

NOTICIAS DE ANZA

Number 60

Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail

July 2014

PASADOS *del Presidio* 2014

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Meet the Anza Society

by Stella Cardoza, Anza Society President

The Anza Society, Inc., a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization, was founded nineteen years ago by a group of individuals dedicated to promoting the study of the two military officers who carry the name, Juan Bautista de Anza, father and son. Both are important historical figures of the Spanish frontier. The mission of the Anza Society is to study and celebrate all aspects of the lives and times of Lieutenant Coronel Juan Bautista de Anza, credited with the founding of San Francisco, and his father who served as Captain of the Fronteras Presidio.

Activities of the Anza Society promote the study, interpretation, commemoration, and preservation of places related to the Anza family. Efforts in that direction include, but are not limited to, identifying and delineating historic places and trails that relate to the life and activities of Anza. The Anza Society also works with the National Park Service as citizen historian advisors to the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail.

The highlight of the Anza Society year is its conference where scholarly and personal presentations provide insight into ongoing Anza related research. These conferences are held in settings in both the United States and Mexico where Anza's presence has left its mark. Conference programs cover not only topics related to Juan Bautista de Anza, but also follow Spanish colonial historical, geographic, economic, political, and social themes that provide insight into the world in which Anza once lived and served. The conference program also includes tours of historic places and on some occasions reenactments of historic events and other related educational activities.

Membership in the Anza Society is open to all who are interested. If you would like more information, please visit our website at www.anzasociety.org. A membership application is available on the website.

Bay Area Welcomes Anza Trail Park Guide Daniel Sanchez

Daniel Sanchez has joined the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail as a new Park Guide for the San Francisco Bay Area for Spring and Summer 2014.

In addition to his bimonthly walks along the Anza Trail at the Golden Gate Bridge, Daniel is available to deliver bilingual programming to school and community groups throughout the Bay Area.

Already since beginning his position in the spring, Daniel has worked in San Juan Bautista, San Jose, Oakland, and San Francisco to highlight the Anza Trail.

He has a diverse slate of upcoming events, including an interpretive bike ride in partnership with the Guadalupe River Park Conservancy and a hike in the East Bay with Latino Outdoors to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month.

See more upcoming events at <http://www.AnzaHistoricTrail.org/events>, and contact Daniel at daniel_s_sanchez@nps.gov





Karol Stubbs of ATCA (center) with the AmeriCorps team.

Thank you for your service!

AmeriCorps and ATCA Improve the Anza Trail

This past spring, the Anza Trail Coalition of Arizona hosted volunteers from AmeriCorps NCCC who spent 21 days opening up two new miles of Anza Trail sections in Tubac. The AmeriCorps team also worked with the Boys and Girls Club of Nogales, the Santa Fe Ranch Foundation at Las Lagunas, and the Sonoita Fair Grounds. (Photos courtesy of the Anza Trail Coalition of Arizona.)



Las Lagunas de Anza

NEW BIRD AND WILDLIFE OBSERVATION DECK

By Arlyn Johnson of the Santa Fe Ranch Foundation

Santa Fe Ranch volunteer Don Clemans and his son Allan have designed and installed a beautiful new bird and wildlife observation deck at Las Lagunas de Anza. The observation deck has multiple windows for children of all ages to be able to view the ducks and birds in the marsh without being seen. The site also has signage which provides information regarding the birds that make their home at Las Lagunas or travel through the area on their migration route.

Don Clemans is the lead volunteer at Las Lagunas de Anza for the Santa Fe Ranch, which owns and manages the site. He has been instrumental in the site's development for nearly five years. He has given his time and talents towards many projects at Las Lagunas that benefit local school children

including a 75-foot boardwalk, ramadas, signage, lighting, irrigation and more. Las Lagunas de Anza, a natural wetland, is also known as Campsite #13 on the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail. It is open to the public on weekends or by appointment and is available at no charge for school field trips. In addition to the new observation deck, Las Lagunas offers walking trails, an outdoor classroom, a heritage garden, environmental and historical interpretive signage.

