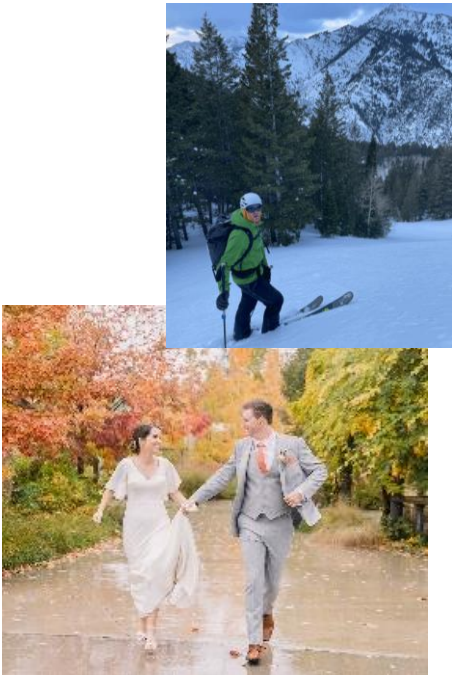


# Meet the 2023 PSAR Rangers...

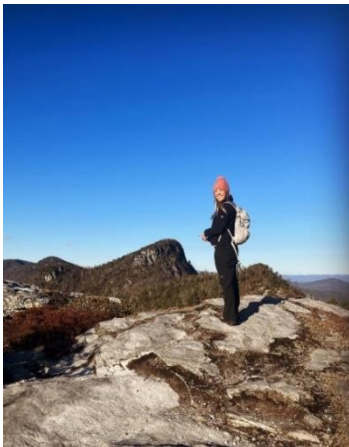
## Thomas DeMasters – Papa 11 (PSAR Lead)

Hello, my name is Thomas DeMasters and I am returning to Grand Canyon PSAR for my third season as the PSAR Lead. I spend my winters in Salt Lake City where I live with my wife Abby. In past seasons at Grand Canyon, I completed my Advanced EMT, village and flight medic training, and served as a member of the park’s Technical Rescue Instructor cadre. Although emergency response often gets a lot of attention, I value my time with our PSAR volunteers and have learned an incredible amount from their experiences. Previously, I have worked as a backcountry and climbing ranger, a ski patroller, and have been a wilderness medicine instructor for the past 8 years. When not down at the Canyon, I spend my time skiing, ice or rock climbing, hiking and biking. Recently, I have been learning how to throw pottery and have created five beautifully lopsided bowls to date. I’m looking forward to the season!



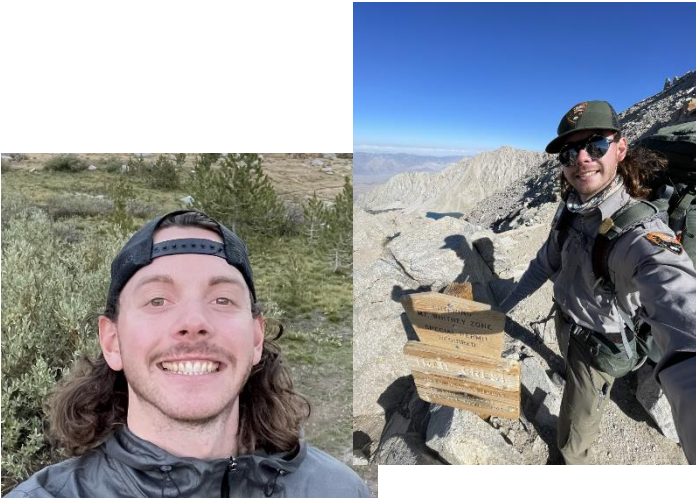
## Kelly Stump – Papa 12

This is my second season with the National Park Service. Previously I was a wilderness ranger at Glacier National Park. Before working for the Park Service, I worked for a county park system where I enjoyed habitat restoration, volunteer management, and emergency response. In my spare time, I enjoy hiking and backpacking, mountain biking, photography and anything outdoorsy. I am also well versed in plant and animal identification and excited to study the flora and fauna of the Grand Canyon!



## Sam Cesca – Papa 13

This is my fifth season with the National Park Service, and I am psyched to be part of this year’s PSAR team! I have a strong passion for Park preservation, wilderness education, and wilderness medicine. Moreover, I’ve had the opportunity to play multiple roles within the National Park system including campground operations and fees at busy parks like Zion and have worked within the rugged backcountry of Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks. I’m looking forward to this season!



