Anza Trail: One of Sixteen in the Nation

Rodney Slater, commented, "...trails and greenways once again play a major role in America's transportation system—connecting our people to their land, their history and their culture while protecting and enhancing our natural environment."

Amigos de Anza, the Anza Trail Coalition of Arizona, and the National Park Service prepared a joint application for the designation. The two trail organizations plan events along the entire trail during the millennium year, beginning with the annual Anza Days at Tubac Presidio State Historical Park in Tubac, Arizona, on October 16-17, 1999. (See Anuncios for some potential events.) The NPS will coordinate trail dedications and certification ceremonies with planned events as possible.

The application noted that the Anza Trail honors the past—our cultural heritage of the Spanish/Mexican settlement of the American southwest—and imagines the future by celebrating the growing cultural diversity of the United States. It chronicles a significant migration of people who brought a new way of life to Arizona and California at the very time the Declaration of Independence was being shaped on our East Coast. It offers the opportunity to recognize and understand the contribution and diversity of the American Indian tribes and nations along the route who allowed Anza's colonists passage and who are here today. The Anza Trail offers a positive link to Mexico which, like Arizona and California, were part of New Spain in the 18th century.

Unlike many national historic trails that cross large tracts of unpopulated lands, connecting mostly small towns, the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail traverses the metropolitan areas of Tucson, Los Angeles, and the San Francisco Bay Area—23.7 million people (1990 figures) live within easy reach of the trail, and over 20 percent of them are Hispanic. The trail passes through 27 congressional districts. Anza expedition members founded the pueblos of Los Angeles and San José. Both cities today are interested in commemorating their Hispanic history. In contrast to these urban experiences, the Anza Trail also passes through areas of austere desert beauty and ruggedness, remote from the urban bustle, through pastoral ranching and farming lands, along coastal beaches, and through oak woodlands. The trail unites a diversity of people with a diversity of landscapes.

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News from the Anza Trail Coalition of Arizona

by Phil English
editor of El Pliego, the Coalition newsletter

Anza Park at the Springs

The first staging area for the Anza Trail in Green Valley, Arizona will be provided at a 4.3-acre community park donated by the Santa Rita Partnership of Dom Homes. It is situated along the west bank of the Santa Cruz River. Several monthly committee meetings with Pima County Park and Recreation Department have defined park features that were designed by their architect, and accepted by the committee at their September 22nd meeting. The committee brings together many different interests and organizations within the community in cooperation with Pima County.

Land Dedication ceremonies held Saturday, January 23, 1999, attracted a crowd of 120 local residents and several presenters. Jim Di Giacomo, Chair of the Pima County Trails Advisory Committee, acted as emcee for the dedication ceremonies. Dom homes president, David Grounds, made the presentation for the partners. Ray Carroll represented the Pima County Board of Supervisors. Dan Felix and Steve Anderson represented the Pima County Parks and Recreation Department. Meredith Kaplan, Anza Trail Superintendent and Don Garate, Tumacacori National Historical Park interpreter, represented the National Park Service.

Attending were the full board of the Anza Trail Coalition of Arizona-Pima County (ATCA). Other Anza Park development committee members include the Mens/Womens Garden Club of Green Valley; Green Valley Rotary and the Valle Verde Rotary Club presidents; the Southwest Horsemens Club; the Green Valley Hiking Club, and many local citizens including residents of the Desert Meadows III neighborhood, adjoining the park.

Following the dedication ceremony at the site, the audience moved to a reception at the Recreation Village at Santa Rita Springs. A unique gathering of diverse interests joined together in planning the actual park development. For ATCA members, it presented an opportunity to begin planning a much needed interpretive center and access to the Anza Trail in Green Valley.

New ATCA President

Business commitments caused Richard Williams, long-time President of ATCA, to resign. “We should be aware that Richard has been the foundation of the Anza Trail’s existence in Arizona. He single-handedly started the movement that allows us to be where we are today,” noted Don Kucera, the newly elected President. Don is an ardent historian and activist in community work. He is a founding and active board member of the Anza Trail Coalition in Pima County and has given his support to many archeological, historical, and trail activities.

Don also recognized the energy and dedication of Nancy Kelly in Pima County and the state in making ATCA functional. “Her administrative abil-
News from Amigos de Anza
by Marilyn Mendes, Amigos de Anza, Santa Barbara County

Finding Trail Gold

Great fortune appeared on the shore of beautiful Lake Tahoe from September 12 to 16, 1999, as twelve champions of the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail "discovered the gold." Over 160 National Trail advocates and administrators, representing 19 of the 20 National Historic and Scenic Trails convened at the Zepher Point Conference Center. For those five days that sublime setting radiated determination and conviction for the National Trail System. In a word, inspiring best summarizes the 20 workshops, plenary sessions and caucus meetings.

