

December 2018



Vol. 3, No. 4

ZANE GREY EXPLORER

THE JOURNAL OF ZANE GREY'S WEST SOCIETY



*Zane Grey
History
Comes Alive
in the BYU
Archives*



Zane Grey's West Society

Is organized as a charitable, not-for-profit membership association. Its purpose is to promote interest in and knowledge of the eminent American author Zane Grey and his works; to revive interest in the writings of Zane Grey; to identify, memorialize, encourage and assist in the preservation of the sites of his writings; and to encourage modern readers to read and study his life and works so that future generations may realize Zane Grey's contributions to the development of Western and outdoor adventure stories in American literature.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January 5

Deadline for material for the February issue of the *Zane Grey Explorer*

January 31

Zane Grey's Birthday (born 1872, Zanesville, OH)

February 6

Lina Elise "Dolly" Roth Grey's birthday (born 1883, New York, NY)

April 5

Deadline for material for the May issue of the *Zane Grey Explorer*

June 16—19, 2019

37th annual ZGWS convention, Newport, OR

June 20—23, 2019

Post-convention trip to the Umpqua River and Crater Lake, OR

July 13, 2019

Zane Grey Festival at the Zane Grey Museum, Lackawaxen, PA

CO-FOUNDERS OF ZANE GREY'S WEST SOCIETY



G. M. Farley, (1927-1992).
Eminent ZG scholar, editor, publisher.

Dr. Joe L. Wheeler, (b. 1936)
Prolific author, editor, anthologizer:
"America's Keeper of the Story."



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ZANE GREY EXPLORER

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Contact ZGWS at:
15 Deer Oaks Drive
Pleasanton, CA 94588

OFFICERS

President

Terry Bolinger
tbolinger@zgws.org — 303-627-1856

Vice President

Ed Meyer
ed@kekanab.com — 435-819-0201

Secretary / Treasurer

Sheryle Hodapp
sheryle@zgws.org — 925-699-0698

Immediate Past President

Todd Newport
tbnewport@cox.net — 928-273-0299

Executive Director

Dr. Joe L. Wheeler
mountainauthor@gmail.com
303-838-2333

Marketing Committee Chair

Ed Meyer
ed@kekanab.com — 435-819-0201

DIRECTORS

Kristie Adney
Steve Lund
Dr. Alan Pratt
Dr. Rosanne Vrugtman

Explorer Co-Editors

Robert Lentz and Barbara Lentz

Distribution Editor

Terry Bolinger

Proofreader

Kathleen Raffoul

Publication Address

c/o Robert and Barbara Lentz
P. O. Box 229
Mt. Freedom, NJ 07870
E-mail: b2lentz@outlook.com
Phone: 973-537-5956

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ZGWS NOTICES:

Volunteers are Needed for Many ZGWS Projects and Tasks

The Society has several different projects which can use your time and expertise.
Contact Terry for details on how you can help.

The 37th Annual ZGWS Convention, Newport, OR June 16 - 19, 2019

Next June we’ll be enjoying the hospitality of the Best Western Agate Beach Hotel in Newport, Oregon.
Come explore the area and reconnect with your friends next June!

FRONT COVER

The front page displays three images found in the Brigham Young University (BYU) L. Tom Perry Collections. This treasure trove of information and imagery is spotlighted in our new column, “From the Archives,” beginning on page 8. Photos courtesy of BYU, Provo, Utah.

We can always use great photos of ZGWS events, so don’t be shy with those cameras!



President's Corner

by Terry Bolinger

I'd like to start my column with an update on Dr. Joe Wheeler, one of the Society's founders and the Society's Executive Director on our Board of Directors. Joe took a fall in the weeks before the convention, and suffered some significant brain damage. He was in the hospital for several weeks and missed the convention for the first time in Society history, over 35 years. Since that time, Joe has had many ups and downs. He was moved from the hospital to a skilled nursing facility, then went home. However, he suffered some complications and ended up back in the emergency room. Joe is now back home after spending more time in a skilled nursing center. Joe's wife Connie tells me he's making progress, but Joe has a long road to recovery in front of him. Please keep Joe, Connie, and their family in your thoughts and prayers, and Joe, we're missing you – get well soon!

On the next page you'll see an update on the availability of the Centennial Edition of *The Rainbow Trail*. After multiple months of taking two steps forward and one step back, these special edition books are now ready to be delivered. We hope you support this Society endeavor with an order or two.

In this issue you'll also hear from Society Vice President Ed Meyer regarding a trip he took to Brigham Young University (BYU) along with Society members Dr. Alan Pratt and John Sanders, reviewing holdings, namely photographs, in its Zane Grey collections. These collections are a treasure trove of information and our researchers have just barely begun to scratch the surface. They found some real nuggets and we're sure there's much more there. Ed will tell you all about it on page 8.

Then, Todd Newport and Harvey Leake talk about a recently discovered bit of information, namely that Zane Grey traveled the South Rainbow Trail from Rainbow Bridge back to Kayenta on his 1929 trip.

We had always assumed that Grey never took that route — and had always traveled over the North Rainbow Trail — but recently discovered information shows us that Grey did travel over that route. Todd and Harvey take you there, and provide a fascinating history of the Lodge. Harvey's great uncle, Ben Wetherill, was Grey's guide on that trip.

At the board meeting at the last convention, the Board of Directors and officers made changes in the membership dues structures. You'll find those details in an article in this issue. Changes will be effective immediately, in time for the next annual renewal cycle.

Plans are progressing nicely for the 2019 Annual Convention in Oregon. Todd Newport provides more details on the convention on page 27.

Back to the information that Grey traveled on the South Rainbow Trail. This fact highlights one of the more confounding aspects of Grey that I struggle with – we know that Grey was in a particular area, but we don't have any documentation indicating Grey ever visited other important sites in that area. I'm wondering if there aren't many other discoveries like this waiting for us to find. The question of whether Grey had ever taken the South Rainbow Trail had been a mystery to us for many years and the subject of many questions and discussions. It just didn't seem plausible that Grey would have traveled so many times to Rainbow Bridge (at least four) and not have taken the South Rainbow Trail. Our resident expert on the Rainbow Trail, Harvey Leake, had never seen any evidence that Grey took that particular route – and he has access to the Wetherill historical documents. So, this was a fairly significant surprise to us, discovering that Grey did travel over this route on his 1929 and last trip to Rainbow Bridge. He actually took the North trail into Rainbow Bridge, but came out on the South Trail.

Let me give you more examples.

Grey spent a lot of time in Kayenta, Monument Valley, and Navajo National Monument. Canyon De Chelly is only about 70 miles from Kayenta, yet we have seen no evidence or even a whisper that Grey visited the Canyon.

Canyon De Chelly would have been well known at that time and Harvey has told us that his great Grandfather, John Wetherill, guided tourists to the Canyon. I'm betting Grey did go there, and we just haven't found the evidence.

We also know that Grey went up the Pecos River from Texas into New Mexico on a research trip in the 1930s. The Pecos River in New Mexico gets to about fifty miles from Guadalupe Mountains National Park, straddling Texas and New Mexico in the boot heel. In the novel *The Shepherd of Guadalupe*, Grey talks about the wintering grounds for sheep at Guadalupe Springs. There is a Guadalupe Springs in Guadalupe Mountains National Park (dry now) and there is a canyon that seems to fit the route taken by Clifford when he goes after the sheep rustlers. Chuck Pfeiffer was convinced that the wintering grounds were based on the locale of Guadalupe Mountains National Park. But, again, we have no evidence that Grey ever visited Guadalupe Mountains National Park (it wouldn't have been a national park at that time).

Another example. We know, based on a letter in Candace Kant's book *Letters from a Marriage*, that Grey was in Pinedale, WY, at one time. He mentions in this letter the legend on which he based his novel *The Maverick Queen*. We're assuming that him hearing about this story was the birth of the concept for the novel. But, he was in Pinedale. Did he travel to South Pass City, where most of the action in the novel took place? Chuck Pfeiffer believed that the hotel in the novel resembled very closely the Sherlock Hotel, an early hotel / saloon in South Pass City. And, if he was in Pinedale, did he travel on to Grand Tetons National Park and to Yellowstone National Park? We have no evidence indicating he ever made it to South Pass City, the Tetons, or Yellowstone.

Maybe one of these days we'll find some evidence that he did indeed visit some of these other sites. Some of that evidence may be at Brigham Young University, or at the University of Arizona, another repository of ZG information. We just need to sift through that data to unlock these mysteries.

Meanwhile, start making your plans for Oregon. I really do hope to see you there!



Presenting the Centennial Edition of *The Rainbow Trail*

by Terry Bolinger

At long last, after multiple stops and starts, our Centennial Edition of *The Rainbow Trail* is finally ready for delivery. The graphics artist is finished with the spine, front cover images, and the dust jacket. The printer has printed up the desired number of sets of the entire 424 page manuscript, and has printed up the dust jackets, and the book binder has stamped the covers with the artwork and has bound the full 150 copies that we've ordered. By the time you read this, books will either be shipping out to the members who have reserved copies, or at least will be here with me getting ready to ship. The cost per book is \$52 plus actual shipping (\$6.80 per single copy within the continental U.S.).



When you see the book, be sure to look at one of the front pages. We have an image there with an inscription from a first

edition *Rainbow Trail* book owned by ZGWS member James D'Arc. The inscription reads:

"This is my favorite book. Zane Grey."

I believe this to be true – I've now seen this on two separate copies of the title. Also, it is my favorite book and according to his personal preference list, also Chuck Pfeiffer's! You really need a copy of this book!

And, if you own a copy of our Centennial Edition of *Riders of the Purple Sage*, as Rosanne Vrugtman says, don't let it be lonely on your book shelf – give it the logical companion.

