship of the country itself.

What inspires your own stewardship values?

My kids had a lot of influence on my wife and me. I remember my daughter started a recycling center as a fourth-grader. She knocked on everyone's door and asked for their glass bottles. My kids' passion for the

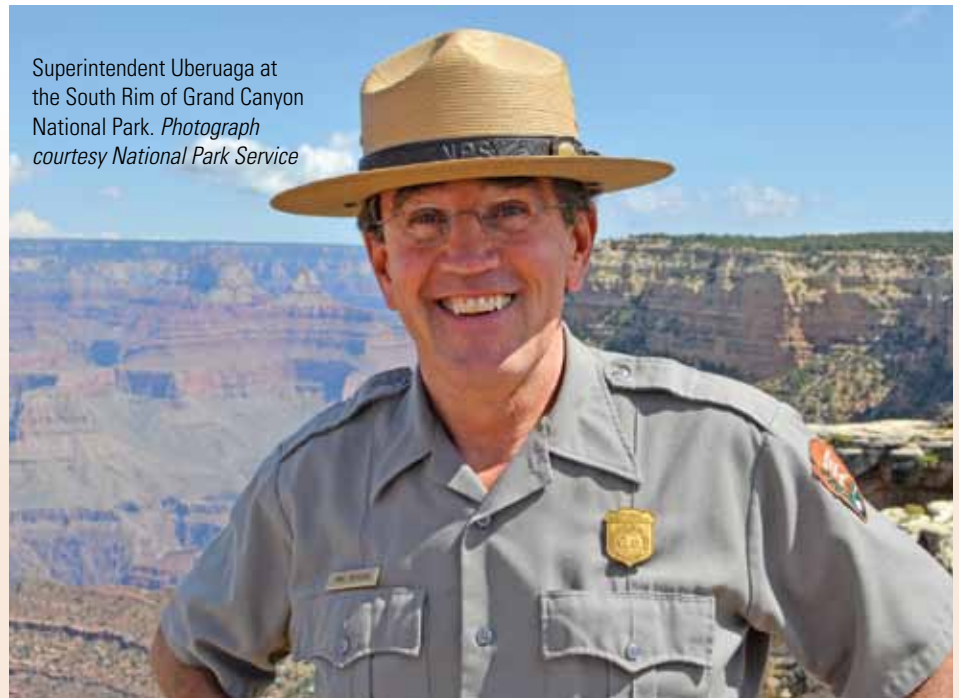
environment inspired us to remember that you can be a steward every day, at any age. [For example,] right now at the park, we're talking a lot about not using bottled water in the canyon. We'd like to convert people to using their own stainless steel and/or reusable water bottles. Stewardship to me is really an issue that's woven into our daily lives.

What are the specific stewardship issues you encounter at Grand Canyon?

In terms of Grand Canyon itself, there are these big issues internationally and nationally about uranium withdrawal. There are a million acres at stake. The staff and I have spent a huge amount of time not only operating the park, but listening to experts who can really understand and dissect the long-term impacts of uranium [extraction

and radioactivity]. If a long-term impact is discovered, how then do we deal with that? How do we balance that out with the other needs of the canyon? There will always be big issues to consider with stewardship and Grand Canyon.

Overflights are another issue in the canyon at present. An Environmental Impact Statement has been drafted about the need for soundscape preservation and noise management and how important it is to the park itself. A lot of other parks are looking to Grand Canyon to decide how they will manage overflights. Dissecting these issues and examining the quality of science behind every issue is important. What does the science tell us? What are the long-term effects of the decisions that a manager like me makes? Whether it's uranium or overflights or Colorado River water rights issues, the idea of stewardship is always a part of the conversation.



Superintendent Uberuaga at the South Rim of Grand Canyon National Park. Photograph courtesy National Park Service

“Grand Canyon is a really incredible place that needs protection.”

—Superintendent Ueberuaga

As the winner of the National Parks Conservation Association’s Stephen Tying Mather Award, you have demonstrated your interest in environmental preservation in the parks. What first interested you about environmental preservation? How did you start out in the National Park Service?

I think for me and probably quite a few people, there are incremental steps to becoming interested in and aware of environmental preservation. I grew up in Idaho. My dad loved being outdoors, so we spent a lot of time recreating on public land. My dad fished and I fished with him. We hunted together and camped. We camped a lot. At that time in my life, I took the land for granted. It was always there; it was just what we did.

When I went to college and started taking classes, I learned a different perspective of stewardship. My degree is in biology; as I read I became more informed on stewardship issues. My college education was the chapter in my life where I developed a steward conscience. When I had children, I had an epiphany on a personal level about their future experience and what the environment would be like when they grew up. I started thinking about preservation and responsible use in terms of protecting resources for my family and all families.

