

Transcription: Grand Canyon Oral History

Interviewee: Helen Howard (HH)

Interviewer: Tom Martin (TM)

Subject: River/Hiking

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Part 1

Method of Interview: In-person at Tom Martin's house

Transcriber: Caitlin Barr

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Transcription Reviewers: Brian Blue, Tom Martin, Sue Priest

TM: Today is the first of March 2014.

HH: It's the first of May.

TM: Sorry. Today is the first of May, thank you. At least somebody's paying attention.

HH: You want it to be the first of March because then you'd have a river trip going out in three days.

TM: No, I want it to be May because it needs to be warmer! Where are we? This is the home of me/Hazel. This is Tom and Hazel's house in Flagstaff. We're sitting here at the kitchen table with Helen Howard. Helen, you've got such a long history with Grand Canyon, with John Riffey, with river trips, with hiking trips, with management understanding, with Goldwater. There's just a lot of stuff about you and Grand Canyon. I typically start these wanting to know a little bit about your mom and dad, how they got together, where you grew up, how you got into the outdoor world, outdoor life. At one point I want to ask you some specifics about your first kayaking trip in the Grand Canyon and I want to learn about your boating, how you got into kayaking. Maybe we'd start in the way-back machine: how did your dad meet your mom and what did they, what were they doing?

HH: It was at Quantico, Virginia. Dad was a teacher at the staff college there, the Marine Corps staff college. Mom had a contract to teach in the school at Quantico at the Marine Corps base there.

TM: What were they teaching?

HH: Mom was teaching elementary school kids. Dad was teaching military strategy. He graduated from Lehigh with a degree in engineering in 1939. His father had been a naval officer and had died when my father was twenty-one. Before that they'd had a lot of conversations about where the world was heading. Both of them felt that we were going into what became World War II. My grandfather's comment to my father was, that if there's going to be a war, then you want to be in as an officer and in place before it starts. Then that way you have a better chance of controlling your destiny through the war. My father was in Pearl Harbor. He had that Sunday off and was out surfing on the north shore and saw the bombers come over. They raced back. The bombing was over by the time they got back.

TM: Was he in the Navy then?

HH: He was in the Marine Corps. They had a lot of marines stationed there as well. Because the marines were the fighting force that were on the ships, the naval people were there. He had gone into the

Marine Corps because he thought there was a better chance in the Marine Corps for him to get into flying, which is what he really wanted to do. He and a man by the name of Dave Harris were really good close friends. Dave Harris grew up flying. He married my father's sister and went into the Air Force at the same time as my father went into the Marine Corps. They both graduated from different schools at the same time. As soon as graduation was over... Dave Harris had a nice touring car from maybe 1935, I guess. They took off from the East Coast. It took them 6 weeks to drive across the country. They went to Yellowstone. They went to a lot of different places. Made it to San Francisco, made it down through the redwoods, and then they drove back. They both had a deferred enlistment, because they both enlisted right after college, but they weren't going to take them until October. They spent the entire summer going all over the western United States. Dad says that he really fell in love with the western United States after that.

TM: Had they ever been west before then?

HH: No, oh no, neither of them. Dave was from a family that was from Michigan, but he came east for college. He'd been to Michigan but that's as far west as he'd ever been. My father had never been west either. He was in schools in Pennsylvania and schools in New York, but that was about it. Dad grew up canoeing and he was very active in scouting. He was up in the outer Adirondacks a lot when he was growing up. Learned to ski up there, back when you had to climb the hill to ski down it. Then he learned to canoe. They learned whitewater canoeing back there. I don't think you're gonna find a scout group that's gonna teach whitewater canoeing these days, at least on the western United States. He learned that and that was something that he really enjoyed. So, I grew up with a dad who did whitewater canoeing. The first time he put me in the front of the boat was when I was seven. The first woodworking that I did was when he made a laminated wood blank to carve a canoe paddle for himself and he made a laminated wood blank to carve a canoe paddle for me. Then later on, he made a laminated paddle blank to carve a kayak paddle. When I started kayaking, you didn't just go down to the local sporting goods shop and buy a kayak paddle. They weren't around. You had to make it or you had to order it from Europe.

TM: I'm going to back up a minute. Did you have any brothers or sisters?

HH: I'm the oldest of four. I have a brother who's two years younger, Fred, and I have two sisters who are eight and ten years younger than I am, Ann and Mary.

TM: You were the oldest, you were the trailblazer.

HH: And really the only one who really got into sports and stayed into sports. My brother played football in high school and college for one year, and that was it. I have a sister who was involved in swimming. She almost made the Junior Olympics, she missed it by like one one-hundredth of a second. Dad swam as well and competed in swimming. In fact he was competing in swimming up until he was eighty-six, two years before he died. In the Masters Program. He still has records in his name. One of the first sports teams, after the ping-pong players that went into China/after China opened up to the west, was the Masters Swimming Program. They went in and swam against the older swimmers in China. Dad was on that team as well. We have a lifelong history of staying active. I've certainly done it. I have to laugh, I have four RPM Max kayaks. Everyone says why do you have four? I wear one out about every five years. He skied until he was eighty-six. I'll consider myself lucky if I can kayak until I'm eighty-six. I have one RPM Max, which is my favorite boat, made by Dagger, for every five years until I'm eighty-six. That's why I move those around.

TM: It sounds like your father was comfortable with water and he raised his children to be comfortable with water.

HH: Yes. We could all swim before we could walk. He also did a lot of teaching of swimming and he did a lot of teaching of people who trained swimmers. Like water safety instructors. He was one of the first WSII's, which is a Water Safety Instructor. He was the one who taught people how to teach people how to train swimmers and how to teach people how to teach swimming. We moved back to Santa Ana in 1955. Then he got really actively involved as a volunteer for the Red Cross there. He taught a lot of the programs in the Southern California area. Then when we moved to Northern California in 1963, he continued doing that. He started a swim team up in Grass Valley. They now have their own pool. They have about 400 swimmers and there's a huge scholarship program for the swimmers who go through that program. Most of them, if they want to go to college, will have their way paid. He's the one who started that. It's the Grass Valley Penguins.

TM: So, you started canoeing at seven?

HH: I started canoeing at seven.

TM: When did you start going out with your own boat? I'm assuming this was a canoe, this is still back east.

HH: No, no. I was in Dad's canoe back east on one river and I don't know which one it was. It was somewhere close to Norfolk, Virginia. Because we went a half a day and then went canoeing with some of his friends from the Marine Corps that also were into whitewater canoeing. I was in the front there when I was seven. We moved out right after my eighth birthday, to Santa Ana. Then the rest of the time we went, we went to Kernville. We went to the Tuolumne, we went to all those rivers. Merced, Tuolumne, Kernville, in the southern part of the central Sierras. Yeah, some of them are...

TM: Steep, steep!

HH: Some of them have sections of them. Once we moved up to Grass Valley, we had the American. There are lots of sections on the American that are really nice. That's where I started kayaking. When I was fourteen.

TM: What year was that?

HH: '62.

TM: How were you introduced to kayaking? Walter Kirschbaum had already, in 1960, run a four meter through Grand Canyon. Certainly, kayaking was coming on, but the boats were really long.

HH: Fourteen, they were thirteen feet, they were four meter boats. All of them were... They didn't have plastic back then. You had your choice, you could either do a wooden kayak with a fiberglass coating or you could do a fiberglass kayak. How we started in our area, there was a guy by the name of Mike Ellsworth. There were two Mike Ellsworth's in Grass Valley. One was the lifeguard at the Grass Valley swimming pool, and he's the one that I had gotten my junior lifeguard certificate from the first summer

we moved up there. The other Mike Ellsworth was just someone who really was into sports. His father had something to do with the government in Germany after the war. When he came back and retired from that, he brought back two of the four meter fiberglass boats that were used for racing in Europe. Mike couldn't fit in one because he was a big burly guy. You'd think of a football player. But his sister, Edith, who was considerably thinner, could fit in the other one. They started out on the lake and they started doing whitewater. Then Mike found some other people who were doing whitewater up there. Mike was eleven years older than I am. So when I started at fourteen he was twenty-five. He had gone through school at Stanford and had gotten a masters in some esoteric subject that he couldn't get a job in. Then had been drafted and gone into the Army. There was an accident. He was in a jeep that flipped over. His arm was crushed. His left arm was amputated halfway between the elbow and the wrist. Because he had kayaked, this was before I had started kayaking for the first time, he came back. He knew my dad. He came up to him one day and said, 'I really want to try to get back in my kayak again, but I want to go with someone who I think can rescue me if I get into trouble.' He said, 'I think we can use duct tape. I think my prosthetic arm, I think we can duct tape it to my thing. I think we can make it into a claw and we can put it around the paddle.' Dad said, 'Oh yeah, you can do that.' We went up to the American River and we taped Mike into his arm and we taped the arm onto the paddle. Then we got him into his boat and we put the skirt on. He's up on top of a rock at this point, so he does a seal launch in with one of these kayaks. Dad had asked if I could come along. Mike said sure, but Dad only had a solo canoe at that time. I was getting a little bit bigger so he didn't know if I would fit. Mike said, 'I'll bring Edith's boat along.' He put me in Edith's boat and I was a perfect fit for it.

TM: Had you ever been in a kayak before?

HH: No, but I had been in a canoe before. I had paddled a canoe myself, but we only had the one canoe. Since Dad was going along to rescue Mike, if he needed rescuing, I needed something else. He immediately rolled over as soon as he hit the water. And then he immediately got himself upright. You've never seen anyone happier in his life.

TM: Oh, I bet!

