

NOTICIAS DE ANZA

Number 23

Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail

January 2004

A Modern Day Anza Diary - Exploring the Auto Route

Each day, hundreds of trail visitors experience a portion of the Anza Trail along the driving route. But in recent times, very few people have actually traveled the entire length of the trail. Last summer, Illinois native Ron Ory drove the length of the Anza Trail. He is the first trail visitor to document his trip along the driving route since the installation of the road signs on the trail and the publication of the driving guide.

In June 2003, I traveled the Anza Trail from Nogales, Arizona, to San Francisco. In all, the car trip was 6,700 miles. This was not my first national historic trail, nor I hope my last. Over the past dozen years, I've traveled along seven national historic trails. My plans are to visit all twelve of the historic trails. It is my way to see some of this great country and learn of its heritage and culture.

I prepared for my trip by visiting the National Park Service and the Web de Anza websites, printing much of their

information about sites along the trail and their suggested routes of travel. I also spent a few hours learning some basic Spanish, which, fortunately, I had to use only sparingly. Luckily, I found a used copy of *Anza Conquers the Desert*, the authoritative source about the Anza Trail which is now out of print.

I spent much of the winter planning my trek. Most of the people I talked to at my home in Illinois had no idea who Juan Bautista de Anza was or where the trail is. It seems this is not unusual. When I asked the receptionist at the Nogales visitor's center for a trail map, she too did not know what I was talking about! And yet, in front of the center stands a statue of Father Kino, a key figure in making Anza's trips successful.



Author Ron Ory at Fort Point at the end of the trail.

photos courtesy Ron Ory

rest of the Anza Trail and take that trip some other time. After stopping at the Nogales, Arizona, visitors center, I snapped a picture of Father Kino whose maps and journals paved the way for Anza to find a way across the Sonoran Desert. After a filling meal of fajitas and a good night's rest, I was on my way along the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail!

My first stop was at Tumacacori National Historic Park. It was about noon when I arrived. It seemed at every stop I managed to be out in the sun when it was the hottest! Tumacacori was the first of many missions that I visited. Today those missions lying in ruin are just another site for visitors; those that are active are just another church for the faithful. But 225 years ago, they must have been the *Holiday Inns*® for the Anza party. As I traveled along the trail, the importance of the missions to the Anza party impressed me all the more.

The recurring pattern for many of them struck me as a bit ironic. Beside the church and living quarters, there was



Mission San Xavier del Bac is the site of the only death on the Anza expedition and one the first stops on the driving tour.

By the fourth of June, I was in Nogales and was thinking of driving down to Hermosillo, Mexico. When I walked across the border at Nogales, a local told me it was about a seven-hour drive. That didn't fit into my schedule, so I'll wait till Mexico maps out the

(Continued on page 2, *Driving Tour*)



A dove at Saguaro National Park near Tucson, Arizona.

(Driving Tour, from previous page)

usually a garden to sustain life and a cemetery for the end of life. Tumacácori was no different, save for the ruins of a limekiln that provided the plaster for preserving the adobe walls of the mission.

I managed to make the next site, Tubac Presidio, shortly before closing time. A small state park that was of great significance to Anza!

The next day I visited one of the most impressive missions, San Xavier del Bac. The restoration of this still active mission is a story in itself. The 45-minute video was well worth my attention (and it was cooler inside). One of many quirky events occurred here - maybe it was the sun getting to me! As I was entering from the parking lot, I saw what appeared to be two Franciscan friars coming down the hill on the far side of the mission. I thought how fortunate to see them as they were. Later, as I was touring through the mission grounds, I met a couple of Buddhist monks who were also site-seeing. These were the "Franciscan monks" I'd seen earlier in the day!

I was now into saguaro country. These giant cacti grow only in this area, so naturally I had to stop at Saguaro National Park. I was the only one foolish enough to explore the mile-long desert walking trail that day, but I gained an appreciation of what it was like to hike in desert for hours each day, day after day. Trying to understand

what it was like was part of the reason for traveling the trail. Not far from the national park is the Tucson Desert Museum. Its hummingbird house is certainly a must for nature photographers with so many species of live hummingbirds at arms length.

