



# THE CAPITAL

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

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## PEARL CHASE SOCIETY SEPTEMBER 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: September 1

**Preservation Committee Meetings** are usually held the fourth Friday of the month at Wood Glen Hall, 3010 Foothill Road. Next meetings will be held September 23

### 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: September 6, 13, 20, 27

**Planning Commission Meetings** are held on the first, second and third Thursdays of the month at 1 pm at Council Chambers, City Hall: September 1, 8, 15

**Historic Landmarks Commission Meetings** are held every other Wednesday at 1:30 pm at the David Gebhard Public Meeting Room, 630 Garden Street: September 7, 21

**Architectural Board of Review Meetings** are held Mondays at 3 pm at the David Gebhard Public Meeting Room, 630 Garden Street. Full Board meets on September 12, 26

### COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

**County Board of Supervisor Meetings** and Planning Commission meetings are broadcast live on CSBT20. 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. September 6 (SB); September 13 (SM); September 20 (SB)

**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: September 7 (SB), September 14 (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): September 12

## Society News and Notes *by Kelly Mahan*

At the August Pearl Chase Society Board, the board welcomed new directors Marcella Simmons and Chris Hoehner, both of whom are enthusiastic PCS supporters. Simmons is a local realtor with Village Properties, and has a background in interior design, marketing, and retail. She volunteered as a house manager for this year's Historic Homes Tour. Hoehner was also an integral part of this year's HHT, and spends time volunteering at the Courthouse, Music Academy, and Casa Dorinda.

The number of Board members is now at 14 with the retirement of Sue Adams, Bob Burtness, and Barbara Lowenthal, as well as the resignation of Marty Blum. Check out more information on the newly elected Board Officers in the recap of the Annual Meeting, p. 3.

The Board received a presentation from Marie Profant regarding the Oliver Cottage, which is on the western edge of Rocky Nook Park adjacent to the Santa Barbara Women's Club. Marie, who runs the Profant Foundation for the Arts, hopes that the building will be declared a Structure of Merit and will be a gathering place for non-profits such as her foundation, and possibly a venue for PCS meetings. The Profant Foundation is willing to finance some improvements on the cottage, which is in decline.

The PCS board agreed to send a letter of support of Marie's proposal to First District Supervisor Salud Carbajal. New president Steve Dowty offered to get an idea of the costs necessary to repair the building, which has some water damage and mold issues. The idea is to gather information in order to make a very specific proposal to save the building, and to present a formal proposal for uses, costs of rehab and source of funding, to make it easy for the County to say yes to the project. For more on the cottage, see Kellam's report on page 2.

Also discussed at the meeting: the potential of a Historic Homes Tour for 2017, which may be held in the Samarkand neighborhood.

The next PCS board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 1.

### ANNUAL MEETING RECAP: CHECK OUT PAGE 3

*Outgoing president Barbara Lowenthal, Maritime Museum Executive Director Greg Gorga, outgoing treasurer Sue Adams, and incoming PCS president Steve Dowty*



**PEARL CHASE SOCIETY**  
Board of Directors

**President**

Steve Dowty

**Vice President**

Erik Davis

**Secretary**

Barbara Boyd

**Historian**

Patti Ottoboni

**Board Members**

Barbara Boyd

Steve Crozier

Erik Davis

Kellam de Forest

Tina Foss

Dale Francisco

Christine Hoehner

Maureen Masson

Pat Mitchell

Kitty Peri

Marcella Simmons

**Members Emeritus**

Sue Adams

Bob Baum

Roger Horton

Barbara Lowenthal

Please direct inquiries  
and comments to:

PEARL CHASE SOCIETY  
P.O. Box 92121  
Santa Barbara, CA 93190-2121  
For information, call  
(805) 961-3938

**Newsletter**

Kelly Mahan, *editor*

DanLevin.com, *graphics*

PCS Board Members, *distribution*

Printing Impressions, *press*

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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.)*

**Casa De La Guerra:** The Trust for Historic Preservation, in order to prevent vagrant sleeping and vandalism during nighttime hours, is proposing a six-foot high wrought fence enclosure of the courtyard including gates and piers. The fence would partially block the view of the Casa from the street and would destroy the spatial relationship between the Casa and De La Guerra Plaza to the South. At the hearing before the HLC August 10, the Commissioners asked for historical documentation concerning barriers separating the Casa from the Plaza in the past.

