NOTICIAS DE ANZA

Volume 2 Number 1 Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail March 1993

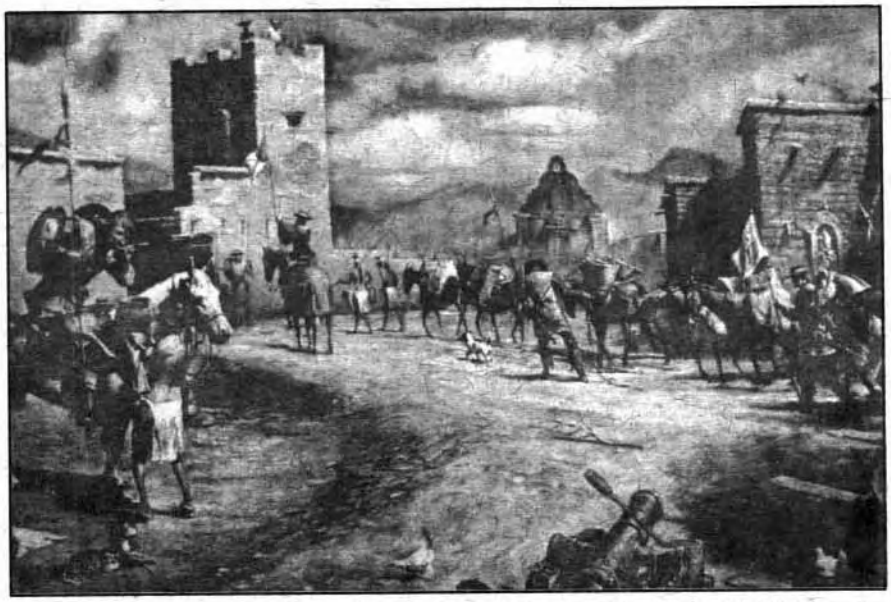
Meet Capitán Anza

Summarized from information written by Dr. Jack S. Williams, Executive Director of the Center for Spanish Colonial Archaeology, Tubac, Arizona.

From San Francisco to Santa Fe, Juan Bautista de Anza's fame has assumed legendary proportions. Although he never stepped foot in Spain, and he considered himself a Basque, Anza is one of the best-known "Spaniards" of eighteenth-century Arizona. But who was the man behind the icon?

Documents help shed light on the events of his life. Born in 1736, he served as a soldier, explorer, and administrator. He played an influential part in the development of Sonora (which then included much of modern Arizona), California and New Mexico. In 1788, Anza died at the age of 52 in Arizpe, Sonora.

Excavations provide evidence that can help us understand the life and times of Capitán Anza. The largest artifact he left behind is his ruined house in Tubac which has erroneously come to be called "the presidio." Data collected by the Center for Spanish Colonial Archaeology forms the following picture of life in the Casa de Anza. *(Continued on page 2)*



The "Casa de Anza" depicted during the presidio era, about 1766. Painting by Bill Ahrendt courtesy of Arizona Highways and of Bob Barnacastle at Tubac Presidio State Historic Park.

Task Forces Set to Work

All along the 1200-mile Anza route, in most of the nineteen counties of two states, volunteers are working to develop information for the National Historic Trail's comprehensive management plan. They are reading the expedition diaries, pouring over topographic maps, investigating the potential of recreation trails, identifying historic and cultural sites along the route, listing rare, threatened, or endangered plant and animal species within the trail corridor, determining places where interpretation should take place, and suggesting what the interpretive themes should be for each segment of the trail. And, they report they're having fun!

Trail "junkies," "desert rats," equestrians, hikers, bikers, urban walkers, wildlife enthusiasts, descendants of the original expedition members, Spanish colonial history buffs, genealogists, Native Americans, cultural anthropologists, archaeologists, planners, landscape architects, reenactment participants,

(Continued on page 5)

("Capitán" Continued)

The Anza residence was the largest building in colonial Tubac. Crude by the standard of the European elite, it was nonetheless a palace when compared with the homes of other frontiersmen or any other commandant's house on the Spanish frontier. The house was bought by Anza in 1760 for 1,000 pesos (then a small fortune), after he became the captain of the garrison.

