

The Burden Basket



St. Joseph Apache Mission Restoration Project

Funding Progress

Since fundraising began in February 1998 we have raised \$961,502.36. Of that amount 40% came from private Foundation grants, 50% from our generous donors, and the remaining 10% from the hard work of raffles, food sales, concerts and interest earned. Approximately 50% of the funds needed to complete the project have been raised.

The work continues as funding permits: Expenses to date have been \$879,731.15

2006 Raffle Results

Our sixth annual Restoration Project Raffle was a smashing success on several levels. Besides raising funds needed to keep this project going, the raffle helped spread the news about this project and the tremendous progress that is being made to keep this beloved church and veteran's memorial open and serviceable for generations to come. The eleven prizes were donated by Restoration Project committee members and other people passionate about the project. The net amount raised, including the extra donations people sent in along with their raffle tickets, was \$12,304! The drawing was held on Sunday, October 8.

First prize winner of \$1,000.00 was Mirian Antoine, a nursing student at New Mexico State University in Las Cruces. The **Inn of the Mountain Gods** getaway winner was Dina Ortega from San Patricio, NM. The six day **Pine Cliff Condo** getaway winner was Betty Rowan from Torreon, NM. Ray Cordova from Tularosa, NM, won the painting by Philbert Choneksa. Salem Tortilla from Mes-

calero won the Retablo. Sarah Castillo from Laredo, TX won the Beaded Medicine Bag. The Framed Kateri print was won by Walt Hisenberg from Tularosa, NM. Hunter Peralto from Mescalero won the Carved Cross. The \$250. **Walmart** Gift Card was won by Harry Mendez from Alamogordo, NM. The Pine Needle Basket was won by Gabe Mayr from Tularosa, NM. Deborah Hansen from Hoonah, Alaska won the painted roof tile.

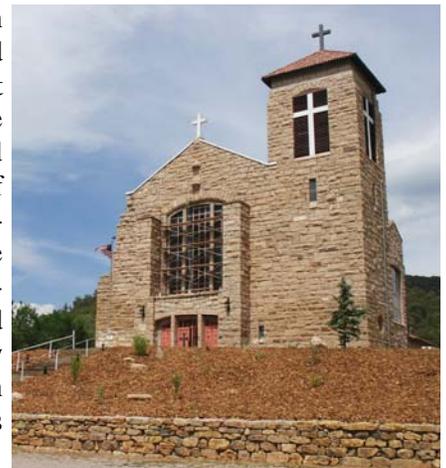
Special appreciation is due to the top three ticket sellers: Bruce & Helen Klinekole won a beautiful Pendleton blanket for selling the most tickets. The next two top ticket sellers were Emily Saenz and Mary Mendez. For their efforts Emily won a roof tile painted by Frances Marez and Mary won a gift certificate for the Inn of the Mountain Gods

So many people supported this raffle in a variety of different ways. Many thanks to you all! Thanks too for the many encouraging words we received as you sent in tickets.

Revenue & Expenses	
5/1/06—10/23/06	
Expenses	
Payroll Expenses	\$51,875
Equipment & Supplies	\$ 9,781
Professional Fees	\$ 2,868
Office Expense	\$ 2,636
Administration & Fundraising	<u>\$ 3,665</u>
Total	\$70,825
Revenue	
Foundation Grants	\$46,000
Steward Program	\$ 7,470
Donations	\$11,138
Fundraisers & Interest	<u>\$19,022</u>
Total	\$83,630
Funds on hand:	\$81,761
In-Kind Donations by Volunteers & Staff and equipment	\$80,704

LANDSCAPING PROGRESS

Driving up to St. Joseph Apache Mission is even more awe-inspiring now thanks to the hard work of Brother Michael Bearce, OFM and a grant from the Otero Chapter of the New Mexico Native Plant Society. What was a scraggly weed-covered hillside in front of the Mission is now an area of beauty. About 130 plants were put in by Bro. Michael, who volunteered two weeks of his time while he taught us about native plants and the virtues of xeriscaping. The Tribal Sawmill donated 127 cubic yards of shredded bark that the crew spread over the hillside to control weeds and retain moisture. Next spring we hope to continue this beautification of the area surrounding the Mission.



SUMMER TRAINEES



Nikona Hosetosavit

This summer we were blessed with two of the hardest workers we have had in our trainee program. Clay Geronimo and Nikona Hosetosavit came to us from the "Gear-Up!" program at the Mescalero High School. Both were quick learners dedicated to making their mark on this church on their reservation.

