



EDITORIAL: *Star light, star bright... I wish I may, I wish I might, have the wish I wish tonight...*

I often wake up for a bit around 2-3 AM. This used to be pleasant contemplative moment, a chance to roll over and look out at the stars glittering over a sleeping village. But where once the east side of town was always dark, now there is an outdoor light that is often on all night, beaming into my bedroom window like a wartime searchlight, blotting out the night sky and nocturnal musings.

Light pollution is a problem for scientists and romantics alike. The New Mexico Night Sky was recently put at the top of endangered sites by the New Mexico Heritage Preservation Alliance. The National Parks and Conservation Association estimates that only 10 % of the nation's population can see the Milky Way any more. The international Dark Sky Association figures the US wastes about \$5 billion in lighting up "the bottom of airplanes." Cities replacing high intensity lights have saved up to 50% of their budget, and it seems that the best home security light is not the common 175-watt unshaded mercury bulb, because its glare obscures the surroundings, making it easier for intruders to hide. A dimmer, shielded light pointing down is both cheaper, more effective, and more considerate. A feeble state Night Sky Protection Act was passed this year. It's a first step but the real responsibility lies with individuals.... Dream On?

Corrections to May Issue, in which two errors slipped by the bleary editorial eye: the former Galisteo teacher was *Elbert*, not Albert J. Mitchell, and La Cienega was misspelled. **EL PUENTE** takes a break as usual in July and August. **HAVE A TERRIFIC SUMMER** and look for a double fall issue. In the meantime, **DON'T FORGET THE SEASONAL HIGHLIGHTS:**

RODEO DE GALISTEO, July 24-25.

GALISTEO FIESTA, September 11. PLUS

"the most exciting horse sporting event in New Mexico":

EVENTS AT GOOSE DOWNS FARM will run back-to-back weekends on **June 26-27 and July 3-4.**

Dressage and show jumping on Saturdays, cross-country competitions on Sundays. Spectators welcome.

Call 466-8771 for information.

SANTA FE COUNTY DECLARES EMERGENCY FIRE ORDINANCE IN RESPONSE TO HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS. BANNED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE:

- *Open fires (not including fuel-fired campstoves or grills)
- *Agricultural or other open burning of vegetation/rubbish.
- *Campfires
- *Smoking within a County Park, campground, or any wildland area except within a building or an enclosed vehicle.
- *The issuance of permits for burning

A ban on the sale of fireworks is also in effect. Please respect these laws and keep our town from going up in smoke!



PROUD MAMAS: Priscilla Hoback shows off her new filly. Proud Mary was born at 4AM on May 11, 1999 at Quartermill Farm. The proud equine mother is R.A. Danai; the father is Wildwoods Abril from Algodones. The filly was born bay but will turn gray. She brings the horse population at the farm to eight, and is soon to be immortalized as subject of one of Priscilla's distinctive ceramic murals.

SAN JOSÉ DANCE HALL TO BE ART SITE ARTIST SEEKS INPUT FROM COMMUNITY

On July 10 the Third International SITE Santa Fe Biennial exhibition will open and the San José Dance Hall in Galisteo will be part of it. SITE has contracted with the building's owner — La Sociedad de San José (see EL PUENTE Summer 1997) — to exhibit there in exchange for badly needed repairs. The Dance Hall was built around 1890 when Josefa Ortiz y Davis decided not to hold community dances in her home any longer. Windows and double doors were added to the facade when it was used as a store in the 1960s. In recent years the hall was an artist's studio, but it had not been used as a dance hall for decades until the weekend of the 1998 studio tour, when the Cuervo Wranglers played there.

Rosa Martinez, the biennial's guest curator from Spain, took selected artists on a tour of the Santa Fe area, considered their proposals, and then negotiated for sites with several communities.

Swedish artist Michael von Hausswolff chose St. Joseph's Hall. The artist will make no structural changes in the historic building. His work, called *Galisteo Dance Hall Seance*, was described in a letter from Martinez as a sound installation that "allows visitors to imagine the hidden energies and the old memories of the place."

