Widow Arballo was a “Mulata Libre”

Maria Feliciana Arballo was the widow who convinced Anza to allow her and her two daughters to join the expedition to San Francisco. During the expedition, Pedro Font mentions her in his journal on December 17, 1775 in regards to a celebration after crossing the desert.

“At night, with the joy at the arrival of all the people, they held a fandango here. It was somewhat discordant, and a very bold widow who came with the expedition sang some verses which were not at all nice, applauded and cheered by all the crowd.” (Camp #49 San Sebastián Marsh. See map on page 7).

Recently, researcher and Los Californianos member, Cindy LoBuglio of Janesville, California (Maria Feliciana’s descendant), found Arballo’s 1768 marriage information to Juan José Gutierrez on the Mission 2000 database maintained by Don Garate at Tumacácori National Historical Park. The database has baptismal, marriage, and burial records for numerous Spanish missions in southern Arizona and northern Sonora, Mexico.

Professor Rina Cuellar of Culiacán, Sinaloa, Mexico compiled marriage records from the Cathedral of Culiacán and allowed them to be posted on the database under “Other Spanish Colonial Records.”

Arballo’s marriage record for July 25 includes the names of the priest, bride, groom, parents, witnesses, and godparents, as well her race...“mulata libre,” a free black woman either of African, or of mixed African and Hispanic ancestry. This is news. Arballo’s descendants have been looking for this information for some time. Her record is now included in the Mission 2000 database available from the park’s website at www.nps.gov/tuma.

María Feliciana Arballo left the Anza Expedition at San Gabriel in Alta California. On March 6, 1776, she married Juan Francisco López who was a soldier of the guard. Thirteen years later, her daughter, María Eustaquia, married José María Pico who was also a member of the expedition as an 11 year old boy. They became the parents of Pío Pico, the last Spanish Governor of California. María Feliciana’s daughter from her second marriage, María Ignacia de la Candelaria López, married Joaquín Carillo and became the mother of five daughters, one of whom married General Vallejo.

Table of Contents

| National Park Service | 2 |
| Horse Manure article | 3 |
| Along the Trail | 5 |
| Memoriam: George Obern | 6 |
| Trail Guide-Imperial Co. | 7 |
| Books for Sale | 10 |
| Anuncios | 11 |
| View from the Trail | 12 |
The Anza Trail: What Does It Mean To You?

Now that the Anza trail has settled down with a new superintendent and interpretive specialist, we need to hear from you. We need your views and opinions, so we can work collaboratively towards the future of the Anza Trail.

What is your vision for the future of the Anza Trail? Do you see how your local community’s portion of the Anza Trail connects with the larger Anza Trail program? What do you find exciting about the Anza Trail—the historical Anza story, the recreational use of the Anza Trail, a combination of the two, or some other part of this long distance trail?

How do we bring in new people and organizations that might be interested in the Anza Trail but are not yet Anza Trail partners? How do we interest young people in the Anza history and get them outdoors?

We believe that the answers to these questions will be our guide to future Anza Trail programs. We also need to hear from you, so we know how we can help support programs in your community.

There are several upcoming events listed in the Anuncios section of this newsletter (pg 11). Come to one that the Trail staff is attending, so we can meet you and talk face to face about Anza Trail issues. Or call me at (510)817-1438.

This is your trail and I look forward to connecting with as many of you as possible.

Until then-Happy Trails!!
Anza Web Junior Ranger Program

“Dear Ranger
My son A.J. really enjoyed the Web Ranger for the Trail. It was especially great, since we just returned from a two-week trip to the [San Francisco] Bay Area, during which we visited Fort Point (where I got to teach him in-depth about de Anza’s mission to found the Presidio) and Mission Dolores.
During our eight years’ time in CA [California], I was a school teacher, so I got quite good at interpreting CA history for kids my son’s age. It was nice to be able to do it for him, and this Web Ranger program was a particularly nice follow-up.
Thanks,
Roberta, A.J.’s mom”

The Anza Trail Web Junior Ranger program is managed by the South Coast Railroad Museum.

