FIND YOUR PARK

The Anza Trail community marks the National Park Service Centennial
Los Angeles Event Helps Anza Trail Reach its Centennial Goals

Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti certified 30 miles of the Los Angeles River Greenway as an official component of the Anza Trail while simultaneously swearing in 500 new Anza Trail Junior Rangers at a major event last fall.

The October gathering in Los Angeles’ Sepulveda Basin helped the Anza Trail take a giant leap forward in reaching its goals for the National Park Service Centennial. Mayor Garcetti was joined by Anza Trail staff and volunteers, the LA City Council, LA County Supervisor Sheila Keuhl, and the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area in organizing the event.

The message of the Centennial - #FindYourPark - sums up the overall goal of the once-in-a-hundred-years celebration: to connect with and create the next generation of park visitors, stewards, and advocates. In addition, Anza Trail staff set some ambitious targets for the year, including 1,200 new Junior Rangers and 500 new miles of certified trail.

Thank you to our Los Angeles friends for getting us one giant step toward those goals!

LA Mayor Eric Garcetti helps certify 30 miles of Anza Trail, Oct. 15, 2015
NPS / Zach Behrens

The Anza Trail Junior Ranger program is available online. Visit anzahistorictrail.org/juniorrangers to experience the Anza Trail and earn your badge!

Junior Rangers at the LA River Trail Certification, Oct. 15, 2015
NPS / Zach Behrens

The Anza Trail Junior Ranger program is available online. Visit anzahistorictrail.org/juniorrangers to experience the Anza Trail and earn your badge!
100 Classroom Presentations in Tucson for #NPS100

The Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail is marking the National Park Service Centennial in Tucson with 100 classroom presentations during the 2015-16 school year.

This education project was developed and is managed by Environmental Education Exchange. A re-enactor brings the story of Anza Trail to life in the classroom. Students learn about our Spanish colonial history, about the National Park Service, and how to earn their Every Kid in a Park pass.

Beginning September 2015 all kids in the fourth grade have access to their own Every Kid in a Park pass at everykidinapark.gov. This pass provides free access to national parks, national forests, national wildlife refuges, and more!

Anza Trail Volunteer Sandra Candanosa Honored with National Park Service Volunteer Award

Sandra Candanosa of Concord, California, has been named the 2016 regional recipient of the National Park Service George and Helen Hartzog Award for Outstanding Volunteer Service.

Sandra received the award in Martinez, California, on Saturday, April 23, during the John Muir Birthday-Earth Day Celebration at the John Muir National Historic Site. Tom Leatherman, park superintendent, and AnaMarie Avila Farias, vice-mayor of the city of Martinez, presented the award on the event stage.

The Hartzog Award honors National Park Service volunteers who give of their skills, talents, and time beyond the normal call of duty. Sandra has won this year’s award for the National Park Service Pacific West Region, which includes the national parks of California, Oregon, Washington, and Hawaii.

Sandra’s award recognizes her volunteer work organizing las posadas at the John Muir National Historic Site. The bilingual holiday program highlights the region’s Spanish colonial history and its place along the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail.

Sandra’s program connects the faith and traditions introduced to the Bay Area by Spanish colonists in 1776 with customs that endure today. She volunteers weeks of her time, driven by love for her cultural traditions and the chance to share them with others. Sandra’s program is helping the National Park Service connect with and create the next generation of park visitors, supporters, and advocates.

For a slideshow of images from las posadas, visit https://flic.kr/s/aHskynVQpB

Sandra Candanosa with Anza Trail Interpretive Specialist Hale Sargent at the John Muir National Historic Site, April 23, 2016

NPS
Riverside County’s Dennis Carlos Organizes Historic Re-Enactment Ride for Southern California

A long-ago chapter of California history is deeply personal to Dennis Carlos of Nuevo, California.

“Being a second generation American, I had lost many of my family’s cultural traditions,” he says. “When I was younger I longed to recapture my lost cultural history, understanding the who, what and where in my past.”

Tracing the state’s Hispanic heritage took Dennis all the way back to the roots of modern California and the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail.

And on Saturday, May 14, Dennis celebrated that heritage in a first-of-its kind event for Los Angeles’ Griffith Park—Anza Rides Again, a colorful re-enactment of the 1775-76 Anza Expedition. Dennis and a volunteer team of 11 equestrians portrayed Spanish soldiers and their wives, depicting the arrival of settler families to Alta California.

