



ISSUE #12

FEBRUARY 1998

On MARCH 4, 7:00 PM, ELECTIONS FOR THE GALISTEO COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION will take place at the Community Center. Volunteers are sought for six vacancies including Board members and president, secretary, and treasurer. PLEASE COME AND VOTE for those who are willing to give their time and energy.

EDITORIAL : COMMON GROUND

It's a good moment to consider again what community means and what our individual responsibilities are to the village and to each other. Perhaps you feel that this does not apply to you. Perhaps you think your home is your castle and it's well fortified. You're not on a water hookup, you don't expect to have an accident or have your house catch on fire. You don't care what is built where or how Galisteo changes so long as it's out of sight. You're too busy with your own life to bother with what goes on around you. If so, that's a pity. It's even dangerous. Not just for you, but for all of us.

A place where a few do the work and many contribute nothing is only real estate, not a community. To have no opinion, to put in no time, is to be powerless. We often don't realize how many dedicated people it takes to keep Galisteo as we see it today. Some of them are virtually invisible and ask for no credit. They work for love of the village. Those of us who are relatively new here don't always know who has done a lot of work in the past. We need others to step into their shoes. You know who you are — whether you have contributed or not.

Change is not bad, but it must be thoughtful change, agreed upon by at least a majority of those whom it affects. A few hours a month seems a relatively small price in exchange for the beauty of this place, for the hardworking Fire Department, Water Association, and GCA Board, for the fundraisers (and — yes — the newsletter volunteers!)

In EL PUENTE's first issue, Barbara Cooper wrote, "Community is a powerful thing. It enfolds us in tradition, making us an important part of history, and urgently involves us in planning for a future we will be proud to pass along to the next generation....May we all benefit from the new energy of others

who have lost their hearts to Galisteo, and from the advice and council of those who have spent a lifetime here."

That is the ideal makeup of the GCA Board — representatives both of the longtime community and of newcomers willing to do their part. Santa Clara Pueblo writer Rina Swentzell defines community as "something you can't walk away from." It is also a place you can't be passive about. The backbone of community is caring — for the people and for the place.



EL RINCONCITO: DICHOS Y CUENTOS DE AMOR from Anna Cardenas

*

Amor con amor se paga.

Love is paid with Love. One good turn deserves another.

*

Amor de lejos es pa los pendejos.

Love at a distance is for fools.

*

Amor que ha sido brasa de repente vuelve a arder.

Where there's smoke, there's fire.

*

Con amor y aguardiente, nada se siente.

There's no defense against love and fate.

Love always finds a way.

*

De amor y amor, solo amor.

Only love is given away freely.

*

Donde hay amor no hay temor.

Where there's love, there's no fear.

*

Quien bien ama nunca olvida.

He who truly loves never forgets.

*

FELIZ DIA DE SAN VALENTINE!



Champion Bugle Bay's Fire Cracker DX-TDX, VC, U-CD, CGC (these are Crackers' advanced degrees in tracking, versatility, companionship, and good citizenship.)



GOING TO THE DOGS (AGAIN)

(This is the beginning of an occasional series about what we do in Galisteo.)

Dogtrainer Evelyn Gregory's mailbox sports a metal Bassett Hound, and her house is decorated with four live ones (plus a coon hound and occasional boarders). She and her husband J.C. lived in El Paso for 23 years before they retired to New Mexico, where their daughter lives, bringing 8 dogs with them. After a year in Eldorado, they found a house on Phil McKee's land, where his son had lived. Evelyn fell in love with the out-crop of white sandstone next to it. They had been in Galisteo almost ten years when J.C. Gregory died after a long illness in 1996.

Evelyn has been an active member of the community, and many of us remember her courageous appearance as a Board member at a GCA meeting, the day after her husband died. Now she keeps herself good and busy with three part-time jobs. (I hounded her for months to get this story.)

She chose the sad-faced Bassetts (trained as "slow trackers" so hunters could follow on foot) "because they have a sense of humor and they make me laugh." She says her dogs are like the shoemaker's children who have no shoes. She's so tired of training when she gets home, her pets get away with murder.

The favorite is clearly Cracker, whose kennel name and title is Champion Bugle Bay's Fire Cracker because he was born on July 4 and the woman who bred him named all her dogs after food. (His son is called Biscuit.) And Cracker is a real ham, who loves to perform and be shown. He has starred in a Pillsbury Dough Boy commercial for crescent rolls, and in an ad for the pet boutique in Sanbusco. In a TV commercial for the Santa Fe Animal Shelter, he even appeared in costume.

