

**St. Joseph's Apache Mission Restoration  
Illustrated Progress Report for May 2001 through October 2001**



Brother Peter & Harry Vasile mixing lime-hydrate into putty mix.



Brother David laying down new drainpipes.



Tommy Spottedbird installing flashing.



Harry Vasile repointing northeast interior wall.

Brother Peter & Bruce Klinekole building cover for sandpit.





Harold Johnson from H&H Seamless Gutters shows Brother Peter repairs that need to be made.



Otero County Native Plant Society members working on bank in front of Mission.



Bruce Klinekole building handicap ramp.



The new office and visitor information center.



*Walk in Blessing*



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## *St Joseph's Apache Mission Restoration Project*

### *Progress Report May 2001 through October 2001*

*"The mission of St. Joseph's Apache Mission Restoration Project is to save this sacred architectural treasure that stands as a bridge between cultures, between the past and the future, between heaven and earth. Through the process of saving this Veteran's Memorial we are inspired by the courage all veterans have, giving us strength to persevere. It is through the process of saving this landmark that we strive to honor our ancestors, empower our contemporaries and inspire our children."*

As the cold weather begins to settle in on Mescalero it is amazing to look back on all that has been accomplished since our last report. To start off May, Mac Watson from Cornerstones Community Partnerships spent two days with us. Mr. Watson has extensive experience in historical building preservation. He gave us several useful suggestions some which we have already implemented. Two of the most important insights he gave us were for drainage and getting the water from the downspouts into drainpipes and away from the church foundation. This was accomplished in early June on the south side of the mission. The other suggestion we tackled right away was a better way to use flashing to prevent further water seepage and damage to the roof and walls.

In June we reset the scaffold on the southeast exterior wall to finish the work started the previous summer. While the scaffold was there we hired H&H Seamless Gutters from Alamogordo, New Mexico to install some new badly needed downspouts, which we tied into the new drainage pipes. By July 10th the crew removed the southeast scaffold and began erecting it on the northeast exterior wall where the damage is extensive.

July was blessed with volunteers and very productive for us. Henry Prelo gave assistance with tractor work, Bruce Klinekole joined us almost daily volunteering in anyway we needed. The Otero County Native Plant Society volunteered to take on our landscaping dilemma. We will use native plants that need no watering which will help protect the foundation of the mission.

We met with Edward Balderrama. He is an Architect for the city of Alamogordo. Mr. Balderrama has volunteered to draw blueprints for a handicap accessible bathroom. The bathroom will be located outside the church on the southwest side tucked behind the bell tower. Plans are to build it out of the same metamorphic sandstone used to build the church.

The Chemical Lime Company in Belen, New Mexico once again donated 1456 pounds of hydrated lime and the labor to help us load it into barrels and on to our truck. This saves us hundreds of dollars a year.

After extensive searching we found and purchased a used office trailer from William

Scotsman, Inc. at a bargain price of \$1500.00. We had them install security bars on the windows and with delivery and set up fees we ended up paying \$2569.00 for it. Volunteers Bruce Klinekole, David Serna and Joe Padilla joined me in working on the exterior, replacing windows and installing the electrical lines. It is great to have our own office space and we are currently gathering photographs and informational material to get our museum-information center set up.

In August work continued on the office trailer. Bruce and I gave it a much-needed painting and Bruce built a handicap ramp and finished it up with trim and a beautiful sign. Mary Serna, our Project Administrator, moved in and arranged the office. The rest of the crew continued repointing the northeast exterior wall.

We had a visit from Richard and Sue Mackey, they have offered to donate a bell for the bell tower. We obtained the services of a structural engineer Mike Pittman, P.E. to determine if our bell tower was structurally sound enough to handle a large bell. He suggested that we add some new steel for extra strength to the existing steel installed when the tower was built. Mr. Pittman said that our tower could safely hold a two-ton bell. Harry Vasile and I made a video of the bell tower and sent it off to the Mackeys. We are excited at the prospect of fulfilling another dream Father Albert had for this church, a real bell.

Saints Simon and Jude Parish in Huntington Beach, California invited us to come and talk about our restoration project at their seven weekend masses. Bruce Klinekole accompanied me and we were overwhelmed by their generosity. They took up a separate collection for us and we received a total of \$15,607.00. Our other money raisers this summer were successful as well. Our raffle brought in \$5,214.00, food sales \$515.50 and grants totaling; \$19,143.92.

Mary Serna, Project Administrator put together health and safety manuals according to OSHA regulations for each crewmember and we have updated our first aid station.

We are continuing to work with Edward Balderrama on some changes we felt were necessary to the blueprints for the bathroom. Once the blueprints are completed we will submit them for bids. We hope to be able to hire a contractor to build this much-needed facility when funds are available.

On September 12, 2001 we hired Bruce Klinekole, a native of Mescalero as a fulltime employee. Adding Bruce to our crew brings our fulltime workforce to six.

At the end of September we moved the restoration work back inside where our scaffolding is setup on the northeast wall to the left of the Altar. We will soon be finished with this area and have made arrangements to rent a scaffold bridge to span the arch above the altar area. To do this we will have to erect a scaffold on the southeast side of altar to connect the bridge to the scaffold on the northeast wall. It will be gratifying to see that whole wall completed.

By October the office trailer improvements were completed. Mary continues to search and apply for additional funding. Our dedicated crew makes progress daily and has settled into a routine of continued interior work. Last month we received some money from one of our donors to help with the cost of replacing the rotting railroad ties that have served as stairs from our main parking lot to the church since the 1980s.

Once again we are providing an illustrated progress report to give you a visualization of our progress since the last reporting period of April 2001. We have also attached an Income and Expense Summary for you to review. Our balance as of October 31, 2001 in the restoration fund is \$84,090.72. We still expect approximately 12 years to complete the restoration process. We continue to pursue grants and donations so that our work may continue. Our goal is to obtain funding to increase our work crew and reduce the number of years estimated to complete the restoration.

As of October 31, 2001 we have raised \$277,148.56 for the restoration of St. Joseph's Apache Mission church. Our largest expense continues to be for labor and payroll expenses. This restoration becomes a reality through the generosity of people like you and the hard work of our dedicated crew.

We welcome any comments, suggestions or questions. Please feel free to call us, visit our website, email or write us.

Respectfully,

Peter A. Boegel, O.F.M.  
Restoration Chair