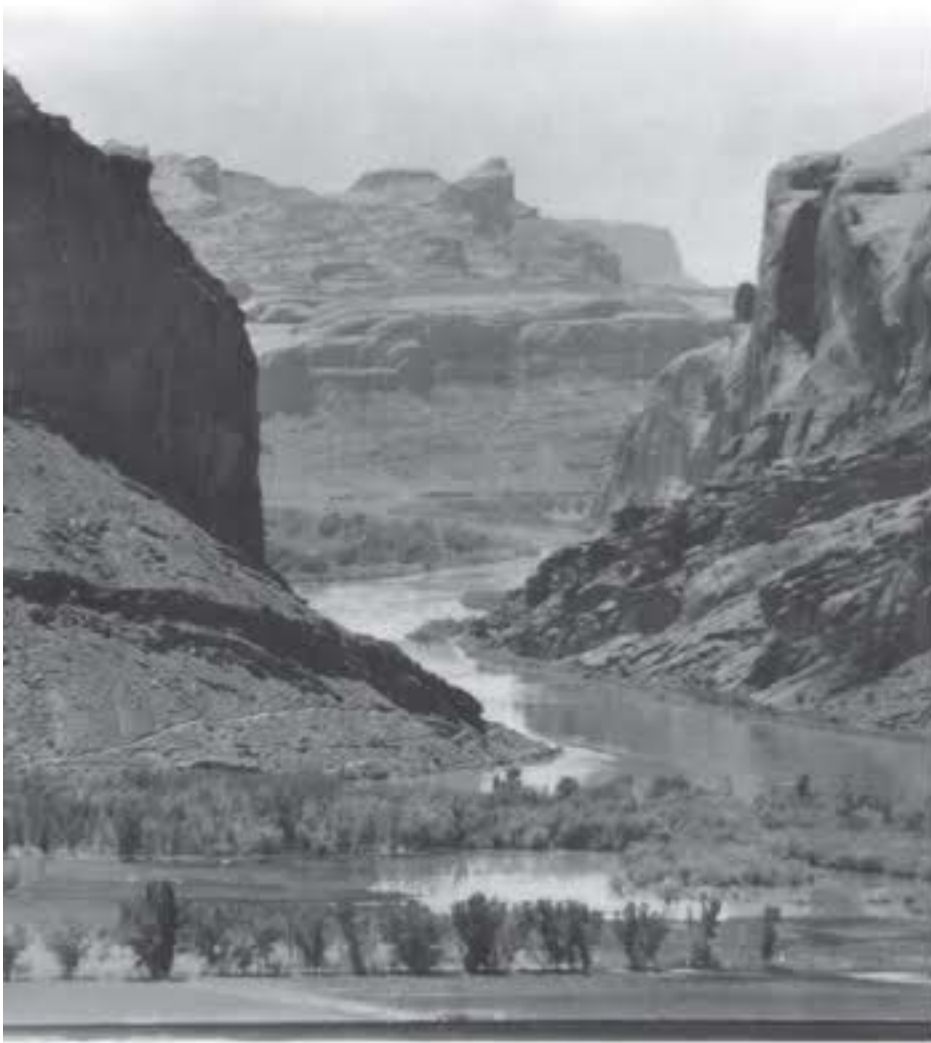


BILL TIBBETTS (continued)

in the rocks, and eagles nesting on the mesa tops. The world was new and the whole country waited impatiently to be explored.



Young Bill did his best to see it all. On horseback and on foot he traversed the canyons and the mesas, exploring ruins, climbing to the top of rocky overlooks, peeking into dark caves and fissures in the rocks, following watercourses and game trails over the canyon rims. He traveled the cowboy and outlaw trails, discovering where they began and where they ended. He learned to navigate the canyon country and keep track of where he was by keeping a bearing on the sun and prominent landmarks on the horizon. His guideposts were the snowy tips of the La Sal Mountains to the east, the Blue Mountains to the south, the hazy peaks of the Henry Mountains far to the southwest, and the long

ridge of the Book Cliffs to the north. At night, while camping out for weeks on end, he memorized the night sky, watching the constellations circle the North Star as the moon pirouetted through her phases.

As a boy, Bill learned to survive in the desert. His uncles taught him to follow game trails to find hidden sources of water deep in the canyons, and he learned to dig in the damp sand against the ledges to tease a drink of water from a tiny seep of a spring. He learned which desert plants were edible and which ones would kill a horse. He learned to dig sego bulbs and Indian potatoes, how to gather pinyon nuts and eat a prickly pear cactus. He learned how to catch a rabbit by using a forked stick or a length of barbed wire to pull it from its den. He learned to trap, hunt, and prepare wild game for the cooking pot. He learned how to camp and sleep comfortably at night without a bedroll or blankets. He discovered that he could go all day without a drink of water, and two or three days without food, if he had to. Growing up on the desert made him tough and self-reliant.

