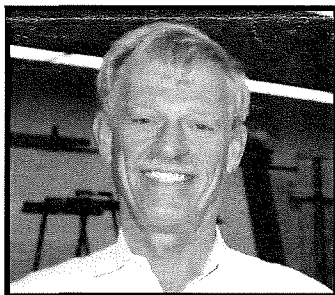


EL PUENTE DE GALISTEO

ISSUE #228

OCTOBER 2019

VERNON WILSON (9/24/1934 - 9/18/2019)



Vern Wilson was a friend to many of us in Galisteo. His smile welcomed all. His sense of humor brightened our lives. As a husband and father, dear friend, painter, print maker, wood worker, baker, cheese maker and gardener, he was a “hands on” experimenter. Vern loved to learn and to make things, including an amazing collapsible sawhorse for cutting the winter’s wood.

George Vernon Wilson was born in Las Vegas, NM on September 24, 1934, and at twelve years old he traveled by train with his family to live in Florida. Vern was so modest many people did not know of his service in the U.S. Army in post-war Korea, where a whole new world of art and culture opened up to him. For thirty-plus years, he taught painting, drawing, and print- making privately as well as at the Art Center College of Design in Pasadena. In 1970, he was a founding member of the 7th Street Gallery, the first Artists’ Cooperative in LA.

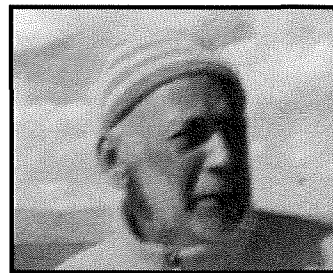
Dianne recalls, “We found Galisteo on one of our trips to our mountain home in the Pecos. Vern has roots in the Las Vegas valley. We bought our land not knowing the future but hoping we could build a sweet place with sunsets in mind. In the late ‘90s Vern needed a private place to work. He designed our home and studio and here we lived our lives in gratitude.” Vern participated in the Galisteo Studio Tour for fifteen years. Friends and tour goers came to see Vern’s creative work and to share his love of life and his smile.

Vern and Dianne, partners in life, creativity, and fun, were married for 58 years. On September 18, 2019, Dianne, sons and daughters-in-law Mark and Shelly, Kevin and Pla, Matthew and Stephanie and grandson Ben quietly and lovingly said Fare Thee Well to Vern. In our own ways we may all say Fare Thee Well to our dear friend and wonderful neighbor Vern. — *From Dorothy Victor and Sam Sloan. (Photo: 1989).*

EDITOR’S NOTE: In the interest of transparency: We know that some of you generous souls who sponsored an issue last year are wondering where your credit is. We are lucky to have a healthy sponsorship backlog, but some of that money always has to go for stamps. So for the next few issues we are catching up by listing two sponsors at a time. Many thanks to you all. Keep it coming!

ERIC THOMAS (9/9/1949 - 10/6/2019)

from David Van Dyk



Dr. Eric Sekator Thomas died of heart failure on October 6. A member of the Narragansett tribe, he was born in South Kingston, Rhode Island. In his youth, Eric’s activism in Native affairs was renowned as he fought the federal government and won recognition and compensation for the Narragansett ancestral land. After the establishment of the tribal organization, Eric was recognized for his strong and wise leadership by the University of California at Berkeley, where he received his PhD. in Cultural Anthropology, rowing on crew at middle age and on the dean’s list throughout. Eric was an effective and committed leader, a gifted artist, exhibiting in Indian Market, a joyful friend, companion, and a pleasure to be with.

Resident of Galisteo since 2006, Eric was instrumental in spearheading the revitalization of La Sala de Galisteo. He led and supervised the youth construction training as vice president. His hard work in fun will be missed by all who knew him. Eric’s ashes will be buried on his tribal land in ceremony, and a Galisteo memorial is planned for a future date. Eric was a gentle giant spirit man whose missions were all accomplished and done well. RIP ERIC! (Photo: Bahia Kino, Mexico, 2006.)

