



ISSUE #65

MAY 2003

TROUBLED WATERS

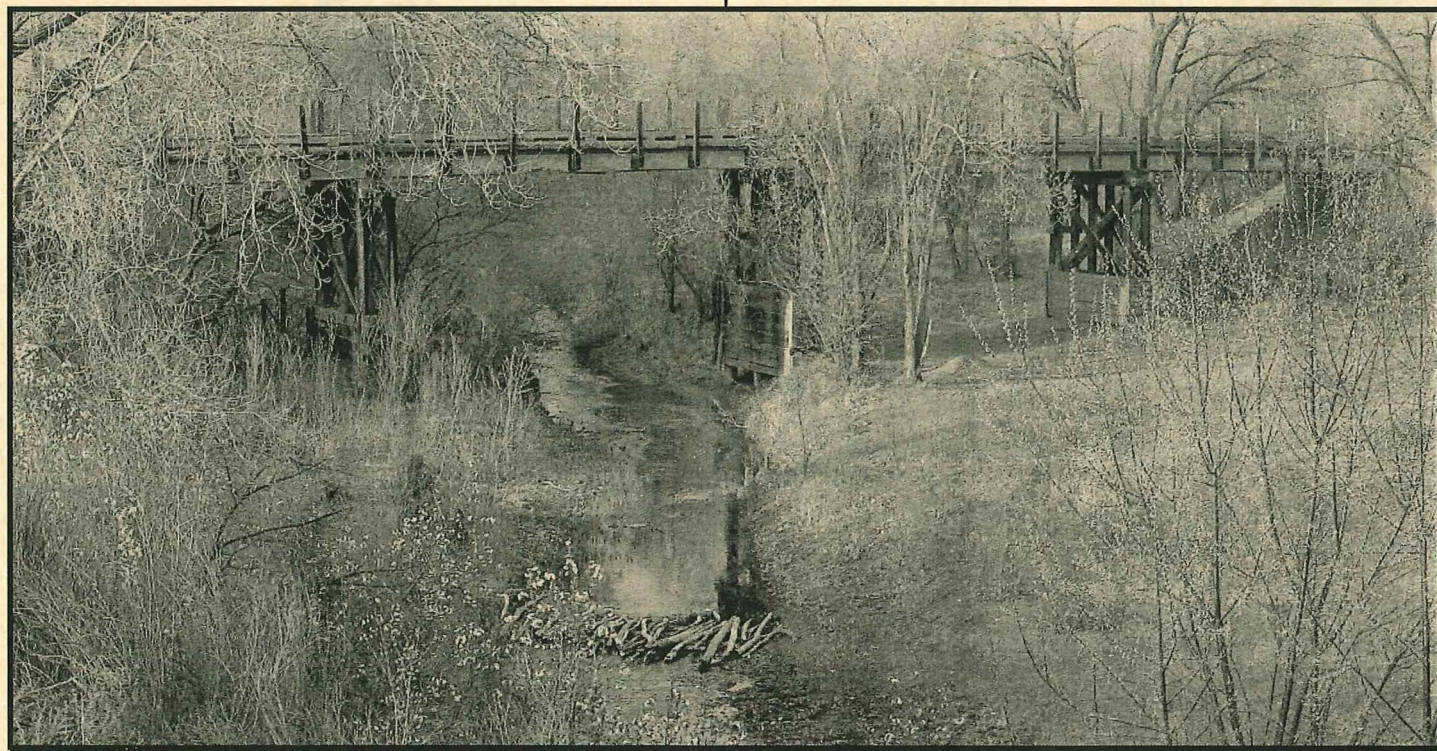
Over 20 people from all over the Galisteo Basin (nine from Galisteo) attended a meeting of the budding (bubbling?) Galisteo Watershed Coalition on May 1st at the Galisteo Fire Station. It was sponsored by Earth Works Institute (the folks with the goats...and much much more), led by Eliza Kretzman, and facilitated by Rosemary Romero. The goal was to continue the process of creating a long-range strategic plan for the watershed. Hydrologist Amy Lewis spoke on "Where Does Our Water Come From?" Her conclusion: "No one knows what we have, where it comes from, and how long it will last."

