



THE FRIENDS OF HOPI FOUNDATION
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THE FRIENDS OF HOPI PUBLISHES FIRST CHILDREN'S BOOK

The FOHF board has chosen February 20-26 and Feb. 27-March 5, 2011 as the dates for the next service program. These dates will be confirmed once the schools reopen after the holidays. Interested parties may make reservations by emailing Bob Montgomery at mrtutor156@hotmail.com. Deposits will be due after the dates are confirmed.

The Foundation announces its first publication of a children's book that has been in production for over a year. Ray Coin, the principal author, has had the dream of putting a book together for the Hopi children that extended their knowledge of their culture and encouraged them to improve their reading abilities. Newly elected president of the Foundation, Bob Montgomery, wrote some science facts to accompany the Baby Naming ceremony that is customary in some Hopi families.

Hopi Birth Morning is beautifully illustrated by Vickie Roy, a graphic artist from Austin and a FOHF board member. All services from these three were graciously donated to this production. Donations continue to be received so that each 2nd, 3rd, and 4th graders in the Hopi schools will receive a free copy of the book to take home with them.

If you are interested in purchasing a copy of the book, you can write Bob Montgomery at 15610 Oldridge Drive, Houston, TX 77084 and send your check made out to the Foundation. The price of the book is \$6.00 each plus postage and handling. The total for each book is \$8.24.

The Foundation hopes to continue to publish children's books that feature stories and customs of the Hopi people.

PLEASE NOTE: We are trying to go to email for delivery of this newsletter. If you get this by regular mail, please send your e-mail address to Bob Montgomery.



Luanne & Bob

LUANNE ZACEK, PAST PRESIDENT OF THE FOUNDATION

Teaching was my vocation and I loved every minute of it and often feel a yearning to be back in the classroom, thus The Friends of Hopi volunteer program was for me. This year was my 4th trip. After a trip to Maine and meeting Penobscot Indians, I decided to try volunteering there. I returned to Indian Island for a second year of volunteering in their reservation school. The Hopi and Penobscot have many cultural similarities, but very different ways of living because of their locations.

I taught 32 years mostly in junior high in English, reading, math, and finally social studies. My daughters are teachers, one in a local high school and the other 2nd grade in an all girls' Catholic school. My son-in-law is a fellow in pediatric intensive care at Texas Children's Hospital in Houston. I have two adorable grandsons, 2 and 6 years old, who keep their "Lulu" busy. What a joy being a grandparent!

I love traveling, being with friends and family, and volunteering in different groups. My girls say I "go where the wind takes me..."

I think I am busier now than when I was working. I am co-president of our local retired teachers' group. Managing a country store at the Pioneer Memorial Log House Museum owned by our Daughters of the Republic of Texas keeps me busy. I am on the board of the French Legation in Austin. I volunteer at my younger daughter's school doing special projects and help with Charlie's day care activities. Life is good!

BOB MONTGOMERY, NEW PRESIDENT OF THE FOUNDATION

I always tell my new friends that I was raised a cowboy in Central Texas, but somehow received a college education and became a science teacher. After some teaching in high school and community college, I worked in industry for a while before settling into a kindergarten to 12th grade science coordinator position - a job I really loved. Then after a couple of years as an elementary assistant principal, retirement looked really good so I took the opportunity to spread my wings and see what was in the outside world. I worked several jobs including a regional director and workshop presenter for a science and math company and as a senior architect for a curriculum software company building science curriculum.

Hands on science has always been my interest and I enjoy sharing with the Hopi teachers and students.

Picture to the left is of Dorothy Cooper who was a first time volunteer during the October '10 program. See the next page for her report.



