



Dear member,

Here's the April 2016 edition of the Upper East Association's monthly newsletter.

FYI

- Save the Date

The Pearl Chase Society's 14th Annual Historic Homes Tour will be held on Sunday, May 15, 2016 from 11am to 4pm.

Along with a collection of fairy tale Moody cottages in Montecito, this year's tour will feature two homes in the Upper East.

A sophisticated renovation of a two-story Craftsman home, known as the Trelloggen House, may be visited on East Padre Street. This home showcases details gleaned from Greene and Greene, Stickley, Mission and even the Victorian era to create a highly personal style reflecting the current owners'

hobbies and travels.

The public is also invited to view the dramatic Santa Barbara Street renovation of the former Fielding Graduate University, which was returned to its former status as a lovely Mediterranean-style single family home, known as the Hodges House. Refreshments will be served on the elegant terrace.

For more information and to purchase tickets online, visit the Pearl Chase Society website at <http://pearlchasesociety.org/2016/03/01/374/>

Out and About in Upper East

- Upper East History – The New (Old) Color on the Old Mission Walls

In response to Upper East members' questions, we asked Kristina Foss, Old Mission Santa Barbara Mission Director, what turned the Mission bright white? She told us that the white lime wash recently applied on the Mission's "convento wing" is the result of a return to the Mission's original paint palette as determined by chemical analysis of historic building surfaces.

Modern paints in pink, cream and yellow were applied to the Old Mission in the 20th century. These paints were impervious to moisture and therefore did not let the building "breathe" and extrude absorbed ground water that wicks upward in the adobe and stone walls. This causes significant damage.

Recently a National Park Service (NPS) "Save America's Treasures" grant funded restoration of the convento and facade walls. Part of the conservation work involved removing cement coatings added after the 1925 quake, which were causing water retention damage to the walls. During this work, patches of the typical mission-era lime plaster coatings were revealed beneath the later coatings. All original exterior layers were discovered to be pure white as were most "whitewash" coatings of the period. The use of NPS funds allowed the new work to be historically authentic. Hence the pure white lime wash is the finish surface for the Mission's convento and exterior walls.

- [Baseball Season Anyone?](#)

As Baseball season begins, we share, with his permission, the Upper East's own local hero Ashleigh Brilliant's baseball story with local connections:

Dear Friends,

Every year, Roosevelt Elementary School near my home holds a special day devoted to reading called "Roosevelt Reads." Various members of the community, particularly better-known people, are invited to come and read to different classes and tell them why reading has been important in their own lives. I have taken part in this ritual for many years, and I always go to the same 6th grade classroom, which is always presided over by the same teacher, Barbara Barr.

I chose to read the famous poem by Ernest Thayer entitled "Casey at the Bat." I was also pleased to be able to point out our local connection with Casey – the fact that the man who created him, Ernest Thayer, lived the last 28 years of his life in Santa Barbara and is buried here. The poem has 13 stanzas, but the last, quoted below, is the most famous.

Oh, somewhere in this favored land the sun is shining bright,
The band is playing somewhere, and somewhere hearts are light;
And somewhere men are laughing, and somewhere children shout.
But there is no joy in Mudville—mighty Casey has struck out.

If you're a baseball fan, we hope your season is a winning one.

- [Walking with Mo](#)

Mo and I were just sitting down to compose our monthly newsletter column, after having had a nice walk down to Earth Day to see the latest electric cars on display, when my neighbor came over to say they had found a beautiful Labrador on their walk back up the hill from Earth Day.

Our V.P., Lisa Burns and Milt Hess, our keeper of social media outreach, immediately jumped into action. Between Milt's detective work and my few quick Prius trips back down the hill, we were able to get the word out that this older female dog had gotten lost. Thanks to our members Mindy and Bonnie, who responded with help and some clues, late Saturday night we were able to reunite the dog with its owners, new residents of the Upper East. Also a great big thanks to our neighbors who fed and provided much-needed water and comfort to this best of family members.

As to Mo and me, our thoughts for this month continue to focus on the issue of RV parking in our neighborhood. In a quiet check with our city administrator we were able to ascertain that the city attorney's office is still working on some proposed language to take back to the city council's ordinance committee. So we might see something come to the forefront in May.

In the meantime, a Board subcommittee continues to monitor your electronic survey information so that we can forward that information to our assigned beat officer for the Upper East. This information will also be provided to the ordinance committee.

I have observed, on my early morning sojourns to my downtown gym, that a certain set of RV parkers appear to be the same and tend to park in the same blocks, especially on Santa Barbara street on the back side of the court house and in front of the jury assembly building. By parking



near the city's staff lot on Santa Barbara and Cota to go to dinner, I have also noticed that some of those same RV's are showing up there to park at night.

There appear to be no easy answers for this RV issue, given the amount of litigation that has been filed against other California cities, including our own. The issue of homelessness isn't just confined to those folks living down by the railroad tracks or who frequent State Street, so we will have to be there representing our members' views and suggestions and to see how our leadership responds to this issue.

The other issue still out there is that of vacation rentals. The city, for all intents and purposes, has indicated that those are not allowed, with exception of "home sharing." However the enforcement arm is not in place and residents of the Bungalow District and the Mesa are pushing hard to assure that enforcement staff are available to watch out for violations, particularly as the summer tourist season arrives.

Other than that, Mo is enjoying this wonderful spring, the last little rain we may have for the year, and the bloom of all those beautiful roses in everyone's yards.



& Mo

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