The house was the only fortified structure in the settlement. It looked like a small fortress with numerous gun slits cut through otherwise blank adobe exterior walls. Here soldiers kept a vigil twenty-four hours a day. Beneath the guardhouse in the southeastern corner of the structure was a powder magazine which could serve as a dungeon.

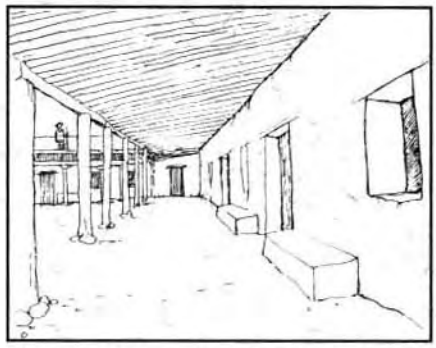
A fortified gate served as the entrance to the house and its plaza. This open space was surrounded by wooden porticos that provided shade during the blistering summer months. The building's only windows opened up to the plaza.

When the settlement was threatened by marauders, the church bell was rung and the settlement's residents crowded into the plaza for protection. Evidence that a ferocious struggle once took place at the Casa de Anza can be found throughout the ruins in the form of musket balls, projectile points, and broken fragments of firearms.

Within the building, the Anza family apartments consisted of a large suite of rooms. The floors were of hardened earth, the walls covered with white plaster. Bright red and dark green decorations were painted along the base of some of the walls. In a few rooms, fancy pieces of cloth and elaborate woven blankets adorned the walls.

Bedrooms were furnished with beds made from wood and hide, large chests, and numerous benches. The dining room contained a large wooden table. Guests would have drunk from glass goblets and eaten from majolica, porcelain, and silver plates with brass and silver eating utensils.

Goods from all over the Spanish empire were collected in a large room serving as the Captain's store. Brightly painted Chinese porcelain plates and majolica jars filled the shelves. Boxes containing chocolate, soap, Catalonian muskets, knives, swords, spurs, and bolts of cloth from Europe, Mexico, and the Far East covered the floor. These items could be purchased by the soldiers and settlers at the post. The profits from the sales were strictly regulated.



Conjectural reconstruction of the porticos at the Captains' house, circa 1766. From Archaeological Investigations at the Captains' House at the Presidio of Tubac 1992 by Jack S. Williams.

The walls of Anza's private office were lined with books, ledgers, presidio reports, court proceedings and various legal codes, for Anza was the chief judicial figure in the area. His brother, Francisco, probably occupied this office. He served as the family's business manager and accountant, watching over the numerous family stock ranches in Arizona and Sonora while Don Juan was occupied with military responsibilities.

Cooking took place out-of-doors in adjacent areas equipped with rectangular estufas (stoves) and rounded hornos (ovens). A ramada protected the cooks from the weather. Yaqui servants prepared the Anza's meals and cleaned the house. Most of the cooking technologies and tools used had Indian origins.

Perhaps the best-preserved vestige of Anza's life is found in the desert setting itself. The same physical world he saw surrounds the trail from Tumacácori to Tubac. The trees still provide a shaded pathway as stark mountains tower above the horizon line. Birds fill the air with music that he listened to over two hundred years ago. If spirits walk the earth, the ghost of Juan Bautista de Anza surely haunts the trail. I imagine that from the secret places in the darkening shadow, he beckons to the visitor. He whispers in the silence to those who seek him.