When I finished school, I had a Bachelor of Science degree in biology, and I decided to go back to graduate school for business administration. I worked for a congressional watchdog agency, and I did some management consulting with National Park Service programs. My first project was on a preferred maintenance backlog. The first job that I applied for at the National Park Service was the chief of administration. I used my business background [to get that job] and stayed in that position for 16 years. I thought about how I could use my business skills, love for the outdoors and my perspective to serve the National Park Service.

Stewardship is an issue I deal with personally

as well as professionally. When you become a National Park Service manager, you mature in that position. I have a lot of training and work experience that has helped me mature and think about my stewardship role. My view of stewardship constantly evolves. Some of the challenges I faced that actually generated the Mather award were resource decisions that were controversial and put my job at risk. However, those controversial decisions were based on good, solid, science-based research and working experience over the past 27 years. It also makes it a whole lot easier when you have brilliant PhDs around you to advise you on specific issues.

Even after 37 years of public service, I still make preservation decisions every day—sometimes those decisions cause disagreement. I was going over implications for Colorado River management just this morning and trying to understand the socioeconomic implications of overflights and the issues associated with [them]. It’s never ending, but for me and I think for many others, it’s about what interests you and gets you excited about preservation. This stuff is interesting and exciting.

How do you view the relationship between Grand Canyon National Park and the Grand Canyon Association? How much of the organizations’ success depends on a sense of shared purpose?

I think GCA and the park are like a healthy marriage. We love each other, we walk and play hand-in-hand together, but like any marriage, we often have unique roles in the relationship that make us stronger and more effective. I think the whole is greater than the parts with the association and the park. With the two organizations working together, we’re much stronger than when we work independently. Because we work together, because we have a shared mission, the resources . . . are better protected. The visitor has a much better experience and is better served overall.

The park’s relationship with GCA is really a strong, healthy relationship. By continually working on it—a marriage needs continual work and effective communication—we can [continue to] collaborate to make the canyon a better place for visitors and help to preserve it for future generations. The impact for the visitor and the betterment of the park is immense. It’s very positive for the resources and the visitor.

Please tell me about the first time, or a memorable time, you viewed Grand Canyon. What were your impressions?

Prior to getting the job of superintendent, I came down to Grand Canyon in February 2011. I wanted to look at the canyon with different eyes. I’d been at the canyon before as a visitor or for work, and every time I was awed and inspired by the natural beauty and grandeur of this space. This time, I thought, “What if I was in charge? What would it look like? What would I do?” I got up in the morning and went out and sat out on the South Rim and watched the sun rise. I tried to discern if this was the right place for me. I remember thinking how incredibly large the landscape is. There are places down there where people may have never been. And it’s right within my view. There are probably places I’m looking at that people have never touched. That’s pretty weird to think about in this world. I tried to take it all in, the significance of it, and at the same time ask myself if this was a place I could manage and how my gifts and experience would match up with the needs of the canyon, its peoples, its community and its resources. What does this place need and can I do it? I came to the conclusion that if I was selected, I would add value to the park.

Grand Canyon is a really incredible place that needs protection. People from all over the world come to see it, and it’s a huge, powerful story. It gives me inspiration to work at the canyon every day.

Interview with Diane Doyle:

Years of Fun at the Canyon *by Emily Jacobson, GCA Publishing Coordinator*

Diane Doyle, a dedicated employee of GCA's South Rim stores, is retiring. In celebration of the many years she spent with GCA, we thought we'd ask her a few questions about her time at the canyon. GCA staff and members will greatly miss Diane.

How many years have you been seasonally working for GCA?

I only missed one year, so that would make it 11 years. [My husband and I] had five or six years on the North Rim. We loved the North Rim because there is so much hiking and it's so beautiful. For shorter hikes [from the South Rim], we'd hike to Indian Gardens. We were outdoors people, so we really enjoyed it. My husband passed away, so I moved back to the South Rim. The South Kaibab [Trail] is my favorite hike on the South Rim, but my favorite on the North Rim is the Widforss Trail.

What aspects of the job do you enjoy and/or find rewarding? Do you feel like you're giving back to the canyon?

I enjoy dealing with all the people on a daily basis and helping them out. There are so many wonderful people out there—makes the day go fast. I like doing memberships because it helps GCA and it also helps the people who purchase them. You gain a lot from it; it's a fun thing to tell visitors about. I've had people come to the South Rim from the North Rim who recognized me and were really thankful that I told them about the GCA membership. I have really enjoyed the experience of working for GCA. You're around so many people from all over the world. The people I work with are a lot of fun also. It's not really work.

What is your favorite memory of your time at the Grand Canyon?