If you've already reserved your copy (copies), thank you for supporting this ZGWS project. If not, it's not too late. Just contact Sheryle and let her know you want a copy!





Notice of Changes in Society Membership Categories

by Terry Bolinger

At the last convention, during the annual Board of Directors meeting, Society officers made two decisions impacting the current membership format for Zane Grey's West Society members.

First, a decision was made to revise the Society's membership dues structure: to discontinue Student Memberships (a \$15 annual fee), and replace this category with a Digital Membership (a \$10 annual fee). Currently the Society has no active student memberships, and we believe that any interested students would be satisfied with digital memberships, bypassing the hard copy journal.

As you know, the Society has been running a special membership drive, called Project Turnaround. The main premise of Project Turnaround has been that a member would purchase a society membership at the reduced price of \$10, trying to encourage non-members to "try out" the Society. Our hope was that once someone was introduced to the Society, they would enjoy the membership enough to renew on their own. While this project provided some benefit, we determined that the return on this investment was not meeting our goals. We were basically subsidizing memberships by covering most of the costs of our journal. So, as of this time, Project Turnaround is terminated, but it is essentially being replaced by the Digital Membership.

The Digital Membership will provide all the normal benefits of membership, including being eligible to attend conventions, being eligible to vote on Society business, etc., but rather than receiving four hard copy issues of the our Society journal, this membership category will only receive digital copies of the *Explorer*. These copies will be delivered as PDF copies, either through email, or by allowing the member to download the current issue. They can, of course, be printed at home by any member, if desired.

If a member wants to continue sponsoring new members as occurred with Project Turnaround, we encourage proceeding with Digital Memberships.

This change in the membership categories will begin immediately, in time for the next normal membership renewal cycle. If you are interested in pursuing a Digital Membership, inform our Secretary / Treasurer Sheryle Hodapp when you renew. She will assist you in implementing this choice.

Second, we have had several members express an interest making an additional "donation" to the Society, as part of their annual membership renewal, so the decision was made to offer members the opportunity to pay a higher amount at their renewal and we will recognize that contribution in the *Explorer*. We have established the following amounts for recognition:

1. Sustaining Member \$100 - \$499
2. Frontier Member \$500 - \$999
3. Heritage Member \$1000 or more

These are the guidelines for these new, expanded membership categories:

- Members renewing their memberships at these levels would be acknowledged yearly in the *Explorer*
- These membership levels require yearly donations in order to maintain that membership level over multiple years
- This amount includes the normal \$35 / \$45 fees and would confer on the member all normal benefits, including receiving four paper issues of the *Explorer* per year, voting rights, etc.
- These membership levels can be attained through the use of corporate matching donation programs for members employed at those corporate entities (so, for example, you make a \$50 donation and your company matches it, you would become a Sustaining Member)

- These membership levels cannot be attained through the purchase of items at the Society auction or other fundraiser where items are received for the member's expenditures.
- These membership levels should be paid with a single annual payment.

All funds received as part of the enhanced membership options are dedicated to the general expense fund, unless otherwise stated. The Board reserves the right to transfer all or a portion of these funds to the Endowment Fund.

If any member is interested in these enhanced membership opportunities, let Sheryle know at the time of your renewal. To reiterate, our regular membership level remains the same. For just \$35 (\$45 for members residing outside of the United States), we offer communal membership in the only organized group promoting and celebrating the legacy of legendary western writer Zane Grey. Regular membership without the paper copy of this journal (our biggest expense) is now available as a Digital Membership for just \$10 per year. Digital members will receive the journal in an electronic format and retain all the normal rights of regular members.

Members who would like to contribute a little more to the continued growth and financial health of our organization are encouraged to donate when renewing their memberships, and we now have three new levels of recognition to show our appreciation, as detailed on the previous page.

We have made these changes in order to attract new members and offer current members the most viable options for participating with us. Those of you who want to keep receiving the *Explorer* as usual need only to renew at the regular rate. But if you would rather receive an electronic copy by e-mail, you can now renew at a lower rate. And if you want to donate to our non-profit organization along with your membership, we now have a structured format by which you can receive some recognition for your generosity. Either way, the important thing is to renew, and to stay involved in the Society. Thank you for your support.



AmazonSmile

Don't forget to sign up for AmazonSmile if you shop at Amazon.com, and designate ZGWS as the not-for-profit entity that you wish to receive a .05% donation on your behalf.

Go to smile.amazon.com today and Zane Grey's West Society will be the beneficiary every time you make a purchase at Amazon.com!

An Invitation . . .

To any and all persons who might be reading this issue of the *Zane Grey Explorer*, we cordially invite you to become a member of Zane Grey's West Society.

We celebrate the writings and adventures of this eminent author, fisherman and sportsman through this publication, member interactions, public presentations, a website and annual conventions at locations where he lived, fished or chronicled.

Our annual dues are only **\$35** (U.S.) and **\$45** (outside the U.S.)
Digital Memberships are now only \$10 per year.



Apply online at www.zgws.org

Or contact Sheryle Hodapp, Secretary / Treasurer

15 Deer Oaks Drive, Pleasanton, CA 94588

Phone: 925-699-0698

Email: Sheryle@zgws.org



A new column for the *Zane Grey Explorer*: **From the Archives**

Does the thought of sitting at a table sifting through box after box of documents buried in a library or government facility somewhere for Zane Grey information excite you? You might be surprised to learn that some people LOVE to do this kind of thing. However, other fans can't afford to travel around America looking for these hidden treasures and wouldn't know where to start even if they did.

Fortunately for us, a new generation of internet-savvy researchers and fans are learning that more and more archives are making information regarding Zane Grey available online. Your *Zane Grey Explorer* will now feature a column entitled "From the Archives" that will highlight exciting Zane Grey collections going online around America.

Let's begin with a collection called *The Zane Grey Papers* (call number MSS 6081) which is available at Brigham Young University in its L. Tom Perry Collections at their Harold B. Lee Library. This collection is one of eight separate Zane Grey collections available in this marvelous archive.

The information and resources gathered together regarding Zane Grey in the L. Tom Perry Collections is staggering. If you put their folders full of pictures, handwritten manuscripts, personal and business letters, contracts and more on a bookshelf, the files would stretch from the goal line to past the fifty-yard line on a football field.

Members of Zane Grey's West Society who attended the Society's 2017 annual convention in Jackson, Wyoming will remember meeting Ryan Lee from Brigham Young University. Mr. Lee curates the 19th Century Mormon and West Manuscripts collections within L. Tom Perry Special Collections at the Harold B. Lee Library. Of specific interest to us, Ryan is the curator overseeing the tens of thousands of documents in the various Zane Grey collections.

During the convention, Society President Terry Bolinger and Vice-President Ed Meyer sat down with Ryan to discuss ways our organizations could work together to help the world learn more about Zane Grey. One of the Society's requests was that key images from the Zane Grey collections be digitized and made available to fans and researchers online. Ryan discussed our requests with his peers and supervisor at BYU and received approval to begin to digitize the collections' most significant images. Our hope is that fans around the world will soon be able to view several hundred Grey-related images online.

As Ed Meyer is a Brigham Young University graduate who has visited the L. Tom Perry Collections several times in the past, Terry Bolinger asked him to work with Ryan and his staff to identify images to be digitized and provide enhanced information on the pictures.



*The Harold B. Lee Library at
Brigham Young University:
Home of the L. Tom Perry Collections*

*Photo Credit: Jaren S. Wilkey /
BYU Photo*



John Sanders (left), Ed Meyer (center) and Alan Pratt (right) diligently sort through the L. Tom Perry Collections

Photo credit: Bonnie Pratt

This process began on October 2nd when members Alan Pratt and John Sanders joined Meyer to initiate the arduous task of selecting and interpreting photographs and negatives, with some of their results to be seen in this article.

Meyer will select a second team to visit BYU in the spring of 2019 to continue the work. Team members must have a broad understanding of Zane Grey history and be willing to adhere to a carefully designed research process and guidelines determined by BYU. The team is limited to two to three individuals who will be supervised by Ed Meyer.

The four images that follow are exciting examples of the thousands of Grey-related pictures in the L. Tom Perry Collections. Specifically, they are from one of eight Zane Grey related collections entitled “Zane Grey Papers (MSS 6081)”. Components of the collection were purchased from Dan Brock, Lorne Hirsch, Brian Curtis, and Rosejane Rudicel between 2007 and 2009. Pictures from other collections at BYU and other archives will be shown in “From the Archives” in future editions of the *Zane Grey Explorer*.



Zane and Lina Elise “Dolly” Grey on Their Honeymoon in San Francisco

Zane and Dolly Grey’s 1906 honeymoon is remembered largely because the couple visited the South Rim of the Grand Canyon, a visit that inspired the writer to return to the North Rim the following year with Buffalo Jones. The fact that they also visited San Francisco while on their honeymoon is barely mentioned, if at all.

This wonderful image of the couple includes a handwritten annotation confirming that it was taken during their honeymoon. Their visit to the “City by the Bay “ was in February 1906. The connection to San Francisco is additionally clear because the huge building in the picture is the famous “Cliff House” which was damaged in the great San Francisco earthquake only two months after the Grey’s visit and burned to the ground on September 7, 1907.

