PLAZA RESOLANA en SANTA FE

Plaza del Monte has a new name: Plaza Resolana en Santa Fe, Study and Conference Center. It also has a new logo which, it is hoped, will soon be as familiar to people as the Ghost Ranch cow skull.

Since the retirement housing portion of Plaza del Monte (purchased by Presbyterian Medical Services) will continue under that name, it seemed wise to give the conference center another identification. The concept of Resolana as a metaphor for learning through conversation was created and developed by Tomás Atencio and his wife, Consuelo Pacheco. In suggesting the new name, they explained why it seems so appropriate.

In the heart of many northern New Mexico villages is a plaza where communal gatherings for joyful fiestas and weddings, solemn occasions, and shared camaraderie take place. Traditionally there was a south-facing side that received the warm rays of the sun. Before radio and television this place was the village communication center, la resolana. It was the place where people gathered, in the warm shelter of the sun, to talk of many things. Here they told stories, gossiped, taught, exchanged information, shared experiences and memories, and found ways to sustain and strengthen one another.

La resolana was a place on the plaza where dialogue and conversation helped to interpret and improve life in the community. Tomás views the new Ghost Ranch Center in Santa Fe as just such a place for conversation and dialogue in the "sunlight." People are brought together there to exchange and share visions, dreams, memories and ideas. It is a place where divergent views, histories and cultures can be shared.

Program at the Plaza Resolana will be developed around three themes: Inter-American/Intercultural with a focus on Latin America, Explorations in Faith and the Arts, and Leadership Development for the 21st Century. Leadership is to be nourished as a communal enterprise, rather than as an individual pursuit. Using the process of conversation and dialogue people can learn from each other across cultures, nations, and faiths.

The summer schedule of seminars planned for Santa Fe will be mailed with the Ghost Ranch summer seminar brochure. There is an impressive and varied list of offerings, including four explorations in faith and the arts, and three that concentrate on the Southwest. The Center has an artist-in-residence now, Alejandro Lopez, and the total staff now numbers 15, including three Mission Volunteers from the PCUSA. Plaza Resolana, Study and Conference Center is off to a grand beginning and future full of great promise.

A VERY SPECIAL ISSUE OF
Presbyterian Survey

The June issue of Presbyterian Survey magazine will portray the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and its people—at worship, at work, at prayer and at play. This will be an issue-length photographic essay which will come to all subscribers on the regular schedule. A limited number of hardcover copies will also be available for $10. To order a hardcover copy call 1-800-227-2872 before April 15. To subscribe to the magazine, call 1-800-624-2412.