

ISSUE #50

DECEMBER 2001

## \*\*MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY HOLIDAYS\*\*

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**THIS IS THE 50<sup>th</sup> ISSUE OF EL PUENTE, marking 5 full years of publishing. It's a good time not only to sponsor an issue (a \$75 check made out to GCA with note that it's for El Puente) but also to let the editor know what you like and hate about the paper. For once, I'll even welcome anonymous comments (though prefer signed ones), and will take it all to heart. What do you want more of? Less of? Any features you love or hate? Story suggestions? General direction? Get it off your chest. This is a community paper and *you* are the community!**

**AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR TOO... Margarita and Melanie will be away for New Year's, so the "traditional" New Year's Eve party at the Community Center won't happen unless somebody else would like to organize it. Call M & M if you're up for it (466-6696).**

## TOBIAS ANAYA, ARTIST: FROM GALISTEO'S ROOTS

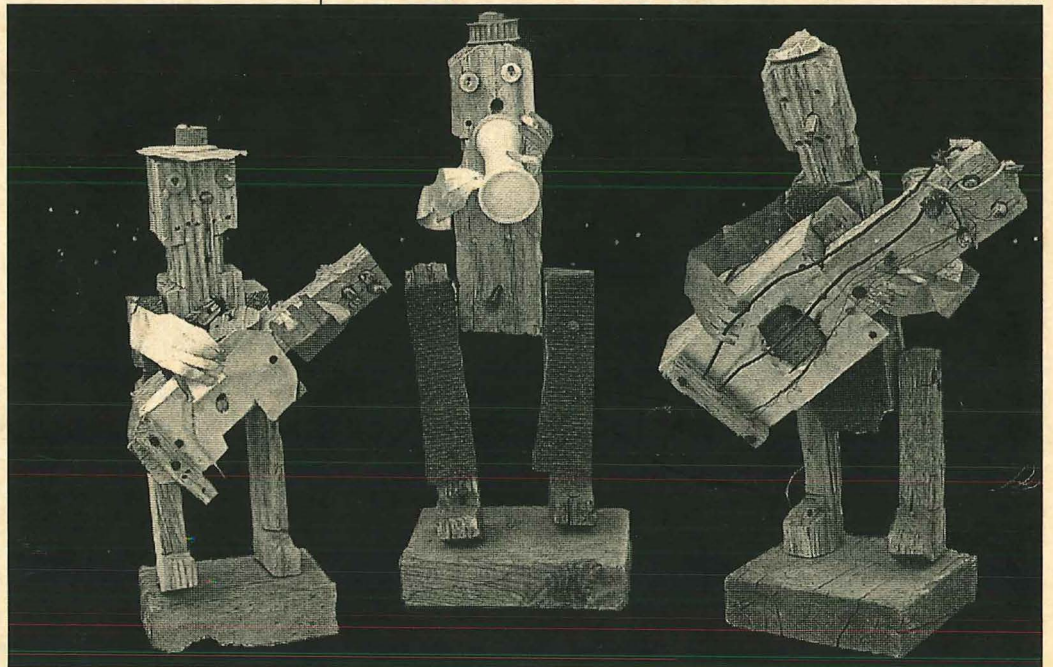
If you're lucky, you've lived here long enough to have known Tobias Anaya, and you had the sense to buy one or more of his sculptures. A Galisteo icon and one of its greatest artists, Tobias sold his wares next to the old cemetery, where a well-tended cross and text in his memory still stands. Tobias Lane, on the Hill, is named for him.

Tobias's sculptures were assembled, or transformed, from found objects — what most people think of as junk. He scavenged the Galisteo roadsides daily, a familiar figure in his black coat, on crutches, or two canes. David van Dyk, who enjoyed his company, remembers that when the family clothesline was raided by the wind, the children's socks would turn up in Tobias's art. He displayed his works on an old bedframe, and later made a whole cage, or *cerquito*, for them.

Tobias was born in Galisteo in October 1909 and lived here for most of his life, dying sadly in a house fire on November 29, 1989. He was Clarita and Serapio Anaya's older brother, Michael D. Anaya's uncle, and was related to many other (cont. p.2)



Above: Tobias Anaya, 1986.  
Right: Tobias Anaya,  
Three Musicians,  
Collection David van Dyk  
(photo: Richard Shuff)



people still living in the village. For years he lived with and cared for his mother, Carmelita Anaya, an extraordinary woman who lived into her nineties. (See EL PUENTE #2.)

