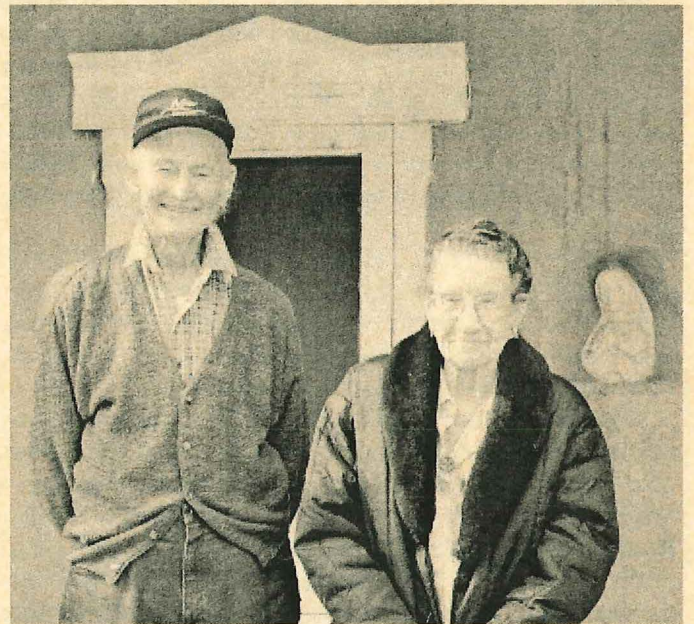


EDITORIAL

This issue of EL PUENTE marks the beginning of the paper's fifth year! Thanks to everyone who has supported it, contributed to it, and disputed it. I even wish there were more disagreement, since one of the reasons we started to publish was to stimulate dialogue around community issues.

Ever since Bill Isaacs promised to write us a naturalist's column and sadly passed away before he could do it, we have been looking for someone to fill this slot. Toby Herbst has stepped in with a suggestion and we hope it will inspire others to let us know what they know about birds, wildlife, geology, botany and so forth in the Galisteo Basin. The same goes for stories of life in Galisteo, past and present. Not to mention County politics.

There is a vast quantity of local and professional expertise hiding out in this village. (Ron Helman on exercise, for instance, another new addition this issue.) Why not share it with the rest of us? And if older residents notice mistakes in the historical data, please let me know so we can keep the record straight. *Any other ideas for articles or regular or occasional columns?*



Simona Baros Garcia visiting with **Roman Attenberger** at his home, where she was raised as a child, from 1909 to 1923. (photo: copyright Jay Raymond) (see p.2)



LEFT: Galisteo School, c.1917 (photo: Courtesy of Simona Baros Garcia, who recalls that the picture was taken by the County Nurse when she came to the school to give shots.) Among those pictured (not in order), according to Simona Garcia and a handwritten list on back of original: **Lupe Baros, Delfino Anaya, Juanito Anaya, teacher José Villanueva, Rosario Chavez, Simona Baros, Annie Peña, Lugarda Leyba, Catalina Chavez, Lola Chavez, Bluebell Jackson, Juan Mendoza (Mendonca), Lucas Anaya, Frank Sandoval, Alex Valencia, Camilo Chavez, Antonio Chavez.** (see p.2)

pic on page 2

ABOUT THE FRONT-PAGE PICTURES

Many of the children in the school picture are related to current residents of Galisteo. Annie Peña is Remi Chavez's sister and lives in Moriarty. Rosario and Lola Chavez were Remi's first cousins. Lucas Anaya is the uncle of Andres Anaya of La Tienda. Camilo and Antonio Chavez are related to our Luis Chavez. Camilo Chavez was Remi's brother-in-law and Antonio was his brother. (Their parents were Bernardino and Chavelita Chavez). Frank Sandoval is Tacho's father. The story of Bluebell Jackson (who worked for Josefa Ortiz y Davis, later married Ramon Hurtado, and lived in the little ruined house on La Vega) will be told in a future issue of EL PUENTE.