North of Tucson, at Picacho Peak State Park, is a view of one of Anza's campsites. It is next to a dry wash with nothing but desert plants for miles. The peak is visible for miles around, and reminded me of another natural landmark, Chimney Rock, that travelers bound for Oregon saw as they headed west.

Another site that Anza visited was Casa Grande. Again, being one of the few to venture out in the Arizona noonday sun, I had a one-on-one tour by a park ranger.

After a weekend of visiting friends and enjoying a couple rounds of golf in Phoenix, my next stop was at Painted Rocks. This was the first time I noticed an Anza Trail marker. Arizona, while having many interesting trail sites, has not marked the roads as California has. I knew where I was going thanks to the Web de Anza.

Almost before I'd realized it, I had crossed much of the Sonoran Desert and was in Yuma! I had considered going south to Mexico and traveling route 2 along the border, but discretion won over valor and I zipped along Interstate 8 instead. At 70 mph and the air-conditioning going full blast, I certainly gained no feel for what the Anza party experienced.

The Yuma crossing of the Colorado River must have been a little daunting. Today a railroad bridge and highway offer little challenge for the traveler. But when I visited a city park, today's

residents of Yuma were using the river for swimming and playing with their dogs. It must have been as refreshing for the Anza party members.

Also of note is Mission La Purisima Concepcion on the California side of the Colorado River. In front stands a monument and cross to Father Garcés. Garcés died here during an uprising between the Yuma Indians and the Spanish in 1781. This rebellion against the Spanish effectively closed the Anza Trail to further settler traffic from Mexico.

I was now in California and the Anza Auto Tour Route signs began to appear quite frequently. But then I had to get acquainted with California driving and drivers, so I needed all the help navigating that I could get.

I drove through Anza-Borrego Desert State Park, but much of it was closed for the summer (too hot). In the Anza valley I enjoyed a picnic lunch near the turnoff for the Bautista Canyon Road. I didn't think my Honda could take the gravel road too easily, so I took the paved scenic route to Los Angeles.

The next morning, Thursday, June 12, I visited the San Gabriel Mission. The



Extensive gardens at the San Gabriel Mission include a variety of plants from along the Anza Trail.

bells were calling the faithful to Mass in the new church as I walked up; the old church is for us tourists. On the outside wall of the old church is the first of several California-shaped trail markers that I saw commemorating the Anza expedition. Inside the garden walls I found a spectacular array of flowering desert plants. As a photographer and avid gardener, I really enjoyed the mission grounds.

The weekend was spent with relatives visiting other grounds—the Getty Museum and the Huntington Library, which has original work by Bolton on the Anza journals. By Monday, I was back on the “dusty trail” heading north. I skipped a couple of downtown LA sites, after experiencing several days of driving the freeways during rush hour. Of the 24 sites on the NPS map, these were the only ones I missed.

At Santa Barbara, both the mission and the presidio are memorable. The mission *lavandaria* or washbasin provided for the meticulous cleanliness of the Chumash Indians. The restoration of the presidio presents some challenges insofar as four downtown city blocks now cover the original site. But the Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation seems to be making real progress in recreating one of the original four California presidios.

Near Lompoc is La Purisima Mission State Historic Park. The buildings were wide open for touring, and I wondered about the security of the many valuable artifacts inside. One cabinet had a date of “1799” and looked almost brand new! Another feature of the park was the collection of various farm animals grazing in the pens, including a couple of longhorns.

I spent the next two days in and around Paso Robles, driving through the grassy hills covered with oak trees.

I visited the missions at San Luis Obispo, San Miguel Arcangel, and San Antonio

de Padua. The last impressed me because it sits on Fort Hunter Liggett, an army training base. As a retired military officer, I had no trouble getting on the base, but since 9/11, most military installations have been closed to the public unless you get a visitor's pass. The setting for the mission was striking. Many of the missions are now surrounded by the cities or towns that grew around them, but not here. There are no buildings for at least a mile from the mission.

While I was there, a group of student archeologists were setting up for a dig. The wind was blowing strongly and they were having difficulty setting up the tent awnings over the dig site. In the garden, there was a grape vine that the sign says was one of the original vines brought in by the missionaries. I wonder what the wine tastes like today! By the time I left, the students



Driving signs line the route through California and are now being installed in Pima County, Arizona.

were still struggling with their tents. I hope they got some productive digging time in by the end of the day.