Photograph of Zane Grey and Lina Elise “Dolly” Grey on their honeymoon in San Francisco; MSS 6081; Zane Grey papers; L. Tom Perry Special Collections; Arts & Communications Archives; 1130 Harold B. Lee Library; Brigham Young University; Provo, Utah

Zane Grey Riding "Spot" Toward Buffalo Jones' Cattalo



Photograph of buffalo on plain; MSS 6081; Zane Grey papers; L. Tom Perry Special Collections; Arts & Communications Archives; 1130 Harold B. Lee Library; Brigham Young University; Provo, Utah

Zane Grey signed this photo, which also includes a label identifying the animals as Buffalo Jones' cattalo and tying the picture to the second chapter of *The Last of the Plainsmen*. Zane Grey's own words from *The Last of the Plainsmen* describe this picture better than anything I could put to pen:

"Look at the cattalo calves," cried Jones, in ecstatic tones. "See how shy they are, how close they stick to their mothers." The little dark-brown fellows were plainly frightened . . . He (Jones) took my camera and instructed me to go on ahead, in the rear of the herd. I heard the click of the instrument as he snapped a picture, and then suddenly heard him shout in alarm: "Look out! Look out! Pull your horse!"

Photograph of Lina Elise "Dolly" Grey with young Romer Grey and Betty Zane Grey Grosso; MSS 6081; Zane Grey papers; L. Tom Perry Special Collections; Arts & Communications Archives; 1130 Harold B. Lee Library; Brigham Young University; Provo, Utah

Thundering hoof-beats pounding the earth accompanied his words. I saw a big bull, with head down, tail raised, charging my horse . . . Spot wheeled as if he were on a pivot and plunged out of the way with a celerity that was astounding. The buffalo stopped, pawed the ground, and angrily tossed his huge head. Frank rode up to him, yelled, and struck him with the lariat, whereupon he gave another toss of his horns, and then returned to the herd.

"It was that darned white nag," said Jones. "Frank, it was wrong to put an inexperienced man on Spot. For that matter, the horse should never be allowed to go near the buffalo."

"Spot knows the buffs; they'd never get to him," replied Frank."

Dolly Grey with children Romer and Betty



The photo of Dolly Grey as a young mother sitting with daughter Betty in her lap and son Romer by her side tells a story repeated often during Dolly's life. While Zane is typically present in family photos, he is absent in this sitting. Given Betty's young age in the picture (she was born on April 22, 1912), it appears the picture would have been taken in 1913, perhaps while Grey was travelling to see Rainbow Bridge for the first time. Through the years Dolly lamented her husband's long absences though she was an indispensable partner in advancing his career.

Zane Grey in Naval Uniform

Were you aware that Zane Grey served in the military? We were surprised as well, so this picture is something of a mystery. We know that it was taken at a studio in Auckland, New Zealand in 1925. This is consistent with his first fishing trip over there. We also took a close look at his hat and the emblem you see is the same used by the U.S. Naval Reserve in 1925. Between 1917 and 1941, commissions in the Naval Reserve were sometimes issued to yachtsmen willing to serve part-time cruising the Atlantic and Pacific Coasts looking for enemy ships and submarines or overseeing boat safety in the ports. Zane might well have found the prestige of being a naval officer to be appealing. You can see a picture of William K. Vanderbilt II wearing an identical uniform after he was commissioned into the US Naval Reserve to the rank of Lt. Commander in 1917



Photograph of Zane Grey in Naval uniform; MSS 6081; Zane Grey papers; L. Tom Perry Special Collections; Arts & Communications Archives; 1130 Harold B. Lee Library; Brigham Young University; Provo, Utah

online at: <https://www.vanderbiltmuseum.org/vanderbilts-century-military-service>. Since 1941, the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary has provided similar services.

Perhaps someday soon we will find documentation of Grey's service hidden away somewhere else in the archives. Until next time . . .



The History of the South Rainbow Trail

by Harvey Leake



*Rainbow Bridge
(Nonnezoshe)
as seen from the
new bypass trail.
Photo Credit:
Terry Bolinger*



ersed all three variants of the trail at least once. The evidence seemed to suggest, however, that he always went in and came out on the North Trail that crosses the Glass Mountains and Surprise Valley.

That conclusion changed a few years ago when ZGWS member Ed Meyer came across photos in the Brigham Young University (BYU) Archive from Grey's 1929 trip taken by

the artist Marjorie Thomas. Two photographs showed scenes from a different trail, which is south and west of Navajo Mountain, rather than the one which is north of it. They were labelled "On the way to Rainbow Lodge from Rainbow Bridge." It was evident, then, from the newly-discovered photos, that Zane Grey returned from the bridge to Kayenta in 1929 on this route that was new to him.

On his first visit to Rainbow Bridge in 1913, Zane Grey was struck by the rugged scenery of the region. Although he considered the bridge to be "probably the most beautiful and wonderful natural phenomenon in the world," he found the journey to be almost as inspirational as the destination. "It is a safe thing to say that this trip is the most beautiful one to be had in the West," he wrote. "It is a hard one and not for everybody," he added.¹

The beginning of the historic Rainbow Trail was the home and trading post of John and Louisa Wetherill at Kayenta, Arizona. Kayenta is in the Navajo country just south of the Utah border, and about twenty miles from the iconic Monument Valley. The seventy mile horseback ride to reach the hidden wonder crossed some of the most convoluted topography imaginable.

For the first forty miles or so, there are actually three trails between Kayenta and Navajo Mountain. All three converge northeast of the mountain, and the common "North Trail" continues westerly across numerous canyons and uplands before reaching Bridge Canyon, the portal to Rainbow Natural Bridge. Following his 1913 expedition, Zane Grey returned to the bridge three more times—in 1922, 1923, and 1929. In his writings, he documented differences in his route from trip to trip, confirming that he trav-



*Trails between Kayenta and Navajo Mountain
are shown on this map.*

Photo Credit: Harvey Leake



*Zane Grey and another man on the South Rainbow Trail.
Photograph taken by Marjorie Thomas.
Photo courtesy of BYU Special Collections.*

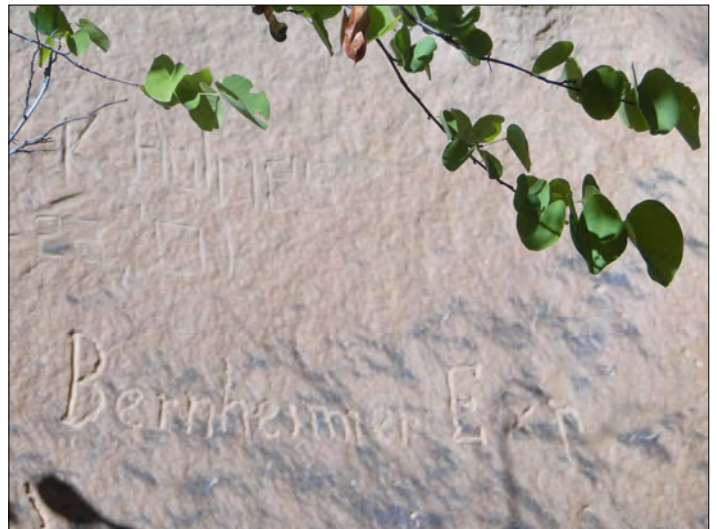
Rainbow Lodge was built in 1924 on the southwestern slope of the mountain, and the proprietors began guiding clients to the bridge on the “South Trail” that had been opened up by John Wetherill and other participants of the 1922 Charles L. Bernheimer expedition. Bernheimer, the self-styled “Tenderfoot and cliff dweller from Manhattan,” was a wealthy New Yorker who had immigrated from Germany in 1881 and made his fortune in the textile industry. He lived in a five-story mansion half a block from the Central Park Zoo. He first came to Kayenta in 1920 to see Rainbow Bridge, then returned to the area year after year, intent on exploring new territory.

*The Rainbow Lodge,
as it appeared in
the 1920s.
Photo Credit:
Harvey Leake*



Ironically, Zane Grey influenced Bernheimer, and Bernheimer in turn funded building of the trail that Grey used on his final departure from Rainbow Bridge. Through the writings of Grey and others, Bernheimer had learned of the magnificent arch and considered taking the strenuous journey to visit it. He booked his first adventure with guides John Wetherill and Zeke Johnson of Blanding, Utah for May of 1920. This first trip was little more than Wetherill’s standard tourist fare along the same trail that he had taken Zane Grey on in 1913.

The rugged canyonlands around Navajo Mountain captured Bernheimer’s attention, and he envisioned himself an explorer of places unknown to any but the resident Native Americans. He returned in 1921 and began scouting a new trail to Rainbow Bridge around the west side of the mountain. In 1922, he funded and oversaw construction of that route, which later became a well-used alternate approach to the bridge over the dramatic Redbud Pass.



*Inscription on the South Rainbow Trail,
noting the Bernheimer Expedition.
Photo Credit: Todd Newport*

With great difficulty, the members of the 1922 Bernheimer party worked their way up to a saddle high on the slope of Navajo Mountain that separated it from No Name Mesa. From there, they determined that the drop into a deep defile they called Cliff Canyon, although treacherous, could be negotiated with their pack animals.

From the bottom of the canyon, they reconnoitered, looking for a possible route through the cliffs beyond that they could use to continue northward toward Rainbow Bridge. The only possibility, they determined, was a narrow mile-long slot that ascended to a rocky pass, then dropped through a fissure to the floor of the next canyon beyond.

Four days of backbreaking work were required to clear the way for the animals and their packs, with the help of a mule load of “dynamite, TNT, and black powder.” At one place the walls were only two feet apart and had to be chipped away. Beyond the top of the pass, the men laboriously constructed a stone ramp down the defile. “We rolled loose blocks of stone down into it from the cliffs on the W. side, then shot down and sledged to pieces the two vertical leaves of stone at the W. side of the fissure, until the slit was filled and widened enough for the animals to climb down it,” recalled participant Earl Morris.² On July 5, 1922, the pack train negotiated Redbud Pass and proceeded down canyon to Rainbow Bridge.