National Historic and Scenic Trails Accomplishments 2001-2005

Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail is one of many National Trails throughout the country from Hawaii to Maine and Alaska into Mexico. These trails are part of the National Trails System and administered by several Federal agencies. The primary goal of the System is preservation and public enjoyment of nationally significant scenic and historic trails which commemorate our nation’s rich natural and cultural heritage. An excellent document was recently released giving an overview of each of these 16 trails with photographs and short descriptions. To view this booklet, visit www.nps.gov/nts.

Do you present or lead Anza Trail programs to the public?

You may be eligible to become a National Park Service (NPS) volunteer. As an official NPS volunteer, you would have personal liability coverage while you perform your specific approved activities. This could include public programs, staffing an information booth, research, or building/maintaining sections of the Anza Trail. The visitors you lead on programs or talk to about the Anza Trail can be counted in the official Anza Trail annual visitor statistics.
If you think you might be volunteering without knowing if you are an Anza Trail volunteer, contact the Volunteer Program Manager, Margaret Styles at (510) 817-1323 or margaret_styles@nps.gov.
Invasive Plant Species in Horse Manure

(Article adapted from the Pacific Coast Science and Learning Center Research Project Summary, July 2006. The 1775-76 Anza Expedition traveled to Alta California with 1,000 head of livestock.)

The Question: Does horse manure aid in the spread of invasive and noxious plant species in natural areas?

Forty-two percent of threatened and endangered species in the U.S. are declining, in part, because of invasive species. Invasive plants, in particular, threaten ecological processes and cause extreme biodiversity losses in natural areas. Evidence from previous studies has shown that non-native plant seeds germinate following digestion by large herbivores, but manure sampling techniques in those studies were not always reliable. Meticulous sampling of horse manure, along with correlation to diet, is essential for understanding impacts of horse manure in natural areas.

The Project: Monitor the spread of invasive plants through observance of horse manure samples in a laboratory setting.

Twenty San Francisco Bay area locations were chosen for the initial trial of this 2005 study. In each location, barn stalls, paddocks, and stables were visited and central portions of horse manure were sampled. The central portion was used in order to avoid contamination by wayward seeds and to ensure accuracy of manure contents. Each of ninety manure samples was planted in 100 grams of sterile, weed free soil. The samples were then placed in a nursery that was enclosed by netting to prevent contamination from outside sources. Germinating plants were then identified by a taxonomic specialist and crossed-checked against the California Invasive Plant Council’s (Cal-IPC) list of problematic invasive species. A 2006 trial was started from samples collected in five specific National Park areas, including the Anza Trail. This trial is currently underway, and a third trial will sample manure from southern California National parks.

The Results: The collected horse manure samples contained viable seeds for invasive plants identified on the Cal-IPC’s list of problematic invasive species list.

Based on these trials, it is proven that reliably-sampled horse manure can harbor and potentially spread invasive plants in California’s wildlands. Future trials will evaluate germination from horse manure on a regional scale throughout California.

For the full article, visit www.nps.gov/pore and search for “manure.”

New Website Design!

www.nps.gov/juba

The National Park Service has re-designed all of their park websites, including Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail. The current webpages include:

- General background information
- Maps
- Places to visit
- Anza Trail Links
- Back issues of Noticias de Anza
- Teacher information
- 1996 Comprehensive Management Plan

The website will have more pages added. If you have suggestions for the site, contact the web coordinator at margaret_styles@nps.gov or (510) 817-1323. We value your input.
Along the Trail

Eagle Scouts Re-mark Burned Sections of Trail
Santa Monica Mountains National Rec Area, CA
April & June
Two Eagle Scouts from Troop 127 of Agoura Hills organized community members to re-mark the Anza Trail this last spring and summer. Matt Jacobson’s project installed marker posts in Upper Las Virgenes Canyon Open Space Preserve in Calabasas, connecting with the Anza Trail in Cheeseboro Canyon Park.