On Dec. 6, when Simona Garcia visited Roman Attenberger in her childhood home (and his home of 27 years), she also visited the school next door, from which she graduated the 8th grade (now the Judge Reinhold house) and the home of her grandparents – Refugio Madrid Sena and Agapito Sena (now Richard and Janice Griscom's house). For almost a year now, I (your editor) have been interviewing the 91-year old Mrs. Garcia about her life in Galisteo. Although she has lived in Santa Fe since 1923, she has many friends and relatives in Galisteo, and her memory of earlier days is extraordinary. The Community History Archive will benefit tremendously from her willingness to share these interviews.

Among other things, she recalled the Sanchez house, which once stood between Roman's and the Creek. "They only had a hall and one room over there and one over here and a kitchen. But by the river they had about two rooms, another little home, bedrooms over there. Because the family was big."

On the other side of the house "there was a window facing the old schoolhouse. There was no wall, just a fence. A teacher rented a little room from us. She was there when I graduated—Magdalena Dominguez, a little fat lady who belonged to Cerrillos Road in Santa Fe....The next yard after our pen was the *corrales* of the Ortizes, a big yard almost down to the river. Then from the schoolhouse there was nothing. Across from my house here lived the Mendozas [or Mendoncas]. He was a shepherd man, Portugese. They had a lot of sheep and a nice home there. Remi's sister was married to a Mendoza.

"Then another home over there had one of the only telephones in Galisteo, because this man, Gumerindo Garcia, worked for Pankey [who then owned the San Cristobal Ranch]. And then came another little house [now a stabilized ruin]. Later Bluebell lived there. Before her was an old lady by the name of Asención."

Mrs. Garcia's father, Eugenio Baros, built a little separate room by the road where he had two chairs, one for shoe repair and the other for barbering. For a while it was also the post office, run by Adelicia Baros, one of Simona's sisters.

"There was a well out back." (Roman says it went dry and is filled in.) "It was nice water. We used to have bags there so we could have fresh milk and everything else. When we had watermelon, my daddy used to go to the river, close here, make a little hole there, and put the watermelon so it would get cold.

"And the ladies, my mother [Matilda Sena Baros] and the other ladies who lived by the river, they used to wash all their blankets, mattresses, load everything into the wheelbarrow; they

used to go to the river and rinse all the clothes out there in nice water so they didn't use much water from the well. There was a way to the river right there.

"And my mother had one of these little *hornos* [domed clay ovens]. I bet it's gone. [It wasn't there when Roman came in 1972.] My God, my mother used to bake a lot in there. She had a shovel that was made out of wood. She put her bread in there, pulled it out with a shovel. She made *bollitos* with anise in there. She made *pan* and *tortillitas* in there. She always kept her oven nice and clean.

"Then my daddy had a little barn on the back of the house toward that way and by the barn a little room, just a little window with a screen so they could hang the meat that they killed. They used to make part of it dry meat. The other they used to put in clean sacks of flour and hang them up. Then they had lots of bones to make soup and stuff like that, you know. At that corner [east] here comes a wall or a fence and the Sanchezes lived right there. They bought that home from a little old couple. He was blind. His name was Jesus and his wife was Philomena. We used to come with him every evening because he would play the organ and sing the rosary in the little organ that he had."

José Villanueva, the schoolteacher in the group picture, was a cousin of Simona's, a member of the family that later bought the Baros house. Roman bought it from Emma Villanueva and Sophie Begay, the daughters of Juanita and Pino Villanueva. The land was originally part of the San Cristobal/ E.W. Eaton Grant.

THE NATURE CORNER

By Toby Herbst

Galisteo has a unique location, straddling several different habitats and including numerous unusual geological features. The most important habitat is Galisteo Creek, the life force coursing through the surrounding arid upper Sonoran Desert. The result is a plentiful and varied wildlife, especially birds.

I would like to propose a new addition to EL PUENTE, that of a "Bird Watcher's Sighting List" and any other unusual wildlife sightings. I think it is important that the residents of Galisteo be aware of the surrounding wildlife and be able to monitor its status.

For the last year I have kept a *very* casual list of the birds I have seen in our yard [in Ranchitos]. This is by no means comprehensive; these are just some of the birds I found more interesting. I would look forward to other contributions to make more inclusive lists. It is important to include the date of the sighting and, if possible: time of day, quantity, location, and especially environmental details such as orchards, bird feeders, creek, etc.

The following list includes the birds I recorded for the year 2000, with numerous omissions. I will try and do better in the future. I look forward to contributions from other bird watchers.

