# MORE MESA PRESERVATION COALITION



### **MMPC e-Update**

July 2014

# You Can Help ...

We are pleased to announce the More Mesa Preservation Coalition has been registered to receive 0.5% of the purchase price of all eligible products selected by Amazon customers.

This program conceived by Amazon, and known as AmazonSmile, can be accessed by entering Amazon at a slightly <u>different Amazon</u> <u>address</u>. This web address, which has been uniquely assigned to MMPC, can also be found at the lower right side of our <u>Monthly</u> <u>News</u> page.

Shopping with AmazonSmile is identical to shopping with Amazon in the conventional way, with a very, very few products being exempted from the program.



## <u>What's Happening About Potential Development On</u> <u>More Mesa?</u>

No development plans have been received at the County.

#### Ask the President

# Q. When will the Video of the More Mesa Symposium be available?

**A.** The final version should be made available within a month or so. We are hoping that we will be able to host the entire Symposium on our web site for viewing by all: those who attended and want to listen again, those who were unable to attend, and anyone else who is interested as well.

This Month on More Mesa: In the past we have highlighted many of the biological treasures found on More Mesa; birds, plants, mammals and, in last month's update, our colorful insects, the butterflies. So it seems timely that the recent discovery of a very long Gopher Snake shed should prompt this month's discussion of the reptiles and amphibians of More Mesa.



Gopher Snakes as long as 8 feet have been seen on More Mesa

More Mesa is thought to support at least 22 species of reptiles and

Thanks so much!

Valerie Olson President, MMPC

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.



amphibians. Reptiles occur throughout all the habitats and include common species such as the Western Fence Lizard, Western King Snake, Gopher Snake and Slender Salamander, as well as sensitive species such as the Southwestern Pond Turtle. On the other hand, amphibian species are concentrated within wetland and riparian areas and include the Western Toad, Arboreal Salamander and Pacific Tree Frog.

## The Past: T. Wallace More and the Santa Barbara College

While farmers in Goleta were busy opening the Rafaela School in 1868, *Barbarenos* were voicing concern for establishment of an institution of higher learning that would, at a minimum, provide students with a high school education. With this concern in mind, Colonel Hollister formed and headed a prominent group of investors charged with this mission: a group that included our very own T. Wallace More. In a short time, a three-story brick building was erected at the corner of State and Anapamu. It housed the "Santa Barbara College", a school whose curriculum included a wide range of elementary and high school subjects. Unhappily, the "college" was short-lived because the "Panic of 1873" forced it to close.

In a strange twist of fate, a young writer and another famous name in our community, Charles Albert Storke, came to Santa Barbara to teach at the college. Although his teaching career lasted but one term, it proved to be a very important year, because one of his pupils was Mattie More, daughter of T. Wallace.

A romance developed between the young people and they married a year later. Storke's father-in-law then advanced him \$4500, funds that allowed him to start the Los Angeles Herald. Charles later sold the paper and returned to Santa Barbara where, in 1876, he and Mattie were blessed with a son, named after his grandfather, Thomas More Storke. In 1962, Thomas More Storke, owner and publisher of the News Press and its predecessors won the Pulitzer Prize in Journalism.



Mattie More Storke (Photo from Yankee Barbarenos)

More Mesa Preservation Coalition | | mmpc@moremesa.org |

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