



ISSUE #21

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EDITORIAL

With this issue EL PUENTE DE GALISTEO begins its **third year**. Our resolution is to keep it coming. Maybe your resolutions could include increased participation in your newsletter. Yet again, we make a plea for more input from all of you: Letters to the Editor, news tips, family accomplishments and milestones, photographs or drawings, personal writings about Galisteo or issues relevant to the village...and critical as well as congratulatory feedback! Heartfelt thanks to all those who have provided literary, moral, and financial support in the past year.

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Responses to the possible computer disasters of Y2K (see Part I of Valentine Riddell's article here) range from the dismissive to the catastrophic. Hopefully Galisteo will ply a middle-ground course by being well prepared and not hysterical. It's a good chance to think about our interdependence and interconnectedness as a community and perhaps make some improvements that will stand us in good stead whether or not the computers crash. In Part II (February), Riddell will discuss the ways in which Galisteo specifically can prepare for the threat of brief or prolonged shutdowns. Each month thereafter, EL PUENTE will run a few tips on how to get ready during the countdown to January 2000.

Y2K WHAT?!!

by Valentine McKay-Riddell

I have to admit, when I first heard of the Millennium bug I thought they'd discovered a new kind of virus that would wipe out civilization, instead of a simple little glitch in ancient COBOL-based software. And it was later still when I realized that this "little software glitch" had the potential to demolish life as we know it. This unbelievable phenomenon and global threat is presently referred to as Y2K — short for year (Y) 2000 (K). It's the new buzzword — if not on everybody's lips, at least lurking in the back of everybody's mind.

Here are some quotations from the experts:

"Decades ago in the Wild West era of the new computing industry, programmers did what they had to do to save time and money. To conserve computer storage space and data entry time, they allotted only two keystrokes to four-digit dates, so '1969' read as '69' — hardly peculiar considering humans have been condensing dates since we put ink to papyrus. The problem is that these chips read '00' not as '2000,' but as '1900.' The solution is to change all of the computer codes from two to four digits. Sounds simple, but it isn't.

"Microprocessor computer chips are often just sophisticated calculators. They count fractions of seconds, days, miles, pounds, degrees, lumens, etc. Here's where it gets tricky: there are over 40 billion time-sensitive computer chips in the world, and we now have less than a year to identify and modify them.

"Such chips exist in traffic lights, railroad tracks, water, gas, and electrical control systems. They're in medical equipment, military and air traffic control systems, cash registers, and satellites. We are surrounded by them. (continued p. 2)



LEFT: Last fall, Romona Scholder accompanied former Galisteo Agnes Martin to the White House where she received a presidential award for her painting. The Clintons were clearly glad to see them, but Romona seems to be keeping her distance from Bill and Agnes looks none too happy!

(Y2K continued)

"As futurist John L. Petersen puts it, 'the networks that make modern life possible are created by technology, but they are also masked by technology.' It is often difficult to see the extent of our interconnectedness." (Y2K: The Opportunity of Our Lifetimes by Gordon Davidson, Danielle LaPorte, and Corinne McLaughlin).

"The United States, with over half of all computer capacity and 60% of Internet assets, is the world's most technology-dependent country." (GAO report, 9/3/98).

"So grave are the concerns for the nation's power grid — in which a failure in one region can cascade to others — that Connecticut Senator Christopher Dodd said, 'We're no longer at the point of asking whether or not there will be any power disruptions but now we are forced to ask how severe the disruptions are going to be.'...White House Y2K czar John Koskinen has said, 'We could have, if not the equivalent, something that is very much like a hurricane on the East Coast, an earthquake in San Francisco, and flooding on the Mississippi River happening all at once.'" (Robert Sam Anson, "The Y2K Nightmare," Vanity Fair, Jan. 1999).

"The problem is going to be pretty bad." (Intel Chairman Andy Grove).

Think about all the machines you depend on as you move through a normal day: your alarm clock, shaver, radio, TV set, coffee maker, toaster, microwave, watch, car...Not to mention your computer, pager, cell phone, notebook. On the way to work you may have to cross a railroad track, stop at several stoplights, get gas for your car, grab a cup of coffee at Las Chivas. And when you reach your desk the telephone may be ringing for a conference call with a client halfway around the world.