**Mission Canyon Corridor and Bridge:** The City has applied for a federal highways grant to fund an engineering study of ways to make Mission Canyon Road and the Bridge compliant with current road standards.

**Rocky Nook:** The John Profant Foundation has proposed that in exchange for providing funds to rehabilitate and maintain the caretaker's cottage, that the County lease it to the Foundation. This arrangement would save the cottage from demolition. County Parks currently does not have the funds. PCS member Fran Galt has nominated all of Rocky Nook Park as a County Landmark. The nomination is being considered by the HLAC. The property, which once included an adobe ranch house, was purchased by George and Frances Oliver from the Catholic Church in 1881. After Mrs. Oliver's death in 1926, a group of friends raised \$27,000 to purchase the property and give it to the County as a park per Mrs. Oliver's wishes. The Board of Supervisors accepted the gift in 1928. The Oliver's cottage was torn down and a Spanish Revival caretakers' cottage was built. The cottage was remodeled in 1984 to serve as administration offices for County Parks. The cottage was used for offices until 2014 when the Parks Division was moved to the County Administration Building on Anapamu Street. It is now vacant and the County is considering demolition.

**1626 Santa Barbara Street:** Proposal to construct a 3,537 square foot two-story duplex on the parcel in addition to the previously approved two-story garage apartment that is currently being constructed was heard by the ABR, which questioned its feasibility. The preservation of the Moreton Bay fig tree including its roots is required which limits the footprint of any additional structure. The proposed duplex violates this requirement.

**Mattei's Tavern:** Mattei's hotel project is under new ownership. Plans presented to HLAC preserve more of the site's historic landscape.

**Goleta Valley Community Center:** The Goleta Valley Community Center is at 5679 Hollister Avenue at what was formerly the Goleta Union School. The School building was completed in 1927. It served as an elementary school in the Goleta Union School District until 1976. At that time the School District decided to close the school rather than retrofit it to meet stringent State earthquake standards. In 1977, the County signed a lease with the School District, to renovate the property as a Community Center. In 2013 the City of Goleta acquired the property and continues to lease it to the nonprofit Goleta Valley Community Center. The building currently needs extensive upgrades. The Goleta City Council has been considering demolition. Hopefully they can work out a plan that will renovate the old school building and keep it functioning as a community center and provide a town square for the City of Goleta.

—continued on page 4



# Annual Meeting Recap

By Kelly Mahan and Rick Closson

At another well-attended Annual Meeting in July, members of the Society and Society board discussed the board's achievements over the past year, and thanked those who played an integral part in the continued success of the organization.

Barbara Lowenthal, a founding member of the Society and its longtime president, announced her resignation from the Board, adding that she will continue to play an active role in the organization, specifically the quest to save the Franceschi House. "It's time to go, and I know you all will carry on the special legacy of the Society," Lowenthal said. Her successor, Steve Dowty, was formally elected as president, and said he is looking forward to the challenge of heading up the Board.

Steve is a principal architect with KBZ Architects, Inc., where he has received local and statewide awards for architectural design. Steve was a member of the Hope Ranch Homeowners Association Board of Architectural Review for over ten years and will be leading the Society's effort in support of the Franceschi House. He recently served as the Society's vice president.

Erik Davis, Senior Director of Marketing and Communications for Pacifica Graduate Institute, was elected Board vice president. He also serves as Division Chief of External Relations & Public Relations Chair for Old Spanish Days. Erik is the Board member most involved with the Society's public relations and Internet presence.

