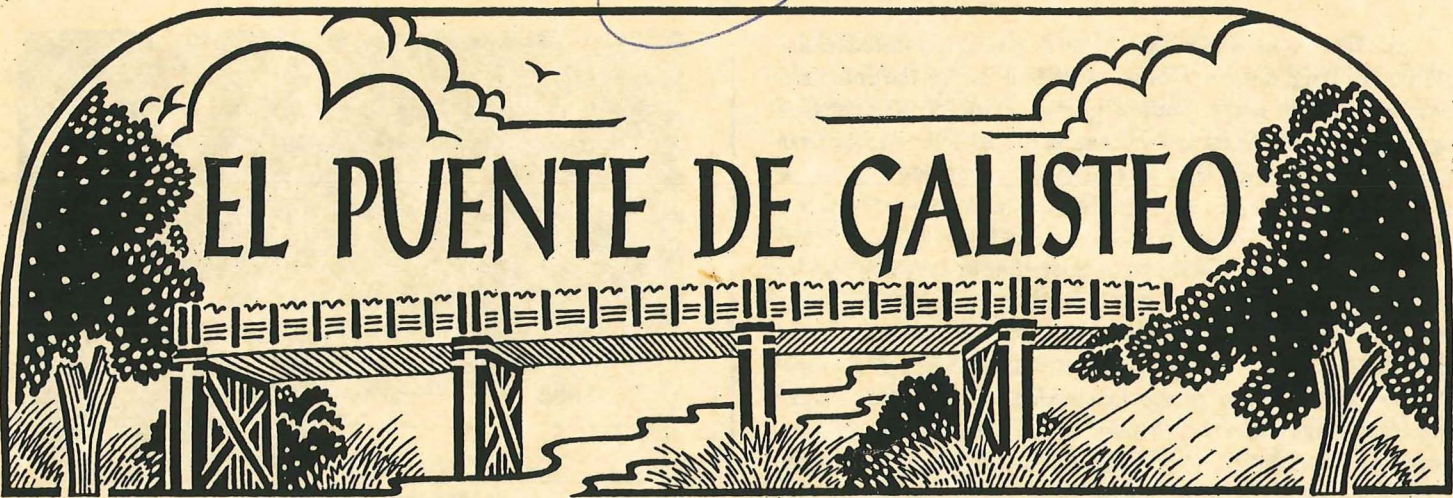


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EL PUENTE DE GALISTEO

ISSUE #37

SEPTEMBER 2000

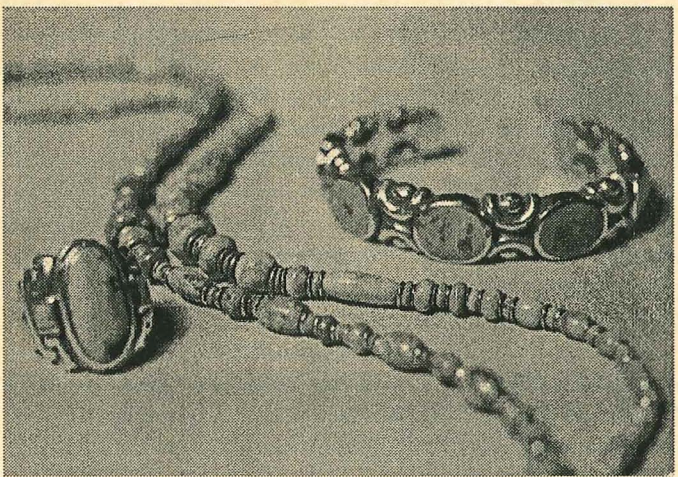
COMMUNITY POT LUCK

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 23. 6-9PM. BRING A DISH THAT STARTS WITH THE FIRST LETTER OF YOUR LAST NAME! LOCAL MUSICIANS. B.Y.O.B.

REMEMBER

COFFEE SHOP EVERY SATURDAY, 8:30-12:30 AT THE COMMUNITY CENTER. FLEA MARKET...AND GALISTEO STUDIO TOUR WEEKEND IS OCTOBER 21-22. SEE OCTOBER EL PUENTE FOR DETAILS. NEXT GCA MEETING SEPTEMBER 20, 7:00.

CORRECTION: typo In May Issue: Juan Ortiz was born 1818 not 1918.