Von Hausswolff deals with sound as a communication or connection with the dead or otherworldly spirits. He will "record the electromagnetic forces that inhabit both the architecture and the surrounding land. He will mix these sounds with excerpts of imaginary conversations, and old songs or popular music that were played at the time the building was used as a dance hall. The noise of thunderstorms, wind, or other atmospheric phenomena will also be heard from time to time in his recordings."

Hoping to bring a new dimension to the electric forces inhabiting the building and the surrounding land, von Hausswolff will create a video projection on the bandstand wall, consisting of an "image" of the music, produced by an oscilloscope. Sounds may also be transmitted to the central exhibition space on Paseo de Peralta.

"It is very important," says Martinez, "that the inhabitants of Galisteo help the artist in his research about the history of the place. Gathering musical recordings by local musicians or remembering old stories that happened there will allow the artist to achieve an understanding of the emotions and the narratives linked to that specific building. These materials, as well as any other information or documents that the people from Galisteo can provide, will be very welcome."

FROM THE WATER ASSOCIATION

by Joe Cooper

The Board has met four times since the General Meeting and is monitoring water usage. So far, one non-complying kitchen has been removed from a residence and a situation where community water was running down an unused well has been repaired. We are looking for a feasible way to improve pressure, but so far have not been able to arrange a meeting of all the parties involved

The problem of delinquent accounts is increasing and we urge all members to pay up on their bills. The Board will consider true hardship cases, but believes it is wrong for members who are able to pay to force others to carry them. Those who are still not paying within 30 days will see their names printed in EL PUENTE.

With summer coming on, everyone should use water carefully and sparingly. Please water only when necessary and then in the early morning or evening to reduce evaporation and to get the most drip from each drop. Leaks in the system or in households (including faucets, hydrants and toilets) should be repaired or reported right away. If we all conserve together, we should get through fine.

The Board has brought the by-laws up to date by incorporating all changes made since 1988. We'd like all members to have a current set so they can be familiar with them and recommend changes. Any members, local or out of town, who have not yet received the current by-laws should contact Joe Cooper (Box 110; 466-3827) or any Board member. Once members have had a chance to consider changes, we will call a General Meeting to discuss and vote on them.

Remember: "Water is the Gold of Galisteo."

[**Editor's Postscript:** Rod Hall and Scott Diffrient from the Water Users Association have presented the GCA Board with a proposal to drill a second community well on the village's pasture property on Rte. 41. It lies in a "bowl" and has good water. An existing well on the property was dug around twenty years ago for a windmill and may or may not still be serviceable. Power would be underground so only the well head would be visible and the only easement necessary would be through John Young's property. An additional well would provide back up and fill the big new tank more efficiently; the feedline from the current well to the tanks is 1/2 inch smaller than the previous one. Recharge would also be faster in case of major draw-downs in a fire.

The village is approaching its allotted acre feet but leaks are now being fixed, so there may be a larger margin. There is also a possibility of buying more water rights. Who would pay for all this isn't clear yet.]

FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Our elegant new fire station is almost completed. There are now two bathrooms (one with shower), storage, washing machine for fire gear, and a fax machine. (The number is 466-3658, also a second phone line when not in use as a fax). After a few finishing touches, the station will be formally dedicated next fall.

Ted Fleming and Alan Langer received their certificates for the Intro to Wildland Firefighting and Intro to Incident Command trainings.

In case of a WIPP crisis, the WIPP Transport Schedule calls for only one local vehicle accompanied only by the first three responders.

The GVFR is about to acquire a new second-hand rescue unit from Eldorado. Our old one will also remain here, which brings the fleet up to 5 vehicles.

At the May 4 meeting, it was voted to donate \$200 to Craig Moya for his basketball team's trip to North Carolina.

Anyone want to donate a generator to the fire station for possible Y2K malfunctions?

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Here it is the first of June and Galisteo is still not prepared for anything out of the ordinary come Y2K time. Interesting, given that our population consists of such a broad spectrum of people — blessed with various degrees of wisdom both practical and theoretical. By "prepared" I mean, of course, little things — like installing a backup generator for the water pump in the village.