Every one of these machines has in it a certain number of computer chips. And chances are one or more of those chips is flawed. Meaning that when the date rolls over to January 1, 2000, the machine may either start behaving erratically, work for a few days or weeks and then crash, or stop altogether.

OK, you sigh, maybe a return to a more peaceful, bucolic way of life is preferable to this constant grind. But let's go back to the moment when you get up in the morning and head for the bathroom, only to discover that the room is dark, the tap doesn't run, the toilet won't flush, and it's bloody cold in the house, which you can't warm up because the electric switch for the thermostat won't work either. Hmm. Too much of a good thing?

Let's say you don't go to the office, but own a ranch. In the pasture near the house, there are 40 head of cattle moaning for water and feed. But maybe you can't get the darned pump to deliver water to the stock tank. And the feed truck hasn't shown up because the gas couldn't be pumped into it. So you stomp back inside to complain to the wife while she's fixing you a nice strong cup of black coffee and a couple of eggs but she can't cook because there's no electricity. And when the propane runs out, the delivery trucks may not be running either. You open a can of beans, eat them cold or laboriously heat them on a fire, then sit at the kitchen table, scratching yesterday's stubble and trying to think through the noise the kids are making (because the school bus didn't come either...)

Beginning to get pretty grim, right? After this has gone on for three days you're about ready to shoot somebody, and sure enough, here come five or six kind of seedy-looking guys. What do you do? Give them the last of your stash of beans? Hold them off with the 30:06? Sneak the family out the back door and let them have the place? Call the cops? (Oops — No phone!)

This isn't just a bad nightmare you can't wake up from, it's a very possible scenario. But there is an alternative. In this one, the pesky computer chips still malfunction, but you have worked with your neighbors to put in place a contingency plan that will enable you all to get along, if not in absolute comfort, at least with a modicum of sanity and order until the systems are either restored or have been down so long that you no longer miss them.

Some of us have already met and are beginning to look at contingencies. We would like to have a community meeting very soon. We will point you to the sources of our information so you can check it out for yourselves. We will do our best to answer your questions, allay your concerns, and boost your confidence in your own amazing skills and capabilities, to help our community of Galisteo move through this transition as smoothly as possible.

Please feel free to contact us at any time at **Y2K Galisteo Information, 466-0791** — for xeroxes, to offer your expertise in any field, or just to talk. We will keep you informed of meetings here, and in Santa Fe and Eldorado, held so local residents can put together contingency plans for their communities. If you are on line (or use the public library computers), check out www.cassandraproject.org. To join a computer mailing list on Y2K issues send an Email request to y2ksantafe@groups.com.

A Y2K Information Fair at Capitol High School, January 30 from 8AM, will have videos, panels, workshops and information tables. Keynoter Cathy Moyer, cofounder of the Cassandra Project in Boulder, Colorado, will speak at 9 AM and 2PM.

I wish this were a joke. But it's not. It's our possible future, and we need to work it out together. (TO BE CONTINUED)

SPARSE VOTER TURNOUT TURNS OUT OK

The Santa Fe County elections on January 5 drew very few voters outside of Edgewood (where the initiative for incorporation as a town won) and Eldorado (where it lost). The two ballot questions got lost in the incorporation hoopla, but they both won. The result is that a 3 million dollar surplus from the County gross receipts tax will stay in the County and not have to be turned over to the State.

One question dealt with solid waste; maybe we won't have to pay a fortune to go to the dump now. The other called for dedication of one eighth of one percent of the tax to emergency services and other health care needs. Effective July 1, 1999, this will provide funding for the County Fire Department paramedic services, increase funding for indigent health care in the county and support training for fire and medical volunteers.

THE 1999 GALISTEO DIRECTORY IS OUT, an invaluable community resource. Thanks to the GFVR. IF YOU REPORTED CHANGES AFTER THE DEADLINE, IT'S UP TO YOU TO PUT A NOTICE IN EVERYBODY'S BOX (or call EL PUENTE and we'll tell the world for you).

WILDLIFE NOTES

The more people move into the area, the tougher it is for wildlife. Their habitat is invaded and access to food and water becomes scarce. There have been a couple of mortalities in the Galisteo area in the last month or so.

George Morris, while housesitting at the Frank Anaya Ranch just south of Cerro Pelon, killed a giant old rattlesnake that was living in the *horno* near the old adobe there. He says it was six feet long and it was "kind of sad to kill it." Antonio Chavez saw a huge coon by the side of Rte. 41 across from the highway bridge that had been hit by a car.

