

2008 Tewa Holiday Project



Tewa Elder Ladies Mina Silas, Ruth James, Louella (Ginger) Enote and Dextra Quotskuyva supervised the unloading at the Tewa Community Center.

Photo Courtesy of Larry Lindahl

It has been over two weeks since 50 "Tewa Travelers" as I call them, delivered our Holiday Baskets to the Tewa Elders at First Mesa. I personally have not gotten over the outpouring of kindness from all the contributions received from you and the gratitude we received from the Tewa Community. To quote Carletta Hayah the Tewa Elder Coordinator who supervised the Tewa side of the project "You should have seen their eyes light up and how overwhelmed they were when we delivered the baskets". To me that sums up the success and need for the Tewa Holiday Project.

\$11,594.83



Tewa Elder Ruth James and Randy



25 vehicles filled to the brim made a caravan over a mile long!

We filled the Tewa Community Center
Photos Courtesy of Larry Lindahl

I am delighted to tell you that as of this writing, we have raised \$11,594.83 in cash, plus an untold number of dollars in used clothing. \$7,500.00 was used to buy the Holiday Baskets. We delivered thousands of items of food and personal items including 375 lbs each of flour and sugar, 800 lbs of apples and oranges, 300 lbs of potatoes, 150 lbs of carrots, 750 lbs of ham plus shampoo, lotion, band aids, playing cards, soup, apple juice, peaches, oatmeal, stuffing mix, boysenberry syrup, pancake mix, cocoa, muffin mix, tea, razors, tooth brushes, bar soap, liquid soap, gloves, chicken broth, olives, beans, lighters, chocolate, hot sauce, coffee, shaving cream, honey, nuts, candy canes, flashlights, blankets and sparkling cider. And we still have \$2,500 left for our scholarship program!

The Delivery



25 vehicles and 50 Tewa Travelers formed up at the Tewa Community Center where we made quick work of unloading the baskets and clothing. Then off to Ruth James' home for lunch.



75 hams were delivered in coolers to First Mesa then delivered to the Tewa Elders for a Holiday dinner.

Photo courtesy of Nackey Scagliotti



New bonds of friendship were formed.



Bashas donated the "baskets."

Photos courtesy of Larry Lindahl

Lunch and Culture

Lunch for the 50 Tewa Travelers, artists and cooks was served at Ruth James' home. We were treated to a talk by Brenda Patterson, Tewa Chairperson and by Gary Tso my favorite Hopi Guide. Darlene James and her cousin Candy Nampeyo gave a pottery demonstration and firing unveiling.



Photo Courtesy of Wayne Johnson



My dear friend potter Anita Polacca
Photo courtesy of Dick and Laurie Dawe



Photos Courtesy of Larry Lindahl

La Posada

La Posada provided the perfect setting for Friendship and Holiday Spirit. We had a fabulous buffet dinner provided by Chef John Sharpe in the Turquoise Room that we will not soon forget.

Pictured Clockwise: Leroy and Sammy Townsend, Milton Crewse, Bob Bruenig, Karen Enyedy, Marilyn Morley, Janet Fagan, Sally Plauche, Jay Young, Sue McGuinness, Wayne and Susan Johnson, Mac McGuinness, Roger Plauche, Sheri Young. In the center from the top center: Earl and Aloma Kern, Sue and Mac McGuinness, Mike Kilpatrick, and Lee Congdon.



Photos Courtesy of Nackey Scagliotti



What They Have to Say

I have said many times over the years that Milton and I have been taking Holiday Baskets up to Hopi, that doing this is the best thing that we do all year. I asked the Tewa Travelers to say a few words about their experience, they tell it so much better than I can, and here is what they have to say:

"For me the day was an unforgettable experience. I can't thank you enough for putting it together, and I truly look forward to next year. I was teary more than once during the day, as the generosity, love, and gratitude felt by both the voyagers and the recipients was overwhelming. It was a very spiritually uplifting day, and I met some wonderful people. It is also wonderful to be able to share such a day with Dana - a bonding weekend for us". Ann Sakowicz

