

ISSUE #76

SUMMER 2004

SUMMER CALENDAR

June 19th: GALISTEO WATERSHED PLANNING COLLABORATION, Vista Clara, 9-4.

June 26th: BOSQUE MANAGEMENT WORK DAY with Bill Zeedyk, Vista Clara, 9-2.

July 16th, Earth Works Institute's BOSQUE WORKSHOP. Meet at the old bridge in Galisteo, 8-2 (including lunch).

July 17-18th: RODEO DE GALISTEO. Parade through village on Saturday morning.

August 14th : SECOND ANNUAL CHILI COOKOFF at the Community Center. 4 PM.

GALISTEO STUDIO TOUR will be Oct. 16-17th.

EL PUENTE takes July and August off; next issue, September.

WHAT'S GOING ON OVER THERE?

PLANS FOR CERRO PELON (FORD) RANCH

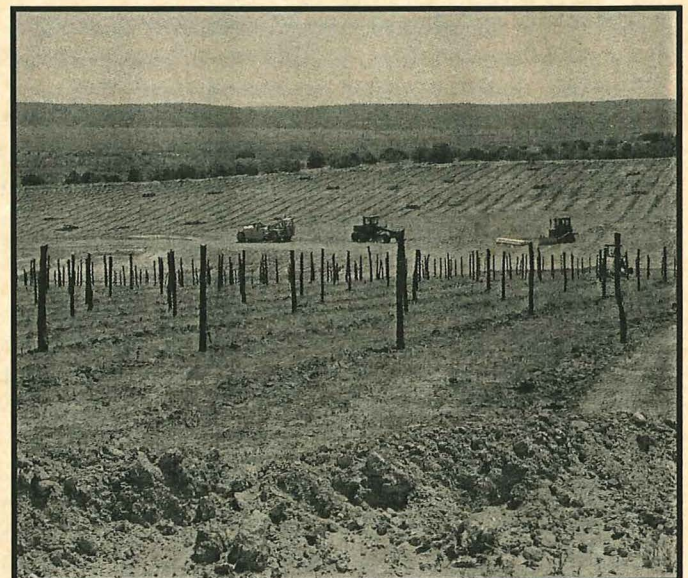
On May 22nd a small Galisteo delegation met at the Cerro Pelon Ranch with the architects, ranch managers, and an agronomist, representing the owner, Tom Ford. The meeting was initiated by residents of Ranchitos: Joanna Kaufman and Leslie Dilworth, representing site-planning concerns, and Wayne Aarniokoski and Muriel Fariello, representing water concerns. Ralph and Heidi Tingle of the La Jara Ranch represented the southwest side's other major agricultural interest, Tom Morin represented the Galisteo Community Association, and Lucy Lippard the Steering Committee of the Traditional Community Land Use Plan (and EL PUENTE).

As we drove in through acres of plowed red fields lined with seedlings, past the pipes and earth movers for the construction of the irrigation system, we could not fail to be impressed by the vast scale of this operation.

The meeting took place at ranch headquarters in a pristine conference room dominated by a huge aerial photograph of the ranch and the village. We were welcomed by architects Ron Radziner, John Ferri, and Gabriel Sandoval of the Los Angeles-based firm Marmol Radziner and Associates, which has built other houses for Ford and has a "longstanding and good working relationship" with him. They outlined Ford's "very low key" plans to make Cerro Pelon a working ranch, to restore the native landscape and alter it as little as possible. All the existing buildings, for instance, have been repainted to blend with the color of the soil.

Building plans at the moment are not extensive. There will be three new one-story structures at the headquarters, just behind the existing ones, which will be torn down. There will be a new manager's house (and maybe another caretaker's house, out of sight). The ranch is in the process of being permitted for a private horse facility and a 2500 sq.ft. house which will be located in the valley of the Arroyo San Lazaro, about half a mile from the current Line Camp and about 6 miles from headquarters, behind Cerro Pelon. At a later date it is possible that a larger house (10,000 sq.ft., but "just a concept now") will also be built in that area. A huge Corten steel sculpture by Richard Serra is no longer in the cards. Power for that area will be brought in from the south where the King Cattle Co. is subdividing east of Cerro Pelon.

