

EL PUENTE DE GALISTEO

ISSUE #192

FEBRUARY 2016

GCA PRESIDENT STEPS DOWN

Eric Thomas, elected last year as President of the Galisteo Community Association, has stepped down, having realized that he did not have the time to give his full attention to pending issues, including the formation of a Community Organization (see below), as he is engaged in an extensive art project. Treasurer Wayne King is replacing him in the interim.

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At the regular bi-monthly Board meeting on January 20th, the GCA approved becoming a Community Organization (CO) in accordance with the recently adopted Santa Fe County Sustainable Land Development Plan (SLDC) -- the culmination of five years of meetings, deliberations and planning between county residents (including Galisteo) and the staff of the Board of County Commissioners (BCC). Galisteo residents (including Anna and Freddie Cardenas, Leslie Dilworth, Frank Hirsch, Lucy Lippard, Matthew McQueen, Barbara and Philip Pfeiffer, Maria Ortiz y Pino, and Roger Taylor, among others) spent years with county staff, creating the Galisteo Community Plan.

A CO is a quasi-governmental body within a defined geographic area in Santa Fe County that has an elected board of directors representing that particular community. The Galisteo CO's functions will be:

1. Review any proposed development plans in the Galisteo plan area;
2. Augment or request changes in the SLDC so as to conform with the Galisteo Community Plan;
3. Coordinate the above activities with the SF County staff, as well as any other issues that affect the community;
4. Present Galisteo issues before the BCC and hear BCC issues that may affect Galisteo;
5. Help prepare the annual Capital Improvement Project Plan and Capital Outlay requests that go before the state legislature;
6. Help plan the central business core of Galisteo, working with county staff through the Frontier Communities Program.

Becoming a CO ensures that Galisteo has more control over and input into issues that affect it, such as proposed land development, business activities, and other matters that can be inconsistent with its approved Community Plan. *(Cont. at right)*

GCA ANNUAL ELECTIONS MARCH 5

The Galisteo Community Association will sponsor the Coffee and Book Swap on Saturday, March 5. Breakfast will be served at the Community Center from 9:00 to 11:00 AM. At 10:00, the GCA will convene its annual General Membership Meeting. Because of the president's recent resignation, elections will be held for a new board member and new officers. Please attend this meeting in order to vote. Residents will also have the opportunity to look at detailed maps of the Bosque Reclamation Project (seep.2) and ask questions.

MIKE ANAYA CAMPAIGN KICKOFF

On Saturday, Feb. 20th, 2-4 PM, Mike Anaya will hold an event at the Community Center to announce his candidacy for State Senator for District 39. Phil Griego's former district is a long thin mostly rural cut-out that extends all the way to Ruidoso.

(Cont.) It gives Galisteo a direct link to the BCC, allowing us to have more control over our future. The next step will be to join or to form a Registered Organization, which would give us notification beyond the boundaries of the village as defined by the Community Plan.

HOPE YOU HAD A HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY



In memoriam: the old mailboxes...

BOSQUE RECLAMATION PROJECT

from Roger Taylor

On Thursday, Feb. 18th at 6PM at the Community Center, a meeting will be held of the 18 landowners along the bosque to learn about the proposed work and schedule for the Bosque Reclamation Project. There will be a short (15 minute) overview/update presentation, maps showing the overall plan, and the work proposed for each of your specific properties. If you cannot attend, please contact me (clearskynm@gmail.com; or 505-466-3469) and I will make plans to review this information with you individually.

For the past month we have been finalizing the work proposal for each of the properties adjoining the Galisteo River in the proposed 25-acre project area -- from the San Cristobal Ranch boundary to the NM41 Galisteo Bridge. We are almost there. Final permits from various government agencies are in process, and we expect to begin the intensive 4-week work session in early March.

