



ISSUE #196

SUMMER 2016

JOIN YOUR COMMUNITY AT A BOSQUE BREAKFAST: JULY 9, 9:00AM, near the old bridge. Coffee, juice, burritos, and baked goodies will be served before we walk the Bosque and do some light chores, picking up loose ends left when time and money ran out during reclamation work in April: pruning Russian Olives, bundling cut willows, building “bridges” over the river. Bring work gloves. See you there!



The Historic Santa Fe Foundation (545 Canyon Rd #2) will sponsor an exhibition on La Sala de San José de Galisteo during the month of July, including photos of the work accomplished, the history of La Sala, and artifacts found during the restoration process. The opening ceremony is Friday July 1st, 3-5 PM, with comments by Roger Taylor, Cornerstones, and the Foundation at 4:00.

La Sala opened on May 13th for the summer (Fridays-Sundays) with an impressive exhibition of Galisteo artists. How many tiny villages can boast (and boost) this much fine art?



La Sala Lineup, l. to r.: Liz Rose, Janet, Philip and Barbara Pfeifer, David Burk, a visitor) Below: Barbara King in charge.

NOTICE: If you didn't receive last month's *El Puente* it's because the Post Office has a new machine that is very fussy on address details. I think we've got our mailing list (which worked fine until the machines took over) up to snuff now.

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Let *El Puente* (flip14@wildblue.net) know about wildlife sightings over the summer? We should know our often invisible neighbors. Your editor and her dog spotted two bounding mule deer off Avenida Vieja the other day. One night there was a sad, single coyote howling and yipping... but there was no answer.

GVFR TO THE RESCUE: CERRO PELON FIRE

In the early afternoon of June 7th, GVFR member Corey McGillicuddy noticed a small plume of smoke on the west side of Cerro Pelon. Firefighter Gwen Feisst was first to respond, with the brush truck, and she alerted the Cerro Pelon Ranch manager. Ed Epping and Steve Moya followed, along with the County Wildland Fire Crew and Med 80. Soon there were nine personnel on site. “The wind picked up and that puppy started to run,” says Epping. The lightning-caused fire quickly jumped from a half acre to four acres. Then, miraculously, the winds slowed and humidity increased. It was totally controlled by the time all but the wildland crew left around 8PM. Ranch manager Jeff Hilliard said that a major lightning storm the previous night had fried a gate and burned fence posts. Keep your eyes on Cerro Pelon, the Bosque, and our whole environment during the very hot summer to come. Call 911 if you see smoke or flames.

Joshway Short passed his EMT Basic and will be licensed after the National Registry Test. Whew! Another Emergency Medical Technician for Galisteo.

MORE GOOD NEWS FOR THE BOSQUE: The Governor's River Reclamation Fund has awarded \$170,000 for Round 2 of the Galisteo River Project. Work will focus on more plantings of native species, removal of Russian Olives between El Puente and the boundary with San Cristobal Ranch, and stream correction so it stops undermining the high clay embankment in the same area. Work could begin any time between early March and December, 2017. A project plan will be shared with the community and landowners for input.

THE RIO GALISTEO OVER TIME

Part II: Interview with Jan Willem Jansens [Bracketed interruptions from El Puente]

You've talked about how mobile the Rio Galisteo has been even in its recent history.

Landscape features around the village and upstream seem to suggest that the Galisteo Creek was a narrow, gently meandering stream through grasslands, which must have been at the level of the older houses bordering the creek. I imagine that there were clumps of Willows, here and there a single Cottonwood, some Boxelder, and perhaps a few clumps of young Junipers. There may also have been some patches of raw sand and clay and some old abandoned channels. All these features describe a landscape of an alluvial fan, an ever-changing, large sediment plume that spilled out below the [northern] "hogback" and was bounded by the rises in the landscape on the east and west until it merged with the sediment bed of the San Cristobal Creek south of the village.