Dennis participated in similar events in Arizona and San Francisco and decided Southern California should also commemorate its place along the 1,200-mile Anza Trail.

“Our state is full of exciting history and our group of re-enactors is dedicated to learning and teaching that history,” he says. “Sharing and preserving the heritage of early California is one of our main goals.”

Dennis has helped bring together the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks, the National Park Service, and the nonprofit Friends of Griffith Park to support the event.

In addition to the re-enactors’ arrival at Griffith Park’s Crystal Springs picnic area, the event included music, dance, dress, and wildlife of 18th century California. Gabrielevo/Tongva educators shared about their culture and Native Californians’ resilience in the face of colonization.

The Anza Trail includes four miles of recreation trail along the park’s perimeter; Griffith Park is located within the former land holdings of the Feliz family who arrived to California with the Anza Expedition.

“Dennis is helping us reach a whole new audience in Southern California with a history that is literally beneath their feet,” says Hale Sargent, park ranger for the Anza Trail. “The Anza Expedition predates the founding of Los Angeles, and introduced children, families, livestock, and surprising ethnic diversity to California.”

Volunteering as a re-enactor has helped Dennis connect with his own cultural heritage, and says he is motivated to help others do the same.

“I like seeing people realize how historical and culturally diverse our state is,” he says. “Helping people get closer to their own past is a wonderful feeling.”

For a slideshow of images from the Griffith Park re-enactment visit https://flic.kr/s/aHskwV8no5
Along the Trail

Learning about the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail

Denise Louie, National Park Service
Pacific West Regional Office Natural Resources Assistant Team Lead

Staff from the National Park Service Pacific West Region HQ left their skyscraper office and took a learning tour of the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail through the San Francisco Bay Area on April 25, 2016.

Anza Trail rangers organized the day as an employee development opportunity in honor of the National Park Service Centennial. The 1,200-mile Anza Trail connects history, culture, and outdoor recreation from Nogales, Arizona, to the San Francisco Bay Area. While the National Historic Trail’s story commemorates the Spanish colonization of California in 1776, the park also seeks the perspectives of indigenous peoples from the past to present impacted by Spanish colonialism along the route.

The morning began in San Jose at an NPS-sponsored naturalization ceremony. Our country’s newest citizens took their oath in front of a Spanish colonial-era adobe, one of the oldest buildings in Silicon Valley.

Volunteers from the Trails and Rails program then shared about their work on board Amtrak. More than 30 Trails and Rails volunteers spend the summer riding between San Jose and Santa Barbara, interpreting California history for rail passengers.

Other sites on the tour included Mission San Jose, a trailhead in Fremont and a historic home in Oakland. The outing was a great opportunity for regional office staff to connect both with other professional disciplines and to see firsthand the interesting programs and dedicated staff and volunteers of the Juan Bautista de Anza NHT.
Along the Trail

New Study: Gauging Hispanic Interests in Hispanic Heritage Resources

Magda E. Mankel, PhD Student in Anthropology, University of Maryland, College Park

Last summer, I interned for the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail through the National Park Service’s Cultural Resource Diversity Internship Program.

I conducted focus groups with Hispanic individuals living in Tucson. My objective was to understand how participants understood and used the Anza Trail. I worked the insights that participants shared with me into a report. The report highlights how the Anza Trail can reach out to this community and how it can better engage the public with the trail’s heritage resources.

As an anthropology graduate student, this was a great opportunity to refine my skills as a researcher and apply my knowledge to a project that works towards making the Anza Trail more accessible to the public. As a Mexican-American woman who was born in Nogales, Arizona, and grew up in Tucson, I saw this as a unique and special way to give back to a region that I call my home.

I admit I was not fully aware of all the history behind the Anza Trail when I started this project. As I learned more I began to see the once familiar landscape with fresh eyes. Places I was familiar with obtained new depth as I attached new meanings onto them. It was also incredibly rewarding to talk to members of the community and see how they related to the Anza Trail and how they connected their Hispanic heritage to this landscape.

Few focus group participants knew the history of the Anza Expedition, but the majority of participants had visited places affiliated with the Anza Trail, including the Santa Cruz River Park in Tucson, Tumacácori National Historical Park, and Tubac Presidio State Historic Park.

The fact that participants knew of places associated with the trail but did not know the history of the Anza Expedition demonstrated a disconnect. This gap may be filled through community outreach, educational programs, and engagement efforts in the future.