January-February, 2000:

Northern Harrier (prairie); Cooper's Hawk (trees by bird feeder).

March 24: Large flocks of Redwing Blackbirds (bird feeder, sunflower seeds); Rufous Sided Towhee, aka Spotted Towhee (garden beds, suet feeders); house finches (feeders); Titmouse (feeders); American Robin (garden beds); Mountain Bluebirds (prairie, Juniper, Pinon).

March 25: Ravens (prairie, Juniper, Piñon)

April 4: Sealed Quail (prairie, feeder); Western Fly Catcher (yard).

April 25: Large flocks of Piñon Jays (feeder, sunflower seeds); Morning Dove (feeders) Lesser Goldfinch (yard); Meadow Larks (Prairie).

May 1: Black-Headed Grosbeak (feeder).

May 8: Great-tailed Grackle (feeder, sunflower seeds)

May 13: Roadrunner (yard, prairie)

May 17: Bronzed-headed Cowbird group (feeder)

May 20: Blue Grosbeak (feeder, sunflower seeds)

June-July: Red Tail Hawk (prairie); American Kestrel (prairie)

July 13: Bullock Oriole (feeder, yard).

August 13: Indigo Bunting (apple trees in garden).

September 29: Stellers Jay (juniper)

October 20: Downy Woodpecker (apple tree in garden).

October 25: Magpie (prairie).

October 29: Evening Grosbeak (feeder, sunflower seeds); Dark-eyed Junco (feeder, sunflower seeds).

November 14: Common Grackles (feeder, sunflower seeds).

December 15: Red-shafted Flicker (feeder, sunflower seeds); Scrub Jays (suet feeders).

Editor's note: To keep the ball rolling: the regulars this fall/winter season at my feeder above the creek south of the village (wild bird mix and sometimes dry bread) have been: a pair of Rufous-Sided Towhees, a lot of White Crowned Sparrows and a batch of newcomers – plump little black headed Juncos of some kind. Also Grackles, Piñon Jays, Flickers, and recently some Redwing Blackbirds (isn't December early for them?) and a group of Meadowlarks. Although the Turkey Buzzards are gone till March, Redtail Hawks sweep by fairly often. Robins remain in the Creek, and Mountain Bluebirds are still around. Today I saw a lovely little rosy-headed-and-chested gray bird who comes every so often.

Some larger unnamed, unwinged critter climbs into my feeder and gorges now and then. Coyote scat in the driveway shows a fondness for the village's rotting apples.

Dicho: quien sabe dos lenguas vale por dos. (He who knows two languages is worth two persons).

*

Maybe someone should give Spanish lessons at the Community Center?

FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS

The GVFR had its busiest month yet, with eleven runs in December 2000. They included brush fire, trailer fire, structure fire, auto fire, manure pile fire, and several medical calls.

At the Jan. 2 business meeting it was decided to try and Adopt a Highway (possibly Rte. 41 between Goose Downs and the Rodeo Grounds). The plan would be to clean it periodically in relays.

The Eldorado edition of *The New Mexican* (Dec. 27) noted that the Galisteo Fire Department – some 26 members strong – is seeking firefighters and volunteers "for everything from

fundraising and newsletter to active rescue duty." Meetings are at the Firehouse next to the Community Center the first Tuesday of each month at 6:30.

One good reason to join the Fire Department is its Christmas party, which is always great fun (and great food) but was particularly interesting this year. It happened in three places, all interesting new-on-old houses: hors d'oeuvres at Harmony Hammond's *lanera* (an old stone wool barn) which she is remodeling as a living room having used it first for a studio; main meal at Chris Fields' and Alison Tinsley's house that was built onto an old two-room house where Jean Moya's *tio* Ray Sandoval lived before the tinwork expert Maurice Dixon added on to it. The meal featured Chris's famous gumbo plus Paul Kozak's soon-to-be-equally famous salmon etouffée. Then last were desserts galore at Ted Fleming's new rift-facaded studio (also built around an old adobe). Each structure afforded a different problem for firefighters, and provided in turn a good excuse for extensive tours and informal talks by the owners.

It wouldn't have been a proper Fire Department party (on a snowy night) without an alarm –luckily brief—that took several department members off to the station to cover a medical emergency on 285.

