NOTICIAS DE ANZA

Number 64 Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail Summer 2015

COYOTE VALLEY OPEN SPACE PRESERVE

Protecting Views of the Anza Trail in Silicon Valley

FIND YOUR PARK

photo credit: Open Space Authority

Where the Anza Trail Meets Silicon Valley:
The View from Coyote Valley Open Space Preserve

On June 27, 2015, as Anza Expedition descendants commemorated their ancestors' arrival at the Presidio of San Francisco, a new public land preserve opened 75 miles away that provides a sweeping vista of the route those colonists traveled.

The Coyote Valley Open Space Preserve, a 348-acre parcel near Morgan Hill, Calif., is now open for hiking, cycling, and connecting to the Bay Area's cultural history.

Above: Ribbon-cutting ceremonies at Coyote Valley Open Space Preserve near Morgan Hill, Calif., on June 27, 2015. Left: Sun setting over Coyote Valley grassland. All photos courtesy of Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority.

The preserve provides an elevated vantage point to see the valley traversed by the Anza Expedition as it brought the first non-Native settlers to the Bay Area in 1776. In the preserve is a ceremonial site for the Ohlone People who were impacted by colonization. And it is dotted with the same valley oaks and rare serpentine grasslands the Spanish encountered more than two centuries ago. For these reasons, the Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority, which manages the site, is pursuing certification as an interpretive site of the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail.

The Open Space Authority identified Coyote Valley as one of its top ten priority natural landscapes remaining in Santa Clara County. The Coyote Valley watershed is vital to the health of Silicon Valley's water supply, but the area has long felt the pressure of development. It sits between the growing communities of San Jose and Morgan Hill.

The Open Space Authority was able to purchase the preserve during the economic downturn in 2010.

Coyote Valley Open Space Preserve is now open to the public 365 days a year, from 7:00 a.m. to sunset, free of charge. This is the third public preserve opened by the Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority.

To reach the preserve from Highway 101, exit Bailey Ave. Turn right on Bailey, left on Santa Teresa Blvd., and right on Palm Ave.; the preserve entrance is at the end of Palm Avenue.

The Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority conserves the natural environment, supports agriculture, and connects people to nature, by protecting open spaces, natural areas, and working farms and ranches for future generations. Since 1993, the Open Space Authority has protected more than 16,000 acres of open space, preserving the region's scenic beauty, protecting water resources and other natural capital, and providing outdoor recreation opportunities for Santa Clara County residents. For more information visit www.openspaceauthority.org

Department of Interior Awards Phil Valdez, Jr.

Citizen's Award for Exceptional Service

Phil Valdez Jr., of Ukiah a long-time volunteer historian for the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail, received the U.S. Department of Interior Citizen's Award for Exceptional Service at a ceremony earlier this month.

Valdez is immediate past president of the Anza Society International, a nonprofit dedicated to the study of the life and times of Juan Bautista de Anza.

Anza was commander of the first overland colonizing expedition to present-day California.

Valdez's research on the Anza Expedition of 1775-76 has increased the public's understanding of California's Spanish colonial history. He holds a master's and doctorate in Business Administration.

Valdez traveled to the National Park Service Pacific West Regional Office in San Francisco on July 15 expecting a normal day of volunteering for the Anza Trail. Instead, National Park Service Associate Regional Director Stephanie Burkhart and Anza Trail Superintendent Naomi Torres surprised him with the award in the company of regional office staff.

The Citizen's Award for Exceptional Service is given by the U.S. Department of the Interior in recognition of outstanding performance by a private citizen, organizational partner or volunteer. Valdez's award recognizes his 12-plus years of service to the Anza Trail, including time spent as a goodwill ambassador for the trail in northern Mexico.