The good news is that the water in our area is relatively free of human pollution. The bad news is that there is very little of it. All our water comes from ground wells. Outflow/use is higher than inflow from natural recharge and unnatural recharge (or septic tanks). In other words, more is going out than coming in. It's legal, but lethal.

Troubled Bridge over Troubled Waters (photo: Richard Shuff)

Rainfall on the ground simply does not reach the aquifers. Snow melt is better because it recharges the streams. The Galisteo Creek loses a lot to evapotranspiration (a fancy word for surface evaporation) because the depth of the water is less than 10 feet (a *lot* less). Development can increase the water in the creek but the quality would be a lot worse -- contaminated fast runoff from paving and other sources, which is bad for riparian habitats and wildlife.

Technically, along with Lamy, we are in the South Galisteo Sub-Basin, an irregularly drawn area that includes Apache Canyon and Golden, with Cerrillos just above it in the North Galisteo Sub-Basin. Our water does not come from a single aquifer because Galisteo lies over a complicated mess of different geological formations, each of which has its own aquifer. Faults, volcanos and other upheavals affected each one. The formation with really bad water, much of the east side of the creek, is Mancos Shale. It would be interesting to test everyone's Galisteo water and see all the differences that arise. *(Cont. p.2)*



Population growth is projected to rise from 2,900 (now) to 15,000 (in 2060). A graph of domestic and municipal water demand in the South Galisteo Sub-Basin shows a grim picture. The amount of water from domestic wells and metered wells stays constant at around 500 acre feet a year. The demand climbs steeply to 2200 acre feet. Where will it all come from? The source is labeled "unknown."

A nice little chart of what can be done through conservation, growth management, transfer of agricultural water rights, more domestic wells and San Juan Chama water shows that very little can be done. The discussion is mostly about sustainable management of what we have -- storm water, for instance-- but nothing will create new water. On the other hand, the experts stress that nobody really knows exactly what's going on under there. And it's too expensive to try and find out. We just have to wait and see...and trust those experts.

Some alternatives listed in a handout from the meeting are: "restore and protect supply for existing demand (agriculture, municipal, industrial, domestic) and the environment; improve system efficiency; mitigate drought [just how do we do that?]; reduce demand [for instance, if all outdoor watering were reduced, 50% could be conserved]; and increase supply by adding or moving water rights.

Watershed Coalition meetings are the first Thursday of the month and rotate within the area. The next meeting will be June 5; subject and place to be announced. For information: 982-9806.

SUZI'S AND JANEY'S POETIC FAREWELL

'Twas a long time ago/ when we moved to this state. /The month was July/The year 88.
We rented a trailer/Had it moved to our land/Life in a single wide/Was certainly grand.
We walked the arroyos/the creekbed, the sand/And nobody cared/ That we needed no man.
I acted helpless [Suzi] /And I acted dumb [Janey]/When we did need some help/ Ken or Philip would come.
We bought us a burro/2 dogs and a horse/3 cats and a lizard/Were just the first course.
Janey dug ditches/with Philip McKee/Cutting water & power lines/filled them with glee.
Meanwhile Suzi was working/With kids after school/Compared to their parents/They though she was cool.
The mobile home now/Was getting too small/We hired some architects/Then fired them all.
We drew our own plans/And hired a crew/We even helped lay/An adobe or two.
Now I'm waiting tables [Janey] And I'm straightening teeth [Suzi]/Having opposite schedules/Sure caused us some grief.
Community Service/Is a double-edged sword/So I signed her up/For our water board.
If you're looking for Suzi/She's at Santa Fe Clay/Working or teaching/ She makes people's day.
We know you'll all miss her/Specially her 'Boys'/ It's bound to be boring/ Without all her noise.
Janey's now welding/And cutting up hoods/Living her dream/Felt incredibly good.