Matt Grabowski’s project repaired and replaced the trail markers after a fire burned the Cheeseboro Canyon area. Congratulations and thanks to both Matt’s on your accomplishments!

Tubac Center of the Arts, AZ
June, July, October
Tubac Center of the Arts Children’s SummerArts program included classes to create masks and puppets for the upcoming October revival of the children’s play, “How Far Felipe!” (see pg 11). Over 80 students, ranging in age from 6 to 15, attended the summer arts program from Sahuarita, Green Valley, Amado, Rio Rico and Nogales. They participated in painting, mask and puppet making, fabric arts, mosaics, drama and enameling classes.

Mission Alter Stone Stolen, CA
July 31
The original altar stone from Mission San Antonio de Pala in San Diego County was stolen. It is a solid piece of natural stone, 12 by 12 inches, that is consecrated by a bishop. This altar stone may have come from Spain. The Mission was established in 1816 and is the only surviving Asistencia in the mission system still ministering to an Indian population. The chapel and cemetery are open to the public. Anyone with information, call local deputies at (760) 751-4400.

San Juan Bautista, CA
August
For spectacular views of San Juan Valley, wonder up the newly graded Old Stage Road, also the Anza Trail. In the late 1990s, it was an abandoned county-maintained road. Today, the commercial road building company called Graniterock has adopted the 3.8 mile recreation road. They have devoted $50,000 from 1999-2009 for the project.

Save Juana Briones’ House, CA
September 13
One of Santa Clara County’s oldest homes may be bulldozed due to a recent lawsuit verdict in Palo

(continues on pg 6)
In Memoriam

Earl George Obern 1918-2006

On June 19, 2006, Anza Trail enthusiast and activist, George Obern, quietly passed away in his Santa Barbara home with his beloved wife, Vivian, by his side. Two days prior, on June 17, they were recognized with a Community Service Award from the environmental studies program at UCSB, a fitting cap for a lifetime of community service.

The Oberns were involved with promoting the Anza Trail from the very beginning. In 1976, they joined the Bicentennial re-enactment of the Anza Expedition and rode their horses from Santa Barbara to San Francisco. They actively pursued marking the Anza Trail and Anza’s historic campsites in their community. In addition, he was active and sometimes President of the Old Spanish Days celebrations, Santa Barbara County Riding Club, Santa Barbara County Parks Foundation, Santa Barbara County Trails Council, Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation, and many, many more...all as a volunteer!

George, you will be missed by many.

Calabasas Anza Heritage Association, CA
Two projects underway. 1) Pursue complete renovation of the Sepulveda Adobe in Malibu Creek State Park. Built in 1863 by Pedro Alcantara Sepulveda, direct descendant of five expedition members including María Feliciana Arballo and José Bartolomé Tapia. 2) Planning for their annual “Anza en Calabazas - 1776” event for February 25, 2007 celebrating Anza’s Feb 22, 1776 local encampment.

Early California Research Databases Available Online!

Early Californian Population Project
The Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens has announced the general public will now be able to access a database of historical records documenting 110,000 Californians between 1769-1850. Visit www.huntington.org.

Calendar of California Mission Documents
Includes calendars for J.Serra documents, four volumes of the California Mission documents, and Apostolic College. Visit www.sbmal.org and click “Historic Documents.”

Along the Trail

(continued from pg 5)

Alto. In 1840s, Juana Briones, Anza expedition descendant, built a small adobe which has been heavily modified over the years. The current property owners applied to have it demolished in 1998, but the city denied the request because it had signed a contract with previous owners under a state historic preservation law called the Mills Act to preserve the home. Since the city did not enforce renovation restrictions on the home after the 1989 earthquake, the judge ruled the city missed their enforcement opportunity for preservation under the statute of limitations.
Imperial County – Across the Desert to San Sebastian

Driving Directions for Auto Route
At Yuma, Arizona, the historic route dips into Baja California, Mexico, and then turns north through the California desert on Bureau of Land Management land to arrive at the San Felipe Wash. The auto route takes the driver from Yuma to the San Felipe Wash on roads well east of, but parallel to, the historic route. Follow I-8 west from Yuma to CA 98. In Calexico, turn north from CA 98 to CA 111. At Heber Road, turn west on CA 86. Turn west on CA 78 which parallels San Felipe Wash, the historic trail. The climate of this route is one of the most extreme anywhere along the Anza Trail. Summertime temperatures frequently reach over 120 degrees for extended periods of time.