For the next three days I took a site-seeing detour to Fresno. From there, I visited King's Canyon, Sequoia, and Yosemite National Parks. I'd been there many years ago and enjoyed a pleasant drive. But now, the adverse impact of humans on the ecosystem has limited some of the areas to buses only. I think this is for the better. The valley floor at

Yosemite had about as much traffic per road-mile as the LA freeways!

Saturday was a most unusual day. I visited the mission at San Juan Bautista, the church where the old presidio of Monterey once stood, and the mission of San Carlos Borromeo de Carmelo. At all three there were weddings in progress. I saw a lot of very joyous people that day. The docent at the Carmel Mission was originally from Illinois, so he was more than helpful once he learned where I was from. He told me of the wedding schedule and that I should visit the church first before the ceremony began and then visit the grounds. As I went to the outside rear of the church, I ran into the bride and her maids as they were entering, so my timing was just right.

The next day I drove along El Camino Real into San Francisco. The traffic there was as bad as LA but without the freeways. I found the Presidio easily, having spent a couple months there while in the Army. Golden Gate National Recreation Area has its visitor's center in the Officers Club where I took many a meal. It still reminds me of the movie “Presidio” every time I see it. From there I visited the end of the trail at Fort Point under the Golden Gate Bridge. It was a blustery sunny day, and I found it cold inside the fort when talking with Ranger Goldberg about the Anza Trail I had just completed.

I wonder what Anza, with no fort and no bridge, was thinking as he planted the Spanish flag at this spot so many years before!

On Monday, I drove along the Oakland side of the bay, turned east and headed home. Maybe someday, I'll find myself back along the Anza Trail and have the chance to visit again some of the places that are now fond memories.

Ron Ory will visit the Nez Perce National Historic Trail next. Write Ron at fotogolfguy@worldnet.att.net. to learn more about his adventures along the Anza Trail. ❖

Notes from California's Central Coast

Amigos Take to the Grade



By Dorothy Jennings
*Amigos de Anza-
San Luis Obispo*

On October 14, 2003, costumed members of the San Luis Obispo County Amigos de Anza set up displays at the completion ceremony for the Cuesta Grade road-widening project held at Cuesta Park on the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail. The five county supervisors, the city mayor, and other decision-makers attended. Invitees had an opportunity to learn about the 1776 Anza expedition that followed Chumash and Salinan paths

over the grade just north of the City of San Luis Obispo today. The Amigos offered history scrolls with excerpts from Anza's diary telling of the expedition's stop at Mission San Luis Obispo de Tolosa in March 1776 and the hard climb up Cuesta Canyon.

The March 1998 final environmental report for the Cuesta Grade Project contained no reference to the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail. Even though Congress recognized the trail in 1990, and it was incorporated into the County Trails Plan in 1991, no letters from citizens or agencies mentioned the Anza Trail and workshop attendees submitted no written comment on the subject. The workshop occurred in 1995 and 1996.

As a consequence, Caltrans recognized

neither the national historic corridor nor its recreational component in this project. Furthermore, no mitigation funds were set aside for a scenic overlook that might have included interpretive material about the watershed, culture, colonization, or transportation themes. Currently, there are no plans to place Anza Trail auto route signs along the three-mile span.

The Amigos continue to advocate for marking Stage Road over the grade as a segment of the Anza Trail. And there is some hope that the City of San Luis Obispo will be able to purchase the Ahearn property which straddles Cuesta Grade and includes the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail. ❖

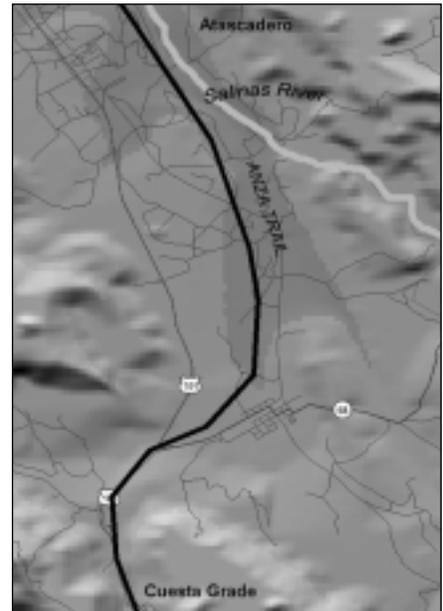
Vandals Destroy Anza Trail Markers in Atascadero

Significant portions of the Anza Trail in the Atascadero area were vandalized over the New Year holiday weekend.