Of major concern to Ranchitos residents were the two mobile homes that have been installed near their boundary in the prime viewshed. (Ranchitos itself has covenants against metal sheds and mobile homes; everything built has to be approved by an Architectural Committee.) Radziner said the mobile homes are temporary, permitted for only 18 months max, as housing for construction staff. Right now they have 15 workers, none of whom live at the ranch. This is also the future plan. The architects are unwilling to move the mobile homes now, as the expensive infrastructure is already in place. (*Cont.p.2*)



Fruit Fields Forever (Photo: Tom Morin)

The architects were invited to come and look at their project from the Ranchitos area, in regard to the siting of future buildings, such as a fruit storage facility planned for the same location as the mobile homes. (They did so after the meeting.) Radziner assured us that over the 18-month period, "there's enough time to deal with infrastructure and change the site," and that he will talk to Ford about it.

Dr. Ron Walser, Extension Fruit Specialist and Assistant Professor at New Mexico State University, who is consulting on the orchards and vineyards, then spoke in detail about the agriculture. The original plan called for 45 cultivated acres and 167 acre feet of water, which was reduced to 36 acres and 125 acre feet by the State Engineer. (The nine excluded acres, now bare and blowing, will be reseeded.) They have a legal right to 125 acre feet, but thanks to water conservation, they think they will probably need only 80-90 acre feet. They first considered planting alfalfa, but it would have taken a third more water than the orchards and vineyards. After a thorough assessment of the land, they found that soil and slope provided ideal conditions for fruit. (Slopes are warmer than flatland below, as cold air sinks.)

The ranch is pulling back all of its water rights; some had been loaned to the Tingles. The fields will be drip irrigated and microsprayed (a low volume mist). All pipes are underground. Ford's fondness for black is a plus here, in that the irrigation risers – which are usually white and stand out like sore thumbs—will all be black. The same irrigation system will support a perennial cover of Australian clover around the trees, which will also provide harbor for beneficial insects. The only fertilizer is compost (manure from the Downs is screened there and brought over). After two years there will be no fertilizer except for an occasional micronutrient spray, as the clover provides nitrogen. The system will be certified organic this summer.

Apprehension was expressed about the project's effect on water quality and quantity for the village and Ranchitos, which are on separate water systems. "Technically this is one of the most advanced and environmentally friendly water systems available," said Walser. It is already in use in Alcalde, Leyden, Belen and elsewhere, and "it's working out real good." There will be little runoff when the clover is established. The runoff from flushing the drip system and heavy rains will go into a Bentonite-lined pond being dug now. At 10-12' deep, there will be less evaporation, though it will dry out when there's no rain.

The State and the County will check and report annually on water quantity and quality to be sure there is no contamination and that our community wells are not suffering. Walser speculated that they may not be using the same aquifer and said runoff is down-gradient from the village and Ranchitos. New Mexico's "use-it-or-lose-it" water law came in for some flack.

The fruit trees – apples, cherries, apricots, peaches, plums – are all dwarf varieties, compact, and planted close together. They are self-pollinating, so no bees, and demand less labor, as no ladders are needed for picking. "Ford does not want a lot of labor out here." A crew of six can handle the orchards, harvesting in increments from mid-June to October; for about six weeks there could be another six workers.

There will be 18 acres of grapes, 6 of cherries, 5 of peaches, 3 of apples, 2 each of apricots and plums, yielding tons of fruit

that will go to farmers' and organic markets in Santa Fe and Albuquerque. Local wineries are "begging for New Mexico grapes." (They too range from early to late varieties, from Pinot Noir to New York hybrid.)