HH: He was war-whoops and tears running down his face and all of us were doing the same thing. He had a couple of friends who had come up as well with their boats. There was an eight-mile section of the American River that we were going to do that day that was all class two and class three. Two of the guys were going to stick close to Mike and I'm going to stick close by and they're going to watch both of us, because I'm a beginner. Dad's going to be on the canoe and he says he'll pick up the pieces going down the river. Mike rolled four or five times on purpose, but he never flipped that boat again. He had a wonderful day. One of his friends swam once. I didn't flip once and I had a blast and I was hooked. Mike's parents had had he and Edith late in life. Edith was sixteen and Mike was twenty-four. He was back out of the military. He had a partial disability. He had the G.I. Bill because he had been disabled out of the military, so he had the G.I. Bill. He figured that he better go back and get something he could make a living at. I think he got his Masters in History. He ended up getting a teaching certificate. He was living at home while he was going to Sacramento State and getting his teaching certificate. Edith was in private school over in the Bay Area. His parents really liked the idea of having an empty nest. So what they would do, would be to hand him five hundred dollars, and that was a lot of money back then, and say... He had an old bread truck with frames on both sides and on the top to carry boats on it, kayaks on it, and canoes. They would tell him, 'Take off on Friday, take your friends, we're paying for it all. Go find a river and don't come back until Sunday at 5 o'clock.' I didn't get invited along on a lot of the trips where Edith didn't go. But if they knew she was coming home, they would tell him to take her, i.e. you

take her or you don't get the money. So, if Edith went, she wouldn't go unless there was another girl along. So I got invited.

TM: Is that where you learned your roll? Your roll would have to come in there somewhere.

HH: Yes

TM: Clearly, you saw it happen. You could look out, you could see how--

HH: Yes, they taught me how to roll. They taught me. The second trip was the 'Teach Helen How to Roll Trip.' My father could roll his canoe. He had the thigh straps in his canoe, so he could roll his solo canoe just fine.

TM: Wow!

HH: It was fiberglass. He could roll it. It was very lightweight. I learned to do a roll literally as they said, 'You're gonna have to learn to roll if you're gonna do this.' I'm going, 'Okay, I'll learn to roll.' So they taught me and it didn't take long. We'd do drills on most of the rivers that we were on. If someone yelled, 'Roll!' everyone had to roll. I was also taught that you rolled first thing just to make sure you still had it. Then you worked on it just to make sure because as they told me, you practice your roll and you're not going to be able to take your kayak into the city swimming pools. So the very first thing that you do is you visualize your roll, you visualize the set-up for it, and then you visualize doing it. Then you get in the water and you do it. There was no argument. Everyone in our group practiced rolling. We practiced rolling frequently. We would roll usually when we got in the water. If we had a long trip and we were stopping for lunch someplace, we'd roll when we got in. We'd roll in spots where it was calm, and then we'd roll when we got in again at lunch. That's just what we did, just to make sure you were current on your roll. Because in a lot of the rivers, there were some pourovers. It was much easier to go over them in a boat than it was to swim it. It was for safety sake.

TM: Were you wearing helmets back then?

HH: Bicycle helmets. Oh yeah, we all had bicycle helmets. I don't remember when I first got my kayak helmet-- the one that was specifically built for kayaking. It was probably sometime in the 60s. Some of those bicycle helmets had some adaptations on them. My helmet was a little bit big for me. So what they did is they pop-riveted a D-ring onto the back. Because it could swing back and forth, I had a thing that went from that to a D-ring that was sewn onto my life vest. That it kept it into place. After a couple of years they also put a grill on it, like that. So that if we were... One of the guys had hit a rock and it cut his face. So, both Edith and I got helmets that had rivets on them. It was like a little football helmet. At that point, that was a football helmet, because they went to Pop Warner and they found some that were smaller for Edith and I. I still have a purple one that I wear that's got the grid on it. I used to play kayak polo down in Phoenix in Tempe at the... Arizona Canoe and Kayak Company shared its space with a dive shop so they had a big deep pool. It was just perfect for kayak polo. A whole group of us would get there maybe once a week during the summer. The rules of the group were that you had to have one girl on each team. So there was always a call for us. If they were going to do it there was always a call to the girls who kayaked to make sure one of us could come over and play, too. They didn't take any quarter. If you were a girl it didn't matter. You were the one. You were going to get flipped and you might get slashed with a paddle. I have a very pretty feminine purple helmet with a very good grid on it/faceguard.

TM: Back in the early '60s - '62, '63, '64ish - we're in California, we're dealing with the Kern, the American River, the Tuolumne.

HH: And North.

TM: And the North Fork of the American?

HH: Well, no. All the rivers up there. Cause we were in Grass Valley. A lot of the guys had done most of the rivers in California. They'd taken off and done them in the summertime when they were between going to college. Mike didn't have to work. His parents were wealthy enough he didn't have to work. So he and some of his friends had already done most of these rivers. A lot of things I got dragged to, it was my first time on it, but they had already done them. So they knew where the takeouts were, they knew where the putins were, etc. We only ran into one real problem and that was with the two young girls along and all these guys in their twenties. We got stopped a lot. So every time we were going, my dad and my mom would go down to a notary. Dad would type up a thing giving Mike, and listing one or two of the other guys, permission to have us with them. Edith's parents did the same for her. They always listed Mike as the responsible person because twice we were stopped when we didn't have that. Then they would call our parents to make sure we weren't runaways or anything like that. We were the living the bad life, as they used to say.

TM: With all the kayaks on the side of the bread van.

HH: Yeah, with all those side kayaks.

TM: --yeah, what's going on there?

HH: That's pretty much it. It was really funny if we were camping. You know the guys--

TM: A little boating racial profiling going on there.

HH: Quite a bit. Twenty-some-odd men and sixteen year old girls is what they were really concerned with. That was kind of at the beginning of the hippie generation, so they were a little concerned with that. And, there were a fair number of runaways going on in California at that time. So they just assumed that we were not where we should be. If you carried that all the time... My dad still got called and Mike's parents still got called occasionally, on something like that. But, if you go back to a river and they've already encountered you and they know that you're going to have these, then at that point it didn't become an issue. It wasn't that much of a problem, but a couple times it could have been. We had a really good time. Dad went on a few of those trips with us, 'cause there was always room for his canoe on the top. He didn't like it because he had hearing loss from the war. So he and a bread van that didn't have a lot of insulation... It was really noisy on the highways with all the guys laughing and joking and everything like that. It was difficult for him to be in that type of enclosed environment when we were getting to the river. That also left mom at home with three younger kids. That didn't go over real well very often.

TM: Did you start getting into competition then?

HH: No. I never really got into competition at all. That wasn't it. We were out there to see the river. For me it was watching the wildlife and watching the scenery and everything else. It was so beautiful out there, it was just phenomenal. Any time I'm on a river it's pretty special. I felt more at home doing that than I did anything else. Dad had had a passion for whitewater canoeing, so he understood where I was coming from. I think sometimes my mom kind of wondered at it, because she wanted a girly-girl that would dress in lace and give her lots of grandkids. That's not what she got with me.

TM: Doesn't sound like that's what your dad was in for. Sounded like he wanted to get you out there.

HH: Yeah, and a lot of that was also my brother. Other than football he wasn't particularly involved in that. Dad bought him a car to tear apart and rebuild and he wouldn't. He sold it after he left for college because he never touched it. He taught me woodworking because Fred wasn't interested in woodworking. I was the one that had the hobbies, etc. that were things he also enjoyed. So it was kinda nice.

TM: Was he a role model for you that way?

HH: I think so. On a lot of different things. His work ethic I have. He had an incredible work ethic. Coming up through the war, if you didn't work your twelve/fourteen hour days and make sure everything got done you might lose the war. Singlehandedly lose the war was what everyone was ingrained in during World War II. We made our beds every morning, we kept our bunks shipshape, so to say. That was the way we were raised.

TM: As your sixteenth year turned into your seventeenth and eighteenth year, were you thinking about college then, how did that...?

HH: I went to Berkeley. I was going to be a chemical engineer. For my eighteenth birthday, they wanted to know if I wanted a car. I said, 'No, I want a kayak.' They looked at me and said, 'You've got a kayak.' I said, 'I want sea kayak, eighteen and a half feet, here are the plans, and this is the boat shop that can build it.' I'd seen one and I had asked about it. I got to sit in it. We were doing the Truckee and someone had it out on Lake Tahoe. It was someone from San Francisco. It was made in a boat shop in San Francisco.

TM: This would have been '66ish?

HH: 60'... I turned 18 in June of '66. They asked me if I wanted the car about March of that year. I said, 'No, I don't want a car, I want a kayak.' I showed them what I wanted 'cause I had written and gotten their drawings and everything like that. They looked at me and said, 'You really want this type of kayak?' I said, 'I really want that type of kayak.' They said, 'You don't want another whitewater kayak?' I said, 'Mine's perfectly good.' And it was. It had no cracks in it, no patches, no nothing. Because you always took the resin with you and you might have to patch it. I was pretty good at keeping it off rocks. I had scrapes on it, put a few coats of epoxy on it a couple of times during the three years that I had it. Mike and his friends built my kayak for me. They made a mold for Edith's and then they did the kayak. A two-part mold. So mine was identical to Edith's. They just did mine. It had a pink stripe in it. I know, I know! But that's the way it went. That way they said, they didn't get it mixed up with any of theirs, which were all just plain creamy white. So anyways, that worked.

TM: Sea kayaking, did that pull you away from creek kayaking or did you just keep on going with others?