Trail volunteer and equestrian Leeann Brown was patrolling the Anza Trail segment along the Salinas River in Atascadero on January 3 when she came across a number of trail markers that were vandalized and destroyed. Many had been marked with swastikas and threatening language. Others had been torn out of the ground and destroyed.

Later that evening, Brown, who lives adjacent to the trail, was awakened to the sounds of young voices and paint guns. Although her dogs initially frightened away the trespassers, in the morning she awoke to find the trail head sign as well as many of the trees along the recreational trail covered in pink paint.

For the last year, Brown and her group of trail volunteers have been actively patrolling and improving this segment of the Anza Trail. The volunteers have



Atascadero is located along the Salinas River in San Luis Obispo County. The Cuesta Grade is approximately 30 miles south.



Leeann Brown and Myra Douglass at the trailhead prior to the vandalism.

conducted an information campaign for motorcyclists in an effort to keep the river area non-motorized. Existing codes prohibit motorized vehicles in the area but the local police department has been unable to enforce the regulations.

Within days of the incident, Brown, as well as other volunteers and city park personnel were back at it, replacing the destroyed signs and restoring the trail to its previous state. ❖

From the Superintendent



By Meredith Kaplan

I look back on the year 2003 with gratitude for many things. Of course, I'm grateful to have the best one-person staff in the entire National Park Service. David completed the Long Range Interpretive Plan, formalized our Volunteers in Parks (VIP) program and implemented it with a round of awards events, and brought the story of the Anza expeditions and their legacy to children and adults in school classrooms and on trail walks. He again managed to prepare four issues of *Noticias de Anza* for publication, bringing Anza Trail news to you. David continues to pour his energy and creativity into interpretation of the Anza Trail. In his "spare" time, he is working toward a web-based master's degree in interpretation. The skills he gains through his studies directly benefit the Anza Trail, too.

The Anza Trail Advisory Council met for the first time in 2003. The members, who represent a diversity of backgrounds and interests, got along together as individuals and professionals. The exchanges among members and the passion expressed for the Anza Trail were heartening to experience. This group of 20 talented, inspired individuals fully engaged themselves in discussions of how to increase public awareness, public support, and funding for the Anza Trail. These discussions will continue in 2004. The Anza Trail staff is truly fortunate to have people of this caliber advising us.

In 2003, three groups of volunteers established a palpable presence for the Anza Trail in their areas. In Santa Cruz County, Arizona, Anza Trail Coalition volunteers continued to put trail on the ground and to monitor and care for trail that is already constructed. In Santa Barbara County, California, volunteers

for the South Coast Railroad Museum have now become VIPs and deliver Anza Trail messages to hundreds of people riding the Coast Starlight from Santa Barbara to San Luis Obispo. In San Luis Obispo County, California, Amigos de Anza continue to work for the Anza Trail by influencing the planning process, educating the public through participation in events and walks on the trail, and caring for the trail on the ground. In Atascadero, walkers and equestrians have created a patrol to monitor trail use. These volunteer groups provide a variety of models for establishing groups in the other 16 counties along the trail. I am ever grateful for their enthusiasm and contributions.

In 2003, we were successful in our initial foray into seeking funds from alternative sources. The Anza Trail placed first in the region for a National Park Foundation *Parks as Classrooms* program grant. Decisions for funding have yet to be made in Washington, D.C. If they go our way, we will have a little over \$12,000 to prepare specific lesson plans from the curriculum kit developed by the Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation as a Challenge Cost Share Program project. Lesson plans will be translated into Spanish, converted to a web format, and introduced to six school districts along the entire Anza Trail, including training of at least 90 teachers in those districts. The project includes developing three traveling trunks to be made available to teachers using the lesson plans. I am grateful for this recognition of the Anza Trail.

