



ISSUE #42

FEBRUARY 2001

IT'S NOT A COMMUNITY...WITHOUT PARTICIPATION. COME VOTE AT THE GALISTEO COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING: MARCH 1, 7PM, COMMUNITY CENTER.

A free community event open to all ages: CHI KUNG (Qi Qong) classes are now offered at the Community Center every Saturday at 11AM, after the Coffee Shop. Chi Kung is an ancient Chinese healing art encouraging the movement of energies through the body. The simple, naturally flowing motions of these exercises can help to ease problems such as arthritis and to slow the aging process. An "internal massage," it stimulates the inner organs; heart, lungs, liver, spleen, stomach, and mind.

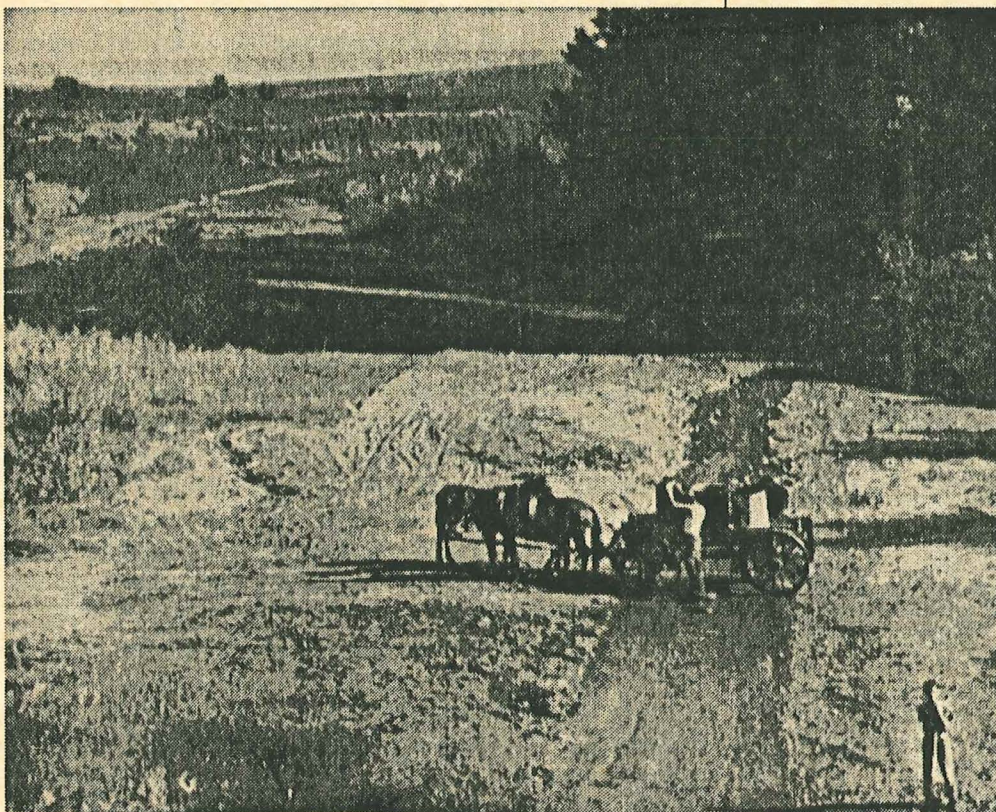
The class is offered by Ringo Stinett, a Reiki master who wishes to bring communities together through the healing arts. Ringo is also currently working with communities in Pecos and Santa Fe. This physically calming but undemanding practice already has a small, diverse, and devoted following in Galisteo. For more information, call 466-8319.

CORRECTION: Camilo and Antonio Chavez (in the school picture, last issue) are not related to Luis Chavez; there were two Felipe Chavezes in the village at the time, and they belonged to the other family.