HH: No, because I wanted to go with both. When I went to Berkeley, where I went to school, they had a really good chemistry department and a good engineering department. So that's where I went. I got there in the fall of 1966. When I got there, yeah it was horrible. In the two years that I was at Berkeley, I got tear-gassed thirteen times. Every time you were in a chemistry lab or any other type of lab, what they started with is, 'This is the experiment we are going to do today. If we need to shut it down and evacuate the building because of tear gas, this is how you safely shut it down so it doesn't do a reaction while we're exiting the building.' I didn't like that. You had to know your way around campus so that if you were walking from point A to point B to another class, if there was a demonstration someplace, you had to know how to get around it. It was not a lot of fun being there at that time. I was sailing. I was on the sailing team for Berkeley. I sailed FJs (Flying Junior Sailing Dinghy). That was the other thing the family did. We sailed Hobie Cats. We had four Hobie Cats as a family and all of us sailed. I got my driver's license when I was sixteen years of age and until I was eighteen I never drove a vehicle that didn't have a Hobie trailer attached to it. The only time I got to drive the cars was when we were going to a race and that was several weekends a year.

TM: So you did get into competitive racing in Hobie Cats?

HH: Hobie Cats, right. Dad was interested in racing, so the rest of us went with him to races and we raced in the different categories. He bought Hobie Cats for us as we progressed in the racing. There were other girls that raced. Usually on a Hobie you have two people, so I usually raced with another teenage girl. My sisters grew up racing as well. I think they stopped racing when Ann and Mary were maybe fourteen and sixteen because they were getting into other things then, and they weren't as interested. I was in college and out of there by then.

TM: Two years in Berkeley.

HH: At Berkeley I had a work-study grant. I was sent to the Archeology Department. Women were sent to be typists and men were sent to be groundskeepers. Period. That was what it was. If you had a work-study grant and you were a girl, you were gonna go to some department and type. They didn't have copy machines then so a lot of things had to be typed out. That was what I was going to be doing for twenty hours a week. Robert Heizer was head of the Archeology Department then. You take your transcript with you when you go to the department you'd been assigned and then they have to agree to take you. He looks at this and he said, 'You had a soils class last year.' I said, 'Yes, this is my sophomore year.' He said, 'Can you do soil testing?' I said, 'What type of soil testing do you need done?' They had built a lab, at considerable expense, in the Archeology Department for a guy who was gonna come in, who had just gotten his PhD. He was going to do all the soil testing. They had something like ten thousand soil samples sitting there. In California archeology, you're testing for pH because the pH where the post hole was isn't usually a darker color, the pH is different. So if you are trying to figure out what the architecture is, you're doing your soil samples every four or six inches all the way around where the post hole should be. When you get that, you draw your post holes in based on where the pH is. There were other things they tested for as well. Most of the middens had to be tested and there were lots of things. I said, 'What sort of soils test do you need?' He said, 'Here.' He had this article of what soil testing could do for archeology. I took that over to the soil professor that I had taken the class to. He said, 'Yeah, you can do all this. Here's one that you haven't done, but here's a monograph on how to do it.' He wrote a note to Robert Heizer, who he knew, saying, 'She can do any of this except for this one which she has not done before but she's got the skills to do it.' So I spent my twenty hours a week

processing soil samples for the year and reading about what it meant and things like that. I said, 'I really would like to do archeology rather than chemistry.'

That went over like a fart in a bathtub to my father. He didn't speak to me for four months when I told him I was going to ASU. My chemistry professor in high school had graduated from ASU. He knew I was not particularly happy at Berkeley because of the rioting and things. So when I went home at Christmas in my sophomore year, I said, 'I'm thinking about applying down to one of the schools in Arizona.' He said, 'Do they have a really good chemistry department down there? I know Robert Getz is out of there, but do they have a good chemistry department?' I said, 'Yeah, but I'm not going to go in that.' He said, 'Physics?' I said 'No.' He said, 'Math?' 'No, I'm going to go into archeology.' He looked at me, he was a Marine Colonel when he retired. He said, 'You will never make a living in that.' I said, 'It's what I want to study.' He said, 'You'll never make a living in that.' I said, 'Okay.' He says, 'I can't tell you, you can't do it, but, you're never going to make a living in that.'

The summer I got my masters, I was in a field school, up in archeology in the Vosburg Valley, which is over near Payson, Arizona's Dark and Bloody Ground. That was where the last Indian massacre of whites happened in Arizona in 1929 October, the same month as the stock market crashed. There was a trading post at the Vosberg Valley. The Apaches thought that they had been cheated. So they came in and they killed everybody in the house. At first it was thought that it was a part of the Arizona Dark and Bloody Ground, the cattle and sheep wars. Then they found that they had arrows in them, because they didn't find them for several days. For the dig up there, I was making \$300 for the eight weeks, for running the lab. I had to pay them \$150 for my room and board, and I was living in my own tent. The position of garbage collector in Nevada County came open. Dad went down and picked up the papers and sent it out to me with a note that said, 'Now that you have a degree in garbage collection and analysis, why don't you go out and get an honest job in it?' He was right, I couldn't get a job in it. I needed a doctorate. I wanted to restore ruins, that's how I got the engineering background. I did a double major in archeology and engineering. I wanted to work for the Parks Service and restore ruins. Either southwestern archeological ruins, or house ruins, or whatever, where ever they needed me. I couldn't find a job. So I did a six month internship in Tulum, down to Cancun. Then I did a nine month internship in the Nazca desert in Peru. And I still couldn't find a job. At that point I went ahead and got my engineering certification. I went to go work for an insurance company and restored modern ruins for twenty-five years.

TM: So that sort of headed us out, away from the water?

HH: Away from the water.

[Time out]

TM: So we'll recap. Think of this timeline. '66 in Berkeley, for two years, '67-'68. Then to ASU.

HH: Fall of '68 to '72.

TM: To get an undergrad. Then two years for your masters?

HH: Right. When I went to Berkeley, Berkeley took 20 units that I had taken while I was in high school. They didn't have what they have here in Arizona, where if you have someone who can teach at the junior college level, if you take an extra test and do an extra thing you can get duplicate credit for the

same class. CR Junior College came up and did classes 3 nights a week at the high school in Grass Valley/ Nevada City. So for my junior and my senior year, I took two or three classes in the fall and two or three classes in the spring both years. So I had like 30 units when I got out of high school. Berkeley took 20 of those units. When I went into Berkeley, with 20 units, technically I was a sophomore after my first quarter. So I had extra units that I was able to transfer. I think ASU would take 63 units. So they took 63 of my units. I had 80 units when I transferred.

Now the first semester I went in as an undergrad and then as an out-of-state student. Which meant I was paying really high tuition. I was living in the dormitory that most people went in. ASU and UofA also had things. If you were under the age of 21, you had to live in a dormitory or you had to live at home. I didn't know that. I had scholarships at both schools. UofA got in touch with me in June and said, 'You haven't signed up for the dorm yet.' I said, 'I'm not going to live in the dorm.' They said, 'Yes you will.' And I said, 'No.' I'd been living in an apartment at Berkeley. The first semester I lived in the dormitory and that was enough. So I found a roommate and got an apartment really fast. I'd been living in an apartment, very successfully, still had almost a straight A average. ASU got me the week before I moved down. By that time I'd told everyone else that I had applied to I wasn't coming and was going to ASU. So I ended up living in the dorm the first semester. I had to live there another semester, but they needed an assistant head resident. They needed someone to work forty hours a week. I'm thinking about that and then they said, 'The good thing about it is you might not be able to get all the classes you need, but what we can do is if you want to work for us as the assistant head resident here, you get an apartment during the school year. You get your room and board paid for during the school year. You get \$1.25 an hour and you get to take 9 units of classes for \$5 a semester.' So that's how I paid for my education. They were nice enough, because I said, 'Will that also pay for me to take summer school? And not one that's on the campus?' They said, 'Yeah, if you can find someone to hire you for forty hours a week, then we can do the same thing.' Since ASU had a field school in archeology and they needed a lab director, and Minabelle Laughlin, the woman who ran the lab back at school, didn't want to go in the field. I got ASU to hire me as their lab director in the field. Then they would pay me the \$300 for that, and then take \$150 back for the room and board. Then that counted as that and I only had to pay \$5 for that particular 12 units of classes. So, I got 18 units during the two semesters. 9 units in the spring semester, the first year I was down there. Then 9 and 9 and 12 and 12. By the time I had finished my two years I think I had one 3 unit class that I needed to take. Which I did. I took, technically, one and a half years for the master's degree.

TM: Were you boating at this time? Sounds like you were doing water polo.

HH: No, water polo is just recently. That's in the last ten years. Because you don't play kayak polo in a thirteen foot boat. You play kayak polo in a little six foot tiny boat.

TM: So, you moved to Phoenix. Where do you go boating in Phoenix?

HH: The lower Salt. The Colorado. The Verde. The Gila. The Salt. There's lots of boating. There are five big lakes around Phoenix. My dad really resented the fact. He thought my boats would stay up in Grass Valley, therefore I'd come back in the summertime and boat up there. No, my boats came down with me. They came by shipping. Less than a week after I got here I found a place to store them. I had both my boats down here because the very first thing I did was get in touch with all the sporting goods stores and said, 'Who do you know who kayaks down here?' I got names of people.

TM: Who was kayaking here then? Who'd you get in touch with? Who're you boating with?

HH: This guy by the name of Randy Scott. He was a fireman. Probably 25 to my twenty when I came down here. He was with the Phoenix Fire Department and he had a whole bunch of friends. I know I've got the names in my journals but they're packed away. A lot of these people were older than me. When I started kayaking here, and I didn't have a car when I got here, I didn't have a car until the year after I got here. Then I got a Ford van, a 1963 Ford van and we put a huge rack on it. We could take four sea kayaks or about six whitewater kayaks. We'd stack them up. Randy Scott was the one that I went with. He had a teenage brother, who was maybe fourteen-sixteen and just getting into kayaking. I was kind of like his kid sister and big sister to his brother, who went with him. And he had friends. Then when I came back in the summertime, if I wasn't working and doing field school, which I did for three years for ASU, but that was an eight week period in the middle. So you had four weeks at the beginning of the summer and two weeks at the end of the summer that I usually went home. I'd always get in touch with Mike. By this time he'd gotten a job teaching. I'd say, 'I'm coming home, are you guys gonna do any kayaking trips?' Usually if I went home for a couple weeks at the end of the summer or at the beginning of the summer I'd find out what was going on and I'd usually manage to get a trip in. His sister gave it up after she got out of high school, so he always had her boat. So I didn't have to take my boat back and forth. But I did sometimes. By that time there were some other girls coming up that they were teaching to kayak. Some smaller kids who fit into Edith's boat. So by the time I came back for that, her boat was getting pretty ragged.

