

EDITORIAL

I only discovered a couple of years ago that the figure in the stained glass oval on the church facade was not Nuestra Señora de los Remedios but Saint Lucy (Santa Lucía). Her name means light (*lux, luz*). A Sicilian maiden denounced as a Christian by her suitor who admired her eyes, one legend has it that she tore them out and offered them to him on a platter. In another version, she was sent to a house of prostitution but her virginity was miraculously maintained. She then survived being thrown into a fire, but finally succumbed when her throat was cut.

December 13th is Santa Lucía's day, and she has become the protector of eyesight (and the ideal protector of those who look at or write about visual art!) Galisteo's window was donated by a member of the Ortiz y Pino family who suffered from eye problems. Whenever her eyes were bad, she would call down to Galisteo and ask them to light up the window, and her eyes would improve.

Before Christianity, the winter solstice (around Dec. 21, and a predecessor of Christmas) was a major religious holiday. People prayed and held ceremonies to ensure that the sun would turn back across the sky on the shortest day of the year, rather than going further toward darkness. In Scandinavia St. Lucy's Day is still celebrated near the solstice by a procession of unmarried girls with crowns of candles and greenery on their heads. In Sweden they are called "Lucia Queens." In France a similar head-dress was worn to perform the very old Farandole dance. Today, battery candles are often substituted, with safety in mind. Our Christmas lights are a vestige of these ancient rituals.

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Many Many Thanks to those who have sent contributions to EL PUENTE. We are now covered through the March issue. Anyone for April, May, Summer, and September? **Please make checks out to GCA/El Puente.**

*** FELIZ NAVIDAD AND HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM EL PUENTE***



LA NATIVIDAD by Jean Anaya Moya



CHRISTMAS by Matthew Moya



LOS PASTORES, GALISTEO, c. 1940. Front row from left to right: Cesario Chavez (he lived where the Lopez-Watermanns are now); Inez Sena (Montoya) as the Virgin; Mela Anaya (Montoya) as Gila; Ernesto Sena (?); Manuel Anaya as San Jose; Back row: Clemente Chavez, Ralph Vigil and several unidentified figures including Simon and Daniel Chavez as shepherds; Natividad Sena (Rudy's father) as Lucifer; Frank Sandoval (Tacho's father) as the Hermit.

According to a paper by Reynalda Elsa Ortiz in the Chavez History Library in Santa Fe, Los Pastores, a pageant in song and dialogue, was presented in Galisteo for three centuries. Each village had its own version, so Galisteo's differed slightly from those performed in Taos, Las Vegas, and other towns. Traditional characters, according to Ortiz, were five shepherds (Esteban, Andres, Juan, Antonio, and the lazy Bartolo) Gila, their cook, a hermit, the devil, the Virgin and child, St. Joseph, and two angels.

The play begins in a forest beside a campfire, when the shepherds notice an amazing light in the sky. It becomes an angel bringing joyful tidings. Realizing the fulfillment of an ancient prophecy, they prepare to go and greet the newborn Messiah. Bartolo decides it can all wait and wants to go back to sleep. The others gather simple gifts — wool sheared from the best of the herd, a small staff, a bell, a woven blanket, and a little clay bowl.

As the shepherds travel toward Bethlehem, the Devil embroils them in a dispute with the Hermit over the pretty young Gila, but this is resolved and the group finally arrives in Bethlehem to worship at the manger.

ABOUT 1940

by Mela Montoya

The Pastores were held every year after 1940 that I can remember. I must have been eleven or so years old in this picture. We would gather at the Sala, the Hall that Romona Scholder is renting from the Society of San Jose. Every night a few weeks

before Christmas we practiced. There was a lot of learning and memorizing to do. I was the Gila. I would go with the Pastores to feed the shepherds. There were about 8 *pastores* (shepherds), *Hermitano*, Bartolo, Lucifer, Jose, Maria Santisima and Gila.

Before we had the Pastores pageant, we would also have Las Posadas in the afternoon. That is when we went looking for a place for Virgin Mary to have her baby. San Jose (Manuel Anaya) would sing asking shelter for his wife. We would go to eight different homes asking for shelter. Each home would give us cookies, candies, etc. to take with us. They even left some money in an envelope, to be divided equally among all the players.

Then the last Posada was at the Hall, where in the evening we would put on the Pastores pageant. (At least one year for some reason it was held at the Leybas' cantina behind our present house.) There was no fee charged. People would come from all over to watch the Pastores.

I was Gila for many years. Then in about 1941 some of the boys were called to the service and we didn't have enough men for the shepherds, so my sister Rosina Anaya and Mae Pena (Delgado) joined in as *pastores*. Later some of the boys had grown up and were able to play the shepherds. The Sena boys were involved, and my future husband Onesimo was San Miguel. A relative of mine — Feliberto Anaya — played the Lucifer and Manuel Anaya was still San Jose. Remy Chavez's brother Pedro Pena led the singing.