The picture below appeared in a 1962 *New Mexican*, captioned "Picturesque, Yes; But Not Practical." A brief article, headlined OLD VILLAGE TO GET NEW AQUA SYSTEM, read:

"GALISTEO. This ancient village is finally going to get running water. Under the leadership of José Manual Anaya, a recent graduate of St. Michael's College in Santa Fe, a group of local citizens have formed a corporation to supply water. Two thirds of the cost of the project will be borne by the state and the remaining third by the village. A well has already been dug and preparations are being made for digging the trench and the installation of the water main in it. The new water system will mean the end of the old horse-drawn water cart which until now has been clattering down to the little Rio Galisteo and then distributing water in great metal drums." (See *EL PUENTE No. 1, Jan 1997, for more on the history of the water system.*)

Tobias Anaya hauling water in Galisteo, 1962. (Photo: Elita Wilson; courtesy of Remy and Luis Chavez) The boy in the foreground is probably Johnny Anaya.



PICTURESQUE, YES; BUT NOT PRACTICAL

(Photo by Elita Wilson)

THE INN-SIDE STORY

by Barbara and Joe Cooper

When Chris Griscom bought the Galisteo Inn in December, she began her stewardship of this historic property which she has known and loved for many years. She sees her primary duty as being "to open up the Inn, to enhance its beauty outdoors and in, to keep it light. I want to make it smile, make it laugh, make it live."

Chris has lived in the village for over thirty years and raised her six children here. She founded and directs two flourishing enterprises here: the Light Institute and the Nizhoni School of Global Consciousness. She has a deep and abiding affection for Galisteo, its traditions, its land, its spirit and its people.

With a reverence for the history of the Inn and its traditional place in the center of the village, Chris looks forward to sharing it with residents and visitors alike.

In many ways, the Inn will continue as it has in the past. There are no plans for new buildings or to enlarge the existing plant. There will be a concentration on enhancing the outdoor area and planting a large vegetable garden, Chris's own passion. She also hopes to create "special spaces" outdoors for summer weddings and gatherings.

The staff remains in place under the new ownership. Denice Pruett continues as the manager and Marc Swierkowski will remain as the chef. Young Galisteños Miguel Padilla and Carlos Montoya will still assist Marc in the kitchen.

Of special interest to residents, the first significant change has been made in the hours of the restaurant. In late January, a soup and salad buffet lunch was initiated seven days a week from noon to 2 PM. There is a choice of two homemade soups (one vegetarian), a fresh salad, warm bread and cookies and pastries as well as a choice of beverages, for \$12 per person. Galisteo residents are offered a 10% discount. No reservations are necessary for lunch.

While Marc will continue to cook his four-star gourmet dinners from Wednesday through Sunday nights (seatings are every half hour from 6 to 8:30 PM), a simpler homestyle dinner will be served on Monday and Tuesday nights for \$20 per person. As in the past, the Inn has a full liquor license and Marc is a knowledgeable wine steward as well as chef.

In keeping with her desire to encourage local residents to feel welcome and comfortable at the Inn, Chris wants to help promote the work of local artists. A folder of local people and places has been placed in each guest room and artists are encouraged to contribute their brochures, photographs, or artist statements for inclusion in these folders.

In addition to the Inn's participation in the fall Studio Tour, Chris envisions presenting several small outdoor shows each year featuring the work of local artists. She sees Galisteo as a destination for day-trippers who will have lunch or dinner at the Inn and visit a number of artists' studios in town. She would like to work on a brochure to encourage such trips. It could then become an "event" to spend a day in Galisteo.

Chris plans outdoor seating in the Inn's garden and hopes to have outdoor parties and barbecues during the summer months. What is now the Bike Room is being converted into a small meeting room for groups.

"This is an historic and beloved place. It is part of the pride of Galisteo. I want everyone who uses the Inn to feel a part of that," says Chris. We wish her all the best in this, her latest endeavor. And we look forward to spending time at the Galisteo Inn.

INN-SIDER PROFILES: The Manager

In the past two years Denice Pruett has made a real place for herself in the village as manager of the Galisteo Inn. She will continue in that role under the new ownership and is already an indispensable member of the team.