Some of us had followed Grey’s route along the original North Trail on several occasions but had always neglected to include the South Trail in our itineraries due to the original supposition that he never went that way. With the new information that he did, in fact, take that other route on his 1929 return from the bridge, a backpacking trip to visit that section was planned for October of 2017. Participants were Terry Bolinger, Todd Newport, Sandra Scott, and Harvey Leake. Forever Resorts and Antelope Point Marina graciously provided logistical support, including a Hummer ride from Page to the trailhead and a boat ride from Rainbow Bridge back to Page. Todd Newport’s account of our trip is next.

Endnotes:

- 1 Grey, Zane, “Nonnezoshe, the Rainbow Bridge,” *Recreation Magazine*, February 1915.
- 2 Morris, Earl H., Field Notes, housed at the University of Colorado.



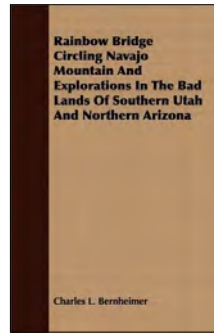
Harvey Leake,, Sandra Scott, Todd Newport and Terry Bolinger
On the South Rainbow Trail, with Rainbow Bridge in the background.
Photo Credit: Terry Bolinger



Our South Trail to Rainbow Bridge Adventure

by Todd Newport

For me this story started way back in 2003 during a trip I took to visit long time ZGWS member and former Director John Gilbert in South Carolina. During that visit I was going through his library of books and came across a title by Charles Bernheimer called *Rainbow Bridge* (1924). I started reading it while I was there, was quite fascinated, and asked John if I could borrow it. He told me to keep it as he had already read it.



It was in that book that I first learned about the trail that came around the south side of Navajo mountain, made its way from what would later be the Rainbow Lodge, and meanders up and down canyons finally passing through Red Bud Pass. Bernheimer's guide on his several trips into that country was the same trail blazer that guided Zane Grey, John Wetherill. It was during those trips that they blasted out (with dynamite) the Red Bud Pass so that a horse could make it through the narrow slit in the rocks.



*The marker at Red Bud Pass.
Photo Credit: Todd Newport.*

After learning about it, I was intrigued by this rugged trail and wanted to be able to travel that same course someday. Well, starting in 2010 I was able to make a few treks into the back country to visit the Rainbow Bridge using the old route on the northern trail. But since Zane Grey had not travelled the southern trail there was less interest in exploring this south trail through Red Bud Pass by our ZGWS hikers. That was until the photos by Marjorie Thomas were seen by Ed Meyer and Harvey Leake in 2016 in a display at the Desert Caballeros Western Museum in Wickenburg, Arizona.



Thomas had accompanied Zane Grey and a large group of people on a long trip through Utah and northern Arizona in 1929. In those photos were pictures of ZG riding through Red Bud Pass! So, almost ninety years after the fact, we now had proof that ZG had used this South Trail to visit Rainbow Bridge. The next step was to start serious discussions about getting a group together, led by Harvey Leake, the great grandson of John Wetherill to make this same trip.

Now you have the backstory of how the trip was conceived and why it is important to document an historic ZG trip, one that had been somewhat lost in history until recently uncovered.



*Terry Bolinger, Todd Newport, Sandra Scott and Harvey Leake at the Rainbow Trailhead.
Photo Credit: Gus Scott*

Our hiking group consisted of Harvey Leake, Sandra Scott, Terry Bolinger, and me. Gus Scott was also with us for our first night out. We left our vehicles at the Antelope Marina near Page, and then were shuttled by our friends at Forever Resorts via a Hummer to the location of the old Rainbow Lodge. This was as far as a truck could drive in. This lodge was built in 1924 and used as a jumping off point for the South Trail. It was once run by famed politician and conservationist Barry Goldwater. Now there are just low rock walls and foundations of the buildings and cabins that were located there. This was where we camped the first night; we were able to explore the area a bit. As we were on the SW side of Navajo Mountain we had a wonderful view of the country to the south and west. It was a fantastic place to visit and a great way to start a new adventure.

On our first day hiking we left the Rainbow Lodge ruins and the trail began at a rock cairn beyond the cabin sites, where the elevation lies about 6300 feet. From there the trail follows the southwest side of Navajo Mountain and goes up and down through three main canyons. There would be no water until our camp that night, so we needed to make sure we had plenty for that first day.

*Our chariot to
Rainbow Lodge.
Photo Credit:
Todd Newport*





*Sandra Scott (she's that small figure in the center of the wilderness) on her way down the trail from Yabut Pass.
Photo Credit: Todd Newport*

The countryside was open for view with a lot of piñon pine trees in the area. It was also quite rocky. About two-and-a-half miles in we headed down into Horse Canyon. It looked like a pretty deep drop to me, but we made it through without too much trouble - I would stop many times for water and photos. After winding around the mountain for a few more miles we finally came to the top of the pass that we had read and heard so much about: Yabut Pass.

Right at the top there was a spectacular view into Cliff Canyon - it has a 1600-foot drop in the first two miles! It was not only a great view, but it was a bit terrifying that we would be dropping so far in just two miles. We had already traveled six miles to get to the top and I was getting quite tired. This was the toughest portion of the trail that we were looking straight down on and about to jump into.

We rested and hydrated in the shade that we could find before starting this last leg of the hike. I knew we had three more miles to go before we would reach our next camp and water, but it was one of the toughest three miles I had ever tackled. The small rocks and boulders on the trail down were inconveniently placed all over the steep trail and it was difficult to stay upright. This was a huge strain on our knees and I was extremely glad I had both my walking sticks to help me make it through.

We wound around to the right of the canyon's upper reaches before the switchbacks started and seemed to continue for the next two miles. Each step seemed to need concentration to place your foot in the right place on the trail to avoid a stone. All the rocks moved easily and so you did not dare step on one and risk falling or breaking something.



*Signpost for Horse Canyon.
Photo Credit: Todd Newport*

In addition to all this it was getting warmer during the day and there was no shade until we reached the bottom of the canyon. Once we reached the lowest level of that steep downward climb we only had another mile to go to reach the camp site at "First Water." The problem for me was that I was overheated and out of gas. I shuffled through that last mile moving slow and steady. When we reached camp the others started to set up their tents and get ready to eat dinner from our packs. I just stood there too tired to do anything else until I could cool down and catch my wind. I finally regained my comfort level and set up my tent and we all ate dinner. The toughest part was now over and the next day I would get to experience Red Bud Pass in person!



*"First Water" on the South Trail.
Photo Credit: Todd Newport*

On the next day I felt rested and ready to go. We followed Cliff Canyon down for about two miles when we came to an arched rock formation that I remembered from the Bernheimer book. That was the sign to start looking for the Red Bud Pass off to our right. Harvey had been through this trail many times and knew the turns well, so we were in the good hands of our guide. As we entered the pass the side canyon started to narrow. Red Bud Pass was blasted by Wetherill and Bernheimer in 1922 and named by them at that time.

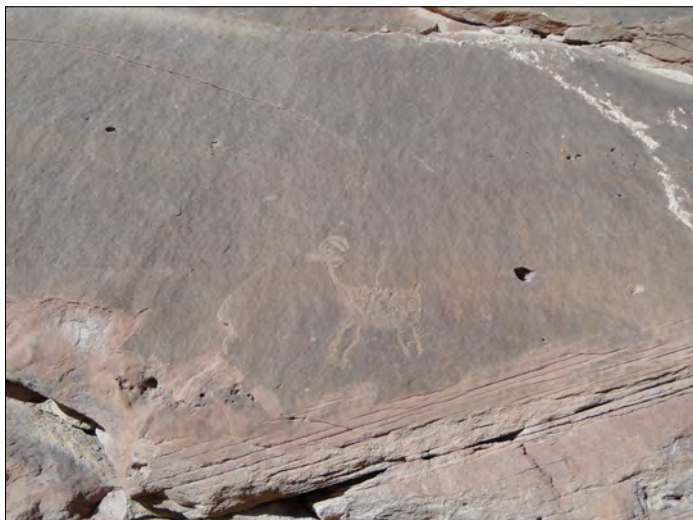


*Turn right here to arrive at Red Bud Pass.
Photo Credit: Todd Newport*

As we approached the center where there is a marker, the trail started uphill significantly. It was soft dirt that had settled in over rocks and boulders. I had finally made it to the place I had been so intrigued by those many years before, captivated by the writing of Charles Bernheimer. Now it had a double pleasure as I was also on a Zane Grey trail. After resting and taking pictures at the top we started down and quickly came to very large boulders that we had to scramble over without our packs.



*At the top of Red Bud Pass.
Photo Credit: Terry Bolinger*



*Ancient art along the South Trail.
Photo Credit: Todd Newport*

The possibility of bringing horses through there had long since ceased. John Wetherill and his crew had brought in a lot of dirt to fill in around the boulders, but that had washed out over the years just leaving these large rocks. Once past the boulder pile we entered a portion of the pass that was overgrown with trees and very narrow. It was along this area that we saw the Inscriptions from past travelers. These were from not only Bernheimer and Wetherill, but several other people that had once visited that location. In less than a mile we came out the pass and reached Red Bud Creek and the main canyon that would lead us to our next camp. It was about another mile and we reached the junction of Red Bud Creek and the North Trail with which we were more familiar. This is where we would make our last camp before hiking to Rainbow Bridge the following day. This was in Bridge Canyon, a wonderful place to spend a night. There is a lot of water and green trees and bushes to offset the very tall red cliffs that shoot up on both sides of the canyon. We again set up our tents and had a fire and dinner there. It is always amazing to me how good food tastes when camping, no matter how basic.

In the morning we headed down Bridge Canyon crossing the stream many times along the trail. It was about two miles to Echo Camp, but before you reach that place you get your first look at the backside of Rainbow Bridge (Nonnezoshe).