Continuing investigations by the Center of Spanish Colonial Archaeology in Tubac disclose a variety of other features that help us understand Anza's life. Volunteers are welcome to participate in the Tubac investigations which operate year 'round at the site. For information about the Center's publications and programs, write to Dr. Jack S. Williams, Center for Spanish Colonial Archaeology, 1743 South Standage, Mesa, AZ 85202. ±

Notes from Heritage Trails

A regular feature by Doni Hubbard

The tone of Anza'a diary as he sums up the events of January 21, 1774 is weary and resigned. The mules he had been promised were "stacks of bones" and "no march was made on this day because (their) muleteer who left (them) at the presidio of Altar to go to the mining camp of Cieneguilla to get shoes for his mules, did not arrive with them as he had agreed."

If only Juan Bautista de Anza could see all the activity and follow-through on his behalf today! Disappearing muleteers could take a lesson from our enthusiastic and devoted Heritage Trail Fund county cooperators.

In Santa Barbara County, **Vie Obern** is hard at work with Anza descendants on a special trail event timed to coincide with National Trails Day on June 5. "Descendants of the original settlers who founded the city of San Francisco in 1776 have offered to help with the event which will include a barbecue with those who re-enacted the Expedition in 1976 and those today working on the trail," states Vie in the Santa Barbara County Trails Council newsletter. "Soldados de Cuera from El Presidio de Santa Barbara State Historic Park will also participate. We hope a portion of the trail may be opened on that date."

In Santa Clara County, strong enthusiasm for the National Park Service trail mapping kits has generated highly productive mapping sessions and a growing cadre of new volunteers. County Cooperators **Steve Haze, Joan Throgmorton**, and **Joe Adamo** are covering all the bases and then some. Steve's mapping efforts brought him to the attention of **Paul Bernal**, a descendant of **Jose Joaquin Bernal**, one of De Anza's settlers. The foundations of a Bernal adobe and a Muwekma Ohlone burial ground are in the path of a subdivision planned for nine homes next to Santa Teresa County Park.

In the San Jose Mercury News, Steve Haze was quoted as describing the lot as "one of the major sites in the county" and "highly desirable" for interpreting the Anza expedition.

Less controversial, but equally intense, is the Santa Clara County group's highly organized and conscientious effort to follow De Anza's diary faithfully as they map the route. **Kay Robinson**, a ranger from Henry Coe State Park, has given the group a big boost with her map expertise. **Phil Valdez**, a descendant of Anza's courier **Juan Valdez**, has an "inch by inch" knowledge of the trail and a fluency in Spanish which has proven immensely valuable to the committee.

Phil's 15-year study of the De Anza expedition has been spurred by his fascination with the explorer's ability to lead, his qualities that brought those who followed him in harmony across desert and snow. "He had to have loved what he was doing and conveyed this love to others."

Rancher and committee member **Doug Reynaud's** knowledge of the land on foot and horseback and **Phyllis Drake's** computer skills and experience with the 1976 re-enactment work well with the committee's goal as expressed by Kay Robinson: to "figure out the trail roughly, then use the diaries, our common sense, and real knowledge of the land to get the trail back to its most original course." To this end, Kay juxtaposed the Font diary with the Anza diary to gain the extra information and because "Font is more readable."

Were he alive today, Captain Anza would be mightily impressed with all this effort. I know I am.

Speaking of effort, I was contacted recently by **Lisa Wood** of San Diego who has been planning for over a year to follow on horseback the route of J. Smeaton Chase the writer-photographer whose turn of the century classic, California Coastal Trails, is still popular with history buffs. In planning her horseback odyssey, Lisa has received particular help from HTF cooperator **Linda Palmer** in Los Angeles and Ventura counties.

As there are numerous references to Anza's expedition in Chase's writings, I suggested that Lisa compare notes with our county crews to see how much the trail routes have in common. This

suggestion sparked her hope that some De Anza faithful may join up with her in the various counties and ride a portion of the trail. If you are interested, you can phone Lisa Wood at (619) 229-8829.

No matter how rough the ride, it's sure to have some elegant moments. Lisa says much help and encouragement has come from Santa Ynez Valley horsewoman and movie star, **Bo Derek**.