TM: So when did you first run the Salt?

HH: The Salt? I came on the 18th of August to come down to ASU.

TM: '66? No, '68.

HH: '68. It was a 118° the day I landed. We wore heels then, so I climbed down onto the tarmac and my heels sunk into the asphalt. I didn't think it was going to be that hot. Some people were going out to tube the Salt three days later. The people who picked me up, Dee, what is her name? Her parents worked for Goodyear Tire. They first were out of the Goodyear proving ground in Phoenix. He was an engineer testing tires. Then they moved up to Grass Valley and they lived up the hill from us. A year before I graduated from high school, they moved back down to Arizona. They had two kids. Dee is the girl, and she is four years younger than I am and Rusty and I were the same age. Rusty's driving a truck back in Washington D.C., and Dee is an engineer. She works for Motorola. They picked me up at the airport and took me to the college. They invited me two days later to go tubing with them on the lower Salt. So I'm introduced to tubing on this absolutely spectacular desert river, and I'm just saying, 'I need my boat, I need my boat.' That's when I got on the phone at the school and I started calling all the sporting goods stores and finding out who kayaked in town. Most of them knew of someone who would build a boat for you and most of them knew of someone who would build a paddle for you if you wanted a fiberglass one. There was a guy up here who was carving kayak paddles out of wood and selling them.

TM: Here in Flag?

HH: In Flagstaff. I've got one of his paddles from about twenty years ago, but he was doing it way back when. If I show it to you, I think his name's on it, although I really need to re-varnish it.

TM: And it's a gorgeous paddle.

HH: Oh yeah it's beautifully--

TM: He made some... I'm trying to remember who this fellow was because he met him in the early 1990s. He had a place downtown. Made these wonderful paddles.

HH: Wonderful paddles. I still have one sitting in my shop. People look at it all the time and say, 'That's beautiful.' I say, 'You should see how it paddles.' If they take it out and say, 'How do I get one?' I say, 'You're gonna have to find someone who can make it for you!' I think by that time I had maybe three paddles. Dad and I had made two, because I needed a longer touring paddle and a different shaped. Touring paddles, they're long and narrow, and whitewater paddles are short and thick. Anyway, I had one of his paddles. I got another one. I brought down both my whitewater and my touring boat. That got there right around... I'm gonna say the third week in September. Columbus Day weekend, the second week in October, Randy and his brother and another couple picked me up at the school with my boat, in '68, and we went up to Bullhead City. It was the first time I was in Bullhead City. We got on there. They had a friend who came along. It was an old van with a trailer on it. So we didn't have to load the boats on top. He drove it down to Parker Dam and we did sea kayaking for 83 miles in 3 days. Got around to Parker Dam, went 83 miles. I think we went 35 miles the first day, against a headwind, but with current. Then we went through the gorge the second day and we camped. The island was not developed in Lake Havasu. McCormick had the bridge over at that point, but he hadn't done anything, there was nothing.

TM: Is it McCulloch?

HH: Yeah, it is McCulloch, that's who it is. We went down to somewhere close to Parker Dam. There was a little dirt boat launch ramp. It's called Takeoff Point now. The BLM has renovated it three times since then. But at that point it was a little rocky area where the dirt boat launching occurred.

TM: Was this your first overnight boating trip?

HH: No. We'd gone and done some boating before where we've done some multiple day trips.

TM: But this was self-support. So all your gear's in your boat.

HH: I was on a sea kayak, not the whitewater boat, which has less room. We had plenty of room in the sea-kayaks. That worked out really well. That was my first introduction to Arizona kayaking. Then the next weekend is the time that I was also invited to go along up to the Verde. That was a whitewater trip. We did the Child's to Beasley Flat run on the Verde. We had a blast. I really, really enjoyed it. Right after that, the Salt unfortunately is turned off-- right around the middle of October. It's totally dam controlled and they drop it down to where it's five to six cubic feet per second. Sometimes the Verde is in, but that's the section that the Fort McDowell Indian Tribe doesn't want people boating on. They still, they didn't want people boating on it then either. So not a lot of people would go up and do the upper section, which is too bad. They've got three or four really good eagle's nests up there that you can see from the river and it's really pretty out there. Done it many times. But not then. So the next year...

TM: This is '69?

HH: '69. I did some other boating in the spring.

TM: Here in Arizona?

HH: In Arizona, right. I was going to go home at the end of the season. The other thing was that I dated somebody in high school that was one of my father's prize wrestlers. He was the same age I am, but he got out of high school a year early. He went into the Army. He had a very low draft number. So he went into the Army. He was in a program where the top person in each class was offered a chance to go to Officer Candidate School, OCS. He was selected. He went to OCS and came out a lieutenant. He went into the Army and was over in Vietnam '68 through '69. He died while I was on that Colorado River trip. He was killed on May 31st. Ken Scurr was his name. Nice, he also kayaked. Didn't like it as well as I did. I was obsessed with it, he was not. But he enjoyed it and enjoying doing it.

TM: How do you spell his last name?

HH: S-c-u-r-r. I came off that trip and found out he was dead. It was a tough time. I did not go home because there wasn't enough time. I took my finals that first year and then two days later was picked up. Two of the guys that I had kayaked with in California, as part of Mike Ellsworth's group, were the ones that were invited on this trip.

TM: This is the Grand Canyon trip we're talking about?

HH: The Grand Canyon trip in '69.

TM: Which is in May of '69?

HH: May of '69. We got off on the 12th. I'm thinking it was somewhere between 14 and 16 days. Somewhere around in that. I knew that I had to be back because I had the field school in archeology that I needed to run the lab for. So I to go in and pack it up to get ready to transport it up there the week prior to when all the students came in.

TM: Who else was on the trip?

HH: There wasn't anybody that I knew from Arizona who was on the trip. The two guys that came down from Northern California were the ones that I had kayaked with before up there. There were two Bill's on the trip. One was the trip leader. I'd have look up his last name because I don't remember what it was. Then the other one's... what was it? He was kind of peripheral. He was a little bit older and he came on a couple of Mike's trips, but not a lot of the ones that I was on. But I knew who he was. I'm trying to think of what his name was... Bill, the trip leader, and the guy who had the raft (we had one support raft), picked me up in Phoenix along with my whitewater boat and took me up to Lees Ferry.

TM: Support boat was eighteen feet long?

HH: Military surplus.

TM: One?

HH: One. Yes, self support. We got one dry-bag.

TM: Who did the food?

HH: Some of the other people who were doing it had bought the food and I was supposed to cook it. I had my Coleman camp stove and he had the metal boxes for everything. You didn't have to take your waste out in '69. You dug a hole and you pooped.

TM: You built your fire, if you wanted it, on the beach?

HH: Yeah, We did.

TM: And everything, all your trash, went in the river?

HH: We actually hauled some of the trash out.

TM: You did?

HH: A little bit. Most of it, I think. Those of us from California weren't used to throwing our trash in the river. So when they were throwing trash in the river a lot of us were saying, 'No, that's just not really the thing to do.' We had some trash bags with us. We always took spare trash bags 'cause you never knew when you might have to use it as a raincoat. In California you got a lot more rain than you do over here. So we got some spare trash bags. I had a little bivy sack, not a very good one. We didn't get any rain, but I had a protective one, which was really kind of nice. It was an interesting trip. That trip taught me more about making sure that you knew who was gonna be on a trip and what they liked to do. More particularly, made sure that they didn't like to do things you didn't wanna do. That was a really hard drinking group. There was a lot of booze on that trip.

TM: You were the only woman?

HH: Uhuh. It was pretty uncomfortable.

TM: How many people?

HH: There were nine of us and the boatmen, so that's a total of ten. Nine guys and me.

TM: So nine kayaks and one raft?

HH: One raft, right. Bill and the boatman, whose name I have no clue what it was, I don't even know. He wasn't along for the whole trip because he hiked out at Tanner.

TM: This was the boatman that hiked out at Tanner?

HH: He and Bill got into a knockdown, drag-out fight. The rest of the guys broke them up. They could hardly stand up they were so drunk.

TM: This was where?

HH: Tanner. So we put them in their tents. I finished dinner.

TM: Camped on the right or left?

HH: We were camped on the beach just above the rapid/wash. At that point you go up and over the wash and the trail starts on the other side and up quarter of a mile. I've hiked that trail enough times I know exactly where we camped there. We woke up the next morning. I'm looking around and going, 'We're missing a tent. We're missing the boatman's tent.' Everyone else was sleeping in, because they all drank that night. I cleaned up after dinner and went to bed. I'm going, 'Okay, this is gonna be interesting.' So they all stumble out of bed. I've got the oatmeal going. I think breakfast mostly was oatmeal and coffee. So I get the oatmeal going and get the coffee going. I'm hitting on pans trying to wake everyone up, it's about eight o'clock in the morning. Everyone gets up and I go, 'You know I don't think our boatman's here anymore.' Bill, sitting there looking bleary-eyed at me going, 'What do you mean our boatman's gone?' I said, 'His tent is gone.' They started looking and he was gone. He had packed up and moved out in the middle of the night. So we had the raft and we had nine kayaks.