This is always an awesome experience as you have travelled so far to get to this place to get that first glance at the great arch. I am always impressed by the site in that it has not changed since viewed by Zane Grey, Theodore Roosevelt, John Wetherill and others over a century years ago, at least from that observation point. Just around the corner from there is Echo Camp, a very interesting place that looks like an arching cave-like corner of the canyon. It was heavily used by the first tourists to the bridge, many years before you could take a boat there. A short walk and we came to the Rainbow Bridge, using the new trail that goes around the bridge instead of under it as the old trail did. Many photos were taken, and a good time was had by all. We headed on down the trail towards Lake Powell with the great arch behind us. It seems like you always stop and take that last look at its great expanse one last time before you turn the corner leaving it out of view till your next trip. It was about a mile to the boat docks on Lake Powell and we waited there for our boat ride back to Antelope Marina. Gus Scott was on the boat to greet us with his great smile and it was a refreshing one-hour trip back to our vehicles.

It was a tough but fantastic experience on beautiful rugged trails with fine people. During those memorable days we experienced a little of what Zane Grey did in 1929 and better understood why it so inspired him and drew him back year after year.



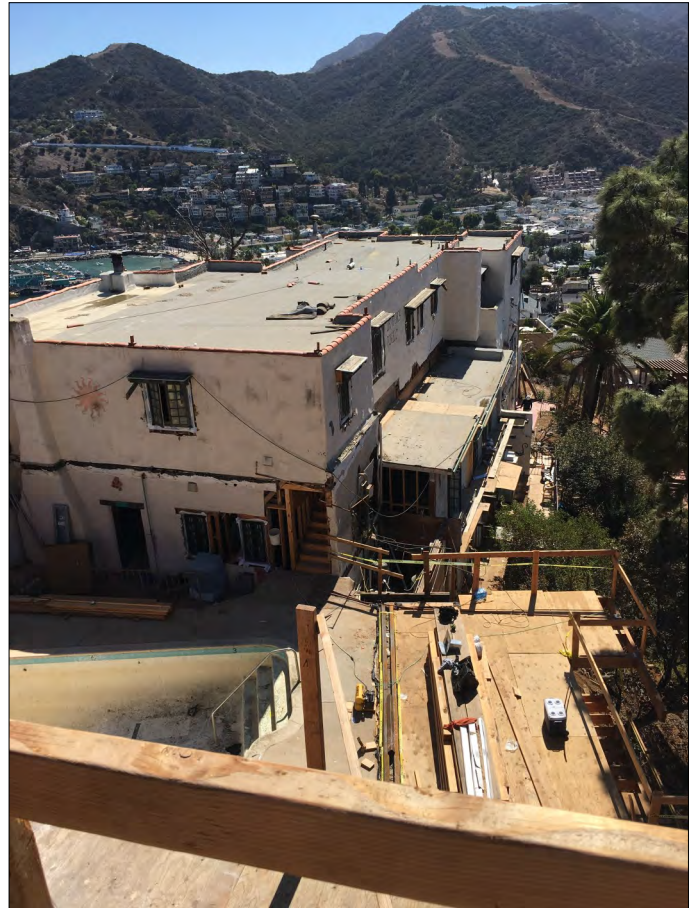
*Sandra Scott at Rainbow Bridge.
Photo Credit: Todd Newport*

Latest Update on the Zane Grey Pueblo Hotel Restoration Project, Catalina Island

by Terry Bolinger

According to the latest update we've received from Peter Chang, work on the Zane Grey Pueblo restoration project on Catalina Island should be completed in February, with a grand re-opening planned for March. As with most large construction projects, these schedules are subject to change, but we'll keep you updated as this historic structure returns to pristine form. The original building was constructed in the mid-1920s and became a hotel after Grey's 1939 passing.

In the meantime, Peter has provided some photos of the current work.





The Zane Grey Grapefruit Ranch

by James Vickers

This is a reprint of an article which appeared in the Zane Grey Review, Volume 8, Number 1. James Vickers was president of the Society for a time during the 1980s and '90s and this was his President's Corner column from that December 1992 issue. It is a terrific example of the kind of historical information our Society journals have provided for more than three decades.

A couple of years ago, I was walking around the north rim of the Grand Canyon with the eminent Beverly Hills rare-book dealer, George Houle, and he asked me what I knew about Zane Grey's Grapefruit Ranch. I had to admit I knew nothing about it, but I promised George I would find out what I could and get back to him.



To me, it was another intriguing investigation into the life and lore of Zane Grey. I talked first to Zane's son, Loren Grey. Loren said he had not been there in over fifty years, and had not thought about it for almost as long.

It appears Zane Grey purchased the ranch in the 1930's as an investment and also a place to visit in southern California. In the beginning the Greys hired a farmer to care for the trees and harvest the grapefruit. It had been called "Zane Grey's Flying Sphynx Ranch," and Loren gave me some meager directions to find the general area where the ranch was located, as best he could remember.

Last November I had an opportunity to be in southern California, and enlisted some fellow Zanies with the promise of a mystery ride into the desert area to locate a long forgotten Zane Grey homesite. Meeting in Desert Hot Springs, California, at the home of Ruth and Val Smith, we planned our adventure.

Besides Ruth and Val, our group included John Gilbert from Greenville, South Carolina, and my wife, Valerie. Our instructions were to "ride south of Indio" (sounds like a western movie) into the Coachella Valley, then travel thirty or forty miles southeast of Palm Springs and look for a row of very tall trees opposite a grocery store (remember, these were directions from a person who had not seen the place in over fifty years).

After stopping at many small stores with no results, and no one who had heard of Zane Grey, we talked to a real estate agent. She vaguely remembered the ranch, but referred us to an older agent back in Indio. We decided to press on. Our next stop was a small National Park area, and figuring the Federal Government knows everything, we talked to the park rangers. "Who's Zane Grey?" they asked. John Gilbert was quick to enlighten these young folks with a history lesson about Zane Grey and his prominence in their area. The rangers promised to add Grey to their research projects.

Discouraged but undaunted, we stopped in the date-farm area at a large store and snack bar advertising "date shakes" and chocolate covered dates and a variety of products from the area. After downing some sandwiches and "date shakes," we wandered around the store and found a display of old fruit box labels. Unfortunately, no "Flying Sphynx" labels were there.

We asked the clerk, who referred us to the elderly proprietor. She said "yes," she knew of the ranch, but we were on the wrong side of the lake. She gave us directions to the Oasis area about twenty miles around the end of the lake (Salton Sea) and into acres of produce farms.

We sensed that we were getting close if only our time would not run out.

Finding ourselves at another dead end, we stopped to ask two older Hispanic gentlemen sitting on a stone fence. I tried to explain in my broken Spanish what we were looking for, but to no avail. Finally, one man called his young son over. His English was better than mine, but he never heard of Zane Grey. He referred me to a bar down the street and to ask for Jose Rivas, who knew everything.

We drove to the bar and heard the sound of vibrant, Spanish music blaring from the open door. I volunteered to go in, while my comrades remained in the van with the motor running.

As I went from the bright sunlight into the darkened interior, it took a moment for my eyes to adjust. I noticed a number of men in western hats shooting pool in one part of the bar room. They all looked up as I came inside.

I spoke to a young Hispanic man behind the bar. "I'm looking for Jose Rivas," I said bravely. He immediately picked up the phone and made a call. "Maybe you shouldn't bother him," I said, but it was too late. All eyes were on me. In a few minutes, that seemed an eternity, a large, powerful man came through the back door. He immediately turned off the loud music and looked at me. I thought how I would explain what I wanted, and convince him there really was a Zane Grey. I heard myself ask, "Are you Jose Rivas?" With his dark, piercing eyes on me, he said, "My name is Rivas." With everyone watching me I started to talk about grapefruits and Zane Grey and western stories, and why I was looking for the ranch.



Romer Grey on a tractor at the Zane Grey Flying Sphynx Ranch purchased by Grey in 1928. MSS 6081; Zane Grey papers; L. Tom Perry Special Collections; Arts & Communications Archives; 1130 Harold B. Lee Library; Brigham Young University; Provo, Utah.

I watched Rivas' dark eyes change from piercing, to amazement, to amusement. He relaxed and smiled and said, "Yes, I know the place and you are almost there." He gave me a few, simple directions and we shook hands as I thanked him.

I stepped back into the sunlight and heard the loud music return. I entered the van, and as we drove away it was hard to believe the scene I just left had taken place. Next time I'm sending John Gilbert.

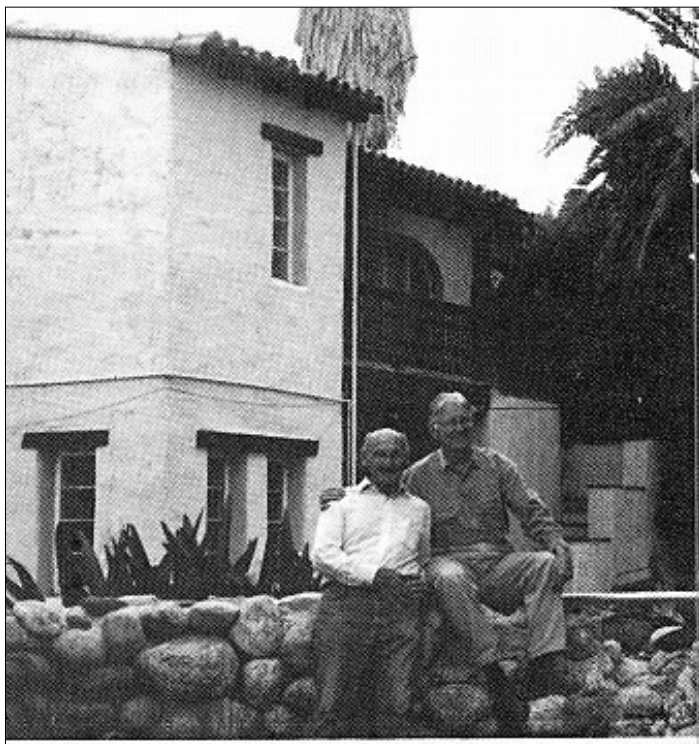
We turned down a road with fruit orchards on both sides: We came to a crossroad and there it was! Partially hidden in some tall palm trees was an off-white stucco, two-story house with a red tile roof. A balcony projected from the second floor front with a picturesque outside staircase built into the house wall. A single-level extension with large windows was attached to the rear. A waist-high fence of rounded field stones surrounded the area with a fish pond and stone barbecue pit in the yard. At one time flower gardens graced the walled area.