National Park Service staff present Phil Valdez, Jr., the Citizen's Award for Exceptional Service in San Francisco, July 15, 2015

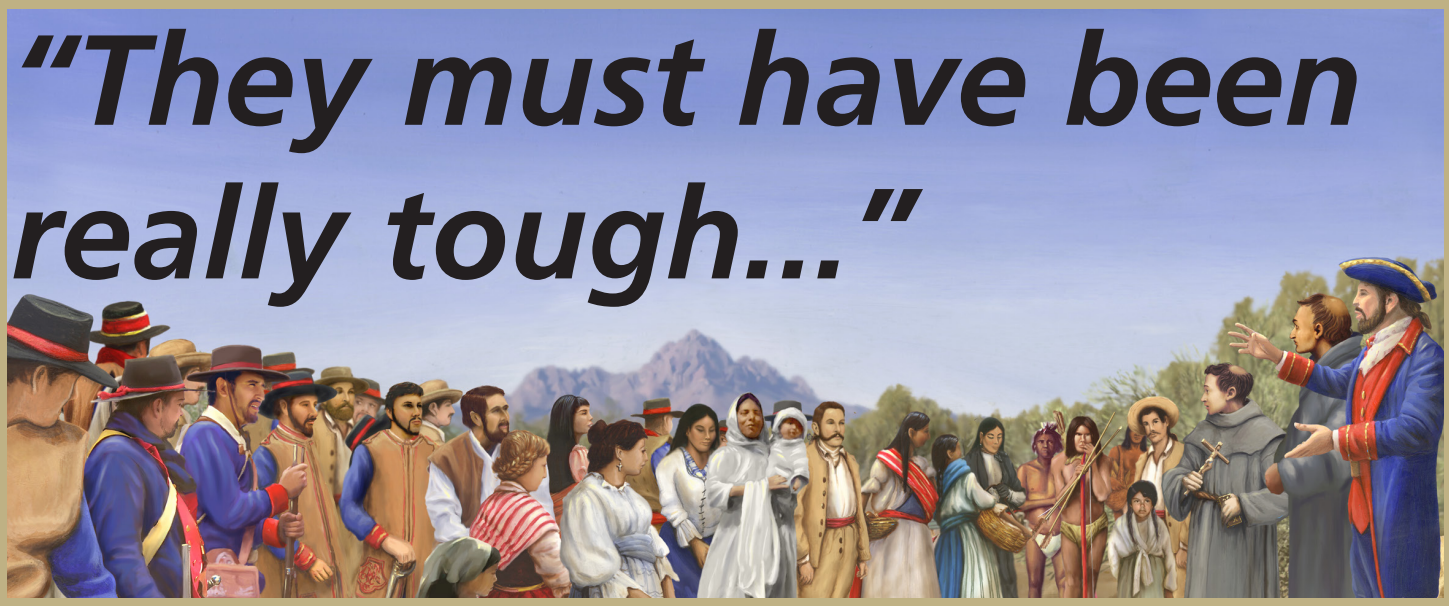
CITATION FOR THE CITIZEN'S AWARD FOR EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE: PHIL VALDEZ, JR.

In recognition of voluntary service for the National Park Service and demonstrating exceptional leadership in expanding international awareness of the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail.

Mr. Valdez has served as a historian advisor to the National Park Service for more than twelve years. Valdez is a descendant of Juan Bautista de Anza's courier; he has logged hundreds of hours and thousands of miles retracing the 1775-76 Anza Expedition, identifying historic campsite locations and increasing the public's knowledge of the first overland colonizing expedition to California. While concurrently serving as president of the Anza Society, Inc., a volunteer organization, Valdez organized conferences for citizen-historians to share research and invite others to learn about our country's Spanish colonial heritage. His 2013 conference in Monterey, CA, highlighted the Anza Trail in Fort Ord National Monument. His 2014 conference in the Mexican state of Sonora brought dozens of U.S.-based Anza enthusiasts together with Mexican historians and several state and local community officials.