The Santa Fe Ranch Foundation provides interpretation for the schools that visit. For more information or to schedule a visit, please call the office at 520-287-7051 or email santaferanch@theriver.com.

SNAPSHOT

Pasados del Presidio 2014

Just as Southern Arizona honors the departure of the Anza Expedition each October, so too does San Francisco commemorate the expedition families' arrival every June.

This year's commemoration in San Francisco -- dubbed Pasados del Presidio -- brought together Anza Trail friends and volunteers from Nogales, Tucson, Riverside, the Bay Area, and beyond for exciting events on June 26 and 27, 2014.

Public programs included a "1776 Campfire with Captain Anza," a rare opportunity to erect a period expedition campsite in the City of San Francisco. With Bill Islas portraying Commander Anza, families explored the camp to try their hand at roping, navigation, calligraphy, and the music of the Anza Expedition. Our troupe of historic re-enactors got to enjoy a night at the Presidio's Rob Hill Campground -- the only sanctioned campsite in the city.

Los Californianos, an organization for descendants of Early California settlers, organized its annual flagpole ceremony the following morning. The Amigos de Anza drill team served as a colorful backdrop for Los Californianos' roll-call of the families of the Anza Expedition. Three visiting Anza Ambassadors from Nogales and Rio Rico, AZ -- Anisah Gonzales, Rigo Avila, and Ryan Castillo -- spoke about their work sharing the Anza story at the southern end of the trail.



Summer camps and youth programs bring hundreds of children to the Presidio of San Francisco for its annual events honoring Early California heritage. Here, kids watch Los Californianos read a roll-call of the Anza Expedition families



The Anza Ambassadors of Nogales, AZ, sent representatives Rigo Avila (left), Anisa Gonzales, and Ryan Castillo to speak about the role the youth development program plays in their lives.



The events culminated with the Presidio of San Francisco's three-hour heritage festival, with hands-on kids' activities that recall Ohlone, Spanish, and Mexican traditions of Early California. Hundreds of children came to experience Ohlone storytelling, Spanish military maneuvers, ceramics, and much more.

This year's events occurred within sight of two exciting developments for the future of heritage programming at the Presidio: Renovation is almost complete at the Officers' Club, whose storied walls (some of which date to the Spanish era) will soon house a Presidio Heritage



Mike Vallardes, Rick Collins, Mike Ariza, Bill Islas, and Andrew Vallardes take a break from their re-enactment campsite for refreshment at the Amigos de Anza campsite at the Rob Hill Campground.

Center. And nearby, an active archaeological dig draws in members of the public to watch and learn as history is discovered literally beneath their feet.



Anza Trail Walk in the Southland

by Hale Sargent, Anza Trail Interpretive Specialist

In sprawling East Los Angeles County, nature, history, and outdoor recreation converge on the Anza Trail. On this level 4.5 mile walk/ride (round trip), the Anza Trail overlaps with the San Gabriel River Trail, Rio Hondo Trail, and city sidewalks.

Begin at Whittier Narrows Nature Center

Park at the Whittier Narrows Nature Center (1000 N Durfee Ave., S. El Monte, CA 91733, 626-575-5523). The exhibits in the nature center and its facilities, including bathrooms, are open Tuesday through Sunday, 9AM - 5PM.

The Whittier Narrows Natural Area Park and Nature Center sits in a low flood basin along the west bank of the San Gabriel River. The high water table and rich soil support a 400-acre sanctuary of riparian and coastal sage scrub plants, amphibians, reptiles, and more than 300 bird species, including the protected

White-tailed Kite.

From the Nature Center parking lot, a 1/4-mile connector trail brings you to an artistic gate. Beyond the gate, turn right onto the San Gabriel River Trail.