Denice came to Galisteo from Winthrop, Washington, a small town on the eastern side of the Cascade Mountains. She finds that in many ways Galisteo is similar to Winthrop – its setting, its openness and its small-town nature.

Originally from California, Denice has lived and worked in many places from coast to coast. She has deliberately chosen places where she can spend a lot of time outdoors – riding a horse, hiking, communing with nature.

Professionally, Denice has worked for restaurants in "back of the house" roles such as bookkeeping and also running the food service aspects. In Winthrop she ran her own restaurant for five years. Although this is her first job at an inn, she feels at home as the responsibilities are similar to those she has held.

Denice has a ready smile, an out-going spirit, and a sense of immediacy. She is forthright and likeable, a precious asset indeed for the Galisteo Inn, and for her neighbors as well.

The Chef

You know you're talking to a good cook when his face lights up at the mere mention of ingredients, menus, or recipes. Marc Swierkowski, the young chef at the Inn, talks excitedly about his love of food and his dreams for himself. The first of those dreams has already come true: to be the sole chef of a restaurant by the age of twenty five.

Marc is of Polish descent and began his cooking career helping his mother make pierogies. He has an uncle and a cousin who are bakers. He calls his cooking style "Contemporary Cuisine." His menus, which change weekly, offer a choice of four appetizers, four entrees and three desserts. He is especially fond of cooking fish, uses a lot of roasted vegetables, and makes his own stock.

Marc graduated from the Culinary Institute of America – the CIA—with an associate's degree. He then spent two seasons on Cape Cod working with a German master chef. Next came a stint of seven months as apprentice to another master chef in Wickersheim, Germany. In his hometown in New Jersey, he then worked for an old, established Italian restaurant that often served 250 diners a night and, on occasion, 500. His nightly specials were the most popular items on the menu.

Marc came to New Mexico at the suggestion of his friend and mentor from New Jersey, Steven Hilla, who has been the chef at the Galisteo Inn and now runs his own restaurant (Wall Street West) in Santa Fe.

Marc dreams of offering wine-tasting dinners, cowboy barbecues, lobster boils and clambakes. He would love to give parties in the summer in the Inn's gardens. He encourages everyone to come down and sample his cooking. He hopes to attract a large base of repeat customers and is convinced that once people have tried his food, they will keep coming back.

GCA DOINGS: January 17th Board Meeting

In response to a letter from the Fire Department stating that the condition of the fence around the playground behind the Community Center presents substantial safety hazards, the Board decided to remove all the fencing and close the playground until we can do a study and decide on a new, safe, fencing.

Several artist residents have suggested that we use the Community Center space to show their work. The Board is willing to allow this provided that the GCA has no liability for the works displayed. Art openings would be encouraged and artists could show their works for a month at a time at no charge (with the exception of the Studio Tour weekend in October). Interested artists are encouraged to present their proposals to the Board at the public forum portion of any Board meeting or to call Barbara Holloway, project coordinator.

Board members up for re-election at the March 1st annual meeting are Mela Montoya, Richard Shuff, Barbara Holloway and Barbara Cooper. New nominations will be welcomed. Everyone is encouraged to come for an update of our activities of the past year, plans for the future, and the election. Refreshments will be served.

THE NATURE CORNER

by Jan Saunders

Unusual Sightings: Jan 12, 7:20 AM: Adult Golden Eagle flying SSE over Lamy Junction. Same day, 4:30 PM: male Northern Harrier flying low over the prairie north of the hogback near Vista Clara. We see female and immature Northern Harriers frequently, but males (steel grey with black wing tips and white butt patch) are rarely seen – maybe two a year.

In the last two weeks, AM and PM, there has been a huge Red Tail Hawk perched in the tallest poplar tree in Mela and Onesimo Montoya's front yard. It is most likely a female, since these birds are sexually dimorphic, that is, the female is always much larger. I've seen hundreds of Red Tails and this beauty is the largest ever. She will keep the rodent and reptile population down.