Editor’s note: Galisteo knew Eric as an active community member and especially the creator of Bob the Cop and other imaginative productions. His generous, fun-loving presence will certainly be missed.

THE FLOUR DRESS

Michaela Valencia

It is the first day of school (August 1941). I'm so excited! I am going into the fifth grade at the Galisteo elementary school. We have to walk over the big hill called "La Loma del Tejano" and then pass the cemetery. Mamá made me a very special dress to wear today. It has a big, bright yellow sunflower in the front and smaller sunflowers all around the rest of the dress. I slip it over my head and it slides easily down to my knees and fits perfectly. It has one small loop tie on the back of the neck and a cloth belt Mamá made from the same material. I am so happy that I spin around and around, sending my flour dress twirling. As I spin, sunflowers appear to be flying all around the room, and suddenly the room starts to smell like lavender.

Mamá made dresses for my sisters and shirts for my brothers but I know that my flour dress is the most special of all. You see, during the day, Mamá did all the household chores while caring for a two-month-old infant and three toddlers; and although she was exhausted, she stayed up late into the night sewing this special dress. Before sewing it, she washed the material by hand in lavender water and hung it on the outside line to dry, and then she designed and stitched together my beautiful dress.

Do you want to know why I call this dress my "flour" dress? Well, you see, we had a very big family – there were eight Sandoval children in the house, and my Papá and Mamá, and we had very little money. We could not afford store-bought material, sewing patterns, zippers and buttons. After making tons of tortillas and biscuits, Mamá used the multicolored flour sacks to make our clothes. She designed and stitched the most beautiful and fashionable clothes out of these "flour" sacks. Thank you, Mamá! I learned so many lessons from you, including how to make beautiful clothes for my own children and I remain a very talented seamstress today.

(This story is based on a childhood memory from Connie Sandoval Valencia about her Mamá, Lucia Mora Sandoval.)

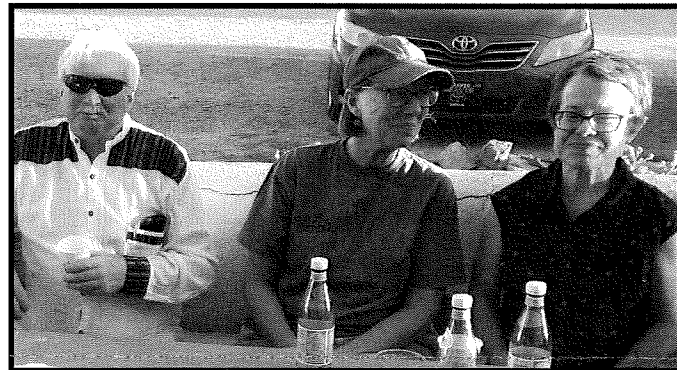


CHILE/MARGARITA COOKOFF

The best annual party (could it be the margaritas?) was held at the Community Center on Sept. 28th. The crowd was well fed with mouth-watering chiles and a vast array of side dishes from the community. Jurors Greg Boardman, Marcy Hintz, Kirsten Miller, Romona Scholder, and Wayland Wong made the following tasteful choices: First prize for Traditional Chile went to Phillip Tuwaletsiwa (who also won first for his Margarita) and Non-Traditional Chile was won by Rich Fenker with John Miller second. A *baile* at La Sala followed, featuring the very popular band, Lone Piñon. ... Quite a night for a quiet village.

PEDACITOS/BITS AND PIECES

In a hotly contested election for the position of Vice-Chair of the Democratic Party of Santa Fe County, **Roger Taylor** was elected with a 2/3rds plurality vote. He joined fellow Galisteo **Estelle Berger**, who was elected Chair in March. Tiny Galisteo is now a County-wide power center! (Photo, Ed Epping; Taylor, Berger, Marcy Hintz.)