In 2003, appropriately at Thanksgiving, we learned that the base budget for the Anza Trail had been increased by \$40,000 to a total of \$228,000 annually. We have many people to thank for this blessing, not the least of which is the U.S. Congress that voted the increase. But the vote happened after years of groundwork by the Partnership for the National Trail System and its chair, Gary Werner. The Partnership is comprised of the trail organizations that support each of the national scenic and national historic trails. Amigos de Anza and the Anza Trail Coalition of Arizona

belong to the organization. The Partnership binds the trails together as a system, working together for the benefit of all.

Each year, with the help of member organizations, Gary prepares a report to Congress on the accomplishments of the national trails. Included in those reports are your volunteer hours. Congress knows the commitment to values, the pride, and the dollars that those volunteer hours represent. Each year, the Partnership members participate in *April on the Hill*, a time when members fan out and talk with their representatives in Washington D.C. about the accomplishments of their respective trails. In 2003, this work paid off with Congress voting a \$500,000 increase for the national trails system, with \$40,000 of that going to the Anza Trail. We are grateful to be a part of this system and to have people like Gary and all of the trail support groups working for us.

With gratefulness to all of you for your interest in the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail, I close this message with best wishes for a healthy, productive, and fulfilling new year that includes good times on the Anza Trail. ❖

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Noticias de Anza is a publication of the National Park Service through the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail. It is a quarterly newsletter provided free of charge to those interested in learning more about the trail's history, culture, and recreational opportunities. Articles from the public are welcome. David Smith provides layout and writing for the newsletter. The editor is Meredith Kaplan, Trail Superintendent. Comments and articles can be sent to: Meredith Kaplan c/o The Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail, 1111 Jackson #700, Oakland, CA 94607, or to meredith_kaplan@nps.gov.

Group Travels South of the Border to Explore Mexican Anza Trail

The Anza Trail will come alive in the Mexican states of Sonora and Sinaloa this spring as Anza devotes travel the historic route from Culiacán to Nogales.

The ten-day journey runs from April 16-25 and will take in all of the major historical sites along the trail. Anza historian Don Garate will accompany the group as they meet with area scholars and local politicians from northern Mexico.

The group will meet in Mazatlan, Mexico and will depart immediately for Culiacán, the departure point for the Anza Expedition of 1775-1776. There, the group will visit the cathedral as well as meet with local Mexican officials. Translators will accompany the group as they make their way north.

From Culiacán, they will travel north to Los Mochis and then down the road to Sinaloa de Leya, ancestral home of many of the expedition families. Census figures show that by 1790, over 100 people had emigrated from this village to Alta California.

From Sinaloa de Leya, the group will visit the historic community of El Fuerte and travel along the Río Fuerte. In the evening, a *balet folclórico* group will perform regional dances. Next stop will



Some members of the Anza expedition would have attended mass at the ancient church at El Fuerte, Sinaloa, Mexico.

be to Alamos, another large community for émigrés on the Anza expedition.

The group will continue on north to Rosario de Tezopaco where they will

visit the museum and meet with dignitaries. Continuing north to Guaymas and Hermosillo, the group will spend a day visiting San Miguel de Horcasitas. Horcasitas is a significant point in the history of the expedition. It marked the point where most of the expedition members were assembled and where Father Pedro Font began recording his journal.

The trip will continue north to Arizpe, final resting place for Juan Bautista de Anza. A special dinner will be held in honor of the tour guests in Arizpe with visits from local historians. Traveling farther north, the group will visit Magdalena, home of Father Kino's grave. Finally, the trip will travel to Nogales and then on to Phoenix.

For more information about the trip or to make reservations, contact Linda at 602-993-1162 or e-mail her at touraz4fun@cox.net. ❖



Anza aficionados will visit the Rio Fuerte along the Anza Trail this spring.

Advisory Council Rescheduled Due to Southern California Fires

Due to the effects of the wildfires in southern California, the Anza Trail Advisory Council meeting scheduled for November 1 and 2, 2003, in Borrego Springs, was rescheduled. New dates and times are February 7, 2004, from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and February 8, from 8:00 a.m. to noon. Meetings will be held at the Palm Canyon Resort, meeting room 2, in Borrego Springs. The public is invited to participate.

On February 7, the council will adjourn at 3:00 to see the visitor center at Anza-Borrego Desert State Park and hear an interpretive talk by

Aaron Hock, a park volunteer on the history of the park.