TM: Let's back up a minute. At this point you had kayaked...?

HH: To Tanner.

TM: All the rapids?

HH: Yes.

TM: Everything. Were you feeling pretty comfortable about your kayaking then?

HH: Oh yeah. Yeah. The Colorado's really kind of straightforward. There are a lot of rivers we that had gone there are some pour overs on that are pretty nasty. And teacup sorts of things. A four meter boat is something that's real long to have. The four meter boat on the eddy's in the Grand Canyon is a lot easier to get over it then some of the short boats. I went from that four meter boat to a Dancer, which was eleven feet, down to an RPM Max, which is nine feet. The RPM Max for me, was a lot harder to control, because you don't have that length where you can stick your nose over into the eddy and actually work your way across it. You get bounced back a lot more in the RPM Max. Still my favorite boat, but it is a considerably different thing. It was very easy for me to do everything on the Grand in the four meter boat.

TM: This was not a commercial trip?

HH: No, no, this wasn't a commercial trip. He owned the raft.

TM: Had he gone down the river before?

HH: Yes, yes.

TM: How did he get a permit?

HH: No, he didn't get the permit, Bill got the permit. Bill had gone down the river before, this was his second trip. He knew the boatman. Now, for years and still now, if you have a trip and you want someone to guide you, you can find someone who's been a boatman to take you down. I don't know if this guy had ever rowed for anybody else, but he was a very competent boatman. He never even thought about flipping. He told us which way to go. Bill also, he never did a briefing. He would just say, 'Follow me.' So most of us would just follow in a little line. We had a running order. We had one kayaker who went through and that normally rotated. It was usually Bill or one of the other guys who was really good. We all had our own throw ropes. Then the raft would go through. Then the rest of the kayakers would go through. So the first guy would be the safety for the raft and then the raft would come in to be the safety for the rest of us. That was basically what the running order was. So we're all sitting there at Tanner--

TM: The boats were all four meter boats?

HH: Yes. There was one that was a little bit different, that somebody had built himself. It was a little shorter than... But all the rest of us had four meter boats.

TM: So maybe three meter? I mean nine? Do you think it was like the Dagger prototype?

HH: Well no, no. The four meter is a racing prototype. A four meter is a European racing boat. As long as you had it four meters, than you could race in that class. So that's what we picked up over here. That's what was being built in northern California by a lot of people who wanted to do whitewater, based on the European four meter racing boats. Which were very shallow and very narrow. From there that grew into build it a little deeper and you can kneel in it. That becomes the C1 that they then raced over here. The form changed over here quite a bit before and during all the racing things. All the history of racing is interesting, but not something I've really pursued.

TM: I know, I'm just trying to clarify because this is a very important trip in 1969. There's been one other kayak trip in '68 with five kayakers and a couple of C1 people. In '69, they all were outfitted by Hatch. They were not allowed to run Sockdolager because Ted Hatch told his boatmen, 'Don't let them in Sockdolager, you can't scout it.' All the canoe and kayak people were very irritated when they had to sit on the boat and go through the rapid and go, 'You know we could have run that.' So that was it from then on down.

HH: Do you know the Hiking Shack?

TM: Yes

HH: Dale was the go-to person in Phoenix if you wanted a boatman. A lot of the rafts that went out on private trips through the '70s and '80s, my friends who were doing trips down there, they would go to Dale and say, 'We want to rent a boat from you. Who do you have who can row it? We want to put him on our trip.' I don't know if this came from Dale or not, I never really asked him about it. The rest of the groups that I kayaked with, '74 was my next trip. That one was done by... oh, that one wasn't the Ken Slight trip. I did two Ken Slight trips that he outfitted for us. Those were commercial trips. It was two boatmen, two boats, and then the kayakers. It was a group of kayakers that basically hired them, but we were on a commercial trip. We were subject to whatever the commercial rules were. We did do a sixteen day trip and the other one we were limited to fourteen.

TM: So to Tanner, boatman and one of the other crew get in a fight... Boatman hikes away.

HH: Boatman hikes away. So we're all sitting there looking at one another going, 'Okay, what are we gonna do now?' Bill said, 'Has anyone ever rowed a raft?' I said, 'I did once for a... but not on anything like this.' He said, 'You're gonna have to row it today, then. The rest of us will figure out what we'll do for the rest of...' I said, 'Look, I came on this trip to kayak. I don't particularly want to row a raft.' He said, 'Do it just today. We'll figure out what's going on.' So I rowed it that day.

TM: Which would have been Tanner?

HH: Tanner.

TM: Which would have been Unkar, which would have been Hance?

HH: Hance.

TM: Sockdolager?

HH: Sockdolager

TM: Grapevine?

HH: Grapevine.

TM: Did you go to Phantom for the night?

HH: We did. So the next day, someone else got in it, and he flipped it at Horn.

TM: But you got to run Horn?

HH: Yeah, I ran Horn.

TM: In your kayak.

HH: In my kayak. Split the Horns. It was very nice. It was a very easy run. I wasn't concerned with that. We had two people who swam Horn. They went too far right and they swam it. But I did not. The boat flipped. We did the same thing. Bill went down first, so he was running safety and the raft flipped. They got the raft over quite a bit down. We were gonna have a stop and have lunch at Horn/there, but we ended up not. We ended up going quite a ways down. In fact, I'm almost positive that where we got that raft over was the one-- we camped there, this trip. Looks a little bit different. But it was above, well above, it's above...

TM: '92 mile is on the right. Its a little pile of sand with a little bit of tammies around the ring.

HH: No.

TM: Trinity is the next one down.

HH: No, it was on the left.

TM: Okay, that's Salt Creek?

HH: Salt Creek, yeah. I think that was the one that we landed at.

TM: Long and skinny.

HH: Long and skinny. Right, I think that's where we got the raft over. When you have a raft and it's fully loaded with all of your gear.

TM: Right. And it would have been very loaded.

HH: Very loaded. Well, we each only had one bag.

TM: But still that's nine bags and food.

HH: I know, I know. But we're pushing the raft to get it over.

TM: In your kayaks?

HH: In our kayaks, 'cause there's no other way of doing it. Either one can go forward, throw a rope over and try to drag it, but unless we're sitting there pushing, it's going to go where the current wants it which is usually not where you want it to go. We got it flipped over and we spent the night there. The next day the people I knew from California came and said, 'We're not real happy with people who don't know what they're doing rowing this very heavy raft. You sure looked like you knew what you were doing.' I said, 'I don't like where you're going with this. I'm supposed to be on this trip as a kayaker.' They said, 'We're just concerned that if we flip that and if we lose our food, we might be on the water for a couple days with no food and then we're going to have to find a place to hike out.' That was before I'd done a lot of hiking. I'd done my Nankoweap trip in the Canyon and that's about it. I'd not hiked there before. So, I'm going, 'Well, I'll take it down this next thing, but we need to be talking about switching off.' It ended up that I rowed the raft for two days and then someone else rowed it for a day. I flipped it in Bedrock.

TM: Before we get to Bedrock, the next day, meaning you would have run Granite, you would have rowed Hermit, you would have rowed Crystal. Which, in 1969, hmm. Crystal had just flashed that previous winter.

HH: Scary. Yeah. The Crystal that I remember was nothing like the Crystal in '74. Was nothing like the Crystal in '79, the next year I rowed it. And was absolutely nothing like what it was this year. It was nasty. Steph took my dory right through the hole at Crystal. I got great pictures of that.

TM: This year?

HH: This year, right. There was no way I wanted to go anywhere near that hole. I think we ran left. I think Bill told us we needed to run left and we needed to really avoid that hole. So all of us ran left. I

think I was third. I think they sent two kayakers down, and then I ran. Then rest of the kayakers ran it. We had two people who flipped in lower Crystal. Nobody flipped in the main one, but we were really hugging that left wall. It wasn't a lot of fun. I thought I was going to flip there.

TM: Was your boat tied on the back of the raft?

HH: Yes. Upside down on back of the raft.

TM: Sticking way out either end.

HH: Yeah, you got it. It got a crack at the very end. We did hit a rock over on that side. I don't even remember where. But, I know it didn't have a crack in it before and it did have a crack in it there. I don't remember hitting the rock. I do remember a time when I had the oar like this, because we were going to be close to the thing and my blade was back there.

TM: You shipped your oar.

HH: I'm leaning out like this and I'm trying to control it like this. To try to turn my nose around to get it off the wall because I figured I was going to bounce and spin. I think that was probably right around where the hole was. I knew it was too far out for me to go into it. There was a wave train that was trending in that direction and I wanted a little bit more control. That boat was just a barge to row, just a barge.

TM: That was a bucket boat.

HH : Yeah, oh yeah.

TM: So, you had to bail it yourself?

HH: There wasn't much room to bail.

TM: At the bottom of the rapids. And then head on down, running back and forth between the oars in the front of the boat to bail it out. While the other guys had a good time kayaking?

HH: Yeah. And then I got to cook and clean and repack the boat. When I said I learned to pick my boating companions, boy did I learn. That one was... it was a nightmare of a trip from that standpoint. There was a lot of drinking going on. I never have liked being around people who are drunk. So it was not a good scene.

TM: So what happened at Bedrock? You got a day off in there somewhere rowing. Someone else took the boat. You got back in the kayak.

HH: Right. Yes, I got a day paddling upstream from Bedrock. I don't remember where it is. Was it after Crystal that I had a day off? No, it wasn't after Crystal. We went through Bedrock around noon. It would have been the day before we did Bedrock. I was in my kayak again. With a lot of duct tape on the stern, that was what cracked. I was rowing the day we were at Bedrock and I went left and I wrapped it. Then it flipped over and we were circling around in the eddy, which was a lot stronger current than what I

remember. So I'm trying to climb up. I usually kayak with some webbing straps. One of the things that I've always done is you can get back into a kayak if you have-- it's kind of like a figure eight and a carabineer. You can use it as a stirrup. You put it between two and bring yourself up and plop your butt into the thing and work your feet down in. My kayak had, it was not even a keyhole. You sat on the back and you slipped into it like a slipper.