San Gabriel River Trail

The 38-mile San Gabriel River Trail connects the San Gabriel Mountains in the north and the ocean to the south. You will enter the trail onto its highly trafficked bicycle trail along the river channel. But shortly, follow a fork to the right to a worn, multi-use trail that follows a narrow canal.

After approximately 1.4 miles, turn right onto the Siphon Road Trail. Stay on this 0.75 miles as the trail merges with Durfee Avenue and stops at Rosemead Blvd. El Bosque del Rio Hondo lies on the opposite corner.



El Bosque del Rio Hondo

The Bosque del Rio Hondo Natural Area provides one of the last remaining natural segments of the Rio Hondo. The Rio Hondo is a seasonal tributary of the Los Angeles River, powerful during times of excessive rain. Until it was put in concrete channels

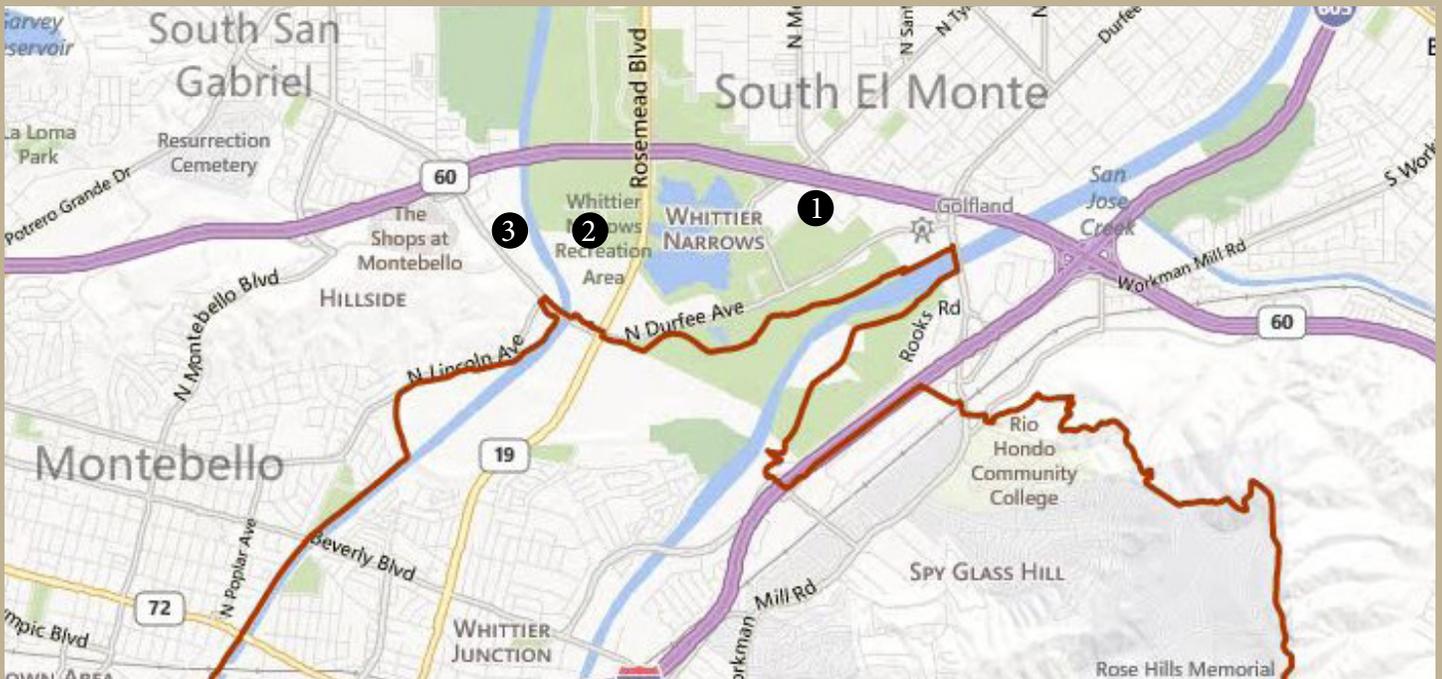
in the 1950s, the meandering river offered extensive areas to farm, swim, ride horses, and play.

