Anza Society International Conference

By Joe Myers
Edited by Margaret Styles

The Anza Society is an organization of individuals interested in the life and times of Lt. Col. Juan Bautista de Anza. Since 1996, they have held “Annual World Conferences” bringing together people with knowledge to share about Anza. The 14th conference was held March 13-15 in Tucson, Arizona.

Presenters offered a variety of subjects connected to Anza. Ron Quinn from Calif. State Polytechnic University created a mental picture of Father Pedro Font’s role on the 1775-76 Anza Expedition and his relation with Anza. The award winning photographer, Nina Egert, PhD, showed her contemporary photos of the Anza Trail landscape in relation to the historical journey. Gerry Hamor talked as the 8th generation descendent of Lt. Moraga. Society President Joe Myers, PhD, used computer maps to illustrate Anza’s early campaign against the Apache Indians in 1766. The Chief of Interpretation at Tumacácori NHP, Don Garate, talked about the Pima uprising of 1751.

The panel discussion was attendees talking about their ancestral link to members of the Anza family or to the expedition members. Joe Camarillo (in charge of food services at the hotel) is part Apache and described modern day Indians in Arizona. The first day ended with a participants wearing period clothing from the Tucson Presidio and performing a play written by Larry Marshall about the 1775-76 Anza Expedition. That evening, the banquet featured keynote speaker Jack Lasseter, telling a story about the Chiricahua Apache and their famous chief, Cochise.

On Saturday, the field trip included the Tucson Presidio and San Xavier del Bac Mission. The event ended Sunday, after a three-hour tour of two 1775 Anza Expedition campsites north of downtown Tucson.

Mark your calendar for the 15th Annual International Conference March 11-14, 2010 in Magdalena, Sonora, Mexico.
National Park Service

From the Superintendent

Naomi Torres

Meeting Partners

Since my arrival to the Anza Trail in mid-February, I have had the opportunity to connect with many of the trail partners and supporters. I found all of the encounters to be inspiring. In mid-March, I visited Tucson and attended the 14th Annual International Conference of the Anza Society. Participants expressed a great deal of passion for the Anza story, the people, and it’s legacy.

The trip was capped with a quick Sunday morning tour of several campsites, led by Joe Meyers. Visiting the sites brought greater meaning to the story and the people I had been learning about the previous days. Going to the sites, I experienced the power of place and the importance of standing near the sites where the expedition passed. Both the story and the place are important to building the trail and engaging many more supporters. This edition of Noticias will again present the many projects and programs that continue to bring the power of the trail alive.

As inspired as I am about the future of the Anza Trail, I am saddened by Margaret’s departure. She is a talented interpreter, and the trail was fortunate to benefit from her skills for three outstanding years. I believe I speak for many of the trail supporters that we will miss her very much. Her future is filled with many wonderful experiences. Let us wish her success and joy in Yosemite and beyond.

Conference

12th Conference on National Scenic and Historic Trails
July 12-16, 2009   Missoula, MT
Join us in the shadow of the Bitterroot Mountains to launch the “Gearing up for the Decade for the National Trails: Outreach, Protection and Capacity.” Workshops will elaborate ways we will accomplish the goals set for the decade. Sponsored by FHWA’s Recreational Trails Program. Hosted by Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation. For more information, visit www.nationaltrailspartnership.org.

National Park Service Documentary

Ken Burns and Dayton Duncan are making a film about the NPS. The film reveals compelling stories of the parks, the Service, and the individuals who shaped them. This is a meaningful time to raise awareness of the NPS in preparation for the centennial in 2016.

“While making this series, we discovered more than stories of the most dramatic landscapes on earth. We discovered stories of remarkable people from every conceivable background. What they had in common was a passion to save some precious portion of the land they loved so that those of us who followed might have the same chance to fall in love with that place. Without them, parks would not exist.” Burns said.

This fall, public television will air the six-part, twelve-hour series The National Parks: America’s Best Idea.

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Deadlines
No July issue due to limited staff
September 1 for October issue
December 1 for January issue
March 1 for April issue
National Park Service

National Trails System
Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2008 Available

Statistics from trail related activities in FY 2008 have been rolled up with data from Forest Service, BLM, and other agencies into an annual report structured around the 6-agency National Trails System MOU signed in 2006. The report includes statistics such as changes in mileage and protection, high potential sites and segments, changes in development and certification, data management, mapping, and unmet needs. Other sections include partnership, planning, and innovative actions. The report is available on the NPS National Trails System website at www.nps.gov/nts.

National Train Day
Marking 140 years of connecting travelers from coast to coast, the second annual National Train Day on May 9 celebrates the importance of train travel throughout the country with events in Washington, DC, Philadelphia, Chicago, and Los Angeles, and many more locally organized events in communities nationwide. The Anza Trail on-board Trails & Rails volunteer guides and Santa Monica Mountains NRA will promote the national partnership program at the Los Angeles Train Station 10-3:00 pm.