TM: So pretty tight?

HH: It was really tight. But I could do it if I absolutely had to. If you had a couple people who are holding your boat for you, you could sit on the back and slip in. They had a continuous chine on it. So they were really flippy. Pretty interesting. So I had that clipped on to the rope that went around the grabline that went around. I was trying to climb up and on, but the boat was really slippery. We didn't have a flipline rigged on it anyway so you didn't have anything on top to grab. So I'm trying to put my hands through anything that I can grab onto to pull up. By the time that boat decided it was going to go on through, on the left side, I'm half-up on the boat like this with my hips right there. I'm going, 'If it hits the rocks, I'm going to crush my pelvis, break my legs, all like that.' I am petrified. I'm holding on for all I'm worth. At this point my eyes are shut and I'm going, 'Oh god let it be quick,' because I think I'm going to die right there. The kayak went through on the right side and pulled over onto that little... it was a gravel bar then. He pulled over on that. He was out of his boat. He had seen me in the eddy, so as soon as I start down, he says, 'Rope! Rope!' Open my eyes, the rope comes in, I grab it, and then he pulls. Pulls me almost off the boat. So I'm hanging on to this and he pendulums me over. We get the boat onshore. I sit there and shake for a half an hour until we get another two of the people who come down. Everyone's looking at Bedrock. Everyone's saying, 'You know, this doesn't look good.' They've all see me flip and they think that I'm down there, 'cause they didn't see me go on down. On that gravel bar, you're still behind the rock. So two of them come on down and around. They see that they've got the raft over there so they then eddy out. Then we're getting the raft flipped up. I think four of us worked. We rigged the z-drag on it and got the raft back over. Didn't lose anything, except I think we lost one of our two bail buckets on that. That was the only thing we lost. The bail was still there, the metal thing was still there, the bucket thing just broke off. At that point I say, 'I really don't want to row anymore.' One of the other guys says, 'Okay, I'll row for a while. Do you want to get back in your boat?' I said, 'No, I want to sit on the raft and do nothing.' So we go down. I don't even remember where we camped that night, but it was some little place I probably never camped before or since. I basically said, 'You cook,' and I went to bed. They cooked, I think they had burned the stew. I didn't eat that night. I wasn't real interested in eating. We got up the next morning and they're kind of going, 'Do you want to row today?' I'm going, 'I don't think I've really got much of a choice, do I?' At that point I said, 'Someone's gonna have to take on some of the cooking chores. I don't want to do this all by myself. If I'm gonna be rowing that boat, I don't think I want to cook every night.' So they shaped up a little bit. They split it up at that point. I took it through Lava. I would be willing to guess that we did Lava probably at around... it had to be 1,400 to 1,600 because we did a left run at Lava. And that was by far...

TM: Fourteen to sixteen thousand?

HH: Yeah, about that. We scouted on the left side. Bill had done a left run at Lava before. He said he thought that that was best and we had no problem whatsoever with that. We didn't have anybody who swam at Lava. That's something that's really interesting. Tequila Beach. Do you remember when the ABL, Alive Below Lava, beach was on the left side? That people partied at?

TM: Which was just at the spring?

HH: No. It was below the spring.

TM: The spring came in, there was a cut-in right there.

HH: There was a cut-in. But there used to be a big beach there. The first two trips that I went on, we never stopped at Tequila Beach, we stopped over there.

TM: Over there. That's right.

HH: That was where they stopped for their celebratory drink. I drank water. Anyway, that whole trip was really nice because we had green water the entire way down. We all had Sierra cups. You wanted to drink out of the water, you drank out of the river and no one had any problems.

TM: That's right.

HH: It was a little different.

TM: Did you take out at Diamond on that trip?

HH: We took out at Diamond on that trip.

TM: When was the first time you kayaked to the lake?

HH: Not the '74 trip. It would have been the one that was in '78 or '79. It was one of the Ken Slight trips.

TM: Do you have journals?

HH: No. I had journals. I had stuff in storage one of the times that... Bought the house in Scottsdale in 1974 and I went... where did I go on that trip? I was between jobs at that time. In 1978, I went... I would have had the '74 journal and the journal for this one. I think I might have a journal for the '78-'79 one. Might. I don't know, I haven't seen it for a while but I don't think I've lost it. I moved everything out of my house and into storage and I went back to do six month volunteer work in Appalachia. I ended up being gone for seven months. I had sent my friend, who was renting my house for that period of time, a check to go over to storage to pay for my seventh month because I knew I was going to be gone. She didn't. She was also supposed to be paying my mortgage. When I got back I was two months behind/arrears and they had already sold what I had put in storage. So I lost some paperwork. That was part of it.

TM: We've been at this now an hour and fourteen minutes or so it looks like. I'm kind of wondering if we want to stop here and pick this up again in '68. Because there's a lot more of Grand Canyon in you. And Goldwater. And, and, and. So I'm thinking about energy levels, you've got a long drive to go, yet today. Does this sound like a good place to stop for a minute?

HH: It does. Yeah, I can look at the guide and try to put together where we camped that one.

TM: Let's think about wrapping this up.

HH: Bill was our trip leader.

TM: Do you remember his last name?

HH: No. I don't remember what his last name was.

TM: Was he the permit holder?

HH: He was permit holder. I suspect he probably was the permit holder. He was the organizer for it, but I could be wrong about that. The reason for that is, what was the process for getting a permit in '69?

TM: You had to write the park and then say, 'I want a permit.' You had to fill out the form. You had to list your prior Grand Canyon experience. With none you wouldn't get a permit. This was '69. That's basically how things were set up.

HH: So the permit was gotten. I know I was a substitute. But I have to laugh about getting up there to--

TM: You mean an alternate to come on the trip?

HH: I was an alternate to come on the trip because three people had cancelled. That's when my two friends from California were invited and they were asked, I think, if they knew anyone who could cook. They said, 'Oh yeah!' I'm not sure they told Bill that I was a girl.

TM: Were they thinking of you?

HH: Yeah, because when we were doing... My mother is a great cook.

TM: Did you go by a different name than Helen?

HH: Penny. Penny is my nickname.

TM: But Penny is a common name for a girl.

HH: I think they said that they knew someone who could cook. They knew someone who could cook really well. Because on all of our trips, we had a Coleman stove, we had an ice chest, and I did the cooking. So all those guys knew I could cook. It was the idea of, you knew a cook who could kayak or you knew a kayaker who could cook. I don't think it was maybe until a week before this trip was going on, because I hadn't talked to Bill until the night before the trip. He knew by that time I was a girl. He knew where he was picking me up, which was one of the girl's dorms at ASU. I had my friend, who had my kayak, bring it over. Because I was literally leaving as they were closing the dorm. He knew at that point. I got ribbed a whole bunch on the entire way up. He called me 'girly.' I've been called that before, but he called that as an offensive, derogatory term. He added the comment, 'I sure hope you can roll, girly, because that ranger up there is gonna make sure you can roll.' I'm looking at him going, 'I can roll really well. Can you roll?' He said, 'Yeah, I've been doing it for years.' And I'm going, 'Good. Glad to hear it.' I'm thinking this is going to be interesting. I've been treated to discrimination before when doing things that were kind of outside of what most people thought girls should do.

TM: The typical gender roles?

HH: Typical gender roles sort of situation. But this one was probably the most offensive that I had been faced with up until that point. So the ranger when we get up there, I never had to show any ID. I *never* had to show any ID. I never had to show any ID on my second trip in '74 either. But both times, I was told I needed to suit up because he wanted to make sure I could roll. If I didn't show that I had a very good roll, I wasn't going.

TM: In 1969 you probably were the first female to show up with a kayak.

HH: No. According to the people at Phantom Ranch and also somebody who was there before, there was another kayak group that went out about two weeks before we did.

TM: In '69?

HH: In '69. There was a girl on that one.

TM: Do you know who that was?

HH: I don't have any idea.

TM: So you would have been the second. First, mystery x woman. So you're the second. The whole concept of kayaking in a C1 and K1, the canoe and the kayak, concept were new to the Park Service. They were very, they didn't know Grand Canyon. They didn't know canoes and kayaks. They didn't know anybody's boating skills. So they were very much - you got to prove yourself. At least show me you can do this.

HH: Not all of the guys on our trip had to do that.

TM: Interesting.

HH: They picked. They picked two guys and they picked me. They made me do it.

TM: The ranger randomly said, 'Okay you two show me a roll, and you show me your roll.'?

HH: No, he wanted to make sure I could roll. Then when I showed that I could do it, I think he realized he'd probably better check some of the others to make we weren't hiding someone who couldn't do it. So he picked two of the other guys. One of my friends and one of the other guys from Arizona. Bill and maybe three or four of them were from Arizona. There was one guy from New Mexico, maybe a couple from Colorado on the trip. They were all friends of Bill's. One of the guys that came down from California, that I knew, I think Bill was friends with someone he kayaked with a lot up there. I think that's how they got invited along. It was really good that they liked the food, the way I was cooking the food, because I think it would have been pretty miserable without that. But I really am a good cook and I can pretty much take anything and make it taste very good. I had a box of spices and pepper sauces and things like that.

TM: You saved them.

HH: It was Dinty Moore stew.

TM: They were burning stew; you saved them.

HH: Yeah, right!

TM: What kind of lifejacket were you wearing?