Asked about the wind, Walser admitted it could be a problem, although the orchards are located in a less windy area. When necessary, they will irrigate at night. The entire cultivated area will be fenced 6' high with cedar posts, barbless wire to discourage the deer on the upper 3 feet, and one-inch mesh on the lower 3 feet to deter jackrabbits, who chew on trees. "Now it's all in the construction phase," said Walser, "and it doesn't look too good, but next year it will be green and beautiful."

Cerro Pelon Ranch is still leasing State Trust land to the south, around Pueblo Blanco. Down the line there will be a small cow/calf operation with Longhorns. Ford has bought another 1/2 acre plot with water rights from Brian Dennehy to the west of the Line Camp, near the Chorro Cliffs. The Silverado movie set, including the relatively recent big red building on the crest of the hill, will stay, if unused, "because it's a landmark."

The meeting ended cordially with both sides determined to keep the communication lines open. "Tom wants to be a good neighbor." The ranch managers, Kathryn and Richard Cozad, are eager to be part of the village and want us all to know that we can come out and see for ourselves what's going on. They can be called any time at 466-6343.

Many thanks to Joanna Kaufman for help on this article.

PEDACITOS/BITS AND PIECES

Taking a pro-active role in conserving water, the **Ranchitos Water Association** has now metered the entire system. It costs only \$75, though hookup and cutoff are more expensive. The wells were measured for depth and recharge with good results.

The *New Mexican* reported on June 2 that Eldorado Utilities was repairing the **Lamy well** "to take advantage of underground water from the Galisteo Creek," which was flowing at Lamy for the first time in recent years.

Holger Schmidt had a show at the Box Gallery in Santa Fe in May. **Isabella Gonzales** and **Harmony Hammond** are in the *Insight Out* (or damaged books) show at the Center for Contemporary Art in Santa Fe (through July 5th); **Tom Morin** and Isabella designed the catalogue and Isabella's piece was reproduced in *Art in America*. She is also in "Celebration of Clay—North," at Maravilla Contemporary Crafts Gallery in Taos. **Cindy Lux** is one of the jurors.

Muriel Fariello suggests that people put their names on their mailboxes (it's inconspicuous on the inside flap) so that it's easier for us --not to mention for **Vince Roybal**, our wonderful postman -- to find each other in the crazy village postal layout. And maybe we could start a campaign to get **Galisteo** back as our official addresses, now that the Lamy post office is defunct.

GALISTEO VOTES IN PRIMARY

For **PRC**: Lujan 19, Perls 12, Rodarte 4. (Lujan won). For **County Clerk**: Gonzales and Sena 14, Espinoza 9 (Espinoza won). For **County Treasurer**: Montoya 15, Pineda 2, Rubin 3, Fiorina 15 (Montoya won) Other candidates were unopposed.

REGIONAL PLANNING COMMITTEES MEET

On May 10th the UNM students who had been working with our Land Use Plan Steering Committee presented their findings at the Community Center, along with those groups that had worked with Lamy, Cerrillos, and San Marcos. Based on data the committee provided, and on their own research, the Galisteo group created a computerized map of all wells and hookups and of the 117 structures within the historic village boundary, which will be a great asset as we proceed with the plan.

They also emphasized that metering wells can promote conservation, suggested funding resources, and stressed the importance of a public education component as we move on. They recommended that we "keep an eye on the changes" that are happening, as well as on our own changing goals, and that we make a natural resources inventory to gauge how much growth is sustainable for Galisteo. Affordable housing was also highlighted, with the hope that younger people (only 15% of our population is under 20) would stay or return to the village if it were available.

It was very interesting to hear our neighbors' concerns. Each community had different populations and different goals; each student group had a different angle on the planning process. Galisteo was the only community that did not include increased economic opportunities in its wish list. Lamy and Cerrillos were looking for more tourism -- Lamy basing its hopes on a new Railroad Museum and the resurrection of the Legal Tender, Cerrillos concentrating on the Cerrillos Hills Park, with land preservation a priority. San Marcos is the largest and most diverse; it too stresses economic opportunity and open space.

The concluding discussion focused on how to tie it all together, on democratizing the process and the possibility of a watershed-wide newsletter (it would include Santo Domingo Pueblo, which held a separate meeting this round) and watershed-wide parties so we get to know each other better.