During the session, the council members will learn the current status of the trail, review the Annual Interpretive Plan, discuss ways to better market the Anza Trail, and look for additional funding sources. Additionally, the council will look into ways to attracting and keep volunteers, as well as develop promotional literature that can be used by tourism and media outlets. Finally, the group will discuss the future of the Anza Trail Advisory Council. The original legislation enabling the council is slated to sunset next year. ❖



Borrego Springs is located within the Anza Trail corridor and will host the trail's advisory council.

Mission San Antonio Will Host Annual Soldados' Camp out

From Michael Hardwick

Although it has been nearly two centuries since *soldados de cuera* helped maintain the peace in California, they will assemble in mass this April for a full encampment to celebrate this aspect of the west's Spanish history.

La Purisima Mission State Historic Park has acted as host for the annual encampment of Spanish soldiers. On Friday and Saturday, April 23 and 24, scores of soldiers will be on hand to host a Spanish colonial soldier encampment at the mission located near Lompoc, California.



Soldados de cuera practiced their military skills and enjoyed the camaraderie of fellow soldiers during last year's encampment at the mission.

The annual meeting is intended to be an opportunity for living historians who specialize in the Spanish colonial period to hone their skills and enjoy the company of like minded soldiers.

Visitors to the mission during the weekend will be able to watch the soldiers drill as well as visit their encampment. The annual event is part of the ongoing interpretive program at the mission.

During the Spanish colonial period, *soldados* staffed four presidios in *Alta California*. During the encampment, soldiers from all four presidios - San Diego, Santa Barbara, Monterey, and San Francisco - will be on site.

Anyone interested in living history is invited to attend by contacting Mark

Mueller at La Purisima: Adobe1canobe@msn.com or Michael Hardwick: Hardwic2@cox.net. You may virtually visit the Soldiers of the Presidio of Santa Barbara on the internet at <http://www.soldados.us/StBarbara>.

For information about La Purisima, go to <http://www.lapurisimamission.org>. ❖

Trail Founder Featured on Local Television and in Press

The Anza Trail exists to a large extent today because of the efforts of George Cardinet. Recently, Cardinet was featured in newspapers and on Bay Area television for the work he has done in helping to establish California's system of trails. In addition to being proactive on the Anza Trail, Cardinet also worked extensively to develop the trail system in Mt. Diablo State Park and the California Riding and Hiking Trail. He continues to stay active on the trail with weekly riding and working with Amigos de Anza.



An Evening Camping with the Stars on the Trail

By David Smith

This fall, I had the chance to camp along some of the southern segments of the Anza Trail in Imperial County. For someone who has spent a great deal of time in an urban environment, sleeping under the stars along the historic Anza Trail route is both overwhelming and thrilling.

The El Centro office of the Bureau of

Land Management manages most of the trail in this area. They recently completed signing the 30-mile segment of the Anza Trail from near the border at Signal Mountain north to the southern boundary of the Ocotillo Wells State Recreational Vehicle Area. Because of the extreme summer temperatures and lack of water, the BLM allows vehicles to travel on this portion of the Anza recreation trail.



Signal Mountain stands tall along the border in the Yuha Desert.

Returning from Mexico, my family and I traveled down the well marked dirt route in our VW van. As we began to make camp a few miles north of the border, Signal Mountain towered over the desert. Much like Anza two centuries before, we used the mountain as a guide to get our bearings as we explored the trail on foot. With ash and smoke from the recent wildfires still filtering through the area, we were greeted by glorious reds and oranges coloring the hillside at dusk. We watched in stunned silence as the last light of day slowly disappeared off the mountain.

We camped in one of the designated areas maintained by the BLM. With not another person around, we felt very alone and very comforted - reassured that far less prepared families camped along this same route centuries ago.

Waking up early in the morning, as dawn touched the summit of Signal Mountain, a beautiful sunrise began another wonderful day on the Anza Trail.

The desert is still an inspiring and rejuvenating place for the tired traveler. As we passed the final trail marker and made our way for the trip north, we left refreshed and invigorated - ready to explore another section of the trail. ❖

Along The Trail ...

❖ Pima County has begun to install signs marking about 72 miles of paved local roads along the general route of the Anza expedition as part of a Challenge Cost Share Program project. Nearly 100 signs will be installed along with three interpretive exhibits.



