



ISSUE #115

MAY 2008

First Meeting of the 2008 Galisteo Studio Tour: Monday, May 12th, 7PM, at the Community Center.

Saturday June 7th, COFFEE hosted by the Galisteo Fire Department, 10-12 (replacing Frank Croft's May coffee).

Sunday, June 8th, 2-5PM at the "ruin" on La Vega: Catherine Ferguson will show her painted furniture.

RIPPED OFF

Jan Saunders

The year 2008 is only a few months old and already I have been robbed twice. Once by the IRS and again by a burglar who took his pick of many things, including my favorite jewelry, but paused to close the door on his way out, leaving our two small dogs, Billie and Dusty, frightened but unharmed. In the great scheme of things, what was lost is inconsequential – although some items were valued for price and others for sentimental attachment that goes back three generations.

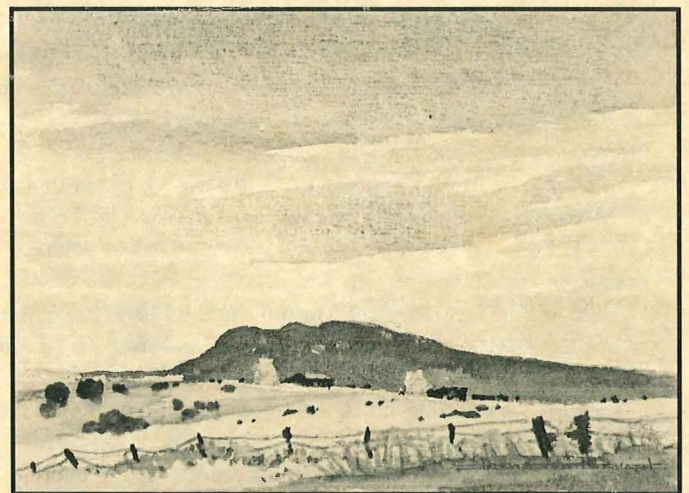
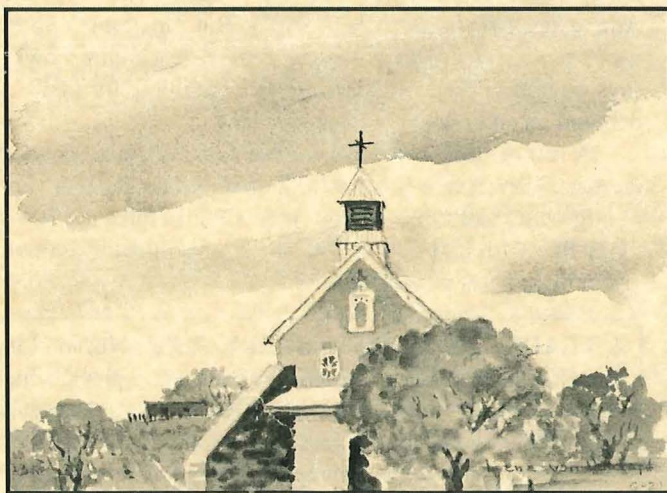
While the robber was filling his grab bag, I was attending an achingly beautiful memorial service for a bright young St. Mike's High School student who died tragically; but while he lived, he filled the lives of his family and friends with light and joy. Earlier that morning, a friend had called to cancel our appointment, explaining that he had been attacked, beaten, cut and robbed just the evening before – in downtown Santa Fe! Clearly my robbery falls into the category of *small stuff* about which we are advised not to sweat. (*cont. to right*)

Upon approval by the community, we will be thrilled to welcome locals as extras in a heartwarming short film, *Milagros*, about a young boy searching for his dead mother through La Virgen de Guadalupe. For more information: Phoenix Simms, 992-0849 or phoenix@sprynet.com.