2004 GALISTEO MIGRATORY BIRD COUNT

Jan Saunders

We watched a female Hummingbird lining her nest with spider webs she had gathered along the riverbank. Other Bosque birds of interest were: Ladder-backed and Downy Woodpeckers, Western Wood-Pewee, Black and Say's Phoebes, White-breasted Nuthatch, Ash-throated Flycatchers, Northern Flicker, Black-chinned and Broad-tailed Hummers, American Robins, many Warblers – Yellow, Yellow-rumped, MacGillivray's, and Wilson's, Spotted Towhees, a single male Western Tanager, Bullock's Orioles, a flock of Cedar Waxwings, a Plumbeous Vireo, and many more.

A quick trip south to the dike near Comanche Gap netted us a sought-after Horned Lark, several Cassin's Kingbirds and a beautiful Swainson's Hawk. After we spotted the Great Horned Owl near Vista Clara, we called it a day – and a fairly successful one at that. Not bad for six hours' work. Altogether, we recorded 50 species. Unfortunately we were not as lucky/observant as our Editor, who saw a stunning Lazuli Bunting at her feeder a few days before the count. Some folks have all the luck!

** FIRE DEPARTMENT ALERT **

An emergency ordinance from The Santa Fe County Fire Department, effective immediately, **bans the use of aerial and ground fireworks, campfires, open fires, open burning of vegetation or rubbish, unauthorized use of off-road vehicles, motor bikes and chain saws, and smoking within County parks, campgrounds, or wildland areas (except within closed vehicles)**. No burning permits will be issued. Violations carry a penalty of up to 90 days in jail and/or a \$300 fine.

BOSQUE WALK

Rich Schrader and Steve Vrooman, independent contractors with Earth Works Institute, led this walk as a preparation for the full-scale Bosque Workshop which will take place on July 16th 8AM to 2PM. The mud from April's floods has miraculously prepared the ground for the regeneration of cottonwoods which must take place if the Bosque is to stay healthy and survive.

Harmony Hammond and Richard Griscom have volunteered to monitor and photograph the relationship between established stands of Russian Olives and Cottonwoods to see the effect on the native trees. They will also monitor shallow ground water wells to check the watertable. More volunteers are needed to monitor a trap for ground arthropods (insects and spiders), which indicate a lot about the ecology of any site. There are many micro ecologies in the Bosque and they can vary drastically despite proximity. Because of all the clearing work done on the west side of the Creek, there is not much concern about fire fuel layers, although a fire would still be devastating, so be careful...

The next week, weirs and diversion dams were placed in the creek. Now it flows into several healthy little channels, nourishing the cottonwood seeds all the way across the creekbed. Water runs faster and cuts deeper in a single channel.

Jonathan Batkin, an ardent birder who lives in Eldorado (and happens to direct the Wheelright Museum) has been haunting the creek of late. He will participate in monitoring the summer birdlife while our own bird expert is working in Costa Rica.

FROM THE GCA

GCA Board Meetings are at 7PM, the third Wednesday of every month, unless otherwise announced. The next one is Wednesday June 16th. The community is invited. The meeting opens with a short public forum where any issue can be raised. At its conclusion, residents are invited to remain and listen to the rest of the Board Meeting. Please call Tom Morin (466-2218) at least 3 days in advance to be put on the agenda.

The Community Center kitchen is in dire need of a new refrigerator/freezer. We are open to the donation of a used one in good condition, or cash donations to help us purchase one (all tax-deductible). Please call Tom Morin if you wish to help.

Richard Shuff reports that 22 volunteers cleaned up the village in May along with GVFR members. Next: A Fall clean-up.

It was unanimously voted to ask Mela to clean the Community Center twice a month and submit a bill. \$30 will be deducted from renters' deposits if the Center is not left clean. The GVFR will have a key to the Center, in case of emergencies.