1964 was the last year we had the Pastores here in Galisteo. Our oldest daughter Geraldine played the part of Gila. Antonio Anaya's daughter played the Virgin Mary. Rudy Sena played Lucifer. Then the Senas moved to Santa Fe and since Natividad Sena had really put it together, there were no more Pastores.

POSADAS

by Geraldine Montoya Pena

I was ten or eleven years old when I played the role of Gila. The role of Gila was to go along with the pastores to feed the shepherds. Terry Anaya played the Virgin Mary. Uncle Dan Montoya played Bartolo, which was a lazy shepherd. The play was about Mary and Joseph going from house to house asking for a place to stay. I recall going to seven or eight houses. We would sing Spanish songs as we were walking or at the door. There was also a devil who was trying to keep us out of the different houses. Then on the last day we all gathered at the Galisteo Hall. That is where Jesus was born, and that is where the shepherds came to bring gifts to the Baby Jesus. And this is when everyone adored Jesus.

I do not remember the names of all the other characters in the two plays. But I do remember all the fun we had. I wish the Galisteo community would have continued to act out the Posadas. Today is December 1, and it makes me remember the fun we had during the Christmas season.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

It appears we have a serious malcontent in our village who also has a very juvenile way of expressing his/her feelings. Wasting time and money to have silly stickers made to deface the local mailboxes is the epitome of cowardice and childishness. I, for one, *highly resent* anyone taking it upon themselves to defame anyone else by putting such inflammatory materials in or on *my* mailbox. The fact that it is a federal offense to do so could be a *real* issue if it continues.

If whoever this anonymous cowardly person is has a problem with the Anaya family or anyone else, let him/her have guts enough to sign their name and courage to come face to face with the Anayas or whoever, and try to work out the problem. A note, picture, sticker, anything unsigned and delivered in the dark of night isn't worth giving the time of day to and neither is the person doing it!

In a small community like ours — where we all have to help and support each other to survive — we definitely don't need this kind of attitude and divisiveness, or person. If things are so unpleasant here in Galisteo for him/her, then by all means find some other place to live. If you can't turn your efforts into positive efforts to help our little community be a better place, then you are part of the problem. In other words, grow up and get a life!

— Evelyn Gregory

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(Editor's Note: The stickers, which appeared only on the mailboxes near the church, are small, bright yellow, and read "Anayaville 87540" — relatively harmless and hardly original, but malice is always worrisome.)

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The gutless one strikes again. But who really cares. Get a life, or a therapist. I can recommend a few good ones.

— Linda McKee

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I would like to take the opportunity during this most special time of year to thank all the community members who have devoted endless hours of volunteer time. By sacrificing your time we continue to make Galisteo a better place to live. Without your continued support, our community would not have the adhesive to achieve our present goals and the commitment to formulate new goals.

I am proud to be part of a community where diversity is openly greeted and where different opinions (whether agreed upon or not) are listened to with respect. It is because of this diversity that we are able to make our community stronger, where our traditions still thrive and where new traditions continue to be established. Yes, we can change Galisteo's name to "Anayaville," but Galisteo by any other name is still Galisteo — a community where our children can go outside and play safely, and a community through unity that we all can be proud to call "home." Again thank you, and may you all have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

—Michael D. Anaya,

President, Galisteo Community Association

WATER BOARD MEETS

The Board of the Galisteo Water Association met on December 8. Members voted tentative approval to Mike Anaya's transfer of his hookup from his former home on Route 41 to his proposed business (the possible cafe and restaurant) on the same site. They also discussed strategies to deal with violators who are using two kitchens on one hookup.

GVFR AT MADRID FIRE

Galisteo Fire and Rescue was one of eight fire departments to respond to the huge fire in Madrid that destroyed a historic adobe building — the former elementary school at the north end of town. The call went out at 6:30 AM the morning after Thanksgiving. Chief Steve Moya and Harmony Hammond manned and womanned the tanker. Since Madrid has no hydrants or water supplies, the tankers had to go to Cerrillos and to the State Pen for water. Assistant Chief Jean Moya, Fire Captain Charlie Holloway, and Dick Griscom followed. As Steve and Harmony raced back and forth in the old tanker (the new one is coming soon), Jean and Charlie were the first to enter the burning building. When they ran out of air, they came back out to fill the tanks on their backs and then returned to the interior. Burning beams were falling around them; the floor had collapsed — a real test by fire. It was dangerous, but both felt well prepared and confident. "So those miserable, sometimes boring, always inconvenient trainings really work!" said Charlie.