American Hiking Society’s National Trails Day®
June 6, 2009
A registered trademark of American Hiking Society, National Trails Day® is the largest and only nationwide trails and outdoor celebration designed to promote healthy lifestyles, connect the general public with trails in their communities and build partnerships to protect trails. Through National Trails Day®, people are introduced to a wide array of activities such as hiking, biking, paddling, horseback riding, trail running, and bird watching. To register your event, visit www.americanhiking.org.

National Get Outdoors Day - June 13, 2009
This is a new annual event to encourage healthy, active outdoor fun. Participating partners will offer opportunities for American families to experience traditional and non-traditional types of outdoor activities. Prime goals of the day are reaching first-time visitors to public lands and reconnecting our youth to the great outdoors. For more information, visit www.nationalgetoutdoorsday.org.

Heading to Yosemite

This is my farewell message to the Anza Trail community. This summer, I will be working at Yosemite National Park as the first Interpretation Coach for park partner public programs. I am returning to a wilderness site, which is where my NPS work experience started in Yellowstone and Death Valley. In the fall, I will take an extended leave from the NPS to pursue my dream of coaching and training.

Working for the Anza Trail has truly been a unique experience for me. The variety of trail projects and partners has shown me the array of possibilities in getting the work done. The Anza Trail community is passionate about this resource; the stories it tells and the recreation it provides.

I appreciate the wonderful individuals and partners I have worked with such as re-enactors, event coordinators, park rangers, descendants, teachers, planners, designers, and the volunteers. You make the trail a reality and keep the story alive. Thank you for sharing your knowledge, skills, and experience with me on this journey.

National Celebrations

Margaret Styles
Photo: Jennifer BarNahum
Along the Trail

Google Earth Campfire Program: Borrego Springs, CA
January 1 & 10
Dick Overturf used a computer and Wi-Fi at Anza-Borrego State Park during his campfire programs to illustrate the Anza Expedition campsites. It worked great. He flew the audience right up Coyote Canyon to Salvador Linares’s birthplace, clicked on the diary entry for that day, and then flew on to San Francisco. Very creative!

Volunteer Award to Mary Dahl: Tubac, AZ
January 30
The Anza Trail Coalition of Arizona and the NPS awarded Mary Dahl in recognition of her outstanding volunteer service to the Anza Trail. Richard Williams expressed the organizations thanks for all the work and expertise Mary has brought to the table. Thank you, Mary!

ATCA Elects New State Officers: Tubac, AZ
February 22
The Anza Trail Coalition of Arizona (ATCA) held a general statewide meeting in Tubac and appointed new State Officers:
President & Volunteer Coordinator - Karol Stubbs
Secretary - Ed Stubbs
Treasurer - Joe Myers
The Directors are Glenn Vierra and Richard Williams.
The county directors are as follows:
Maricopa - Dr. Reba Wells Grandrud
Pima - Don Kucera
Pinal - Joe Myers
Santa Cruz - Karol Stubbs
Yuma - Tina Clark

Anza Riders in Rodeo Parade: Tucson, AZ
February 26
The Anza Expedition Riders entered the annual “La Fiesta de los Vaqueros” Tucson Rodeo Parade. It is claimed to be the world’s longest non-motorized parade since 1925. The Anza Riders represented the soldados and families of the historic expedition and were organized by Louie and Terry.

New Trailhead Ramada: Tucson, AZ
March
Pima County has finished construction on the Tuquison Trailhead for this recreational section of the Anza Trail. It is located in Columbus Park. The funding came from county bonds.

Mary Dahl and Richard Williams
Photo: ATCA
Along the Trail

ATCA at the Marana Founder’s Day: Marana, AZ
March 21

The Anza Trail Coalition of Arizona (ATCA) volunteers participated in the event with a booth to promote the Anza Trail in the community. In addition to providing participants with information about their organization and the trail, their theme was “Eating Our Way on the Anza Expedition.” Don Kucera, Joe Myers, Susan Smith, and others gathered this information for the event, displaying tangible foods and a binder of resource information. The foods included corn, chilies, watermelon, squash, piloncillo, chocolate, canela, mesquite pods, and flour.

Santa Cruz River Researcher’s Day:
Tucson, AZ
March 27

Researchers and interested individuals met for a morning to share their knowledge on the health of the Santa Cruz River. Presentation topics included inventories, monitoring, health, plants, dendrochronology, groundwater interaction, riverwatch, clogging, and water quality.

Temporary Halt on Arizona State Park Closures

The Arizona House of Representatives gave preliminary approval to keep threatened state parks open by diverting money from a voter-mandated program for land conservation for open space. The measure aims to reverse recent state budget cuts that have put numerous state parks at risk of closure including Tubac Presidio and Yuma Quartermaster Depot.