When Evelyn came to Santa Fe, the Santa Fe Dog Obedience Club was "on its knees." She helped get it back on all four feet and now trains some 400 dogs a year. One of her jobs is teaching classes there.

She is also a paid employee and adoption counselor at the Santa Fe Animal Shelter on Cerrillos Road, matching people with dogs, which she finds fascinating: "Sometimes people just want the wrong dogs for the wrong reasons. The Dalmatian craze

is diminishing but the dogs of choice around here are Chows, Rottweilers, and Pit Bulls. People want watch dogs, guard dogs, but where will it sleep? Will it have room to run? You have to screen people very carefully," she says. "We make home visits to see how the animal's going to be kept, and talk to personal references and vets. No yard, no dog."

Gregory has "mixed feelings" about no-kill shelters. They often have high ideals, but unadoptable animals spend the rest of their lives in cages, with no human contact except when they are fed. This is inhumane, she insists:

"Our shelter takes anything, no matter what its health. Strays are kept five days and put up, if adoptable. If it's healthy and we have the space, we'll keep it as long as possible — one or two months. When we get crowded we have to choose. Soon we're getting a new state-of-the-art shelter, including a clinic and training facility, low-cost spaying and neutering services. Challenge New Mexico wants to have their horse facility there [a riding program for the developmentally disabled]. Hopefully the land will be donated."

Her third job is working part time for Dr. Phillip Hinko, the much-respected veterinarian at the Shelter. She gives private lessons and helps clients with dog problem-solving. Sometimes behavior problems can be solved in one visit, and sometimes they can last for months. Problems arise, she says, from "unbalanced relationships between dog and owner stemming from co-dependency or just neglect. It's really psychology. You watch the interactions between people and animals and teach owners how to work with their pets. Often people's expectations are way beyond where the animal is."

Some words of wisdom from the expert: "New dogs don't get along with old ones. It's not a good idea to have two dogs of the same sex and age. You can't leave a dog alone all the time. Dogs are naturally pack animals and they need family, even wild strays need others and end up in packs. You are your dog's pack and somebody's got to be the alpha, the leader."

Evelyn opposes letting dogs run loose, citing the "unleashed is unloved" maxim. "They shouldn't be chained up all the time either, but kept in a fenced yard — no matter how much land you may own. An animal on a chain with no human companionship is the cruelest life. They're better off dead."

She is also adamant about owners' responsibility to "spend a couple of bucks on a large, readable ID collar with a phone number." (I agree; a dog followed me home from a walk recently and spent 24 hours outside my door in the cold; finally with some help from a neighbor I managed to read her tags and got hold of the vet, who recognized her and found the owners.)

Evelyn is not a cat person, but she agrees with Shelter policy, which is not to adopt out cats if they are going to be let outdoors. (A local veterinarian told me that in some circumstances it would be okay to let cats out during the daytime, but not after dark. Some people lose one cat after another to coyotes, and keep returning to the shelter for replacements.)

When it comes to horses, Evelyn says she feels terrible when she sees a horse confined in a small space without exercise, with no chance to use their muscles. If they're left standing in mud they may get thrush. And once they are let out, they are so excited that they can be very hard to handle.

Need advice? Call Evelyn at 466-1875.



FOUR GENERATIONS OF CHAVEZ MEN, c. 1986. Left to right: Antonio holding his son Angelo, Felipe, and Luis. Felipe Chavez y Chavez was born and died in Galisteo (in 1996 at the age of 102), although he sometimes worked elsewhere. Luis's mother — Manuelita Serna Madrid, from Villanueva — died in 1924 in Las Animas, Colorado, and is buried in La Junta. (Photo courtesy of Luis and Remedios Chavez.)

PLANS PRESENTED FOR EL TANQUE VIEJO

On February 9, at a well-attended meeting at the Community Center, partners Mike and Dora Anaya and Hansi and Asi Mohn presented the plans for a new building in front of the former Anaya home on Route 41, just south of the Church. El Tanque Viejo (named for an old water structure once on the site) will contain three businesses, including the Anaya-Mohn firm Electrical Concepts, now housed in a tiny structure on the site.