HH: Not the sort that you should be in in a kayak. The ones with the belt here, but the panels of foam. As a kayaker you flipped it up. You couldn't get your elbows down close to your things because you had that big flipped up thing. I still have one in my garage. Brand-new. I ordered it about twelve years ago. I don't think they're making them anymore. I still have one. I think that's what I was wearing.

TM: What else do you remember about the gear? Maybe we should talk a little bit, again focusing on this '69 river trip, this is May, the dam had come in in '63. You've just gotten off the river about a month ago here in 2014. What were some of the differences now that you look back between '69 to 2014? Differences that you see on the river today vs. then. You already mentioned drinking water was right out the river. The solid waste... The bathroom was, here's a roll of toilet paper go hide yourself and have fun.

HH: Right

TM: Cooking fires on the sand--

HH: Nankoweap had one of the primitive toilets in '69. You could smell it from a mile away. It was the first year it was in, I think. In '69. We were planning on camping at Nankoweap. We got to the bottom of the top of Nankoweap rapid and we're all going sniff, sniff. There was an upstream wind blowing and we're going, 'What is that?' We were thinking, is there cattle in here, did somebody die? We get down and get closer and we see flies. There's this swarm of the flies around that and we're going, 'What's that?' Bill says, 'That might be one of those toilets that we heard they're putting in.' We go, 'How far is it to the next campsite?' He said, 'We're going, it doesn't matter how far it is, we're going.' So we didn't even stop at Nankoweap, and I had planned on... Nankoweap was the first trip that I had hiked in. I did that in March.

TM: That same year, '69?

HH: That was '69. I came down Nankoweap with some friends. I had looked forward, because I had wanted to... We didn't hike up to the granaries. We didn't stop there, we went on down. I don't even know how far we went down.

TM: So in March you didn't hike up to the granaries?

HH: No

TM: You were looking forward to doing that in May?

HH: I was looking forward to doing that in May.

TM: But in May, you didn't even stop?

HH: No, because in March, I didn't know about the trip. I was invited towards the third week in April maybe. I had a couple papers that were due and then I had my finals. And I'm trying to think of what I have to do to get ready to go on that. I had to get my parents to ship down some of my clothes. I didn't have a lot of warm weather clothes because I'd just come down the last fall. So I had all my cold weather gear down there. What I boat in in a kayak on cold water, is a little bit different. I will always wear long johns if I'm in cold water and they're wool. They were wool at that point. So I had to get all that shipped down because I wasn't using that in the fall. I got so busy over the winter that I really didn't do a lot of boating. So I didn't have my wool long underwear down there so mom and dad had to ship that to me. I wasn't gonna do 42° water without long underwear.

TM: Did you notice a difference in the vegetation between then and now?

HH: Yeah, yeah. I've always noticed a difference in the vegetation. I can't tell you how many times I've hiked to Hance. It was really funny. Do you know the upstream campsite at Hance? Above the rapid?

TM: Yes

HH: If you were to walk from there, up to before you get to the drainage, there's a really nice place that we've always called 'The Kitchen.' It was a big old mesquite tree that came over and people had put some boards around on it. I took a series of photographs there on a hike in the early '80s, prior to 1983. I sat there for one day. I was waiting for a group coming through on a river trip. They were people I knew. They were gonna give me a ride down to Phantom. I was gonna hike out from there. They were supposed to be there at ten o'clock in the morning. I had hiked down the day before with some friends who were then going out Grandview. I was sitting there waiting for them, and sitting there waiting for them, and sitting there waiting for them. I had my camera. I had a Nikon with me on a tripod set up. I took photographs going back up the thing, towards that beautiful peak that's up there. It's one of my favorite views. A storm rolled in across there, so it got really black behind there. I decided after I'd taken two or three pictures that I was going to do the series until my friends showed up. So I have like fifteen shots of that exact same spot sitting there. If I sat there today, the trees are so much taller that you would not... I could see all the way down to the water there. Sitting up there, there's a whole hedge of trees in that area. You can't see the water from that particular area anymore. If you walk all the way around and are up on the upstream side of it, then you can see through the clearing area. But from that area, right there where the boards are, you have trees in the way. That's quite a bit different. I was amazed at how much that's overgrown. I was on that beach in 2002. It didn't seem like it was that overgrown in 2002. But it has grown up. So I'm just wondering if that's one of the areas that was re-vegged. When we got there, I knew where we were, I knew that was where I'd taken those pictures. I'm sitting here looking and going, 'Boy, there's a lot more stuff on this beach than there used to be.'

TM: That's right.

HH: Tanner has less. They've had a flash there that I think has taken out a lot of stuff. It seemed to me that there was a lot more stuff there, I camped there a couple of times. There's a lot more stuff that used to be there, now it's much more open.

TM: So more vegetation at Tanner and now there's less?

HH: Less vegetation at Tanner. There's some places that I think of that are different.

TM: What about sand?

HH: There was a lot of sand this year. We had a little bit of wind almost all the time. When we were at Chuar, that was our layover day in the upper section, we had a lot of blowing sand. Did you have one day when it was extremely windy in the canyon?

TM: Yes. yes.

HH: We pulled over at that beach where two years ago we stopped for lunch. That was where we were heading for, we ended up at Bridge Canyon instead because of Norm's flip. We pulled over on that beach where we were supposed to camp. We went and sat in that creek. Because with all the bushes over it was not as sandy there and we waited for two hours to figure if it was going to clear up. It didn't. So we ended up camping there. So I've got the menu for the night and I'm on cook detail that night. I put it on the table and I put a can on top of it. The wind blows the table over and we're sitting there watching my menu go up and up. Maybe eight hundred feet in the air. When we watched it, it was still going upstream, but way high. We never saw it float down in the water. We just hope it sank because it's got my name on it!

TM: It was a fascinating windy day.

HH: Where were you?

TM: We were going through the Quartermaster/Burnt Springs area that day. What I found on this year's trip, the beach building flow of last November/December time, the dam because of low water up-basin, they basically turned the river off and ran flows from 5,000-10,000. So a lot of that sand from the 36,000-38,000 line down, is still there. Whereas in previous flows they have run higher fluctuating flows and moved a lot of that sand on downstream. I don't know if you remember this or not, but above that new high-water line, if you think about that and your '69 trip to today, do you recall any difference? Because thinking of this year, the sand that we all ate in our meals, is what all the pre-dam river runners had every day/every trip. The wind blew and you had sand in your ears, sand in your hair, sand in your face, in your boats.

HH: Everywhere.

TM: Everywhere, right. It was a sandy world. We got a little touch of that this spring with this latest flow regime and the 39,000 down sand. I'm trying to think of the river as a conceptual whole from the old historic high-water down, in '69.

HH: In '69, Hance had a lot of sand on it. Nevill had a lot of sand in it. One of my favorite hikes is to come down Tanner, go across over up Cardenas, come down through Nevill, go up the cliff, down the slide, over to Hance and then either go up Red Canyon or go out Grandview. I've done it probably fifteen times. It's a favorite hike. My ex-husband used to accuse me, when we got to the top of the slide, he looked at me and said, 'You're trying to kill me.' I said, 'This is very easy to do, let me show you.' So I get

down to the Deer Trail and I sit down on my heels and put my legs down and slide. He said, 'You're kidding.' I said, 'No, that's the only way you have.' Of course you're exposed, you're going to drop into the river. He said, 'No, I'm not doing that.' I said, 'Well Dwayne, you don't have a choice.' He said, 'I can jump into the river.' I said, 'Thanks. That's not exactly a choice.' He said, 'I can't do that. I can't do that with a pack on.' I said, 'Okay...' You know the trail that moves down over next to the cliff. I took my pack down there and I said, 'Move back please.' So I came up the slide. I had a rope, probably about a thirty foot rope in my pack that I brought up. I said, 'Okay. I'll take the pack down. I want you to get down. We're gonna put the rope down so you'll have something to hang on to.' He got down to that, and he came pretty close to freezing before he could slide down to the next ledge. 'Cause the trail goes out and then comes down and it's maybe five feet. He was really afraid of going off the edge there. I said, 'Just hold on to the rope. Just control your slide and we'll go down like that.' He gets down and he then hangs onto the rope and he's leaning into the cliff like this. He just is really... he's shaking. So he gets over to there and I throw the rope down. Then I bring his pack down. My pack is an internal frame pack, so it doesn't catch on things. He's always hiked with an external frame Kelty. So I'm belting that thing up like this. I'm moving his sleeping bag up on top, because I don't want that high when I go to slide down. He said, 'What are you doing?' I said, 'I'm adjusting it so I make it safer for me.' He said, 'I want you to leave my pack alone.' I go, 'I'll put it back.' I'm thinking to myself, 'I'm going to throw him off the rock cliff myself.' Anyway, I get down there and then take his pack apart and put everything back and put it on him. I said, 'Now you walk down that way.' He said, 'I want you to go first.' I said, 'fine.' I pack the rope back in my pack, get it on, and we walk on down. We're going through the tamarisk. This is in October. Third week in October. It's still warm out.

TM: What year?

HH: We got married in '89. I think this was '87. Do have any of the Sharon Spangler books *On Foot in the Grand Canyon*? The second edition, she has a paragraph. She actually was on that hike. Bob Spangler, the one who killed his two wives. And her, too, frankly. She was on that hike, but she was not on that section.

TM: So would have been late '80s?

HH: Yeah, '87.

TM: How does this relate to sand, 'cause we're still thinking about Tanner/Nevills sand?