Many participants believed the Anza Trail was important because it helped them feel as though Hispanic heritage made a significant contribution to the region and the nation. Several participants noted that the Anza Trail was a good way to highlight Hispanic achievements and to fight negative stereotypes and discourses on immigrants today. The trail and its history asserted their sense of belonging in a time when Hispanic contributions might be questioned by public discourses.

Overall, this was an incredibly rewarding experience and I hope that this work will serve to civically engage Hispanic individuals and other members of the public with the Anza Trail’s resources in the future.

I would like to thank all those who participated in the study; Naomi and Stan (my supervisors); Diana (the National Park Service’s Urban Fellow for Tucson); Neil and the other folks at The Environmental Education Exchange; and Bella, Yesenia and Kevin (Saguaro National Park staff and interns). All of their help and support made my ten week internship run incredibly smooth.

Read Magda’s full report at www.nps.gov/JUBA
OAKLAND COLLEGE
STUDENTS BUILD ANZA TRAIL “PARKLET” ON CAMPUS

Laney College architecture students helped Oakland, California, join the National Park Service Centennial celebration by unveiling a “national parklet” on campus.

Laura Joss, National Park Service Pacific West Regional Director, and Dr. Patricia Stanley, Laney College Interim President, joined the students for their parklet ribbon-cutting on April 18, 2016.

The parklet began as a classroom project in 2015. Staff from the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail challenged the students to create an exhibit roughly the size of a parking space.

The students’ task was to evoke the 1,200-mile Anza Trail, which connects Mexico and the Bay Area and commemorates the Spanish settlement of the Bay Area in 1776. The parklet was also to serve as a touch point in Oakland for visitors to engage with the national parks of the Bay Area, which include Golden Gate National Recreation Area, Point Reyes National Seashore, and Rosie the Riveter/WWII Home Front National Historical Park.

The student designers wanted their parklet to reflect the epic scale of the Anza Trail and the natural landscapes of California. They were also drawn to the Anza Trail’s story of migration, a story that resonates in the ethnically-diverse Bay Area.

The undulating wooden design of the parklet draws from these two themes. The parklet’s entrance is cavernous and dark. Walking into the exhibit gives you the feeling of venturing upon new beginnings, echoing the immigrant experience of traveling somewhere strange and unknown.

Continuing through the parklet, the structure opens up to symbolize the Anza settlers’ arrival to California after crossing a harsh climate. Light filters through colored panels overhead symbolizing the ocean air. Two wooden ridges flank the parklet, representing the coastal ranges near the Golden Gate.

The fluid shape of the parklet evokes California’s coast, and forms a bench where visitors can watch projected images of the state’s streams and hills.

“The theme of the National Park Service Centennial is Find Your Park,” says Anza Trail park ranger Hale Sargent. “We want people to come to parks, but we also want parks to come to people, and the Laney College students are helping us meet that goal.”

The parklet will remain open through December 2016 in the lobby of the Tower Building on the Laney College campus before moving to Oakland’s Peralta Hacienda Historical Park, which also interprets the city’s Spanish colonial past.

For more about the National Park Service Centennial, visit www.findyourpark.com.

View photos of the Laney College parklet and the ribbon-cutting ceremony at https://flic.kr/s/aHskvgUtVv

Watch a two-minute story about the parklet ribbon-cutting at https://youtu.be/GOW0lziEY1M
Anza Society Conference Explores Álamos, Sonora

Adapted from an article on the Alamos History Association website: alamoshistoryassociation.org

The Álamos History Association played host in southern Sonora to the 21st annual international Anza Society conference March 3 - 6, 2016. Presenters highlighted the role Álamos -- and the large number of “Álamenses” -- played in the Anza Expedition of 1775-76, as well as the 1781 Rivera Expedition which led to the founding of Los Angeles and Santa Barbara.

During the three-day conference Anza Society members heard presentations by Álamos History Association President Jim Toevs, Vice President Steve McKelvy, and members Joan Powell and Katherine Callingham on different aspects of Álamos’ history.

Axel Omar Salas, president of the Municipio of Álamos, welcomed the conference and presented information on the historical importance of the community. Álamos historian Juan Carlos Holguín Balderrama presented on the importance of Álamos in the 18th Century.

The group traveled to the community of La Aduana, where Juan Carlos Holguín talked about the history of the church and mines there, and conference members also visited the Álamos Museum where discussions are underway to display a wall map of the Anza Trail from its start in Culiacan to the American border.