New mural on Hotevilla-Bacavi Community School



A Life Long Dream Comes True

I was told that the life-long dream began for that little Louisiana girl when she was only eight years old. Sitting out on her front porch curled up next to her precious grandmother she would listen to the exciting stories shared about one of her long-ago uncles. Giles James Wise had lived in the 1800's in a small community called Wiseville, Louisiana. What captivated that little girl's heart were the stories of how her uncle who was a doctor had befriended the Native Americans who lived near that community. He was a kind and thoughtful man who brought encouragement to all who knew him. The stories of how the little Native American children and her uncle's children getting together to play made such an early impression upon her young life. It was from those beloved stories that the dream began for this little girl. She just knew within her own heart that she wanted one day to work with Native American children and help to bring love and encouragement into their lives. Fifty-two years later on October 24, 2010 that same little girl, now a grown woman accompanied by her husband, traveled to the Hopi Reservation... and so began the fulfillment of one of her life long dreams.

She had the privilege of helping in Mrs. Adams' kindergarten class at Second Mesa Day School. From the very first meeting with Mrs. Adams, Rita, and all the precious boys and girls in the class, she felt welcomed in that loving room. It did not take very long that first morning before the children started asking her questions about her "clan". She will always remember their eyes: curious and smiling. They loved seeing the pictures she had brought to share with them. Throughout that week she helped the children with projects in reading, math, art, science, and social studies. She especially enjoyed encouraging the children to read. She shared books she had brought from her own home and loved introducing the children to things good readers do: Previewing, Predicting, Questioning, and Summarizing. She also loved teaching the children three fall poems in which they could act out the different parts. These were poems her own mother had taught her and grandson! Lunchtime and recess provided more time for her and the children to get to know each other better. At recess they enjoyed teaching each other outdoor games. It was a special week at school for it was both Red Ribbon Week, along with the Halloween costume and party day. On the last day of the school week, she especially enjoyed joining the class as they all dressed up for Halloween. Being a bumblebee had never been so much fun for her!

Her husband enjoyed helping out with 7th graders in math classes at Hotevilla-Bacavi School. His assigned teacher was very excited to have him helping with his students, too. Her husband enjoyed helping by working with small groups of students with algebra. He even returned one day with his face painted as a Hopi clown! He definitely went with the flow of whatever each day brought his way.

The week was also filled with additional adventures. She and her husband appreciated Ray Coin, their Hopi host, taking them and other volunteers to the Hubble Trading Post and then on to the magnificent scenery of Canyon de Chelly. Along the way Ray shared interesting facts about the area and the Hopi culture.

She and her husband will always appreciate how the Friends of Hopi were so welcoming to them from that very first day. It was a great afternoon when Luanne and Jan invited them to travel to Old Oraibi. What a blessing they had there listening to a sweet Hopi woman tell how she had learned to make pottery from watching her grandmother so many years before. She very kindly gave them a demonstration on the steps that went into making the pottery. They learned so much on that trip from Luanne and Jan sharing their knowledge of the Hopi culture with them, too. How special it was when Luanne and Jan introduced some of their Hopi friends to them that afternoon.

On the last morning, she and her husband had the privilege of witnessing a Basket Dance ceremony. Climbing up an outside ladder to watch from the rooftop was a special treat, especially since one of the precious kindergarteners found her up on the same roof! They enjoyed visiting with each other while waiting for the ceremony to begin. Having this learning opportunity to observe a Hopi ceremony was a great way to end the week. Marti and Betsy shared so much of their Hopi knowledge with them at the ceremony which made it an even more learning experience. As the sun rose on that final day of the volunteer mission they knew it would bring both tears of joy and sadness. Joy that "the once little girl" had finally seen one of her life long dreams come true, yet a sadness as it was time to say goodbye to their new Hopi friends that they had so quickly learned to love and respect. However, they both know this for sure: Every night as they gaze up into a star lit sky filled with the glowing moon, and with each magnificent sunrise and sunset, their hearts will overflow with a new warmth of love and happiness. Especially at these special times they will remember those amazing memories of such sweet smiles and sparkling eyes of their precious little Hopi friends. Their hearts will be always be warmed and blessed by those memories. She and her husband hope, too, that sometime as the children reflect over their lives that they will remember that these two people shared their love and encouragement with them.

In case you are wondering who this grown-up little Louisiana girl is, well it is me, Dorothy Louise Craton Cooper. Brack and I want to thank you, Friends of Hopi, for helping to make my life-long dream finally come true. It was an amazing, blessed, learning adventure for us and one that we will cherish for the rest of our lives.