Hiking/Biking Ideas
Thirty-eight miles of the Anza Trail are marked within Bureau of Land Management (BLM) lands in the Yuha Desert area east of El Centro. Always carry drinking water, and seek shade if needed. The Plaster City, and Ocotillo Wells State Vehicular Recreation Areas allow off road vehicles in designated areas. The Salton Sea National Wildlife Refuge is a great place for bird watching.
About Your Visit to Imperial County

Anza followed the Colorado River south into what is now Mexico. The 1775/76 colonizing expedition remained south of the present border for several days to rest before crossing the desert in three groups (plus a fourth with the cattle). They looped back into what would become the U.S. at a point southwest of El Centro. They then continued north to the San Sebastian Marsh, turned west and followed San Felipe Creek into San Diego County.

Sites of Interest

A. Mission Purísima Concepción and Expedition Camp #42
Expedition Camp #42 was just south of Pilot Knob. Along their way, Font and Anza paused at a granite bluff to view the Colorado River plain on December 4, 1775. Nearby, in 1780, Father García founded Mission Purísima Concepción, only to have it destroyed by the Quechan uprising of July 1781. In the process, Father García, Fernando de Rivera y Moncada, and many soldiers and settlers were killed. The mission site (32°43.833′N 114°36.937′W) is probably where the St. Thomas Indian Mission stands today (on Picacho Rd., Fort Yuma, 1 mile South of Winterhaven).

B. Santa Olalla and Expedition Camps #43-46 (Baja California)
Although these camps in Baja California are not part of the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail, they are marked as Ruta Histórica (Hwy 2). Camp #44 (Santa Olalla) was where Anza wrote a letter to Viceroy Bucareli during the 1774 expedition, telling of its difficulties and the trustworthiness of the Quechan and their chief (Palm). During the 1775/76 expedition, the second fandango was held here, and Anza wrote five letters. In one to Bucareli, he tells of two births, the one death, and the expedition’s difficulties. It was here that the local natives (probably the Cocopah and Cajuneces tribes) gave the colonists fish and watermelons which Anza thought improved the health of those who were sick. It was also here that the expedition split up into three groups to cross the desert without depleting the watering holes.

C. Wells of Santa Rosa (Yuha Well) and Expedition Camps #47 and #48
The well, called Santa Rosa de las Lajas (Flat Rocks) by Anza, was used on March 8, 1774. On December 11–15, 1775, the three divisions of Anza’s colonizing expedition used this site as the first good watering spot beyond the Colorado River. It is about 7 miles northwest of Mexico’s Mount Signal, on the southwest side of Dunaway Rd. in the Yuha Desert. California State Historic Landmark No. 1008 plaque is found at the Eastbound Sunbeam Roadside Rest Area, between Drew and Forrester Rds., on I-8 near Seeley. The Vista de Anza Historical Marker is found off Hwy 98 northeast of Calexico, 6 miles south of Coyote Wells. Camp #48 was near the Plaster City OHV (Off-Highway Vehicle) area.