Lizard Breath Ranch/Became World Reknowned/At least in some circles/Between here and town.

The Studio Tour/Was our year's big event/Before building a studio/We sold from a tent.

We headed the tour/For what seemed like too long/But that kind of money/Just never seemed wrong.

And speaking of money/What really seemed right/was electing Suzi Treasurer/For the village one night.

I served for 5 years/On the Community Board/And last month reluctantly/I cut the cord.

When Janey turned 50/We started to roam/A log cabin in the Gila/Was our second home.

A place in the forest/We're way off the grid/A spring gives us water/Then solar we did.

We bought a big building/On the main street of town/Lots of studio space/And new friends came around.

The horses are happy/The dogs and the cats/But for Suzi, the forest/Is just not 'where it's at.'

So for her there's a 'town' house/Historic old brick/With full attic and basement/It's really quite slick.

We'd like to thank David/ and Vicki and You/We'll always remember/ our friends that are true.

We'll only be 5 hours away/Perhaps you'll come see us/You might want to stay.

Though you're not our parents/Our children or wives/We gave you the 15/Best years of our Lives!

WATER ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING

The Galisteo Mutual Domestic Water Consumers Association held its annual meeting on May 5, achieving a quorum at this second attempt. The big news was the retirement of Roman Attenberger as foreman after an admirable three decades of hard time, and Moira Walden's retirement as secretary after many years of service. Antonio Chavez replaced Roman and Ted Fleming replaced Moira. Big shoes to fill.

Rod Hall and Scott Diffrient were re-elected as President and Vice President of the Board. Richard Griscom and Romona Scholder will also continue as the two-pronged Treasurer. Other Board members are Richard Patton, Steve Moya, and Kevin Long.

An amendment to the bylaws was passed stating that accounts delinquent for 12 consecutive months would lose their membership and the right to receive water. This resulted in some rapid paying-up of accounts. The Water Association has 80-some hookups, of which 50-some are active. (The others are spoken for, and paid for.) Some years the association is under the water budget of 42.58 acre feet; other years it goes over, primarily because of leaks, though this has improved since the system was upgraded. There is a long waiting list for hookups, but not much hope for those of us praying for water. No news about the potential new well or new water rights.

BULLETIN:

The troubled bridge is closed again. Something very heavy broke the thick new boards and many bolts are loose.

Century Bike Race comes through Galisteo May 18th.

THE GALISTEO BASIN: SECOND (OR THIRD... OR FOURTH) HOME OF THE RICH AND FAMOUS

In March of this year, *Vogue* ran a feature on Gucci designer Tom Ford (owner of the former Cook/McKee Ranch) and *Vanity Fair* ran a story on Jeffrey Epstein (owner of Zorro Ranch and a strip of the Basin as well as "the biggest home in New Mexico" and the biggest town house in New York City -- though he says that next to his New Mexico digs, the New York pad looks like a "shack"). The less said the better of neighbor Epstein, whom the article depicts as an arrogant, sometimes charming, often unethical high financier.

The Ford piece is more complimentary. He is called "a one-man miracle... a study in creativity and control." His ranch is "an hour out of Santa Fe" (Galisteo is never mentioned, probably a blessing). Ford's black Land Rover "pulls up the dirt track, over the hill, past the cattle station. To the left he points out a deserted one-horse Western town -- a broken-down film lot where *Silverado* was shot -- then it's across the dried-up riverbed, along the piñon-and-juniper-speckled plain, past the stables and up again onto the mesa, a plateau high up on an escarpment. When he jumps out and stands there in the sparkling air, Ford can turn 360 degrees, scan the far mountain-fringed horizons, and take in a view uninterrupted by any other sign of human life. "All this emptiness. 'I love it that you can see nothing and nobody from here,' he says. 'There's a lonely quality to New Mexico, but it's a loneliness that makes me feel comfortable.' This is where he comes 'to get cleanliness of mind.'"