This looked like a house Zane Grey would have liked. Several large sheds with farming equipment were in evidence. We talked to a man working on some equipment and he said, "Yes, this was formerly the home and ranch of Zane Grey, the famous author." The current owner was the son of the Japanese family that the Greys sold the farm to in the late forties. He invited us to look around.

The Greys had continued with the ranch after Zane's death, and Romer Grey lived there during World War II, managing the farming for the war effort.

The house still reflects the elegance of an earlier time, but appears more as a working farm house than the home of a famous author. The farm produces mainly celery and broccoli now, where in the past it was grapefruit and western stories.

As we said farewell to Zane Grey's Flying Sphynx Ranch, and Val Smith pointed our van into the sunset, we all agreed that it had been a successful trip with our mission accomplished. We send thanks to George Houle for bringing it to our attention.



Zane Grey Grapefruit Ranch House with Val Smith and John Gilbert on the fence.
(Photo by Ruth Smith)

Vickers' article is short on details on the ranch itself, which we now believe still exists but is closed down. According to Thomas Pauly's book, Zane Grey: His Life, His Adventures, His Women (2005, University of Illinois Press), Dolly Grey bought the 160-acre grapefruit ranch in Indio, California in September, 1928. We think the family sold the ranch in 1950. A folder of information regarding the ranch is part of the manuscript collection of Brigham Young University's Harold B. Lee Library.

Elsewhere in this issue we have extolled the virtues of research into the legends, lore and, yes, minutiae of Zane Grey's life and career. There by are many areas of interest yet to be fully explored, as evidenced by this amusing glimpse into the Grey family's real estate holdings. A similar lack of detailed information exists regarding the Greys' part-time residence in Middletown, New York, beginning in 1913. Members are encouraged to help research topics such as these, following the leads of James Vickers and Chuck Pfeiffer, and to share their results through this journal, or the ZGWS Facebook page.

Good hunting!





The Maverick Queen and The Mysterious Rider: Related Characters, Different Plots (Part One of Two)

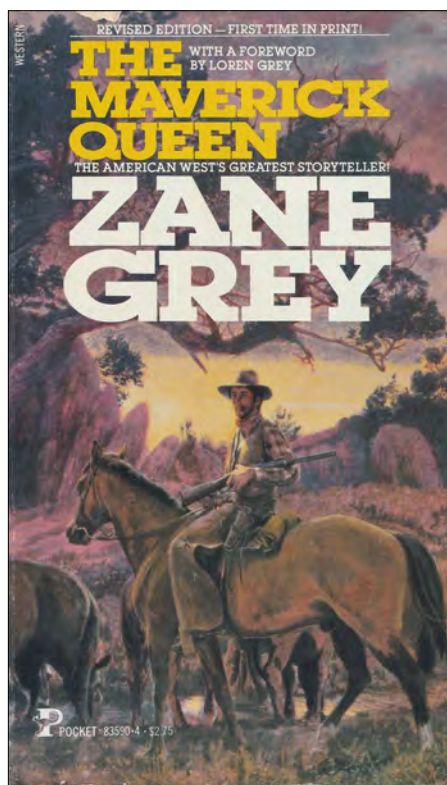
by Dr. Victor Carl Friesen

The Maverick Queen

In both westerns we have an individual (a man in the earlier book, a woman in the later one) who has little thought for anyone else, only for him / herself. Zane Grey examines what will be the logical fate for each person in the course of what is consequentially a brief lifetime. (I found it interesting that in Chuck Pfeiffer's final rating of Grey's westerns, in *So You Want to Read Zane Grey and Don't Know Where to Start* (2006), these two books are rated relatively high on the list, and right next to each other. Apparently, Grey does an equally good job of depicting both people.

Ladies first, so let's see how Kit Bandon, in *The Maverick Queen* fares (*The Mysterious Rider* will be examined in the next *Explorer*.) *The Maverick Queen* was written in 1937 but published only in 1950 after Grey's death. The story occurs in 1889, in Wyoming Territory, the year before the area was admitted into statehood. The state seal will depict a woman before a banner proclaiming "Equal Rights," presumably for men *and* women. One of the four smaller banners shows that "livestock" is an important product. Naturally, any western fiction will deal with the cattle industry, and Grey's book, true to the state seal, features not only ranching but a woman in charge.

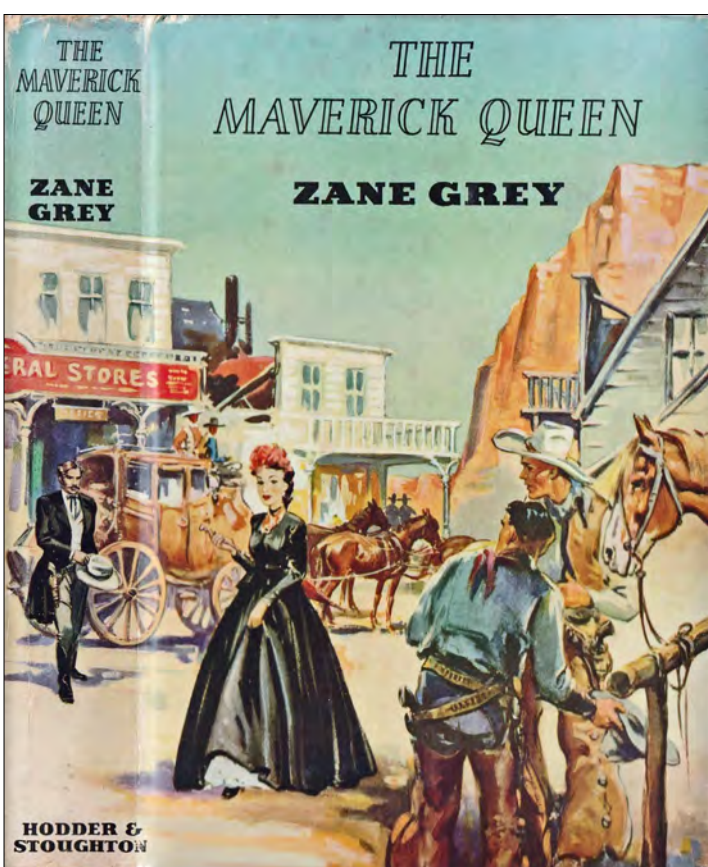
Grey posits an interesting situation: what if the woman operator is remarkably beautiful, of high intelligence, but lacking in moral scruples? Will she be a successful rancher? How does she earn the title "Maverick Queen," and what does it mean? Kit appears at first to be a proficient ranchwoman, building up her herd by securing mavericks, that is, unbranded calves, and raising them into profitable cattle for sale. But how does she get the calves? As Pfeiffer so gently describes the process, she "trades her charms" for them (p. 9); that is, she is a prostitute, and a maverick is her fee.



The story begins with Linc Bradway, a cowboy from the neighboring state of Nebraska, arriving by stagecoach in South Pass, Wyoming, where Kit Bandon lives. He is looking for his "pard", Jimmy Weston. Linc discovers that the man has been killed, perhaps in a mix-up of criminal activity. He decides immediately to ferret out the circumstances of the crime—his friend's name must be cleared. Thus, *The Maverick Queen* has elements of a "detective-story" western, first with Linc's continual posing of questions after each new incident about what has been explained and what has not. Such pondering continues through this book; for example, on pages 125,

138 and 148. There is also a summing up of findings to start off the earlier chapters. The book's title could well have been *Lincoln Bradway, Detective*.

Linc feels that Kit has something to do with Jimmy's disappearance when he recalls that his friend had the notion that "a maverick was any man's property" (p. 4). He needs to learn more about the so-called "queen." She is described by a local as "Handsome as hell, an' when she cocks her eye at a man he's a goner" (p. 9). (At first reading, we dismiss the phrase "as hell," believing it but a superlative about her looks, not realizing it may denote evil.) Altogether, she's a "fascinating creature" (p. 14), and a gambler, not at cards, but at everything in life. Such life is what is pleasurable to her.



Early in his investigation, Linc meets Lucy, Kit's niece, who had been Jimmy's friend, and she says that Kit "ruined" him (p. 45), but is afraid to say more. Meantime, it is love at first sight for Linc and Lucy, something they keep hidden from Kit, also the fact of their marriage, halfway through the book (p. 118).

The investigation continues with a summing up of things so far and Linc (the "detective") telling the reader what he wants to do—and why—in this tawdry town and its lovely natural setting. And he learns

that Kit can be equally "lovely" one moment and "tawdry" the next (p. 54) — and dangerous too. Grey is right in giving her a last name of Bandon, for this "amazing creature" embraces Linc with "abandon" on one page (p. 60) yet threatens to kill him on the next for resisting "all her blandishments" (p. 61). "She has a man's nerve and courage" (p. 64); she is an all-devouring monster (of men, one after another). Her "charm" is that this is not through evil intent. It is her *natural* self to do so. She can't help it. She's "always had [her own] way" (p. 154).