These brief notes are only the tip of the iceberg as far as representing all the effort being made on behalf of preserving De Anza's historic route. The word "effort" doesn't tell you a thing either about all the fun everyone is having along the way. All of you volunteers, please accept my sincere appreciation on behalf of Heritage Trails Fund and the National Park Service for your valuable and generous work to preserve a piece of history. I've worked with a lot of volunteers over the years. The volunteers on the Anza Trail are the cream of the crop. ±

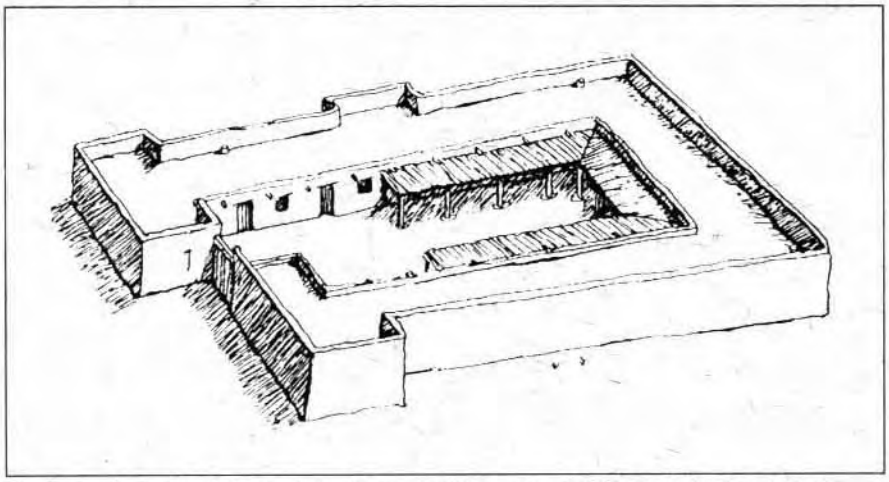
An International Trail?

Submitted by Don Garate

Arizonans and representatives of Nogales, Sonora, met on January 15, 1993 at the city hall in Nogales, Sonora, Mexico to examine ways to commemorate the 600 miles of the historic trace followed by Juan Bautista de Anza and his group of colonizers in what is today Mexico. The Sonorans at the meeting thought a first step should be a highway designation and marking of Mexico Route 15, which closely follows the trail. The group also discussed ways the United States might cooperate in forming the first "international" historic trail.

A steering committee was formed to bring together nearly thirty historic, cultural, and civic organizations within the states of Sonora, Sinaloa, and Baja, California to determine the best means of approaching the Mexican Government. Alberto Suárez Barnett of the Sociedad Sonorense de Historia, Juan Rico, Directór del Ayuntamiento de Nogales, Sonora, and Profesór Manuel Valenzuela Lapizco, Directór de la Casa de Cultura, will head the committee.

Others in attendance at the meeting, representing Nogales, Sonora were Patricia Ximenez Flores, Adalberto Monarque A., Directór del Archivo Histórico Municipal, and Jesus C. Rios, Ingeriero Civíl. Those in attendance from Arizona were Richard Williams, President of the Anza Trail coalition of Arizona, and coalition members, Lois Mamer, Tim Hait, Roy Ross, Don Garate, and Susan Clark Spater; John Bezy and Andrew Amann from the National Park Service; and Eduardo Duran from the Santa Cruz County Zoning and Planning Department. ±



Conjectural sketch of the Captains' house in Tubac, circa 1766. From Archaeological Investigations at the Captains' House at the Presidio of Tubac 1992 by Jack S. Williams.

The Search for Descendants

Vickie Duarte Cordova, an expedition descendant and a member of *Los Pobladores* of Los Angeles, is coordinating the search for Anza descendants to join the comprehensive management plan process. She can be reached at (818) 357-7026.