HH: Right, yeah. We camped at Nevill. That was right after I had done two trips down there. Identical trips a month apart, so more than a month. I ran into Georgie White on the first of those trips. We were camped at the upper part of Nevills, right where you come out of that. She pulled in late, at the lower part of Nevills. I had met her in May at the Superintendent's office. She came stomping across the beach. I went walking down and I said, 'You know Georgie, I told you I'd see you in the canyon. I met you in the Superintendent's office in May.' She says, 'Oh, you're that one.' I go, 'Yes.' She said, 'Well, do you mind if we share the beach with you?' I'm thinking, 'You were going to order me off of it.' I was very happy I'd met her, 'cause I knew she would've said it was her beach and that we needed to pack up and leave. They walked partway back and she says, 'Oh, come down after dinner and you can have a beer.' I said, 'There are three of us, four of us.' She says, 'Oh fine, bring everyone else.' And then she stomped on back. She came across with one of her firemen. That was one of my most fun evenings. We sat and listened to her and the boatman. One of the boatmen along was someone who had worked for her in the early days, and then had not worked for her for like ten years. He was coming back, I think, with

some of his kids? They were all telling stories. Oh my god! That women could drink! So could all of them. They didn't stir the next morning. We tiptoed through their camp at five in the morning, 'cause we had to get out. We were getting out at Grandview. We had a ride picking us up at Grandview at 5:00, so we had to leave Nevill at five.

TM: And do Papago and do the up and over and get up Grandview?

HH: One of the reasons we were there, we had actually come down the day before and we had hiked into Papago. You know when you come down that slot that's 75-Mile Canyon? If you go through there, and you can hike back, there's a trail that goes right into Papago Canyon. We had done that. We had spent the day up there hiking around in Papago Canyon. We had just gotten back to camp when she came in. We'd been sitting there for two days. It was a pretty neat trip. I like Papago Canyon, so green back in there.

TM: So I definitely want to, in the next interview, get more of your Georgie vision as well. I'm thinking about trying to wrap this up about differences then and now. Any other differences that you see between '79 and today?

HH: '69 and today.

TM: Sorry, '69, thank you.

HH: There was a lot more sand in '69 on all the beaches. It's a lot cleaner now than it was. There still were piles of garbage that were buried and coming out in the '60s and '70s, especially in the '60s. In the '70s there were people who were hiking down there and still burying their trash. There were people who were burning their toilet paper down there. You always found little spot fires that you figured someone had burned toilet paper and set a bush on fire and were just lucky they didn't burn the whole area down.

TM: How many people did you see on the '69 trip, other trips?

HH: We saw two motorized rigs that went past us, I don't know who they were.

TM: This was May of '69?

HH: Late May.

TM: Late May. Two other motorized trips only?

HH: I think there was one rowing trip as well. I think the rowing trip was ahead of us and I think by one day. I think we passed them. I think they were maybe going out. I was kind of wondering. Was there a limit on the number of days back then? ...No, okay... A lot of us were pushing to get out maybe a day early because a lot of us had things we wanted, to get stuff cleaned up. I had to go back and pack up the lab to take it out in the field. It wouldn't have even hurt my feelings if we had even come out a day before.

TM: Were you guys hiking on that '69 trip? Or was it just basically a 'we're making water miles' trip?

HH: We went up to Phantom Ranch. 'Cause the guys wanted to buy some beer.

TM: That's not much of a hiking trip.

HH: I'm aware. I hadn't done any hiking other than Nankoweap at that point. So I didn't know what else was out there. I knew there was some other good hikes there. But, if you said, 'This is the mouth of so-and-so,' or, 'this is the mouth of Nevill,' I wouldn't have known what you were talking about.

TM: And Kirschbaum in '60... It was just a five or six day trip. He would just smoke that boat all day long, just making miles. They would find him at the end of the day. They would finally catch up to him, he'd just stop somewhere. If that's the kind of vision, you guys were like, 'we are kayakers and we're just making miles.'

HH: No, the rest of the guys wanted to stop and drink in the middle of the afternoon. I had no trouble keeping up with them 'cause I was a stronger paddler than some of the guys who were on that trip. They all wanted to drink. If I was setting up the camp kitchen, which for the first part of the trip I was. Hauling everything out, setting up the kitchen, getting everything ready, doing the cooking, doing the washing, and putting everything back. Since I was doing it, I wanted to make sure it was done during daylight hours. The two guys from California weren't as heavy of drinkers. They were doing a little bit of helping. Bill, I think, kind of talked to them about, 'She's along to cook, you need to leave her alone. She can take care of that.' Which didn't sit real well with them, but they also didn't want to precipitate the type of fight that obviously he got into with our boatman. Because he was an in-your-face kind of really nasty badass.

TM: Were there any more of those on that trip?

HH: No, but there could have been, there very much could have been. I think they realized that and they were not the 'you-get-in-my-face-I'll-get-in-yours' type of guys. They were the 'let's-take-this-down-a-notch, it's-not-worth-it' sort. So I think all of us were kind of afraid of offending him. He was vindictive as well. I saw him flip one of the other guys. I don't think the other guy knew that he did it on purpose. I was behind him, and he reached over and grabbed the grab-handle, and went like that. The guy went right over. I'm just going, 'Ahuhh...' So, I watched the boating order after that. I didn't let that bastard behind me. I didn't want that, that's something he would of done. I've got a good roll. I've got a hand roll, that's not an issue. But I don't want to swim if I'm not expecting it.

TM: Right. River guide. Les Jones' river guide was out then and the Belknap guide probably was out then.

HH: There were two guides along on that that were kind of water-logged. I don't know which ones they were. I do know that I had something to look at quite often. It was in the kitchen area. I looked at stuff, but there wasn't a lot in it. You knew where the rapids was. That's another thing. This trip was a low-water trip. I think there were double the number of rapids that there were. I was amazed at the number of rapids there were between Pierce Ferry and down.

TM: So you mean this year?

HH: This year the water was so low that there were a lot of things that were covered up two years ago.

TM: Yes. You mean from Diamond Creek down?

HH: Yes. I think the whole thing. We felt that the whole way. That there was more this year--

TM: Sharper, you had to be a little more attentive.

HH: Yeah, because it was lower water.

TM: You guys were running fourteen-sixteen...

HH: There's a lot that washed out.

TM: We look to that today as a very sweet level. The river runners at fourteen-sixteen were... In '79, the historic people were like, 'Where's the water, there's nothing in the ditch now?'

HH: We're thinking of so-and-so who goes home at forty-thousand?

TM: Right.

HH: Muiity, Monte who won't...

TM: Well, at nine-thousand they wouldn't launch.

HH: Yeah, right, I know well!

TM: How many trips launch today on nine thousand? All of them.

HH: And consider themselves lucky to do so.

TM: All of them.

HH: Yeah, I know.

TM: That was the difference of just flows and water control.

HH: There were a lot of rapids that we weren't expecting.

TM: This year?

HH: Ones, twos, and threes that we weren't expecting that we were going through. Your ears should have been burning. We were going, 'Tom didn't list that sucker!' [laughing] Georgie was...

TM: Georgie and her triple rigs...

HH: No, no, Georgie the rapid. Have you got the newspaper article about naming Georgie Rapid?

TM: I don't know if I have the article.

HH: I have it. Paula was Georgie's administrative assistant. Paula has been doing reservations for the company out of Phoenix and has been working for them until about two years ago. She now is working bus monitor. She's in her eighties. She's working bus monitor for an elementary school. Paula is a woodworker. She's been in my woodworking group for almost twenty years in Phoenix.

TM: Wow

HH: Paula was with Georgie at the meeting in the Superintendent's office. Another fight in the canyon. Two commercial raft operators got into a knock-down, drag-out fight because one of them was a group of three snout-rigs with motors. One of them had gone ahead and parked their boat on a beach that someone else was going for. When the other guys got there, the boatman got off and said, 'You know we wanted this beach!' They'd had a fight on it. I was on a hiking trip and watched that fight. We were at Tanner. We were coming down onto it, and we were going towards the Little Colorado. So we watched them fight. They were dragged apart by other people. The two boatmen showed up the next day at Nevill after Georgie, who was there already. They pull their boats in, and they get out, and they start beating up on one another. One of them breaks the other guy's nose and his cheek, has him down on the ground and starts proceeding to kick him. At this point, the guy's knocked out. I don't know how they managed to attract the Park Service's attention, but they helicopter him out, arrest the other guy. Georgie is called up to the Superintendent's office to tell what she saw, and I'm called in because when we get out, we report it. I'm on a trip with another ranger who didn't see the fight because he was a half-mile coming down to the beach. I was already there. So that's where I met Georgie, because we were both called in because the Park Service was trying to figure out if they should pursue attempted murder, simple assault, or whatever. So I'm telling about the fight I saw at Tanner and Georgie's telling about the fight that she saw that resulted in that guy being airlifted out and going to the hospital.

TM: So this was a fight between one of Georgie's firemen...

HH: No. It wasn't Georgie's. Georgie's mad. She's walking over because people are stopping on her beach, which she's already on. She's telling them to get the hell out and they're trying to kill each other. So she's a witness.

TM: So these are three trips. Georgie's on a trip but two other trips are fighting each other, Georgie witnesses...

HH: Yes. That's what's going on there. So I met her in the out office of the Superintendent's office. You've got the law enforcement officer who's doing the report on this, and we're both telling what we had seen. We just happened to be in his office at the same time.

TM: This was Marks?

HH: Ohh yeah.

TM: On that thought...

HH: You can turn that off. You know what Marks nickname is, don't you?

TM: I do know! But on that thought...

HH: Yes, we're not going to say it on tape!

TM: We're gonna turn this tape recorder off, and we're gonna pick this up again because I do want to know about Marks and I do want to know what Dick's nickname was, and I do wanna know how '69 turned into '70 and how '70 turned into Ken Slight in '78, '79...

HH: '78 and '9. And also a-- '87.

TM: And your hiking in the Canyon.

HH: I also did a Ken Slight trip in '87.

TM: With that in mind, we're going to turn this thing off. Thank you very much though.

HH: You're welcome.