Some of them are surviving. Munson Hunt has twice sighted a mountain lion near Galisteo, having been warned by scat and tracks. Its tracks are like very big kitty paws, about 4 or 5" in diameter; cats' prints are rounder than dogs', which are more oblong and show the nails, which cats do not. The lion is bigger than coyotes, the yellowy color of our dry grasses, and boasts a long fat tail. It is very fearful of dogs and humans.

Fish and Game advised that unless the animal is sick (it does not appear to be), just let it be. It will not stick around, and is probably on its way back to the mountains. There is not enough cover for habitat around here. However, there is a chance that this is an older animal who is having trouble competing for diminishing food in the hills and has been forced to settle for less desirable turf.

Cougars watch and wait for their prey, so they need rocks and piñons. The animals are common in the hills and have large territories. They are more likely to pass through the village in creekbeds in the night. Now and then even bears are spotted in Eldorado, as they follow the arroyos down from the mountains.

FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS

Elections were held Tuesday January 5 and all officers were re-elected. Stability is a wonderful thing. Chief, Steve Moya; Assistant Chief, Jean Moya; Medical officer, Bobbi Anaya; Captain, Charlie Holloway; First Lieutenant, Linda Anaya; Second Lieutenant, Nick Contreras (who will be in charge of truck maintenance); Secretary, Valentine Riddell; Treasurer (and factotum of the Ways and Means Committee), Michael Datoli. The late Bill Kastle was made honorary Lieutenant and his picture with his shirt are framed and hung in the firehouse.

All fire department equipment is Y2K compliant. There are no computer chips in our vehicles. The software we bought is also ok. However, we do need to figure out over the next few months some alternative modes of communication, in case someone has an emergency and phones are out. (Gas we probably don't have to worry about, as our rescue unit uses about one tank a year.)

On Sunday, January 3, the GVFR held its annual award banquet at SteaksSmith. The three new firefighters (Harmony Hammond, Chris Holloway, and Brian Moya) were honored. So were those who had taken the Swiftwater, Wild Land and medical courses during the year. New GVFR T-shirts and jackets were presented to the deserving. Also attending as our guests were Hank Blackwell, Jeff Saunders and Bill McSweeney from the

County Fire Marshall's office, with their wives. The GVFR Chiefs were toasted and thanked. A good time was had by all.

No Art Auction this year. The Cook Ranch fire settlement has eased our financial needs for the time being (though donations are still both welcome and necessary). However, it is not too early to explore ideas for new ways artists can support the fire department next year.

BITS AND PIECES

Marie Ferneau suffered a massive stroke in late December. She remains in St. Vincent's (room 1310) and is in rehabilitation, which will be a long haul. The community sends its best wishes to Marie for her recovery and to her husband Elmer and family in this difficult time.

Galisteo artists **Shaun Gilmore** and **Munson Hunt** are showing their work in Albuquerque with two other artists at the Coleman Gallery (311 Broadway). It is open Wednesday through Saturday 1-4 PM, January 15 to March 6.

David Burk wants people to know that he has retired from his career as a child psychiatrist and now lives in Galisteo full time. His new mailbox number is 706.

Chris Griscom of Galisteo's Light Institute and Nizhoni School for Global Consciousness was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Indian Board of Alternative Medicines, the largest alternative medicines organization in India.

Galisteo boasted **three Christmas trees** this holiday season. There is the little new one recently planted next to the Community Center, which we will watch as it becomes The Big One. It has a way to go before it can compete with the giant at Barbara and Joe Cooper's house, a towering, beautifully lit beacon on the Hill. And finally there was the mystery tree between the cemetery and the water tanks on Route 42, which was (more or less) surreptitiously decorated by an anonymous citizen, a yearly tradition.

TWO DICHOS FOR EL PUENTE

Fom a list of *dichos* left us by **Anna Cardenas**. Some might think these apply to newspaper editors and reporters!

Pregunta mas el tonto en una hora de lo que contestan cien hombres en cien años. (A fool can ask more questions in an hour than a hundred men can answer in a hundred years; or, it's easier to ask questions than to give answers.)

