

MARCH 2012 NEWSLETTER

Thanks to John and Debi West for these beautiful photos of Mt Calavera - reminds us all why we treasure our natural lands.



SOS for Open Space – Saving the Natural Lands of Carlsbad

Preserve Calavera is leading a coalition of community organizations on a grass roots campaign to save some of the priceless natural lands of Carlsbad. These natural lands are a key part of what makes this such a special place to live, but many are under immediate threat of development. We need to preserve the best of what we have left- places like the Buena Vista Creek Valley with the sacred El Salto waterfall. Places like Village H that serves as a natural meeting area for the community. Places like Kato/Mandana that provide the critical link in the regional wildlife movement corridor. Places where our children can connect with nature and everyone can enjoy a quiet walk or hear the sound of a creek or the call of a bird. Open space gives us a high quality of life and preserves our property values. It is good for residents, businesses and visitors alike.

What can we do ?

The fate of these lands is in the hands of 5 people- the Mayor and City Council of Carlsbad. Only 3 votes are needed to start the process to permanently preserve at least some of these lands . Our grass roots organizing effort will raise the public awareness and put pressure on these elected officials to do the right thing : 1. Allocate some of the existing reserve funds to a restricted account for open space acquisition.. 2. Select a better alternative for Quarry Creek- allowing some development but saving the best land so future generations can still experience the rich natural, cultural and historic resources of this valley.

Please join the effort to preserve these lands- we need your help today. [Click here to volunteer](#)- the plants, wildlife and future generations will thank you !

Story Pole Naming Contest

You can never really imagine how bad a project will be before construction starts. But now we have an idea of how bad McMillin's proposed development will be at Quarry Creek. They have erected "story poles"- that show the boundaries of their proposed development on the panhandle of the Quarry Creek site. Now instead of sitting on the porch of the historic Marron adobe and feeling like you have stepped back in time- you will be back in suburbia- with the sights and sounds of 656 new homes around the sacred waterfall. You can view these poles from the cul-de-sac along Haymar Dr, just past Mossey Nissan- or come to our event at the adobe on March 18th and get the full story. We have initiated a contest to "Name the Story

Poles" Congratulations to the Round One winners : Dave Peiser - "McMillin's Villain's", Paige DeCino "Stick it to us Poles " and Stan Katz with "Stakes in the Heart of Nature in Carlsbad." [Send us your name](#) for these abominations- Round Two closes on March 18th.

March Activities

Mar 1 Thurs 6 pm

Public Scoping meeting for the start of the Quarry Creek Development

Meeting will be held in the community room at Calavera Hills Park at 2997 Glasgow in Carlsbad. The city has hired HDR as the consultant to do the EIR for this terrible project to build 656 homes around the sacred waterfall. The consultant team, representatives of McMillin and city staff will be present to explain what is proposed. Comments can be made at the hearing or be submitted in writing to Sr Planner Van Lynch or via email to van.lynch@carlsbadca.gov. Deadline is March 16, 2012. Some questions you might want them to respond to : Why are they ignoring the existing General Plan that has a limit of about 160 homes- while they are proposing 656? Why are they proposing to put a road in the buffer along Buena Vista Creek? Why has the city ignored that this site is listed as the number one priority for acquisition as open space? Please think about how this project will adversely impact you and ask that they address that concern.

Mar 10 Sat 8:30 - 11:30 am

Carlsbad Trail Volunteers at La Costa - RidgeLine

This is one of the regular monthly work sessions by the Carlsbad trail volunteers. Work tasks will include planting, clearing out invasive plants and trail erosion repairs. Wear sturdy work boots/shoes, a hat, long sleeved shirt and pants. Bring your own water (tools, water and snacks will be available on site also). Check-in/ parking is at the trailhead. To get there take I-5 to Poinsettia/Aviara exit. Turn east on Poinsettia, then Rt on Aviara/Alga. Turn Rt on El Fuerte to La Costa Meadows Elementary School. Trail head is on the left at the bottom of the hill just past the school. Parking is on El Fuerte.

Mar 18 Sun 2 - 4 pm

Native American Basket Weavers at the Marron Adobe

This special event will highlight the thousands of years of Native American history in the Buena Vista Creek valley- and why it is so important to preserve. This free event will include presentation by Native American basket weavers, short walk in the valley to see some of the visible signs of Native American history, and opportunity to actually make a basket in the traditional way. You also will learn about the proposed McMillin development in this valley and what you can do to make a difference. A few silent auction prizes will be available. Event will be held on the porch of the historic Marron Adobe. From # 78 EB take the College exit. Turn Rt onto Haymar/Plaza (goes in front of Mossy-Nissan) Go 7/10th of a mile along Haymar heading west. Park in the cul-de-sac or along Haymar. For more information call 760-729-3887.

Mar 21 Wed 7 pm

Preserve Calavera Board meeting

This is our regular bi-monthly Board meeting. All members are welcome to join us but RSVP is required and needed in order to get details on meeting location.

Mar 24 Sat 12 noon - 3 pm

World Water Day Festival at Agua Hedionda Lagoon

This annual festival is designed to bring awareness to both local and global water issues- a fun and educational event for the entire family. Come and learn about water and some sustainable practices for use of this very limited resources. Event is at the Agua Hedionda Lagoon Discovery Center at 1580 Cannon Rd at Faraday in Carlsbad.

Future Events :

April 21 Sat- Mt Calavera native plant hike with James Dillane- in the am

April 21 Sat - Special event on the Buena Visata Creek Valley at the Buena Vista Nature Center- see artwork, videos and slide shows

May 20- Sun- Music and Art at the Buena Vista Adobe in recognition of Endangered Species Dday

Our all volunteer organization can't do what we do without your help. Your time, talent and donations can make a difference- right here in your own backyard. Donations can be made through our website at <http://www.preservecalavera.org/donate.html> or by mailing a check.