Whether one believes all the Y2K horror stories or not, being prepared for a power outage by having an adequate generator is one of the more practical things we could do. It's not like a generator would break the bank. There are some very reasonably priced ones out there still. And it would be useful in all power outages in years to come.

When I've raised the subject in public I've been met by quite a range of comments:

"I can see you have a problem with this...but don't give up! Keep trying to talk to people — sooner or later somebody [not us!] will listen."

"Well, it wouldn't hurt to go back to the old way — we can all just get our water out of the river in buckets like we used to."

Now I admit I'm not an oldtimer — the idea of dragging buckets of water up the hill doesn't appeal to me even in warm weather. I'm not a tekkie, but if there's a magic bullet out there that can "fix" Y2K, I've yet to hear about it. I'm not privvy to what "the Government" plans to do either — although I'll tell you straight, the one person at Santa Fe County who actually did know what to do was demoted for "going over the head" of her technophobic boss and is now looking for another job. And I'm not a fear-monger. I'm just a fairly practical person who believes that it's not a cop-out to be prepared.

How will we get water to everyone IF the power goes down? And IF there's no Y2K crisis, but we have a major icestorm like they did on the East Coast last winter — what then? Or lightning could take the power out this summer. It could be anything.

The point is not what might or might not deprive us of electricity. The point is, what can we do to be ready for that possibility?

A huge community like Santa Fe faces serious problems in preparedness. But Galisteo is a small community. Most of us know almost everyone in the area. Preparedness for emergencies is not the sole responsibility of the Community Association, the Water Board, the Fire Department or any other entity. It's something that we all need to address, together. Come on, Galisteo. What's it to be? A good pre-plan? Or a bucket brigade?

Valentine Riddell

PEDACITOS/BITS AND PIECES

EL PUENTE recently received a letter from Susan Ley of Luna, N.M. (her daughter Emily worked at Goose Downs which is how she heard of us) asking if issues of the paper could be sent to **Erlinda Larrañaga Chavez**, who grew up in Galisteo in the 1920s. Chavez (now in her nineties) was a teacher all her working life, and lives in Truth or Consequences. Her husband's name was Gregorio Chavez. There was a large Larrañaga house south of the church in early photographs and I assume she is of that family. Her father was Manuel M. Larrañaga, son of Juan B. and grandson of "Dr. Cristobal Larrañaga who in 1775 came to

give the first smallpox injections." We hope to interview her soon. Should any old friends want to be in touch, call EL PUENTE for her address.

Sin Nombre: Hispana and Hispano Artists of the New Deal Era opened at the International Museum of Folk Art in Santa Fe on June 6, with an award ceremony for these "forgotten" (and now remembered) artists and their descendants. Curator Tey Marianna Nunn is still trying to track down New Mexico artists for her related book. Any Galisteans who made paintings, sculptures, furniture, *colchas*, tin or straw work, weavings or anything else during the 1930s and '40s? If you know of anyone, or have works of theirs, please contact Tey at POB 2087 Santa Fe, NM 87504-2087 or phone 827-6350.

Senator Jeff Bingaman came to the west side of the Galisteo Basin on June 5 to tour San Marcos Pueblo as part of the federal initiative to protect 24 major archaeological sites around here. At a lunch afterwards he was given copies of **EL PUENTE** and had nice things to say about it!

Hearings in the **Bosque lawsuit** will be scheduled for this summer, according to John F. McCarthy Jr., village attorney.

Rudy Sena has been in the hospital for hip surgery but is doing fine and will be up and around in time for the rodeo.

Linda Rice has offered to help install a drip system at the Church playground and will submit a bid. **Florence Sohn** is researching safe and attractive playground equipment for the GCA (Community Center) playground.

Brian Moya and **Chris Holloway** graduated from High School the first week in June and celebrated with parties at home. Brian will attend Santa Fe Community College and Chris will go to New Mexico State in Las Cruces. We wish them the best as they venture out into the wicked world!

Santa Fean magazine's '99 Art Gallery Guide features three Galisteo art notables — **Priscilla Hoback**, **Woody Gwyn** and **Linda Durham** — in an article titled "Country Soho: The Artist's Life in Galisteo."

