



# THE CAPITAL

"Preserving Santa Barbara's historic sites of enduring community value"

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## PEARL CHASE SOCIETY MAY SCHEDULED MEETINGS OF INTEREST

### PEARL CHASE SOCIETY

**Board Meetings** are typically held the first Thursday of the month at the MacVeagh House on the grounds of the Natural History Museum. Next meeting: May 5.

**Preservation Committee Meetings** are usually held the fourth Friday of the month at Wood Glen Hall, 3010 Foothill Road. Next meetings will be held May 27.

### CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

City meetings are broadcast live on City TV channel 18 and streamed live at [www.santabarbaraca.gov/Government/Video](http://www.santabarbaraca.gov/Government/Video), where they are also archived and viewable on demand.

**City Council Meetings** are held on Tuesdays at 2 pm at Council Chambers, City Hall: May 3, 10, 17, 24

**Planning Commission Meetings** are held on the first, second and third Thursdays of the month at 1 pm at Council Chambers, City Hall: May 5, 12, 19

**Historic Landmarks Commission Meetings** are held every other Wednesday at 1:30 pm at the David Gebhard Public Meeting Room, 630 Garden Street: May 4, 18

**Architectural Board of Review Meetings** are held Mondays at 3 pm at the David Gebhard Public Meeting Room, 630 Garden Street. (Note: Consent calendar meetings are held every Monday at 1 pm.) Full Board meets on May 9, 23

### COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

County Board of Supervisor Meetings and Planning Commission meetings are broadcast live on CSBTV20. They are also streamed at [www.countyofsb.org/ceo/media02.aspx](http://www.countyofsb.org/ceo/media02.aspx), where they are also archived and viewable on demand.

**County Board of Supervisors Meetings** are held on three Tuesdays of the month at 9 am. The first and third meetings are held in Santa Barbara in the Board of Supervisors Hearing Room, 105 East Anapamu St., 4th Floor. The second meeting is (typically) held in Santa Maria at 511 East Lakeside Parkway. May 3, 17 (SB); May 10 (SM)

**County Planning Commission Meetings** are held three Wednesdays of the month at 9 am. The first and third meetings are held in Santa Barbara at 123 East Anapamu Street, Room 17, and the second meeting is (typically) held in Santa Maria at 511 East Lakeside Parkway. May 4, 25 (SB), May 11 (SM)

**County Historic Landmarks Advisory Commission Meetings** are held the second Monday of the month at 10 am at 123 East Anapamu, Room 17 (unless specified otherwise): May 9

## Society News and Notes by Kelly Mahan

April was a busy month for the Pearl Chase Society, starting with the monthly board meeting held at the Santa Barbara Mission. The board was invited on a tour of the historic landmark by Tina Foss, the museum's director and cultural resources manager.

Foss led board members through the Mission, pointing out six recent renovation projects, including the installation of hydrology wells to measure water intrusion on the walls of the Mission, restoration of the original configuration of the Solstice Window, stabilization of the church crypt ceiling, façade repair, conservation of the interior walls of the *Convento*, and conservation of the exterior walls of both the north and south sides of the convent. Foss explained that the projects were funded in part by a conservation grant through the Save America's Treasures program; over \$1.3 million went into the extensive historic preservation work.

Because the Mission has several more major needs, private donors and local foundations are stepping up to fill the gap, including the Pearl Chase Society, which, in addition to donating to the Save America's Treasures matching program, recently funded the full cost of restoration of the 1820 holy water fonts to the church after they were inadvertently removed in the year 2000. PCS president Barbara Lowenthal presented Foss with a \$20,000 check, much of which already went to the water fonts project.

Following the tour, the Board conducted its regular meeting, hearing from Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History board president Luke Swetland, who detailed the needs of the museum to restore its historic fountain. The tile needs to be stabilized, among other items. The idea is not to simply restore it, but to do so during business hours, so museum attendees can watch the restoration take place, providing a platform for education and lectures about the history of the fountain and the de Forest family's contribution.

Also making a presentation to the Board: City Parks & Recreation director Jill Zachary, who gave an update on the remodel and restoration project at the Cabrillo Bathhouse. In the works since 2011, the remodel plans include making the building, which was once a hotel, ADA accessible and structurally sound. Through reconfiguration of the building, the idea is to make it a community destination for events, making it sustainable financially. The building will also include a multipurpose gym-type room, three meeting rooms, and a lobby. The project has a Coastal Development Permit from the Planning Commission, and has been reviewed by the Historic Landmarks Commission. Zachary reported that the project will likely go out

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**PEARL CHASE SOCIETY**  
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Kitty Peri

