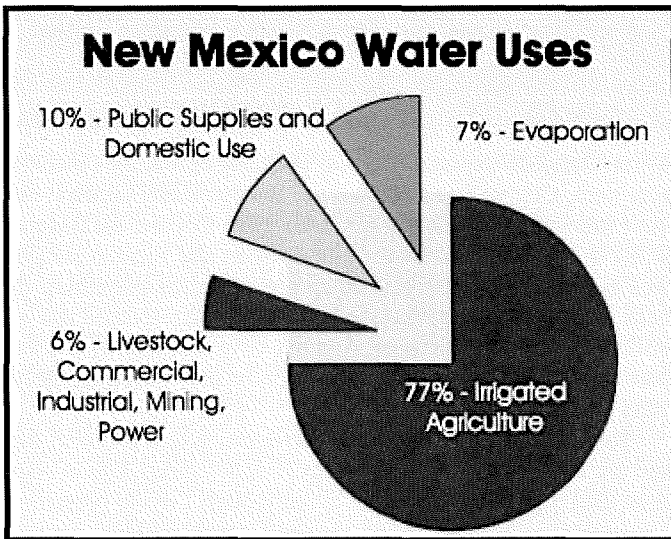


EL PUENTE DE GALISTEO

ISSUE #248

OCTOBER 2021



PART II: WATER: WHO USES WHAT?

Paul Davis

In Part I of this short series on water and drought, I tried to summarize about fifteen thousand years of the history of moisture in the region. In Part II, I'll review some basic but not widely known facts about patterns of water use, information we need to be able to think about water supplies in the future.

Let's start by noting that only about 45% of the water within New Mexico is available for state use; the rest is allocated to various treaties and compacts, and federal government use. Of the amount that is used within the state, the overwhelming majority is used by irrigated agriculture (i.e. growing crops). As of 2015, this sector used about 76% of all water used in the state. Within that number are acres irrigated via drip systems (3% of the total), flood (acequia) irrigation (45%) and sprinkler systems (51%). This water is split fairly evenly between surface and groundwater supplies.

Residential use is only about 9% of the total, of which about 70% comes from groundwater. The absolute amounts used for residential purposes has been dropping steadily for the last thirty years. Albuquerque has seen its usage drop from about 140 gallons per person per day in 1995 to 56 in 2020. Similar patterns can be seen in other NM cities. Note that this total includes supplies to non-residential facilities such as golf courses and parks.

STUDIO TOUR, OCT 16-17, IS ON!

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POSTPONED: Galisteo Volunteer Fire and Rescue Community Breakfast and Annual Open house.

You might expect that commercial, mining, industrial and power generation would use a lot, but even combined they only use about 6% of the state's total. One big feature of this sector is that all except power generation are overwhelmingly dependent on groundwater. Finally, we lose almost 7% to evaporation from reservoirs - almost as much as the entire residential use figure.

The state uses GPCD (Gallons Per Capita Per Day) as a measurement of residential use. This number has been dropping steadily for decades, which is good news, helped by changes in residential plumbing, appliances, and individual habits. However, data show a classic "long tail," with a few households using much more water than most of their neighbors. It is also interesting that even for a house with top-ranked plumbing systems and appliances, the state still feels that a GPCD of 45 is reasonable. This comes to 2700 gallons per month for a couple. How much do you use a month without irrigation? Do you think this is too large a level to set as standard, too small or just about right?

Finally, let's note that even though agriculture has a lot of cultural and historical significance in New Mexico, it contributes only about 7% of the state's economy, with food processing adding about another 4%. That's about fifty thousand agricultural jobs and about ten thousand food processing jobs. As we look towards the future, it seems that at some point we must face the question of whether or not using 76% of the state's total water for a relatively small sector of the economy makes sense in the face of long-term drought and aridification.

300 ACRES OF GALISTEO BASIN LAND CONSERVED

The Santa Fe Conservation Trust (SFCT) celebrated a new conservation easement for 300 acres in the Galisteo Basin this week. The land was purchased in March 2020 with the help of the Eugene V. and Clare E. Thaw Charitable Trust. The grant allowed them not just to buy the property, called the Conservation Homestead, but also to take down the old structures, reseed the demolition area and put the entire property under a (*Cont.p.2*)

conservation easement, which SFCT, as the landowner, donated to the Taos Land Trust. This easement prohibits development in the middle of 6,000 acres of contiguous conserved land that SFCT protects while preserving a wildlife corridor, scenic views, and archaeological sites forever. Five miles of trails are being constructed for public access, connecting to those in the nearby Galisteo Basin Preserve. Plus the Conservation Homestead will be a demonstration site for land stewardship and restoration going forward. We will be notified of a public opening to be held as soon as the trails are completed.