Building on his relationship with Mexican Government officials from the state of Sonora, Mr. Valdez served as a symbolic representative of the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail on several trips to Sonora in 2013 and 2014. During this visits, he developed strong relations with the Mayor of Arizpe, Sonora, and several government representatives from the state of Sonora, Mexico. He spent countless hours sharing his extensive knowledge of the Anza Expedition and more importantly catalyzing an interest in presenting the Anza Expedition story in Sonora, Mexico. As a result of his efforts the Mexican agency Turismo Sonora developed La Ruta Turística de Anza, a counterpart to the Anza Trail in the U.S. Also, the town of Arizpe, Sonora, installed an interpretive wayside presenting Juan Bautista de Anza's burial site. While the National Park Service assumes no role in the work of its counterpart agencies in Mexico, Mr. Valdez was able to serve as an honorary representative and goodwill ambassador for their efforts.

For outstanding contributions to the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail, Phil Valdez, Jr., is granted the Citizen's Award for Exceptional Service of the Department of the Interior.



Reflections on Pasados del Presidio 2015
by Noble Henderson

Shots from the June 26 & 27, 2015, events commemorating the 1776 founding of the Presidio of San Francisco

Noble Henderson is researching the Anza Trail in order to earn a Boy Scouts National Historic Trails Award. He sent us this reflection from the Los Californianos ceremony at the Presidio of San Francisco, June 27, 2015:

I had a really great time at San Francisco's "Birthday" Celebration at the Presidio, celebrating 239 years since the Anza expedition arrived in San Francisco. I learned a lot about the history of the Presidio that I never knew. For example, I learned that three countries have been in charge of the Presidio; first Spain and then Mexico before the United States military.

In addition, I learned a lot about the trials and tribulations that affected the original colonists as they walked 1200+ miles to San Francisco. I did not realize before that San Francisco was founded by a small group of men, women and children walking across the desert like that.

The "birthday" celebration was also interesting. A park ranger who spoke had a lot to say about how the history of the Anza expedition was important and that it was great to have the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historical Trail to memorialize it and help educate the public about it. An archeologist talked about how they were doing excavations right behind where we were meeting.

We got to hear from several descendants of people in the Anza expedition. They talked about the importance of what their ancestors had done and how more people should know about it. I liked how many participants were dressed in historically accurate clothing. Compared to what I wear when I go hiking, I had a hard time thinking about walking across the desert dressed like Anza's colonists. They must have been really tough to walk so far across rough terrain dressed in such formal clothing.

I'm happy I got to attend this event and learn about the Anza expedition, the Anza trail, and San Francisco history. I highly recommend attending the 240th birthday party next year!

Anza Trail Color Guard Claims a Top Prize

by Dennis Carlos, Soldados y Californios de SoCal

Anza Trail partners the Dominguez Rancho Adobe Museum and Soldados y Californios de SoCal received a top honor for their Spanish colonial display at Old Fort MacArthur Days, July 11-12.

Calling themselves the Anza Trail Color Guard, Calif. Division, the contingent took the Lou Lopez Award for Best Overall Presentation and Educational Display. Representatives from the Anza Trail Color Guard in Arizona traveled to help bring their California peers' display to life.

Old Fort MacArthur Days is one of the West Coast's largest living history events in which re-enactors bring military history to life from around the world and across time. The event takes place every summer in San Pedro, Calif.

This year's Anza Trail Color Guard encampment included a scavenger hunt that gave visitors an opportunity to experience life on the Anza trail. Event participants could try period dancing, eat foods of the Anza Expedition, make corn husk dolls, and talk with Father Font as he instructed guests on how to make their own astrolabe.

Kids who completed the scavenger hunt activities earned an official Anza Trail Junior Ranger Badge.

The Lou Lopez Award is named for the late Lou Lopez, a long-time organizer of Old Fort MacArthur Days and an enthusiast of the Spanish colonial era. Lopez, who passed away in 2014, was known for his portrayal of Governor Alvarado.

