Zombies visit Downtown Alhambra

Who doesn’t love to lurch and shuffle while searching for brains? Downtown Alhambra brought back the popular and frightful Zombie Walk to Main Street Oct. 25. The San Gabriel Valley was warned to be aware of their surroundings as post-apocalyptic zombies oozed their way through participating restaurants and businesses.

Zombies of all ages were welcome and joined in the evil undoing of Main Street. Members of the zombie uprising were encouraged to arrive early to be recruited into the mob and apply blood curdling zombie effects.

“What separates Alhambra’s Zombie Walk from others is that it aims to be family friendly,” said Alhambra resident and co-organizer, Ian Dale. “Parents, kids, and teens come and really enjoy getting into character. The Zombie Walk atmosphere as a whole is very light-hearted and tongue-in-cheek.”

With 50 participants, the zombies were split into two competing teams with points being tallied throughout the night. In each store there were hidden body parts for the zombies to find and earn points for their team. The zombies arrived thirsty for blood and hungry for brains, but they were encouraged not to eat the body parts before they could be tallied for the game.

“In the middle of the walk we also had some competitions for Best Costume, Zombie Trivia, and a Zombie Dance-Off, set to Thriller, of course,” said Mr. Dale. “This year’s Zombie Walk included a canned food drive. Zombies were invited to bring canned items in exchange for a glow bracelet, and the donations were passed along to the Los Angeles Regional Foodbank for distribution to “human survivors.”

“We hope that the event can be one more opportunity for the Alhambra community to connect and get to know others in the city,” said Mr. Dale. “My wife and I met a new friend at the 2012 Zombie Walk, and now one year later, we are all co-organizing the event together. The lead zombies and five co-organizers were me, Mandy Dale, Eddie and Juli Almanza, and Hillary Hsio, all Alhambra residents. It’s great to see people come back each year and continue to build new relationships.”

The Zombie Walk is free and open for anyone to participate each year. Zombies looking to join the walk next year can stay tuned to the Downtown Alhambra Facebook page. Just RSVP and then come dressed as a zombie, and invite friends.

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