

MORE MESA PRESERVATION COALITION



MMPC e-Update

June 2014

You Can Help ...

We send these updates to almost 850 people who have asked to be informed about what is happening on or about More Mesa. Now that you have opened it up and read it, you can help us. Please:

- Continue to open it up and read it ... every month.
- Check out the links we mention.
- Forward the updates to others who might be interested in More Mesa.
- Finally, we know everyone is busy and inboxes are always full ... so we try to make our message short and informative. But some of those 850 just hit "delete". So ... please encourage friends who get the update to actually open it up and read, at least, part of it.

Thanks so much!

What's Happening About Potential Development On More Mesa?

Nothing to report. All remains quiet with regard to submittal of development plans to the County.

Ask the President

Q. Why does More Mesa get plowed?

A. Community members are often alarmed when they observe evidence of plowing on More Mesa in the late spring. They jump to the conclusion that a development is imminent. However, this yearly plowing does not imply development, and there should be no cause for concern. **Plowing is mandated by the Fire Department** for two reasons; to reduce the risk of fire to neighborhoods that abut More Mesa and to ensure that, in the event of a fire, vehicles needed to fight the fire will be able to reach all areas of More Mesa easily.

This Month on More Mesa: If you have not already discovered it, we encourage you to check out one of our web site's slide shows, which displays all of More Mesa's seventeen different butterfly [species](#). And, happily, at this time of year you can see more and more of these local beauties. For example, when you visit More Mesa you are likely to see



Valerie Olson
President, MMPC



Green Hairstreak

It is the mission of the More Mesa Preservation Coalition to preserve More Mesa, in its entirety, for all time. We've been at it since 2000.



Anise Swallowtails: butterflies that lay their eggs on our ubiquitous fennel.



Anise Swallowtail

Another species regularly observed, flying low and sitting on bare ground, all over More Mesa, is the Common Buckeye. This lovely and smaller flyer has brownish wings and bright orange bars. To see a more exotic and tropical version of our Common Buckeye, visit [Butterflies Alive](#) at the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History. This exhibit will be open until early September.

[The Past: T. Wallace More and the Americanization of Santa Barbara](#)

After Daniel Hill's death, his widow, Rafaela, sold off the remainder of "La Goleta Rancho" in small parcels that were suitable for farming rather than for cattle. Many of the pioneer families who purchased these parcels were from the Bay area and were accustomed to a more urban environment. These "Americanos" soon found themselves with two separate villages west of Santa Barbara; La Patera and Goleta. And, these very same families decided to band together to provide free public education for their children. Using volunteer labor they built a one-story school on an acre of land donated by T. Wallace More. That very acre is currently the site of the hospital on the corner of Patterson and Hollister. T. Wallace named the building the "Rafaela School" in honor of his mother-in-law.



Common Buckeye

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