Lamy is hopping these days. The **Legal Tender Saloon and Eating House** (originally the Leo Pick Mercantile and later the Pink Garter) is back in action: Fri, Sat and Sun 5:30-9; reservations recommended, 466-1650. If you've never been there it's worth a visit just to see the marvelous old wooden bar. In addition, there is the less formal **Harvey's Café** in the Depot – great food and friendly atmosphere, open daily noon to 6. (**Deirdre Africa** was photographed fitting an apron for one of the staff.) While you're at it, enjoy the lovely park with signs detailing the history (and named bricks for sale for \$50@ to help pay for them; **Suzi Shanklin** has already stepped up) -- a project of Rick Shore, of the adjacent Ortiz Gallery, namesake of El Ortiz, the short-lived Harvey Hotel, dismantled in the 1940s. **Wayland Wong's** blown glass works are also shown there.

Steve Davis's paintings are being shown at FOMA, 303 Montezuma, in the Railyard, Oct.4-31.

Janet Pfeiffer has a painting at the Museum of Encaustic Art (632 Agua Fria in Santa Fe) in the 3rd Annual *Global Warming is REAL* exhibition, through Oct. 27th.

The initial forum in a series of discussions on the climate crisis, the third Wednesday of each month, was held at the Center for Progress and Justice in Santa Fe on Sept.18, sponsored by the Democratic Party of Santa Fe County. Our Rep **Matthew McQueen** was a participant. (Matthew is being challenged in the primary by Becky King-Spindle, rancher and Moriarty school board member, whose main qualification seems to be that she is a granddaughter of former Governor Bruce King.)

Elayne Patton fosters kittens, and sometimes dogs, for Peace of Mind of New Mexico, a 501c3 that rescues animals from Roswell Animal Control. Why? Unlike the No Kill shelter in Santa Fe, Roswell does euthanize when they are too full. Many sweet kittens are available and Roger Taylor has high praise for his dog Maggie Mae, a product of Elayne's dedication. Please let her know if you are interested in adopting an adorable kitten or two: 466-9600, elaynesantafe@gmail.com

Muriel Fariello wrote a letter to the editor of *The New Mexican* (9/20) complaining about veterinarians who encourage grieving pet owners to extend their suffering pets' lives with expensive tests and treatment.

COMMUNITY CENTER PARK

The GCA Board is pleased to announce that a new Galisteo Community Center Park is being established in the area of the existing basketball court and the mostly-defunct children's playground, with a small perimeter area around the two. It was established with the former lease from the County, an addendum to the Watts Park, approved by the Board of County Commissioners. We took this approach as the NM Anti-donation Law does not allow for funds or labor from public sources to private organizations, but it was made possible by a leasing arrangement thanks to our Commissioner, Rudy Garcia, and to P.J. Montoya of Public Works.

For those who were unable to attend the discussion on this activity at the Board election last March or the Town Hall meeting on June 25th (or do not recall the several community emails and notice in *El Puente*), the lease arrangement allows for provision of the following: ongoing repair and maintenance of the court and playground, as well as the costs of liability and facility/equipment insurance; and management of the \$50,000 grant from State Capital Outlay for the initial court repairs (infill of surface cracks and fissures, re-painting of boundary lines), replacement of backboards & nets, replacement of playground equipment as well as a shade structure to cover it, and a rubber mulch ground cover for the playground.

Over the next several weeks, the County Works Dept. will begin cleaning, pruning and preparing these two areas. Playground equipment and shade structure(s) will be installed later this Fall or early Spring. Galisteo and the GCA board will retain control and scheduling of the court and playground for the use and enjoyment of Galisteo residents, their families and visitors, just as we do today with Watts Park.

Looking forward, we have completed a request for additional Capital Outlay Funds in the fiscal year 2020 and 2021 budget cycles for a water fountain, another shade structure, and some perimeter trees and a drip system. Capital Outlay Funds are from State and County, completely separate from USDA grant funding. The USDA funds are for repairs and upgrades to the Community Center, and a progress report on that project will be issued soon. As always, if you have questions, please contact your GCA Board members directly.