Meanwhile, the thieving of mavericks becomes so widespread, for such is her business, that the cattlemen / owners vow to stop the racket. Unfortunately, the working cowboys won't stop such activity nor admit who is behind the thefts (these men are loyal to Kit). What happens is that there is the possibility of an actual outright war breaking out between owners and cowboys.

But it is not to be! Instead, Kit stops "buying" mavericks—a change of heart? A wish to gain Linc's goodwill? Lucy feels that her aunt has indeed changed. Linc, in disguise, questions Kit, and is thrilled to announce that the Maverick Queen has "renounced her throne" (p. 190). He feels only respect for her for really changing her ways; she replies that he has "saved [her] soul" (p. 199).

The expected happy ending is not ahead. The owners are fixated on the cowboys' rustling, and Kit as former "maverick queen" must be punished. Meanwhile, Linc has obtained his own ranch to operate, twenty miles away, where he and Lucy will live. On coming back to town, he meets his wife, whom he hasn't seen for some days and feels only "unrestrained fervor and joy" (p. 220). Oh! what a blissful couple!

And then they notice Kit Bandon, not twenty steps away. She is her own worst self again, dressed in black, a gun in her belt, long whip in her hand. Unaware of Linc and Lucy's earlier marriage, she sees them both as traitors, and, in a jealous rage, lashes her niece across the face. Kit is a panther at bay, a hissing snake ready to strike; a vain, vicious woman drawing and firing her gleaming gun, a killer of un-

earthly terror trying to kill them both. But Linc is too quick for her, and the shot goes astray. She passes out, then becomes conscious again, and breaks “into an uncontrollable fit of weeping” (p. 226). (Grey is superb in describing this kind of incident.)

All animosity is forgotten, after the flare-up. Lucy rides with her Aunt Kit to the Bandon home. Linc returns to his quarters in South Pass. A day later he senses trouble ahead. The cattle owners are going to hang Kit for her former felonies. Linc and two friends ride out early the next morning to aid her, but the owners, a large group, hold sway. Kit Bandon, now inferring she had also killed Jimmy Weston, Linc’s “pard,” is hanged in dawn’s early light, a cowboy’s “merciful bullet” (p. 244) cutting short her suffering. Linc pauses there “remembering all the vitality and animation and passion and love that has been present in that one tiny body” (p. 245). The cowboys will give her a proper burial.





2019 ZGWS Convention Preview

by Todd Newport

It is time to start thinking about and making plans to attend the 37th Annual ZGWS Convention, to be held in Newport, Oregon, next June. This is shaping up to be another great week of Zane Grey activities, while providing us the opportunity to visit a state that meant so much to ZG in his later writings.

He loved it so much that he bought property on the Rogue River and built the “Winkle Bar” cabin which is still there. Newport was chosen for its beautiful setting and location on the Oregon coast. Newport has a lot to offer, beginning with its mild summer temperatures, low altitude (sea level), shopping in its downtown area, local history, and many tourist favorites! We have visited Oregon twice before; this will be farther to the north giving us the opportunity to see the North Umpqua River, depending on the route you take to get to the area.

We will be staying at the Agate Beach Inn Best Western. Rates for rooms right on the beach are \$109 — \$129 per night. The hotel has wireless internet access, convention rooms and dining on site, plus is only three miles from downtown Newport. For golfers among us there are nice courses in or near Newport. The Oregon Aquarium is right in town and is world famous for its marine attractions. Just up the coast about forty-five miles is Lincoln City, which is famous for its glass blowing, shopping and the Chinook Winds Casino.

If flying, a few airports are available: Portland to the north (2.5 hours), Eugene (2 hours) or Medford (4.5 hours) to the south. Remember that the smaller city airports may have limited connections; the Medford location is closest to Crater Lake National Park, one of our post-convention destinations. Newport also boasts a small municipal airport for charter flights. Amtrak offers train service between Portland and Newport, one trip per day.

Things to see and do in and around Newport include: the Oregon Coast Aquarium, ocean charter fishing, horseback riding, hiking trails, golfing, beachcombing, bicycling, local lighthouses, whale watching and, of course, local restaurants. Things to see and do in nearby Oregon include: the Oregon Caves, Crater Lake National Park, the Zane Grey Cabin on the Rogue River (hike or float in), Forlorn River (Lost River), the Lava Beds and Captain Jack Stronghold, and the Steamboat Inn on the North Umpqua River (our other post-convention destination). This is a very small property and you should reserve your rooms very soon before they fill completely.

The convention will be starting one day earlier than usual, with our opening banquet on Sunday night (6/16/19) and finishing in Newport with the closing banquet on Wednesday night (6/19/19). This will give us one more day at the end of the week to see more ZG-related sites. On Thursday night many members are going to stay at the Steamboat Inn on the North Umpqua (6/20/19). This is across the river from where ZG’s fishing camp is located.

Other members will go directly to Crater Lake to see one of the great wonders of the world. This is truly a place you should not miss. We have a limited amount of rooms at Crater Lake Lodge being held for those that want to visit from 6/20/19 - 6/22/19. More info to come on making your reservations for this fantastic, one-of-a-kind location.

I would suggest calling right away for your room reservations in Newport to get your best choice of rooms and if you are interested in trying to get one of the rooms at the Steamboat Inn. So start making your plans and block out that week for your visit to Oregon for the 2019 ZGWS’s 37th Annual Convention!

Agate Beach Best Western - 541-265-9411

Steamboat Inn - 541-498-2230





This article, by one of the founders of our Society, was first published in Zane Grey's Western Magazine in April 1973. G. M. Farley was paid \$40 for this submission. The article illustrates an often overlooked aspect of Grey that seems more impressive each successive year as the American wilderness continues to shrink and gradually disappear.

Zane Grey's interest in the West was more than cowboys, gunmen, beautiful horses and virtuous women. By his own admission his characters were incidental to, or products of, the setting. The land, to this spinner of Western yarns, was really the story.

Grey once wrote, *"Almost all of my books are stories of setting. The background, that is to say, the place where I laid the scene of my imagined story, is more important with me than the action or character. I ride into some wild, lonely, beautiful desert or mountain country, and live in it for a while, studying the aspects of nature and the elements, seeing how pioneers and wanderers must have developed in such environment. That is why my stories are true."*

The Wild West was in its heyday when Pearl Zane Grey was born in 1872, and General George A. Custer met his defeat at the Little Big Horn when the future writer was five years old. The time gap was still small when Grey first glimpsed the West in 1906 while on a belated honeymoon. There were still groups of wild Indians and cowboys who exchanged shots on occasion. In his subsequent trips to the remote areas of the West, he saw vast expanses of untouched forests, canyons and desert. He saw the

Zane Grey, Conservationist

by G. M. Farley

west as it had been for millenniums, and he fell in love with what he saw.

In 1907 he returned to Arizona with Buffalo Jones, the Last of the Plainsmen. He saw portions of the West that only a meager handful of white men had seen previously, and did things that most men only dream of doing. Back at his home in Lackawaxen, Pennsylvania, he wrote of his exploits, building intricate plots around the land he had discovered. And time after time he returned to the West. Sometimes it was to hunt, at other times it was to explore or visit such legendary places as Nonnezoshe, the Rainbow Bridge. And always his love for this wild and

beautiful land grew. Eventually he purchased land in Arizona's Tonto Basin and built a cottage. In those days the area could only be reached by horseback, and this was what Grey desired.

About 1930 Zane Grey had a very important unfortunate misunderstanding with the state of Arizona. It was just that — a misunderstanding — and would probably not have amounted to much if the insatiable thirst of

newspaper editors for sensational material had not rubbed salt into the wound. Some of the resulting publicity placed Grey in a bad light, while others blamed state officials.

The author had come to Arizona for one of his irregular hunts. The game laws had been changed in preceding months, and the expensive Zane Grey expedition was two weeks early. Since Grey had always invested considerable time and money in a hunt, he applied for a special permit. His request was denied.

It was years before the truth was learned. Grey had been making a film of a bear hunt. All he needed was the chase.



*The Grey house at Lackawaxen, PA.
Photo Credit: ZGWS.*

His application was for permission to hunt a rogue bear that had to be killed anyway. This fact was not relayed to the governor, and so his request was denied. To wait two weeks until season opened would cost a lot of money, and besides that the Mogollon country would be snowed in. So Grey left Arizona never to return.

Killing for the sake of killing was frowned by Zane Grey and trophy hunting met with his disapproval. To kill for protection or for food was one thing, but shooting animals just to have a trophy hanging on a wall was another. He stated, in a release to the press, that in all of his Arizona hunting he had killed only two bears and had never shot an elk although he saw numbers of the latter. He did kill some mountain lions, but only to save his own life. As years went by he became more and more opposed to unnecessary killing, and finally stopped hunting altogether. Even his approach to big-game fishing changed, and he released a great many of the fish he caught.

The invention of the automobile and the cutting of roads into the otherwise inaccessible areas greatly disturbed Zane Grey. In them he heard the death knell of a vanishing frontier, and he began to lend his support to efforts designed to conserve America's outdoors.

As early as 1907 Grey was writing articles encouraging hunters to spare wildlife. Although he was a hunter much of his life he realized that wanton killing of game animals would eventually become a national problem.

It was probably Buffalo Jones who really inspired Zane Grey with a desire to protect rather than kill animals. On his trips with the old plainsman, Grey learned that the American bison had come to the verge of extinction before Jones had recognized the threat and conserved the shaggy beasts. Instead of shooting mountain lions, Jones was roping them. He had even gone to the frozen tundras of the north in

an effort to capture and domesticate the musk ox. He was the first person to attempt this, but the superstitious Indians killed all of the captured calves. So Zane Grey listened and learned.