To learn more about the Anza Society Conference visit: anzasociety.org

Following page: A map produced by Katherine Rink Callingham of the Álamos History Association shows the town’s position in important expeditions to California.
Colonization of Alta California

Routes lead by Juan Bautista de Anza in 1775-6 and Fernando de Rivera in 1781

Developed from several sources including:
Map (Fig. 1), "The Founding of Los Angeles A.D. 1781", from Nunis, Doyce B, ed. The Founding Documents of Los Angeles, 2004.
Update from Mexico

Anza, Álamos, and California

Joan Powell; adapted from a March 2016 presentation to the Anza Society Conference

Alamos's connection to Juan Bautista de Anza begins with Anza's father, who came to Nueva España before 1718. Historian Don Garate says Anza's father probably began mining in Alamos before going to Aguaje to start his own mine.

By the time Juan Bautista de Anza prepared for his 1775 expedition to found San Francisco, Alamos was the major center of mining in southern Sonora, the area from which many of the Anza Expedition families would come.

**ALAMOS AND THE ANZA EXPEDITION**

In the correspondence between Anza and Viceroy Bucareli leading up to the expedition, Alamos is a primary place for Anza to receive funds, supplies and report accounting of his expenses.

Vicente Feliz, one of the soldier escorts, and his family were from Alamos. Vicente Feliz married Manuela Lopes Pinuelas in Alamos in July 1760. Their children baptized in Alamos include: Joseph Francisco Feliz Penuelas (20 Oct 1761); Maria Loreta Extefana Felix Lopez (4 Nov 1764); Maria Antonia del Pilar Felix Penuelas (26 Jun 1768); Maria Marsela Felix Lopez (11 Nov 1770); and Joseph Pablo Felix Penuela (3 Jan 1773). All would join Anza on his journey.

Although sources say additional people on the expedition were from Alamos, I have not yet documented their ties to Alamos.

At least two other soldiers from Alamos were in presidios in California by 1777.

**1781 RIVERA EXPEDITION**

In the Rivera Expedition of 1781, Alamos played a larger role than the Anza Expedition as far as the population growth of California. The Rivera Expedition assembled in Alamos, and while the group was gathering and assembling, 12 of the soldiers were married here, most marrying girls and young women from Alamos. The first marriage occurred on February 28, 1780; the others married between mid-October 1780 and the end of January 1781.

Additionally, six of the soldier families that accompanied the Rivera Expedition were from Alamos. There were two settler families from Alamos, although one (Antonio Mesa and his family) did not stay in California; the other, the Luis Quintero family (whose wife was from Alamos) left Los Angeles to be with the group that settled Santa Barbara.

**1790 CENSUS OF CALIFORNIA**

In the 1790 Census of California, at least 30 of the adults had been born in Alamos, second only to Villa Sinaloa and Loreto. These families had about 59 children, giving a total of 89 or more people of Alamos descent in California at that time.
Book Review

The Forgotten Governor

Reviewed by Rita Vega-Acevedo


Should Fernando de Rivera be inducted into the major league cast of 18th century Spanish power brokers? Civilian, military, and religious leaders shaped early Alta California when it was a rugged and dangerous frontier. Failure was not an option for them.

In his book, The Forgotten Governor: Fernando de Rivera and the Opening of Alta California (Langdon Street Press), author John Wills makes a case to include Rivera among this illustrious group.

Fernando de Rivera (1724-1781) was a Spanish military commander, a de facto governor, first in Baja California and later in Alta California. Rivera’s resume is extensive. Yet, according to Wills, he is mostly remembered for feuds with Father Serra and Anza and for character flaws exaggerated by Serra and Anza proponents. Further, Rivera had no scholars leading the charge to include him in the history books for his major accomplishments... until now.

Wills has written the first biography to correct misconceptions about Rivera. It’s an exciting story brilliantly told. Rivera, along with Portola and Serra, led the first overland expedition to Alta California in 1769. He was one of the first Europeans to view the San Francisco peninsula and identify good locations for a presidio and settlement there. He traveled from Sonora across the Colorado River to lead a small group of colonists to establish el pueblo de Los Angeles (1781).

Rivera met a tragic fate during the Yuma Massacre, recounted in the book. Wills underscores that fact that Rivera did not cause the massacre; problems with the Spanish colonists had been brewing for some time before Rivera arrived on the scene.