**Members Emeritus**

Bob Baum

Roger Horton

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**Newsletter**

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# PRESERVATION WATCH

*By Kellam de Forest*

*(Initiated by popular request, Preservation Watch informs Pearl Chase Society members of community projects that may disturb historical structures and features, explains community preservation efforts, and/or lists opportunities for public input for those concerned with a particular issue.)*

**Santa Barbara Street & De La Guerra:** The plans for a three-story, 23-unit mixed use apartment building on the northeast corner of Santa Barbara and De La Guerra is back to the Historic Landmarks Commission for further conceptual review. The mass of the proposed building appears to be the same as before, and architect Jan R. Hochhauser says he has refined the building to conform to El Pueblo Viejo guidelines and will use plastered adobe that emulates that of the Historical Museum. The character defining black acacia trees are slated for removal but thankfully many of the existing trees are to remain. Mr. Hochhauser's plans were on the HLC agenda for Wednesday, April 20 as a conceptual only item.

**El Prado Inn:** Adding to the urbanization of Santa Barbara, the HLC agenda also has a proposal to demolish the annex to the old El Prado Inn, now a La Quinta Inn, at 1601 State Street, and build a four-story, 6,399 square foot, 60-room addition. The El Prado Inn recently became a designated Structure of Merit.

**Barnsdall Rio Grande Gas Station:** The Barnsdall Rio Grande gas station is still in limbo. The City of Goleta has yet to receive the deed from Ty Warner to the gas station property that was promised months ago. The hold up seems to be somewhere in the developer's legal department. There are also delays at the City of Goleta in preparing a Historic Preservation Ordinance. The City is in the process of hiring consultant to guide the process of a Historic Preservation Ordinance; a Request For Proposals has been issued and consultants will respond with their proposals for developing the ordinance. Once all proposals are received, City staff will review and select the best individual or company to move this process forward. The proposals will include a proposed scope of work and cost for completing the draft ordinance to take to City Council for future consideration. This might take a year or more, meanwhile landmarks such as the gas station deteriorate.

**Carpinteria Trees:** The Carpinteria Tree Advisory Board acceded to the City Parks director's request to remove the landmarked historic eucalyptus trees. The Board agreed with the Park Director that eucalyptus globulus trees are a risk to public safety and voted unanimously to recommend to the Carpinteria City Council that they be removed. Their historic and aesthetic importance was deemed not to be the purview of the Board. The CEQA and legal implications of the removal of Landmarked historic trees were left to the City Attorney and the Carpinteria City Council.

**"The Olives":** The Historic Landmarks Commission is recommending to the City Council that "The Olives," which includes a Craftsman residence at 2121 Garden Street, Our Lady of Sorrows Church at 33 East Sola Street, and the Dolores/Notre Dame School at 33 East Micheltorena Street, be designated as City Landmarks. "The Olives" homes were on the first Pearl Chase Historic Homes Tour.



# Mediterranean Style in the Historic Homes Tour

by Kelly Mahan

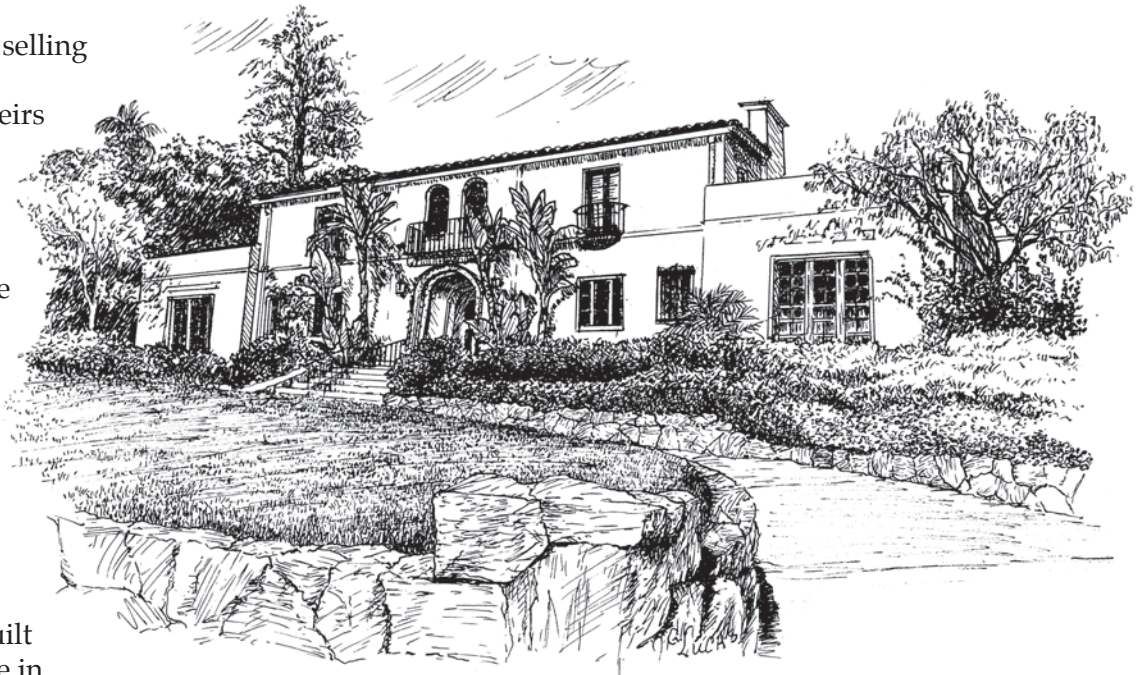
The last two editions of *The Capital* have focused on both the Moody sister cottages and the Craftsman homes on this year's Historic Homes Tour, coming up on May 15. Themed "From Moody to Manse," the tour will take participants through seven homes within a variety of architectural styles that help make up Santa Barbara's unique look.