For more information about Soldados y Californios de SoCal, visit http://soldadosycalifornios.webs.com/

SAVE THE DATE

Anza Society Conference Heading to Alamos, Sonora, March 2016

The **2015 Anza Society Conference in Pueblo, Colo.**, is just around the corner. (September 10 - 13; for details visit http://anzasociety.org/Meeting.html)

But it isn't too early to save the date and begin preparations for next year's conference, which heads south of the border to Alamos, Sonora!

The Anza Society is an organization dedicated to celebrating the life and times of Juan Bautista de Anza (1736-1788). Anza was captain of the Tubac Presidio and leader of the 1775-76 Alta California expedition that founded the City of San Francisco, California. He later was appointed governor of the Province of New Mexico in 1777 by the viceroy. The life and military accomplishments of his father, also named Juan Bautista de Anza, are likewise celebrated by the Anza Society.

The society holds its annual Juan Bautista de Anza International Conference in either Mexico or the United States as a forum for the study, interpretation, commemoration, and preservation of places and artifacts related to Anza.

Alamos, site of the 2016 conference, played a substantial role in the Anza Expedition. Founded in 1682, Alamos produced large quantities of silver, and in all likelihood, silver from her mines helped finance the expeditions to Alta California.

The March conference embraces the colonial charm of Alamos. Casa de los Tesoros, a 236-year old restored convent, is the conference headquarters. Centrally located near the town plaza and cathedral, the hotel offers rooms which are decorated to reflect the distinct styles of Spanish Colonial and Mexican heritage. All rooms have air-conditioning, private baths, high ceilings and fireplaces.

Transportation from Tucson to Alamos will be provided by South of the Border Tours.

Preliminary Itinerary:

Wednesday, March 2, 2016
Morning departure from Tucson, night in San Carlos

Thursday, March 3
Afternoon arrival in Alamos

Friday, March 4
Conference presentations

Saturday, March 5
Local walking tour and field trip to La Aduana

Sunday, March 6
Morning departure, night in San Carlos

Monday, March 7
Return to Tucson

Estimated all-inclusive price (per-person, double occupancy): $860-$920

The lowest price reflects a room with two twin beds. Prices increase with double, queen and king beds. The price for a single supplement is $135.

The price does not include hotel and meals in Tucson.

If you are interested in registering for the conference, please contact Stella Cardoza at cardozas@cox.net.

THE DIRT ON ADOBE

by Hale Sargent, Anza Trail Interpretive Specialist

If you work with Spanish colonial history, you've probably felt obligated at some point to conduct an adobe brick making demonstration.

And why not?

Adobe is literally a building block of Southwest history, and making it gives kids permission to get their hands dirty.

But I've often felt that adobe activities are more fun and messy than they are meaningful.

So at this year's heritage event at the Presidio of San Francisco, we made two easy adjustments to the activity. Our goal was to bake a little more thought into our adobe bricks.

Adaptation #1: The Most Important Ingredient is Labor

The temptation when leading a young audience through an adobe demonstration is to focus on the bricks themselves. At a typical event, kids make the adobe mixture, press the goo into forms, and leave their miniature bricks out in the sun to dry. It's fun and easy.

But that approach ignores a dirty truth about making adobe—back in the 18th century, there was nothing fun or easy about it.

As William Deverell writes in *Whitewashed Adobe* (University of California Press, 2004), "There is no easy job in a brickyard. Digging hard clay from the ground, pulverizing it, adding water, shaping bricks from the mixture…stacking these into endless pile after pile after pile—it is all backbreaking labor. A brickyard is a swarm of labor."

To me, what's meaningful about adobe is not that it might contain manure ("Ewww!"). It's that our remaining adobe structures are a tangible reminder of the hard labor – both forced and freely given – at our community's foundation.