The one-story building with portal and terrace or garden in front will be 3,750 square feet., set back 25' from the property line. They have received a 30' easement at the north side from the highway department. There will be two water runoff areas, trees planted as a buffer around the edges, and a 22-place basecourse parking lot in front.

The project calls for County rezoning from domestic to commercial status, but it is not clear whether this would simply involve a waiver to current laws or whether it would open up more of Galisteo to commercial zoning.

There was a lot of interest in what the other two businesses would be. The partners hope to attract a coffee house/gallery and a restaurant. Other possibilities were a feedstore, a general store, a grocery store, a bakery, a small retail store, or storage lockers.

The coffee shop and gallery idea sounded good to many. We could use a gathering place and we certainly have artists.

If a restaurant were to come in, it would be open nights. At first the closing hour was stated as midnight; after some worried comments from those present, and a plea from Harmony Hammond for a closing hour more like restaurants in town, Mike agreed to 10 PM. Priscilla Hoback asked about traffic impact and parking. Anna Cardenas asked about drainage. Valentine Riddell and Joe Cooper asked about zoning precedents, while

others asked about lighting. There will be freestanding lights pointed down, and a 5' high lighted sign pointing up, with 50-120 watt maximums in different areas.

Several people wondered about liquor licenses. Mike said that was down the road; community input and approval would again be sought. (Apparently neighbors are sometimes a deciding factor in liquor license hearings; this includes beer and wine for a restaurant.) Although the property is adjacent to the church, it is 450' away, so it is not affected by the law that says no liquor can be sold within 200' of a church.

There remains the ticklish question of water. In December, the Board of the Galisteo Mutual Domestic Water Consumers' Association (without submission to the membership) approved the transferral of Mike's domestic hookup from one house to the three-unit commercial building. (He is drilling a well to cover the needs of the rental house behind the new building.)

Mela Montoya pointed out that the Water Association's 1996 policy paper stated unequivocally "No approval for commercial or rental use." Galisteo uses all of its allotted 42.58 acre-feet. Water Board President Steve Moya (who was out of town and could not attend this meeting) has stated that there will be no more hookups of any kind permitted, although there are a number of people on the waiting list who have been there for years.

Despite the apparent irregularity of the water permit awarded this project, we assume that the Water Board had logical reasons for its actions. In the interest of mutual trust, the community — especially Water Association members — needs to hear what they are. EL PUENTE welcomes comment in future issues.

If the Anaya-Mohn project is approved by the CDRC (County Development Review Committee) and then by the County Commissioners, the partners will have a year to build and a year's extension if necessary. Thanks were expressed to Mike, Dora, and the Mohns for bringing their plans to the community before going on to the County hearings.

The first hearing is on Thursday, February 26, 4:00 PM, at the County Courthouse. The Anayas and Mohns welcome community presence and support. If you will be out of town, and have something to say, you can write a letter to the CDRC before the hearing.

PROTECTING OUR ASSETS

by Joe Cooper

For most of us, our biggest investment is the house we live in and the land it sits on. We protect this investment and try to increase its value by making repairs and improvements. The condition of our community as a whole and the quality of life it offers also affect our property values. It follows that we should put some of our time and effort toward improving Galisteo as well. If you've thought about doing this, but don't quite know where to start, here are some ideas.

This is the time of year for some major meetings, for the Galisteo Community Association (March 4) and the Galisteo Water Association (in March, but not yet scheduled). Sometimes there aren't enough people at these meetings to conduct business, much less express the views of residents who might make

a real contribution. We should all go to meetings, learn the issues and speak up and vote for what we think is best. We can even run for office. But the starting point is to go and make one's feelings known. If we don't do that, we can't affect the outcome, and have no right to complain.

The organizations which work for Galisteo can only improve things if they have enough people to do their jobs. If we won't do it, who will? For example, the Galisteo Volunteer Fire & Rescue needs more people. If we have a fire that could damage our property, or a medical emergency, we expect them to be there for us. But how can they meet our needs and protect us if there are not enough people trained and equipped to do so?

The last thought is that we should all share our part of the cost. Most of what Galisteo needs costs money and we should consider our contributions as the opportunity to protect our investment here. If we can't spare the money, we can contribute our labor and our energy. The point is that we shouldn't depend on our neighbors to fulfill our obligations.

There's a story about a very religious man who prayed for hours every day. At the end of each prayer, he asked God to help him win the lottery. After years of this, God said to him: "You're a good man and I'd really like to help you win the lottery. But first you have to buy a ticket."