Also on the fire front, new automatic doors on the fire station were recently installed by Mike Anaya. The bathroom is next on the list. The next business meeting is Tuesday, Jan. 6 at 7:00. Support on all levels is always needed, no matter how little time you have to give. Every bit helps, and we're very proud of our increasingly experienced volunteer firefighters.

THINKING BACKWARDS

In the last issue, we forgot to mention Vista Clara's Halloween Party for village children and their parents. Those who attended much enjoyed it. Is this a new tradition?

THINKING AHEAD

I haven't been able to turn up pictures of Galisteo's wonderful Christmas lights. Photograph your decorations this year, and we will feature them in EL PUENTE next December.

MYSTERY TREE

Have you noticed the juniper near the cemetery that is decorated each Holiday season? Its mystery decorator sees it as a gift to the community. Others could do the same in their areas. (You must use hardy trimmings to withstand winter weather.) Evelyn Gregory and Linda McKee also suggest that the community buy a nice evergreen to plant next to the Community Center. It would become the community Christmas tree each year, and we could decorate it together.



CHRISTMAS AT ANAYA HOME, GALISTEO, 1969. Mary Ann Anaya holding Robert (age 1), Jo Ann (11 years), Joseph Richard (13 years), Jean (9 years), Michael (5 years), Mark (3 years).

GALISTEO CHRISTMAS PAST

by Jean Anaya Moya

A special memory that I recall each holiday is that my mother would prepare a wonderful meal. Before we sat down and gave thanks, she would make several plates for our bachelor *primos* who lived in the village. I remember my father and brothers would drive around Galisteo and deliver each plate and have some holiday cheer with each one of our friends. Then they would return home and we would sit down together and give thanks. These are a few *primos* that I can remember: Emiliano Sena, Esaque Montoya, Amado Sandoval, Tobias Anaya and Clemente Chavez.

GALISTEO CLASSIFIED

Put your ads in Box 77 (Rte 41 across the creek) or call 466-1276 by Jan. 10 for next issue. Please call to have all ads continue or not.

FOR SALE

Techline desk, \$100. Call David Burke, 466-1668.

Sturdy formica and steel table, 36" sq., \$25 OBO. Call Lucy, 466-1276.

Two saddles in good condition, one a Johnny Beene from El Paso; 2 wooden gun cases; 1 twin bed frame; ornate antique organ, still plays. Call Linda McKee, 466-0392.

1979 VW convertible, new 2-tone paint, canvas top, windshield, carpet, tires. Great looking and running. \$7500 OBO. Also **Camera Equipment**, Michael Datoli, 466-1771.

FOR RENT

Two bedroom house with greenhouse in Galisteo village, available approx. Jan. 6-Feb. 28. Call Griscom/Felty, 466-3996.

Studio apartment, \$600 incl. utilities and caretaking when owner is away. Call David Burke, 466-1668.

SERVICES

Carpentry: Closets, hand-carved dining room tables, patio benches, custom gates, doors, etc. 35 years experience, local references. Onesimo Montoya, 466-1430.

International Travel: Call Shaun Gilmore Merrick, independent travel agent with Global Travel International, 466-9040 (Fax 466-2268).

Avon Representative in Galisteo. For free brochure, call Maria 466-8930.

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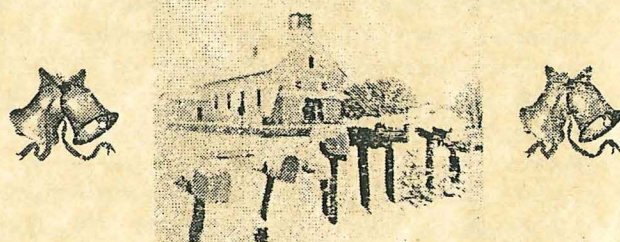
Nizhoni School for Global Consciousness: Little Beings, Middle School, High School, 466-4336 or 466-1975. We also sell edible flowers and rent videos.

Houskeeping or deep cleaning/organization of home or office; art lessons for children, Karyn, 466-2765.

Trash Hauling and Yard Maintenance: We will pick up your trash bags once a week, and deliver them to the dump for a low fee of \$2 a bag. Also do yard cleanups; call for estimates: Michael Anaya, 466-6840 after 6PM.

Barbara Holloway Fine Handweaving: scarves, shawls, vests, jackets, coats, handwoven of luxurious chenille. Please call 466-2118 before visiting.

Wholistic Hypnotherapy by former Galisteo resident Matthew J. Brownstein, A.C.H.E. Certified; Orchard Wellness Center, Santa Fe. Reduced rates for Galisteo residents. Call 820-0955.



GALISTEO CHRISTMAS 1990, by Nicholas Trofimuk

EL PUENTE DE GALISTEO

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