GCA/MODERN ELDER ACADEMY OPEN MEETING

On Sept. 29th, there was an open virtual meeting with the Modern Elder Academy of Saddleback Ranch, moderated by Roger Taylor of the GCA Board (rebroadcasted by Radio Free Galisteo). Responding to the community's questions about the retreat center were MEA directors Chip Conley, Christine Sperber, Jeff Hamaoui, and Skylar Skikos. Although they are in no way required to answer to the village, they seem committed to good relations. Christine will live in Santa Fe, Skylar's wife is a Santa Fean, and Chip is buying a half-time home in Galisteo, which Jeff called "an artistic, iconoclastic village."

However, many in the community are not convinced that this is not "a real estate development." Questions involved water and the MEA's Regeneration policy. One criticism is that they are too committed to their own ideas of sustainability which do not necessarily make sense here, or for the general good. Ed Epping pointed out that regeneration is dependent on regularity – unlike water in the Galisteo Basin: "You can't bring back something that isn't coming." There are fourteen wells on site and one off site. Hydrology tests are taking place; there were no records on usage from the previous owner.

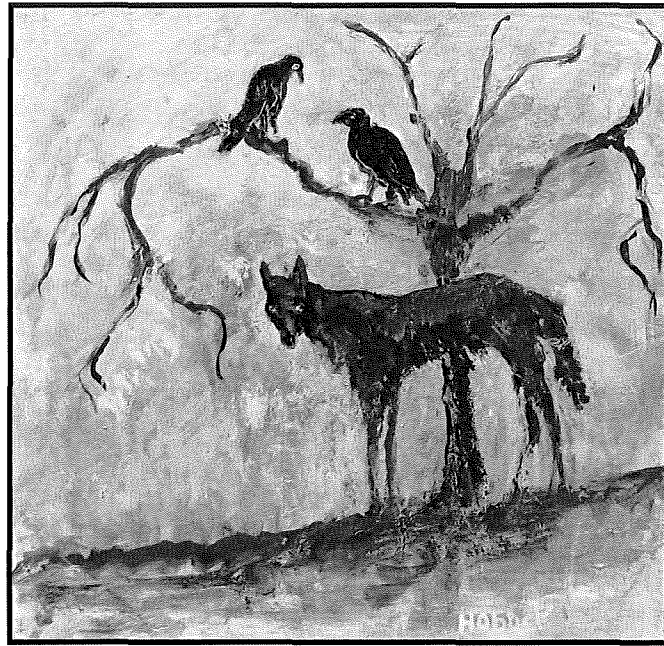
The average age of the targeted "elders" is 54, but participants will range from their 40s to 70s. The two existing homes near the arroyo will be expanded to a total of 40 rooms and bathrooms. This could be a burden both on water resources (Saddleback has more water rights than the village) and on our volunteer fire department and its EMTs. MEA noted that they are talking to GVFR Chief Jean Moya about the possibility of a sub-station and tender at the academy. There will be shuttles from the airport and thus no major traffic increase.

During the pandemic there will only be "Sabbatical sessions." Scholarships are offered for locals; they want to encourage middle-class participation. Galisteans are offered a free eight-week on-line course that usually costs some \$750 or more.

To be continued. If you have questions for the MEA, send them to Roger Taylor of the GCA Board (clearskynm@gmail.com).

SONG DOG AND THE PAINTER (PART II) from Priscilla Hoback's as yet unpublished *Galisteo Tales*

Soon Coyote was on the wrong side of the ranchers. They also lived in the desert. Right from the get go they disrespected him. They considered him an interloper. Coyote planned to do something about this disrespect. This desert was his, it belonged



to him. Ranchers would come and go. Long before the ranchers were here, Coyote had to outwit the Basque sheep herders. He knew them and their flocks very well. Like Coyote, the Basque herder's origin is unknown. Like Coyote, the Basque people have a strong instinct about sheep and all crafts pertaining to them. Like Coyote, the Basque herders are disrespected and at the bottom of the social order. And like Coyote, there were once thousands of herders in the southwest; now only the remarkably crafty remain.

Today's ranchers should not prove much of a problem for him, they did not even go it alone; they needed sheep dogs to help them. But that is another story. Even though Coyote preferred to eat rabbit rather than sheep, ranchers considered him enemy #1. Coyote thought they must be jealous of him; they did have many reasons. Coyote is the best tracker, the best hunter and the best escape artist. Better than the Basque herders, better than the sheepdogs, and certainly better than all the ranchers. He is strong, able to run all day and then smell where water is hiding in the desert's driest corner. He always enjoys a cool drink in the afternoon.