The conference focus, "Discover the Gold, Full Funding for America's National Trails", intrigued and challenged each of us to strive for further development and promotion of the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail.

On Tuesday evening both Anza Trail partner groups, Amigos de Anza and the Anza Trail Coalition of Arizona, met to strategize celebrations in the year 2000 to honor the selection of the Anza National Historic Trail as a National Millennium Trail. Established events promoting public awareness and involvement in the Anza Trail, such as in Santa Barbara and Tumacacori, will benefit from the national exposure brought by this designation. Anza champions expressed desires for coordinated efforts to sponsor potential new activities at the Yuma Crossing of the Colorado River and San Francisco.

On Wednesday evening after conference sessions concluded, Jeff Olson, Director of the Millennium Trails Project for the Federal Highway Administration, hosted a soirée for Millennium Trail folks. Great excitement mixed with headiness charged the air as we subjected Jeff to many questions on the project. At length we understood that the Millennium Trails Project is a "work in progress," yet we were deeply impressed to see White House level attention focused on trails. Our efforts and creativity to focus attention on our trail will be enhanced by the National Millennium Trail designation.

The best singular moment of the conference was watching tears roll down the cheeks of George Cardinet as he was honored by the Partnership for National Trails System with a Lifetime Achievement Award. We know you aren't through yet George, but thanks for sharing with us the experience of this meaningful expression of appreciation by your peers.

Representing the Anza Trail were Don Kucera, Reba Grandrud, and Michael Burns of Arizona; Paul Trijillo, Myra Douglass, Kathy Vrablick, George Cardinet, Bob Sweden, Marilyn Mendes, and Vie and George Oborn of California, and Meredith Kaplan. Congratulations to the dozen Anza champions who participated in the conference on National Historic and Scenic Trails. At the next conference (in 2001) let's target attendance by three dozen Anza Trail advocates!

The Full-Performance Trail

What are we striving for along the Anza Trail? How will we know when we have achieved it? What would it mean to have a "full-performance" trail. At the 6th Conference on National Scenic and Historic Trails, described in Marilyn Mendes' column, Steve Elkinton, National Trails Program Leader for the NPS in Washington D.C., suggested some indicators of a "full-performance" trail:

• Each trail has a clear identity. You could find it easily on state and commercial maps and on the ground. Both the casual traveler and the local resident would know it. The trail would present a well-defined "experience."

• Each trail would be appreciated and supported by the public. Communities and landowners along the way would know of its importance and respect it. Each trail would have a strong pool of volunteers-some of whom would even stay around to work on it the rest of their lives. Each trail would be adequately funded, even in hard times.

• National trail problems would be solved creatively, avoiding divisive lawsuits and relying on proactive dispute resolution. Conflict prevention would be characterized by early and open communication. Others would see trails organizations as models of creative management.

• Each national scenic trail would be continuous, and along national historic trails all historically significant sites and segments would be documented as national landmarks or as national register properties. Those unprotected by others would be acquired or otherwise protected by the federal government.

Only one of the twenty national trails, the Appalachian Trail, nears "full performance." It is continuous and has the capacity through its active partner organizations and adequate federal funding for full operations. We on the Anza Trail a just beginning.
Web de Anza a Winner

Web de Anza was selected as one of the best sites on the web for instruction in the humanities by the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and MCI. Web de Anza will now be listed on the NEH’s EdSITEment web page, a listing of exemplary web sites in humanities instruction.

Web de Anza continues to grow. You can now read in both Spanish and English seven primary expedition documents: Constanzó 1769 (used as a "trail guide" by Anza), Anza 1774 and 1775-76, Font’s short and expanded diary 1775-76, Garcés’ 1774 and 1775-76, and Moraga’s account of the founding of San Francisco 1776. Links between diaries and resources make the diaries interactive and responsive to search and study activities. The Center for Advanced Technology in Education (CATE) completed digitizing these documents with the help of NPS Challenge Cost Share Program (CCSP) funds.

During the last school year, six schools used the site in social studies, English, Spanish, science, and computer technology classes: in Arizona, Cibola High School in Yuma, Catalina High Magnet School in Tucson, and Vista del Sur Middle School near Phoenix; in California, Blach Intermediate School in Los Altos and Kimball Elementary School in Antioch; and Eugene International High School in Eugene, Oregon. Teachers prepared lesson plans, and students completed research projects. These same schools will participate again this year. School involvement was supported by a Department of Education grant to the National Park Service.