Collection of works by Scott Diffrient

WHAT WE DO: SCOTT DIFFRIENT'S JEWELRY DIFFERENT

Jeweler Scott Diffrient and designer Florence Sohn came to Galisteo in 1983, having moved to Santa Fe in 1974. They had saved money to buy a house, checked out the ads, and landed in Galisteo, where they already knew Priscilla Hoback, Romona Scholder, and Rod and Carla Hall. Their house, attached to the Sandovals' at the base of the Hill, was bought from Marshall and Debbie Conway. Scott built the studio across the road and the garden there is his domain, while Florence reigns over the elegant horticulture and Middle Eastern ambience of the house.

Scott was raised in Southern California, where his father was an industrial designer and his mother a painter, calligrapher and fabric artist. The name Diffrient is a corruption of the Dutch DeVriend. "I hated school," he recalls, "but I couldn't wait to get into the shop classes. In seventh grade I got graphics, woodshop, metalshop and drafting. I learned all I could and quit after two more years."

As an artist he is entirely self-taught, having left school at 15 in the mid 1960s. He still has a necklace that he made at 13. At first he copied Indian jewelry and then developed his own unique style, which, after many years of hard work, is finally receiving well-deserved acclaim. "People like my work because it has a slot in history," says Scott. "Artists channel information and symbols and recreate things to modern times to transfer information for future change."

Diffrient's trademark stone, which has become very popular, is green Faustite, a dully luminous green turquoise infused with zinc, which gives it a yellow tone. "It's a peripheral anomaly," he says, "scarce and expensive (\$4 a gram). A big ring is 10 grams whittled down to 4; there's a lot of loss in stone cutting and some 70-80% in bead making."

He does everything from scratch. The studio houses a whole series of precision grinding wheels, down to 50,000 grit for final polishing. With success has come some assistance in the tedious job of drilling the holes in beads. He estimates that in the last 35 years or so, he's probably made some 1500 feet of beads.

Diffrient buys his stones from Nevada miners who come right to his door. Other turquoise comes from Bisbee, Arizona, where gem rocks are by products of dynamite and often have fractures in them. (Cheap turquoise jewelry has plastic, or "chalk," in it and is treated with polyester resins.) "The Nevada miners use jackhammers and bulldozers - it's slow work. Some turquoise is up to \$2000 a pound. Really rare stuff is scarce and costs \$15-20,000 per pound."

He uses coral, lapis, and purple sugilite, which are soft and need repolishing. He usually works with sterling silver, It's heavy, and costs around \$80 per pound. Gold is used more sparingly, at a cost of \$6,000 per pound. Diffrient waxes lyrical about the mineral king: "I love gold because it's so rich, like cream compared to water. It has an intrinsic gravity that's so satisfying. It's warm like sunlight. Gold and silver are a polarity; they look good together."

His little (now expanding) stone-floored, plant-filled adobe studio has long, narrow windows that look out on the church, a new adobe wall, and a glorious garden including 30-foot high agave plants. Cactuses are indoors and out. The shelves bear masses of prehistoric shards, shells, stones, crystals, feathers, miniatures from all kinds of indigenous and ancient cultures, figurines, baskets, books, bells, and found forms from nature.

Diffrient is fascinated by ancient cultures, recalling that he and Florence used to "take \$100 down to Indian Market each year and buy a couple of pots." They have also have collected Balinese and Costa Rican pottery. "It's all our history," he says. "That's the primary influence. In a meditative state, you can pull inspiration out of thin air. It's in the ethers, cosmic realism. There has to be a foundation on which to contemplate and know what your predecessors have accomplished."

Scott's ornamental settings, which seem simultaneously ancient and modern, are based on these forms. The first stage is an intricate wax carving that is cast in the lost wax process, invented independently in Egypt and the Middle East. Then he cleans and molds it in rubber and then from the rubber mold can inject liquid wax and the process starts again. The designs come to him as he sits down with a pencil and paper and doodles. Each necklace, often with animal effigy or human figure centerpieces, combines many distinctive hand-carved shapes; each bracelet or ring contains subtly varied colors and patterns of stone. Diffrient's work is usually independent, but he also takes commissions. One client, for instance, wanted a ring to match her horse's bridle. He is now prestigiously represented by Packard's on the Plaza.

Asked how Galisteo has influenced his work, he replies "Only in the quiet and the space." Scott has always been extremely generous in giving pieces to support the community. In fact, two rings are coming up in a GVFR raffle next month or so. Keep an eye out, or a finger. And of course the Studio Tour in October is a good time to get up close to Scott's work and that of all the other talented Galisteo artists' work.