WANNABE A TREE DOCTOR?

Liz Rose

Peach-burdened, two branches of my trees severed, fell, snapped to the ground. Nothing to do but saw them off neatly, dress the gaping wound, and mourn. But when one of two main trunks of a third peach tree splintered almost in two, I determined to save this beloved tree that I planted twenty years ago -- the tree that survived being chewed almost to the ground by Donna and Jim Sloan's horses when first it was planted, the tree that produces the sweetest fruit. Only a third of its trunk was still partially attached,

With Michael Anaya's help we trimmed the heaviest laden branches. A floor mop propped outside the kitchen door became my inspiration. Grabbing a pair of scissors, I cut off a handful of its cotton strands, and after soaking them, laid them like water carrying veins inside the tree trunk's gaping wound. Using all our strength we torqued the broken limb in place as best we could,

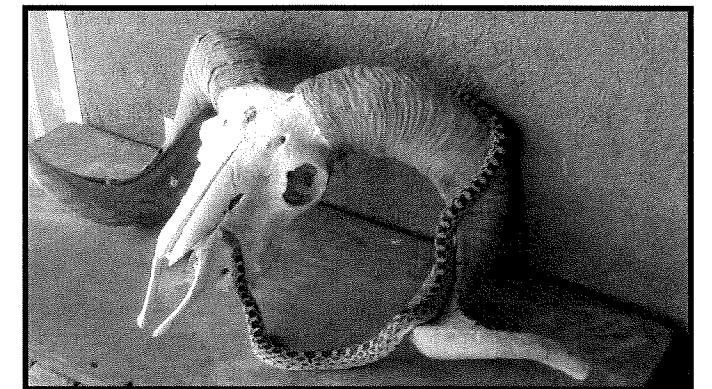
before binding on a sodden towel and two splints of wood. A month later the leaves stand spry and its fruits are ripe.

Should I? Shouldn't I paste the repair with protective goop to get it through the winter?

FROM THE WATER BOARD

The Galisteo Mutual Domestic Water Association Board met on Sept. 30 to tackle an unexpected shortfall in the new construction despite the major grant/loan we received. The only two bids came in very high and we are re-bidding the entire project to allow us to continue without incurring debt. Hopefully we will receive help on capital outlay from our County Commissioner, Rudy Garcia, and State Senator Liz Stefanics, and Rep. Matthew McQueen. The priorities are: to bring the second well on line, improve the pressure, and extend the system to several households north of the village, west of NM 41.

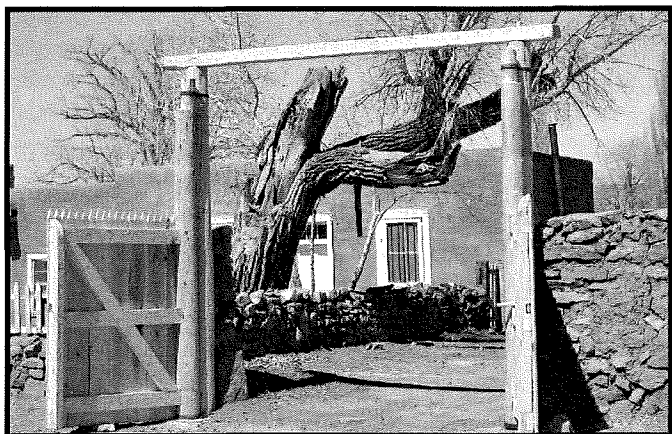
ANOTHER SNAKE STORY



This is Bully on your editor's Georgia O'Keeffe icon (gift from a Galisteo friend). The friendly bullsnake lived in my workroom for a few weeks last summer, a surprise visitor when s/he stuck her head up over a shelf of books. I was leaving for a family visit in Maine and Walt Stevens, staying with my dog, was aware of her/his presence but only found her in the bathtub much later. She was thirsty and probably hungry and he scooped her up and evicted her. But this summer s/he wanted in again. I found her on the doorstep, under a nearby bush, almost in the house having pushed the screen door open. After a few weeks, s/he gave up -- back to nature.