More material and more schools, including some in Mexico, will be added this year using CATE’s second grant from the NEH. A content coordinator will increase support information and links. In addition, CATE received a second CCSP grant to prepare maps of the entire route illustrating and describing features in Anza’s day and features today. Locations mentioned in the diaries will be linked to the maps. This site is an amazing repository of information and a wonderful way to encourage historical inquiry and research. People of all ages can enjoy their visit to http://anza.uoregon.edu.

Questions and Answers

A Partial Answer

In response to Jack Lesjack’s question in Noticias No. 11 about palominos at Mission San Antonio, Don Garate and Lynne Anderson-Imman encouraged students using Web de Anza to look into the matter. In the meantime, Mr. Lesjack wrote us with his own conclusions regarding his question. He thought making it a student project would be a good idea, but he would switch the focus to honesty in print. “Can we trust our textbook information? How accurate is it?” Mr. Lesjack quotes Riesenberg, a secondary source he used as a teacher. “A thing to see up the road at Mission San Antonio was the herd of golden horses, descended from the mare of Anza’s soldier Juan Palamino (sic).”

Lesjack replies:

Shall we allow such a myth to be perpetuated?
First, the palomino is a color, NOT a breed, so we know Felix Riesenberg, jr. did not do his homework about horses.
Second, only Riesenberg says that the rider gave his name to the horse.
Third, the mare may or may not produce a colt of the same color.
After that, what else can we say?
The lesson for all is that trusting secondary sources is chancy. Don Garate notes, “We need to know the source that the two authors used before the tidbit of information becomes even remotely reliable. Then we need to look at those sources, and their sources until we finally get back to whomever it was that started the whole thing.” In the books Lesjack used—Mission Days by Helen Bauer and The Golden Road by Felix Riesenberg—references are scanty. Riesenberg lists Bauer as a reference. No primary sources are given.

We did learn through Don Garate that a José Antonio Palomino was one of the ten Tubac soldiers who accompanied Anza.

A New Question

Phil English asks if we know if Anza used a brand on his expedition horses or cattle. He notes, “The Spaniards brought cattle and horse branding to this continent about 1519, according to my sources. Did he use the King’s brand like Cortez in 1519 or Coronado in 1540? So far I can’t find the King’s brand in use in 1775—and haven’t been able to scare up Anza family brands.” Does anyone have an answer for Phil?

Dedication of Tucson Trail

A gala ceremony with presentations and refreshments marked the dedication of a 4.5 mile segment of the Santa Cruz River Park on October 27, 1999. The trail segment is certified as an official component of the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail through an agreement between Pima County and the National Park Service. Master of Ceremonies Gale W. Bundrick introduced Sharon Bronson, Chair of the Pima County Board of Supervisors, who spoke of the significance to the community of the national trail and the partnership efforts that produced it. Meredith Kaplan presented certificates on behalf of the National Park Service (Continued on back page)
Cost Sharing Works!

Five Challenge Cost Share Program projects were completed in the past year. Henry W. Coe State Park in Santa Clara County, California completed two exhibits and installed them in wooden display cases. One exhibit presents the overall significance of the Anza journey; the other describes the difficult terrain Anza faced in traveling through what is Coe Park today. Kay Robinson, park superintendent, notes, "Visitors will more fully appreciate the rugged, virtually untouched terrain of the Coyote Creek watershed and be able to visualize Anza's journey over 200 years ago." State Parks provided all the design work, volunteers built the wooden cases, and the NPS funded production of the interpretive panels.

The one-mile Lang Ranch connector trail, completed by the Conejo Open Space Agency in Ventura County, California, connects two segments proposed as the recreational route for the Anza Trail through Conejo Valley. The connector provides access to the Oakbrook Park Chumash Indian Interpretive Center and allows a safe crossing of Westlake Boulevard. Partners for the project included the Conejo Open Space Trail Advisory Council, California Conservation Corps, and the Boy Scouts of America. Jim Gilmore, Park Development Planner, coordinated the project.

Wade Cox, an Arizona artist, completed the artwork and graphics for an exhibit to be placed at Picacho Peak State Park in Arizona. The exhibit will overlook the Santa Cruz River basin in an area where Anza especially worried about Apache attacks. The oil painting by Cox shown above conveys that the people on the expedition were families with young children. Volunteer labor provided the match for NPS funds. Mary Aguirre-Vogler coordinated the project for Pinal County and the Anza Trail Coalition of Arizona.

