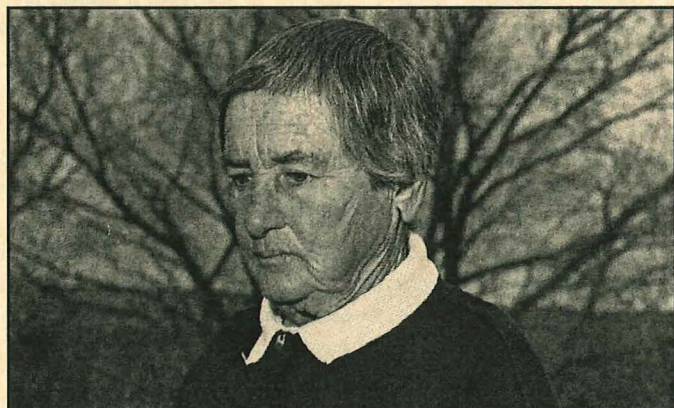


NEW WINE BAR OPENS AT GALISTEO INN

Scott Curtis, General Manager of the Galisteo Inn, invites the community to drinks and tapas on Thurs. Jan. 20th, 5-7, at La Mancha Bar. RSVP by Mon. Jan 17th (466-4000) with name, tel. no., number of guests. "We look forward to seeing many of you again, and to meeting many of you for the first time," he writes, hoping "our bar will become your own cozy winter haven."



Agnes Martin (Photo: Donald Woodman)

GALISTEO GIVES TO TSUNAMI VICTIMS

Liz Rose

The guidebooks to Sri Lanka describe *Unawatuna* as a small, idyllic bay and village beginning to be peppered with beach-side cafes and guesthouses. Last year we were there for a month and we planned to go again this year. It no longer exists.

We are left with memories of people who may no longer be living – the smiling men who worked without complaint for such long hours in order to better their lives, as did their lesser-paid helpers whose only beds were the beach loungers rented to sunbathers by day. Then there were the young men in the guesthouse where we stayed -- Adit, Rohan, Jagart, Thomas -- who, after cleaning our room, went the extra mile by decorating the bed with flower petals.

In the village, new businesses were beginning to prosper: small shops, a computer café, dressmakers, tailors, postcard sellers, and everywhere three-wheeled *Tuk Tuk*, taxis plying trade enough, the drivers hoped, to make the \$3 daily rental and leave some over to feed their families. There were the (cont. p.2)

AGNES MARTIN, 1912-2004

Artist Agnes Martin's death on Dec. 15 made the front pages of the Albuquerque and Santa Fe newspapers. Agnes moved to Galisteo from Cuba, N.M. in 1977 and lived here until 1993, when she moved to Taos. Local stories about her independence and unconventionalities abound.

Photographer Donald Woodman, who worked for Agnes, says that she lived in her adobe-covered camper until 1979. Then she built her studio with the help of the Mares family. Finally, around 1983, Woodman and Onesimo Montoya built her house. (First things first.) Donald also helped her make a film; when she didn't like the results it went to the old Galisteo dump on CR 42. Expect art historical treasure hunters any day now.

Romona Scholder recalls the time Agnes put up a street sign -- "EASY" -- on what is now Marcellina Lane because "her neighbors would like to live on Easy Street." People in Galisteo would see her walking down the highway to the south end of town where she would stand and look out at the land. Agnes called it "exercising her eyes."

An Olympic swimmer in her youth, Agnes dug a swimming pool in her yard, by hand, lining it with gunnite. "There was no circulation," Woodman recalls. "She threw chlorine into it once a week." She invited the children (and only the children) of the village to use it, but when it was vandalized, she backfilled it. That was the end of Galisteo's first and only "public" pool.

One year, when she lost 25 feet of the cliff in front of her house in a big washout, Martin rerouted the Galisteo River with a huge earthwork ; it remains an effective bulwark.

When Morgan Gafford got his land Agnes recommended a teepee. "I don't know how to build one," he said. "You'll figure it out," she said. Later she bet him \$50 he couldn't build a little adobe room in a month. He did, but she thought she should only pay \$25 because it had crooked walls and a dirt floor.

Woody Gwyn says that one summer in the early 1980s, "it got so hot that Agnes got into her International Scout and drove straight north to the Arctic Circle, where she watched the ice break up in the Mackenzie River as it met the Arctic Ocean."

"I'm surprised she died," says Gwyn. "I thought she'd live forever." Her art probably will. You can see it at the Museum of Fine Arts in Santa Fe, in a three-woman show (with Maria Martinez and Florence Pierce) called *In Pursuit of Perfection*, until January 23rd.

fishermen. There were the foreigners who lived and worked there. There were the Buddhist monks living in the temple. There is one man in particular who stands out in our memories. Crippled at birth, he had only half a torso, but had a heart and spirit so large that he was an inspiration to all who met him. All of those smiling hopeful people, most likely gone. For only one single building remains: the Rock House. Set back from the seafront and up a cobblestone ramp, the Rock House became a refuge, a first aid center, and a morgue.