New Pima County Trail signs

❖ **Paul Trujillo** has hung out his shingle as "California's Juan Bautista de Anza," complete with business cards. He has appeared as Anza at Mission San Miguel, Santa Barbara, and the City of Long Beach, carrying the news of Anza and his expeditions.

❖ The Air Force Space Command at **Vandenberg Air Force Base** (VAFB) has provided funding to the **Center for Advanced Technology in Education** (CATE) at the University of Oregon to add to Web de Anza diaries and other information pertinent to the Anza Trail within the base. Funds came through the El Rancho Bridge Project for which construction occurred within the Anza Trail viewshed. In addition, because of the potential effects of the bridge on

the trail, VAFB contracted to do a national register evaluation of the entire VAFB portion of the Anza Trail corridor.

❖ **Eddie Grijalva** addressed the Orange County Pioneer Council October 5, 2003 at the park he made sure was named for his ancestor, Juan Pablo Grijalva. "How many people can say, 'My ancestor knew Father Serra and I have the document to prove it?'" Grijalva asked of the council members. **Eddie Grijalva** spent 22 years uncovering the details of Juan Pablo's life and his own heritage.

❖ **Roger Zachery**, avid bird watcher and biology teacher at Atascadero High School, led a bird walk on the Anza Trail in Atascadero on November 2, 2003. Amigos de Anza of San Luis Obispo County sponsored the walk.

❖ The Salinas River Watch Anza Unit was recognized for outstanding community service by the City of Atascadero Parks and Recreation Commission on November 20, 2003. The group has 20 or so dedicated volunteers who patrol the Anza Trail in Atascadero on foot or horseback and stand up to bullies on OHVs. Two days later, the group was out on the trail spreading bark much in anticipation of the winter rains. **Leann Brown** is the leader of the group. A few of the others involved are **Don Waller, Marissa Todd, Bill Arkfeld, Maria Carroll, Ann Crain, Barbara Dixon, Myra Douglass, and Glorian Mitchell.**

❖ Santa Barbara Amigos, **Vie** and **George Obern**, ensured that the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail is included in the Preliminary Concepts for the Ellwood-Devereux Coast Open Space and Habitat Management Plan. The area is jointly owned by the City of Goleta, the University of California at Santa Barbara, and Santa Barbara County. The draft plan is scheduled for

release in February. In September, 2003, the Bicycle Coalition of Santa Barbara requested that the Atascadero Creek Trail in Goleta, now also marked as the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail, be renamed the Obern Trail to honor their years of commitment to shared-use trails in the county.

❖ **Darold E. Fredricks**, *San Francisco Peninsula: Giants on the Land*, (Aventine Press, September 2003) includes several chapters given to an imaginative recreation of the Anza expedition and its legacy in the Bay Area. The book provides a historical narrative that begins with Spanish explorer Gaspar de Portola's arrival in what is now Palo Alto and ends shortly after Japanese flower farmers living in the area were rounded up and detained at Tanforan Race Track awaiting shipment to internment camps following the bombing of Pearl Harbor.

❖ The Santa Barbara County Trails Council is working to recognize another segment of the Anza Trail along the Carpinteria Bluffs Trail. The new segment would be nearly one half mile long and would connect



Amigos de Anza - San Luis Obispo was out in force at this fall's Octoberfest celebration. With maps, displays, and brochures, they helped tell the story of the the trail and search out new friends of the trail.

with Tarpits Park. For more information, contact **Vie Obern** at 805 682 3175.

❖ **David Smith** met with trail volunteers in Atascadero and Goleta this holiday season to thank them for the tremendous effort they have put forward to creating a recreational trail and getting out the Anza Trail story. Volunteers in San Luis Obispo County have worked on a variety of efforts, including advocating for new trail and providing information to the public. Volunteers at the South Coast Railroad Museums have been working with Amtrak and the Anza Trail to provide historic interpretation and natural history education to the public aboard the Coast Starlight between Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo. This section of rail line follows the historic route used by the Anza expedition.

❖ Southcoast Railroad Museum director **Dr. Gary Coombs** recently attended a meeting of National Park Service Trails and Rails managers in San Antonio, Texas. Coombs met with managers from NPS sites from around the United States that have similar docent programs.