ME ACUERDO CUANDO...

by Anna Cárdenas as told by Onesimo and Mela Montoya

Not long ago, in Galisteo, I sat with my Mom and Dad at the kitchen table sipping hot coffee and catching up on Galisteo news. Before I knew it both my parents were reminiscing about the old days in Galisteo. As usual, they both had so much to tell me about way back when that I had to jump up and shout, "Wait! Hold that thought!" while I ran to get paper and pen. My Mom poured more hot coffee; the children had come in search of warm tortillas and now sat quietly, listening once more to their grandparents' stories. "Okay," I spoke softly. "Keep going."

Their stories always began, "Me acuerdo cuando..." (I remember when ...). Now the subject of the *Sala* (the Society of St. Joseph's Hall across the road from the church) came up. It is known as *La Sala de San José* and belongs to the *Sociedad de San José*. Public records show the warranty deed dates to January 19, 1959. It was sold to the *Sociedad* by Marcelino Baros and his wife Teodora Sandoval de Baros for \$32. The boundaries were: "north by a *gallinero* [chicken coop] wall (Mora's), south by M. Baros, east by El Camino Real and west *con la tapia* [with the wall]."

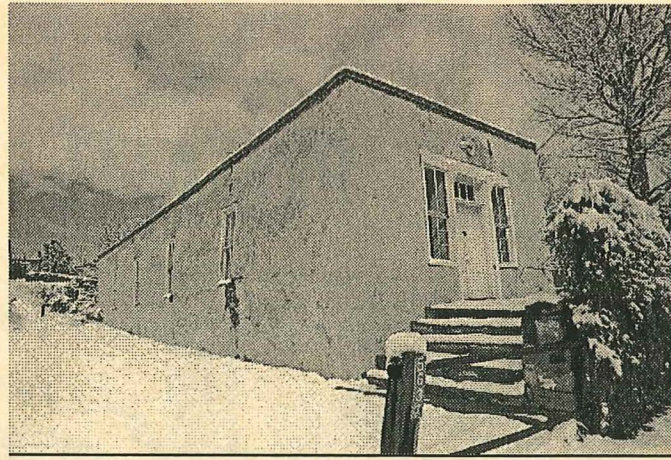


Photo: Richard Shuff

Years back *bailes* (dances) were held at the *Sala*. People came from as far away as Pecos and Glorieta, Santa Fe, Madrid, Cerrillos, Lamy, Stanley and the surrounding *ranchos*. Occasionally, *bailes* were held to raise money for the upkeep of the *Sala*. Families could also rent it for the day to hold family celebrations, such as a *Casorio* (wedding) or *Bautismo* (baptism). However, you needed permission from a Notary Public in Lamy named Felipe Salazar. Once the permit was in hand, it was just a matter of preparing the *Sala* for the big event.

The kerosene lamps were lit, or for an extra fee, carbide lights were primed and lit. *Carbón* (coal) was brought in from Santa Fe and prepared with water to form a type of gas in a pressure tank and used to generate power for the lights that ran at each end of the ceiling.

For a *baile*, a *bastonero* (bouncer) was hired to watch over the *funcion*. Liquor was not allowed inside the *Sala*. A *colector* was hired to collect the money at the dance. This man's responsibility was to collect ten cents from only the men. He did this in the middle of each tune playing. This was used to pay the *musicos* or to raise money for the *Sala*. The highlight of the *baile* was listening to the local *musicos*, who included Josecito Chavez on violin, Abel Anaya and Filiberto Anaya on *acordión*, Benjamin Sandoval and Tony Anaya on *guitarra*, and, occasionally, the Federico Montañó Band.

Although couples attended these functions, single young men and women gathered anxiously at the *Sala* waiting to dance. Picture the young ladies as they sat patiently on the wooden *bancos* along the walls, dressed up in colorful outfits, waiting for the handsome young men in their best attire to come and ask them to dance. Meanwhile the *colector* interrupts each couple dancing and asks the gentleman for ten cents.