The L.A River interpretive exhibit and Web de Anza diaries are discussed in other articles in this issue. The Challenge Cost Share Program applications are generally available in January. Let the NPS know if you have an appropriate project.

L.A. River Dedication

by Peg Henderson, NPS

Over 100 people celebrated the opening of the one-mile Los Feliz section of the Los Angeles Riverwalk, on July 10, 1999, providing the first official access to this popular spot along the revitalized Los Angeles River. This part of the river trail coincides with the Anza Trail. Before construction of the riverwalk, people would cut the chain link fence to gain access to the river. Now a magnificent arched gateway, river rock walls, and broad steps lead up the new riverwalk, which is furnished with benches, a picnic table, and a wayside exhibit interpreting the Anza Trail.

Numerous partners worked together to develop the riverwalk, including several offices of the City of Los Angeles and Los Angeles County, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and North East Trees, a local non-profit who designed and constructed the riverwalk and gateway with help from local landscape architects and artists.

Funding for the riverwalk and interpretive exhibit was provided by the National Park Service Challenge Cost Share Program and Los Angeles County park bond funds.
Along the Trail

- On November 14, 1998, the Anza Trail was joined at the boundary of Ocotillo Wells State Vehicular Recreation Area (OWSVRA) and Anza Borrego Desert State Park (ABDSP). To emulate the famous Golden Spike, a golden post, painted by Ranger Al McClary of OWSVRA, was driven by a horse back rider and an off-road representative to symbolize shared use of the trail. Ranger Marc Vauugh of ABDSP and McClary attached the official Anza Trail marker to the post. McClary marked 11 miles of trail along the San Felipe Wash, and Vaugh will mark another 30 through Coyote Canyon. This provides the longest stretch of trail on the original trail alignment available to the public.

- On the same weekend, 58 members of the Backcountry Horsemen cleared the Anza Trail through the Willows area of ABDSP.

- The NPS signed agreements with Los Angeles County to mark and interpret the trail within the entire county and with San Benito County to mark and interpret Old Stage Coach Road. Markers should be installed during the coming year.

- For his Eagle Scout badge, David Morris marked five miles of the Anza Trail on Bureau of Land Management land in Maricopa County, Arizona. He coordinated with Cheryl Blanchard, BLM archaeologist, who has now overseen marking of a total of 11.5 miles of the historic route.

- Los Tubaquenos presented A Historic Fashion Revue for the Nogales Women's Club on April 10, 1999. The show began with the Spanish colonial period, 1751-1776, featuring Pima Indians, Juan Bautista de Anza, a Spanish priest, soldier and wife, workman, and wife of a rancher/tradesman. Costumes of the Mexican period, Territorial period, and modern day were also modeled.

- An Anza Trail Santa Cruz River Clean up was held on Earth Day, April 24, 1999, followed by a barbeque at the Rio Rico fire station. Work focused on the trail between Tumacacori National Historical Park and Tubac Presidio State Historic Park. Participants received free t-shirts.

- Another work crew cleared three miles of trail on September 18, 1999. Chuck Townsend, Phil English, Vic Valenzuela, and Dan Koskuba worked under the direction of Michael Burns and Lila Pearsall.

- Juan Bautista de Anza (Don Garate) appeared at the full-moon mass celebrated at Tumacacori Mission at Tumacacori National Historical Park on April 30, 1999.

- To celebrate the marking of the Anza Trail in Atascadero along the Salinas River, Amigos de Anza of San Luis Obispo County staged events on three successive weekends events in May 1999. Activities included a 1.5-mile bird walk led by Roger Zachary.

On Track with Amtrak

In partnership, Amtrak and the National Park Service have created a program called Trails & Rails to provide educational information to passengers on trains throughout the nation. The Anza Trail will be featured on the Coast Starlight, which follows the Anza route with some deviations from Los Angeles to Martinez, California. As daylight allows, the trail story will be told along the way northbound from Los Angeles to San Jose, and southbound from Oakland to Ventura. Train passengers will see a part of the trail that the general public cannot from Gaviota around Point Conception through Vandenberg Airforce Base. A pilot run of the interpretive program is scheduled for this fall.
North Cuesta Audubon Society president; a 4-mile nature walk led by Jim Patterson, Water Conservation Manager for the Atascadero Mutual Water Company; a 7.8-mile trail run (not race) led by Mark Anderson, high school cross country coach; a 7.8-mile trail bike ride led by Keith Schmidt, owner of K-Man Cycles; and a 1.5-mile history walk led by Dan Krieger, Cal Poly history professor and newspaper columnist. Myra Douglass and Lindsay Hampton coordinated the events.