Coyote is not trotting around today, he hangs around the barn to keep an eye on Steve's studio. He dreams about how he will look in the new painting as he slips in and out of red canyons and green mountains and blue rivers, trotting through the wonderful colors that Steve paints. He thinks they will be the perfect background for the new Coyote. He really must trick this painter into helping him. Paint him as he sees himself, that is as he really is. Then everybody will understand. He would try again by appearing unexpectedly in front of Steve. Then Steve could not help but think about Coyote. He needs to soften the wolf image a little. Starting with the fangs and yellow eyes. And amp up the mysterious. Painters love mysteries, especially painters who live in Galisteo.

Soon Steve could not drive into town to shop at Trader Joe's without seeing a wolf/coyote cross his path, several times. He knew something was up with all his sightings. He got all metaphysical, talking to his fellow artists about apparitions and dreams and the meaning of such. But still it never occurred to him to paint a coyote. Coyote even posed for him once. (Cont.p.3)

On the hill beside the road he stood erect, the wind blowing, his fine tail arched, fluttering in and out of focus. When Steve drove by shaking his head, side to side, once again Coyote did his disappearing trick of puddling blue into the dark shadows and sliding under the fence.

He slipped away to think some more. When Steve went to his portal to have lunch and read a book, Coyote though he would creep into the studio and track through the wet paint leaving paw prints. So obvious even the painter would understand! But no, Steve had shut the door.

That evening over a glass of wine Steve discussed his ideas about paintings with his friends. Coyote listened carefully. Steve talked about colors, tones and forms and why he used them to create a unique style, almost abstract and very emotional. He knew he was a good painter. It is difficult to influence a good painter with ideas that include the neighborhood pest. High on the cross beam that supported the barn two ravens were listening to Coyote's musing. They had not come here to build a nest, lay eggs, and raise chicks like the other migratory birds. No, they were here to further their studies in magic.

The shaman they talked to in Mexico sent them to learn more from the Hopi knower who lived in the village. He wanted them to study Coyote carefully, watch and learn. So here they sit, in conversation.

The first raven asked, "Coyote has tried most of his tricks without results. He is failing to get his idea across to the painter. What do you think he will do next?" The second raven suggested, "Maybe he should try a weaker willed person than Steve. "Someone who was not so sure of himself as he pursues his ideas," the first raven mused, "but one with lesser talent would not be able to convey the strong image Coyote wants." "Do you think we should help Coyote? And if we do, what would he gain?" The second raven responded, "A new start, then the task the Great Spirit gave him might have more purpose and opportunity. But second guessing the Great Spirit is a dangerous move. The Great Spirit already gave him many gifts. He is the best at many things. Should he not be happy? Here is a startling idea, he could just leave the ranchers' sheep alone and quit shapeshifting in front of the painter. Act more like a rabbit. That would change his image."

"Oh dear" said the first raven. "But then he would not be the Coyote we know anymore. He would just be a dressed up watered down version of his old self. We and most everybody else would still know him under all the paint. I think Coyote just wants to change the way folks think about him. He really does not want to change his ways." The second raven answered, "Imagine going to a painter to change his image. First he would have to change his task. He should have talked to Owl in the bosque who would have told him that tasks cannot be changed, only completed or not."

The ravens sat there above Coyote and continued to converse long into the afternoon, studying Coyote as they had been instructed. Coyote became restless. His plans were not working out. Stupid task, stupid ranchers and stupid ravens chattering away above him. He decided to give up on Steve. Painters were very easy to fool but very hard to direct.

He trotted far into the desert and found a little spring. He drank deep and admired his reflection in the pool. Handsome fellow in his flowing summer coat. Good thing he overheard the ravens' conversation. He had almost tricked himself again. Now he would come up with a new plan, a better idea. One that clarified the Great Spirit's definition of his real task.

And that is how Coyote learned to avoid painters.

PEDACITOS/BITS AND PIECES

On Sunday, Sept. 26th, Ken and Michelle Frumin, who now own the Pomerance house, were giving away half cartons of eggs from their chickens for FREE in front of the church, but you had to introduce yourself and chat for a minute – a grand way of meeting new neighbors.

Janice Wall's installations *White Lies*, *The Falloff*, and *Public Notice: Blackout* will be shown at the Amarillo Museum of Art in Texas, in the "AMoC Biennial 600: Justice, Equality, Race, Identity," until January 2, 2022.

It's not over yet: Our zip code, 87540, is now at 52 Covid cases, up from 35 in July and 43 in September.

Geninne Zlatkis's 1,054-piece "never-ending puzzle" – *Naranjas* -- was featured in the *New Mexican* (8/1) for a gardening column. It depicts her trademark invented birds perched amid oranges and blossoms. Geninne studied architecture in Chile and graphic arts in Mexico. She does not, as the article stated, live in Santa Fe! She and her architect husband Manolo Benitez and her son Daniel have been living in Galisteo but are about to leave for their newly completed home in Lamy.