Regular Visitors: This winter our bird feeder (in Ranchitos) has welcomed the following: female Cooper's Hawk; Northern Flickers (Red-Shafted); Mountain Chickadee (only one, but s/he is here every day); flocks of Dark-Eyed Juncos; one to two pair of House Finches; Western Meadow Larks; American Gold Finches in winter plumage (first winter in six that they've been here year-round); two or three Ravens daily; Canyon Towhee; huge flocks of Scrub Jays and Red-winged Blackbirds.

And last but not least, too few Scaled Quail. This is very strange. There are only six to nine in a covey this winter. Over the last six winters, and as late as this summer, several coveys with a total of 35-45 birds were common. *The New Mexican* recently reported that the National Audubon Society wants New Mexicans taking part in the Great Backyard Bird Count to keep an eye out for Scaled Quail. Their populations have been declining nationwide, and they hope the bird count can help discover why. February 16-19, please report tallies on the internet: www.birdsource.org. Record location, type of habitat and number seen.

The decline (2.4% a year since the 1960s) is probably due to urban sprawl and cats. The Scaled Quail is an indicator species for Black-Chinned Sparrows, Curve-Billed Thrashers and Canyon Towhee... all of which are present in Galisteo.

PEDAZITOS/BITS AND PIECES

An item from the *New Mexican* of Feb. 12, 1901: "A large petrified mollusk was found at Galisteo last week and is now on exhibition in a store on San Francisco Street. **Captain Sylvester Davis**, an old timer in New Mexico, came up from Galisteo yesterday, bringing with him the fossil of some prehistoric animal that he found on his farm and that he jokingly claims was the original sea serpent which, according to a legend told by a 110-year-old native, was fed by the Pueblo children in the early history of this section." (Davis was an ancestor of Galisteo's current Ortiz y Pinos; the "sea serpent" may have been an Ammonoid like the fossil featured on the cover of EL PUENTE #8, Oct. 1997; the child-eating serpent legend was told of Galisteo Pueblo and of Pecos.)

Nicholas Trofimuk's images of Paris are featured in a Photogenesis exhibition along with those of famous French photographers. The gallery, run by **Joette O'Connor**, participated in the Heart of Santa Fe Gallery Tour on February 2, and on February 23 will team up with La Plazuela of La Fonda Hotel for the Edible Art Tour, with special wine and a "taste of France"; tickets are available through the gallery; proceeds go toward art supplies for Santa Fe students. Phone 989-9540.

The versatile **Nacha Mendez** sang "Songs of Old Mexico" at the Paramount's Bar B on February 8, accompanied by Melanie Monsour and Ron Helman.

A recent *New Mexican* ran a story on the huge yellow house that looms over the southern edge of the Galisteo Basin. It belongs to New Yorker **Jeffrey Epstein**, who acquired the property from Bruce King in 1993 and named it the "Zorro Ranch." Complete with airstrip, the spread is now valued at \$33 million, a figure the owner is disputing in court, since his property taxes amount to \$183,502.64. The house is thought to be the largest in New Mexico.

OBITUARY: ANTONIO P. SENA

Antonio (Tony) P. Sena was born June 14, 1925 and died Jan. 2, 2001. He was married to Tilly Duran of Santa Rosa, and they have one son, Tony junior, who lives in Yuma, Arizona. The deceased was the oldest boy of 12 Sena children raised in Galisteo (in the house where the Janice and Dick Griscom live now). The oldest sister in the family, Juanita, lives in Bernalillo (she was married to Carlos Montoya, brother of Onesimo), and brother Rudy runs the Rodeo Grounds in Galisteo. Mr. Sena attended the Galisteo and Stanley schools and was a member of the San José and San Antonio Societies here, as well as the Santa Rosa de Lima Society in Santa Rosa.

The couple also lived in Peña Blanca. Mr. Sena worked on the Cochiti and Santa Rosa Dams, and the Cochiti Lake Golf Course. His sister Inez Sena de Montoya, of Santa Fe (who was married to Juan Montoya, also Onesimo's brother), and other local acquaintances, recall that Tony Sena was very well liked. The community's condolences go out to the family.