[The diary of] C.E. Pancoast [who was on his way to the Gold Rush in 1849, describes how] he crossed the Galisteo Creek on a single plank; there was no "arroyo," meaning that the creek was free flowing and not downcut as it is today. Other documents describe how the creek fed acequias that irrigated fields until the early 20th century. [Joe Anaya, now in his nineties, recalls that an acequia ran along what is now NM 41 past La Sala and the church and the Sandovals' homes, and then, according to John Benjamin, wound around the hills below John Young's home and to the west. Laterals may have fed south along the narrow fields allotted in the Galisteo Grant. David Kammer, who wrote the nomination for the State Register of Historical Properties, states that this acequia "and small reservoir...ceased to operate in 1926." Another ditch on the east side of the creek feeding the Cadial is less well documented. Research continues ...]

Between 1880 and 1892, some cataclysmic event drastically changed the creek's course and shape. Between documents, stories, some old maps, and what I know about that period of time, I pieced together that in or shortly after 1880 one of several heavy floods hammered the creek, probably exacerbated by the narrowing of the creek bed and floodplain resulting from the construction of the railroad grade in and along the flood plain, upstream between Glorietta and Lamy in 1879-1880. In any case, there is evidence that in 1892, farmers [in the pasture called the Cadial on the village's eastern boundary] no longer repaired their irrigation dams because the stream had cut too deep to feed the acequias.

It is my understanding -- from old meander patterns upstream and an old map -- that the creek moved from an alignment just east of where State Road 41 is now to the current location further east of the village. [This must have been before the late 18th century, since the barracks and later the Davis y Ortiz hacienda would have been underwater.] In a few decades, it dug itself into its own old sediments. Over time, floods widened the trench it was in and created the current 100-yard wide arroyo floor which was probably entirely barren, full of sand and clay, with some patches of grass, an occasional clump of Willows and a grove of Cottonwoods between what is now Harmony Hammond's and Janice Griscom's properties. [Photos from the

early 1950s and earlier show a barren arroyo.] That led to the construction of El Puente, the old bridge [which was preceded by a steel truss bridge that washed out at an unknown date, perhaps the 1920s].

I believe that all this started to change in the 1950s, when more Cottonwoods were planted [by Phil McKee's mother-in-law]. Sand started to pile up behind the trees and the bridge pillars and the highway bridge [constructed in 1936]. As more sediment accumulated on the floodplain, more terrain along the creek became too high and dry to sustain Willows, and in the last three decades, more drought-tolerant Tamarisk and later Russian Olives invaded the Willows and Cottonwoods.

And so the Bosque changed once again, becoming in many places a dense mass of spiny brush. Many Willows and some of the Cottonwoods died in the competition for water, light, and nutrients with Russian Olives, causing a partly dead thicket that increased the risk of wildfire and reduced the habitat quality for wildlife. Parts of the channel dug themselves into the sand and the water flowed fairly rapidly through the bosque, with only large floods spreading all across the valley floor. That's the situation I found in 1998 when I first started working in Galisteo.

Back to the present: Are there still plans for an improved trail in the Bosque?

I am not aware of any plans for an improved trail. It is beneficial for birds and wildlife that the current path remains simple and unimproved (unpaved). The bosque is not a park; it is still a pretty wild piece of nature: a wetland. We should anticipate that bank-to-bank flooding will continue yearly, slightly eased by the removal of so many trees. And ecologically that is good. We may also see some sediment moving from the upper to the lower parts of the bosque, which is also just fine in the bigger picture. The trail, if left in the same location, will continue to be inundated and covered with mud in floods. It would be costly to help it withstand either sedimentation or the eroding and undermining effects of flooding. Only if the trail is brought to somewhat higher ground can it be kept drier and somewhat less susceptible to flood impacts.