John Miller's *Sam Shepard New Mexico* was the subject of a feature in the *New Mexican*. On 10/5 John appeared again as co-publisher/editor of the hefty new large-format magazine *Santa Fe*. It is devoted entirely to interviews with a vast range of residents – from a hairdressers to an auto restorer to an attorney to a student to artists and musicians -- so that "people speak for themselves." Our own Heidi Johnson is given special thanks, and Jean Anya Moya is one of the interviewees. (The debut issue was available at the Studio Tour.)

A full-page ad in the *New Mexican* recently was a gorgeous close-up of Scott Diffrient's turquoise necklaces, or "modern artifacts." Another full-page ad for the Zorro Ranch showed the huge stable, pond with fountain, church-like building, and pre-Epstein ranch headquarters.

Former Galisteo resident, artist Patrick Mehaffy, announces the publication of a monograph on his work. A book signing took place on Oct 1st at Gebert Contemporary on Canyon Road.

Nothing to celebrate on Indigenous People's Day (from Ed Epping): Each year an increasing number of Native people are incarcerated. In 2019, the latest year for which we have data, there were over 10,000 Native people locked up in local jails. Although this population has fluctuated over the past ten years, the Native jail population is up a shocking 85% since 2000. And these figures don't even include those held in "Indian country jails," which are located on tribal lands: the number of people there increased by 61% between 2000 and 2018. Meanwhile, the total population of Native people living on tribal lands has actually decreased slightly over the same time period, leaving us to conclude that we are criminalizing Native people at ever-increasing rates.

Our bosque is a valued wildlife corridor and evidence of prowling bears (and their gigantic poops) are frequent. If bears are starving, they don't hibernate until they find food. Good luck to our local bruins feasting on apples, pears, plums, and grass.

Mark H. Cross's new book on architect Betty Stewart – *A Tale of Santa Fe: Betty Stewart in the City Different* – describes the house she designed on Marcellina Lane, now the Hinkley/Beauchamp home: In 1979 Betty and fellow architect Doug Atwill bought land in Galisteo that contained an old ruin with stone walls, which Betty incorporated into a new (Cont.p.4)

house that was one of her first four pitched-roof buildings. "But Galisteo was too far from Santa Fe, and the property was hard to sell." She didn't work here again.

In the October 9, 1946 *New Mexican* it was noted that eight of the county's 24 school districts showed **enrollment decreasing**. Among them was Galisteo.

FROM THE GVFR: PROPER USE OF FREE HOT-ASHES CANS

As the temperature drops outside and we think about using our fireplaces and wood/pellet stoves, it is important to remember a few safety tips and precautions. Heating equipment and improper ash disposal are the leading causes of home and wildland fires during the fall and winter months. The fact is coals and ashes from fires can remain hot enough to start a fire for many days after you think the fire is out. The exact amount of time for complete extinguishment and cooling depends on many factors such as how hot the fire was, what was burning, how much unburned fuel remains.

Remove cool ashes from your fireplace and or wood/pellet stove and store in metal ash container. Four days or 96 hours is the recommended cooling period for ashes. Metal ash containers should be stored away from anything flammable. Cooled ashes can be disposed of at the Eldorado Solid Waste Center at the designated location.

GVFR will be distributing 45 metal ash containers, thanks to a donation from GVFR member Sloane Southard and his father Stuart Southard. Due to the limited supply, it will be on a first-come-first-serve basis. Community members interested in obtaining a metal ash container please email volunteer.gvfr@gmail.com or call and leave a message at GVFR: 466-0396. Galisteo District members will be delivering the ash containers during the month of November. Let's all be safe and warm this season.

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GALISTEO CLASSIFIED

ADS ARE FREE, AND FOR GALISTEO RESIDENTS ONLY. PLEASE email flip14@centurylink.net TO UPDATE OR DELETE YOUR ADS. Next deadline: November 10th.

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: call or email if you are interested in aprons, napkins, and potholders: 505-670-5198, www.buttonboxaprons.com, or africadeirdre@gmail.com.

SERVICES

Dave's Auto Repair: restoring, minor repairs, painting. Local references. Free estimates: David Montoya, 505-577-1720.

Exciting **Adventure Travel** around the world with professional wildlife photographers Jami Tarris and Theo Allofs of Wild Focus Expeditions. For more information: 466-3640 or www.wildfocusexpeditions.com. Come with Us!

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.

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.

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: Virtual yoga with Mare! Zoom Yoga Weds. 12:30. Sunday noon. \$12.00 per class pay pal or check options. Contact Mare at profundus@aol.com for the Zoom Room Link.

Yoga Zoom classes with Julia: Every Mon., Wed., and Fri. Gentle Yin, Vinyasa Flow and Yin Yang. Contact 505-466-1935 or julia.c.cairns@gmail.com for more information.

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.

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.

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Meditation & Knowings with Chris Griscom via video Sundays, free on YouTube: 466-1975 thelight@lightinstitute.com

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