I often hear people who vandalize and attack other humans described as *animals*. Personally, I trust coyotes, hawks, and snakes in the grass far more than our own humankind who deal from the bottom of the deck and punch below the belt. Given the opportunity, coyotes will mug your favorite cat, Piñon Jays will steal other birds' seed caches, Prairie Rattlesnakes are guilty of breaking and entering rodent burrows, and our own Greater Roadrunner's M.O. is assault and battery. But somehow that's different. Animals' behavior was programmed into their DNA to insure survival, while humans evolved with a moral compass and a higher self. Oprah is fond of saying, "We do better when we know better." Bottom line for me is people oughta know better.

Ed note: Since this robbery, there was another one on Magdalen. These guys come in the middle of the day and seem to be real pros. Lock up. Be careful.

Below: watercolors by the late Irene von Horvath who enjoyed painting *plein air* in Galisteo. (Courtesy Sheila Gershen.)



THE HISTORIC PEARS OF GALISTEO PROJECT

Barbara King

In the early spring of last year, we started planting some fruit trees on our property. We drove to Truchas to buy them from Gordon Tooley, who raises heritage trees. Not only are the trees special, but visiting with Margaret and Gordon and learning all about their nursery is a wonderful experience. They know all about fruit trees and their history in Galisteo and, in fact, were in the process of growing some trees from cuttings that Gordon had taken and grafted from some of the oldest pear trees in the village, on the grounds of the former Ortiz y Davis/Pino compound. Some of the orchards there are said to have come from cuttings donated by Archbishop Lamy, a frequent visitor.

This past winter, our horses got out and ate two of the trees; we saw it as an opportunity to drive to Truchas and visit again.

When we arrived this spring to pick up the new trees, Gordon also loaded us up with seventeen of the Galisteo pear trees and asked us to pass them out in the village and see what happens. We gave them to several people around the village. Thus....we have the Galisteo Pear Project.

The trees are unknown varieties, but are numbered. I am photographing them and keeping a journal so we can track how they develop. If, some day, one of us has "the best pear we've every tasted," Gordon will come back and take more cuttings and make more trees for us.

CLAYTON FOILED AGAIN

Peirce Clayton has withdrawn his internet listing of property with "community water" at "10 Avenida Vieja," probably because of calls from Galisteo informing La Hacienda Real Estate that he did not own it. The disputed land (aka the OK Corral) is at the corner of Avenida Vieja and La Otra Vanda. (Number 10 would be at the other end, near Highway 41.) Clayton also told an anonymous caller that though he didn't have County approval yet, a ¾ acre subdivided lot would be available for \$98,000; the whole 3 1/2 acres was \$299,000. There was no sign "because the neighbors didn't want me to put a sign out" (understatement of the year). He also claimed that he would have more Galisteo properties listed soon!

PEDACITOS/BITS AND PIECES

The newest Galisteña, **Elyana Byrd-Anaya**, daughter of Nicole Anaya, brother of Jaiden, and granddaughter of Corinne and Nick Anaya, was born March 25th. Welcome to the world!

Tim Willms has received State Historical Register status for La Tienda Anaya and will be renovating in the next 6-8 months.

Robert E. Mares, brother of **Will and Modesta** and son of **Marcelina and Benny Mares**, passed away in February, age 71. He is survived by his wife, Flora, two daughters, five grandchildren and a great grandson.

On April 13th, at the **2nd Annual Spring Fling** (horseshoes, hosted by Kristen and Sam at "the ruin"), **Antonio Chavez** and **Beth Foote** held their titles and remain Undefeated.

Denice Pruett wrote a letter to the editor of *The New Mexican* (4/9) deploring "the ravages" that ORVs are causing to Rowe Mesa. She suggests "a healthier, more peaceful alternative

to motorized travel for youth" such as "rodeo, 4-H activities, theater, sports, etc."

Nancy Holt is fighting oil and gas drilling – not only in the Galisteo Basin, but in the Great Salt Lake, where the famous earthwork *Spiral Jetty* (by her late husband, artist Robert Smithson) is threatened by "tar-like blobs," water level changes, and viewshed damage. The Utah governor's office has received thousands of protest letters from around the world.

Nacha Mendez turned 50 April 15th with a Cuban Dance Party at El Farol, announced in *The Santa Fe Reporter*: "Mendez continues to redefine the boundaries of Latin music with her infectious style, time-rested talent, commanding stage presence."