AGNES'S SWIMMING POOL AND MORE*

"In the early summer of 1982, Agnes [Martin] decided to install an outdoor swimming pool. When she was a young woman in Canada, she had been an Olympic-class swimmer. Her Galisteo pool was to be of a pretty good size: approximately twenty feet by forty feet. Without consulting me, she hired a pool constructor. He arrived unannounced one day with a backhoe and promptly dug the hole. Then a crew came to put in the steel reinforcing, applying Gunitite ... to create the surface shell. The work was very noisy and disrupted our quiet life. Although I was somewhat stunned by all the activity, I didn't object, remembering that I had agreed that Agnes could build whatever she wanted. She chose to leave the pool in a raw, unfinished state, never painting or embellishing it in any way except for installing a diving board. The pool's top edge was raised several inches above the ground and consisted of a concrete lip wide enough to walk on, beyond which was a scrabble of desert grasses. For some reason, Agnes did not have the customary pump and filter system installed to keep it clean. Instead she threw a generous quantity of chlorine pellets into the water on a daily basis.

"At the end of the hot summer days, she seemed to derive great joy from donning a one-piece black swimsuit and diving into the cool water. Watching her swiftly moving up and down the length of the pool, it was obvious that she was still a talented swimmer... She also enjoyed lazily floating on her back out in the center of the water while staring at the luminous New Mexico sky.

"During this period, none of the few dirt roads that traversed the village of Galisteo had names. One day Agnes pointed out to me two signs proclaiming EASY STREET, which she had installed at the beginning and end of the dirt road that served our property. She showed it off with exuberant pride, saying "You see: I've made it so that everyone that lives on our street now lives on Easy Street." When village patron José Ortiz y Pino saw one of the signs, which he had to pass going to and from his hacienda, he was furious and had both of them removed, declaring with the absolute authority he assumed for all affairs

in town that there would be no street names in Galisteo, adding that if streets were ever to be named, he would be the only one to choose those names." *(Excerpted from Donald Woodman, Agnes Martin and Me (Brooklyn: Lyon Artbooks, 2016).

[When street names became required so the fire departments could find their ways, Moira Walden did most of the choosing, along with John Benjamin.]

In early 1983, after being hospitalized in Colorado Springs for a mental breakdown, Martin was told by her therapist to move out of the camper in which she had been living on Woodman's land, and to build a house, which he proceeded to construct from rammed earth. The design was a simple rectangle, 16 x 48', and Martin moved in by early summer. The house has since been remodeled by successive owners and the adobe-clad camper was dismantled. (Ed note: some of the adobes ended up as a low wall in my back yard.)

The pool was purportedly built for local children but when it was vandalized, Martin filled it in. At some point in the mid to late 1980s, she also took it upon herself to alter the course of the Rio Galisteo, which was eating into the cliffs on which her house was built. Disdaining the Army Corps of Engineers, she had a huge earth berm built to redirect the waters to the east.

For those interested in more on this important artist and former Galisteña, see Nancy Princenthal's excellent book: Agnes Martin: Her Life and Art (New York: Thames and Hudson).

GALISTEO SOLAR HEATING UP

There are wackos out there who claim that solar panels "suck up the sunlight" and will leave us in the dark, cutting off photosynthesis and killing all plants! OMG! (Ed note: I've been off the grid on solar for two decades. Sorry about what that's doing to your gardens...)

As renewable energy gets increasingly affordable, Galisteo's solar presence becomes more visible. Over the years, *El Puente* has tried to cover each addition so you know who to contact if you're considering solar. Let us know if you should be added to the sunny news.

On Avenida Vieja, two additions: Matthew McQueen and Caroline Seigel just added a dual system on their carport roof: both solar electric (photovoltaic), and solar thermal (hot water). The installation was done by AMENERGY, a locally owned company. Matthew reports that he's not "off the grid; I'm still grid tied but get a little check from PNM every few weeks for the excess energy we generate. Plus, the house is nice and toasty."

Ed Epping and Peggy Diggs have a ground-mounted, 20-panel solar array; it's also grid-tied -- a 6.54 kilowatt, batteryless electric system, installed by local powerhouse, Positive Energy. The panels and inverter are made by Sunpower, guaranteed for 25 years. (The "25-year cumulative return is \$98,684"!)" "Positive Energy also smoothly coordinated various inspections that we needed to have at various points throughout the readying and installation process," says Peggy, "and provided the forms necessary to apply for the New Mexico Solar Tax Credit and the Federal Solar Tax Credit."