The *Sala* provided entertainment and a welcoming communal atmosphere for the *gente* (people of the community) for many years. It also provided shelter for the religious fiestas held each summer, such as the *Día de San Juan* on June 24, *Día de Santiago* on July 25 (when our traditional fiestas were held) and *Día de Santana*, July 26. One important event was *Los Pastores*, held Dec. 24 (see EL PUENTE Dec. 1997). Practice for this play was held in the *Sala*. Local actors, young and old, learned long parts in the re-enactment of the shepherds' journey to see the baby Jesus. Later it was performed in the *Sala* right before Christmas.

I am sure the *Sala* holds many more memories. Each time I drive by and see the doors opened just a bit, I wonder how many more people have memories of long ago as my parents do. Perhaps as the *Sala* opened its doors for the community in the past, one day residents of Galisteo will enjoy the same communal feelings. Whether it's at the *Sala* or at the newly opened coffee shop at the Galisteo Community Center, or just sitting around the *cosina* (kitchen) sipping hot *cafecito* with family and friends, share the memories.

I am grateful to my parents for their wonderful memories. I encourage anyone with other stories of Galisteo back when to write them down and send them to me or to Lucy Lippard.

SUMMERS PRESENT

The first major event of the millennial summer was the Rodeo de Galisteo at the end of July, which will be covered by Wayne King in the October issue of EL PUENTE.

The second was the Fiesta de Galisteo, organized by Alan Langer for the GVFR at the Vista Clara Spa on August 19. Very well attended, the Fiesta was enhanced by Duetto Chuparosa and Lumbre de Sol. Thanks from Alan and the Galisteo Volunteer Fire and Rescue to: Kaye Sandford for sponsoring the event; members of the Fire Department; and especially to all the people in the community who are not members but worked hard to make the Fiesta such a success.

Fiesta proceeds (around \$2000) go to the GVFR, which has welcomed several new members this summer: Janice Felty, Connie Fisher, Jim Holloway, Paul Kozak, and John Fitch, swelling the active membership to 26. Financial donations and help are always needed. You don't have to be a firefighter or a medic to make a difference. Areas that need assistance are: fundraising, office and records, volunteer recruitment, newsletter and PR, food preparation, special events, station maintenance, and vehicle maintenance. Call 466-0396 for info.

Congratulations to Craig Moya, who won First Prize in the 9-13 age group at Spanish Market; the International Museum of Folk Art bought his piece. His mother, Jean Anaya Moya, took an Honorable Mention in Mixed Media for a wood and straw rosary; her straw applique of Our Lady of Guadalupe was the Judge's Choice for a November auction that will benefit the new Spanish Colonial Arts Society building.

Four Galisteans (three people and a dog) were in *THE Magazine's* September centerfold: Richard Shuff, Harmony Hammond, Linda Durham, and (separately) Linda's pal Rita.

On a sadder note, there was a robbery at Scott Diffrient's studio. If you see suspicious cars lurking at night or hear dogs barking up a storm, call the sheriff. *+ Chuck Miller!*

SUMMERS PAST

The following essay was written by Romona Scholder and published in the New Mexican, August 4, 1974. It was accompanied by pictures of a three-legged race (see p.4), and young people in a tug-of-war, including Romona herself.

Galisteo is a quiet little village not given to excess of emotion or action. And so it was that last Saturday the residents of Galisteo participated in the most mellow event of the season. The first annual Fiesta de Santiago had about it an air of family that urban strategists vainly try to incorporate into their city master plans.

The Fiesta began with a Mariachi Mass. As I stood in the back of the church of Nuestra Señora de Los Remedios that morning, I realized that this was one of those rare moments when the church was truly catholic. Under its roof and spilling out of the door was the entire village -- people with names like Montoya, Rosenwald, Attenberger, and Anaya; tall men with straight backs and dark hair and women with long skirts and feathers in their hair. The children played at the foot of the sanctuary and dogs wandered in to get out of the hot sun. And the music, the almost excessively beautiful music of the Guadalupe Mariachi Choir, elicited a cacophony of emotions from the people congregated in the church.

After Mass we walked out on Main Street where we took turns manning the various booths and promenading as revelers. The remainder of the day was a melange of sack races and watermelon eating contests, magicians and puppeteers, gossip and laughter always found in the gathering of people in a small village.

This was the first Fiesta in Galisteo in 20 years. One year ago the people of Galisteo founded the Community Center Corporation in an attempt to provide the young people with a recreation and meeting place. The C.C.C. Board [now the GCA] consists of primarily teen-agers and it was through the action of this board that the idea of the Fiesta was formed. The C.C.C. Board has found that the community wants a Basketball- Tennis Court that could be flooded in winter and used as an ice-skating rink. The Fiesta was held to raise money to buy land for this project. But the real result of the Fiesta was an increased sense of camaraderie in the community, and pride in being truly Galisteo.