One night I was closing Kolb Studio when a coworker came in to tell me a young man was having problems about 20 minutes down the trail. [My coworker's] husband stayed with him until we came down. We filled my backpack with snacks and drinks and



hiked to them. His legs were cramped so I massaged them while my coworker gave him something to eat and drink. We finally made it to the top hours later, [and] we had him rest at Kolb Studio until he was ready to go. As he left, I joked with him about how an elderly lady had to help him get to the top.

Diane Doyle at Grand Canyon's South Rim.
Photograph courtesy Mike Buchheit



YOU Have the Power to Bring the Grand Canyon to Kids throughout the US

Now through the end of the year, your donation to the Virtual Field Trips for Kids Program will be doubled thanks to a challenge grant by GCA's Board of Directors. Virtual Field Trips for Kids is a streaming video, green-screen technology educational program that allows children to talk live with a park ranger and see what the canyon looks like at that very moment. You will be receiving a request in the mail to join us in this innovative effort to help kids experience the wonders of Grand Canyon! Visit <http://www.grandcanyon.org/donate>.

Environmental Education Coordinator Amala Posey virtually teaches geology.
Photograph courtesy NPS

The Amazing Kolb Brothers: A Grand Life at Grand Canyon

by Richard Quartaroli

The Kolb brothers, Ellsworth and Emery, arrived at the Grand Canyon 110 years ago. They began taking photographs of mule trips and canyon scenery soon thereafter, built a studio and home on the brink of the canyon, and embarked on their “Big Trip,” a river trip through the canyons of the Green and Colorado Rivers. They then took the first motion pictures of the rapids they ran in 16-foot-long wooden boats.

On the centennial anniversary of the “Big Trip,” coinciding with the 100-year anniversary of Arizona statehood, it seems only appropriate that Grand Canyon National Park and the Grand Canyon Association help to celebrate the Kolbs’ adventurous story with the first-ever exhibit devoted entirely to Ellsworth and Emery. It’s planned as a semi-permanent exhibit, scheduled to open to the public in December 2011, and will run until September 2012, returning in December 2013 for another nine months.

Though the Kolb brothers built their Grand Canyon business on the backs of mules and earned their reputation from their photographic images, the exhibit is much more than that, with topics covering the family and the community; other boating and Grand Canyon experiences; the “Grand Canyon Film Show” lectures and publications; the history of the studio that cascades over the edge and its renovation; and where to find further information about Ellsworth and Emery.

The Amazing Kolb Brothers: A Grand Life at Grand Canyon will be at Kolb Studio from December 2011 to September 2012, and admission is free. The exhibit is presented by the Grand Canyon Association, Grand Canyon National Park and Cline Library. With additional funding provided by Pink Jeep Tours, Las Vegas and Sedona. Find more details at www.grandcanyon.org.



Ellsworth Kolb lowering Emery Kolb into a canyon crevice, c. 1900. Photograph courtesy Northern Arizona University, Cline Library [Emery Kolb Collection]



Upcoming GCA and Park-Related Activities

December 2011–September 2012:

The Amazing Kolb Brothers: A Grand Life at Grand Canyon—Kolb Studio exhibit

December 2: Seth Muller Book Signing of *Canyon Crossing: Experiencing Grand Canyon from Rim to Rim* • 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. • Arizona Handmade, 13 N. San Francisco Street, Flagstaff

December 5: Holiday Open House at Books & More at the Grand Canyon Visitor Center in the park

January 14–January 16, 2012: Martin Luther King Jr. birthday weekend with free admission to the national park

January 14–February 14: Adopt a Lion! The perfect way for you to show your LOVE for wildlife during a month that celebrates love.

January 26–January 29: Grand Canyon History Symposium—Shrine of the Ages. For more information, visit www.grandcanyonhistory.org.

Spring 2012: Look for the 2012 spring lecture schedule on the GCA website http://www.grandcanyon.org/events_calendar.asp?category=lecture



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Enjoy 12 months of breathtaking photographs of the Grand Canyon. Proceeds from the calendar go back to the park to help preserve its beauty. 13" x 10"

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I See Something Grand

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illustrated by Barbara Epstein-Eagle

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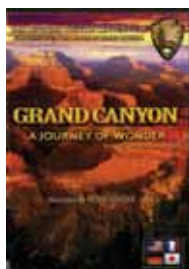
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DVD Grand Canyon: A Journey of Wonder

This film takes you on a journey through one of the Seven Natural Wonders of the World. Enjoy the official National Park Service film special edition DVD, packed with more than two hours of bonus material. Narrated by Peter Coyote. Plays worldwide, 180 minutes.

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Code: M30236



Grand Canyon Adventure! Board Game

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