Unawatuna is only a few miles from Galle, on the hardest hit coast of Sri Lanka. It was very much a place of happiness, where busloads of weekend Sri Lankans and tourists enjoyed and shared the sand and sea. Now they share a common grave.

Our Sri Lankan friend who lives near Colombo runs a small Eco-tour guide business. Loving and knowing his country so well, he wants to help those villages not yet visited by the large aid agencies. He needs money to purchase 5 water pumps and a generator. With his college student volunteers, he plans to go to small villages on the lesser-known eastern coast and restore their well-water supplies. He expects this will take many months.

A big thank you on his behalf to those of you who have donated so generously to this project. Close to \$6,000 has been wired to Rohan in Colombo through the Los Alamos Bank.

For those wishing to donate directly, the bank code is HSBCLKLX; the account no.: W.R.A. FERNANDO 007088396026.

GCA MEETING: DEC. 15th

Barbara Cooper

Frank Hirsch offered a proposed budget for the GCA for the coming year. The total of \$6,000 is what is needed to maintain the Community Center -- for insurance, minor repairs and two social events annually.

Tom Morin and B  b   Givaudan met with David Martinez on Dec. 20th to discuss the problem of speeding through the villages, and possible solutions.

Ted Fleming brought in some construction lights and demonstrated them. All agreed that perhaps this is a good solution to the lighting problem in the Community Center.

The ANNUAL general MEETING of the Galisteo Community Association will be on Thursday, MARCH 3. At that time we will elect the following for two years each: **Vice President, Secretary, and three Board Members.**

RANDOM NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS from Galisteos:
"To retrieve the most positive aspects of community spirit, i.e.: Less complaining and more constructive participation and no anonymous complaints."

*

"To drive 40 miles per hour on the highway instead of the regular 75 and 15 miles per hour on the dirt roads instead of 45."

*

"To stop criticizing my neighbors' pet-parenting skills (get a kid!)"

THE CALL OF THE CRANES

Jan Saunders

When we hear his call we hear no mere bird. We hear the trumpet in the orchestra of evolution. He is the symbol of our untamable past, of that incredible sweep of millennia which underlies and conditions the daily affairs of birds and men.

-- Aldo Leopold, "Marshland Elegy," 1937

It's January. The year 2004 is a recent memory. The Winter Solstice is behind us and the days are growing longer. But spring is still several long months away. If your winter doldrums are setting in, here's a sure cure for the winter blues.

Heed the call of the cranes! The Sandhill Cranes, that is. Genus and species *Grus Canadensis*. Unbelievably elegant, large, long-legged, long-necked, long-billed gray birds with a bright red skin patch on the front and top of the head. They stand over 3 feet tall and have an 80" wing span. Your heart follows when they take wing.

Plan a trip to the Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge (www.friendsofthebosque.org, or telephone 505-835-1828) a few short miles south of Socorro. Spend the night at the Casa Blanca Bed and Breakfast in San Antonio (505-835-3027). I have known the B & B's owner, Phoebe Wood, for ten years, and can guarantee you a peaceful, pleasant getaway that will be as exciting as you want it to get.

The drama at the Refuge starts at first light with the "fly out" and ends at sunset with the "fly in," when tens of thousands of Sandhill Cranes and Snow Geese (maybe you'll be lucky and see a whooper too?) fill the skies as they return to roost in the relative safety of the Bosque's many ponds. In between these two events, the coyotes, eagles, ducks, turkeys, herons, hawks, roadrunners and pheasants offer endless entertainment you can view from the comfort of your own car. The show goes on every day and there are no repeat performances.

The stars of the show are the Sandhill Cranes. Volunteer naturalist Robert Kruidenier, always present with his scopes set up on the flight deck, is just the person to tell you all about these elegant birds. Robert always fascinates me with his colorful commentary as he interprets the calls, body language, family life, natural history and habits of these ancient birds. On my last visit Robert pointed out a banded crane known to be 35 years old, Not so old when you consider that the ancestors of the crane walked the earth over 60 million years ago. Their trumpeting calls were heard throughout prehistory by many now extinct species.

In the early 1900s, conservationist Aldo Leopold mourned the absence of the call of the crane in the marshes near his home in central Wisconsin. Today that site is the home of the International Crane Foundation, whose goal is to ensure that the call of the crane will never be silent.