Isn't it time that everyone in Galisteo bought a ticket?

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

My family and I are newcomers to Galisteo and feel very fortunate to be living here. Since we arrived last spring, I've become aware of how many talented people there are living in and next to the village who, as a group, can provide the service for just about anything that anyone needs.

I'd like to put an idea on the table for discussion: What about setting up a bartering system here so that we could trade talents whenever possible? There could be two lists: the first a base naming different people and what they can do; the other a running list of who needs what. Then people could compare the two, make their own connections, and work out the logistics themselves. Maybe the lists could be published in EL PUENTE. Uncle Sam is generally not very supportive of ideas like this, but as far as I understand, so long as you keep records of value received and value given, all this is perfectly legal.

I've mentioned this idea to a few people so far and the response has been positive. It seems to me that this goes back to how villages originally worked. What do you think?

Ted Fleming, 466-2363

GALISTEO CLASSIFIED

ADS ARE FREE, AND FOR GALISTEO RESIDENTS ONLY. Put your ads in Box 77 (Rte.41 across the creek at Avenida Vieja) or call 466-1276 by March 5 for next issue. Please call to have ads continue or not.

WANTED

Looking for **2-bedroom house to rent for June and July.** Please call 466-4658. Small, simple, peaceful home in Galisteo desired, to rent and/or caretake by resident with impeccable references. Also needed: **Wooden drafting table.** Please call Maureen O'Brien, 466-1213.

FOR SALE

Truck for Sale: 1989 Ford 351, 4x4, long bed, \$5,000. Call Mike Anaya, 988-8853.

Ranchitos de Galisteo Lot #39 at the corner of Los Angelitos and Camino Libre, \$125,000. For sale by owner, not listed with realtor. Call Michael Jurca, 248-684-1074.

Must Sell: Two Cyprus Poodles, brother and sister, 1 year old. Will not sell separately, must stay together. Need loving home with safe yard and owner who is not gone all day. \$500 OBO, includes toys, beds and flight carriers. Also for sale: **artworks, pine jelly cupboard, cowboy coffee table, leather chair and ottoman, Fisher stereo and speakers, loveseat, Futon, videos, and two interior hollow doors.** Call for prices, details: 505-699-2047 before 9:30 AM and after 6:30 PM.

Cameras and photo-equipment, call Michael Datoli, 466-1771.

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.

SERVICES

Are you thinking about your garden yet? **Native Bloom Landscaping** does drip systems, installation, hardscaping, design, maintenance and consultation. Call Linda at 466-4658.

Part-time Caretaker for your property or animals, chores, barnwork, feeding, general upkeep, 3-15 hours a week. Call Richard, 466-7723.

Marketing and business consultant specializing in small businesses and start-ups. First hour free. Call Richard Solomon, 466-0231.

Dave's Auto Repair: Tune-ups, oil change, minor repairs, auto restoring, painting. Local references, free estimates. David Montoya, 466-2097.

Car and Truck Detailing: Will clean and vacuum the inside of your vehicle and do the windows. Call Miguel Padilla, 466-8930.

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).

New! **The College of Divinity** at the Nizhoni School offers a few select classes to the public. Ask for more detailed information and the schedule. Call 466-4336 or 466-1975.

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

Passive Solar Builders: Locally owned general contractor since 1980: quality home construction, renovations, and additions. Call Charlie, 466-2118.

One of a kind sterling silver jewelry, made by ancient lost wax process. For women and men. Also decorative art in wood and tin. Barbara and Joe Cooper, El Estudio, #18 the Hill. Call 466-3827 or 466-0133 to make sure we're there.

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

Shaklee Products, Help protect your health and the environment. Shaklee now has Glucosamine for osteoarthritic pain. Call for membership information or direct orders. Kevan Saunders, 466-6620.

**EL PUENTE SPONSOR THIS MONTH:
CHUCK MILLER**

+++ EL PUENTE DE GALISTEO+++

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Production: Richard Shuff and Insty-Prints. Santa Fe

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El Puente logo by Cara Lee.

Please send letters, comments, suggestions, contributions to EL PUENTE, HC 75, Box 77, Galisteo NM 87540, or call 466-1276 (no machine; mornings best).

NEXT DEADLINE IS MARCH 5. SUBMISSIONS ARE WELCOME AND NECESSARY. (EDITOR HAS A COMMITMENT-FILLED SPRING AND NEEDS HELP!)