Fulltime crewmembers Tommy Spottedbird and Arylis Chee are good instructors and great role models to all the students we are able to employ and train. Project Foreman Tommy Spottedbird was impressed with how reliable and focused the trainees were, "I appreciate the young people who are willing to spend a little of their time to help us restore this important historic building. These two young men were dependable and had the enthusiasm we look for."



Clay Geronimo



Arylis Chee instructing Nikona in the art of mixing mortar

Clay has moved on to begin his freshman year at New Mexico State University in Las Cruces. Nikona continues to work with us on a part time basis as he completes his GED. We hope to be able to hire Nikona as a part of our full time crew once he completes his studies.

We are privileged to be a part of these young trainees lives, and we enjoy the satisfaction of helping them transition into responsible, productive, and proud members of the community.

BROTHER DAVID PAZ ACCEPTS NEW ASSIGNMENT

The Restoration Project lost a valued member of the team when Brother David accepted the call to Guaymas, Mexico for a new assignment. We will miss his quiet peaceful manner and his meticulous attention to detail. Brother David is a native of Las Cruces, NM and has been a Franciscan Friar of the St. Barbara Province since 1978. A missionary at heart, he has served the Native American people in Arizona and New Mexico, as well as the communities in Guatemala and in the jungles of Peru. Joining the Restoration Project in September of 2000, Bro. David has been a big part of the success of this project.

The crew hosted a farewell lunch during which Bro. David was presented with a plaque commemorating his contribution to the project. Mounted on the plaque is one of Bro. David's repointing tools beautifully beaded by Tommy Spottedbird.

We wish Brother David all the best as he begins his work with the outreach ministries of Casa Franciscana in Guaymas.

David Paz, OFM



SUMMER AND FALL PROGRESS



Tommy Spottedbird repointing

With the warmer weather our attention shifted back outdoors, to the exterior of the north wall of the church, to pick up where we left off last summer. All of July and August, and a few weeks of September, were spent repointing the stonework of this section; an area approximately fifty feet tall and forty feet wide. In addition to repointing and strengthening the stone wall, the metal framework of the windows was treated for rust and repainted, and of course the windows and Plexiglas storm windows were cleaned.



Arylis Chee painting window frames

In Mescalero we can usually expect some freezing weather in October, so outside mortar work was stopped in early September to allow time for the mortar to cure before the first frost. The exterior of the north wall is approximately three-quarters finished now; next summer it will probably take another two months to complete the repointing of this wall.

Back indoors, one final detail of the interior west wall restoration remains to be completed — the construction of a new interior entryway. On September 20 a meeting of the Restoration Committee was held to discuss various options for this entryway. We are currently looking for a finish carpenter to perform the required work. Visit the “*What’s Happening Now*” page on our website for a look at this entryway in three pictures: “Before,” “Currently,” and a simulation of the proposed entryway.

With cooler weather Tommy, Arylis and Nikona are repointing inside the church, finishing up the restoration of one of the side alcoves. As soon as this is done we will begin repointing the stonework of the interior of the north wall.



North wall exterior

DIRECTOR’S REPORT: PETER A. BOEGEL, OFM

Thanks to the *Franciscan Office of Ongoing Formation*, my friend Brother John Summers and I had the incredible experience of spending three wonderful weeks in Italy this past summer: Assisi, Rome, Florence, Venice. Everywhere we went we saw churches undergoing restoration work. Holy places being visited by thousands of people who didn’t seem to mind the dust and scaffolding and noise. All of this time, energy and effort going into preserving the heritage passed on by our ancestors in order to pass it on to future generations. It became clear to me that we *need* these sacred places; we honor them and we care for them not only because they are beautiful, but more importantly because they help us feel connected to something larger than ourselves. These places nourish our souls. I can feel it, and I suspect you can feel it too. Thanks for being a part of the restoration of St. Joseph Apache Mission. We have been working on this project for six and a half years now, and I think it is safe to say that we are halfway done. Together, each in a different way, we are leaving our mark, doing something to preserve a historical landmark, an honored church. In doing so we are connecting ourselves to one another, to something larger than ourselves — and being nourished in return.



St. Joseph Apache Mission Restoration Project

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Visit our website
www.stjosephmission.org

Restoring the Building and Rebuilding Lives



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