Thanks to the enduring nature of the Sandhill Cranes and the continuing work of many dedicated organizations and individuals, crane recovery is a success story. Right here in our own backyard, the Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge provides the Sandhills a winter feeding ground and resting habitat. In late February, the cranes will take flight, rising high in the sky, circling higher and higher until they head north on the flyway to their spring nesting grounds.

At their departure, the Bosque falls silent. The calls of the Cranes echo in the distance. But there is only rejoicing in their final fly-out of the season. We wish them well and anticipate their return in the crisp air of coming autumn.

Heed the call. Take the trip.

Jan Saunders (jan@KevanSaunders.com) **Suggested Reading:** *The Birds of Heaven* by Peter Matthiessen; *On Ancient Wings*, by Michael Forsberg and George Archibald.

PEDACITOS/BITS AND PIECES

If a proposal to pump brackish water from the Estancia Basin to Santa Fe goes through (it will cost at least \$127 million), a pipeline will be laid. Would it go through the Galisteo Basin? Seems logical. We should keep an eye on this project.

Tom Morin's house won two more awards for Spears Architects, from AIA New Mexico and *Su Casa Magazine*.

Santa Fe County's Open Space Program has bought 400 acres including **Chalchihuitl**, or Turquoise Mountain, in the Cerrillos Hills, a very important addition to the **Cerrillos Hills Park**.

Yet another article on **Ron Helman**: "Only Three Buttons ...Ron Helman and His Trumpet" in the December issue of the *Eldorado Sun*.

The *New Mexican* interviewed **Woody Gwyn** at the Agora about the holidays: "I think it's a great time for kids. Otherwise the whole period between Thanksgiving and New Years is something you just have to get through." (Dec. 22,'04). Having survived, Woody will have a solo show in April at the David Findlay Gallery in New York.

Shaun Gilmore is a Santa Fe Arts Commissioner. The Commission just awarded almost one million dollars to nonprofit organizations for the all the arts. "Tourism impact" is one of the criteria.

RESOLUTIONS: "To finish my damn book, almost 10 years in the works. Enough already!"

*

"To meet Mr. Right, Buy a Hummer, Move to Quail Run and Raise Goldfish."

THORNTON RANCH PROJECT UPDATE

Ted Harrison of the Commonweal Conservancy says things are moving right along with plans for the "conservation development" on the former Thornton Ranch. (See *El Puente* Jan. 2004 for background). The village is scheduled for an eventual 640 units occupying 450 acres (with a build-out over 8-10 years) on a 12,800-acre area. Highest density will be at the center, including a bilingual, environment-based charter school already approved by the School Board, a Post Office, Fire Station, market, caf  , and perhaps artists' live-work spaces, with less density on the margins to accommodate other tastes.

Commonweal will be the developer of Thornton Ranch Village, in partnership with UniDev (based in Bethesda Maryland), a specialist in "workforce housing"-- a model of extensive affordable housing, based on "mixed employment," that would serve teachers, artists, and others being priced out of

Santa Fe. 420 of the 640 units would be devoted to this program, associated with a Community Land Trust. Homes would be 75-80% of the market average, with lower mortgage rates. They hope to use local labor, builders, and materials. When they are able, tenants could trade in for a bigger house.

The first phase of the purchase is 2700 acres (1200 of which would be publicly accessible open space and trails) with an eventual goal of 28,000 acres protected as open space. All of this would be available to "the larger community" including Lamy and Galisteo.

The project needs existing permitted water in the Galisteo Basin and Commonweal is "traveling a number of paths at once" to hedge its bets and be sure the water is available. While the County still allows wells of 3 acre feet (though recommending only 1/4 acre foot) per household, village development is more constricted. The State Engineer will be asked to approve a transfer of irrigation or diversionary water rights; these are halved when transferred (so 200 acre feet of irrigation water equals 100 acre feet of consumptive residential water). The State is trying to retire over-allocated irrigation rights from agricultural use to urban use and to correct the over-permitting that has gone on for centuries.

Commonweal's goal is to be as "innovative, inventive, and efficient as possible in water use," to design the community so catchment is a major source of water. Saudi Arabia, Scandinavia, Bermuda and western Europe, says Harrison, have depended on catchment for generations. The conservancy is spending a great deal of time and money looking at the condition of the arroyos and drainage in the area, in search of the best way to retain water in the Galisteo Basin.

To assure the health of the watershed, they are considering, among others, tree cover, vegetation strategies like encouraging cottonwoods in the riparian corridors, and studying the soils so as to understand as completely as possible the flow dynamics across the property. They hope the net affect will be that even if the development draws, say, 100 acre feet from the aquifer, the conservation strategies will restore that or more, so the amount of preserved water will be higher than the drain.