The author notes there is "not a single Gucci store in the entire state." New Mexico, says Ford, is "a fashion-free zone. And that's why I come here." He should know, he lived here during high school and a few years ago bought his grandmother's house in Santa Fe. Now he plans to build a new home on a "panoramic hilltop," rumored to be the Chorro cliffs, which will be a relief from his "sleek modernist residences in Paris, London, and Los Angeles." He visualizes it as "fortress-like," with elevators and an underground swimming pool.

Ford had been interested in the property for ages but the deal finally came through on September 12th, 2001. "His attorney called that morning and croaked, 'Tom. Do. You. Still. Want it?' 'Believe me,' he said, 'I want it more than ever.'"

With his partner, Richard Buckley, Ford is considering raising Texas longhorns because "they look pretty." (Trouble is, they can't be transported in standard cattle vans because of the length of their horns.) Not pretty were green garden hoses and an orange tractor. The article is mum about the fate of the hoses, but the tractor was sprayed black.

PEDACITOS/BITS AND PIECES

Ron Howard's film, *The Missing*, continues night shooting on the west side of the Ford Ranch. It will be the last movie made at the Silverado set as long as Ford owns the property. The GVFR is on call in case anyone in the cowboy vs. Indian battles gets hurt for real.

Last issue we forgot to mention that **Barbara Seiler's** photo show received a feature article in *Pasatiempo* (March 21) entitled "Compelling Quiet Beauty." Robert Knott wrote that Seiler "lives and works on the edge of paradise... Not bad for a Queens girl

who couldn't hold onto a job at Macy's." Having been told "I couldn't be a photographer because I was a girl," she went on to Macy's, to becoming a "Twiggy-like" model in the '60s, and to Hollywood, where she worked for photographer Bud Franken. She knew she wanted to be a professional when she printed a "horrible" image of a friend, and it was still "like magic."

Well-known poet **Adrienne Rich** apparently had a Lannan residence in Galisteo when the foundation owned two houses on La Vega. In *Adrienne Rich 1965-2000: A Retrospective*, a book of poems published by the Lannan Foundation, the last entry is called "Ends of the Earth." One cryptic line reads: "Call it Galisteo but that's not the name of what happened here."

A **gravel pit near Moriarty** was permitted in March to haul up to 34 truckloads a day, despite opposition from nearby landowners. This means more traffic on Rte. 41.

MAY: CHURCH NEWS AND CALENDAR

Things are getting done at the church! We are in the process of getting one of the old stained glass windows restored; it was literally falling apart. Our beautiful Lady of Light stained glass window is also in dire need of repair; it has some pieces missing. The price is not cheap. Each window will cost \$1,800 to fix. We will happily accept any donations for this restoration project that is now in progress. Please contact Deacon Tom at St. Joseph's Parish in Cerrillos at 471-1562, or Maria Ortiz y Pino at 466-8930. Thank you.

May 11: Mother's Day and First Holy Communion for Communicate Candidates. Mass in Galisteo at 12 Noon.

May 28: Healing Mass, location to be announced.

May 29: Ascension of the Lord -- Holy Day of Obligation.

May 31: Parish Thank You Dinner.

**REMEMBER THE BOOK/VIDEO SWAP:
First Sunday of every month, at the Community
Center. Coffee, cookies, and chitchat, sponsored
by GCA.**

NEXT ONE IS JUNE 1st: 2-4PM

FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS

Tana Cárdenas, now a high school freshman, who hopes to be a mechanical engineer, has joined the GVFR. Esteban Padilla is our other young member. (His brother Miguel, now at UNM, is an old hand by now.) Congratulations to firefighter Nick Contreras, who passed the grueling test for his Red Card and completed the Sawyer-A qualification (how to operate a chainsaw safely and efficiently). Miguel Padilla passed the EMT test. Jean and Steve Moya also passed the Sawyer-A. Steve also qualified as an Engine Boss and was duly appointed.

The wildfire season has begun. The National Weather Service has issued a Red Warning. The wind is drying out the grasslands, meaning fires can move even faster.