IN THE BEGINNING...

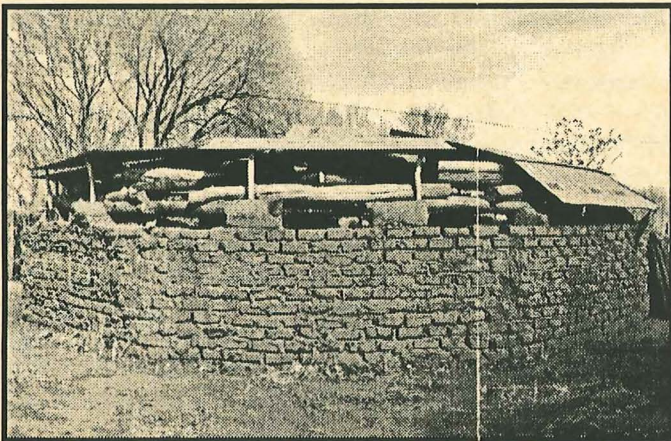
by Ron Helman

I've had the opportunity to watch my friend Morgan build something from nothing. It occurred to me that there *is* something in nothing. Virtually on the very spot he was standing was his first adobe brick. In a matter of time there was a small round structure with an entrance and window openings. Morgan didn't know exactly how to do this, but he knew it was about starting with one brick at a time.

It has been my experience that many people believe that all the conditions have to be perfect before they begin to care for themselves. "I don't have time" ... It's too expensive" ... "The gym is not convenient" ... First of all, your body is your gym if you can find the front door. Also your home has a number of pieces of equipment if you were to look for them. An example would be to find a free wall, hold your back to it, and slide down until you look as though you're sitting in a chair. Hold for three sets for 30 seconds. This would launch you on a program of strengthening your legs and butt. Great for skiers.

The point is there are no perfect times and conditions. Like Morgan, it's a beginning.

(Photo of Morgan Gafford's hogan by Richard Shuff.)



EL PUENTE SPONSORS: BARBARA AND JOE COOPER

GALISTEO CLASSIFIED

ADS ARE FREE, AND FOR GALISTEO RESIDENTS ONLY. Put in Box 77 (South on Rte. 41 at Avenida Vieja) or call 466-1276 by **March 5** for next issue. Please advise for reprinting.

FOR SALE

Nikon 950 Digital Camera, extra lens, Nikon bag, \$666. Will give free lesson on use; Richard, 466-7723.

Larry Mahan lady's cowboy boots, cocoa with turquoise & white stitching, size 8-8 1/2, \$60; Like-new microwave, \$90; 3 Mexican barstools, \$30 each. Call Harmony, 466-3932.

SERVICES

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

Dave's Auto Repair: tune-ups, oil change, minor repairs, auto restoring, painting, local reference, free estimates. David Montoya, 466-2097.

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

Native Bloom, Landscape design/ maintenance. Linda, 466-4658.

Gypsy Doodle, call Beth for **housesitting and petcare** in Galisteo. 660-6012.

Stonemasonry: patios and walls, Paul Kozak, 466-3894.

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

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

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

Home and Garden Services, Marghreta, 466-8319.

Astrotrends: an in-depth analysis of your natal chart, including a personalized reading for the coming year. Sliding scale fees. M.Cordero, certified astrologer since 1987. 466-8319.

Gold and silver jewelry with stones. in Galisteo village, Silvio Mazzaresse. Call 490-2062 for directions.

Imagine your precious photos set to beautiful music, artistically presented on a CD. Participate in the process, pass on to your loved ones. To review a CD, call Johnny at 466-0392.

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

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

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

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

One of a kind sterling silver jewelry, made by ancient lost wax process, and decorative art in wood and tin. Barbara and Joe Cooper, El Estudio, #18 the Hill. Call 466-3827 or 466-0133.

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

+++ 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: March 5.**