San Antonio Mission Day:
Colon, CA
April 4

Volunteer soldados were marched around the San Antonio Mission during their second annual Mission Day event on Saturday, April 4, 2009. Activities included a re-enactment camp, blacksmithing, presentations, entertainment, and visiting the beautiful chapel.

Seeking Family Stories

The San Francisco Museum and Historical Society is planning a new museum exhibit in the Old Mint Building. Associate Curator, Kristin Morris, is collecting family stories and experiences that represent the history of the Bay Area. To participate, call (415) 537-1105 x103 or visit www.sfhistory.org.
Volunteer Projects: Before and After

Clean Up the River

Volunteers from Anza Trail Coalition of Arizona and the Rio Rico Interact Club tackled a bottle dam along the Santa Cruz River in Arizona. Bottle dams are created when garbage in the river gets caught on an object (like a fallen tree trunk) and starts backing up to create a dam.

The volunteers need to remove the garbage (in this case mostly bottles flowing north from Mexico) in order to break the dam and allow the water to flow freely.

These photos show the difference their work makes and it is remarkable.

Thank you to the volunteers, and Mike Burns and Glenn Vierra for organizing this project. Great Work!

Clearing Away the Weeds

Across the river from Griffith Park in Los Angeles, there is a red and white Anza Trail mural. It was painted by youth many years ago through the North East Trees organization. In early April, one man noticed that weeds and bushes were obscuring the mural.

He took matters into his own hands. With the permission of the MetroLink Train to access the site (tracks run along the top of the mural site), Dennis Sundman cut the weeds and picked up the trash. Last summer, he was one of our first seasonal Teacher-Ranger-Teacher staff working at Santa Monica Mountains NRA.

These photos illustrate what a difference one person can make. It looks great! Thank you, Dennis.
April
24-26  Los Californianos Quarterly Meeting: Santa Barbara, CA
For more information, visit www.loscalifornianos.org

25-26  First Annual Rio Rico Fiesta Festival & Expo: Rio Rico, AZ
10:00-4:00 pm
Rio Rico Drive at Guy Tobin Trailhead
For more information, call the Chamber of Commerce at (602) 284-2378 or visit www.rioricocamborofcommerce.com/community_events.html

May
2-3  25th California Indian Market & Peace Pow Wow: San Juan Bautista, CA
10:00-7:00 pm
San Juan Bautista, Lot on Second Street
Arts, crafts, jewelry, dancing, music, and food. Memorial ride from Anza Trail to Mission.
For more information, (831) 623-4771 or visit www.peacevision.net.

9  Exhibit Opening “Becoming California, Becoming America”: Oakland, CA
12:00-6:00 pm
Peralta Hacienda, 2465 34th Avenue, 94601
Tours, cooking demonstrations, traditional arts, games, and dancing. For information and reserve tickets, call (510) 532-9142 or visit www.peraltahacienda.org.

17  Special Access Hike “Anza: California’s Pathfinder”: Santa Clara County, CA
10:00-12:00 pm
Palassou Ridge
Join Open Space Authority for a short hike to learn about this campsite of the Anza Expedition. The area is not open to the general public. Limited to 30. For more information and reservations, call (408) 224-7476 or visit www.openspaceauthority.org

June
6  Anza Trail Roundtable & Meet New Superintendent: San Juan Bautista, CA
1:00-3:00 pm
San Juan Bautista State Historic Park, Second Street between Washington & Mariposa St

25-27  Pasados del Presidio: San Francisco, CA
Thursday: 25th, 7-8 pm: Don Garate as Anza
Friday, 26th noon-3 pm: Kids activities and games about early Spanish California
Friday, 26 & Sat. 27th, 7-9 pm: Fandango dancing and singing
Saturday, 27th, 11 am-noon: Los Californianos San Francisco Birthday commemoration
For more information, visit www.presidio.gov/calendar/  (NPS Anza Trail staff present)

27  Carmel Mission Founder’s Day: Carmel, CA
Noon-5:00 pm
Carmel Mission Basilica, 3080 Rio Road, Carmel, CA  93923
Tours, exhibits, farmer’s market, music, food, demonstrations. For more information, call (831) 624-1271 x218, or visit www.carmelmission.org

See your announcement here! “Contact us” at www.nps.gov/juba.
Students perform “Crossing the River” at the annual Yuma Crossing Days on February 14 at Yuma Quartermaster Deport State Park. Youth of the M4 J001 Club of Yuma (home school honor club) researched the historic 1775 Anza Expedition river crossing and wrote the play portraying the three days spent in the area. The event was organized by the Arizona State Parks in partnership with Yuma Crossing National Heritage Area and the National Park Service.