

La Sociedad de la Entrada

After Action Report for Dedication Event 6/30/07

Event

The event was the Dedication of a new Camino Real Sign at Tome Hill Park. This is the first of a series of signs marking the Camino Real Trail. This project is a joint venture between the National Park Service, the Bureau of Land Management, and local trail site owners. According to the BLM's News Release "Armchair travelers can take a virtual tour of the trail on the web at http://www.blm.gov/heritage/adventures/menu/featured_site_nm.html." It was a nice Saturday morning.

Muster

We mustered three people, Mike Bilbo, Dave Poulin, Austin Dimick, and we tagged a fourth in the parking lot, Eloy Marquez who was walking by while we were dressing. Mike asked him if he wanted to join us and he said yes.



BLM set up a tent for the speakers and audience, and provided refreshments were available.

To start things off we marched Richard Chapman down the hill to the speaker tent. We had no drum but Dave played the fife anyway.

Speakers

Richard C. Chapman was the Master of Ceremonies. He is a UNM Director, Office of Contract Archaeology and Associate Professor. The featured speakers were:

Aaron Mahr, Superintendent, National Trail System, Intermountain Region, National Park Service
Sarah Schlanger, Associate State Archeologist, NM Bureau of Land Management
Stuart Ashman, Cabinet Secretary, Department of Cultural Affairs
Michael Cerletti, Cabinet Secretary, Tourism
Juan Manuel Solana, Consul of Mexico
Katherine (Kak) Slick, State Historic Preservation Officer
Estevan Rael-Galvez, NM State Historian
Jeff Bingaman, Senator, his delegate Mark Wonder
Pete Domenici, Senator, his delegate, Callie Gibson
Heather Wilson, Representative, her delegate Lorrie Loomis
Michael S. Sanchez, Senator, Valencia County
Andrew Barreras, Representative, Valencia County
Craig L. Newbill, Executive Director, NM Endowment for the Humanities
Pat Beckett, President, Camino Real Trail Association
Armando Alvarez, Artist, La Puerta del Sol
Georgia Otero-Kirkham, Commissioner, Valencia County
Ron Gentry, Former Representative and current County Commissioner
Ronnie Torres, Mayor, Belen
Robert Vialpando, Councilor, Village of Los Lunas
Paul Nathanson, Associate Provost for Academic Affairs, UNM and a member of the Board of Directors of the Valley Improvement Association and The Manzano Conservation Foundation
Jacqueline Guilbault, Valley Improvement Association and The Manzano Conservation Foundation



The Unveiling



After the speech we marched Aaron Mahr and Sarah Schlanger to the sign for the unveiling. L-R: Mike, Eloy (behind him), Sarah, Aaron, Dave, and Austin.



Here it comes...



L-R: Eloy, Mike, Austin, and Dave with the new sign.



These Carreteras were built by Eloy Marquez. We knew he really was an engineer when we saw how he dismantled it and stowed it in the back of his truck. *Photos by Dave Poulin.*

Conclusion

This event was a new experience for us. Perhaps there will be more in the future. Tomé Hill Park is east of Tomé. From New Mexico State Highway 47, visitors coming from north of Tomé should take La Entrada east to the park. From the south, take Romero Road to La Entrada, then follow La Entrada north to the park. The park contains the impressive Puerta del Sol sculpture by Armando Alvarez that commemorates the Spanish colonists coming into New Mexico in 1598.

Dave

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