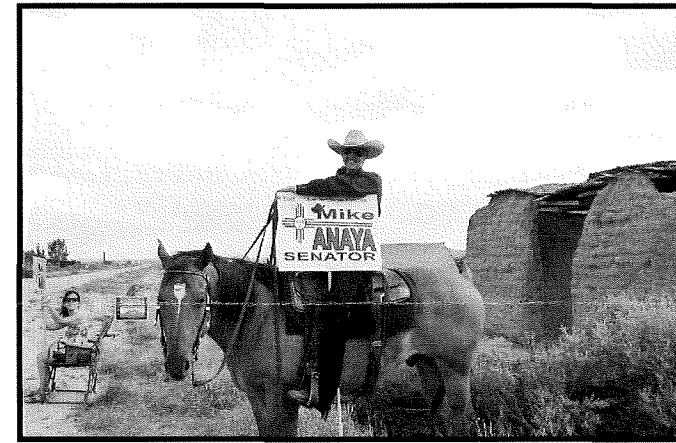
For me it comes down to the character of the bosque and a sense of balance with nature; I think a good trail in this place is one that blends in, the product of *benign neglect*. If it washes out a bit, that can be fixed with ease.

CONSCIOUS SOLUTIONS

*"Global warming is a challenge to the consciousness of all humanity; not only as a technological or scientific dilemma, but also as a matter of planetary survival and being conscious of our human responsibility to life on earth. The solutions to global warming will be found not only in what we must stop doing, but what we must do on entirely new levels of consciousness." -- Chris Griscom. She is initiating a global call for a **Conscious Solutions Initiative** to reverse and balance the "greenhouse effect" through *de-manifestation*. She calls for "a new, specifically designed Conscious Technology," sponsored by The Light Institute and The Nizhoni Institute for Global Consciousness. For information, go to Eco SOS.*

PEDACITOS/BITS AND PIECES

Michael D. Anaya came in second to Liz Stefanics in the race for the Democratic candidate for State Senate District 39, beating the other two contenders, including Hugh Ley, the *Santa Fe New Mexican's* choice. Mike made a good run, and in a campaign letter he quoted his late father, Joe M. Anaya: "There are people in this world that make things happen, people that watch things happen, and people that wonder what just happened."



Kevan Saunders and Dude stand up for Mike Anaya.

Marco Serna, who won the Democratic nomination for District Attorney in the First District, was a student of **Jan Saunders** at St. Michaels.

Janine Stern's gallery Janine Contemporary Industri has moved into a large new space at 328 S. Guadalupe in the Railyard. After a hiatus for remodeling, she is opening on July 2, 5-7, with an exhibition on "New Identity," featuring 22 local and national artists, until Aug. 20.

Dave Montoya's family traveled to Chicago to see daughter **Emily** graduate from Marine boot camp. She is now stationed in San Antonio.

Roger Taylor, Jan Willem Jansens, and Jim Matison from WildEarth Guardians were on KSFR's Radio Café on May 13th talking about the Bosque remediation. It was an illuminating discussion, especially in terms of the bureaucratic hoops everyone had to jump through to complete the project. A lesser team would have given up in disgust. (The program may still be available as a podcast on KSFR's website.)

Harmony Hammond's solo show at the Alexander Gray Gallery in New York has been well received and reviewed. An interview with her appeared in the on-line journal *Hyperallergic*.

Ray Belcher's lovely photograph of the **gate to the old Galisteo cemetery** with the church spire in the background was featured in *El Palacio*, Summer, 2016.

The Legal Tender in Lamy has been re-opened by the owner of the Swiss Bakery in Santa Fe, and is awaiting its wine/beer license. Word on the street is that it has some kinks to work out but should be on track soon.

Caroline Hinkley will show her work from Iceland in the Berlin Foto Biennale 2016.

Catherine Ferguson is showing her paintings and an installation at El Museo Cultural in the Railyard. *Daughter of Rooms* (including Susan Ferguson's Mexico years) opens July 8 (1-3, with Videopoems) and on July 16 is a Poetry Reading.

Former resident and current GVFR member **Bill Mitchell** is showing two installations (one of which includes the Galisteo Rodeo grounds) at the 2016 Currents New Media Festival at El Museo Cultural through June 26.