"My work," he wrote in 1922, "has been wholly concerned with the beauty and wildness and nature of America, all of which are vanishing . . . I see only one possibility of preserving the game fish, and something of the natural beauty of wild places, and the purity of inland waters. And here it is. If a million outdoor men who have sons, will think of these sons, and band together to influence other men who have sons — then we may save something of America's outdoor joys for the boys."

"There is no other way. Commercialism has laid its sordid hand on the soul of our nation . . . If the real Americans do not rise in a body we are doomed."

This article appeared in the second issue of *Isaak Walton League Monthly*. Zane Grey, with a true spirit of conservation, donated several articles on conservation to this magazine at a time when he was receiving as much as \$2500 for a single article. He saw the destruction of our forests and streams, the threat to our great outdoors, and he added his voice to these with similar sentiments, such names as James Oliver Curwood, Stewart Edward White, Gene Stratton Porter and Emerson Hough. It is fortunate for our generation, and for future generations, that these writers did more than cast a wistful eye at what was happening.

Because Zane Grey's name was one of the most famous in America in the mid-twenties he was read by the important people. (He once visited the White House at the invitation of President Hoover). It is very likely that what he had to say found deep lodging in the hearts of men in high places. It could be that the present generation owes more than they will ever realize to the influence and boldness of Zane Grey's pen.



In the spring of 1924 *Outdoor America* (originally the *Isaak Walton League Monthly*) published an article entitled "Forest Fires, Automobiles, Good Roads" by Zane Grey in which the author spoke his heart as he declared his love for America.

"For five or six years I have been spending part of September and October in the wildest timber country left in the west. There were no roads through the heart of this forest reserve. Occasionally during those first years we would run across a forest fire. But last year, standing on a high promontory, I counted five forest fires at one time. That year the government had cut a good road through this forest. On my first visit five years ago I did not see a single automobile inside that forest. Last year on September 30th there were three hundred cars camped at one place, waiting to go hunting on the opening day, October first. If this reserve had been forbidden roads as was the Superior National Forest it might have been saved."

Few people could afford the expensive pack trips that Zane Grey made, so the government wanted to make the remote areas available to everyone. But in doing so they nearly wrote "Ichabod" across our forestlands. Grey knew human nature. He knew that while many sportsmen would take care of our national heritage there would always be that element that did not care. He felt that opening the national forests to automobiles would be to clear the way to arm-chair sportsmen who cared for nothing but their own selfish pleasure. He was correct. Every year millions of acres of prime timber are destroyed from forest fires by careless tourists, and piles of cans and drifting paper now desecrate the most beautiful landscapes. Automobiles are often pushed to the side of the road and left to rust.

Beautiful Oak Creek Canyon in Arizona was one of Zane Grey's favorite spots, the one which inspired *The Call of the Canyon*. He liked to visit there, and to

fish the winding stream. Yet only recently action had to be taken because of abuse by tourists, especially trailer camps.

Grey was so inspired with the majestic beauty of the towering rock bridge called "Nonnezoshe" by the Indians that he wrote a lengthy story about it which appeared several times in print. John Wetherill, the first white man to see the "Rainbow Bridge" guided the Zane Grey party in 1913. It took several days of hard horseback riding to reach the stone bridge. Grey felt it would always be that way.

"I realized that long before life had evolved upon the earth this bridge had spread its grand arch from



Nonnezoshe painting.
Photo Credit: ZGWS.

wall to wall, black and mystic at night, transparent and rosy in the sunrise at sunset a flaming curve limned against the heavens. When the race of man had passed it would, perhaps, stand there still. It is not for many eyes to see. The tourist, the leisurely traveler, the comfort-loving motorist would never behold it."

How wrong he was. The damming of Glen Canyon has formed a huge lake that is slowly extending one of its tendrils toward Nonnezoshe. At present a sightseer can take a boat to within an hour's walk of the arch, once considered a god by the Navajo. Laughing, chattering, illiterate tourists now scramble around her base daily. Thousands of people every year visit this once remote spot. Soon tin cans, paper, discarded clothing and other forms of trash will desecrate Nonnezoshe. Names and slogans will be carved or painted all over her face by people who have no right to, or respect for, this kind of beauty. But worst of all, Zane Grey's prophecy that Nonnezoshe would stand after the human race was gone, may also prove false.

Engineers, examining the base of Rainbow Bridge, have voiced well-founded fears that the water from Lake Powell, now creeping up Forbidden Canyon, will undermine the bridge's foundation.

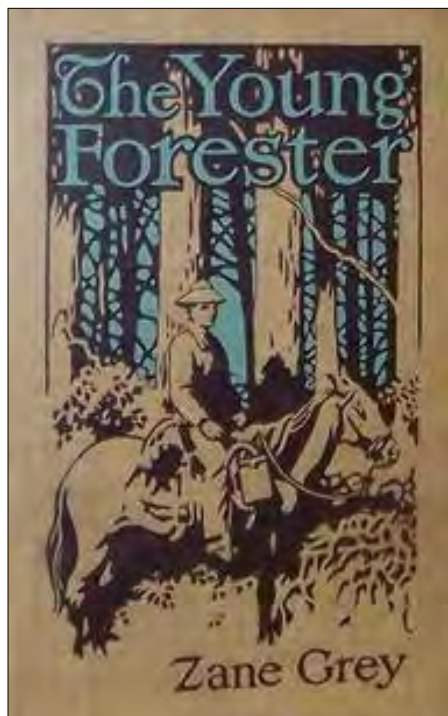
It is highly possible that someday in the near future Nonnezoshe may collapse and sink beneath the waters. Speedboats and screaming water-skiers will ride above her once majestic form. Zane Grey could not envision this for in his day there was no immediate threat to America's water supply.

Although Grey did own automobiles he did not like them because of their threat to the natural environment. He never learned to drive, but hired chauffeurs. In fact, it was difficult for him to adapt to many of the constant changes about him. He never rode in an airplane until a few months before his death in 1939, and only then at the insistence of his children and associates. Without shame he admitted that he was scared.

“. . . Having settled myself beside a window I found that I was shaking all over,” he wrote in a story published in the Zane Grey Collector. “My mouth was quite dry and I had other sensations of perturbation.”

He also took a dim view of methods used in lumbering, and urged that measures be taken to prevent total destruction of entire western forests. In 1910 the first of four “boys’ books” was published. The title was *The Young Forester*. In it Grey denounced contemporary practices and the money-greedy men who propagated them. He would be pleased today to know that saner methods are practiced, not only in the cutting of timber, but in reforestation programs.

“That lumber is a necessity,” he declared, “no sensible person can dispute. But that the forests should be destroyed by commercialism is a vastly different matter. The sentiments of dreamers, artists, lovers of nature, can be left out of the reckoning. These are the first to see the handwriting on the wall, but personal grievance and sorrow need not be considered. The terrible fact is that the life and soul of the nation are in peril.”



“When the forests are gone what will become of (the) rivers? For the forests draw and store the waters of the heavens. What will become of the cold, clear murmuring and babbling brooks, and the sweet pure fountain springs from which they flow?”

“It is only necessary to see the devastation caused by the pulp-mills in the east and the saw mills in the west to realize that the sweet waters are perishing from the earth.”

In one article for *Outdoor America* Grey talks about the doom of the chestnut trees.

“Who has not seen the chestnut trees in the spring burst into creamy luxury of blossoms, like calndelabra?”

Very very few that are still living today can make this claim. A little parasite, *enlothis parasitica*, was imported from China in fruit trees. They were the death warrant to the stately chestnut. Grey was correct in his pronouncement.

No doubt he would have raised his pen in recent months when powerful forces in our government set about to dam and flood the Grand Canyon of the Colorado. Fortunately sportsmen's groups and influential individuals managed to stop this — just in time.

While Zane Grey's first love was the West, he was interested in conservation of other natural resources, and his farsighted predictions have come true.

The United States has a three-mile limit to her coastal waters while some countries claim all rights within a limit of twelve, twenty, or more miles. Everything beyond this limit is considered “international waters.” Three miles is not very much in which to attempt conservation practices. Zane Grey frequented the coastal waters of California fishing for tuna, sailfish and marlin. In his writings he constantly denounced the Japanese fishing fleets that sometimes invaded even the three-mile limit.

He predicted that our own commercial fishing would suffer as a result, and it has. Japanese fishing along our coast has become a serious problem, and it is increasing. In 1956 they caught 200 striped marlin and 400 blue marlin. In 1963 they took 126,700 striped marlin and 75,300 blue marlin. At this rate of increase American commercial fishermen will soon be searching for new fishing grounds. Zane Grey was one of the first, if not the first, to decry Japanese encroachment and fishing methods.

There is no doubt that America owes a lot to Zane Grey's far-sighted efforts at conservation, especially at a time when many men of considerable importance refused to believe that any of our natural resources were being threatened. While Grey's novels were extremely popular some of his views were attacked. His detractors did not stop him. He continued to give his opinions in national sports magazines. In New Zealand the debate became so heated over fishing methods that Grey stopped writing for local papers. He could see into the future by considering what was happening around him, and he was in a position to lift up his voice and be heard.

"America is changing, and I fear, passing. Evil forces are at work . . . At the present rate of destruction, then, the next generation of Americans will have no forests, no springs, no clear brooks, no clean rivers. That is to say, no America!"

His words spoke eloquently of the predicament America finds herself in. She would probably have been in a far worse one if Zane Grey, writer of Western stories, lover of the West, had lacked the courage to voice his opinions.



36 Years and Counting . . .

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