HORSE KILLED ON HIGHWAY 41

If you were wondering why traffic on Rte. 41 was blocked by State Police on Memorial Day morning, here's the sad answer. Bébé Givaudan's big 11-year old horse Cannelle (Cinammon) was hit by a van near Avenida Vieja. He and three pals had gotten out of their pasture next to the Ferneaus' house and, having had a run at freedom, were coming back to get fed around 5:30 AM. He was hit in a hind leg and probably thrown into the windshield. The van, a government vehicle, driven by a policewoman, was a wreck but she was apparently uninjured.

Cannelle was dead by the time Bébé got there. A passing tow truck helped load him into Rudy Sena's truck and he is buried near the Rodeo Grounds. "At least I know where he is," said a grieving Bébé. "All the other horses are depressed. People shouldn't drive so fast."

Correction: Ron Helman tells us he studied video production and digital editing and uses Final Cut Pro 4 software.

EL PUENTE SPONSORS: LIZ ROSE AND DAVID BURK

GALISTEO CLASSIFIED

ADS ARE FREE, AND FOR GALISTEO RESIDENTS ONLY. Contact: Box 77 (Rte. 41 at Avenida Vieja) or call 466-1276 by **Sept. 5** for next issue. **PLEASE CALL TO CONTINUE OR TAKE OUT ADS.**

FOUND

Flashlight outside our bedroom window. Call 466-2218 to claim. We would like to return it in a memorable manner.

WANTED

Place to stay/rent for 3 summer months in Galisteo area; will take care of animals, gardens, etc. Priscilla Barton, 520-896-3315. (SORRY, ONE DIGIT GOT LEFT OUT LAST MONTH)

FOR SALE

First annual Galisteo Chili Challenge t-shirts – red and green, M, L, XL. Call Tom Morin, 466-2218.

SERVICES

For baby-sitting, petsitting and animal care, call Mercedes, 466-7285.

Need a permit? Computer Aided Drafting Support: for architects., Engineers, Contractors and Homeowners. 4 yrs. experience/local references. Call Adan Cárdenas, 466-8967.

FREE one-hour consultation with retired award-winning architect, inventor, cartoonist, and communications consultant. Call David Smith, 466-8686 or 550-5501, to schedule an appointment *in your space*. This offer is made to improve our place and for me to meet my neighbors.

Reliable Handyman, Call Kevin, 466-3559.

Remus's Remodeling – can do just about anything, very reasonable rates, 466-7285.

Ebay! Want to sell your items on Ebay? Antiques, Art, Jewelry, Cars, Vintage Collectables, etc. Almost anything you have will sell. I do everything from listing the item to shipping. I can also show you how to sell items on Ebay! Mark, 466-1267.

Eldorado Massage: call Karen Anderson, 577-2480.

Freshly Baked Bread and Rolls from Galisteo. To order, call Sabrina and Alex, 466-4331.

The Roadhouse Studio: Catering Parties, Fantasy or Fun. Ranch Gatherings, Family or Fine Dining, Call Dejon, 466-1267.

Tree Cutting & Trimming Service, Fence Building, Odd Jobs, call Mark, 466-1267.

Call **Beth** for **housesitting/ petcare/vet runs/odd jobs/studio assistance/party help/you name it...** in Galisteo, 470-7606.

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

Nick's Landscaping, Brush Removal, and Garbage Collection. Call 466-0530 or 470-5973.

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

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

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

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.

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

Carpentry: Custom closets, hand-carved tables, benches, gates, doors, 35 yrs. experience, local refs. Onesimo, 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.

Acupuncture, herbal medicine, feng shui, nutritional counseling, massage. Dr. Connie Fisher, 470-9314.

Ben Merrick (16 yrs old):occasional **babysitting** weekends and some evenings; 466-9040.

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

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

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

Private Exercise Training with Ron Helman, 35 yrs. exp. ALL levels welcome. Also **V ideo Services/Professional Shooting and Editing;** output to DVD; download samples and information on exercise at www.ronhelman.com; 466-1919.

+++ EL PUENTE DE GALISTEO+++

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