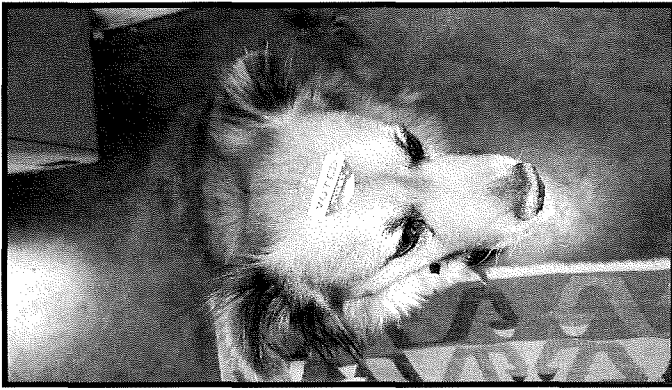


The recent issue of the glossy realtors' magazine *Leading Estates of the World* announces that the **Cerro Pelon Ranch** -- "a sparkling sanctuary in the vast American Southwest... with the allure of ancient petroglyphs, pottery shards and Pueblo ruins juxtaposed with Tadao Ando's dramatic contemporary compound" (see above) -- is for sale, price on request. At some 20,000 acres (32 square miles), it is "among the largest properties in Santa Fe County and is home to the iconic western movie town originally built for the film *Silverado*.... Meandering through the northern boundary of the ranch, the Galisteo Creek provides scenic vistas from open waterways to picturesque canopies of shady cottonwoods. The land and water have been conscientiously managed to provide beautiful grazing pastures within a productive cattle ranch." More in the next issue on the possible ramifications of this sale for our community.

For many years there has been a cross at the intersection of NM 41 and US285, in memory of **Lucy Tafoya**. (Was she a Galisteña?) Another *descanso* was recently avoided when a drunk driver crashed through the same barricade. His vehicle hung up on the guard rail and he survived.

The **Vista Clara Ranch/Spa** was foreclosed, and has been sold to The Chi Center for the ancient Chinese practice called Chi Gong (Qigong), or "life energy work."

In 1992, former resident Valentine McKay-Riddell founded **Orenda Healing International** (OHI), a nonprofit organization that originally focused on arts-based community service programs in New Mexico, Northern California, and Oregon. Its mission has expanded to support research in the field of alternative healing. Until 6/30, its online publication *Four Winds Journal* is accepting submissions of art, writing essays, poems and visual art on the theme "Winds of Change" for the Fall issue. OHI also welcomes research proposals, online courses, tutorials, and webinars. To join the email list, go to orenda@orenda-arts.org.



**EL PUENTE SPONSOR:
THE LIGHT INSTITUTE
and Chris Griscom**

GALISTEO CLASSIFIED

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

FOR RENT

Lovely, quiet, sunlit house near the Bosque: 4BR; 2 baths; studio; terrace/ pergola; shade trees; gardens. Available July 1st. Contact Ted Fleming for more information: 505-231-2828; efa@cybermesa.com.

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.

Vacation home 1700 sq.ft., on the Bosque, by weekend, week, or month. Ruby, 466-1961 or berenshaw@me.com.

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.

Housecleaning, elder care, transport to Dr's appts. (certified CPR, First Aid), errands, baby/house/pet sit. Maria Garcia, 466-6004 or 795-2048.

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 and Fridays @ 4 p.m. 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.

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.

Meditation and Knowings class with Chris Griscom, Sundays at The Light Institute:5-6:30pm.Free to Galisteo residents. 466-1975.

+++ EL PUENTE DE GALISTEO+++

Editor: Lucy R. Lippard. **EL PUENTE logo:** Cara Lee. **Printer:** Allegra. **Comments, suggestions, contributions to EL PUENTE, 14 Avenida Vieja, 466-1276 or flip14@wildblue.net. NEXT DEADLINE: September 10. TO SPONSOR: \$80 check to GCA, noting "for newsletter."**

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