Even as a child, Clarita recalls, Tobias liked to make things. When he retired from working at various jobs — wartime service in California, harvesting in the Estancia Valley, working with Major Felton at his furniture store, and hauling water in a cart to the then-waterless Galisteo Loma (See EL PUENTE #42)— he became a full-time artist. (It runs in the family; his great nephew Kenny Chavez is carrying on the tradition, exhibiting and selling his assemblages of wood, old bottles, and other finds.)

Tobias Anaya was well-known outside the village, and his funeral at the Cathedral in Santa Fe was crowded. (He is buried at the National Cemetery.) His “folk art” was collected by visitors to Galisteo and art dealers in Santa Fe and occasionally it was written up — even in foreign magazines. In a 1986 feature in the *New Mexican*, Hollis Engley reported that Tobias began making his figures in the 1950s and his first two wooden horses were sold to buy two live horses to draw his wagon.

He also carved tree roots into violins, made many “dolls” (sculptures that didn’t stand up by themselves), musical instruments, and animals—cattle, cats, a man milking a cow. Joe and Barbara Cooper have a lovely coyote, a handsome elk, and a cart made to hold flowers at their daughter’s wedding; the reins are phone cords, the seat a bisected drawer. Santa Fe dealer Murdoch Finlayson says, “Tobias was really very, very good—prolific, with a great imagination.” Photographer and one-time Galisteo Ray Belcher took many pictures of him and his work.

Musicians, carts, and horses with riders were Tobias’s favorite subjects; he also made washerwomen. A curiously “indigenous” little root figure wears a cape of leather-like rubber. The pieces are often held together with wire and the details are endlessly innovative — garden hose for arms, tire rubber for horses’ ears, beer cans, eyes of cut tin, bits of cloth, matchsticks, orange bailing twine, a dog collar. You name it, he re-envisioned it. David van Dyk took some of Tobias’s musicians to Africa with him, where they were much admired by the locals, who recognized their spirit and invention. He also owns Tobias’s last piece, delivered the day before he died. With hindsight, it seems significant — a typical Anaya horse, but riderless.

“*Artista?*” said Tobias, who spoke mostly Spanish. “I’ve never really been called an artist. An artist must have an education. I have no education. It’s a hobby, something to do.” Today, his status as an artist is in no doubt.

## RESIDENTS REQUEST ROAD SURFACE CHANGE

Richard Griscom

On November 20, 2001, twenty three Galisteo residents, most of them living along Via La Puente, La Vega and Otra Vanda, sent a letter to Robert Martinez, Director of Public Works for Santa Fe County, requesting that the base course used in surfacing those three roads in the fall of 1998 be removed.

Based on two professional laboratory analyses of a sample of the base course (by AMEC and the UNM Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences, both in Albuquerque), the letter pointed out that the sample’s contents do not conform to State standards

for this type of road in two respects: 1) it is too fine, as measured by the percentage of the sample that passes through a #200 sieve; 2) it contains 12% silt (state standards allow NO silt). The sample was taken according to industry standards by John Benjamin in September of this year from Via la Puente between the old bridge and the highway.

In addition, the letter pointed out, the sample contains almost 4% of particles smaller than silt. Numerous medical studies have shown the negative health effect of inhaling such small particles.

One of the laboratories also tested for lead in the sample and found that it contains 27.5 parts of lead per million. This lead becomes airborne and those who live and/or walk along these three roads breathe it when vehicles pass.

On November 30, Chris Graeser, Assistant County Attorney, informed me that the County has ordered its own laboratory test of a sample of the material in question, in order to confirm (or dispute) the accuracy of the information presented in the letter. The County’s response to the letter, based on its own test, will be reported in a future EL PUENTE. If anyone wants a copy of the Galisteo residents’ letter and its six attachments, please contact me at 466-3996.

**Ed note:** A story in the *Reporter* (11/21) quotes Martinez as planning to add a clay mixture to lay the dust, and Benjamin warning that total removal may be the only solution.

## PEDACITOS/ BITS AND PIECES

The **Nacha Mendez concert** at the Community Center on November 17th was covered at length in the *Santa Fe Reporter*. It was a lovely evening, and very well-attended by a combination of community and people from Santa Fe. The stage of the Community Center became the focus of a cozy living room. The lights were low, the music, as advertised, was “sad and beautiful.” Altogether this was an auspicious beginning for the Bridge Series — which refers not only to our own old *puente* but to outreach beyond the village, expanding our Studio Tour identity as a center for *all* the arts.