I see an adobe wall, and I think of the settlers who toiled to make a society in a faraway land. If

If you could spell something with your adobe bricks-what would it be ?

you showed up in a new town and had to build everything from scratch, what would you do? Where would you start?

And I especially think of Indians that the Spanish undoubtedly coerced – forcefully or not – into building their earliest forts and missions. What would it be like to erect someone else's structures on your land, the very structures intended to replace your way of life?

These are complex questions, ones that often take a back seat once kids are wrist-deep in the muddy adobe stew. So how can you introduce these concepts?

Chances are your activity begins with a recitation of the adobe ingredients, and this is your opportunity. Any list that includes clay or straw but forgets "labor" is incomplete.

Once you've covered ALL the ingredients, ask the kids which one they think is most important. See where the conversation goes. Then roll up your sleeves and get messy.

Adaptation #2: What Would You Build?

At a typical demonstration, kids make their model bricks and then lay them out to dry. Some kids come back to retrieve them later, but most don't, and at the end of the day you are surrounded by useless clumps of mud.

This, too, can be an opportunity to find meaning in the adobe.

Once kids have built their bricks, instead of putting them off to the side to dry, offer them the chance to "build" something with their bricks. We outlined words on a big roll of paper – HOME, SAN FRANCISCO, FAMILY, etc. – and asked kids to use their brick to fill in whatever word they wanted to help construct.

Some still came back later to collect their bricks, but most didn't, and by the end of the day our participants had spelled out some meaningful ideas, all with adobe.

If you could spell something with your adobe bricks, what would it be?

El Cerrito Historical Society Brings Anza Trail to the Heart of Town

BriAnna Weldon, Outdoor Recreation Planner for the Anza Trail, shares a draft of an interpretive panel with the El Cerrito Historical Society, May 2015.

El Cerrito, Calif., in Contra Costa County, is embracing the Anza Trail in a big way.

The El Cerrito Historical Society is leading an effort to highlight the historic trail with streetlight banners along San Pablo Avenue, the town's major commercial district.

The project is notable in that the highly visible banners commemorate the *historic corridor* of the Anza Expedition where it overlaps San Pablo Avenue. In contrast, most of the more visible signage along the Anza Trail provides wayfinding for the trail's Auto Route and Recreation Trails.

In addition to six large streetlight banners, the city will install an interpretive wayside exhibit about the Anza Expedition near City Hall.