GALISTEO COOKBOOK PLANNED

The GVFR is planning to publish a cookbook made up of recipes from residents of our village. We are asking you to send your favorite recipe to Bob Harte at 06 Marcellina Lane, or fax it to him at 466-6851. Please include your name and a short biography with the recipe. We would also welcome submissions of food-related artwork that might illustrate the book. Proceeds from the sale of the book (projected for September 2001) will be used to further the good work of your Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department. Thanks in advance for your support.

OBITUARY: PAULITA PEÑA CHAVEZ

The community extends its sympathy to Remedios Chavez, whose sister Paulita passed away on Dec. 14 at the age of 94. Paulita Peña Chavez was born Jan. 25, 1906, and on Nov. 5, 1930, married Felipe Chavez (no relation to Luis) who was also from Galisteo. They had ten children, and lived in the house on La Otra Vanda which is now the Light Institute's office. In 1945 they moved to Santa Fe. Felipe Chavez died in 1980.

"She had a good life and a happy life," says Remi of her sister. "She was a very religious person. She and her husband went all over in Santa Fe. They had children in Trinidad and Las Cruces. She had a lot of friends. Before they built the malls, we'd go downtown shopping and we'd always meet people she knew. Her wake and funeral were very crowded." Paulita and Felipe Chavez are buried in the "new" cemetery on the Hill.

PEDAZITOS/BITS AND PIECES

The **community Christmas Brunch** on December 17 was a lovely affair, with the usual Galisteo Gourmet fare and music. Several artists sold their wares at the Bazaar. Up the road a piece, the **mystery tree decorator** struck again, adorning the little tree by County Road 42, near the water tanks.

(Enelya)

And **New Year's Eve**, orchestrated (in every sense) by **Melanie Monsour and Margarita Cordero**, was another high point. M & M provided lively music, accompanied by **Ron Helman** on trumpet. The "surprise guest" was "Ruby," a female impersonator from New York, who was staying with friends here. "She gave a real professional, 'don't tell mama' show," reports one guest, singing and joining in the rest of the festivities to everyone's delight. "Melanie and Margarita deserve an accolade for all they do to get the community together at festive occasions," says another guest. A hearty second to that!

If you have bits or pieces of personal or professional news you'd like to put in Pedazitos, just call or stick them in El Puente box.

HOLIDAY BLUES

By **Ron Helman**

I was looking over the counter at my wife Pamela and said, "With all these holiday parties, I don't think I gained much weight." She replied, "That's because you always eat like it's a holiday."

It was true, but it made me think about how I would rather work out than watchdog everything I eat. I generally have an idea of my meals and try to match them up with enough exercise to keep my belt at the same loop. It sounds a bit informal for an exercise trainer [Helman runs Ron's Fitness Studio in Galisteo], but it generally works. The problem is that it requires a lot of time training. You would think I would get it, but I also know the other benefits of exercise.

I have observed others trying the same method but I recognize that most of them don't match their food intake with the calorie burning. A walk around the village would not do it for me with the amount I eat, plus I need variations in my workouts.

Being the self-pronounced village medicine man, I recommend that you try just about anything to include more exercise in your life. For example, there are a number of exercise videos that you could sample at a local video store and have the convenience of working this into *your* schedule and for very little money. It is sometimes a matter of doing something different than before.

Stay tuned for more in the next issue.

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GALISTEO CLASSIFIED

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Athan Merrick (15 yrs old):occasional **babysitting** weekends and some evenings; 466-9040.

Galisteo Caretaking Services: For the Chores You Ignore! Short notice, small jobs, housesit, have truck. Richard, 466-7723.

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

Nizhoni High School (grades 9-12; enrollment at any time) and **College of Divinity:** for more information, please call 466-4336.

Passive Solar Builders: Locally owned general contractor since 1980. Quality home construction, renovations: Charlie, 466-2118.

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+++ EL PUENTE DE GALISTEO+++

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El Puente logo by Cara Lee. **Please send letters, comments, suggestions, contributions to EL PUENTE, 14 Avenida Vieja, Galisteo NM 87540, or call 466-1276.** (Make out checks to GCA, "for newsletter.") **NEXT DEADLINE: Feb. 8.**