

PARTICIPANT LETTERS FROM THE OCTOBER, 2009 SERVICE PROGRAM

From Lu Zacek - Texas

What could I take to Hopi that was different from anything they have? An alligator hide and skull were the perfect things to show them. The students learned that the once endangered alligator in Texas had become a nuisance because of over population. I talked about hunting an alligator and what parts of the animal are used. To determine the length of an alligator, one estimates the number of inches from the eyes to the end of the snout and change it to feet. Five inches = five feet. With the use of an alligator book, the children learned about its habitat, birthing and hunting. Kindergarten through sixth grade enjoyed the talk and touching the hide and skull. Now I am wondering what I am going to take next year?

From Jan Ittner - Missouri

I had the privilege to work in a first grade classroom at Second Mesa. As I observed the class, I thought of "hands-on" games I used with my first grade class to reinforce skills. After sharing these ideas with the teacher, I made several sets of math addition wheels, laminated and put them together, ready for use, and made another game to reinforce the "tens and ones" concept. Games for the reading program included antonyms and compound words. Since there is no art program at Second Mesa, the classroom teacher must provide the experiences. I shared bulletin board ideas and simple art projects. The teacher used one idea right away. Each child made a turkey and wrote about it to be put on the hall bulletin board. It was a rewarding experience to see how the children and teacher enjoyed the learning aids and the art project. I look forward to working in her classroom again.

From Phyllis Emery, First Time Participant - Vermont

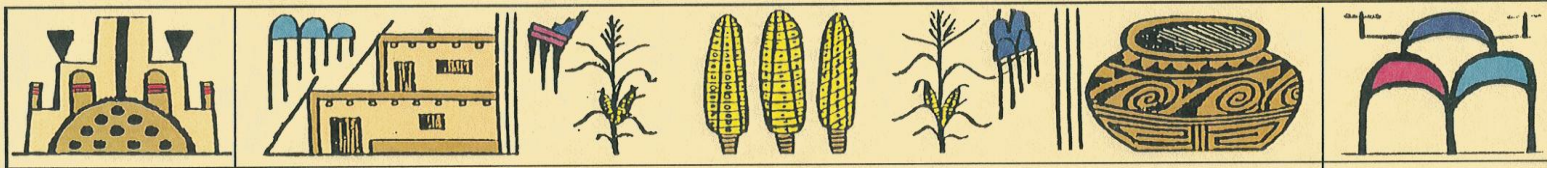
I met many wonderful people in the Friends of Hopi Program. I have always been interested in the Native American culture. I was able to learn first-hand about these proud people. I felt welcome in Ms Thompson's kindergarten class and very comfortable. The children, some of whom were a little reserved at the beginning, were quick to accept my presence in their room while working and playing games. They began asking for help with projects, about my family and maple sugaring. They realized that they would be very bored riding in a car for three days to get to my house in Vermont. I miss their bright eyes and smiles and look forward to my return. I plan to stay in touch with the class and have a package that is nearly ready to mail to the children at school.

I learned more about the FOH Program and am proud to be a part of it. I can see the need to have more people involved. Thank you for this opportunity to serve and learn.

Another Interesting Story From Lu Zacek - Texas

What do you do when you are 100 miles from anywhere and have a sty in your eye? I diagnosed the sty and put hot compresses on it but just wasn't getting any better. I went to the Hopi Health Clinic Emergency Room where the doctor said I had a sty and to put warm compresses on it. While shopping at the Mongovia Store later in the day, the two Hopi's working there told me the Hopi cure was to put breast milk on it. WELL...I didn't have that. One of our volunteers suggested a tea bag. The sty came to a head and I got the relief I needed. When in doubt ask...Luanne

Please consider making a tax deductible contribution to the foundation as the year comes to a close. We will be asking the schools for "Needs List" items during the Winter Service Program.



The Friends of Hopi Foundation

423 Territory Trail, Cedar Park, TX 78613

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The FOFH board has chosen the last week of February and the first week of March, 2010 for the Winter Service Program.

Feb 21-27 and Feb28-Mar 6

Reservations may be made by contacting Lu Zacek at lzacek@hotmail.com.

Checks are to be sent to Selinda Miller at the FOHF address in Cedar Park. More information will be sent in late January to those who register with Lu.

Please send names and mailing addresses of people you want added to our mailing list. Also tell them about our website at www.hopifriendseducation.org

Foundation Loses its First President and Co-Founder

John Montgomery, first president and a co-founder of the foundation passed away on August 24, 2009 while vacationing in Colorado. John had worked tirelessly to move the foundation into the vibrant state of organization that exists today and he will be greatly missed. His love for volunteering was surpassed only by his love of working to make life better for our Native American friends. While suffering from a series of ailments, he continued to serve the organization and to lead the board in its duties. Ray Coin said upon hearing of John's passing, "In Hopi we believe that his body is now healed and is all perfect again." A special memorial fund has been established to honor John as the foundation goes forward. Contributions may be sent to the official address of the foundation.

Foundation Board Appoints Two New Members – Elects Officers

At the annual meeting of the FOHF Board in December 2009, Lu Zacek was elected President, Bob Montgomery was elected Vice-President, while Frankie Ramey remains as Secretary, and Selinda Miller remains as Treasurer. Jan Ittner of St. Louis and Bob Montgomery of Houston were elected as new board members. Both Lu and Jan are retired teachers and remain very involved in educational volunteerism at several levels while maintaining busy lives with family and hobbies.

Foundation Hopes to Publish First Hopi Children's Book

Ray Coin has a vision for writing a children's book about some cultural aspect that Hopi children could relate to. After several meetings and beginning plans being drawn up, the Foundation has decided to dedicate this first book in memory of John Montgomery who shared Ray's vision for such a book. We are currently raising funds for the foundation either in John's memory or funds to help us publish this first work. If you are interested in contributing to this effort you may send your donations to the Foundation at the address at the top of this page.



Bacavi, December, 2009 by Marie Kiddie



Ray, Marti, Frankie, Ginny, and Linda at the Mud Heads. October, 2009 by Bob M.