For the first time, readers will read portions of Rivera’s diary and a rare personal letter written by Rivera to Lt. Moraga’s wife, offering to escort her to Alta California in 1781 so that she could reunite with her husband in San Francisco. We also learn of the existence of a two-volume book with documents about Rivera, including his diary and reports to superiors. Wills, the author, states that much of it remains untranslated and was compiled by a Jesuit scholar in Spain in 1967.

We also learn that his widow and children failed to obtain his pension during their lifetime. This chapter is a gem and illustrates the failure of the bloated Spanish bureaucracy and highlights the poor communications of the era. The contributions of Rivera are too many to list here, but Wills has succeeded in convincing me and others to add Fernando Rivera to the top tier list of important historical figures.

Even today, we still celebrate and see many of the place names, rivers, cities, ports, missions, presidios and culture of the Spanish empire. It is not a perfect place, considering the toll on California Native tribes, but it is up to us to learn, rectify for past mistakes and celebrate the diversity of our great state.

Reviewed by Rita Vega-Acevedo
June 4-5, Morgan Hill CA

National Trails Day Campout & 14-Mile Hike: Join the Anza Trail, California State Parks, and the Pine Ridge Association as we celebrate both National Trails Day & the National Park Service Centennial with a special hike in Henry W. Coe State Park along the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail.

Saturday, June 4, 2pm: Meet at Coe Headquarters in front of the Visitors Center and hike to Manzanita Point Group campsite. Set up your camp for the over night.

Sunday, June 5, we will hike 14 miles of the Anza Trail from Manzanita Point down to the Coyote Creek entrance. Space is limited, and this event requires registration.

To register visit http://www.meetup.com/Henry-Coe-State-Park-Outdoors-Meetup/events/228922929/

June 24-25, San Francisco

Each June, you can explore the legacy of Spanish California at San Francisco’s birthplace -- el presidio de San Francisco. These events bring to the Bay Area our friends from all along the Anza Trail.

Afternoon Fun for Kids: Friday, June 24, 12PM – 3PM
Music, dance, storytelling, hands-on kids’ activities, and more. Presidio of San Francisco Officers’ Club.

1776 Campfire w/Captain Anza: Friday, June 24, 6PM - 8PM
Enjoy stories and s’mores by the fire. Rob Hill Campground.

Los Californianos Ceremony: Saturday, June 25, 10:30AM
Descendants of the Anza Expedition families gather to honor their ancestors. Pershing Square.
July 24, Oakland

Sunday, July 24, 1PM - 3PM
Redwood Regional Park
Skyline Gate

East Bay Regional Parks and the Anza Trail present an easy family hike for the National Park Service Centennial. Meet at the Skyline Gate Staging Area. For more information call (510) 544-3187.

Aug. 5, Santa Barbara

Amigos de Anza will ride in this year’s Historical Parade during Old Spanish Days. Come cheer them on as they represent the Anza Trail and the National Park Service in one of California’s biggest parades of the year!

Aug. 13, San Jose

Saturday, August 13: Santa Clara County Parks organizes a fandango for family fun and demonstrations that honor the Early California history of the historic Bernal-Gulnac-Joice Ranch.

Through July: Tucson

The Anza Trail traveling exhibit is at the Pima Community College Northwest Campus through July.

Through September

Catch this year’s season of Trails & Rails programing on board the Amtrak Coast Starlight weekends through September 25th between Santa Barbara and San Jose.
Noticias de Anza is a free quarterly publication of the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail and the Anza Trail Foundation.

The **Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail**, a unit of the National Park Service, commemorates, protects, marks, and interprets the Anza Expedition of 1775-76. The trail’s historic corridor extends approximately 1,200 miles in the U.S. and 600 miles in Mexico.

The **Anza Trail Foundation**, a nonprofit 501(c)(3), raises visibility and promotes knowledge of the epic 18th century expeditions of Juan Bautista de Anza and preserves the Anza Trail through collaboration and partnering with organizations and individuals.

Unless otherwise noted, all articles and images are in the public domain. Please email your article and photograph submissions to Hale_Sargent@nps.gov. Newsletter design by Luther Bailey of the National Park Service.

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Find this newsletter online!
www.AnzaHistoricTrail.org

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**View From the Trail**

A dozen sisters from Our Lady of Peace in Santa Clara, CA, joined our March 2016 hike in partnership with Santa Clara County Parks. Photo Credit: NPS / ©Ron Horii