Joe Cooper's letter to *The New Mexican* (4/19) -- "No bun intended"—read in full: "We're mustarding up our courage to visit the Wienermobile, but frankly we don't relish the prospect!"

On May 10th, **Susan Rothenberg and Bruce Nauman** shared the 2008 Distinguished Artist Award, bestowed annually by the Santa Fe Rotary Foundation for the Arts. A dinner and art auction took place at the Scottish Rite Temple. Among the distinguished artists donating work is **Priscilla Hoback**.

Woody Gwyn is showing his recent paintings through May at David Findlay Fine Art in New York City. This time it's a very *green* show (literally) – unlike our rainless Spring.

Barbara Seiler sent a riproaring condemnation of the Village at the Galisteo Basin Preserve project to *The New Mexican*, ending, "The people of Galisteo and surrounding areas will not sit idly by while Commonweal Conservancy 'conserves' the landscape and creates an environmental tragedy for the rest of us." This was in response to a feature in the paper a few days before on the conservancy's plans to move ahead despite setbacks, among them the threat of oil and gas drilling. But the slowdown in real estate sales seems to be benefiting Commonweal, which just closed on another 2,444 acres of the Thornton Ranch. The Los Alamos National Bank has kept the project on track. Its president says that "this will be the only kind of developments we'll be seeing in the future."

Tom Ford is designing the costumes for *The Letter* -- an opera based on a Somerset Maugham short story that will debut at the Santa Fe Opera in 2009. "The characters in the opera are more likely to be wearing khaki or white duck suits (including one soaked in blood) than Ford's signature cowboy boots, blazers, unbuttoned shirts (and five o'clock shadows)," writes Anne Constable in *The New Mexican*. But "anything Tom Ford wants to do is fine with us as long as the labels aren't showing," says composer Paul Moravec. (Ford's "perfume for men" also debuted recently with a provocative ad.)

A recent study written up in *The New Mexican* shows that there are some health benefits from **owning cats** that don't apply to dog owners or those without pets. Catless folks are 30-40% more likely to die of cardiovascular disease than those with a warm furry beast purring on their laps!

A TRADITION TO BE RESURRECTED? Not too long ago, there used to be a Galisteo Bosque potluck picnic which included a tug of war across the river, westsiders against eastsiders. Any bets as to how that would come out today?

SEEDING A NEW GALISTEO BUSINESS

"Grow Y'own – Be Your Own Farmer," is the motto of Antonio Chavez (dba Galisteo Woodworks) and Ken Kuhne (dba Biomes), who are producing "affordable, renewable, Western Red Cedar, raised bed, hooped, cold frame/mini greenhouses for growing one's own food supply year-round."

Riding the "Green" and "reduce your Carbon-footprint" movements, Kuhne and Chavez offer "Sustenance-sense and Sustainability....Now is the perfect time to get started and order one, as the Summer growing season is beginning. With the cost of food and its transportation going up weekly, you will easily pay for one of these grow beds in less than a summer's period.... Free food! Can you afford NOT to?"

The units, with summer row covers, are 4 x 4' (\$250) and 4 x 8' (\$415). The N-sulate summer covers are UV resistant and breathable. The winter covers (available in the fall) are made of a 4-year, 6 mil greenhouse plastic, also UV resistant, called Flex o' Glass. The hoops are an extended-life, sunlight resistant, gray plastic electrical pipe. *For information/orders: Ken, 466-0393 or 490-1849; Antonio, 466-3601.*

GOLD AND GRAVEL IN THEM THAR HILLS

As though oil and gas explorations in the Galisteo Basin weren't enough to keep us busy, an Albuquerque-based mining company (Santa Fe Gold) has leased 57,000 acres on the southern slope of the Ortiz Mountains, about 10 miles east of Madrid, where it expects to find 2 million ounces of gold. The "harvesting method" would involve water, lots of it. There is a chance that a 1996 settlement -- signed when 1300 acres of an earlier gold mine was donated to the Santa Fe Botanical Gardens (and subsequently sold to Santa Fe County for open space)—prohibits gold mining in the area until 2014.