By his mid-teenage years, Bill was a survivalist. He could live on the desert like an ancient Paiute, relying solely on wit, instinct, and woodcraft. His survival skills and intimate knowledge of the canyon country would serve him well in the years to come.



FROM LEFT: Ephraim and Will Moore

NEXT ISSUE 'Indian Wars, Horse Thieves & Outlaws

FOLLOW THIS LINK TO BUY TOM'S BOOK:

<https://www.cnha.org/product.cfm?id=67F84CFA-3048-C277-1143EF03215E77A5>

THE ZEPHYR BACKBONE---February/March 2015

Garrett
Wilson
Sandy,
UT



Doug & Mary Travers
San Antonio, TX

Scott Grunder
Ludington, MI



Jannik Schou
Whitehorse Yukon

Terry Weiner
The California Desert



ALSO JOINING
THE BACKBONE..

Mike Wagner
Louisville KY



MATT & DEEPA ROBERTS
Austin TX



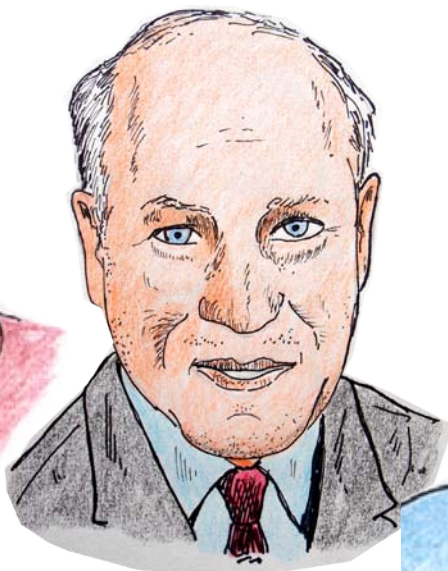
Scott Thompson
Beckley WV

THE ZEPHYR BACKBONE...October/November 2015

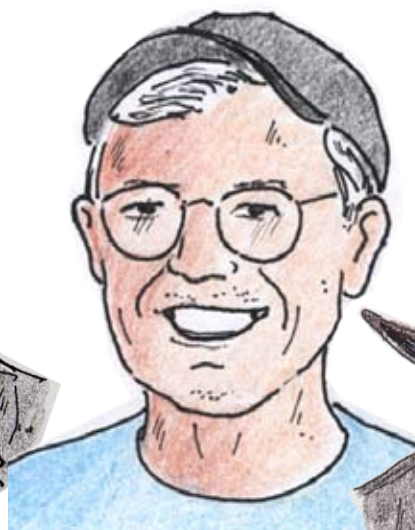
Richard Ingebretsen
Salt Lake City, UT



John Brasch
Louisville, KY



Stephen Peake
Louisville, KY



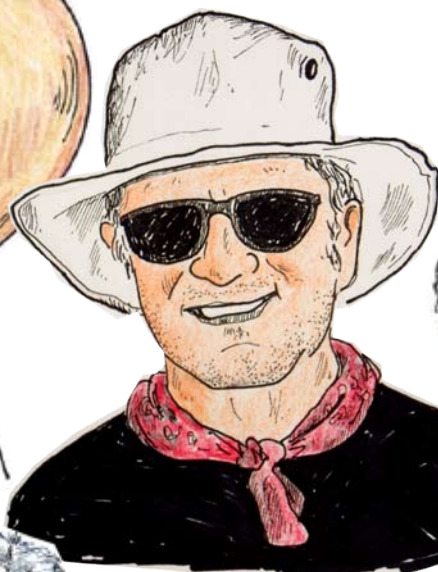
Steven Jones
Chicago, IL



Tom Wylie
Littleton, CO



Terry Weiner
San Diego, CA



Paul Cleary
Tulsa OK

Katie Lee
Jerome AZ



DOUG MEYER
FLAGSTAFF,



Nancy Newman
Minneapolis MN



Scott Thompson
Beckley WV



Paul Vlachos
New York, NY



Ron Mastrogiuseppi
Crater Lake OR



THANKS ALSO TO...

Vernon Hill
Wofford Heights, CA

William Breed
Pawcatuck CT

Allan Brockway
St. Petersburg, FL

Wes Shook
Bluff UT

Lewis Downey
Salt Lake City, UT

John Gould
Moab UT

Andy Holak
Duluth, MN

John O'Hara
Berlin NJ

Allen Brenneman
Goshen, IN

David Lanning
Prescott Valley AZ

ALSO JOINING THE BACKBONE BUT UN-TOONED...so far

Rick Kardash
Soulsbyville, CA

Carter Mills/martha Hamm
Leeds, UT

Gary Meeks
Price UT



Jan Muehlhauser
Decatur, GA



THE ZEPHYR BACKBONE--Pt 2 October/November 2015

THANKS!!! WE need your support