## Lili Pongracz – Papa 14

I’m Lili, the person who just passed you wearing Chacos and cow-print shorts. A skier turned desert rat, I’m excited to return to the PSAR team for the 2023 season! When not working, I can be found exploring the limits of kitchen appliances, knitting, arguably, not enough socks, jamming to rock’n playlists and challenging gravity on a regular basis (canyon hiking, mountain biking, and climbing). I look forward to sharing a snack with you down-trail this season!

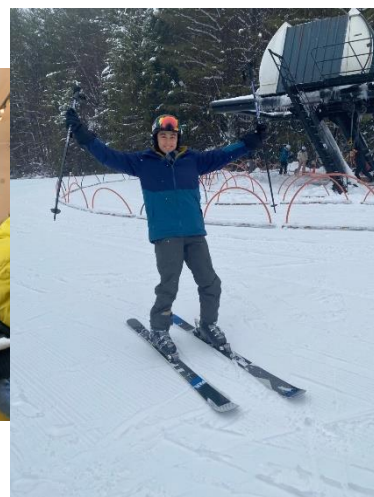




# Meet the 2023 PSAR Rangers...

## ***Cale Wisher – Papa 15***

Hello, my name is Cale Wisher and I am a recent grad from Middlebury College in Vermont. Prior to College, I spent my entire life growing up in Grand Canyon National Park, surrounded by the National Park Service, and now finally becoming a Park Ranger myself. I worked as a Firefighter/EMT/Technical Rescue Tech in Vermont throughout my college career and enjoyed the challenges it provided. In my spare time, I enjoy hiking and running, and recently started skiing. I'm excited to return to the Canyon and give back to the community that I so dearly call home.



## ***Brandon Trapp – Papa 16***

Hello everyone! My name is Brandon. I have a degree from the University of Wisconsin Stevens Point in Environmental Education and Interpretation. Before coming to the park service in 2021, I worked for the NW Outward Bound School teaching technical outdoor skills and leadership curriculum to teens and adults. Teaching and spending time with people outdoors is very important to me. Last November, I transitioned into a full-time role within GRCA PSAR and Emergency Services as a Covid Hire and got to spend the winter here helping prepare for the upcoming season. I am happy to be here and excited to meet all the new incoming staff and volunteers. When I am not working, I enjoy all the outdoor activities but some of my favorites include rock climbing, kayaking, trail running and looking for birds.



## ***Polly Foureman – Papa 55***

I moved to Arizona (from Philadelphia) in the early 2000s. I immediately fell in love with hiking and backpacking in the desert. I spent a lot of time at the Grand Canyon and eventually hiked most of the South Rim trails that have names. Around 2015, I decided it was time to "give back" and I joined PSAR. My day job is teaching A&P at a Community College. This year I was lucky enough to score a yearlong sabbatical. I am in the second semester of my "time away" and it is back to reality in August.





# Meet the 2023 PSAR Rangers...

## ***Lauren Ohlson – Papa 17 (Canyon)***



Hey everyone! I'm from Western Colorado, where I grew up hiking all over the Colorado Plateau. After getting a degree in art history and printmaking, I bounced around Colorado and Wyoming working as a VUA, dispatcher, and EMT. This summer I'm excited to join the inner canyon team after two wonderful seasons working on the North Rim. I love reading, baking, climbing, running, and British murder mysteries. In my free time, when I'm

not working on my paramedic education, I'm usually outside hiking with my partner, Nick, and cute dog, June, or defending my status as reigning household cribbage champion. I can't wait to see everyone in the PSAR family again soon!

I fell in love with our public lands while spending three summers on the PCT. That experience led me to a degree in Recreation & Outdoor Education. As part of my degree, I did an internship with the NPS. There, I worked in Education and Interpretation at Curecanti NRA and Black Canyon of the Gunnison NP. For the past two summers, I have worked at Sleeping Bear Dunes NL as a seasonal PSAR ranger. I am beyond excited to be joining the PSAR team here at the Grand Canyon! When I'm not at work, I like to spend my time backpacking and paddleboarding.



## ***Mike Kohl – Papa 18 (Canyon)***

## ***Emily Hansen– Papa 19 (North Rim)***

I'm returning to North Rim PSAR as a newlywed and newly initiated river rafter! It's been a busy winter; I married my longtime partner in December then enjoyed an adventurous honeymoon on safari. To escape the snowy North Rim, I accepted a spot on a 21-day river trip through the canyon but still woke up to a tent covered in the snow just downstream of Deer Creek! After much shivering on the river, it was time to turn on the heat so I headed to the NPS Structure Fire Refresher in Boise, Idaho. Emily is really looking forward to working with the volunteers this summer when the North Kaibab is snow-free. Reach out anytime with questions!