Jim Patterson also worked with a Cal Poly technical writing class to develop a brochure for the local trail segment, which was distributed at the events. The NPS helped with printing.

On May 22, 1999, the Amigos de Anza held a ceremony at the Stanford Staging Area in Fremont, California, as part of their annual meeting. During the ceremony, Blach Middle School (Los Altos, California) students demonstrated the use of their "homemade" astrolabes to determine latitude as Font had done. One of the student's fathers tested their results with a modern Global Positioning System unit. The student readings were accurate! The students developed the astrolabes while using Web de Anza. After reading Font's diary entry for their location, they then found how to make an astrolabe at another web site.

The New World Baroque Orchestra performed A Musical Day of Times Past at Mission San Antonio de Padua to a sell-out crowd on May 23, 1999.

Under the direction of John Warren, the group presented a historically informed program of music, praise, song and dance from Baroque Europe, Colonial Mexico, and Spanish California. The program traced our heritage and musical roots from the Old World to the new. Les Baladins du Roy danced under the direction of Regine Astier. The Cabrera Family and Friends performed traditional dances of Mexico and Spanish California. Eric Greening prepared illuminating program notes, as always, including information on the Anza expeditions.

A two-day Kids Camp at Tumacácori in early August, 1999, featured Don Garate as Anza, speaking in his adopted language of Spanish, and using the students as interpreters.

The Anza Trek Lancers led by Joe Adamo participated in Living History on The Alameda in San José on October 3, 1999 to highlight the rich and diverse cultural history of The Alameda and San José. The Alameda was the original route traveled between the Pueblo de San José and Mission Santa Clara, both founded by Anza expedition members.

The Bikes Belong Coalition approved a grant to the Los Angeles County Bicycle Coalition (LACBC) for its work on the LA River Bikeway, part of the Anza Trail. Bicycle Coordinator Michelle Mowery, said that the LA River Bikeway will be "the backbone of our bicycle transportation network" and Alex Baum, Chair of the LA City Bicycle Advisory Committee added,
"The LA River Bikeway will help decongest the freeway gridlock in years to come." Environmental advocates expressed equal enthusiasm for the project, calling the Bikeway "a miracle in the making." from Rails to Trails Conservancy Policy Update, September 1999

> Rob Rossi, the new owner of Santa Margarita Ranch between Atascadero and Cuesta Grade in San Luis Obispo County, California, promises to recognize the Anza Trail in his plans for the ranch. He proposes to keep the trail area natural and to protect views to the trail from nearby highway 101.

(Tucson Trail Dedication from Pg. 4)

Service to the county board of supervisors and the mayor and city council of Tucson. Noting their special contributions, she also recognized Steve Anderson, Pima County Parks and Recreation Department; Linda Mayro, Pima County Archeologist; and Nancy Kelly and G. Donald Kucera with the Anza Trail Coalition of Arizona.

**Correction**

Fernando Zazueta of San José brought to our attention an error in the article on Rancho Los Félix in Noticias No.10 about the meaning of Rio de la Porciúncula, the name the Spanish gave the Los Angeles River. He notes, "Porciúncula refers to the first convent established by the Order of Saint Francis and evidently takes its name from the plenary indulgence gained on the 2nd of August of each year as celebrated in that convent and in churches of the Franciscan Order."

Don Garate has a similar explanation: "The Portolá Expedition gave the river that name on August 2, 1769 in honor of a chapel near Aisisi, which was rebuilt from ruins by Francis of Assisi and made the birth place of the Franciscan Order of Monks in the fifteenth century."

October 24, 1999 saw the addition of 3.5 miles of Old Stage Coach Road in San Juan Bautista to the Anza Trail. Celebrating the ribbon cutting are (L to r.) Ruth Keslar, former supervisor; Canyon Sayers-Roods and Ann Marie Sayers, Chair of Indian Canyon Ranch; J.J. Vogel, Meredith Kaplan; Ken Gray, acting Superintendent Monterey District, California State Parks; Sonny Reyna, San Juan Indian Council; Steve Sanders, County Counsel; and in the back on his horse, Paul Trujillo as Juan Bautista de Anza. More in the next Noticias.

**Noticias de Anza** is an occasional newsletter of the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail published by the National Park Service. Articles relevant to the trail's history, culture, and recreational use are welcome. The editor is Meredith Kaplan, Superintendent of the trail.