LA SALA NEWS

Plans for La Sala's Spring and Summer schedule are underway, and will be announced in an upcoming *El Puente*. Renovations will focus on extensive window and door repairs, and the Gallery Committee is finalizing plans for shows and events. We wish to thank departing Board members Eric Thomas, David Van Dyk, Corey McGillicuddy and Teresa Vasquez for their valuable contributions over the past several years. As of 2016, our Board consists of Roger Taylor (President), Jean Anaya Moya (Vice-President), Barbara King (Secretary), Anna Cárdenas (Treasurer), and Gwen Feisst (Board member). We will be adding more members as we begin to focus on the use of the building rather than just restoration activities.

WATER BOARD MEETS

The Board of the Galisteo Mutual Domestic Water Consumer's Association met on February 8th to discuss several pressing issues. A lawyer is being consulted about updating our bylaws and a committee was formed (Anna Cardenas, Mike Golino, Lucy Lippard) to scrutinize the current bylaws for needed changes and report back to the Board. Among them are the fees for overuse, the Board's liability for damages, the number of hookups one household can have, and the definition of a "household" or "single family dwelling." Any recommended changes to the bylaws will then be put before the entire membership.

There are also complicated decisions to be made about how to connect a new hookup to an older one in SoGal and other infrastructure limitations to the current system, such as the way pumping water uphill burns out pumps, persistent leaks, and the need for new pumps and wellhouse. President Rod Hall says that the association needs to get out of the zoning business and just deliver water. Galisteo members still get a bargain even though monthly bills have been raised (since 1962) from \$5 to \$15 to \$30. **ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING, MARCH 24, time TBA.**

LA BAJADA MONUMENT

At their last meeting, the BCC voted to table the Resolution in Support of a La Bajada National Monument for four months in order to allow more community discussion to occur. There was a good turn out at the hearing from people on both sides of the issue. In addition to many supporters who spoke in favor, representatives from the villages of La Cienega, La Cieneguilla, and La Bajada also attended and spoke eloquently about their concerns and need for more assurances before they can get behind this effort.

With few exceptions, the "opposition" speakers voiced support for the continued protection of these lands, but expressed concerns over continued access to the land for traditional uses and more inclusion in the process. Resolution leaders were heartened by the civility of the discussion and believe that common ground can be found to bring everyone behind this effort.

The stated intent of the Monument includes continued support for traditional uses, including grazing, wood and piñon gathering, as well as recreation. With the appropriate safeguards and assurances that these protected uses will remain intact once

the Monument is established, supporters believe everyone will come to see it as a good neighbor, an asset to Santa Fe's tourism and recreation offerings, and the best way to ensure long-term protection. Resolution leaders wish to express their thanks to all who supported the measure and ask for their continued support of efforts to protect the greater La Bajada area. Please watch for updates on future developments.

PEDACITOS/BITS AND PIECES

Emily Montoya has joined the Marines, continuing a family tradition.

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A soulful and intelligent monologue on art and landscape by Woody Gwyn was featured on a recent *Colores* program on New Mexico PBS. The artist is seen painting the southern creston and other local views.

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Barbara King is showing her pottery at the Barbara Bowles Gallery, 112 W San Francisco (suite 215) right off the plaza in Santa Fe.

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Diana Gaston is the new director of the famous Tamarind Lithography Workshop in Albuquerque, now under the UNM umbrella. She was curator of prints and photographs at the UNM Art Museum from 1989-93, a photography curator in San Diego and San Francisco, and for the past twelve years she helped build and curate the Fidelity Investment Corporate Art Collection, establishing an international network of artists and galleries. We have Michael Golino to thank for her presence in Galisteo.

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Sina Brush contributed a My View to the *New Mexican* on Jan. 31st: "The Bundy Boys: Another B Movie." It begins: "I have lived in the Southwest all my life, worked as caretaker on ranches and know cowboys pretty well. They tend to keep a low profile, have great respect for the government, and are too busy making a living to play at being what they already are -- men doing dirty, hard, often aggravating work that leaves no time or interest for pretending or pretension."

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Our former State Senator Phil Griego is in trouble again, this time for allowing sandstone boulders to be stolen from State grazing land that he leases.

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Jeffrey Epstein, a convicted sex offender, who owns the Zorro Ranch in and overlooking the Galisteo Basin, is the subject of ongoing litigations from at least a dozen of his then-underage victims. He is also a pal of Donald Trump, who told *New York Magazine* in 2002 that Epstein "likes beautiful women as much as I do, and many of them are on the younger side. No doubt about it, Jeffrey enjoys his social life."