Vickie's effort, along with names of all of the expedition colonists, was written up by Marie Northrup in the California Historian, a Publication of the Conference of California Historical Societies, Vol. 39, No. 2, December 1992. Marie is a noted genealogist whose book, Spanish-Mexican Families of Early California: 1769-1850, contains the genealogies of the Anza expedition members. ±

Anza Trail Outing

Summarized from articles in the OCTA "Trail Talk", No. 16, July 1992

"The Anza-Borrego Desert in bloom, perfect weather, and the historic Anza Trail to follow, as we zigzagged through the desert, in a wash, out of a wash, around a rut, and Oh, No!, down a bank, then back up again. What a fine time we had! After seeing where they had to go, Juan Bautista de Anza and his party will never be just names in a book again." So reported Ed Maier of the Oregon-California Trails Association (OCTA) about the group's outing in March of 1992.

Twenty-six OCTA members, led by Neal Johns, took three days to retrace via four-wheel drive Anza's route from near Calexico to the town of Anza in Riverside County just 218 years and two days after the historic expedition. They especially enjoyed remembering the expedition's spirited fandango celebration after its successful crossing of the desert at San Sebastian (Harper's Well, today).

Father Font describes the event in the following words: "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."

For more information about OCTA, contact A.D. Reed, 328-12th Street, Davis, CA 95616. ±

If you know the answers to the puzzlers on the back page, contact Meredith Kaplan.

Global Positioning System Technology

Summarized from information provided by Jim Schmid

Jim Schmid, the Coronado National Forest Trails Coordinator, has offered Global Positioning System (GPS) technology to the Anza Trail Coalition of Arizona as a means of mapping the segment of trail between Tumacácori and Tubac Presidio.

GPS is a satellite-based radio navigation/positioning system. A hand-held receiver computes its location in 3-dimensional space by analyzing signals received from four GPS satellites. If the GPS receiver can simultaneously determine the distance to all four satellites, with the position of each satellite known, the receiver can then compute its position on the earth (latitude/longitude/elevation).

The GPS receiver can continuously record location readings at regular intervals. Computer software can then generate a line from the many recorded points and fit the line on USGS base maps.

The GPS technology is user friendly and mobile. People with little technical training can use the recorder. The equipment can be carried in a backpack or on a bicycle.

Since the trail in Santa Cruz County, Arizona follows the Santa Cruz River and crosses it twice, mapping its exact location is difficult using conventional methods. The River recently changed course during flooding. The GPS will help the Coalition locate the trail accurately.

Other county task forces may want to see if a US Forest Service or Bureau of Land Management office nearby may be able to make this equipment available. ±

("Task Forces" continued)

Franciscans, teachers, Hispanics, youth organizations — all are finding common ground as they work together to plan what the Anza Trail can mean to their counties.

If you want to join in, contact Meredith Kaplan, National Park Service Anza Trail Coordinator, at 415/744-3968 or at the return address. We are still looking for County Coordinators in Ventura County in California, and in Pinal, Maricopa, and Pima Counties in Arizona. ±

"The actual route should be marked. That way, people can see the original utility of the street they are walking on."

– George Cardinet, Contra Costa

Anza Analyzed

Donald T. Garate and Maria de Lourdes Gortarez, Park Rangers at Tumacácori National Historical Park, have completed a documentary analysis of the surname of Juan Bautista de Anza. They have sent copies of their 130-page compilation to National Park, State Park, and other interpretive sites along the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail in California and Arizona.

The compilation contains photocopies of fifty-three original documents written and signed by Anza, his contemporaries, and his family, which show that he was called "Anza" not "de Anza" when not using his full legal title.

Garate and Gortarez ask historical interpreters along the trail to become intimately familiar with the history of the man and his times and to refer to him with the same designation as those who knew him.