The first gold rush in the west took place in the Ortiz Mountains in the 1820s. Bill Baxter, author of the definitive book on the subject, is skeptical about the investment prospects for the gold that remains in them thar hills. The extraction method planned is "much more expensive than the cyanide leaching method used in the 1980s, which ultimately resulted in water contamination in the area." Here we go again....

Rockology's attempt to mine the landscape near La Bajada for gravel is also meeting local opposition. (See murlock@raintreecounty.com.) And an ominous report from the Associated Press: the NM State Land Office earned \$133 million from oil and gas production on state trust lands during the third quarter of the 2008 fiscal year (which ends in July). 123

GCA REPORT

Linda Braun, Secretary

Filming for the movie *Legion*, happening throughout May on the Singleton Ranch, will require intermittent closings along parts of Highway 41, both day and night, for up to 15-30 minutes each. [South of the village, the old-fashioned "Paradise Falls" filling station looks up and running!]

Thanks to everyone who participated in the annual Galisteo Cleanup Day. And thanks to John Young, who generously allowed us to put all the trash in his construction dumpster.

Join us **Saturday June 14th from 10 to noon, for a second round of mailbox painting.** This time we'll transform the boxes along Highway 41 opposite the church. Thanks to the GVFR, who will create a safety zone to keep painters away from passing traffic. We'll supply the paints and brushes, as well as ice cream. Kids and adults who participated last year had a great time, so worry not about your artistic abilities. Come join the fun.

Elections will be held May 8th for the following open positions: President, Vice President, Treasurer, three Board Members and one Alternate. (See June EL PUENTE for results.) *Next meeting: June 19th, 7PM.*

FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS

Now the weather is even hotter and drier than last month, be sure and call the GVFR for a **burn permit** if you are planning any kind of fire.

The Century Bike Race will go through Galisteo on May 18th and there are **two other races** on May 15th and 16th from Stanley to Galisteo. Drive carefully and be patient!

EL PUENTE failed to report the GVFR elections earlier this year. Here are the current officers: Chief: **Jean Moya**; Assistant Chief: **Linda Anaya**; Fire Captain, **Ken Spicocchi**; Fire Lieutenant, **Frank Croft**; EMT Captain, **Mark Russell**; Fire Prevention Officer, **Wayne King**; Safety Officer, **Nick Contreras**; Treasurer and Ways and Means: **Frank Lux**; co-Secretaries, **Janice Wall** and **Barbara King**. THANKS to all of them for their service to the community.

STEWARDSHIP WORKING GROUP MEETS

Richard Griscom

For several years, Earth Works Institute (EWI) has sponsored activities in the village designed to promote a healthier ecosystem in and around the Bosque. These have included meetings to facilitate the development of a Working Group of Galisteo residents that would itself take responsibility for village environmental stewardship. On April 22nd, EWI sponsored another potluck meeting of this Stewardship group; as usual, the food was delicious.

The Working Group decided to focus its future activities on two equally important areas: **1) Water monitoring, water data analysis, and presentation of water data to decision-makers.** The overall thrust of these activities will be to link future development decisions to demonstrated water availability. **2) Native vegetation and gardening.** This might include a tour of Galisteo gardens that make extensive use of native species, as well as workshops on water catchment, planting native species, and removing non-native species.

Financial support (and some fundraising in the village) will be required for some of these projects. For example, sponsoring the above-mentioned workshops, developing water-monitoring protocols, and installing additional shallow groundwater wells, perhaps in Arroyo de los Angeles. EWI will be able to provide some of this support at no cost (except for volunteer village participation), if its River Ecosystem Restoration grant application is successful. *The next meeting – a potluck, and the last to be sponsored by EWI-- will be May 20th, 6:30 at the Community Center.*

PLANNING AND WATER MEETINGS

On April 16th, the **Galisteo Community Planning Committee** presented its latest work to the community, with lots of facts about the environment, water, zoning, business, and trails. Questions were answered, and those with concerns about their own properties can sign up to meet directly with the committee May 7th and May 21st. (Call Andrew Jandacek, 986-6214.)

