



MEAF News Letter

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MIMBRES-PAQUIME CONNECTION PLANS MOVE FORWARD

Dr. Antonio Mesa Estrada, Consul General for the Mexican Consulate in El Paso, has joined the team in moving the Mimbres-Paquime Connection forward. Meetings have been held and plans set into motion to make the public aware of the connection between the Mimbres and Paquime cultures. Plans have also been set forth to make a tourist route from the Silver City, NM area to Casas Grandes, Chih. to help the public learn about these cultures. MEAF will take an active partnership role in the planning and implementation of this international project.



Up Coming Events

- Environmental Education Workshop to be held in Cd. Victoria ,Tamaulipas Mexico August 27-31, 2001.
- Park Protection Workshop held at Parque Ecologico Chipinque, Monterrey, Nuevo Leon September 17-21, 2001.
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- Mimbres-Paquime Connection Trail Symposium held in Deming, New Mexico October 26-28, 2001.
- 6th International Coloquium on the Camino Real de Tierra Adentro to be held in Aguascalientes, Mexico October 10-12, 2001.
- Camino Real de Tierra Adentro General Management Planning Workshop to be held in Zacatecas, Mexico November 11-15, 2001.
- Bi-national Environmental Assessment Training Course of the Sonoran Desert Fall 2001.

International Graduate Students Join MEAF Team



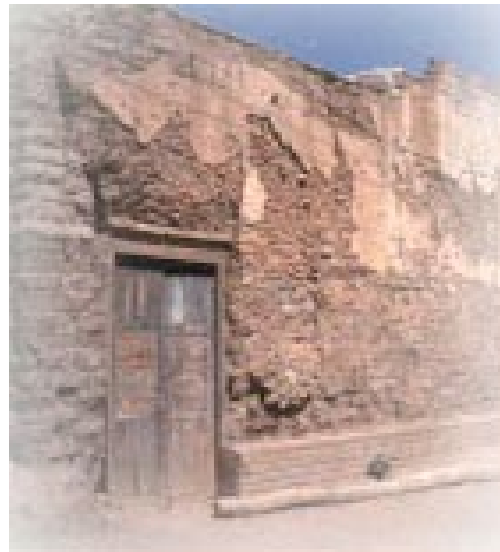
Cesar Mendez, a Doctoral candidate in the Agriculture College at New Mexico State University (NMSU) has joined the MEAF Staff. Cesar is from Chi-

huahua where he has had considerable experience in environmental education. He is currently starting his Ph.D. in Wildlife Management and will be working closely with members of Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument in environmental education.



MEAF student employee, Lillie Whetten, will become a graduate assistant in August. Lillie has been employed by the MEAF office since October 1999. Her primary responsibilities will include providing

reports and other written information about MEAF programs. She will also have administrative duties involving the NMSU Cooperative agreement. Lillie is from Colonia Juarez, Chihuahua and is working towards a Masters in Technical and Professional Communication.



4th International Symposium on the Restoration of Historic Adobe Structures

U.S. and Mexico historic structure preservation specialists met July 15-20, 2001 in Hidalgo de Parral, Chihuahua to exchange information on working with adobe structures. Approximately 25 Interior specialists participated in this training course; including David Yubeta, Restoration Specialist, from Tumacacori National Monument who represented the National Park Service.

Event organizers: Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia (INAH), National Park Service, Cornerstones, Inc., Hidalgo de Parral Municipal Government.

“Getting to Know Mexico” Training Course

Twenty-four trainees participated in the “Getting to Know Mexico” Training Course July 8-15 in Chihuahua City, Mexico. Discussions and panels were held on the history of Mexico, the political system in Mexico today, the Indigenous Cultures in Northern Mexico, and Conservation Issues.

The course included tours of the following sites: Cumbres de Majalca National Park, Historic Town of San Andres, Hacienda de Bustillos, Town of Madera, Cuarenta Casas Archeological Site, and the Paquime Museum and Archeological Site. Participants learned about the history of the sites and the steps that have been taken to preserve them.



Participants represented the following institutions: National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Indian Affairs, New Mexico State University, Student Conservation Association Inc., and U.S. Senator Jeff Bingamin’s Office.

Event organizers: National Park Service, Universidad Autónoma de Chihuahua, and ProFauna A.C.

Second International Symposium/Workshop on Cultural Tourism of the Camino Real de Tierra Adentro

Over two hundred participants attended the Second International Symposium/Workshop on Cultural Tourism of the Camino Real de Tierra Adentro held in Durango, Mexico June 27-29, 2001. The themes for the symposium included: Cultural and eco-tourism, natural patrimony of the Camino Real, pre-Hispanic cultures of the Camino Real, traditions of the Camino Real, museums and their importance along the Camino Real, and tourism services along the Camino Real.

U.S. presenters were: Ramon Olivas, “Management of Natural Protected Areas in the United States”; Jerry Gurule, “The History of the Camino Real in New Mexico”; Estevan Arellano, “Traditions and Foods of Northern New Mexico”; Liddie Martinez, “Sites of Interest and Tourism Services in Northern New Mexico”; and Dr. Jon Amastae, “Internet II-A Gateway to Promoting the Camino Real”.

The symposium was successful in uniting U.S. and Mexican participants in their common goal of preserving and promoting the history of the Camino Real de Tierra Adentro.

Event organizers: National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, and various state and federal entities in Mexico.