Those who would like to obtain a copy of this analysis may contact Meredith Kaplan at the return address on this newsletter. ±

Cartas

Following is Don Garate's response to Robert Franco's letter printed in "Cartas" in the last issue of Noticias. Mr. Garate and Maria de Lourdes Gortarez have prepared a "Documentary Analysis of the Surname of Juan Bautista de Anza." This 130 page document is available upon request from the National Park Service. See the accompanying article.

The letter from Mr. Franco is correct. Neither I, nor anyone else, has the right to change another's family name. Therefore, let us examine the Anza family name.

1. Anza is a Basque name. Juan Bautista's father and at least three generations of his paternal grandfathers were born and raised in the Basque village of Hernani, Guipuzcoa. The name is toponymic, not patronymic. It has a distinct meaning in Basque. It has no meaning in Spanish. The "de" has no meaning in Basque or in the name. Consequently, rules of Spanish name etymology do not apply.

2. Because of universal nobility, guaranteed to all Basques by the Spanish Crown, without exception, a "de" was recorded in front of all their surnames at birth to indicate the family name on which their nobility was based. It was not part of their surname.

3. Anza signed official documents with his full title of nobility — **Juan Bautista de Anza**. Less prestigious documents, of which there are volumes, were signed with only his surname — **Anza**. Never, when he left the Juan Bautista off, did he ever sign his name "de Anza." Similarly, when his contemporaries referred to him by surname, not title, they always called him "Señor Anza," "Capitán Anza," "Governador Anza," or just "Anza." Nowhere, in the voluminous correspondence of his era, when the Juan Bautista is omitted, is there a reference to "de Anza." That is a modern and erroneous tradition.

It is fitting that the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail carries his formal title of nobility. When referring to him by surname, however, we should make reference to "Anza," the "Anza Trail," and the "Anza Expedition," just as he and those who knew him did. ±

Along the Trail...

✦ The Pima County Park and Recreation Department received $93,500 from the Arizona Heritage Fund to construct 0.8 miles of a paved, handicapped accessible, ten foot wide trail along the Santa Cruz River in the community of Green Valley. Ultimately, the trail may be three miles long. The trail connects neighborhoods with the river. Robie Pardee reports that the grant application was helped by noting the trail is within the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail corridor.

✦ Pima County has recognized the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail in its Comprehensive Plan, adopted by the County Board of Supervisors, October 1992. Barbara Strelke, Senior Planner, shepherded the trail through the process. Two counties have now recognized the trail in their general plans. Only seventeen to go!

✦ The City of Atascadero in San Luis Obispo County has officially adopted the day that Anza passed through, March 4, as De Anza Day.

✦ Santa Barbara County plans a National Trails Day celebration on June 5 with a barbecue for those

ANUNCIOS

As work has progressed over the last couple of months, some of the County Coordinators have changed. Here is the up-to-date list. Please contact your local coordinator to become involved in gathering information for the comprehensive management plan.

ARIZONA	Anza Trail Coalition of Arizona, overall coordinator for the state and for Santa Cruz County, Richard Williams, President (602)398-2252
YUMA COUNTY	Gwen Robinson (602) 329-0471
CALIFORNIA	Doni Hubbard, overall volunteer coordinator for the state (415) 948-4118
ALAMEDA	Geoffrey Carter (510) 568-5812
	Alice Quinn (510) 373-6966
CONTRA COSTA COUNTY	Stuart and Mary Christopherson (510) 634-4888
IMPERIAL COUNTY	Joan Swain (619) 353-2190
	Evelyn & Charles Zinn (619) 352-3078
LOS ANGELES COUNTY	Linda Palmer, President Santa Monica Mountains Trail Council (818) 222-4531
	Melissa Lovelady (818) 360-6587
	Ruth Kilday (310) 456-7154
MONTEREY COUNTY	Helen Shropshire, California Heritage Guides (408) 373-6454
RIVERSIDE COUNTY	Jeannie Gillen (909) 677-8028
SAN BENITO COUNTY	Ann Phillips (408) 636-5337
SAN DIEGO COUNTY	Kelly Jorgenson (619) 767-3662
SAN FRANCISCO COUNTY	Milo Schmidt (415) 621-5339
SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY	Sheila Kandell (209) 835-8733
SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY	Myra Douglas (805) 466-8061
	Patty Hawes (805) 929-5592
	Kirk Carmichael (805) 528-8206
SAN MATEO COUNTY	Dale Ryman (415) 851-7605
SANTA BARBARA COUNTY	Vie Obern (805) 682-3175
SANTA CLARA COUNTY	Joe Adamo (408) 252-6065
	Stephen Haze at work (408) 737-5261
	Joan Throgmorton (408) 842-5570
VENTURA COUNTY	Gina Smurthwaite (805) 494-4078