On the night of December 1, the **Fire Department** responded to a wreck just north of town. A car was totaled but the family in it came out relatively unscathed. They were admiring the huge moon when they went into the guard rail and ditch. Beware of star-gazing on the road!

**Ralph and Heidi Tingle’s** Christmas card deserves notice: It shows them and son **Ryan Taylor** with a body-painted horse-as-American-flag. The Arab’s original name — *Jihad*—has been changed to *Freedom*.

**Moira Walden** wrote a letter to the editor of the *New Mexican* November 17, reminding us that despite the naturally occurring high level of arsenic in New Mexico water, we see obituaries of “innumerable men and women with Spanish names [who] died at ages 85, 93, 97, 102, etc. — all of them born and raised in rural New Mexico. Perhaps the National Research Council should run some surveys,” she continued, “and do some statistics in our Southwestern states instead of (the places) that produced such alarming rates of lung and bladder cancer. Maybe

arsenic is not the cause of these cancers after all?” Hope she’s right!

**Cynthia and Frank Lux** and **Vicki Snyder** represented Galisteo at the Santa Fe Clay Holiday Sale on December 7th.

Denise Kusel’s *New Mexican* column on December 2nd was devoted to **Evelyn Gregory’s** dog training activities and her work as a matchmaker between people and dogs. (Looking for a pal? Call her at 983-4309, ext. 119, or in Galisteo at 466-1875.) Included were some pithy quotes that have to be heard in Evelyn’s inimitably dry drawl. For example: “There’s no perfect dog unless you get a stuffed one. The biggest problem people run into is unrealistic expectations. Face it, dogs are perfect at being dogs, not little people in fur suits.”

**Geoff Laurence’s** show opening at **Linda Durham’s Gallery** on Dec. 15 (through Jan. 19) is called “The Shape of Life,” and features realistically rendered figures in unexpected contexts.

Last month, **Craig and Matthew Moya** were among the eleven young people selected for “The Next Generation: Youth Show, Traditional Spanish Colonial Arts” at Ramon José Lopez y Familia’s Good Hands Gallery in Santa Fe.

**Cathy Aten**, a new Galisteo, showed her art in the Baca Street Art Tour on Nov. 30-Dec. 1. She also donated a figurine to the Fire Department Raffle.

## WHO WE ARE: PROFILE OF RICHARD GRISCOM\*

Dick Griscom has owned a home in Galisteo for over thirty years, but he’s been away from it a lot. Son of a Quaker farm family in New Jersey, he graduated with honors in economics from Wesleyan University in Connecticut and thought he was heading for a business career. But in 1958, a year as a Fulbright scholar living with a German family in Wurzburg, Germany, gave him a fresh perspective, sparking a life of intensive involvement in the world.

The following summer he led Experiment in International Living student groups to Germany and Mexico. In 1961 he earned a doctorate in law from Harvard, but international involvement proved more satisfying than law. In 1962 he became Acting Peace Corps director in Venezuela and then in El Salvador. In 1965 he went to Bolivia with former wife Chris and their baby daughter Karen Griscom (now Carrier). Their second and third children, David and Britt, were born in Paraguay. Megan was born in Galisteo, in 1972.

After the Peace Corps, Griscom worked in a range of government-funded projects including a State Department position in coordination with the UN High Commission for Refugees, when thousands of refugees were streaming into Sudan from Ethiopia and Uganda. In Papua New Guinea from 1988-90, he trained officials in a World Bank project. A stint in Panama from 1992 to 1996 had him working with two other New Mexico attorneys to improve an unwieldy legal system. His wife Janice

Felty was also traveling the world for her musical engagements.

Altogether, Griscom has lived and worked in Panama, Papua New Guinea, Sudan, Bolivia, Paraguay, El Salvador, Costa Rica, Colombia, Ecuador, Egypt, Peru, Chile, Argentina, Uruguay, Central African Republic, Namibia, Tanzania, and Jamaica. In between, he has practiced family law in New Mexico and served as an Assistant Attorney General and General Counsel for the New Mexico Health and Human Services Department.

Griscom’s boss in the Peace Corps and a consulting firm was Leveo Sanchez. They discovered belatedly that they had Galisteo in common. Leveo Sanchez is the son of Victoria Sanchez, a schoolteacher here for several years, and great grandson of Josefa Ortiz and Sylvester Davis, who lived in the hacienda.