On the other hand, **preguntando se llega a Roma** (By asking one's way, one gets to Rome; or, questioning and investigation will get us what we want to learn.)

**EL PUENTE SPONSOR OF THE MONTH:
JOAN WATTS**

BILL KASTLE, 1926-1998

Bill Kastle, who lived in Galisteo for over ten years, died on December 16 at the VA Hospital in Albuquerque. Bill was active in the community, serving on the GCA Board and as a founding member of the Galisteo Volunteer Fire and Rescue, of which he was very proud. Born March 16, 1926, in Pennsylvania, of Pennsylvania Dutch background, Kastle served in the Navy during World War II on the aircraft carrier USS Indiana. A longtime resident of New Mexico, he lived in Albuquerque before coming to Santa Fe to own and run A & B Appliances for many years.

He lived (off the grid) in the cozy little house under the hill on the southeast edge of the village, with his horse Yellow and his devoted little dog Shadow. (He called her "hita"; she could use a home with the kind of one-on-one attention Bill gave her. If you're interested, call Chan Osborn de Anaya, 984-8982.)

Bill built the house himself with hand tools and no power and then added a stone root cellar. Before he left he had plans for a stone barn. A great gardener, he mostly lived off what he grew and meat he stored in a neighbor's freezer.

In 1996, Bill moved to Anton Chico for a more rural life and started all over again, gaining the respect and friendship of his new community as he built a traditional stone house and horse barn on the Pecos River in that community of wonderful old stone houses that have now gone out of fashion. When he was too sick to work himself, he hired local people to keep the projects going, including an irrigated field, and was looking forward to expanding his garden.

A gruff man who spoke his mind, Bill had a great heart. He befriended many in the *hispano* and Anglo communities. (I — your editor — recall being welcomed by Bill with a bowl of homemade soup as soon as my house was built.) According to his close friend Chan Osborn de Anaya (who was the realtor when Bill bought his land in Galisteo fifteen years ago and is married to MaryAlice Anaya's son Vernon), Bill was "the last of the pioneers. He was fiercely independent and lived his life to the fullest without medical intervention." ("If you can't take care of it yourself, it doesn't need to be done," he would say.)

Bill Kastle passed away immediately after hearing a friend read the 23rd Psalm. The funeral was held on his land in Anton Chico. He is survived by one son, Gary Kastle of Santa Fe, his grandchildren, and his many friends in Galisteo and Anton Chico.



GALISTEO CLASSIFIED

ADS ARE FREE AND FOR GALISTEO RESIDENTS ONLY. Put your ads in Box 77 (Rte 41 at very south of village) or call 466-1276 by February 10 for next issue. Please call to have ads continue or not.

Sublet Feb. & March in the village. Studio apartment in old adobe. Wood heat, charming and quiet. \$400 per month includes all. Call 466-8319.

For Rent in Galisteo Village: Small 2-bedroom home, \$775 per month. Utilities paid. Call 832-6024.

For free from the Community Center, a non-functioning large chest freezer; you take it away. **For sale** from the Community Center: 6 used plywood folding tables, 36 x 96", \$20 or OBO. Call Mela Montoya (466-1430) or Maria Padilla (466-8930).

SERVICES

Caretaking for your property or animals, also chores, light truck hauling, yard work. Call Richard, 466-7723.

Beth is available for housesitting and pet care in Galisteo, also errands, odd jobs, help with parties, studio assistant, etc. Local refs. 466-1966.

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

Native Bloom Landscaping Call Linda, 466-4658.

International Travel, call Shaun Merrick, independent agent, 466-9040.

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

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

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

Nizhoni School for Global Consciousness on the new campus in Galisteo. Call 466-4336 or 466-1975.

Reiki Sessions and trainings by master V. Riddell, 466-0791.

Passive solar builders: Quality home construction, renovations, and additions. Call Charlie, 466-2118.

One-of-a-kind sterling silver jewelry, decorative art, the Coopers, El Estudio, #18 the Hill. Call 466-3827 or 466-0133.

Barbara Holloway Fine Handweaving of luxurious chenille. Please call 466-2118 before visiting.

+++ EL PUENTE DE GALISTEO+++

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DON'T FORGET GCA OPEN FORUM JAN. 18, 6:30 TO DISCUSS TRAILS AND OPEN SPACES

Left: Bill Kastle and Friend working with the GVFR.