Also discussed at the Annual Meeting was the successful Historic Homes Tour, and organizer Sue Adams thanked the dozens of volunteers and docents who made the event one of the Society's most

*The Annual Meeting was another fun filled event to mark another successful year of the organization*



successful tours. The youngest volunteer was Grace Crozier, daughter of Steve Crozier, who helped with ticket sales for the tour. Grace has been volunteering for the Society since she was seven years old. She is now 16 and a student at Dos Pueblos High, where she is an International Baccalaureate candidate, and plays for the school's Volleyball team.

The Pearl Chase Society is an all-volunteer, not-for-profit conservancy dedicated to preserving Santa Barbara's historic architecture, landscapes and cultural heritage. Another notable thank you was given to Kellam de Forest, who has worked tirelessly upholding the mission of the PCS. Kellam attends countless meetings each week to ensure that historic structures are being properly tended to throughout the County and City processes. "We could not do what we do without him," Barbara said of Kellam.

Re-elected to the Board of Directors were Marty Blum (who later resigned), Steve Crozier, Kellam de Forest, Dale Francisco, Patricia Mitchell and Kitty Peri. Newly elected to the Board was Christine Hoehner. Sue Adams also stepped down, but promised to remain involved on future projects.

Following the Board's necessary business, Santa Barbara Maritime Museum Executive Director Greg Gorga gave an entertaining slide presentation, "Tragedy at Honda: The Largest Naval Disaster During Peacetime in US History," while attendees enjoyed appetizers and wine catered by Arnoldi's.

*The Historic Homes Tour's youngest volunteer, Grace Crozier*



*Kellam de Forest, Steve Crozier, and Grace Wilde at the PCS annual meeting*





**The Pearl Chase Society**

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## Preservation Watch

—continued from page 2

### Average Unit-Size Density (AUD)

**Incentive Program:** On Thursday, July 21, SB Planning Commission discussed how well this program is working with suggestions for changes, including provisions that protect designated historic structures. Such suggestions are too late to influence the ABR's approval of a four-story AUD project at 711 Milpas Street (corner of Milpas and Ortega). A total of 8,627 square feet of non-residential use is proposed as well as 49,857 square feet of residential use in 71 units. The unit mix will consist of 32 two-bedroom, two-bath units, 30 one-bedroom, one-bath units, and 9 two-bedroom, one-bath units. A total of 99 parking spaces are required, with 93 proposed. There will be 75 bicycle parking spaces. The average unit size will be 690 square feet. The proposed structure will compete with the adjacent Landmarked Santa Barbara Junior High School.

## MEMBERSHIP NOTES *by Maureen Masson*

### Pearl Chase Society Membership Renewals for June 2016

Gary H. Brown  
Joyce and Dick Falk  
William T. Mahan  
David and Ann Dwelley  
Jane and Robert Forsyth  
Jim D. Machen  
Fermina Murray  
Frank Schmidt  
Christy Venable

### Renewals for July 2016

Jean Keely  
Peggy Martens  
Patricia Maxim  
Pamela and Juergen Boehr  
June Chanson  
Dianne I. Krahenbuhl  
Patricia M. Mitchell  
Alice Van de Water  
Susan Chamberlin  
Dr. and Mrs. Duncan A. Mellichamp  
James Blakeley, III  
Maria McCall, Dirk and Decker Brandts

### Renewals for August 2016

Sue Adams  
Tom and Nancy Bollay  
Barbara Boyd  
Ramona Clark  
Kellam de Forest  
Robert H. and Mary M. Gates  
Dolores L. Hartnett  
Mrs. N.A. Howard and Burks  
Hamner  
Joan and Geoff Rutkowski  
Frank and Leslie Schipper  
Robin Smith  
Sharon Tate-Kline  
Patty West of  
South Coast Fine Arts

### New PCS Members

Wesley and Mary Jo Gibson  
Chris Hoehner  
Rochelle Rose  
Sandy Seale  
Marcella Simmons

*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.*