Galisteo fashion: Our Fire Chief's Boots (they're yellow!) seen at the Chile fest (Photo: Alice Kruse)



Years ago, John Benjamin restored the old gate on the probable 1795 garrison, where he lived for decades. Sadly, the significant old building, originally part of the Ortiz y Davis hacienda, was recently foreclosed. A new chapter in its long history begins.

EL PUENTE SPONSORS: ECOTONE LANDSCAPE PLANNING & MICHAEL AND LESLIE DYER

GALISTEO CLASSIFIED

ADS ARE FREE, AND FOR GALISTEO RESIDENTS ONLY. PLEASE CALL 466-1276 TO UPDATE OR DELETE YOUR ADS. Next deadline: Nov. 5th.

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.

FOR SALE

Amanecer Gallery offers oil paintings by Freddie Cárdenas and **micaceous pottery** by Anna Cárdenas, 505-466-8967.

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

Button Box Aprons by Deirdre Africa of Rancho Bueno in Galisteo, for sale at the Santa Fe Railyard Artisans Market most Sundays 10-4. Check out www.buttonboxaprons.com and call 505-670-5198 or email deirdreafrica@msn.com.

SERVICES

Dave's Auto Repair: restoring, minor repairs, painting. Local refs. Free estimates: David Montoya, 505-501-1991.

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

Orchard Full-Service Catering: Personal chef, experience with special needs and dietary issues. Corey McGillicuddy, 466-1831, mcgillicuddycorey3@gmail.com.

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.

Linda Vista Stables: Local horse owners: I can take care of your horses when you're away, in the comfort of their own barn. Call Maria, 466-8930

Pet, House, and Garden Care. Janet Pfeiffer, 399-9238.

Galisteo Yoga: Mondays 3pm, Tuesdays 9:30am @Dorothy's 466-2339 stretching & breathing. Private & Group Sessions w/Ruby 466-1961 ruby@rubyrenshaw.com *Kundalini & free-movement based* Fridays 10-11 am @ Galisteo Community Center w/Mare profundus@aol.com *slow flow & therapeutic blend of Vinyasa & Ivengar.*

Yoga for Everybody: Julia Cairns and Mary Horst run yoga classes at the Eldorado Community Center, Mon-Fri. All levels welcome! See www.yogaforeverybody.com for more information. Julia: 466-3393.

Grow Y'own hooped and covered raised beds for year-round gardening! Ken 490-1849.

Preparing your garden for next year? Repairing erosion? **Aged compost and mulch** available at Goose Downs Farm north of the village. Free if you load, \$15 if we do: Tom, 670-7031.

Intern will travel: Need help during parties, snow shoveling, yard cleaning, housekeeping or pet sitting on Saturdays or Sundays? Call John Garcia at 505-310-3812.

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.

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, 577-6004.

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: 5-6:30 pm. Free to Galisteo residents. 466-1975.

Book Writing and Marketing Services: by Random House author with 20 yrs. experience. Also **Voice Training and Singing Lessons** for children, adults and **Angel Readings:** Connect with loved ones from the other side. Stella Togo, 714-433-6148; www.stellatogo.com.

Dentistry: Specializing in Endodontics (Root Canals) Free telephone consultations: Dr. Bernie Gavron at 505-988-7356.

+++EL PUENTE DE GALISTEO+++

Editor: Lucy R. Lippard. **logo** by Cara Lee. **Printer:**

Allegra. All donations welcome. **Comments, suggestions, contributions to EL PUENTE, 14 Avenida Vieja, 466-1276 or flip14@centurylink.net. NEXT DEADLINE: Nov. 5th. TO SPONSOR: Make out check for \$80-\$150 (or more!) to GCA, noting "for newsletter," and send to *El Puente*.**

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