The annual **Galisteo Mutual Water Consumers Association** meeting on April 21st, began after initial difficulty gathering a quorum. Among the issues discussed: A change in the bylaws to reduce the quorum from 33 to 24% (proxy possible for one meeting only); Those delinquent in paying their bills will be warned at 9 months of a possibly permanent cutoff at 12 months.

Projects: repair loop line on The Hill; install meters; hook up new well; new larger tank; new lines east of creek.

Elections: President Rod Hall; Vice President Scott Diffrient; Secretary Ted Fleming; Treasurer Joette Trofimuk (Romona Scholder continuing as bookkeeper); two new Board Members: Judith Masin, Frank Croft.

EL PUENTE SPONSOR: EVELYN GREGORY

GALISTEO CLASSIFIED

ADS ARE FREE, AND FOR GALISTEO RESIDENTS ONLY. Call 466-1276 by June 5th for next issue.

FOR SALE

Siri Hollander rebar horse sculpture, \$1459. Sina, 577-4045.
John Conell Plaster Flamingo. Paper cutter. Easel. Frames. Slide projector, you name it. View by appointment, 466-6003.

WANTED

Looking for Galisteo housesit, July 6-26. Former Galisteños Valentine and Louis Riddell are also open to house-trading; they live in North Berkeley in the "gourmet ghetto." Call 510-558-3324 or mckayriddell@comcast.net.

Small space (c. 20 x 20') wanted for blacksmith shop. Mark Russell, 466-0661.

Mature, responsible woman seeks summer house-sitting in Galisteo area; loving care of pets and gardens; local references. 520-896-3315 or pwbarton@theriver.com.

Looking for permanent ranch or farm work and cleaning, etc. Local recommendations. Martin and Maria Elena, 490-9900.

SERVICES

Rocky Mountain Handyman. Can do anything! Call Mark Lyons, 466-2157.

Remodelling, additions in adobe and frame, mud plaster, stonework, metal lathe plaster, flagstone and building maintenance, Sina Brush, 577-4045.

Computer tutor/personal assistant. Contact Paige, 466-1002.

Mac Tech Support and Tutoring, photo digitizing and organizing, and Photoshop lessons: Tom Martinelli, 466-1020.

Beth is available for **petsitting in Galisteo,** 470-7606.

Need a pet sitter or house sitter? I will do short or long-term care, occasional overnights, reasonable rates, refs. available. For info, call Maria, 466-8930.

Petsitting, call Marghreta, 466-4457.

White Dog Cyclery: Certified bicycle maintenance/repair. Your family bicycle service. All bikes, repairs. Call Frank, 466-2121.

Saturday Art Classes for children and adults, Retablos and watercolors. 10-12AM or 2-4PM, weekdays or weekends. Catherine Ferguson. 466-2765.

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

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

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

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

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

Ron Helman, Life Coach: see www.ronhelman.com; 466-1919.

Like things done right? **Welding, flagstone, moss rock, fountains, plumbing, sprinkler, and drip systems plus Gopher Control.** David Maestas, cell 670-8608 or 660-9715.

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

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

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

Carpentry: Custom closets, hand-carved tables, benches, gates, doors, 35 yrs. experience, local refs. Onesimo, 466-1430.

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

Nick's Landscaping, Brush Removal, and Garbage Collection. Call 231-6352.

+++ EL PUENTE DE GALISTEO+++

Editor: Lucy R. Lippard. **Contributing Editors:** Linda Braun, Isabella Gonzales, Richard Griscom, Jan Saunders. **EL PUENTE logo** by Cara Lee. **Printer:** Allegra. **Send letters, comments, suggestions, contributions to EL PUENTE, 14 Avenida Vieja, 466-1276. NEXT DEADLINE: June 5th. TO BE A SPONSOR: make out check to GCA for \$75, note "for newsletter," and send to address above.**

El Puente de Galisteo
14 Avenida Vieja
Galisteo NM 87540