The *Santa Fe Real Estate Guide* for May 1999 featured an old Nambe home of which it is said that "some materials, such as vigas and windows, were harvested from a **Galisteo home** that was torn down many years ago." Any ideas what house it was?

Munson Hunt and **Shaun Gilmore** were selected for a juried all-state women's show at Arlene Lewallen Gallery in Santa Fe. Shaun won a prize. **Lucy Lippard** was one of the three jurors.

AN ACCIDENT WAITING TO HAPPEN

by S. Monroe

Most of us are familiar with the railroad crossing that marks the northwest "boundary" of Galisteo. The BNSF railroad has recently upgraded this crossing so that it is no longer its old bumpy self, but as smooth as glass. Sounds like a good thing, right? Wrong, because now people fly through it at even greater speeds than before.

This is an extremely dangerous crossing which is blind on the eastern side from both directions. I have seen vehicles cross without looking, with trains bearing down on them only a few yards away! (continued p. 4)

Perhaps a few facts will be helpful here. The average locomotive weighs some 150 tons. Multiply that by four (the average number of engines on a train, including Amtrak) and you get 600 tons. Now imagine this weight driven by some 16,000 horsepower hitting your car or truck at 60-plus miles per hour. And don't expect that train to stop for you, when it takes over a mile to come to a halt, even in full emergency mode.

Soon County Road 42 is going to be paved up to this crossing and the danger will increase even more because of increased traffic and vehicle speeds. And yet neither Santa Fe County nor the railroads have seen fit to improve the safety of this crossing.

We need, at the very least, stop signs on either side. Better would be flashing lights, better still automatic crossing gates.

So please come to a complete stop before crossing these tracks and don't count on hearing the whistle, especially if you have your windows rolled up and the radio on! Let's prevent that unnecessary tragedy that's just waiting to happen.

SEEDING THE FUTURE: GARDEN BULLETIN

by Valentine Riddell

The experimental community garden at Diana and Woody Gwyn's is flourishing! The seedlings are getting bigger every day. Already we see the beginnings of peas, greens, beets and tomatoes, and we'll be planting corn, beans and squash this week.

A lot of effort has gone into preparing the garden — first, of course, Woody and Diana Gwyn's donation of land. Shaun Gilmore bought seed amendments to enrich the clay-based soil. Valentine Riddell bought seeds from Seeds of Change and N-sulate growing cloth. Shaun, Valentine, Lew Riddell and Diana worked hard to prepare and plant the beds. Richard Shuff and Lew hauled the wire fencing and posts donated by Brian Blount to be used in the garden. The Gwyns' righthand man, Mark, labored to trench around the beds and kept them watered and weed-proofed. Angel and his helper dug post holes for Diana's tomato and herb hut. Maria Padilla donated seasoned manure. Barbara King sent a check for \$25.

In light of all this frenzied effort, we decided to share with you our Garden Wish List. These are things we could definitely use:

More seasoned manure; chicken wire; two long poles (about 42 feet), lightweight, for the roof of the tomato hut; screening material for the tomato hut; composting materials (leaves, veggie trimmings, grass cuttings, etc.); pots of all sizes; potting soil; white sheets (don't ask — it's too weird!); Cash (Mark and Angel are not for free); Expert advice.

Thanks, Galisteo! If this experiment works we may collectively enjoy a new image: The Galisteo Farmers' Market!

EL PUENTE SPONSOR OF THE MONTH :

**** MOIRA WALDEN ****

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Delivery person for the *Albuquerque Journal North* for some 25 subscribers in Lamy and Galisteo; Call 505-474-4224.

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Beth is available for housesitting and pet care in Galisteo and beyond. 660-6012.

After-school/weekend work. Will do just about anything. Messages for Nicholas Padilla, Quatermill Farm, 466-4413.

Galisteo Caretaking Services for your property or animals. For the Chores You Ignore! Short notice, small jobs OK. Will housesit, have truck. Call Richard, 466-7723.

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

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

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

+++ EL PUENTE DE GALISTEO+++

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