D. San Sebastián Marsh/San Felipe Creek and Expedition Camp #49
San Sebastián Marsh is the site of prehistoric villages and represented a stable water source in the desert environment. It was a campsite for both the 1774 and 1775–76 expeditions. Named for Anza’s Indian guide, Sebastián Tarabal, it is located 18 miles northeast of Westmoreland in the vicinity of the junction of state highways 86 and 78. Ironically, the nearby Salton Sea, formed when a canal broke in 1905, is today a 35 mile long desert oasis and includes a National Wildlife Refuge.
Questions on the Trail

Sebastián Tarabal was an American Indian from Baja California who accompanied Portolá on his 1769 expedition. He was later taken to Mission San Gabriel. He escaped with his wife and another native across the desert, reaching a frontier outpost of New Spain while Anza was preparing to leave for his 1774 expedition. Anza took Sebastián along with him as a guide. For his help in crossing the treacherous desert, Anza named camp #49 after him. Anza took Sebastián with him again on this 1775-76 expedition, and Sebastián later accompanied Father García on a remarkable trek to California through the Mojave Desert and the Sierras during the same year. Anza called him el Peregrino, the traveler/pilgrim. Question: Name one American Indian who might be honored in the Anza Trail Logo. From Yuma county, name another.

On the CD: Desert Fandangos

Cattle on the move (recorded on a Sinaloa Cattle Drive);
Chacona, "To the Good Life" by Juan Arahés (guitar);
Music for the Fandango: El Minuet de Cuatro (guitar)
The campsite for December 6-8, 1775 was at Santa Olalla south of Imperial County in Baja California. When the herd of cattle caught the sight and smell of the water at their destination, they rushed for the water to drink. It was here that the second Fandango was held. It was also where Anza decided to divide the march through the desert into three groups, plus a fourth consisting of the vaqueros and the cattle.
The diaries do not record the music played during the Fandangos. One can be sure that it did not include the same religious music mentioned by Father Font. Perhaps the highly popular Chacona, used in plays and in the theatre in Spain during from the 16th century onward, was imitated on whatever instruments were available.
After they crossed the desert, the third Fandango (December 17) was held at San Sebastián, a camp named after Anza's Indian guide, Sebastián Tarabal. Font later censors the young widow Feliciana Arballo here for the lyrics of a song she sang while dancing.

Additional Resources

St. Thomas Indian Mission
2 Indian Hill on Picacho Rd., Winterhaven, CA 92283;
tel.: 760-572-0992

Fort Yuma
Quechan Nation – P.O. Box 1899, Yuma, AZ 85366;
tel.: 760-572-0213;
web: itcaonline.com/tribes_quechan.html

Remember that entering the U.S. or Mexico without using a port of entry is dangerous and illegal. For example, use the Port of Entry at Mexicali or Algodones –
tel.: 760-572-0089, and
tel.: 760-768-2330,
web: customs.gov

Cocopah Indian Reservation – County 15th and Avenue G, Somerton AZ 85350;
tel.: 928-627-1992,
web: cocopah.com

BLM El Centro Field Office – 1661 South Fourth St., El Centro, CA 92243;
tel.: 760-337-4400,
web: ca.blm.gov/elcentro/

Salton Sea National Wildlife Refuge – 906 West Sinclair Rd., Calipatria, CA 92233-9744;
tel.: 760-348-5278,
web: http://pacific.fws.gov/refuges/
Books for Sale

*Changes in Landscape: The Beginnings of Horticulture in the California Missions*  
by Michael R. Hardwick

(Excerpt from promotional brochure)

“Long before Europeans mapped the region, California’s tallest mountains, largest lakes, longest rivers and oldest trees all had names. What was labeled wilderness by European explorers was a human homeland for Native Americans. Native peoples gathered wild plants for their harvests. They regularly burned the landscape to rejuvenate it.

Introduction of the agriculture through the California Missions changed the ecosystem...Natural plantings gave way to introduced ones, and livestock grazing facilitated dispersal of introduced plants...Franciscans introduced agriculture in an attempt to make Missions self-supporting...Missions located on the coast became experimental stations for horticulture as ships brought plants to them...

The Secularization Act of 1833 changed all of this. Newly-granted ranches focused on livestock. Mission communities disintegrated and horticulture fostered by them. California landscape changed, again...Mission Santa Bárbara...is propagating and preserving heirloom plants that grew at the Missions...[It] is a living museum and a resource for those interested in restoring original Mission plant communities.”