Since July they have been concentrating on the next phase of planning work -- how the village will sit. It is in the first basin on a ranch road 1/3 of a mile west of US 285, where a 35-foot drop keeps it out of the viewshed. Peter Calthorpe of Berkeley is the town planner and is doing it at a major discount because of Thornton Ranch Village's importance as a model.

Another piece of the puzzle is the rail connections, "even if it is years away," says Harrison, who is considering a potential to link the new village to the planned commuter line, perhaps by a one-or-two-car trolley, connecting to the Santa Fe Southern Line at Lamy on the east side of Thornton Ranch. A prototype is possible within a year.

As wary as we all are of any development in the Galisteo Basin, the Thornton Ranch Village could be a significant national model for conserving our natural resources. And locally we're lucky Commonweal and EarthWorks Institute is putting all this energy into the Galisteo Basin, which can only be helpful in our wet or dry future. It's all good news for the New Year.



EL PUENTE SPONSOR MOIRA WALDEN

GALISTEO CLASSIFIED

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

WANTED

Part-time Dishwasher: Fri. and Sat. nights, Sun. days: Eddie, Galisteo Inn, 466-3663 or stop by after Jan. 18, Wed.-Sat. 4-5PM. Couple living in Santa Fe looking for 2-4 BR house to rent in Galisteo. Local references. Peggy and Arthur, 471-0224.

Good homes for 5 lovely (neutered) cats. Call Sina, 577-4045.

FOR SALE

Fresh Eggs, \$2.50 a dozen. Kathleen Murphy, 466-2659.

Futon couch, chest of drawers and other furniture. Donna, 466-9296.

Digital camera, Canon, 5 megapixels, \$250. **HP Laptop computer,** \$650, Richard, 466-7723.

FOR RENT

One bedroom adobe apartment, 2 fireplaces. \$700 incl. utilities. Steve, 466-1544.

SERVICES

Reliable Handyman, Call Kevin, 466-3559.

Tree Cutting & Trimming Service, Fence Building, Odd Jobs; E-Bay too! 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.

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.

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

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

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

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

I will take care of your pets or watch children, Simone Montoya, 466-1518

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.

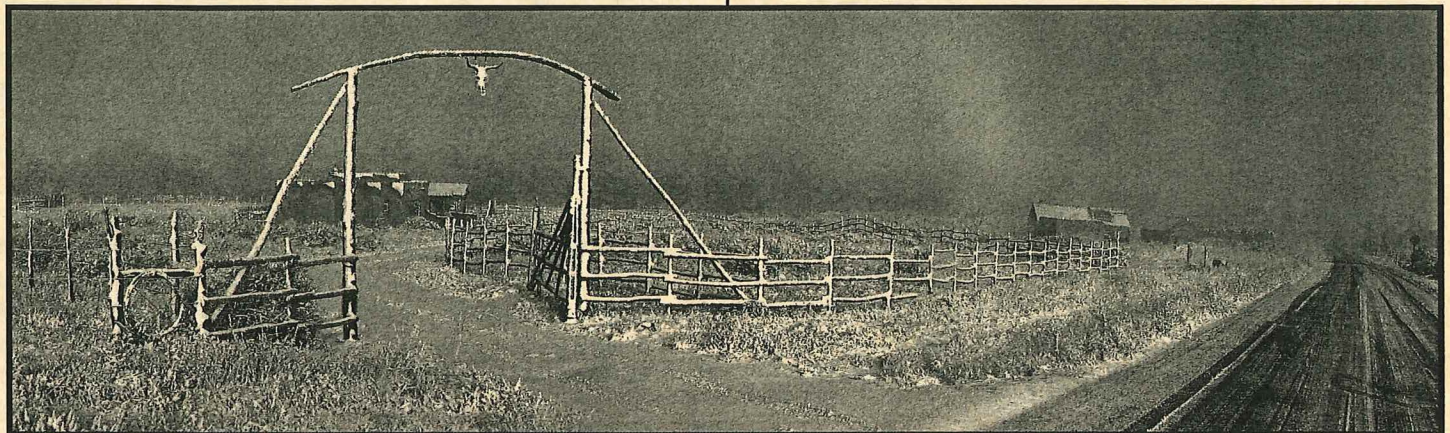
"First Saturday" monthly all-day workshop at **Light Institute;** lunch at Inn. 466-1975 or 466-1458.

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

+++ EL PUENTE DE GALISTEO+++

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Distribution, Production, Photographer: Richard Shuff. **EL PUENTE logo** by Cara Lee. **Printer:** Allegra. **Send letters, comments, suggestions, contributions to EL PUENTE, 14 Avenida Vieja, 466-1276. NEXT DEADLINE: Feb. 5. TO BE A SPONSOR: send \$75 to GCA, note "for newsletter."**



"King Ranch" in East Galisteo (Photo: Richard Shuff)