The area surrounding the Bosque del Rio Hondo is rich in history. The Tongva built their homes from willow branches that grew along the river. Their settlement attracted the Spanish to site the original San Gabriel Mission in its fertile surroundings.

Original Mission Site

Leaving El Bosque del Rio Hondo, continue along San Gabriel Blvd one block to the intersection with Lincoln Ave. A tablet marks the site of Old Mission San Gabriel, established September 1771 and later relocated due to flooding of the Rio Hondo.

The Anza Expedition approached this site January 3, 1776, when, Father Font wrote, “Having learned that the mission of San Gabriel had been moved to the place where it had its fields, somewhat closer to the Sierra Nevada than formerly, halfway on the journey we left the old road...opening a new road, directed the march to the new site.”



As seen on our interactive map, www.AnzaHistoricTrail.org, the Anza Trail connects the Whittier Narrows Nature Center (1), El Bosque de Rio Hondo (2), and the original site of Mission San Gabriel (3).



The new Anza Trail exhibit is bilingual and recognizes the mission as a place of respite for the families of the Anza Expedition.

Anza Trail Foundation Funds a New Exhibit at Mission San Gabriel

On Saturday, April 5, 2014, youth participating in the San Gabriel Mission's annual mission model contest took a break from the competition to help dedicate a new sign on the mission's grounds.

The ribbon-cutting was a brief moment, but one that Rita Vega-Acevedo of South Pasadena had worked toward for more than a year.

The sign, a low-profile interpretive wayside, tells the story of another group of youth who, with their families, arrived at the original Mission San Gabriel in 1776. Theirs is the story commemorated by the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail.

Vega-Acevedo is a long-time volunteer working to promote awareness of California's Spanish history. She checks in regularly with the mission gift shop to restock maps and brochures about the Anza Trail.

Her interest is deep. She also serves as vice president for programs and education of the Southern California chapter of the Genealogical Society of Hispanic America.

The mission museum already commemorates this chapter in California history, but Vega-Acevedo began advocating for the National Park Service to



Anthony Morales (right), Tribal Chairman of the Gabrieleno-San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians, offers a blessing. Photo credit: Mark Tovar

recognize the mission’s important place along the Anza Trail with a permanent exhibit on the mission’s grounds.

The Anza Trail Foundation, working with Rita and the National Park Service, came together with staff from the mission in 2013 to begin collaboration on the sign. With Rita’s substantial input, the partners developed the exhibit’s content. The Anza Trail Foundation financed its production, and the mission managed its installation.

For Vega-Acevedo, the sign serves as local recognition for a historical figure she holds in high regard, Juan Bautista de Anza, the military commander who led the 30 colonist families to California in 1776.

“He died at the age of 52, probably from driving himself to the limit,” she says. “Tens of thousands of miles on a horse, under rough conditions, often with little food or water and unafraid of the hundreds of

ways that people could perish on the frontier. He saw more in 52 years than probably 95 percent of the people he knew. It was a life lived to the fullest.”



Rich Rojas, Chairman of the Anza Trail Foundation, speaks at the dedication of a new Anza Trail exhibit at Mission San Gabriel with Rita Vega-Acevedo. Photo credit: Mark Tovar

Paso Robles Dedicates Anza Trail Exhibits

The City of Paso Robles, CA, and the National Park Service inaugurated a new series of interpretive exhibits along the Salinas River Trail with a guided river walk on May 17, 2014.

The bilingual exhibits mark the Salinas River Trail's place along the 1200-mile Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail. The Anza Trail commemorates the migration route of the first colonists to arrive overland into California in 1775-76.

The interpretive exhibits were designed by Brandon Medeiros of Rick Engineering Company and funded in partnership with the City of Paso Robles, the Paso Robles REC Foundation and the National Park Service.