Today Dick still consults in various countries and — continued good health permitting — he is ready to get on the road at any time for short-term overseas assignments. But he and Janice, and their daughter Hannah, are settled here in Galisteo, where Dick was the first president of the GCA in the 1970s, has often served on the Water Board, and is a member of the GVFR Auxiliary.

*\*This story is based on “Meet a V.I.M. (A Very Interesting Member),” recently published in the newsletter for the Council on International Relations.*

## NEWS FROM NIZHONI SCHOOL

Our highway cleaning project is underway. Starting from the Nizhoni Road north of Galisteo and going towards the church, both sides of highway 41 are being de-trashed every Tuesday morning between 11 and 12. We’ve been at it for three weeks and expect to continue for several more. There’s a *lot* of litter. We’ll be back after vacation.

Speaking of the holidays, we have several special events lined up for the New Year, beginning with a “*meditation for the new year*” running from 5PM Sunday, December 30th and continuing until 1AM January 1<sup>st</sup>. We will also hold *sweat lodges* on Dec. 30-31, as well as a *fire walk* on December 31<sup>st</sup>. The workshop starts at 9:30PM and we walk at midnight. We warmly invite you to join us.

One of our most important efforts in recent months has been promoting peace, discussing and exploring how being peaceful can allow us to find entirely new answers to life’s challenges. This effort continues. Through our students and faculty we are offering Peace Workshops around the state and Chris Griscom is traveling around the country doing the same. If you are interested in having us speak, please let us know.

Also, come January, we will be starting our Academy of Peace, offering special weekend seminars and more comprehensive courses of two weeks, four months, or one year’s duration. Our curriculum is designed to teach people how to access and share the power of inner peace. We will train students to facilitate the choice of peace, to become skillful in helping others, and to find peaceful solutions to personal and global situations. For questions and information, please don’t hesitate to contact us at 466-4336; e-mail [nizhoni@nizhonischool.com](mailto:nizhoni@nizhonischool.com). Our new web site is at [www.nizhonischool.com](http://www.nizhonischool.com). We wish you and yours a very special Christmas and a wonderful New Year.

**EL PUENTE SPONSOR THIS MONTH:  
ANONYMOUS, IN MEMORY OF  
JOE M. ANAYA**

**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 **Jan..5** for next issue. Please advise for reprinting.

**FOR RENT/SALE**

**Home and studio for rent, now-March,** furnished, 2 BR, 1.5 B, walled garden, hilltop view. Dates flexible, price reduced w'out studio; Utilities/phone not incl. \$2,000 mo. 466-3903.

**Flowering house plants, culinary herbs** in beautiful pots. Reasonably priced. Janice Griscom, 466-3996.

**SERVICES**

**Galisteo Woodworks:** for your custom woodworking needs. Furniture and furniture repair. Antonio Chavez, 466-3601.

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

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

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

**Home and Garden Services,** Marghreta, 466-6696.

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

**Computer trouble-shooting** and upgrades, software installation, tutoring. Database specialist with 19 years experience. PCs only. \$35/ hr. Johnny, 466-0392.

**Restore your old photo:** We copy, repair, and reprint your favorite damaged or fading photos. Richard/Cara 466-7723.

Private exercise and yoga training in the village with Ron Helman. 30 yrs. experience. All levels and conditions, 466-1919.

**Linda Vista Stables:** Beginner western riding for children and adults; 1-2 hr. trail rides; short-term boarding. 466-8930.

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

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

**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.

**Galisteo Dream Group:** presented by Ann Yeomans, M.A. Join us for a weekly Jungian/ archetypal approach to dream work, beginning Tues. Nov. 20 from 6-8 PM, Call 466-6070.

**Editing/Writing Services** by local college English instructor, freelance editor, author: Katherine Minott, M.A., 466-6668.

**Healing Crosses of Galisteo** by Maria, 466-8930.

**Nizhoni School: High School,** grades 9-12, **College of Divinity, Academy of the Media.** Some classes will be open to the public. Information: 466-4336 or 466-1975.

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

**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.

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

**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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*Flamenco at the Community Center Dec. 9. with Nacha Mendez, Victoria Prewitt and dancers, Joaquin Gallegos. T. Anaya Cart, Collection B & J Cooper. (Photos: R. Shuff).*