We still need coordinators in PINAL, MARICOPA, and PIMA COUNTIES, AZ. ⸸

who reenacted the expedition in 1976 and for those today working on the trail. Descendants of the expedition members and Soldados de Cuera from El Presidio de Santa Barbara State Historic Park will also participate. Contact Vie Obern, (805) 682-3175.

✦ Santa Barbara County Parks Department is working with planners on two possible segments of the Anza Trail: one mile of multi-use trail on the ARCO property between Eagle Canyon and Naples just east of Dos Pueblos Ranch and a segment in Santa Barbara Shores County Park. Contact Vie Obern.

✦ *E Clampus Vitus* has succeeded in having Yuha Wells, an Anza campsite in Imperial Valley, designated a State Historical Landmark. The monument will be placed at the Seeley Rest Stop on Interstate 8 and will be dedicated on April 24, 1993. Dr. Eugene Chamberlin, the organization's historian, completed all of the paperwork required for the registration. Contact Martin Fitzurka, (619) 352-9650.

✦ The Serra Museum on Presidio Hill in San Diego has been suggested by Jack Williams (see feature article) as a logical place to orient people to the Anza Trail. The Museum focuses on the Spanish and Mexican period in California history. Anza visited the very site of the museum on his military excursion to San Diego from San Gabriel during the 1775-76 expedition. Contact Jack Williams, (602) 850-5492. ⸸

A Resolution of Support (for all your efforts)

The California Recreational Trails Committee adopted a resolution of support for the Anza Trail on December 4, 1992 recognizing the historical, cultural, and natural value of the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail and supporting the efforts of the National Park Service and other agencies and citizens working to bring the trail to reality.

The resolution encourages each county and city along the route to include the trail in its general plans and all land managers along the route to work to implement the goals of the comprehensive management plan once it is approved. ±

Corrections:

Submitted by Mary Haggland of Riverside who is soon to publish a book on California's Spanish Pioneers:

The *first* colonists to arrive *overland* in California were led by Lieutenant José Francisco Ortega from Velicaté, Baja California, to San Diego. The 51 colonists (ten single men and eleven families, including nineteen children) arrived on September 26, 1774. Prior to that, six Spanish families had come by sea with Padre Presidente Serra, some disembarking in San Diego on March 13, 1774; others at Monterey on May 9, 1774.

Both F.J. de Larios and Mary Haggland provided the correct spelling of the Spanish words for the leather-coated soldiers: "Soldado(s) de Cuera" not "Cuero." ±

Puzzlers

Who named Font's Point and Anza's Angel in Anza-Borrego Desert State Park?

From Mission San Gabriel to Monterey, did Anza follow the "Golden Highway," the alleged trail of mustard flowers sewn by Father Serra? *See p. 5 col. 1.*

If you would like to be on the mailing list to receive a copy of this newsletter, or if you have questions about the comprehensive management plan for the Anza Trail, please contact: Meredith Kaplan, National Park Service, Western Regional Office, telephone: 415/ 744-3968.

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The Newsletter of the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail

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San Francisco, CA 94107-1372
(Attention: Meredith Kaplan)

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