*Los Californianos Publications*

**Antepasados, Vol. XI: A Guide to the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail**  
by Greg Bernal-Mendoza Smestad  
$22.06  
128 pages and CD  
See sample pages of Imperial County in this newsletter (pp. 7-9)

For more information or to order, visit  
www.loscalifornianos.org/publications.htm

**Antepasados, Vol. XII: The Juan Bautista de Anza - Fernando de Rivera y Moncada Letters of 1775-1776: Personalities in Conflict**  
by Donald T. Garate  
$37.00  
282 pages
October
15  Peralta Hacienda Historical Park Grand Opening: Oakland, CA  
    Noon-5:00 pm  
    2465 34th Avenue, Oakland, CA 94601  
    Activities will include outdoor exhibits, children's crafts, live entertainment, costumed  
    interpreters, tours of the restored 1870 Peralta House, indigenous peoples' ceremonies,  
    and more. The park will unveil a 100 ft. long by 3 ft. thick adobe wall commemorating the  
    Peralta Family rancho, the first European built structure in the East Bay. (510) 532-9142 or  
    www.peraltahacienda.org.  (NPS Anza Trail staff)

21-22  Anza Days: Tubac Presidio State Historic Park, AZ  
    10:00-4:00pm  
    Annual celebration of Anza's trek from Tubac to San Francisco and 50th anniversary of  
    Arizona State Parks. A living history event of the Indian, Mexican, and Spanish Colonial  
    periods. Enjoy "Los Tubaquenos," military demonstrations, folkloric dancers, ethnic music,  
    and children's activities, including the play revival of "How Far Felipe!" For information, call  
    (520) 398-2252 or www.azstateparks.com/Parks/parkhtml/tubac.html  (NPS Anza Trail staff)

November
5  Price Historical Park Ice Cream Social and Mini Pow Wow: Pismo Beach, CA  
    Noon-4:00 pm  
    Family fun, ice cream, food, music, drumming, dancing. Old West attire encouraged. Kids  
    and adults in Western, Pioneer, Victorian, Native American, Vaquero & Vaquera outfits.  
    Prizes and raffle drawing to benefit historical preservation. Admission free. For more  
    information, call Gabriel Miossi at 773-2875 or visit www.pricehistoricalpark.org

18  Founder's Day Fandango: Historic Bernal Ranch, CA  
    11:00-3:00 pm  
    Santa Clara County Parks - Santa Teresa Park, 260 Bernal Rd, San Jose, CA 95119  
    Celebrate the 230th anniversary of the founding of San Jose with a rancho-style fandango.  
    Join us for a celebration of dancing and demonstrations with hands-on activities for all ages  
    to commemorate our founders' contributions to the history of our area and the vibrancy of  
    our community. For information, call (408) 846-5632.  (NPS Anza Trail staff)

19  Founder's Day Celebration: Luis Maria Peralta Adobe, CA  
    Noon-5:00 pm  
    175 West St. John Street, San Jose, CA 95110  
    A free public celebration marking the founding of El Pueblo de San José de Guadalupe on  
    November 29, 1777. Enjoy costumed interpreters, music and dance, cooking  
    demonstrations, exhibits and hands-on activities for kids of all ages. For information, call  
    (408) 918-1050 or visit www.historysanjose.org.

December & January  No anuncios

See your announcement here! Send to margaret_styles@nps.gov.
Soldados from the Royal Presidio of Santa Barbara opened the 2006 Fiesta Pequeña with a musket salute in Santa Barbara, California. The event was staged on the steps of the Old Mission Santa Barbara, as it was in colonial times. Authentic period flintlock muskets were used. From left to right: R.C. Ruiz (drummer), J. E. Martinez (Lt. Ortega), M. Hardwick, D. Martinez, B. Valenzuela, J. Ramero, and M. Aberle. Photo: Santa Barbara News Press, Aug 6, 2006