Linda Rice has donated a landscaping plan for a flagstone terrace on the Avenida Vieja side of the Fire Station. Her business, Native Bloom, will also donate labor. There will be a workday when the plants arrive. Also needed: flagstone and landscaping materials. (Cont. p.4)

The new brush truck is in the works. We might have it as soon as three weeks from now.

Medical Officer Linda Anaya has put together an impressive Five Year Operational Plan for the GVFR through June 31, 2009. Goals are a 2-bay addition to the Fire Station; Replacement Medical Rescue; Replacement Extrication Unit; and Landscaping. Also updating volunteer recruiting and retention, training, public education, EMS upgrades, and an additional community water storage tank.

Most recent donations to the GVFR have been received from David Burk Freddie & Anna Cárdenas, Joe & Barbara Cooper, Linda Durham, Frank Hirsch, Amy & Arthur Lynn, Bruce Nauman & Susan Rothenberg, and the Galisteo Studio Tour. (Sorry previous contributors have not been listed; there is often no room in the newsletter to do so, but take these people for your models and support your fire department!)

CHIPPING PROJECT COMPLETED—FOR NOW

Richard Grisco

On April 11th, the chipping of the three huge piles of brush that had been gathered from seven different properties was finally completed. This was possible again through the generosity of Kaye Sandford who made the Vista Clara chipper and a two person crew available, and of the Galisteo Volunteer Fire and Rescue and the Galisteo Water Association, both of which helped pay for the second, rented, chipper.

In addition to Frank Sandoval and Joe Montoya from Vista Clara, six volunteers helped with the chipping that day. Five took home chips for their own use. Chips are still available. You can pick them up in the Bosque just south of the bridge or above the Fire Station.

There will be no more chipping until the fall or winter. Therefore, **please do NOT bring any more material.** Anything brought now would increase the fire danger, which is the opposite of what we're trying to accomplish.

EL PUENTE SPONSOR THIS MONTH: ANONYMOUS

GALISTEO CLASSIFIED

ADS ARE FREE, AND FOR GALISTEO RESIDENTS ONLY.
Contact: Box 77 (Rte. 41 at Avenida Vieja) or call 466-1276 by June 5th for next issue.

WANTED

A Water Hookup! Is anyone interested in selling or long-leasing their hookup? Also need **old coyote fence poles**, whatever condition: call Lucy, 466-1276.

FOR RENT

Modern furnished apartment/studio, wonderful views, no smoking, no pets. \$750 mo. Call 466-1668.

SERVICES

Tractor with implements and operators for hire. 466-0392 or 466-0204.

S.B. Lejo/ Sina Brush is taking special orders for original antique Mexican furniture. Call 577-4045.

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

Call **Beth** for **housesitting/ petcare/vet runs/odd jobs/studio assistance/party help/you name it...** in Galisteo, 660-6012.

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

I will take **care of your pets**. I can also **watch children** when needed. (I am thirteen years old.) Simone Montoya, at 466-1518

Nizhoni School: High School, grades 9-12, **College of Divinity, Academy of the Media**. Some classes open to public. Info:466-4336 or 466-1975. For **Soul-Centering Clinic:** 466-2316.

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

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

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

Private exercise and Yoga Training with Ron Helman. 34 yrs. experience. All levels and conditions welcome. 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.

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

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

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

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

One of a kind sterling silver jewelry/ decorative art in wood and tin. Barbara & Joe Cooper, El Estudio, 18 the Hill. 466-0133.

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

+++ EL PUENTE DE GALISTEO+++

Editor: Lucy R. Lippard. Contributing Editors: Anna Cárdenas, Kathleen Murphy, Jan Saunders, Barbara Cooper. Production: Insty-Prints, Santa Fe. Photographer: Richard Shuff. EL PUENTE logo by Cara Lee. Please send letters, comments, suggestions, contributions to EL PUENTE, 14 Avenida Vieja, 466-1276. NEXT DEADLINE: JUNE 5.

NO BURN

BY ORDER OF THE COUNTY FIRE MARSHALL