Salinan Tribe

Life Along the Anza Trail

Baskets Cestas
Salinans are skilled basket weavers. While baskets were household utensils, the pots and pans, cups and hampers of daily life were meticulously made and graphically very sophisticated. A great appreciation of beauty, expressed not only in basket weaving but in other arts such as song, dance, feather work, bead making, oratory, and storytelling, permeated Salinan life.

Salinans son expertos tejedores de cestas. Mientras las cestas eran utensilios domésticos, las ollas y sertenes, copas, y cestos de la vida cotidiana, fueron meticulosamente hechos y gráficamente muy sofisticados. Una gran apreciación de la belleza, expresada no sólo en el tejido de la cesta pero en otras artes como la canción, el baile, trabajo de la pluma, fabricación de la cuenta, oratorio, y cuentos, impregnó la vida de Salinan.

woven basket

tule hut

tule boat

Tule
With its strong grasslike leaves it was used by Native people to make baskets, boats, toys, mats and clothing.

Detail from one of the Anza Trail's new interpretive panels along the Salinas River. View all the panels at <http://www.flickr.com/AnzaTrailNPS>



Anuncios

Join the Anza Trail Foundation (it's Free!) to receive a monthly email of expanded Anza Trail News & Events. Sign up at www.anzahistorictrail.org

July

- Thu 17 Anza Trail Walk at the Golden Gate Bridge, 2PM - 2:45PM. Meet an Anza Trail ranger at the bridge visitor center. Repeats Aug. 7 & 21
- Sat 19 Tubac Presidio Living History: Foods of the Spanish Colonial Period, 10AM - 2PM. Repeats Aug. 2 & Aug. 30. 1 Burruel St., Tubac, AZ 85646, (520) 398-2252 www.tubacpresidio.org
- Sat 19 Campbell, CA: Anza Trail Walk on Los Gatos Creek Trail, 10AM - 11:30AM. In partnership with Santa Clara County Parks and the Pioneers of Santa Clara County
- Fri 25 Presidio of San Francisco: In the Footsteps of Anza, 2PM - 4PM. A 2.5-mile walk along the Anza Trail. Meet at flagpole, Wedemeyer St. and 15th Ave. RSVP to 415-561-4323

August

- Sat 9 Bike San Jose to Alviso with the Anza Trail, 8:30AM - 12:30PM. 20-mile ride in partnership with the Guadalupe River Park Conservancy. \$15. Register at <http://www.grpg.org>
- Wed 20 Tucson's Birthday at the Presidio, 6PM - 8PM. Birthday cake and music. 133 Washington St., Tucson, AZ 85702, (520) 837-8119 www.tucsonpresidio.com
- 29 - 31 La Fiesta de San Gabriel. An annual weekend festival including the Saturday 6AM Walk of the Californians to Los Angeles. <http://www.sangabrielmissionchurch.org>

September

- Mon 1 Tubac, AZ: Pony Up for Anza Day, 5PM - 7PM. A community party to raise funds for Anza Day. Hosted by the Tubac Rotary. \$20 adults, \$15 for children under 12.
- Sat 6 San Jose: Anza Trail Talk at New Almaden, 11AM - 1PM. With an art and craft activity to follow. New Almaden Quicksilver Mining Museum: 21350 Almaden Rd, San Jose, CA 95120
- Sat 13 Green Valley: Pony Up for Anza at Canoa, 10AM - 2PM. Anza Day fundraiser hosted by BAJA. For more information visit <http://www.AnzaDays.org> or call (520) 289-3940
- Sat 27 Hayward: Latino Outdoors Anza Trail Walk at Garin/Dry Creek Pioneer Regional Park. Contact daniel_s_sanchez@nps.gov for details.

Noticias de Anza

Quarterly Magazine of the Anza Trail



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Find this newsletter online!
www.AnzaHistoricTrail.org

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.

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View From the Trail



In May, students from the Chico State Field School tackled a 14-mile hike of the Anza Trail through Henry Coe State Park near Gilroy, CA. The hike helped mark California State Parks' 150th anniversary.