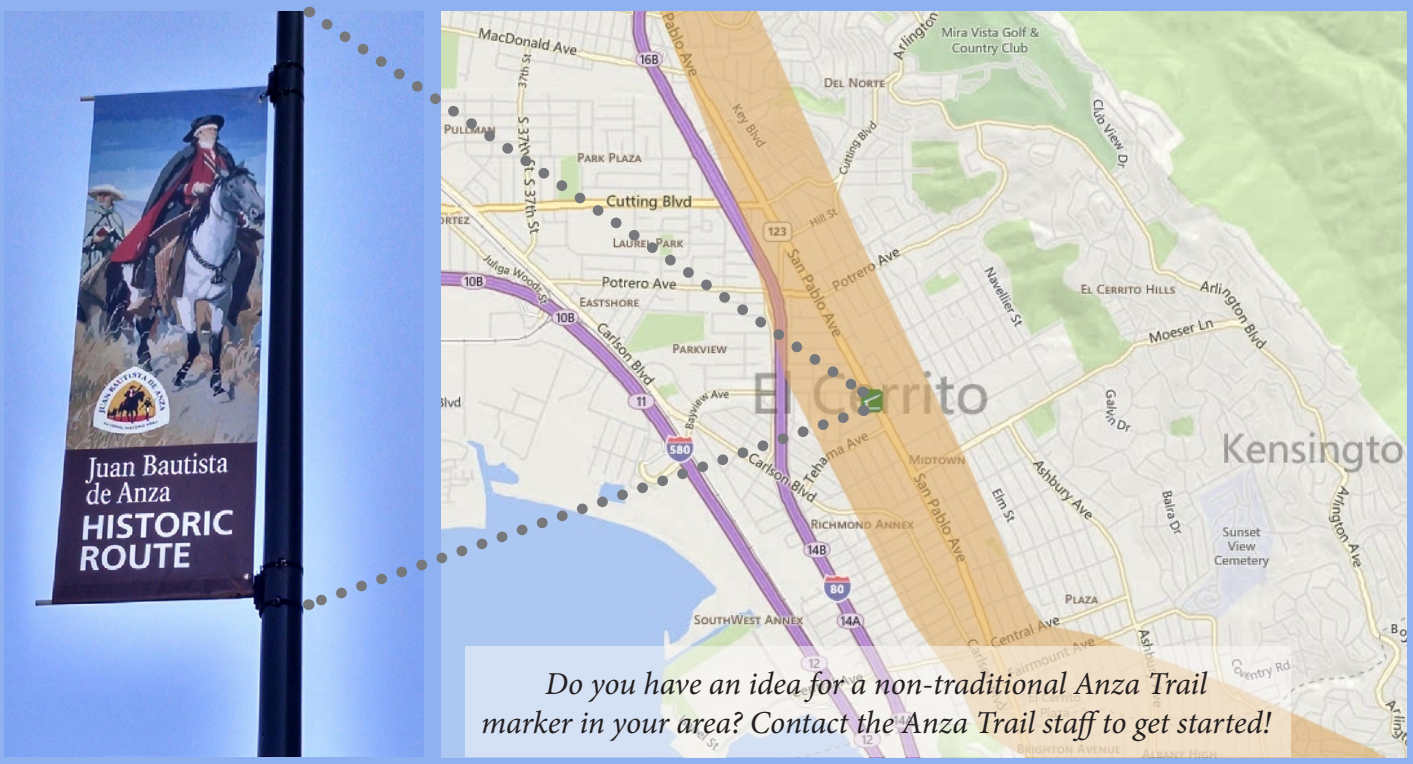
The streetlight banners can serve as a model for other major commercial thoroughfares that overlap with the migration route of California's first overland colonizing expedition, such as El Camino Real Boulevard in San Mateo County, MacArthur Boulevard in Oakland, or even Hollywood Boulevard in Los Angeles.

The El Cerrito signage was a passion project for Tom Panas, Joanne Rubio, and Howdy Goudey of the El Cerrito Historical Society -- with the support of Suzanne Iarla and Melanie Mintz from the City of El Cerrito -- who worked with the National Park Service over the course of a year on planning and design.

A grant from the Anza Trail Foundation supported the project.

The partners will dedicate the banners and signage on National Park Service Founder's Day, August 25, in honor of the National Park Service Centennial.

"Spring, El Cerrito 1776" by Nicholas Rubio and Gail DeRosa was commissioned by the El Cerrito Historical Society for use on an Anza Trail interpretive wayside exhibit to be unveiled August 25, 2015.



Do you have an idea for a non-traditional Anza Trail marker in your area? Contact the Anza Trail staff to get started!

THANK YOU TO OUR TRAILS & RAILS VOLUNTEERS FOR ANOTHER GREAT SEASON!

In addition to our veteran Santa Barbara-based docents, this year saw the introduction of a San Jose-based crew on board the Amtrak Coast Starlight. One of our new docents, **Walt Fant**, shared his thoughts about his first summer volunteering with the program:

"After three trips back and forth between San Jose and San Luis Obispo, what I have found most enjoyable for me is meeting and interacting with the passengers and the other trail guides.