Tour tickets are quickly selling out, and PCS members are encouraged to purchase theirs as soon as possible! The tour has been in the works for months, and a dedicated committee of PCS board members, house managers, and docents are hard at work making sure the 16th Historic Homes Tour goes off without a hitch.

Tour participants will be delighted to see inside a newly-restored Mediterranean-style home on Santa Barbara Street. Built as a single-family residence in 1921 by well-known Winsor Soule, the house was once considered one of the most stately homes on the upper east side of town. It was used as a single-family residence until 1951, when it was acquired by several religious organizations over the course of thirty years, and then by a school, which used it as headquarters until 2010. At that time the interior was turned into a more commercial type of space, and painted bold colors to delineate the rooms. The new owners beautifully renovated the house last year, taking it back to its former glory with the help of local architects and old sketches of the original designs. The inside of the home has been slightly reworked from its original intention, with a larger, open concept kitchen, and only one master bedroom rather than two. The finishes are also a bit more modernized than a century ago.

The home pays homage to the style of

Mediterranean architecture, which started to make its mark on Santa Barbara in the 1920s. The exterior architecture presents classic Mediterranean details, including symmetrical entrances, a tile roof, unadorned masonry, arched windows and doors, wrought iron window elements, and a formal, Italianate-style garden. It's large masonry chimney



is flanked by French doors, and there is a balanced arrangement of casement windows and shallow balconies.

To further modernize the estate, a pool was added last year to the garden area, and a former asphalt parking lot on the side of the home was brought back to a rose and perennial garden. The original hardscape was retained and much of the landscaping was restored to what it once was. The home and its gardens are now designated as a Santa Barbara City Landmark. It's at this home that tour participants will be treated to refreshments in the garden.

We hope you'll take part in the Historic Homes Tour on May 15 to see this home, as well as two Craftsman examples, and four whimsical Moody sisters' cottages. For tour information and to purchase tickets, visit [www.pearlchasesociety.org](http://www.pearlchasesociety.org).

Have you purchased your Historic Homes Tour tickets yet? Purchase online at [www.pearlchasesociety.org](http://www.pearlchasesociety.org)



**The Pearl Chase Society**

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## Society News

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to bid by the end of the year, and construction may begin in 2018. A fundraising campaign is being considered now.

Also to note: the annual clean up of Franceschi Park is scheduled for Saturday, June 11th between 9 am and noon. The work will focus on an area of the park that highlights many of the plants introduced by Dr. Francesco Franceschi nearly a century ago. Volunteers can help trim plants, clear paths, and perform general park cleanup. Long shirts are advised, and participants are asked to bring small tools, such as rakes, hedge trimmers, clippers, and gloves. Please save the date and more details will follow.

The next PCS Board meeting is scheduled for Thursday May 5.

## MEMBERSHIP NOTES *by Maureen Masson*

### Pearl Chase Society Membership Renewals for March 2016

Sally Sphar

### April 2016 Renewals

Hattie & Michael Beresford

Kathleen Flynn

Judith Franks

James F. Lichtman &

Caren K. Rager-Lichtman

Elizabeth Meinzer

Ronald & Glenice Mathews

Darwin McCredie

Kathryn Henebry

Anita Arellanes Leski

### Historic Homes Tour Donations

NS Ceramic

Michael & Anne Towbes

KBZ Architects

Kent & Tanny Hodgetts

Joan Kreiss

Patricia Mitchell

Erik & Angelique Davis

Harrison Design

Jill Dore Kent

Nola & Carl Stucky

Taconic Builders, Inc.

*Note: Membership in the Pearl Chase Society provides the opportunity to be a part of an important organization dedicated to preserving sites of enduring value in and around Santa Barbara.*