NOT JUST FOR THE BIRDS

The New Mexico Coalition to End Homelessness is holding a birdhouse auction on June 12th at the Scottish Rite Temple in Santa Fe. Proceeds go to NM programs doing the best job of getting homeless people into housing. (See the website at www.nmceh.org.) We are **seeking artists to make a creative birdhouse, bird bath, or bird feeder** and donate the work for the auction. We can provide specifications for functional birdhouses for various species, or you can use poetic license and create objects clearly related to birdhouses made from any materials for indoor display. They need to be finished and delivered by May 1 to be included in the invitation and promotional materials. Completed bird houses can be delivered to the Coalition offices at 1219 Luisa Street, Suite 2, any weekday from 8:30 to 5 or you can call 982-9000 to arrange for pickup and other information.

EL PUENTE SPONSORS: BARBARA & JOHN DORN

GALISTEO CLASSIFIED

ADS ARE FREE, AND FOR GALISTEO RESIDENTS ONLY. PLEASE CALL 466-1276 TO UPDATE OR DELETE YOUR ADS. Next deadline: March 10.

WANTED

A place to live! Gwendolina Feisst, Galisteo resident since 2000, Galisteo Volunteer Firefighter, member of the La Sala Board, Artist, Minister. Please contact me at gfeisst@hotmail.com or 505-466-1458. Thank you!

FOR RENT

Charming vacation casita in the heart of Galisteo, available for rent by the night, week or month. Steve or Jean, 466-1544.

Vacation casita for rent by the weekend, week, or month. 900 sq.ft., open floor plan, 1BR + bath. Call Roger Taylor, 466-3469.

Charming studio available in Galisteo. Two-story fully furnished with lovely views. \$800/month including utilities. Available March 1st. Call 808-729-2651.

FOR SALE

Talus Wind Heritage Meats. Local New Mexico lamb and pork. Contact info@taluswindranch.com.

SERVICES

Intern will travel: Need help during parties, snow shoveling, yard cleaning, housekeeping or pet sitting? Call John Garcia at 505-316-1837.

JVS will remove (live) rattlesnakes. Call 466-1064.

We build and repair coyote fences; haul trash; yard work & other odd jobs. Fair prices, local references, Michael J. Anaya, 660-2275.

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

Galisteo Yoga: Sundays, Mondays, Tuesdays @ 4 p.m., Thursday @ noon, check out website www.templeoftentrada.com for Friday times - 5614B, St Rt #41. Ruby, 466-1961.

Maria's Personal Assistant Services: Elder help, errands, office support, housesitting, packing/ shipping: 466-8930.

Common sense, gentle dog-training: house manners, management problem-solving at your home, and limited boarding. 20 yrs. experience. Call Evelyn, 466-1875.

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

Welding, flagstone, moss rock, fountains, plumbing, sprinkler, drip systems, plus Gopher Control. David Maestas, cell 670-8608 or 660-9715.

Pet and housesitting, watering plants, feeding animals, etc. Call Linda Jones, 310-2904.

The Orchard: Full service catering, personal chef, and Care Network. Corey McGillicuddy, 466-1831.

Firewood, Misc. Hauling, Odd Jobs, Humane Custom Butchery, CAD services. Phone 466-8967 or cell: 435-3067, adan.cardenas1@gmail.com.

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

Dream Interpretation: Learn about the message from your Inner Self in your dreams. Veronique Cartier, 466-0803.

Meditation and Knowings class with Chris Griscom, Sundays at The Light Institute:4-5:30pm.Free to Galisteo residents. 466-1975.

Carpentry: Custom closets, hand-carved tables, benches, gates, doors; also electrical work. Ted Montoya, 231-3671.

Barbara King Pottery: functional and decorative, handcrafted with a variety of glazes on white stoneware. 466-3219.

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.

+++ EL PUENTE DE GALISTEO+++

Editor: Lucy R. Lippard. **EL PUENTE logo:** Cara Lee.

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NEXT DEADLINE: March 10. TO SPONSOR: \$80 check to GCA, noting "for newsletter."

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