GCA UPDATE

(From Barbara Cooper's minutes of meetings, 7/5, 8/9).

The dump by the bridge was formally closed and a bilingual sign was raised. The floor of the Community Center is stained. The roof leaked in heavy rains. Fans won out over blinds or shades to cut down the summer heat in the Center. Kaye Sandford is donating a new sign, to be designed by Florence Sohn and hand-carved by Antonio Chavez. Joette and Nick Trofimuk have donated a copier to the GCA for Board use.

In August, Antonio Chavez and Valentine and Lou Riddell expressed concern at the Public Forum over a teenage party at the Community Center which was very noisy and lasted very late, with teenagers drinking and driving. Antonio suggested that we rent only to immediate family members of residents; that we set a curfew for parties; that there be no parties during the week. The Riddells concurred and raised the problems of smoking during the dry season and GCA liability when underage drinking is allowed. A letter from Dick Griscom and Janice Felty suggested that in the Community Center rental agreement we should add a "hold harmless clause" absolving us from liability, and that the deposit should be higher for nonresidents and be kept if a party lasts beyond set time limits.

GCA by-laws are being revised and will be reported next month in EL PUENTE, as will the new rental regulations for the Community Center. Linda Rice has submitted an estimate for landscaping the Community Center next spring. Richard Shuff showed photos of water damage to the playground.

**EL PUENTE SPONSOR THIS MONTH:
BETH FOOTE:
"THANK YOU, GALISTEO"**

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 Oct. 5 for next issue. Please call to have ads continue.

FOR SALE

Refrigerator (\$125); like-new microwave (\$200), electric convection oven (\$35), electric space heater (\$8); double stainless steel kitchen sink with faucets (\$35), louvered oak swinging doors (\$80 pair) assorted doors and shelving units. Call Harmony 466-3932. Leave message with name and phone number.

FOR RENT

2- bedroom home in large walled garden compound, lots of trees and stars. fully furnished Weekly or monthly. Call Beth 660-6012.

SERVICES

Beth is available for **housesitting and petcare** in Galisteo, Call 660-6012.

Nizhoni High School, grades 9-12. Enrollment at any time. **College of Divinity**; school year begins Sept. 17. For more information, please call 466-4336.

Acupuncture, herbal medicine, feng shui, nutritional counselling, massage. Connie Fisher, Doctor of Oriental Medicine, 470-9314.

Babysitting for your kids or other random jobs, Call Athan 466-9040.

Have tractor, will travel, Mowing service for large areas; extreme fire danger makes it a good time to clean and protect your property. Call Brian, 466-1544,

Common sense, gentle dog training: house manners, management problem solving at your home; also limited boarding. Twenty years experience. Call Evelyn, 466-1875, evenings.

Professional vegetarian chef teacher/consultant available for half-day workshops, trainings, and more! Please call Chef Al at 466-4597.

Housecleaning and general yard maintenance. Call Marghreta, 466-8319.

Native Bloom, Landscape design and maintenance. Call Linda at 466-4658.

Electrical Concepts- Residential/Commercial/Industrial. Hansi Mohn and Michael Anaya, 988-8853.

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.

Private exercise training in the village with Ron Helman. Thirty years experience. All levels and conditions. 466-1919.

Dave's Auto Repair. tune-ups, oil change, minor repairs, auto restoring, painting. Local reference, 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 beaches, custom gates, doors, etc. 35 years experience, local references- Onesimo Montoya, 466-1430.

Avon Representative in Galisteo. 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, 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.

Custom decorative paintings for homes ~ a new old look in furniture, murals, architectural accents. Call Munson, 466-4760.

+++EL PUENTE DE GALISTEO+++

Editor: Lucy R. Lippard. **Production:** Richard Shuff, Vic Perry of Insty-Prints, Santa Fe. **Contributing Editors:** Anna Cárdenas, Barbara Cooper, Joe Cooper. **El Puente logo** by Cara Lee. **Please send letters, comments, suggestions, contributions by OCTOBER 7 to EL PUENTE, 14 AVENIDA VIEJA, Galisteo NM 87540, or call 466-1276.**



**MaryAlice Anaya and unknown partner
in 3-legged race, 1974**