

La Sociedad de la Entrada

After Action Report for Spring Festival 6/02/13

Event

The event was the Spring Festival at Museo de Las Golondrinas. Many vendors and performers also attended. The weather was very nice this year. We did not set up a camp. Visitor attendance was down, probably due to the threat of smoke from the forest fires in the hills. But we didn't notice any smoke at all. I call this event "Búsqueda de Roberto."

Muster

We mustered three people, Roberto Valdez, and Angelina and Dave Poulin.

The Event

Angelina and I arrived a little after ten. Roberto had arrived the night before and stayed there overnight. He was expecting that the procession for the blessing of the fields and the placing of the icon of San Ysidro, patron saint of the fields, in its shrine at the top of the hill would start early. Tired of waiting for it to start he went out to the parking lot to look for us. From the Hide Tanning Exhibit Angelina and I saw that the procession had started so we followed them, hoping to find Roberto. Apparently, he did not have his cell phone with him. We watched the sheep shearing at the shepherd's cottage while the procession climbed the hill to the shrine. When they returned we searched for Roberto. Not finding him, we came back up the hill and had a snack behind the performance stage. After a time, we went to the volunteer Casita and sat on the portal. Joe came by and offered us lunch, which we gratefully accepted. While eating, Roberto came flying by. I yelled at him (screamed really) and tried to follow him, but he was moving pell-mell to the Hacienda. I lost him there, not knowing if he turned right into the Hacienda or left into Baca Plaza. People were making pastelitos and sampling them there. The Country store was open also but I didn't think he would be there. I talked to Edward at the hide tanning exhibit. Then I walked across the Rito (creek). I looked at the school from the fork in the road but I didn't think he would be there. The bells of the Morada were ringing as I traveled down the right fork. I turned left and looked in at the Big Mill. Three volunteers were talking to visitors there, but the mill was still not running since the water source had not yet been repaired. They say it would cost several thousand dollars. Then I the Butch Cassidy house, known as the Madrid House. A Mariachi band was playing there on the porch. It was a very nice spot under the trees by the pond. ...but no Roberto. I came back to the Casita Portal, looking into the Blacksmith Shop on the way. The smithy always seemed to have a nice crowd there. All the while, walking was made

difficult by the wagons that were giving people rides. Then Angelina went out again and came back after a time. No Roberto. We decided to walk about for bit and when Joe passed us he said that Roberto was at the Blacksmith's shop, in the direction we were heading. We looked in at the Carpentry and Wheelwright shops. And there he was at the Blacksmith Shop. It was about 2 p.m. He explained that he always flew past the Casita or he would be trapped there, talking with someone. We stayed by there on the benches and talked to visitors until 3:30. Then we went up to his vehicle where I picked up some of our spears (half-pikes).



Dave (L) and Roberto (R) at the Blacksmith Shop.

Conclusion

It was a very nice day in a very beautiful location, at a very interesting museum. We got some good walking done. Photos by Angelina.

Dave

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