❖ The Anza Trail has started to



Anza Trail Coalition of Arizona president Richard Williams and other ATCA volunteers staffed an Anza Trail information booth at this fall's fiesta at Tumacacori National Historical Park.

increase their partnership with the San Francisco Presidio by offering interpretive programs on Anza for the public. Trail staff will be offering living history walks and talks on a regular basis. This next month, programs include a campfire talk at the Crissy Field Center and a living history walk a Mountain Lake - site of one of Anza's campsites.

❖ The Anza Trail Coalition of Arizona elected a new board and president this winter. **Richard Williams** will replace **G. Donald Kucera** as president. Kucera will continue to act as coordinator for Pima County.

❖ Anza wrote in his diaries how amazed he was by the boatmanship used by the Chumash people as he passed through their tribal areas. He would be even more amazed by recent research linking the Chumash and Gabrielleno "tomols" with boats used by Polynesians over a thousand years ago.

UC Berkeley language specialist **Kathryn Klar** has discovered compelling similarities in the words used by all three cultures for their boats. Working with area archeologists, she contends that Polynesian mariners arrived along the Santa Barbara Coast between 400 and 800 A.D. Their boat building technology eventually found its way into the local tradition.



Phyllis J. Olsen, (left) assistant director of the South Coast Railroad Museum, thanked train docents and volunteers for their work at the museum and aboard the Coast Starlight during their annual Christmas Party.



ANUNCIOS

Anza Borrego Desert State Park, California

February 7-8, Saturday 8:00 to 3:00 and Sunday 8:00 to Noon. Anza Trail Advisory Council meeting will be held at the Palm Canyon Resort adjacent to Anza-Borrego Desert State Park. The public is invited. See related story on page seven.

El Centro, California

February 28, Saturday 9:00 AM. The Bureau of Land Management hosts a dedication of the new 30-mile segment of the Anza Trail through the Yuha Desert. The group will then tour the new segment of the trail. Contact the trail office at (510) 817-1323 or the BLM at (760) 337-4437 for more information.

Los Angeles Area, California

February 21, 2004. Celebrate the opening of the new Anza Trail segment as part of the 25th anniversary celebration of Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area. Soldados and Anza will be on hand for the 1 PM celebration at Strauss Ranch. Contact David Smith at (510) 817-1323.

February 22, Sunday. The Calabasas Anza Heritage Association will stage a presentation of the Anza expedition at the Sepulveda Adobe at Malibu Creek State Park. For details, contact Robin Mitchell at (310) 327-5345.

San Francisco, California

January 24, Sunday, Mission San Francisco de Asís (Mission Dolores) offers a ceremony to bid farewell to Brother Guire Cleary and welcome Andrew Galvan, Ohlone descendant, as the new curator. Significantly, this is the first time in California's history that the care of one of its historic missions will be entrusted to a descendant of the native people for whom the missions were established. For information: (415) 621-8203.

January 24 to February 7, 2004, experience a digital projection of historic imagery onto the interior of the dome of the Basilica at Mission Dolores. Ben Wood, a British-born artist, will provide a one-of-a-kind exhibit, documenting and preserving historic images that relate to three centuries of life and culture at Mission Dolores. For information: (415) 621-8203.

San Luis Obispo County, California

California Mission Studies Association annual meeting. February 13, Friday: Reception & keynote address. February 14, Saturday: Papers & banquet. February 15, Sunday: Tours. For information: <http://www.ca-missions.org/conf.html>

Culiacán, Mexico to Tucson, Arizona

April 16-25, 2004. Tour the Mexican portion of the Anza Trail through the states of Sinaloa and Sonora with historians and descendants. Contact the event organizer at (602) 993-1162 or at <http://www.touraz4fun.com> or for more information.

Noticias de Anza

*The Newsletter of the Juan Bautista
de Anza National Historic Trail*

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Views from the Anza Trail - Colorado River - Yuma, Arizona



Crossing the Colorado River was a frightening experience for the Anza Expedition. Quechan leader, Chief Palma, ordered his men to stretch across the river in order to catch any of the settlers who lost their footing. Many of the settlers could not swim and rode their horses across the river. Three of Chief Palma's men in fact carried Father Garcés over their heads to the other side of the river. In the end, although the Quechan people needed to rescue two of the settlers, no one was injured that cold morning, November 30, 1775.