Ajos-Bavispe Forest Reserve, Chiricahua, and Coronado Managers Meeting

Managers from Coronado, Chiricahua, and Ajos-Bavispe Forest Reserve met at Chiricahua NM June 11-12, 2001 to discuss fire management, and shared conservation issues. Presentations were made on the progress and results of ongoing projects that the three parks are participating in.

Management of Protected Areas Training Course on Environmental Education.

The Management of Protected Areas Training Course on Environmental Education was held at Rancho "El Morillo" in Saltillo, Coahuila Mexico on May 7-11, 2001. This training course provided Mexican Environmental Educators the opportunity to meet and share their common experiences and challenges. Each participant gave a brief overview of the educational programs at their individual parks. Common obstacles were lack of trained personnel, little or no financial support for programs, and the presence of economic, political, and social pressures within communities.

Participants also received training in the preparation of personalized and non-personalized interpretation, and the planning of environmental education programs. Gail Fox, Environmental Education Specialist at Big Bend National Park, and Ramon R. Olivas, Assistant Director of the National Park Service U.S.-Mexico Affairs Office, gave presentations on park interpretation

philosophy, methods, and techniques.

Event organizers: Consejo de Areas Protegidas de Mexico, National Park Service, and ProFauna A.C.

MEAF Relocates

On February 15, 2001 MEAF relocated to 2455 Missouri Ave. We are close to the NMSU campus in a much more accessible location.



MEAF funds projects

On January 22, 2001, MEAF received project proposals from Parks and Non-government organizations. A project selection committee met in Denver and selected the following projects. The funding must be obligated during the current fiscal year and a progress report issued within 30 days after completion.

Big Bend National Park: "Baseline Inventory of Amphibians in the Santa Elena Protected Area, Chih., and the Maderas del Carmen Protected Area, Coah." *De-*

scription: An international effort to survey amphibian resources in Santa Elena Protected Area, Chihuahua and Maderas del Carmen, Coahuila. Information collected will increase understanding of the similarities and differences in the amphibian communities of Big Bend National Park, Santa Elena Protected Area, and Maderas del Carmen.

“Aid to Artisans.”

Description: Help in the training of local artists in the Mexican villages of Boquillas, San Vicente, and Santa Elena. Souvenir objects and handcrafts have traditionally been made out of natural resource materials. Training the artists to make them out of other materials will satisfy the demand for souvenirs and crafts, as well as saving the natural resources.

Fishery and Wildlife Sciences, NMSU:

“Grassland Bird Wintering Ecology on the Gulf Coast of South Texas and Northern Mexico.”

Description: Study the wintering habitat of grassland birds on the Padre Island National Seashore and a site along the gulf coast of northern Tamaulipas, Mexico. This information will help researchers better determine the cause of the population decline of grassland birds.

Spanish Colonial Research Center: “From Saltillo to Paso de Francia and Laredo, 1690 to 1821: A Resource Study of *Parages* in Coahuila along the Camino Real de los Texas.”

Description: A cooperative study with the Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia (INAH) of parages in Coahuila. The parages will be identified and the final product will be a historical dictionary identifying the location of the parages and a brief description of each site.

Carlsbad Caverns National Park:

“Passport to the Chihuahuan Dessert”

Description: This program will provide training for U.S. and Mexican teachers who will then teach their students about the natural resources in the Chihuahuan Dessert and how to care for them. Teachers and students will

also put together an educational guide about the Chihuahuan Dessert.

Amistad National Recreation Area:

“Monarchs Across the Border”

Description: Provide Environmental training and workshops about the Monarch Butterfly. Workshops and training are targeted toward students and teachers on both sides of the border near Amistad National Recreation Area. Teachers will be provided with curriculum ideas about Monarchs for their classrooms.



International Sonoran Desert Alliance:

“Continuing Opportunities for International Partnerships”

Description: Provide Environmental Education training for Youths on both sides of the border. Youths are taught about the Sonoran Dessert and how to take care of it. They are also taught that they can be agents in taking care of the natural resources by learning how to recycle.

Sonoran Institute: “Community-Based Conservation in Santa Cruz Watershed, Sonora, Mexico”

Description: Provide support to the Monitoring Avian Productivity and Survivorship (MAPS) Program. Research will also be conducted in conservation tools for protecting Ejido land in the Santa Cruz Watershed. This information will be of value to others

who work with Ejidos close to protected areas.

Coronado National Memorial: “Arizona-Sonora Avian Monitoring Program”

Description: Continue research of avian population and survivorship in the upper San Pedro Watershed. Project also includes training a Mexican biologist in MAPS protocol.

Chiricahua National Monument: “Determine Forest Composition and Dynamics Using the NPS FMH Protocols”

Description: Research fire effects of prescribed burnings at Chiricahua National Memorial and Reserva Forestal Nacional Y Refugio de Fauna Silvestre Ajos-Bavispe. Gathering baseline data and vegetation monitoring will help NPS managers guide prescribed fire programs.

Tumacacori National Historical Park: “Preservation Training in Sonoran Missions”

Description: Provide workshops in preservation of earthen architectural sites. U.S. and Mexico students and local supporters will be trained in preservation techniques.



Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument:

“International Boundary Fence Modification for Endangered Sonoran Pronghorn”

Description: Modify the south boundary fence by removing bottom strand of barbed wire with a smooth wire so that Sonoran Pronghorn can pass under the fence into the southeastern quarter of the Monument. This may result in re-population of pronghorns in the U.S.



MEAF Logo

In December 2000 an artist was contracted to design a logo for MEAF. It represents MEAF’s international efforts.

