

MORE MESA PRESERVATION COALITION



MMPC e-Update

January 2015

You Can Help ...

Arrange talks

In the Fall 2014 issue of this newsletter we talked about the four critical steps in our More Mesa Forever Campaign. The first of these steps was to enlist a volunteer grassroots force of 1000 or more supporters. We currently have about 850 members of the community who receive our monthly e-Update and need 150 more to reach our 1000 supporters goal. One effective way to solicit more supporters is through outreach talks about More Mesa. Over the past fifteen years, MMPC has presented talks to various fraternal, environmental, student and religious groups, homeowners associations and civic organizations. Talks can be tailored to any desired length and

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

What's Happening About Potential Development On More Mesa?

We have been in contact with the Planning Department at the County and they report no development plans have been submitted for More Mesa.

Ask the President

Q. What role can land trusts play in preserving More Mesa?

A. Land trusts are vital partners in any preservation campaign such as the one for More Mesa.

Some folks view land trusts as organizations in possession of huge treasure chests filled with cash. Unfortunately, that is not the case. Land trusts like all of us trying to preserve land have to seek out and solicit donations from private and public sources. Happily, they also provide expertise and experience on a wide range of tasks associated with land preservation.

For example the Trust for Public Land (TPL), a long-established and accredited national organization, helps structure, negotiate, and complete land transactions that create parks and protected natural areas. And, because they are accredited, TPL is able to apply for, and access, government funding available for land preservation. TPL brings extensive expertise not only in fund-raising but in executing all the logistics of a land sale; i.e. appraisals, title issues, property surveys, and public agency procedures.

Land trusts such as the Trust for Public Land and the Land Trust for Santa Barbara County (LTSB) have played an integral part in the

emphasize information that will be interesting for a particular audience. Please contact us if you think any organization you are associated with might enjoy hearing more about More Mesa.

Thanks so much

Valerie Olson
President, MMPC



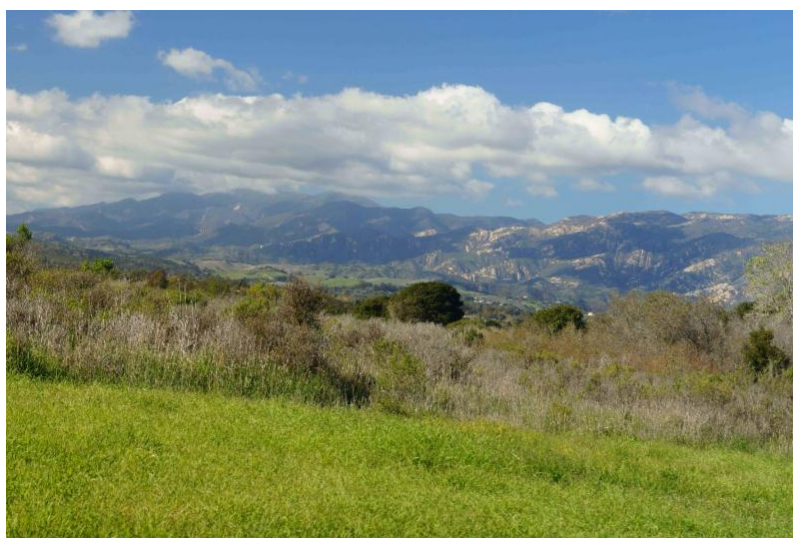
Tree Frogs Singing



preservation of many of Santa Barbara's special places: Ellwood Mesa, Carpenteria Bluffs and the Douglas Family Preserve. It is only fitting that they be part of the campaign to save our "Last Great Place".

This Month on More Mesa: And some rain has come ...

Santa Barbara has joyously welcomed the 7.7 inches of rain we received in December and early this month. Unhappily, these rains represent only 40% of the yearly average rainfall in Santa Barbara and a very small percentage of the amount needed to end our three-year drought. That being said, the growing things on More Mesa are very appreciative of even this small relief. Grasses and flowers are making their appearance, Cottonwoods are getting ready to burst, Red Wing Blackbirds are calling, and we have even heard tree frogs "singing" in some areas. In short, it is very lovely out on More Mesa. Enjoy!



More Mesa is GREEN

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.



The Past: Early Archeology

We are all extremely proud of the rich Chumash heritage of Santa Barbara. Archeological studies in our area continue to this day. However, the very first of these studies was conducted in 1875 when H. C. Yarrow, acting assistant surgeon with the U. S. Geological Survey, came to Santa Barbara to study "rancheria" sites in the Goleta Valley. Dr. Yarrow's guide to these various known burial mounds and midden heaps was none other than our very own T. Wallace More. Yarrow's findings were published in 1879 in "Reports upon Archæological and Ethnological Collections from vicinity of Santa Barbara, California, and from ruined Pueblos of Arizona and New Mexico, and certain interior tribes."

Chumash artifacts of the type uncovered in this survey 140 years ago can be found in American museums, as well as many museums abroad. But the finest collection of all is in our very own backyard, at the [Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History](http://www.santabarbaramuseum.org).



Chumash Baskets
(Photo - S.B. Museum of
Natural History)

The museum's archaeological collection of 75,000 objects from the Santa Barbara coast and islands, spans nearly 10,000 years of cultural development in the region. You can see a small fraction of this material in the museum's Chumash Indian Hall.

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

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More Mesa Preservation Coalition | P.O. Box 22557 | Santa Barbara | CA | 93121