

Mañana me Chanto

http://www.gotlocalmusic.com/jam_room/bands/230/about.php



An interesting Nogales experience today made me realize something about our border city; many different people pass crossing the border going south, going north; Ambos Nogales is, as it has been for all its history, more a passing point than a destination. With so many passing through we have still kept our strong culture, las familias, nuestra lengua.

I was leaving el vanquete del Paricutin con dos burritos de carne asada, and I saw four guys getting out of a red van with Washington state plates. Four guys with the most incredible dread locks I've seen. I had to talk to them. I told them the burritos were the best and asked where they were from and where they are going.

One said to me, "Soy suisa, los otros son de Chile y vamos a Chile." "Manejando?" I asked. "Si" me dijo. "What do you do?" I asked. "We're musicians." "What do you play?" He said, "Ska, rumba, cumbia, reggae, salsa, and punk." "Eclectic," I said then asked if they had any CDs, I bought two for 10\$.

I like it and will play it in class. It's political, it's anarchy music, and it's good. I don't agree with the entire message, but it's got a strong one.

Another story about pasajeros de Nogales ... and this is true. In November of 1991 I talked to a bicyclist near the border, obviously a long distance biker on his way to south. In July of 1992, Liz and I traveled to Ecuador; at a friend's house in Quito ... I MET THE SAME PERSON!! No ---- . We remembered each other.

In November of 2005 I saw a biker changing his tire off the freeway at Rio Rico, I stopped and asked if he needed help. We talked he told me that he had ridden his bike from San Diego to La Paz, Mexico and then taken the ferry to Los Mochis. Now he was heading back to California, 2500 miles through Mexico. I asked him if he would write about adventure for my students; he showed me his battered, and word-full journal.

We all know the stories of those traveling north, the brave economic migrants, "They are good people, people with personal ambition, courageous people who seek progress. That is something that is respected everywhere in the world, particularly in the United States." (V. Fox, 2003)

The band ended up staying at our house for two nights as they prepared to cross; didn't think I'd ever see them again, until I did and asked if they needed a place to crash, They played music on my porch and left video advise pos mis alumnos. The most interesting thing was listening to their stories of world travels and hearing them all speak four languages as they called family and friends around the world.

Check out the band at the web site above and look for interesting travelers through Nogales; ask them their stories, write those stories; then eat a burrito de carne asada del Paricutin. GT 12/18/2005