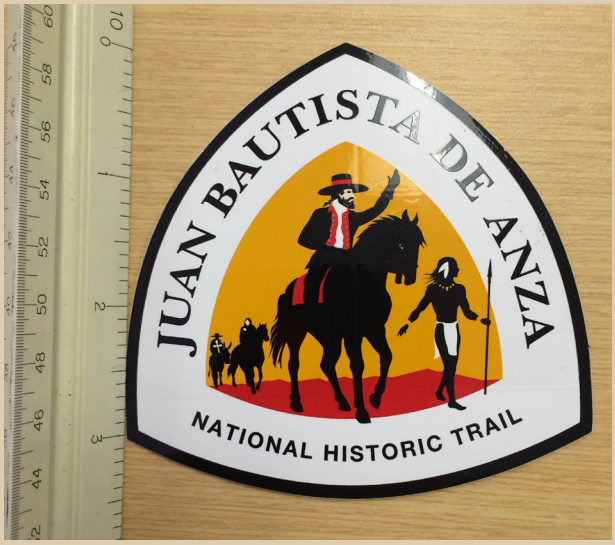
"The other nine trail guides have, without exception, been ones which I have been pleased to add to my list of friends - each interesting in their own personalities and in their personal interests.

"When I first started, to be honest, I had some concern about whether all the passengers would be pleased to have their reverie interrupted with reports of how Gilroy was named or why tunnel 5 1/2 is called by such an unusual number. But contrary to my concern, I have heard no such reservations expressed, but in fact just the opposite.

"Perhaps for me, the one most rewarding opposite opinion was when a passenger told me how fortunate he felt to be on board on a day when NPS rangers, assigned the role of Trails & Rails guides, were telling him of the details of the Anza trail in conjunction with the details of local facts and history.

"All my trips so far have been as 'in-training', and so I look forward to being in uniform next week and for the first time as a carrier of the NPS flag myself."

Contact BriAnna and restock your trail marker stash! We have some 3x3" vinyl stickers available, first come first served! brianna_weldon@nps.gov



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

August

Sat 8 — Monterey, CA. 11AM - 12:30PM. Anza Trail film showing and Q&A with Monterey State Historic Park, Spear Warehouse, 525 Polk St., Monterey CA 93940.

September

Mon 7 — Tubac, AZ. "Pony Up for Anza Days!" Fundraiser. 5PM - 7PM. Come to a community BBQ to raise funds for the Anza Day reenactment. $25 adults, $15 for children under 12. Tickets available from the Tubac Chamber of Commerce: http://www.tubacaz.com.

Sat 19 — Morgan Hill, CA. Family Harvest Feast at Coyote Valley Open Space (see cover story)

October

Sat 3 — Nogales, AZ. Sunset Fandango at Las Lagunas de Anza with the Anza Ambassador Club.

Sat 17 — Anza Day in Tubac and Tumacacori -- One of the signature annual events along the Anza Trail.

Sun 25 — Green Valley, AZ. 3rd Annual Anza Day at Historic Hacienda de la Canoa. 9AM - 1PM. Featuring the Anza Coalition Color Guard, family activities and fun. www.pima.gov/nrpr

TBD — Picacho Peak State Park Commemoration of Anza Trail. Volunteers will mark the expedition's passage through Pinal County with a table near the Mesquite Ramada). Contact maguirrevogler@aol.com for more information.

November

Sat 7 — Milpitas, CA. Anza Trail hike with Santa Clara County Parks. 10AM - 1:30PM. Contact daniel_s_sanchez@nps.gov

Sun 22 — San Jose, CA. Happy Birthday San Jose. 1PM - 4PM family activities at the Peralta Adobe, 175 West Saint John St., San Jose CA 95110

Noticias de Anza

Quarterly Magazine of the Anza Trail

Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail
333 Bush St. Suite 500 | San Francisco, CA 94104
415.623.2344

Anza Trail Foundation
1180 Eugenia Pl. Suite 220, Carpinteria, CA 93013

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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.

View From the Trail

Friends of Griffith Park and City of Los Angeles Park Rangers organized a workshop on the Anza Trail May 16, 2015.