"Sue and I felt that just hearing the Elders speaking about their history and traditions was humbling. Being with the community of people we traveled with to make the contribution that we all made was uplifting too". Mac and Sue McGinness

"I felt so privileged to be a part of this project. My only regret was not getting into La Posada, but that was because I became involved so late. How about trying for \$15,000 next year. I'd love to see \$5000 go to a scholarship for a Tewa student. But that's the educator in me. I also enjoyed meeting all the lovely Sedona people I had not yet met. And your positive, can-do spirit is an inspiration"! Pat Whitfield

"It was a truly remarkable experience to have had this glimpse of another culture. Randy and Milton, you've been giving a wonderful gift to the Tewa for many years and you've given an equally precious gift to all of us who were able to participate in last Saturday's adventure. I am nearly finished reading *Hopi Summer* (recommended by Gary) and was delighted to find that Vivian Muchvo, the elder who brought us gifts of piiki last Saturday, is pictured as a young child in some of the photographs. Terrific book"! Nackey and Bob Scagliotti

"Dick and I thoroughly enjoyed the day. We know we overpaid for a pot from the old Tewa lady in the dining room but she was so genuinely grateful it made us smile all day. After we left we drove into the back roads in the town of Tewa and saw how the locals lived. We commented several times that we could see why the San Francisco peaks were sacred to them as at sunrise and sunset they truly glow in the distance. We were very happy with La Posada. What a cool place! The art deco mixed with Spanish influence was fascinating. And the food was great. It was a terrific mix of people and we enjoyed the evening. We will go back and have a tour with the articulate young man who spoke at the Tewa gathering. Please send us his contact information. Thanks for such a lovely adventure"! Dick and Laurie Dawe

More of

What They Have to Say

"We made our late-night drive safely after that terrific meal at La Posada. Bob and I especially enjoyed getting to know the Gradys over dinner. Hearing directly from some of the elders taught us a thing or two about Tewa culture that we might not have appreciated fully before, e.g., the importance of stories and the respect for elders. It's fun to meet as many of the people we'll be benefiting as possible. It'd also be fun to tour some of the actual studios where the artists do their work. Kudos for including the pottery demonstration. There's a lot more that goes into making a pot than meets the eye. Gary's presentation was also very informative, as always. For those who haven't yet made the trek to the petroglyph site, it might be worth including next year. Congratulations on making your fundraising goal and for creating another heartwarming experience for us all!"
Helen Knoll and Bob Cleland

"What could be better than perfection?. The event was very well organized and much fun (and rewarding) for all. Our only suggestion is to maybe organize a visit to the mesa or a tour by Gary for those who want to pay for it. We look forward to participating in next years trip and many thanks for all your efforts". Bill and Susan Cammocks

What I have to Say: The Tewa Holiday Project is the most incredible thing that I have done in my life. It is made so by the outpouring of sincere goodness from each and every person that contributes to the success of the Tewa Holiday Project. We are providing assistance to a group of people that genuinely need the help and genuinely appreciate receiving it.

We have more work to do to finish this years Tewa Holiday Project. We have a scholarship to award. Over the next several months I will be forming a Scholarship Committee to work on awarding the scholarship. We are fortunate to have a great group of people, many with backgrounds in education, to find a worthy recipient .

Many of you are wondering how we can top this year, so am I. I am working on several ideas that I think will provide us a different and very rewarding experience. Stay tuned!

I want to give special thanks to my wife Milton who allows me to indulge myself in committing to the Tewa Holiday Project. I also want to thank Janet Fagan and Laura Van House for singing the song of the Tewa Holiday Project. I don't know how many times I would get an email or a call telling me about a new convert to the Tewa Holiday Project from these two ladies. And of course, I want to thank all of you who made it possible.

Randy

The Trip from Winslow north on Highway 87 provides some fantastic Arizona Landscape photography opportunities such as these photos taken By Tewa Traveler Wayne Johnson

